

# AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,  
BELGIUM,  
THE BRITISH EMPIRE AND FRANCE

AND

## GERMANY

WITH REGARD TO THE MILITARY OCCUPATION OF  
THE TERRITORIES OF THE RHINE.

Signed at Versailles, June 28th, 1919.

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*Presented to Parliament by Command of His Majesty.*

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# AGREEMENT

between the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, BELGIUM, the BRITISH EMPIRE, and FRANCE,

of the one part,

and GERMANY,

of the other part,

with regard to the military occupation of the territories of the Rhine.

The Undersigned, acting under the powers conferred upon them by their respective Governments, have come to the following agreement as provided for in Article 432 of the Treaty of Peace of even date.

## ARTICLE 1.

In accordance with Article 428 and the following Articles of the Treaty of even date, the armed forces of the Allied and Associated Powers will continue in occupation of German territory (as such occupation is defined by Article 5 of the Armistice Convention of the 11th November 1918, as extended by Article 7 of the Additional Convention of the 16th January 1919), as a guarantee of the execution by Germany of the Treaty.

No German troops, except prisoners of war in process of repatriation, shall be admitted to the occupied territories, even in transit; but police forces of a strength to be determined by the Allied and Associated Powers may be maintained in these territories for the purpose of ensuring order.

## ARTICLE 2.

There shall be constituted a civilian body styled *the Inter-Allied Rhineland High Commission*, and hereinafter called *the High Commission*, which, except in so far as the Treaty may otherwise provide, shall be the supreme representative of the Allied and Associated Powers within the occupied territory. It shall consist of four members representing Belgium, France, Great Britain and the United States.

## ARTICLE 3.

(a) The High Commission shall have the power to issue ordinances so far as may be necessary for securing the maintenance, safety and requirements of the Allied and Associated forces. Such ordinances shall be published under the authority of the High Commission, and copies thereof shall be sent to each of the Allied and Associated Governments and also to the German Government.

When so published they shall have the force of law and shall be recognised as such by all the Allied and Associated military authorities and by the German civil authorities.

(b) The members of the High Commission shall enjoy diplomatic privileges and immunities.

(c) The German courts shall continue to exercise civil and criminal jurisdiction subject to the exceptions contained in paragraphs (d) and (e) below.

(d) The armed forces of the Allied and Associated Powers and the persons accompanying them, to whom the General Officers Commanding the Armies of Occupation shall have issued a revocable pass, and any persons employed by, or in the service of such troops, shall be exclusively subject to the military law and jurisdiction of such forces.

(e) Any person who commits any offence against the persons or property of the armed forces of the Allied and Associated Powers may be made amenable to the military jurisdiction of the said forces.

## ARTICLE 4.

The German authorities, both in the occupied and in the unoccupied territories, shall, on the demand of any duly authorised military officer of the occupying forces, arrest and hand over to the nearest commander of the Allied or Associated troops any person charged with an offence who is amenable under paragraph (d) or paragraph (e) of Article 3 above to the military jurisdiction of the Allied or Associated Forces.

## ARTICLE 5.

The civil administration of the provinces (*Provinzen*), Government departments (*Regierungsbezirke*), Urban Circles (*Stadtkreise*), Rural Circles (*Landkreise*), and Communes (*Gemeinde*), shall remain in the hands of the German authorities, and the civil administration of these areas shall continue under German law and under the authority of the Central German Government, except in so far as it may be necessary for the High Commission by Ordinance under Article 3 to adapt that administration to the needs and circumstances of military occupation. It is understood that the German authorities shall be obliged, under penalty of removal, to conform to the ordinances issued in virtue of Article 3 above.

## ARTICLE 6.

The right to requisition in kind and to demand services in the manner laid down in the Hague Convention, 1907, shall be exercised by the Allied and Associated Armies of Occupation.

The charges for the requisitions effected in the zone of each Allied and Associated army and the estimate of damage caused by the troops of occupation shall be determined by local Commissions composed in equal representation of German civilians appointed by the German civil authorities and Allied or Associated military officers, and presided over by some person appointed by the High Commission.

