

WHEEL OF CHANCE SPINS DIZZILY TO DECIDE FATE OF MONTE CARLO, GAMBLING'S STRONGHOLD

Prince Louis, Heir to Late Albert I of Mediterranean Dream Kingdom, Hates System of Commercialized Flirting With Luck That Netted Father Millions

NATURAL GRANDDAUGHTER OF SCIENTIST-RULER MAY TAKE UP GOLDEN SCEPTER

Potentate of Tiny Principality Was Brutal to American Wife, and Used Steady Stream of Cash From Gaming Tables to Further Study of Ocean Depths

THE roulette wheel is spinning madly today for Monte Carlo, capital of Chance, and the gayest and perhaps the wickedest little city in the world.

Around and around races the little ball of destiny, slowly losing momentum until it halts on the red or the black.

If red wins it will mean that the Casino at Monte Carlo is to go on piling up hills of gold for the princely House of Monaco and the syndicate controlling the gaming halls.

If black wins it will mean the rout of legalized gambling from that dream city on the Mediterranean where despair, knavery and death are ever present.

This alternative facing Monte Carlo results from the death last Monday of Albert I, Prince of Monaco, who drew millions in gold from the salons where gather the butterflies, the drones and the wasps of Europe.

The heir of the late sovereign prince is Prince Louis, now fifty-two years old and a colonel in the famous Foreign Legion of France.

Prince Louis has a horror of gambling. If he ascends the throne of the principality of eight square miles he may find a way to banish syndicated gambling from his tiny realm.

But Louis is a French citizen and years ago, estranged from Prince Albert, his father, he virtually signed away his rights of succession.

There is another heir presumptive, the beautiful Duchess de Valentinois, wife of the Comte de Pellignas. She is the natural and legally adopted daughter of Prince Louis. Her mother was a peasant.

France May Yet Get Tiny Gambling Kingdom

There is a possibility, remote, perhaps, that Monaco may be incorporated into the French Republic as part of the Department of the Alpes-Maritimes.

That is why the ball of destiny is spinning so madly for Monte Carlo today.

Greedy, the lust of gambling and the sinister background of the magnificent Casino are pitted against the morality of the civilized world.

Tourists, professional gamblers, adventurers of every type do not believe that Monaco's new ruler, or France, will kill the goose that lays the golden egg.

The rainbow tints of romance cast a glory about Monaco of which it is part. Monte Carlo itself, perched on a promontory overlooking the Mediterranean, is a modern Garden of Eden.

Visitors can never forget the fairyland splendor of the place at night. Nature has been lavish there with the brush of beauty. But from it can be traced a train of disaster, impoverishment and despairing self-destruction.

Intertwined with the history of Monte Carlo since 1858 has been the career of Prince Albert Honoré Charles, the first sovereign Prince in Europe to share his throne with an American girl.

A man of amazing contradictions was Prince Albert. Called the master gambler of the world, he was known as a brutal husband, an indifferent father and a callous ruler.

Prince "Played Safe" in All His Gambling

Contrasted with that side of his life were his really great contributions to science, his charting of ocean currents, his explorations of the ocean depths and his invaluable writings on oceanography.

Prince Albert was not the world's master gambler in the sense that he played for astounding stakes with marvelous skill. He was the prince of the "sure thing" tribe of gamblers that fattens on dupes the world over.

The games at the Monte Carlo Casino are "sure things"—for the owners. Wild tales of players who have "broken the bank" have floated from that mountain city. But the law of averages is calculated to a finished nicety that leaves nothing but defeat for the player who keeps on daring chance.

