

THE DRESDEN DAILY

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ANOTHER GLOBE-TROTTER.

WALKING 25,000 MILES THROUGH
16 COUNTRIES IN 1,000 DAYS.

ADVENTURES IN SIBERIA.

We had a visit last week from Herr Paul Philippe Deutsch, a Hungarian journalist, who started a globe-trotting journey extending over 1,000 days on September 1, 1901 and accomplished it in December 1905.

Paul Deutsch is a well-built, athletic figure, somewhat on the short side, but sturdy and vigorous. He speaks most of the European tongues fluently, but English puzzles him.

Starting from Buda-pest, he has already travelled through Roumania, Russia, over the Ural Mountains to Central Siberia, Austria, Germany, Holland, Belgium, France, Italy, Spain, Morocco, Portugal, England, Bulgaria, Servia and Turkey.

WELCOMED EVERYWHERE.

He has been received everywhere with the greatest courtesy and kindness, and has interviewed many notabilities. The King of Roumania, King Leopold of Belgium, the Emperor Francis Joseph, President Loubet, and King Carlos of Portugal all granted him a special reception, and Mr. Deutsch proudly treasures souvenir gifts from them all, including special decorations from King Carlos and the French President, and a handsome watch from the Emperor of Austria.

Consuls and pro-consuls in every capital have honoured him, and newspapers everywhere have appointed him their special correspondent. In the French capital the *Matin* gave a special banquet in his honour. His scrap-books contain cuttings from illustrated articles concerning his tour in most of the European languages.

Paul Deutsch had no ambition for record-breaking. He was quite satisfied with walking forty-five kilometres per day for eight days at a stretch, and resting and writing for a week whenever possible. He supported himself by newspaper correspondence *en route*, and found no special difficulty in doing so. Keeping his eyes open as he went, and covering reams of paper with copious notes, he carried always at the back of his mind his main purpose—to write a book concerning his travels when he got home. It should be well worth reading.

The success of the book is practically assured, since the Hungarian Society of Journalists has subscribed 30,000 florins and the Hungarian Geographical Society 40,000 florins towards the cost of its production.

WOLVES AND DYNAMITE.

Naturally M. Deutsch met with many stirring adventures and not a few vicissitudes. Russia and Siberia proved especially trying. The climate was villainous, the natives suspicious and inhospitable, and the distances formidable. His pack of indispensable requisites weighed over 30lb., borne on his back on every stage of his journey. On such a tour one must naturally emulate the snail, carrying a house on one's back.

On one occasion he was attacked by a pack of hungry wolves. It was an awkward *contretemps*. He carried no firearms, and did not possess even a serviceable knife. Luckily a solitary cake of dynamite was in his pack. He carried this for the purpose of breaking through ice on the pools to get water.

Desperately he flung the explosive right in the midst of the pack. It exploded with a terrific report. He was thrown to the ground himself with the concussion, but was not hurt. Three or four of the wolves were blown to atoms, and more injured. The rest of the pack at once commenced eating their fallen comrades. Without stopping to make a list of the casualties he rushed ahead, and found shelter in a village several miles away.

ATTACKED BY A SNAKE.

While crossing the Ural Mountains into Siberia he had an adventure which nearly ended his tour.

Camping at a very high altitude, asleep in his portable tent, he was rudely aroused by a fearful pain in his right heel. A big rock snake had driven its fangs right through his canvas sleeping sack into the Achilles tendon, holding him in a vice-like grip.

Mr. Deutsch seized the snake by the neck with both hands. After a terrific struggle he managed to break its backbone, and then severed its head from its body. The snake measured over three metres. It was greycoloured, with black crosses on the back, and a black mouth.

It must have been of a venomous species, for his leg became inflamed, and swelled to an enormous size. He lost consciousness at last. Two days later he was discovered by an old shepherd woman, who bound up his wounds and nursed him slowly back to health.

During his journey Mr. Deutsch has worn down 778 pairs of soles, slept 823 nights in civilised beds—the rest in his tent—and walked 193,000,000 paces. He weighed 12st. 4lb. when he started, but is reduced to 9st. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. In Siberia he contracted a form of scurvy through drinking impure water, which destroyed his lovely Austrian moustachios, loosened six of his front teeth, and marked his face badly. Even yet he has not got rid of the scorbutic sores, and his teeth are gone for ever.

Mr. Deutsch has returned to his wife and two children, whom he had not seen for 4 years. He is a vegetarian and a total abstainer from alcohol, but smokes cigarettes like a chimney.

SHALLOW TRAMWAY. THE FIRST OF ITS KIND.