The German Government shall continue to be responsible for the cost of maintenance of the troops of occupation under the conditions fixed by the Treaty. The German Government shall also be responsible for the costs and expenses of the High Commission, and for its housing. Suitable premises for the housing of the High Commission shall be selected after consultation with the German Government.

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The Allied and Associated troops shall continue undisturbed in possession of any premises at present occupied by them, subject to the provision of Article 8 (b) below.

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(a) The German Government shall undertake, moreover, to place at the disposal of the Allied and Associated troops and to maintain in good state of repair all the military establishments required for the said troops, with the necessary furniture, heating and lighting, in accordance with the regulations concerning these matters in force in the various armies concerned. These shall include accommodation for officers and men, guard-rooms, offices, administrative, regimental and staff headquarters, workshops, store-rooms, hospitals, laundries, regimental schools, riding

schools, stables, training grounds and rifle and artillery ranges, aviation grounds, grazing grounds, warehouses for supplies and grounds for military manoeuvres, also theatre and cinema premises, and reasonable facilities for sport and for recreation grounds for the troops.

(b) Private soldiers and non-commissioned officers shall be accommodated in barracks, and shall not be billeted on the inhabitants, except in cases of exceptional emergency.

In the event of the existing military establishments being insufficient or not being considered suitable, the Allied and Associated troops may take possession of any other public or private establishment with its personnel, suitable for those purposes, or, if there are no such suitable premises, they may require the construction of new barracks.

Civilian and military officers and their families may be billeted on the inhabitants in accordance with the billeting regulations in force in each army.

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No German direct taxes or duties will be payable by the High Commission, the Allied and Associated armies or their personnel.

Food supplies, arms, clothing, equipment and provisions of all kinds for the use of the Allied and Associated Armies, or addressed to the military authorities, or to the High Commission, or to canteens and officers' messes, shall be transported free of charge and free of all import duties of any kind.

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The personnel employed on all means of communication (railways, railroads and tramways of all kinds, waterways (including the Rhine), roads and rivers), shall obey any orders given by, or on behalf of, the Commander-in-Chief of the Allied and Associated armies for military purposes.

All the material and all the civil personnel necessary for the maintenance and working of all means of communication must be kept intact on all such means of communication in the occupied territory.

The transport on the railways of troops or individual soldiers or officers, on duty or furnished with a warrant, will be effected without payment.

#### ARTICLE 11.

The Armies of Occupation may continue to use for military purposes all existing telegraphic and telephonic installations.

The Armies of Occupation shall also have the right to continue to install and use military telegraph and telephone lines, wireless stations and all other similar means of communication which may appear to them expedient. For this purpose, subject to the approval of the High Commission, they may enter upon and occupy any land, whether public or private.

The personnel of the public telegraph and telephone services shall continue to obey the orders of the Commander-in-Chief of the Allied and Associated Armies given for military purposes.

Telegrams and messages to or from the Allied and Associated authorities and the High Commission and of an official nature shall be entitled to priority over all other communications and shall be despatched free of charge. The Allied and Associated military authorities shall have the right to supervise the order in which such communications are transmitted.

No wireless telegraphy installations shall be allowed to be erected by the authorities or by the inhabitants of the occupied territory without previous authorisation by the Allied and Associated military authorities.

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The personnel of the postal services shall obey any orders given by or on behalf of the Commander-in-Chief of the Allied and Associated Armies for military purposes. The public postal service shall continue to be carried out by the German authorities, but this shall not in any way affect the retention of the military postal services organised by the Armies of Occupation, who shall have the right to use all existing postal routes for military requirements.

The said armies shall have the right to run postal wagons with all necessary personnel on all existing postal routes.

The German Government shall transmit free of charge and without examination letters and parcels which may be entrusted to its post-offices by or for the Armies of Occupation or by or for the High Commission; and shall be responsible for the value of any letters or parcels lost.

#### ARTICLE 13.

The High Commission shall have the power, whenever they think it necessary, to declare a state of siege in any part of the territory or in the whole of it. Upon such declaration the military authorities shall have the powers provided in the German Imperial Law of May 30th, 1892.

