

Istanbul Gazette

June 29, 1914

WAR IS COMING!

Breaking news! The Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria, heir to the throne of Austria-Hungary, was assassinated yesterday while visiting the neighboring country of Bosnia. Ferdinand was inspecting the imperial armed forces in Bosnia and Herzegovina, but the inspection was unfortunately cut short by this very grave incident. Serbian nationalists are likely behind this assassination.

This puts an already tense situation among our European nations ever nearer its breaking point. As we are sure our readers are aware, Serbia appears to have Russia's support, along with (most likely) France, Belgium, and Great Britain. Moreover, if Austria-Hungary is pushed to the edge by this incident and comes into conflict with Serbia, Germany will likely soon follow. Thus, it would appear that a great war is almost inevitable now.

MUSEUM THIEF AT LARGE

Regrettably, more bad news has been discovered by reporters here at the *Istanbul Gazette*; we must inform our readers that the extraordinary Alexander the Great traveling museum collection has been stolen! The collection was displayed in the National Museum of Romania in Bucharest. But a thief, perhaps aided by one or more accomplices, has made off with the entire collection. Among the artifacts were armor, clothing, and other adornments owned by the ancient conqueror of this region who lived over 2000 years ago.

THE FUTURE OF RADIO

Experts at the University of Istanbul have been excited to spend the last six months conducting research and development with American inventor Sam Lively. According to Dean Alkan Koz at the School of Technology, "Sam has been invaluable to advancing Turkish understanding of radio technology. I only hope that our help in developing the new carbon transmitter coil, which will be a key component in long-distance radio, was of as great a value as the

knowledge and experience that Sam Lively shared with us. We will be forever grateful for this extended visit."

Dean Koz assured us that Sam Lively's new carbon transmitter coil will carry the radio industry forward for the coming decade. Sam Lively will travel to Paris on the Istanbul Express and then back to the United States by steamship.

THE GOSSIP COLUMN

Turkish merchant Esra Hoca (of the famous Hoca brand of cashmere sweaters) will be taking an upcoming trip to Paris, hoping to market the Hoca sweater in the finest Parisian boutiques. This would be a great boon to the Turkish economy in terms of export and trade if a deal could be struck during Hoca's visit to Paris.

Famous Romanian chemist Sava Hatmanu has recently been traveling in the region while taking a well-earned rest after making many recent advances in radioactive chemistry! However, we're now hearing reports that Hatmanu will be touring other European cities on our very own Istanbul Express.

Nationally-renowned sculptor from Turkey, Max Fairsonne, is touring Europe. Chisel in hand, Fairsonne plans to reveal a taste of Turkish culture to the larger world. After hearing about the tour, we spoke briefly with Fairsonne: "Sculpting is amazing. I just never get tired of sculpting!" the artist confided.

The Istanbul Express

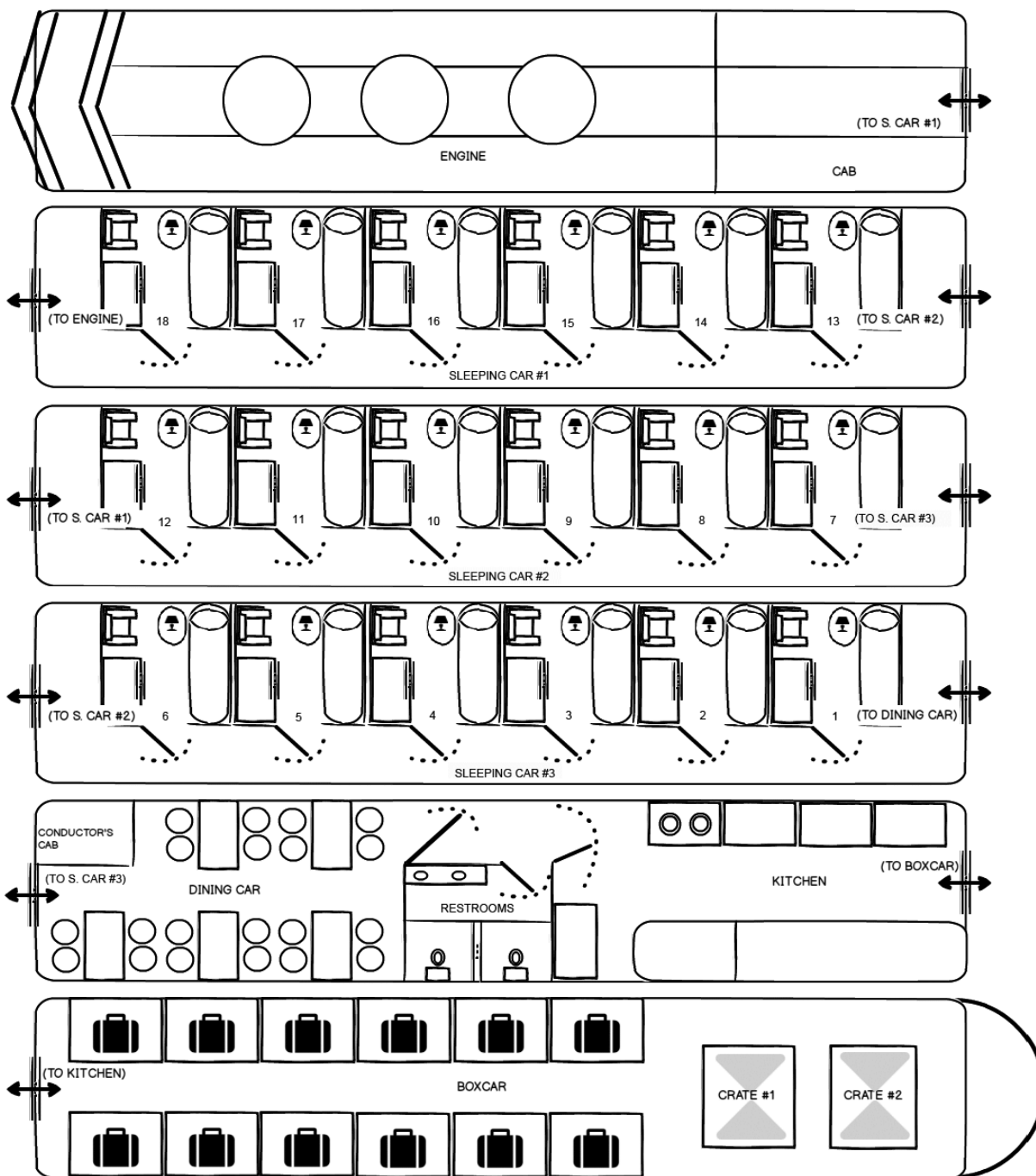
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Istanbul Express train layout



Sleeping compartments

1 – Pat Dijon

3 – Max Fairsonne

5 – Alexe Petrescu

6 – Selda Zaim

7 – Esra Hoca

8 – Hersch Muller

9 – Sam Lively

11 – Jay Middleton

12 – Sava Hatmanu

16 – Lou Gardet

17 – Marin Aromblast

18 – Battista Giovanni

Istanbul Express route of travel



1914 politics: Germany, Austria-Hungary, Bulgaria and the Ottoman Empire (Turkey) formed one power bloc, while the other powers (France, Great Britain, Russia, Italy, Romania and others) opposed them.