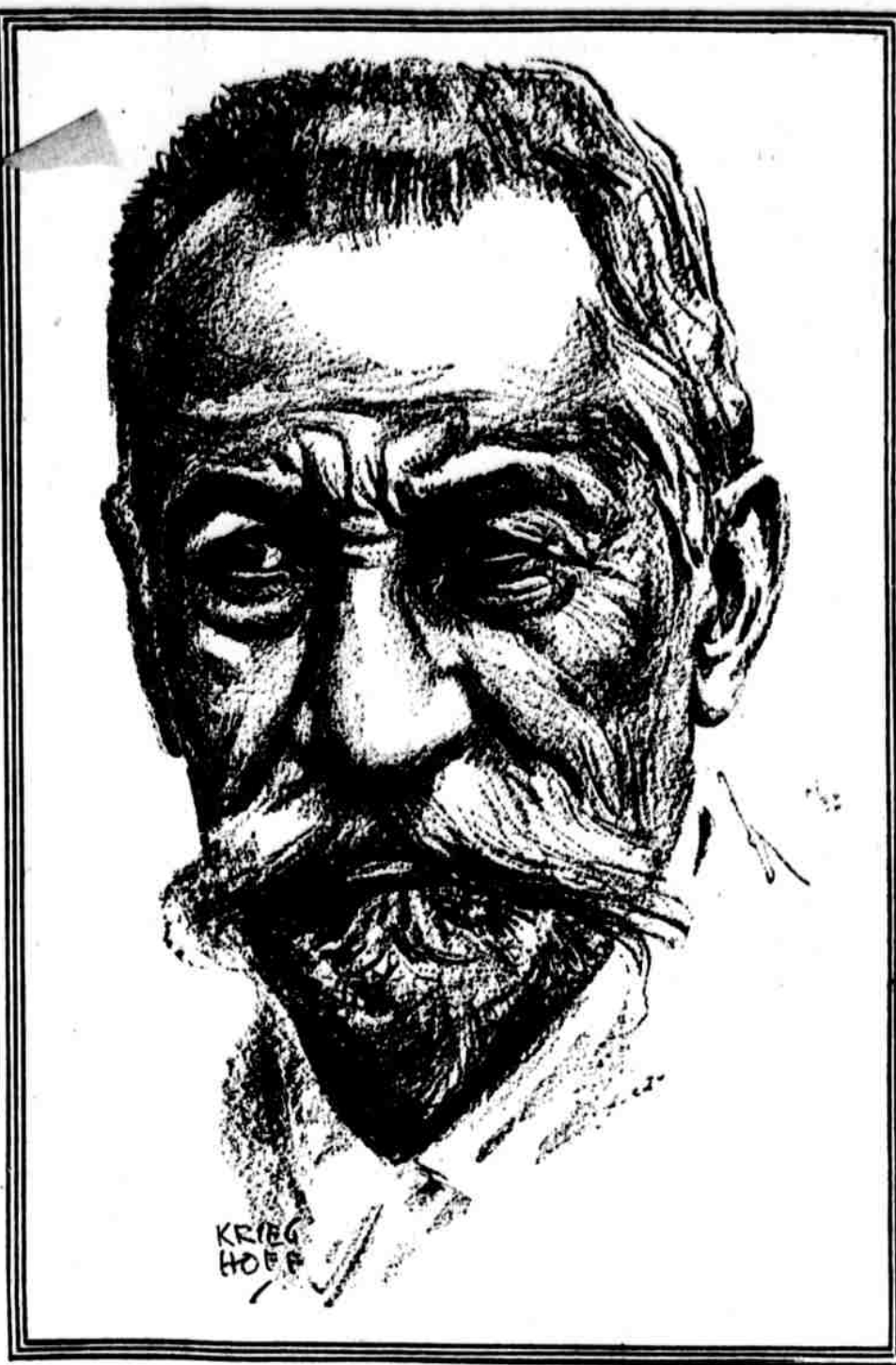
From this gambling palace Albert drew the equivalent of \$400,000 a year, besides a share in the profits above \$5,000,000, which netted him a total of \$1,000,000 a year.

Lump-sum payments for lease extensions further fattened the Prince's purse. The latest lump payment he received was for approximately \$2,000,000.

All told, he is reputed to have drawn



Prince Louis, heir to the throne of Monaco



The Prince of Monaco



Prince Acted as "Guide" For American Soldiers

THOUSANDS of American service men brought home with them memories of the scenic beauties of Monte Carlo and the other mountain cities of Monaco.

A leave area was established at Beausoleil, located on French soil in the Department of the Alpes-Maritimes, but actually across the street from Monte Carlo.

The American soldiers were not allowed to visit the gambling salons of the Casino during the hours of play. The service men could stroll about the Salles de Jeu only during the early morning hours.

Many "Yanks" with a scientific bent passed delightful hours in the Oceanographic Museum which the Prince of Monaco established in 1900. The Prince personally conducted many parties through the museum which houses the greatest marine collection in the world. Records show that as many as 2500 American soldiers visited the museum in a single day.

from \$25,000,000 to \$35,000,000 from a territory two and one-quarter miles long and from 185 to 1100 yards wide!