In case of emergency, where public order is disturbed or threatened in any district, the local military authorities shall have the power to take such temporary measures as may be necessary for restoring order. In such case the military authorities shall report the facts to the High Commission.

Done at Versailles, the twenty-eighth day of June, one thousand nine hundred and nineteen.

**ARRANGEMENT.**

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## ARRANGEMENT

entre les ÉTATS-UNIS D'AMÉRIQUE, la BELGIQUE, l'EMPIRE BRITANNIQUE et la FRANCE,

d'une part,

et l'ALLEMAGNE,

d'autre part

concernant l'occupation militaire des territoires rhénans.

Les Soussignés, agissant en vertu des pouvoirs qui leurs sont conférés par leurs Gouvernements respectifs, ainsi qu'il est prévu à l'article 432 du Traité de Paix signé à la date de ce jour, sont tombés d'accord sur les dispositions suivantes :

### ARTICLE 1.

Conformément aux articles 428 et suivants du Traité signé en date de ce jour, les forces armées des Puissances alliées et associées continueront l'occupation des territoires allemands (telle que cette occupation a été définie par l'article 5 de la Convention d'armistice du 11 novembre 1918 et étendue par l'article 7 de la Convention additionnelle du 16 janvier 1919), comme garantie de l'exécution par l'Allemagne dudit Traité.

Aucune troupe allemande, à l'exception des prisonniers de guerre en cours de rapatriement, ne sera admise dans les territoires occupés, même en transit ; mais des forces de police, dont le nombre sera déterminé par les Puissances alliées et associées, pourront être maintenues dans ces territoires, en vue d'y assurer l'ordre.

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No German troops, except prisoners of war in process of repatriation, shall be admitted to the occupied territories, even in transit; but police forces of a strength to be determined by the Allied and Associated Powers may be maintained in these territories for the purpose of ensuring order.

## ARTICLE 2.

Il sera constitué un organisme civil, dénommé *Haute Commission interalliée des territoires rhénans* et désignés ci-après sous le nom de *Haute Commission*, qui, à moins de dispositions contraires, du Traité, sera le représentant suprême des Puissances alliées et associées dans les territoires occupés. Il comprendra quatre membres représentant la Belgique, la France, la Grande-Bretagne et les États-Unis.

## ARTICLE 3.

a) La Haute Commission aura le pouvoir d'édicter des ordonnances dans la mesure qui sera nécessaire pour assurer l'entretien, la sécurité et les besoins des forces militaires des Puissances alliées et associées. Ces ordonnances seront publiées par ses soins ; les copies en seront envoyées à chacun des Gouvernements alliés et associés ainsi qu'au Gouvernement allemand.

Ces ordonnances auront force de loi et, dès leur publication, seront reconnues comme telles par les autorités militaires alliées et associées et par les autorités civiles allemandes.

b) Les membres de la Haute Commission jouiront des privilèges et immunités diplomatiques.

c) Les tribunaux allemands continueront à exercer leur juridiction civile et criminelle, sauf en ce qui concerne les exceptions contenues dans les paragraphes d) et e) ci-dessous.

d) Les forces armées des Puissances alliées et associées et les personnes à elles attachées à qui les généraux commandant les armées d'occupation auront délivré un laissez-passer révoquant, et toutes les personnes employées par ces troupes ou à leur service, seront exclusivement justiciables de la loi militaire et de la juridiction militaire de ces troupes.

e) Toutes personnes qui commettront un crime ou un délit contre la personne ou les biens des forces armées des Puissances alliées et associées pourront être traduites devant la juridiction militaire desdites troupes.

## ARTICLE 4.

Les autorités allemandes, soit en territoire occupé, soit en territoire non occupé, doivent, sur la demande de tout officier des forces d'occupation dûment autorisé, arrêter et remettre entre les mains du commandant des armées alliées et associées le plus proche toute personne accusée d'un crime ou délit et qui, par application des alinéas d) et e) de l'article 3, est justiciable de la juridiction militaire des forces alliées et associées.

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## ARTICLE 5.

