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LONGBOAT THINKS HE WILL BE WINNER

LONDON, July 23.—Tom Longboat, when interviewed to-day, said he was right. "I guess I can win through all right," he announced. The running broad jump final was won by Irons, of America, with 24 feet 6 1/2 inches, an Olympic record. Kelly of America, came second with 23 feet 3 1/2 inches, and Bricker, of Canada, third, with 23 feet 3 inches. He slipped in the last jump.

EUROPEAN LEAGUE OF COINERS.

LONDON, July 23.—The Berlin police are led to the conclusion that there is an international band of coiners at work in Europe through several arrests that they have recently made. They believe that its headquarters is in Spain. The counterfeiters of the coinage of other countries—and their agents are sent out to circulate it. In February last an attractive girl of eighteen or so was arrested in a large dry goods store after offering in payment for a small purchase a counterfeit silver five mark piece, a coin worth about \$1.25. At the police station a number of the bad pieces were found on her. She had a put story about getting them in change somewhere, but she was locked up. She registered as Philomene Soler of Castellarsole, a place near Barcelona, and said she told the truth. Her father is an interpreter there. When the police examined the bad coins critically they identified them as of the same minting as a quantity that had been floated a few months earlier by a French engineer named Brouville, who had been clearly identified as a member of a Parisian band of coiners. The Paris police were notified and attempts were made to trace lines leading from the girl to Paris, but without avail.

There seemed to be a deadlock when about the beginning of this month a young man bought a 2-1-2 cent cigar one Sunday evening in a Berlin shop in the Milk market and offered another of the bad five mark pieces in payment. The salesman recognized it at once and grabbed the young man. He howled for the police, but a well dressed man and woman tried to argue him into letting his prisoner go. When the police arrested these two were arrested, but the young man got away.

The police have now established that the man arrested is Miguel Soler, the thirty-year-old brother of student. The woman is Lucia Alcorta, 30 years old, of Santander. The young man who escaped is Manuel Alcorta, her brother and the fiance of the Soler girl. The trio have been staying at a private hotel in Berlin since January 13. They have put a great quantity of the false coin in circulation. It is an admirable counterfeit, differing in weight only a grain or two from the true piece, ringing well and feeling like silver, probably because of a thin electroplating. In fact, it deceives all but the sharpest eyes.

One effect of the later arrests is the abandonment of the theory that the counterfeiting is done in France. It is a favorite Spanish crime, and as the pieces imitated are not Spanish, may be carried on there almost with impunity. The Berlin police believe Barcelona is the center of the industry and they think their prisoners are amateurs who were tempted to buy a lot of the stuff from professionals. An attempt is being made to identify the coiners with the anarchist group. It might strike an enemy of government as a sweet farm of vengeance—so the agents go—to raise money to fight government by fraud on the government's own coinage.

RULER OF THE AFGHANS.

LONDON, July 23.—This ruler a general favorite. As the sun set he would stop his train at a wayside station and invite all the humble loiterer of the Faith to say his prayers with the King of Afghanistan.

He wanted to know everybody's views and wanted to inspect everything that seemed likely to be useful in his home. He stopped at an army sergeant's wife to discuss with her her preferences and ideals, and he made the chemical lecturer at a hospital which he visited explain the properties of carbon dioxide in relation to combustion. But on the other hand he would

not waste any time in inspecting a little gathering of warships that had been arranged for his special benefit—the British navy cannot go through the Khyber Pass. Perhaps this explains the fact that he preferred to hurry off to the races rather than witness battle practice.

Two things seemed rather to cast a shadow over him. "I hope you don't mind the bagpipes!" a neighbor asked him at one of the innumerable banquets.

"Not at all," he answered; "I have them at Cabul. But—with a sad smile—they don't stand so close behind my chair."

Then too the joys of the railway travel did not appeal to him. In anticipation of his visit to a famous shrine a monorail was built to carry him to the sanctuary in a bejeweled royal car. He looked at the monorail, he looked at the car, and then ordered a landau.

The Ameer is the son of one who was a slave girl before she became one of the Queens of Afghanistan.

His harem in Cabul is not so large as that maintained by his father. Angus Hamilton says that when the Ameer came to the throne three wives were divorced in order to keep the spirit of the Koran law, which forbids the maintenance of more than four wives.

Many slaves of prepossing charms, we are told, are taken into the harem from time to time and added to the number of concubines. But the Ameer appears to exercise a strict censorship in regard to the type of slave. The hapless woman who becomes a favorite and excites admiration of the Ameer is generally removed.

One queen, it is recorded, has killed with her own hands three of her slaves and personally chastises her erring hand-maidens, purposely figuring any whose physical attractiveness might charm the Ameer. The four wives of the Ameer occupy positions which are graduated to a recognized scale. The first wife draws an allowance of one lakh of rupees annually; the second receives eighty thousand rupees, the third wife forty thousand rupees, the fourth wife twenty thousand rupees a year.

One rather gathers that the domestic quarrel you saw on July 20 is not and that the influence of his wives is not cast on the side of peace and quietness.

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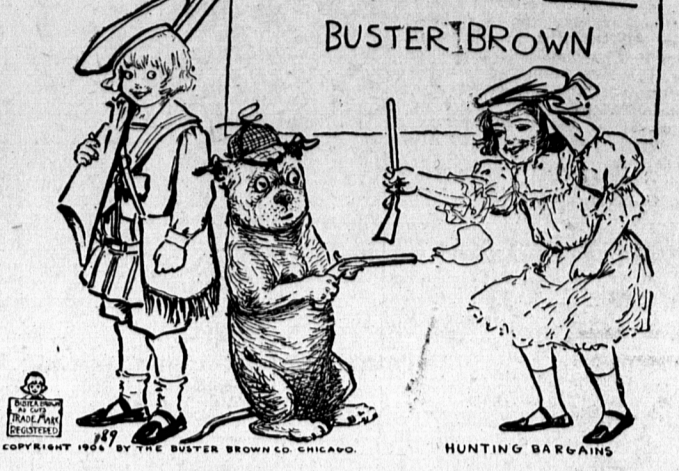
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