

Count Von Luckner to Sail Again

By PAUL HARRISON
NEA Service Writer

NEW YORK, June 21.—Count Felix von Luckner, "the benevolent buccaneer who ravaged allied shipping during the war, is spreading his sails again, ready to cruise into the tropical Atlantic and colorful Caribbean. He will explore little-known places and delve into the strange waters, but his only captures on this trip will be adventure and romance and memories.

For the "Sea Devil" must live, and he has taken a vow to make his living only from the sea. That is why his crew, for the most part, will be made up of rich men's sons who can pay for the privilege of becoming "dude pirates" under the count's command. The voyage will last two months.

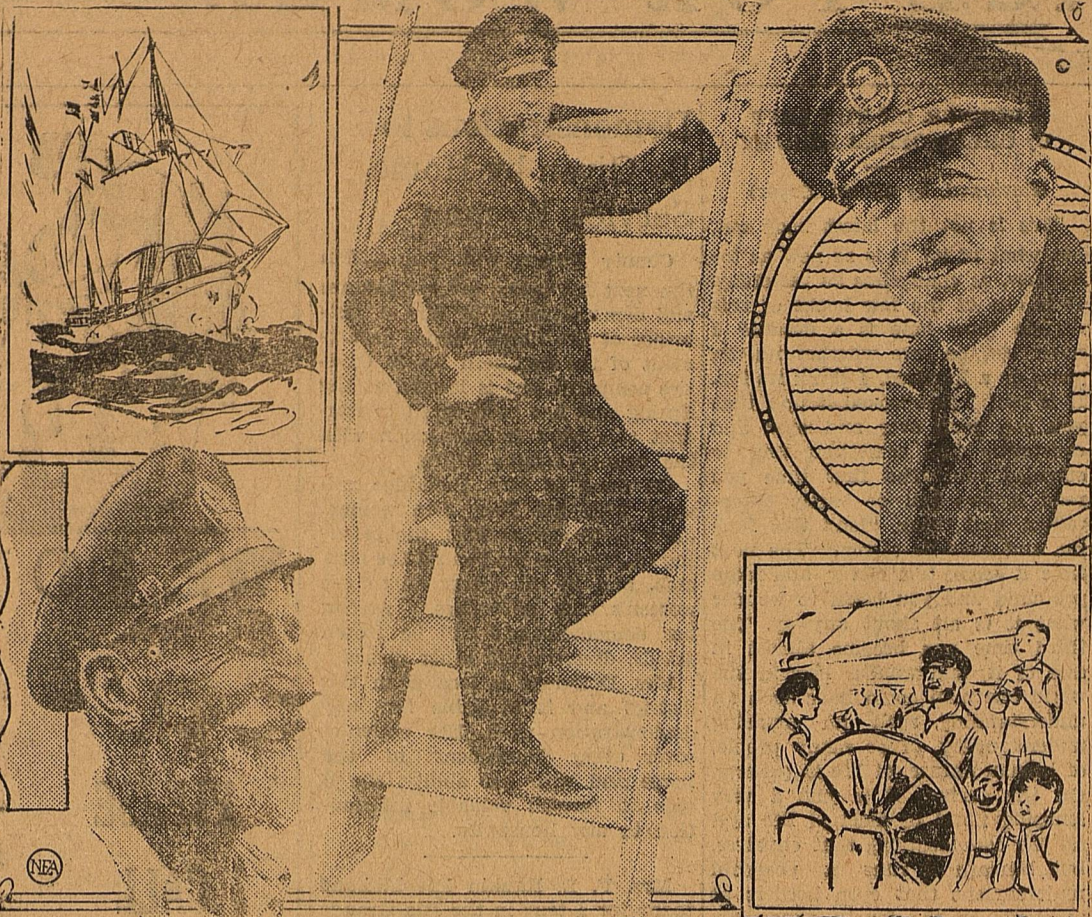
When von Luckner's books and lectures revealed him to the world as probably the most lovable and spectacular of modern daredevils, scores of promoters realized that his was a name to be conjured with commercially. Here was a man who not only was the idol of his own country, but was being received and feted by his former enemies for his amazing career as a sea raider in which he took not a single life.