L'administration civile des provinces (*Provinzen*), des gouvernements (*Regierungsbezirke*), cercles urbains (*Stadtkreise*), cercles ruraux (*Landkreise*) et communes (*Gemeinde*) restera entre les mains des autorités allemandes et l'administration civile de ces zones continuera conformément aux lois allemandes et sous l'autorité du Gouvernement central allemand, à l'exception de la réglementation par ordonnances émanant de la Haute Commission et dans la mesure où celle-ci le jugera nécessaire, conformément à l'article 3, pour adapter cette administration aux besoins et aux circonstances de l'occupation militaire. Il est entendu que les autorités allemandes sont obligées, sous peine de révocation, de se conformer à toutes les ordonnances rendues en vertu de l'article 3 ci-dessus.

## ARTICLE 6.

Le droit de réquisition en nature et en services, tel qu'il est réglementé par la Convention de La Haye de 1907, sera exercé par les armées alliées et associées d'occupation.

Les charges causées par les réquisitions effectuées dans la zone de chaque armée alliée ou associée, et l'estimation des dommages causés par les troupes d'occupation, seront déterminées par des Commissions locales composées, par égale représentation, à la fois de civils allemands nommés par les autorités civiles allemandes et d'officiers alliés ou associés, et présidées par une personne nommée par la Haute Commission.

Le Gouvernement allemand continuera à supporter les frais d'entretien des armées d'occupation aux conditions fixées par le Traité. Le Gouvernement allemand supportera également les dépenses résultant du fonctionnement de la Commission et de son logement. Des locaux convenables pour le logement de la Haute Commission seront choisis après avoir consulté le Gouvernement allemand.

## ARTICLE 7.

Les troupes alliées et associées continueront à occuper sans obstacle les locaux qu'elles occupent à présent en se conformant aux stipulations de l'article 8 b) ci-après.

## ARTICLE 8.

a) Le Gouvernement allemand s'engage à mettre à la disposition des troupes alliées et associées et à maintenir en bon état tous les établissements militaires nécessaires aux dites troupes, ainsi que les ameublements, le chauffage et l'éclairage, en conformité avec les règlements concernant ces matières et actuellement en vigueur dans les différentes armées susvisées. Ces dispositions impliquent le logement pour les officiers et les hommes, les corps de garde, les bureaux, les administrations, les états-majors de régiment et quartiers généraux, les ateliers, les

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magasins, les hôpitaux, les blanchisseries, les écoles régimentaires, les manèges, les écuries, les terrains d'instruction, les champs de tir d'infanterie et d'artillerie, les terrains d'aviation, les pâturages, les magasins de ravitaillement et les terrains de manœuvres, ainsi que des immeubles pour les théâtres et cinémas et des terrains en quantité raisonnable pour le sport et la récréation des troupes.

b) Les soldats et sous-officiers seront casernés et ne seront pas logés chez l'habitant, sauf en cas d'exceptionnelle urgence.

Dans le cas où les établissements militaires actuels seraient trouvés insuffisants ou ne conviendraient pas, les troupes alliées et associées pourront prendre possession de tout établissement public ou privé avec son personnel, s'il leur paraît convenir dans ce but, ou, en cas d'insuffisance, exiger la construction de nouveaux casernements.

Les fonctionnaires civils, les officiers et leurs familles pourront être logés chez l'habitant, en suivant les règlements concernant les cantonnements, actuellement en vigueur dans chaque armée.

#### ARTICLE 9.

Les troupes alliées et associées ou leur personnel ainsi que la Haute Commission et son personnel ne payeront aucun impôt ni taxes directs allemands.

Les denrées de ravitaillement, les armes, l'habillement, l'équipement, les approvisionnements de toute nature destinés à être utilisés par les armées alliées et associées ou adressés aux autorités militaires ou à la Haute Commission ainsi qu'aux cantines et aux mess d'officiers, devront être reçus en franchise de port et droits d'entrée de toute espèce.

#### ARTICLE 10.

Le personnel employé dans les voies de communication (chemins de fer à voie normale ou autres, tramways de toutes sortes, fleuves et canaux, y compris le Rhin, routes et rivières) devra obéir aux ordres qui lui seront donnés par le Commandant en chef des armées alliées et associées, ou en son nom, pour des buts militaires.