Gambling Palace Set in Real Bower of Beauty

The Casino is beautifully arranged and ideally situated. At the top of a flight of broad marble steps the visitor reaches a terrace, surrounded by a grand stone balustrade and adorned with fountains, tropical shrubs and beds of brilliant flowers.

The main entrance faces the sea and the gardens. This entrance has a triple doorway, and a liveried commissionaire steps forward to usher the caller in.

If it is the caller's first visit he is escorted through the spacious vestibule and directed to a bureau where tickets of admission are obtained. These cards are required to prevent the inhabitants of Monte Carlo from playing.

The ticket admits the bearer to the "Arc de Strangers of Monaco." The real name of the establishment is Societe des Bains de Mer de Monaco, or "Monaco Sea-Bathing Co., Ltd."

Twenty roulette tables are in operation constantly in the public gambling rooms, with four tables for trente-et-quarante, the latter played with six packs of fifty-two cards each. These tables can accommodate 1000 seated and standing players, while in the private rooms there are places for 400 additional players.

Five francs (normally \$1) is the smallest sum that may be bet at rou-



The famous roulette salon casino at Monte Carlo

lette, and the largest winning that can be made on a single placing is 6200 francs. The largest possible amount for a player to win by a single roll of the ball is 100,210 francs. This can be done only by playing the limit on all the chances in which the winning numbers figure.

The wagers are raked in by croupiers, men of skill and dexterity, who are especially trained in a gaming school near the Casino. Six sit at each table, two at each side of the center and one at each end.

The croupiers at each end supervise the play. The four others take in the losses, pay out the winnings, give change, and the players when requested and spin the wheel at roulette or distribute the cards at trente-et-quarante. They are changed every two hours except those who spin the roulette wheels, who are changed every half hour.

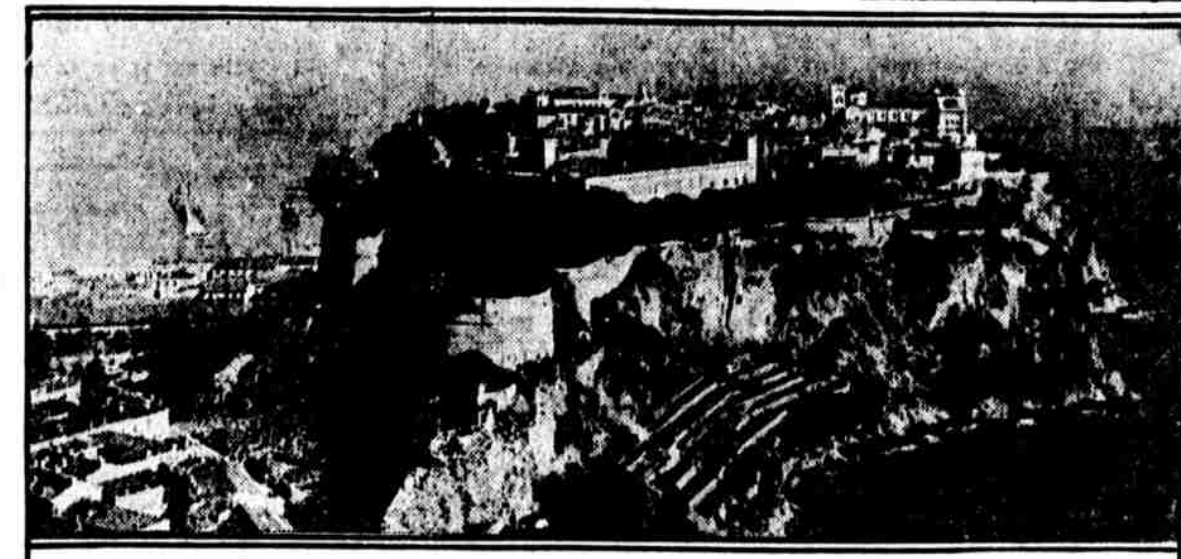
The push shoves the player through a concealed door and in a bewilderingly short space of time he finds himself literally "taking the air."

The Capital of Chance naturally is alluring to many rogues who live by their wits. The old-timers who roam the capitals of Europe are known and have few chances of operating in Monte Carlo itself. But every month sees some daring and unscrupulous whom use outside the Casino to swindle visitors.

Scoundrels have succeeded in duping even the Casino management, and by dexterity of hand or cunning mingled with brazenness have lusted big sums from the tables.