Wanted His Endorsement

So the promoters went to him, checks in hand, for endorsements of everything from toothpaste to typewriters, swimming suits to salad dressings. They sought his name for stock sales. They tried to get him into the movies and vaudeville. They offered him tempting posts in brokerage houses and banks. They told him to name his own price.

"They were very kind offers," said the count. "By Joe, I could have been rich.

"Yes, of course I refused. What do I know about salad dressings or



With a yo-ho-ho (by Joe!) and a bottle of ginger ale, Count Felix von Luckner, who's pictured center and upper right on his four-masted schooner Mopelia, is weighing anchor again for another cruise of adventure. This time, however, more than 50 "dude pirates" will be under his command. Lower left is Bos'n Charley Muller, with 42 years before the mast, who'll teach 'em sea-lore and sailcraft.

crowded city and still go to sea? I have my ship, who-n is my home. My decks are my gardens. And I have my darling, who thinks the same way about these things that I do. We are free."

His "darling", the blonde and

pretty countess, smiled a confirmation of his declaration of independence and went on painting green wicker furniture on the quarter deck of the Mopelia, their four-masted schooner. In her native Sweden, the countess has a considerable fortune, which von Luckner

refuses to touch. So she is content to live on the ship, do the marketing, help entertain his hosts of friends, and try to keep her giant husband dressed in something resembling the requirements of convention. Never since he appeared at her home in Sweden prodigally

wearing a red leather necktie has she trusted his taste in haberdashery.

The count continued: "So money I do not want, except to live on our ship, have our good friends and sail under the sky and stars. Since I was a little boy I have lived on the sea, and now, by Joe, the sea can still make our living. I was glad when I was asked to make this cruise, because I love boys and want to show them how to sail."

The full complement of guests was quickly signed and when the Mopelia weighs anchor July 1, she will carry more than 50 boys and young men, as well as 32 others, including teachers, surgeon, radio operators, photographer and seamen. The head master is M. Lawrence Shields, instructor at Phillips Academy, Andover, Mass., and one of the tutors will be A. S. Blagden, Jr., captain of this year's Yale crew.

Von Luckner has a very real interest not only in America, but in its people and traditions. As a youngster of 13, after falling in school, he ran away to sea with the idea of going to America to meet his revered hero, Buffalo Bill. Under an assumed name, he shipped to Australia, traveled with a Hindu fakir, sold the War Cry for the Salvation Army, finally landed in San Francisco, and tramped all the way to Denver, the home of Colonel Cody. There he learned that Cody was in Germany with his wild west show and had been, for two days, a personal guest of the elder Count von Luckner in Felix's own home.

The penniless boy tramped on to New York. It took six months to reach Hoboken, where he washed free lunch dishes in a saloon, then got a job shining brass in the old Hotel Majestic. "There," he recalled, "I saw the Vanderbilts, and the Carnegies, the Morgans and the Rockefellers.

"By Joe! I said to myself, 'all these are self-made men. And I'll bet not one of them ever passed an examination either.'"

So after a few years in which he was a prize-fighter, beach comber, and able seaman on British and American sailing vessels, Felix enlisted in the German navy, resuming his own name, and in 1905 was commissioned a lieutenant. Not until then did he return to his home, where his father, the count, had thought him dead.

He emerged from the war a Lieutenant Commander, a national hero and an advocate of peace. Popular subscription, mostly the pennings contributed by adoring school children, bought him his present schooner, the Mopelia for a goodwill cruise of the world.

Where Raider Was Wrecked
Named after the coral atoll where his raider was wrecked during the war by a tidal wave, the Mopelia is a 2500-ton schooner, 268 feet in length, originally built in Hoquiam, Wash., as a lumber carrier. She carries 28,000 square feet of canvas and two auxiliary Diesel engines of 500 horsepower each. Completely overhauled for this deluxe cruise, she now has comfortable, modern cabins, two dining salons, lounges and the largest refrigeration system ever installed in a sailing vessel.

