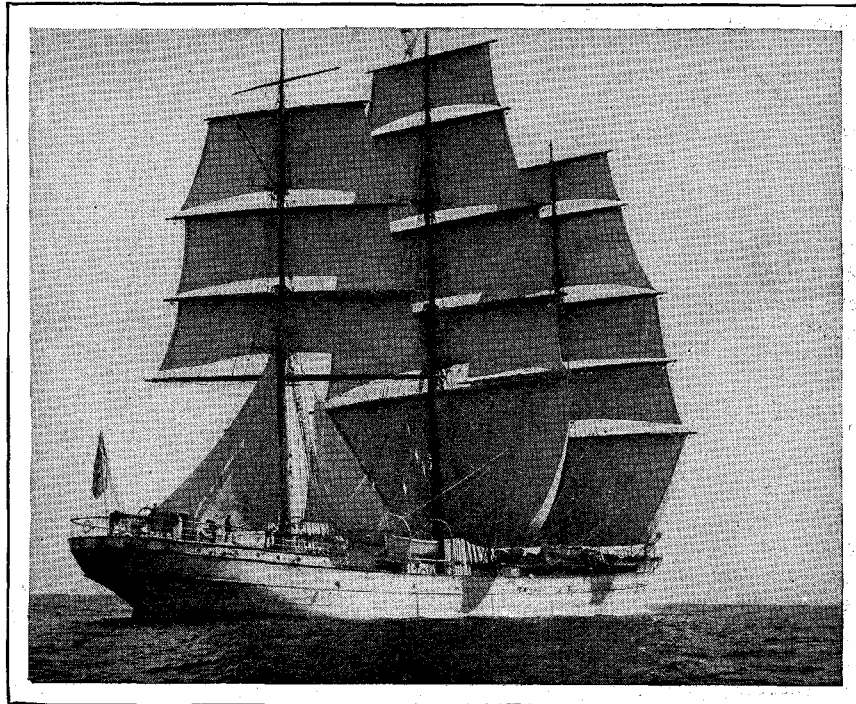


sports that religious grounds alone actuated the trial, and that it is part of a movement for the destruction of Christianity in Russia. He describes with feeling the nobility and serenity of these devoted clergymen who were approaching martyrdom. They were asked to declare that they would not continue 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 TUSITALA—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 Tusitala 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

"kinsprit" per day. According to our reckoning, the kinsprits will have to have longer purses than some of the sea lovers whom we know. But it is possible that we have used the wrong logarithm as the basis of our calculations, or perhaps we are not particularly good at taking lunars. Nothing would make us happier than to find that the good ship Tusitala was miles away from the lee shore of pecuniary embarrassment.

## THE TABERT CASE

THE literature of fiction does not contain anything more tragic or heartrending than the story of Martin Tabert, a boy from a North Dakota farm, who was whipped to death about a year ago in a Florida peonage camp; nor, it may be added, does the current news reveal anything more hopeful regarding the power of public opinion and the influence of a determined and upright officer of the law than is disclosed by the results of this tragedy.

Martin Tabert left his home in North Dakota, seeking the warm climate of the South. He was arrested for stealing a ride on a freight train; fined something like twenty-five dollars; was unable to pay the fine, and was rented by the sheriff under a system of convict peonage to a lumber camp. When his parents were informed of his plight, they sent the necessary money to pay the fine, but the sheriff returned the money without trying to obtain the release of the boy, who was later beaten to death when illness made it impossible for him to work.

In Cavalier County, North Dakota—the home county of Martin Tabert—there is a county prosecutor, a State's Attorney, as he is called, Gudmundur Grimson. Mr. Grimson was born in Iceland, but his family moved to North Dakota when he was a baby. He and Stefansson, the Arctic explorer, grew up together and went together to the University of North Dakota, working their way through the University as members of wheat-threshing crews. Grimson graduated with honors in 1904; took a Master's degree; won a fellowship at the University of Chicago; and, after being admitted to the bar, went back to the little village of Munich, which was Martin Tabert's home. Mr. Grimson has won the reputation of enforcing the law against the rich and powerful exactly as impartially as against the influential. He became interested in the Tabert case, and finally telegraphed the New York "World," enlisting its help as a journal which has shown in many instances a desire to promote human jus-

## ADEPTS AND AMATEURS

in all departments of outdoor sport will be glad to know that

## THE SPORTS NUMBER

OF THE OUTLOOK IS  
DUE NEXT WEEK

## APRIL 25

is the date of the issue set aside for those who delight in clean sportsmanship and vigorous exercise. There will be an article by Herbert L. Stone, editor of "Yachting," on "Small-Boat Sailing"—a sport that requires skill, nerve, and resourcefulness. There will be a description of the new and exciting sport of soaring, and "Baseball's Future," a straight-from-the-shoulder interview with Colonel Huston, half-owner of the New York Yankees. William T. Tilden, II, International Tennis Champion, has given us "Tennis for Boys and Girls," which will interest the younger devotees of the racket and the ball. Another article for the rising generations of sportsmen and sportswomen is an interview with the Medical Director of Columbia entitled "Catch 'Em Young." James A. Henshall, "Father of the Black Bass," writes of the duties and pleasures of the angler.

tice. The "World" gave publicity to the case, and Mr. Grimson went to Florida on purpose to investigate. The Legislature of North Dakota took up the matter and passed a resolution asking, "in a spirit of comity and friendship," its sister Legislature of Florida to investigate the charges and to abolish, if possible, the system which led to young Tabert's torture and death. The Florida Legislature responded promptly to the request of the Legislature of North Dakota and

to the public opinion which had been aroused. The Florida Senate and Assembly practically unanimously have voted for an investigation.

In connection with this case we reprint here an exchange of telegrams between The Outlook and Governor Hardee, of Florida:

April 6, 1923.

Hon. Cary Hardee,  
Governor of Florida,  
Tallahassee, Florida.

Noting with gratification response of Florida Legislature to inquiry from North Dakota concerning Tabert case, would appreciate telegraphic statement from you concerning facts in case especially concerning co-operation of yourself and Legislature in investigating conditions. This case seems to illustrate opportunity for inter-State comity. We desire also light on Florida convict leasing system. We are asking chiefly for information for editorial guidance, but would welcome permission to publish statement over your name.

EDITORS OF THE OUTLOOK.

Tallahassee, Florida,  
April 7, 1923.

Editor, The Outlook,  
New York, N. Y.

Your message referring to Tabert case. Several years ago Florida abolished private lease of State convicts. Act did not go far enough and abolish lease of county convicts. Small number of the smaller counties without sufficient convicts to organize road working forces have heretofore leased their county convicts. Legislature now in session will promptly abolish this last remnant of lease system in Florida. I have recommended abolition. Every possible thing has been done looking toward full investigation of Tabert case, and prosecution of convict guard alleged to have administered the punishment. The people of Florida naturally regret this instance, and through its officials will handle an investigation and prosecution vigorously. CARY A. HARDEE, Governor.

There are some things that are discouraging enough about modern tendencies in democracy. One of them is that the State of Florida should have so long tolerated the peonage system. But there are also some hopeful aspects of democracy in the Tabert case. Among them are these: The revelation that a native of Iceland can be as thoroughgoing an American as a man with a half-dozen generations of American ancestors behind him; that a Northern and a Southern State, instead of falling into an acrimonious controversy over States' rights, can act in fraternal comity; that a Legislature, instead of defending and excusing its State from a false sense of local pride, can acknowledge a fault and promptly set to work to remove its cause; that public opinion, when in possession of the facts from reliable and honest sources, is a more potent factor than force in righting wrongs.