The shallow underground tramway subway, the first of its kind in this country, which runs beneath Kingsway and part of Southampton-row, was opened on February 24th.

Previous to the admission of the general public at noon, a special inspection was made by members and officials of the London County Council, by which body the work has been carried out, and is to be operated, and representatives of the Press.

Commencing at Aldwych, the subway extends to the junction of Theobalds-road and Southampton-row, where it comes to the surface.

The negotiation of the stiff gradient, at this point, by the tramcars, seemed to be of absorbing interest to the general public. The railings at the top of the white glazed brick sides of the cutting, were almost hidden by the spectators as soon as the cars commenced running, and the entrance had to be cleared each time a car came along.

The first car for the general public left, Aldwych Station punctually at twelve o'clock. Amongst its full complement of passengers was Mr. J. Allen Baker, the chairman of the Tramways Committee. Each successive car, too, bore away its full load of thirty-six passengers, although there was no great rush, at first, on the part of the public, owing, no doubt, to the short notice which had been given, of the opening of the subway.

COMFORTABLE TRAVELLING.

The only other station, at present, is that at Holborn. Between the entrance from Theobalds-road and this station the subway is in twin "tube" tunnels; after Holborn, however, the lines run side by side in one tunnel with vertical sides and horizontal roof, the top of the subway here being only three feet below the surface of the street. After turning the western arm of Aldwych the subway again goes into twin "tube" tunnels. These have been constructed for a distance of about two hundred yards beyond Aldwych Station, but for the present will not be used except for standing cars, when they are not in use.

Travelling on the new route, this morning, seemed to possess all the comforts and none of the disadvantages of other methods. The cars were well ventilated, roomy, easy running, and amply lighted. There was an entire absence of dust, and much less

noise than in a "tube" railway. If there is one fault, it is likely to be the cold atmosphere of a chamber constructed of brick, concrete, stone, and iron.

An outbreak of fire is practically impossible. There is nothing inflammable at the stations or in the tunnels, and as little woodwork as possible has been used in the cars, which are finished inside with aluminium sheet panels and mouldings.

THE COST.

Powers for the construction of the subway were obtained in 1902, and in 1903 the work was begun, being carried out simultaneously with the making of the new thoroughfare.

The estimated total cost of the subway is £279,000, of which £70,000 is for the acquisition of lands and easements. The length is nearly three-quarters of a mile. The width is 20 feet, and the height 13 feet 6 inches. Smaller subways, 12 feet and 7 feet 6 inches wide, have also been constructed for pipes and mains, so that it will never be necessary to break up the surface of the new road.

The opening of the new subway is of interest; apart from its own immediate novelty. The Great Northern, Piccadilly, and Brompton Railway is, at present, being built at a deep level under Kingsway, and when this is opened there will be three lines of traffic in the new street—the ordinary traffic on the surface, the tramway traffic at a shallow depth, and the "tube" railway traffic at a deep level. In this respect there will be no other street like it in London.

THE HEALTH OF KING EDWARD.

Dr. Emil Ott, the Marienbad physician, who has lately, as has been announced, been paying a visit to the English Court, has communicated to the *Neue Freie Presse* the following report on the health of King Edward:

"King Edward is absolutely well and healthy; the newspaper reports that he uses a stick when walking, that he limps and that he suffers severe pain when walking are entirely untrue. Some months ago, as the whole world knows, the King had a slight accident when out shooting, his foot stumbling in a rabbit hole, which strained the ankle-bones severely and occasioned muscular contraction. Since His Majesty has entirely recovered from the accident, it is only the prudence of his doctors who, as is only right, take the utmost care of their royal patient, that enjoins the use of a stick when he is ascending or descending stairs or steps, as long as there is any weakness in the ankle-joint. Their advice was followed by the King on the day of the opening of Parliament, when he supported himself on a stick while ascending and descending the steps of the throne. I had the honour, through the special grace and favour of His Majesty, to be quite near him at the opening ceremony, and I can testify that the King was absolutely brisk and well on this particular day, as on other days; Possibly the fact that he did not look quite so well as usual was caused by his being in Fieldmarshal's uniform and wearing the heavy ermine robe, and still more by the temperature of the House of Lords, which we all felt to be excessively warm; so much so that an elderly Court official, standing next me, nearly fainted, and I had to proffer my services as a medical man. Since, on the day of the opening, I had the additional honour of being received in private audience by His Majesty, that I might make my adieux, I, who, for years as a physician, have had the great honour of knowing His Majesty intimately, can testify that His Majesty has never felt better than he has in the last few weeks, and all reports to the contrary owe their origin to sensational newspapers, wishing to advertise themselves, or possibly to malicious rumors, with a political object in the background."