"A glorious ship," boomed von Luckner, "Graceful and gentle, she is like a fine lady. Yet strong, too, by Joe! We were in the Miami hurricane and while three other ships sank, we didn't even get water on the deck.

"The boys will get strong on this cruise. Even before breakfast they will swim in the open sea, guarded by a big steel net that is sixty feet wide and 180 feet long. And then they will raise our sails. That is good for them. People say to me: 'How are you so strong? How do you tear telephone books in two?' I say: 'Because I put the ropes. I hoist the sails.'"

The voyage, including Bermuda, the Barbados, Trinidad, Curacao, Porto Rico, Haiti, Jamaica, Cuba, and many small lesser-known islands, will be about 9000 nautical miles. There will be fishing and camping, and trips in the party's own glass-bottomed boat. They will attempt to raise the bronze guns of an old Spanish frigate. From Captain Herman Ibbeken, a sailor for 39 years, they will learn how to take bearings, and steer by compass and stars.

Old Charley Muller, the bearded, picturesquely bewhiskered and earringed, will teach the dude hands about sailcraft. Evenings, in the fo'c's'le, he'll have them roaring chanteys or listening to the collection of whoppers he has gathered during 42 years before the mast.

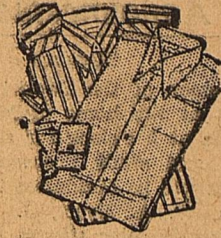
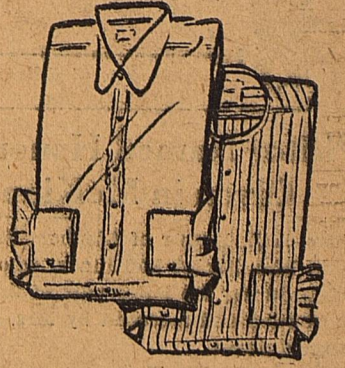
The count himself, a superb actor and story-teller, will delight in recalling how, with a small crew and three-masted windjammer, he sailed through the British blockade and roved the seas at will capturing ship after ship of the allied merchant marine and sending 68,000 tons of it to the bottom. He'll show them how, with magnificent bluff, he fitted his raider with cummy guns and an antique muzzle-loading cannon cast in 1817 but made to look dangerous by being covered with a long section of smoke-stack.

The "Sea Devil's" famous flag will go along too—blood red, with a white skull and cross-bones. "That," boomed von Luckner, "is my reminder of the days when we had steel sailors and wooden ships. But now, by Joe, we have steel ships and wooden sailors."

MONDAY — Last day of Shirt Sale

Don't miss this opportunity to lay in a supply of these shirts at a nice saving to you. Monday is the last day of this Anniversary special. Don't miss it. \$1.50 to \$5.00 shirts, selling at

\$1.29 to \$3.89



Laundered collar shirts, any one in the house, values up to \$3.00, your choice

\$1.79

When Milady Plays Miniature Golf she will wear one of the



Sport Frocks

of Pastel Crepes

In all of the delicate tints of embroidered crepes — shantung or pique

\$16.75

And Now!

SPOT LIGHT SPECIALS

Watch for them! From time to time it will be our policy to offer you a very substantial savings on different merchandise from our regular stock. It will be changed every few days so there will be something different every time you come into the store.

