

finance extensive explorations; these for the last eight years had been chiefly occupied with work in the Valley of the Kings. The assiduous persistence of Carnarvon and Carter have, apart from the immediate results, been of immense value to the cause of archæology and have given a notable impetus to the work of specialists in the future, as well as to the public interest which has been roused in quite an extraordinary fashion.

### THE FRENCH PROPOSAL FOR SCRAPPING ALL NAVIES

**A**N agreement by all the Powers to abolish all their navies has been proposed by a leader in the Senate of France.

"I guarantee in the name of the French Parliament," said Gustave Kerguezec, President of the Naval Committee of the French Senate, in a statement cabled to the United States by the Associated Press, "that France will suppress her entire fleet if the other Powers do likewise."

M. Kerguezec's idea is that in place of national fleets there should be an international one, to which the United States should furnish ten ships, England ten, France six, and Italy six. He believes that the people of the world are set against any more wars, and urges a new conference as the only means of averting employment of new and dreadful arms of warfare. He says that the demand of the French delegates at the Washington Conference for new capital ships was out of keeping with the French naval policy adopted long before the Washington Conference met; that the condemnation of submarines expressed at the Washington Conference was "for the purpose of giving dominion of the seas to one or two nations," and, with colonies to defend in both hemispheres, France is interested in the freedom of the seas. In reply to the motto, "The sea is mine, keep off!" the motto France substitutes, says M. Kerguezec, is, "The seas shall be free forever, for all."

There is in all this something more than a proposal for disarmament. It is an ingenuous—or ingenious—and not ineffective reply to Great Britain's demand that France cut her army to the bone. It is not likely that the British will relish the French suggestion any more than the French relished that of the British. As Vestel has pointed out in his book on "The Maintenance of Peace," the danger of world domination presents itself only when a Power becomes irresistibly strong, both on sea and on land. The French are strong on land. The British are strong on sea. There is no nation in the world to-day which is in the position that Germany was in 1914, who threatened to become and

proved herself very nearly capable of becoming powerful enough to command both land and sea.

## THE REDS' WAR AGAINST RELIGION

**I**F the Bolshevik leaders are consistent, they may before long proclaim that no man can be a Russian patriot unless he is an atheist. Evidence is accumulating every day that the Reds' war against the priests and officials of the Orthodox Church is a war against religion. The brutal execution of Vicar-General Butchkavitch, after a trial which recalls the prosecution of priests in the French Revolution by Fouquier-Tinville or the brutality of Judge Jeffreys after the Monmouth Rebellion, is only one act of this war, which has been increasing in violence for several years. This execution and the imprisonment of Archbishop Zepliak are to be followed immediately by the trial of the man who after the death of the Czar was made the head of the Orthodox Russian Church. Dr. Vassily Tikhon was chosen Patriarch of All Russia (a title which had been in abeyance since the time of Peter the Great) because the abolition of the Imperial Government deprived the Church of its head, the Czar.

The recent trial is only the culmination of a long series of persecutions and executions. A Russian writer a year ago quoted Bolshevik statistics showing that the Reds had killed up to that time twenty-eight bishops and over twelve hundred priests.

From an illuminating article on the subject of "Bolshevism and Religion in Russia" in the "Atlantic Monthly" for March, by R. O. G. Urch, for several years resident in Russia as correspondent of the London "Times," it appears that from the time of the Revolution which brought the Reds into power they have worked against the Orthodox Church—at first slowly and hesitantly, because the great mass of Russian people have been, and still are, attached to that Church—then more openly and more violently. They encouraged and helped schisms from the Church just so far as they could control and use those movements as tools; they used ridicule as a weapon—for instance, they put up placards everywhere saying, "Religion is a narcotic for the people;" they destroyed the sacred ikons; they at first mildly said that atheism was a matter of conscience, but later they provided official lectures against all religion; they have now taken all Bibles and religious books from the schools and libraries, "so that the children and workmen shall not

be subject to their pernicious influence." They have shown that they hated the Orthodox Church, not because they disagree with its dogmas, but because they fear any kind of religious affiliation which might stir the conscience against their own acts of robbery and murder.