Prince Never Visited Source of His Wealth

But although he profited so greatly from the games, Prince Albert always



Monte Carlo on the Rock of Hercules

vehicles that resemble prison vans. They are forbidden to have pockets in their black clothes, and are not permitted even to have cuffs on their trousers.

The chiefs de partie are next in rank above the croupiers. They sit on elevated chairs at each table and follow the detail of the plays. They, in turn, are watched by inspectors de la table who are subordinate to the inspectors de la salle, who stroll about the salons with watchful eyes.

Each table starts the day with a capital of 12,000 francs, and rarely does the chief de partie have to send extra funds. When the calls are made, liveried lackeys march in with the needed money and pour it out on the table before the eyes of the players.

The Casino management naturally has a horror of scandals and the suicide of a luckless and desperate player always annoys the officials.

"Suicide by poison," the inspector de la salle believed. Luckless hustled the limp form to a private room, threw the body on a table and went off to notify the authorities.

"Suicide" Was Richer Than Before He "Died"

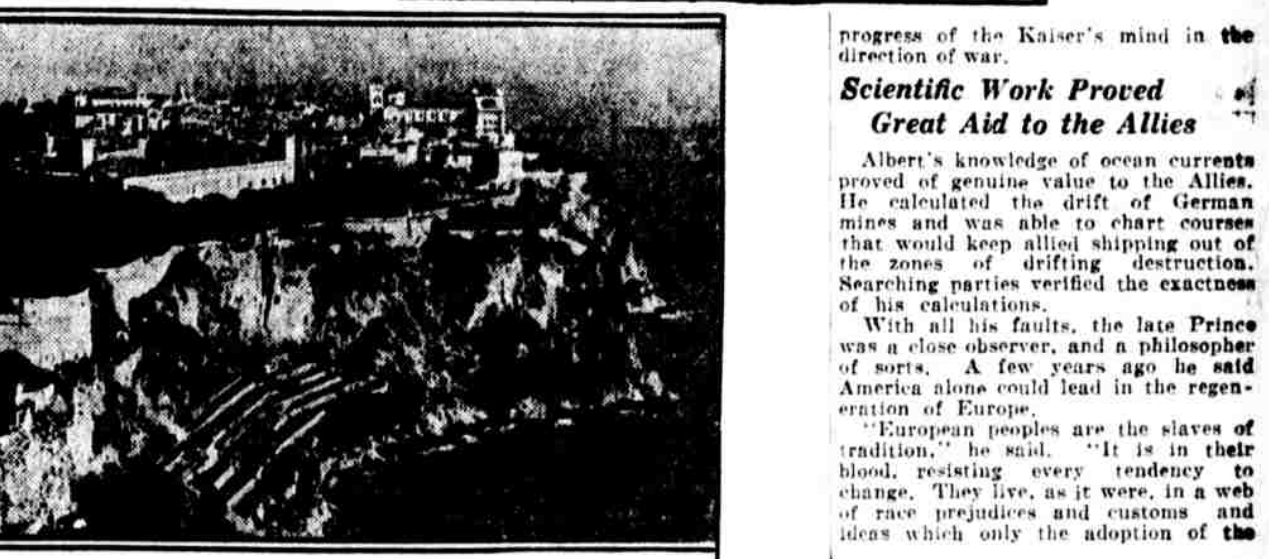
When the player awoke, and fearing robbery, quickly counted his money, he found he was 1000 francs richer. The big bank note had been slipped in his pocket by the inspector so it could be started the "suicide" did not kill himself for lack of funds.

Americans who believe "bonheur" is peculiar to this country would learn otherwise at Monte Carlo. Ejection of undesirable is raised to a science there.

A boldsteron or otherwise undesirable player is beckoned aside. He is escorted to a corner where several amice attendants surround him. They expostulate mildly, then give the player a sudden push.

Second Wife Was Child of New Orleans Banker

In 1859 Albert married the Dowager Duchess of Richelieu, a widow who was Marie Alice Heine, daughter of a New Orleans banker before her marriage to the Duc de Richelieu.



Schooner-rigged yacht Hironelle, on which the Prince of Monaco arrived in New York

insisted he had never been in the Casino. He made three visits to this country, the first in 1868, as a sailor in the Spanish Navy, when he obtained a three months' leave of absence.

He came again in 1915 and spent several months in the West as a guest of Colonel William F. Cook, the famous "Buffalo Bill." His last visit was in April of last year, when he received the Alexander Agassiz Gold Medal from the National Academy of Science and a gold medal from the National Geographical Society.