Just Arrived

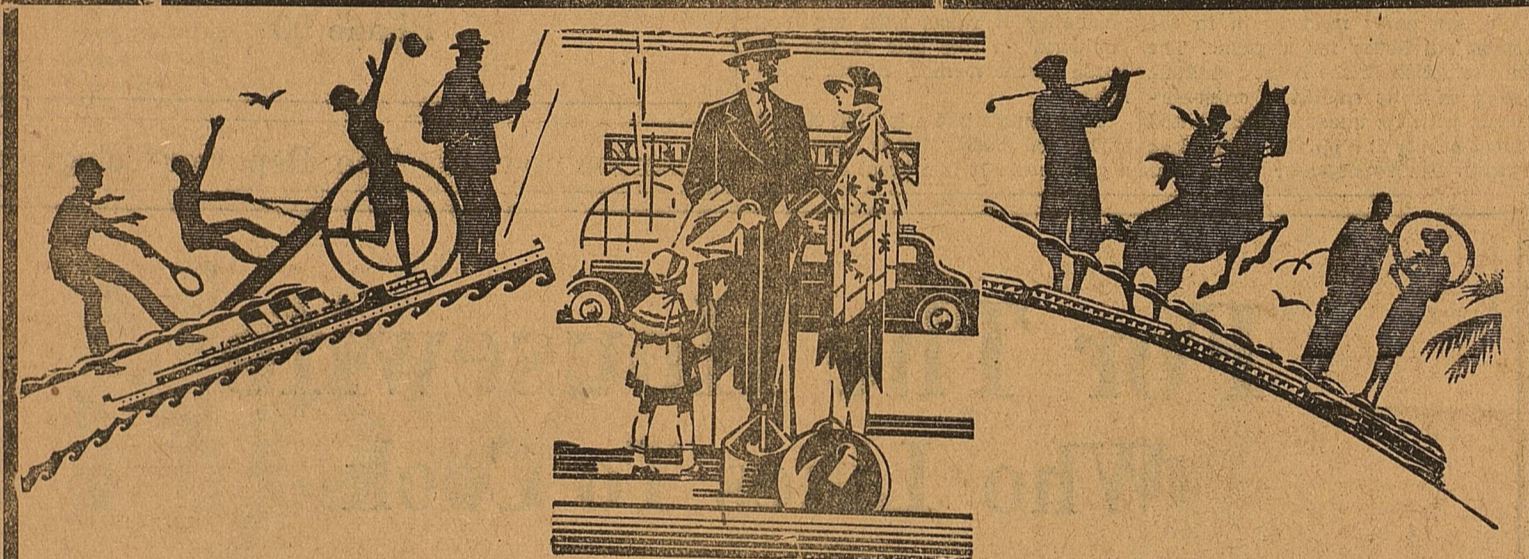
HOUSE PAJAMAS

In floral designs and solid colors, some with the tuck-in blouse, some with the pull-over. But all with the lounging coat. There are all colors and designs at **\$22.50**

Daniel Green Mules to match **\$5 and \$6**

A New Shipment of
SILK UNDIES

Pretty new dance sets, bloomers, teddies, etc. In a beautiful selection of **\$4.85 to \$9.85** tints and designs



For Your Vacation

Going places? Doing things? Of course, you'll want vacation to be assured happiness. You'll not want a single unexpected detail to spoil one second of your proposed good times. So take a tip from experienced fun seekers and provide yourself with complete equipment for your two week's or more of wonderful freedom. Here are apt suggestions—we have many more. See them

CAMP COOK STOVE

2 burner, flame protected, gas burner, camp stove

\$9.00

3-burner—

\$12.50

THERMOS JUGS

Everlasting and in any size, priced from

\$1.50 up

OUTING REFRIGERATOR BASKETS

One of the most needed camping items

\$6.50 and \$7.50

COMPACT CAMP COOKING SET

Handy and takes up very little room.

\$8.00

THERMOS BOTTLES

From pint to one-half gallon sizes. Priced

\$1.00 up

CAMP STOOLS

The folding, sturdy kind. Made for service.

GOLD MEDAL CAMP COTS

The regular government cot. Tested and found to be O. K.

Tents — Fishing Supplies — Golf, Tennis, Baseball Supplies

Midland Hardware & Furniture Co

Quality Merchandise—Priced Right



June 15

GRISSOM-ROBERTSON Department Store

Month

Service — Quality — Value