One peculiar method of fighting religion has been to encourage or organize burlesque religious processions at Christmas and Easter. Curiously enough, the Reds encouraged such attempts at ridicule not only against Christians but against Jews, as happened just the other day at Passover time. It is singular that in Poland since the execution of Mgr. Butchkavitch there has been agitation against Jews, on the theory, apparently, that the Bolshevik persecution of Christian priests was prompted by Jews. Nothing could be further from the fact. The Red Government is made up of men of different races and religions; it is not a pro-Jewish but a pro-atheist organization. The criminal's fear of morality and religion is at the base of this cruel and contemptible war in Russia against the Church. The Bolshevik excuse has been that the clergy have offered passive resistance to the seizure of church money and sacred vessels by the authorities. When this is looked into, it appears that the Soviet authorities demanded these treasures under the pretense of using them for relieving starvation, and that the Church authorities replied that they were quite willing to use their resources for that purpose, but asked permission to apply the proceeds through a committee of their own. This was precisely what the American Relief Committee did, if we remember rightly, at one time. In other words, nobody for a minute believes that the Soviet authorities could be trusted to use money to save their own starving people, and no one doubts that, if they had been trusted, the money would have been used in whole or in part for political or military objects.

A human and historic document which we earnestly hope may be published in permanent form and for universal reading appeared in the New York "Herald" on April 6. It is an account by Mr. Francis McCullagh of the trial of the Archbishop, the Vicar-General, and their fellow-priests. Mr. McCullagh sat through the entire trial. He was smuggled in, for the Bolshevik authorities refused to issue press tickets. He sent telegrams to his paper, not one of which got through. As soon as the trial was over he quickly left Moscow, and was then able to cable this intensely moving narrative. We may not quote directly, but we may indicate in a few words some facts and conclusions:

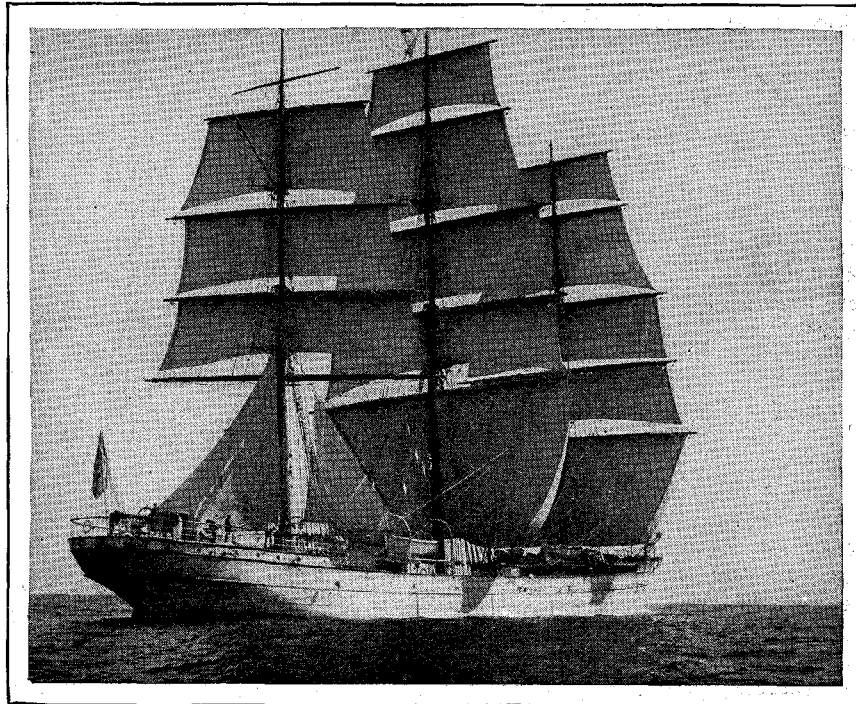
The correspondent most positively as-

sports that religious grounds alone actuated the trial, and that it is part of a movement for the destruction of Christianity in Russia. He describes with feeling the nobility and serenity of these devoted clergymen who were approaching martyrdom. They were asked to declare that they would not continue to teach the Catechism to children, and in every case the priest refused to make such a promise and refused with joy all radiant in his face. In the same way they all absolutely declined to promise not to say mass. Mr. McCullagh points out in connection with this that under the present Russian law even a mother may not teach any kind of religious doctrine, Christian or Jewish or anything else, to her own child if the child is under eighteen.