The late sovereign Prince was born in Paris, November 13, 1848, the city where he passed most of his time when not on shipboard, and where death overtook him.

Albert was a member of the ancient Grimaldi family which rose to power in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries when the whole of Europe was seared by wars. The male line of the Grimaldi family became extinct at the beginning of the eighteenth century.

His predecessor on the throne of Monaco was Charles III, his father, who opened Monte Carlo as the gambling capital of the world. He struck a shrewd bargain with a syndicate that ultimately took over the gaming concessions, and Albert later drove even harder bargains.

In 1820, just twenty years before his accession, Albert married Lady Mary, daughter of the Duke of Hamilton and of Princess Mary of Baden.

In 1870, Prince Louis Monaco's prospective ruler, was born of this union at Baden-Baden. The marriage later was annulled by the Vatican.

Titles Used to Erase Bar Sinister From Family

The child from that time on was reared in great luxury. Prince Albert, as a reigning sovereign, bestowed the title of Countess of Valentinois upon her. Later he made her a Duchess. She was schooled in languages, history, music and other accomplishments of a woman of rank. The bar sinister in her origin soon was glossed over, if not forgotten.

Second Wife Was Child of New Orleans Banker

There were circumstantial stories told of beatings Albert gave his consort. On one occasion Albert so far forgot

progress of the Kaiser's mind in the direction of war.

Scientific Work Proved Great Aid to the Allies

Albert's knowledge of ocean currents proved of genuine value to the Allies. He calculated the drift of German mines and was able to chart courses that would keep allied shipping out of the zones of drifting destruction.

With all his faults, the late Prince was a close observer, and a philosopher of sorts. A few years ago he said America alone could lead in the regeneration of Europe.

"European peoples are the slaves of tradition," he said. "It is in their blood, resisting every tendency to change. They live, as it were, in a web of racial prejudices and customs and ideas which only the adoption of the

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American outlook can alter. If this change does not take place and there should be three or four more wars in the modern style, Europe will be a desolation.

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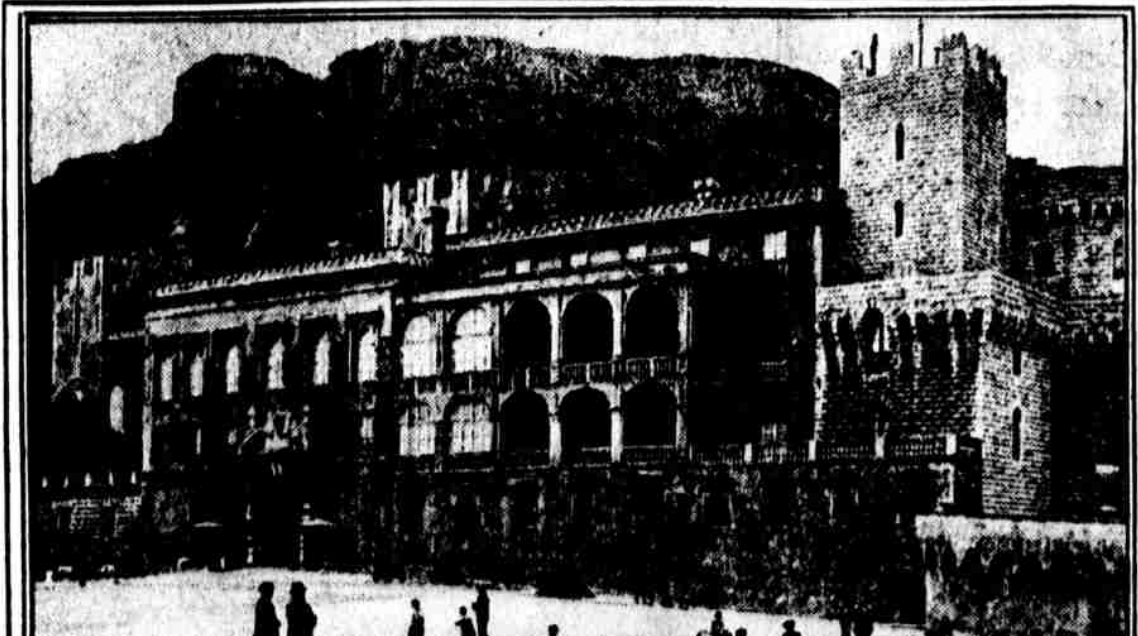
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Castle of Prince Albert of Monaco