

IS FRANCE A TOOL OF RUSSIA?

THE GREAT ANSWER TO CARNOT'S MESSAGE

Asquith's Speech the Political Sensation of England—Austria Politics Resuscitated by the Universal Suffrage Bill—Italy in the Hands of the Allies—The Visit of the British Squadron to Italy Pleasing to Germany.

New York, Oct. 21.—G. W. Smalley cables to The Tribune as follows: LONDON, Oct. 21.—If there are any one event which both interests and concerns all Europe more than any other of the last few days it is the reception of Admiral Avellan and his officers by the people of Paris and the rulers of France.

The telegrams which pour in day by day from Paris like the narrative of the early voyagers in the Pacific among the natives of the South Sea Islands received as gods. The circumstances, says a correspondent, addressing Admiral Avellan, "are supernatural," and less his meaning should be doubtful he adds, "We used to be told the truth of God. To-day there is the truth of Russia."

It is impossible to go beyond that. It is quite true that the Russian admiral and other Russian officers now actually present in Paris seem to share in no slight degree the delirium of the people of Paris. Obeying the Apollo Paul they rejoice with them that weep. The latter are a numerous company. They return very naturally the kisses bestowed on them by men and women.

More even than this are the responsive utterances of the Russian press. The Russian journalists have grasped the hand of their French colleagues and out to him. He dared not unless he had allowed and the permission of the press censor in Russia, and this signifies a question of foreign as of domestic policy.

But after all Russia is the czar and the czar is Russia, and what is the telegraph of the ruler when his subjects worship as divine? Beyond question and in spite of his 30 guns to the French flag in the harbor of Copenhagen an attitude of reserve.

Carrot and the Czar. President Carnot, whose usual coolness seems to have deserted him, telegraphed to the czar that he desired "heartily to address to your majesty all my thanks and to tell you the sincere joy I feel at this great proof of the profound sympathy uniting Russia and France."

It is not meant to be unkind. It is meant to be civil, which is the more painful. It means that the czar retains his freedom of thought and freedom of action. The French proverb applies—There is one who offers the kiss, and another who offers the check. Europe has no reason to witness these outbursts on the one side, or tolerance of them on the other, with regret or displeasure.

Russia Serving Her Own Purpose. A Franco-Russian alliance may make for peace as well as for the Allies. It is not in the same degree. If anything is certain where so much is uncertain, it is that France need not suppose that Russia from Russia in any purpose of revenge or aggression until Russia for her own purpose wants war. She would not be her long-meditated plans ripe for the striking of a blow, nor is she under any illusion.

France and Russia united may or may not be strong enough for defence. They certainly are not strong enough at present for attack while Germany, Austria and Italy are bound together in a defensive military league.

Regatta Fleet at Tarento Eclipsed. The presence of the English fleet at Tarento and the cordial greetings between the English and Italian palettes have not noticed amid the blaze of French fireworks. The English, who seldom take imaginative views, seem hardly aware of the value which Germany sets on such a proof that between England and Italy there is some purpose in understanding both political and naval. It is the more significant in view of the expected acquisition of a French naval port by Russia.

Austria's Confused Politics. All the telegrams from Vienna point to the dropping of that scheme of a wider suffrage which Count Tiesi so lately and so confidently announced. He may drop it for the time, but such a promise to so many millions of men will have to be kept sooner or later. Meantime hesitation weakens him if it does not weaken the Emperor, and the position of Austria is in greater confusion than ever. They were already the most confused in Europe.

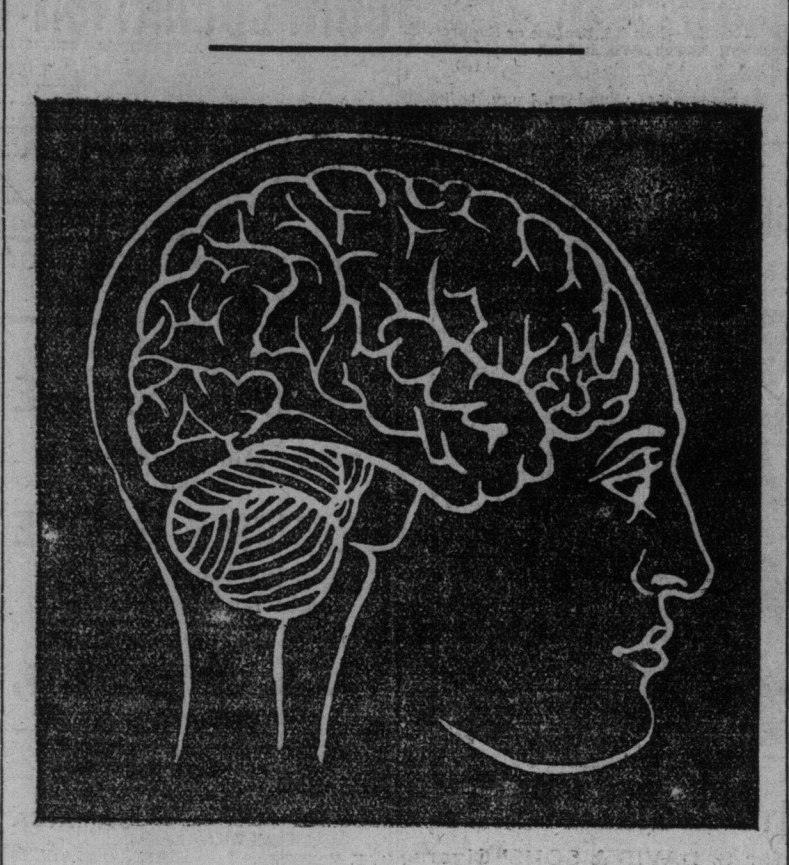
Italy Financially Embarrassed. Italy is in such dire financial straits that her Prime Minister has to take the meeting of his confidence. The world hardly returns it, nor is there in all Europe a financier who can say how Italy is to keep up her military strength, even to its present minimum, and make two ends meet.

Wittman's civility to Bismarck. The German Emperor's speech at Bremen, on unveiling the bronze statue of his grandfather, affords a measure of his sincerity in his recent civilities to Prince Bismarck. The Prince was not asked to Bremen any more than to Gorizia. If he had been asked, and had gone, he would have heard the present Emperor eulogize William I as the author of German unity who "was permitted to find great men for his work, who had the honor of executing his ideas and working with him as his advisers. Such is the Hohenzollern view, and such the Emperor's idea of doing justice to the great minister of his time."

Acquittal's Political Sensation. The political holiday in England is over. Most people would have rejoiced could it have been prolonged till the meeting of Parliament week after next, for never was the country more weary of controversy. There is, however, a remarkable tribute to the cause of the simultaneous appearance of Lord Salisbury and Mr. Asquith on public platforms. It is a remarkable tribute to Mr. Asquith that his was the speech that excited most curiosity and is felt to have had most influence on the political situation. It is Mr. Asquith's distinguishing merit that he says what he thinks, or says what he thinks that most men think.

Mr. Asquith's distinguishing merit that he says what he thinks, or says what he thinks that most men think. He has adapted to the domestic content of English methods which Prince Bismarck was the first to use in international controversies.

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