If the spirit of the persecuted priests in this trial was fine and unselfish, the conduct and attitude of the prosecutor (the bloodthirsty Krylenko), and of the judges on the bench were vile in their cruel hostility. From beginning to end the judges showed intention to convict, whatever the evidence. How little proof was really required is shown by the case of one priest who, when a Red policeman ordered his congregation to disperse, knelt down before the altar and went on with his service. He was, in fact, nearly blind, and did not know what was going on. But the Court held that he was guilty of trying to incite his people against the police, and he received a sentence of ten years in prison!

The charge that the priests of the Orthodox Church have persistently intrigued with the Poles and have conspired to get Poland to attack Russia has not been supported. The relations of the priests with Polish ecclesiastical authorities were purely of a Church nature. These charges have enraged the Polish Catholics, and mobs have paraded through Warsaw, crying "Death to Communists and Jews!" So fierce has been the feeling aroused that reports are current as we write that another military clash between Poland and Russia is quite possible.

Russia's war against religion is already reacting against those who have incited it. It has aroused the indignation of the world without regard to sect or race. When in the French Revolution an attempt was made to destroy every vestige of Christian religion and to substitute for it the Worship of Reason, even Danton and Robespierre knew that the thing was as impossible as it was absurd. If Trotsky and Tchitcherin and Krylenko think that they can help their cause by destroying religious worship and religious belief, they are ignorant of the deep religious feeling still



THE TUSTITALA—CLYDE-BUILT, 260 FEET LONG, 2,500 TONS—TO BE USED BY THE "THREE HOURS FOR LUNCH" CLUB AS A CRUISER

existing among the great masses of the Russian people.

## SHIP AHOY!

**W**HO said that romance was dead? Who said that we were a material-minded nation? Who said lots of other things of a similar nature?

Proof that all these charges, specific and unspecific, are base slander upon the American people is to be found in the announcement that a group of choice spirits of nautical inclination have purchased a full-rigged ship with the intention of converting her into a seagoing home for souls worthy of such delight.

The announcement of the purchase of this ship was first made in Christopher Morley's column in the New York "Evening Post." The backer of the project is the Three Hours for Lunch Club, the doings of which are familiar to all readers of Mr. Morley's column.

The uses to which the ship is to be put are described by Mr. Morley in the following words:

The enterprise, we confess, is not wholly romantic, nor yet wholly selfish. It is the conviction of the Club that there are many kinsprits whose secret ambition has always been to take a sea cruise under sail, and under the ideal conditions of safety, comfort, charm, and novelty afforded by a big sailing ship. The Club has had plans drawn for the refitting of the Tustitala for passengers: if enough kinsprits are interested as many as forty-eight can be accommodated on each cruise. The idea is to plan both short and long cruises: cruises of ten days to a fortnight in

near-by waters; and longer voyages (a month, six weeks, etc.) that will take her to more distant regions. In the romantic eye of the Club there are shining schemes—such as to approach San Salvador at night, and make the landfall of Columbus' at dawn, discovering America as he did; to take "scientific" cruises with deep-sea dredging gear for exploring the curiosities of ocean bottom; to make some of those "ports and happy havens" whereof we have all dreamed. And, no matter how appealing the romantic flavor may be, the Club insists that this is a practical and businesslike enterprise. It has enlisted the co-operation of sagacious, experienced shipping men, who agree that the plan is thoroughly feasible. For our own part, we almost believe that the Club should receive a subsidy from Congress, for having taken a step which will put one more fine ship at sea under the American flag, and should interest many people in the arts of the mariner and the problems of sea traffic. . . .

The question whether she can be fitted out according to the somewhat grandiose schemes of the Club depends to some extent on the number of kinsprits who would relish the idea of sailing on her. The Club's ideas of various possible cruises—a Family Cruise with special accommodation for children; a Hay Fever Cruise for sneezing kinsprits; a Hard-Boiled Cruise (in winter, for men only, who wish to have a look at seafaring in bad weather, and may take a hand in working the ship if they desire); a Literary Cruise, etc.—these cheerful visions are too lengthy to be outlined all at once. The ship will be equipped with twin Diesel engines for auxiliary use, giving her the self-determination of a steamer when necessary.

We have spoiled several large sheets of paper figuring up the cost per