

## ITALY'S WONDERFUL PICTURES

THE GREAT SHOW AT BURLINGTON HOUSE

A Gallery Never Seen Before Under One Roof

### THE WORLD'S BEST ART

At Burlington House are assembled hundreds of paintings by the Italian masters who for three centuries beautified the churches and palaces of their land.

They reproduced on these canvases the men and women of their time, the way they dressed, the things they did, the cities, the houses, and the lovely country where their lives were spent, and in a great measure the spirit and feeling of the Italian people of Italy's great age.

#### From Venice and Florence

Here to Piccadilly have come many painters whose work and fame have come down through the centuries, widening and increasing, and destined to endure for centuries more. There is the stately and austere Tintoretto from Venice who painted till he was ninety; and there is the gentle Fra Angelico from Florence who painted in the cells of his fellow monks at San Marco a lovely little fresco for each on the walls.

Many are the pictures of Holy Family and saint which these Italian masters drew, and that is why we think they bring back before us the spirit of the time when they were painted. They did not belong to the great cities only, Rome and Venice, Florence and Naples, Milan and Genoa, Verona and Bologna and Padua. Little towns had their great painters and their noble masterpieces.

It is as if Maidstone and Reading and Nottingham and Leeds would have their masterpieces to put in the parish church or the town hall. If they had not a great painter among their townsmen they summoned one from the greater cities of Umbria or Tuscany to come to paint a picture for them to be the glory of the town and its delight.

#### A Picture for the Town

Rich people, merchants and nobles, entered into the spirit of it all. They would have a master painter, a Duccio, a Mantegna, or a Perugino, to paint for them a picture of the Madonna and Child to be presented to the town.

For reward the pious donor would have his own portrait and that of his wife painted small and tucked away in a corner among the kneeling saints in the picture. Thus is their piety remembered.

Among the painters just named is Duccio. He must be carefully studied at Burlington House, for he was one of the first Italian masters to break away from the stiff old Byzantine style of painting which had lasted a thousand years and to paint men and women as they really were. After him followed such painters as Simon Martine from Siena—everyone should look at him, for many people go to Siena to examine his work in the Palazzo Publico, though Pisa sends these pictures to Piccadilly.

#### The Goldsmith Painters

The whole history of Italian painting can here be traced from these pioneers to the Pollainos, who were called the goldsmith painters because they designed for goldsmiths; they gave the first impulse to the great Renaissance of painting in the 15th century.

There are so many others who carried on the torch that there is scarcely space to mention them. There is Botticelli, whose Venus Rising from the Sea has been reproduced on picture postcards for all the world to see. Some say that the shell in which she floats was painted afterwards.

There are glorious Titian and superb Raphael. There is Perugino with his

## PEACE ENEMIES DEFEATED

The Quarrelling Party in Germany

YOUNG PLAN TO GO FORWARD

Once again a very foolish attempt to make Germany quarrel with her creditors has been handsomely defeated.

The Nationalist Party, representing the old military and aristocratic influence which led Germany into the war, wanted the people to throw out the War Debts settlement known as the Young Plan which their Government had made. So they brought in a Bill which they called a "Bill against the Enslavement of the German People," and when this was defeated by an overwhelming majority they demanded that it should be referred to a vote of the whole nation called a Referendum.

#### Just Enough Votes

In Germany a referendum can only be taken after at least a tenth of the electorate has confirmed the demand for it in a preliminary ballot. Germany has 42 million voters and in the preliminary ballot just enough votes were secured to enable the referendum to go on. But to carry the Bill it was necessary that half the electorate (21 millions) should vote for it. Actually, there were less than six millions votes for it, besides the few hundred thousands who troubled to vote against it, whereas at the last General Election the Parties now supporting the Bill received over seven million votes.

The result of the referendum has brought great and deserved discredit on the Nationalist Party, and even before the voting the mere proposal to hold it had broken up the Party. Whether it will reunite under new leaders remains to be seen.

## A GENERAL ELECTION

### Egypt Ends the Dictatorship

Egypt has had her General Election, and now there is a Parliament which can accept in her name the agreement with Britain reached by her Dictator, Mahmoud Pasha.

It is an agreement on the four points held over for discussion when Britain gave a Parliament to Egypt eight years ago. It concerns the future government of the Sudan, justice for foreign residents, and the defence of Egypt and the Suez Canal against foreign attack.

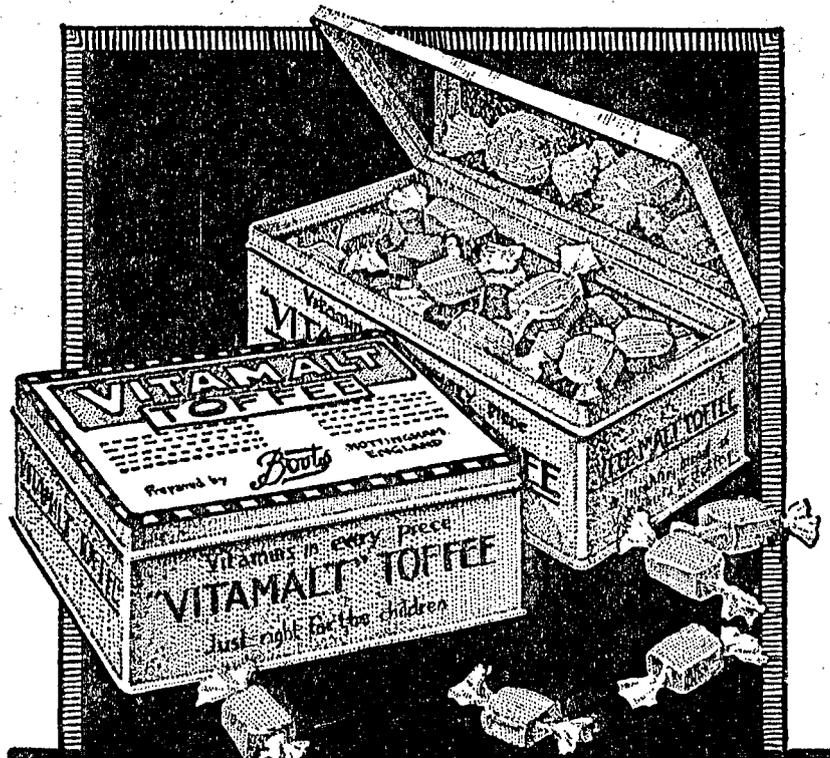
These matters have been in dispute for many years, and when an Egyptian Government was found ready to make a reasonable settlement Britain required that the confirmation of the settlement must come from the Egyptian people through their Parliament. As King Fuad and his Prime Minister had been trying to govern without a Parliament, this meant a General Election and an end to the Dictatorship.

At the election almost every seat has been won by the popular Party (the Wafd), and Mahmoud Pasha has been replaced by its leader, Nahas Pasha. He and his friends are understood to approve generally of the Treaty, but, curiously enough, little or nothing was heard of it during the election.

Continued from the previous column

marvellous colour, and Carpaccio who painted the St. Ursula which every schoolgirl knows. There are Tiepolo who painted ceilings, and Giorgione, a very rare painter; and Filippo Lippi who painted his gentle wife in many of his pictures. There are Masaccio, a great fresco painter; Andrea del Sarto, about whom Browning wrote a poem; Correggio whose best is in Parma; Piero da Cosimo—his best is in our own National Gallery. But at Burlington House all the painters of Italy and nearly every Italian city find a place.

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