Tout le matériel et tout le personnel civil nécessaires à l'entretien et à l'exploitation de toutes les voies de communication doivent être maintenus au complet sur ces voies dans les territoires occupés.

Les transports de troupes ou d'isolés et d'officiers, munis d'un ordre de transport sur les chemins de fer, seront effectués gratuitement.

#### ARTICLE 11.

Les armées d'occupation pourront continuer, dans des buts militaires, à se servir de toutes les installations télégraphiques et téléphoniques existantes.

schools, stables, training grounds and rifle and artillery ranges, aviation grounds, grazing grounds, warehouses for supplies and grounds for military manoeuvres, also theatre and cinema premises, and reasonable facilities for sport and for recreation grounds for the troops.

(b) Private soldiers and non-commissioned officers shall be accommodated in barracks, and shall not be billeted on the inhabitants, except in cases of exceptional emergency.

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The transport on the railways of troops or individual soldiers or officers, on duty or furnished with a warrant, will be effected without payment.

#### ARTICLE 11.

The Armies of Occupation may continue to use for military purposes all existing telegraphic and telephonic installations.



Les armées d'occupation continueront également à exercer le droit d'installer des lignes militaires télégraphiques et téléphoniques, des stations de télégraphie sans fil et de tous autres moyens analogues de communication qui leur paraîtront nécessaires. Dans ce but, elles pourront, sous réserve de l'approbation de la Haute Commission, entrer dans n'importe quel lieu public ou privé et l'occuper.

Le personnel des télégraphes et téléphones publics continuera à obéir aux ordres donnés, pour des buts militaires, par le Commandant en chef des armées alliées et associées.

Les télégrammes et messages de ou pour les autorités alliées ou associées ou la Haute Commission et d'un caractère officiel auront la priorité sur toutes les autres communications et seront expédiés gratuitement. Les autorités militaires alliées et associées auront le droit de contrôler l'ordre dans lequel les communications seront transmises.

Aucune installation de télégraphie sans fil ne pourra être établie par les autorités ou les habitants des territoires occupés sans une autorisation préalable des autorités militaires alliées et associées.

#### ARTICLE 12.

Le personnel du Service des Postes obéira à tous ordres donnés par le Commandant en chef des armées alliées et associées ou son représentant, dans des buts militaires. Le Service postal public continuera sous la direction des autorités allemandes, étant entendu qu'aucune atteinte ne sera apportée aux services postaux militaires organisés par les armées d'occupation, qui auront le droit de se servir, pour les besoins militaires, de toutes les routes postales existantes.

Les dites armées auront le droit de faire circuler des wagons-poste avec tout le personnel nécessaire sur toutes les lignes postales existantes.

Le Gouvernement allemand transportera, gratuitement et sans les examiner, les lettres et les colis qui pourraient être remis à ses bureaux de poste par ou pour les armées d'occupation ou la Haute Commission et sera responsable de la valeur de toute lettre ou colis perdu ou volé par la poste.

#### ARTICLE 13.

La Haute Commission aura le pouvoir, toutes les fois qu'elle le jugera nécessaire, de déclarer l'état de siège dans une partie quelconque ou dans la totalité du territoire. Par suite de cette déclaration, les autorités militaires auront les pouvoirs prévus par la loi allemande d'Empire du 30 mai 1892.

En cas d'urgence, lorsque l'ordre public est troublé ou menacé dans un district, les autorités militaires locales pourront prendre toutes mesures temporaires nécessaires pour rétablir l'ordre. Dans ce cas, les autorités militaires rendront compte de ces faits à la Haute Commission.

The Armies of Occupation shall also have the right to continue to install and use military telegraph and telephone lines, wireless stations and all other similar means of communication which may appear to them expedient. For this purpose, subject to the approval of the High Commission, they may enter upon and occupy any land, whether public or private.

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Done at Versailles, the twenty-eighth day of June, one thousand nine hundred and nineteen.

Woodrow Wilson

Robert La Follette

Henry White

Frank House

Vester H. Bliss

D. C. Hooper

A. B. C. C.

Mitner

Mr Jam Balfour

George H Barnes

Chas J Oherke

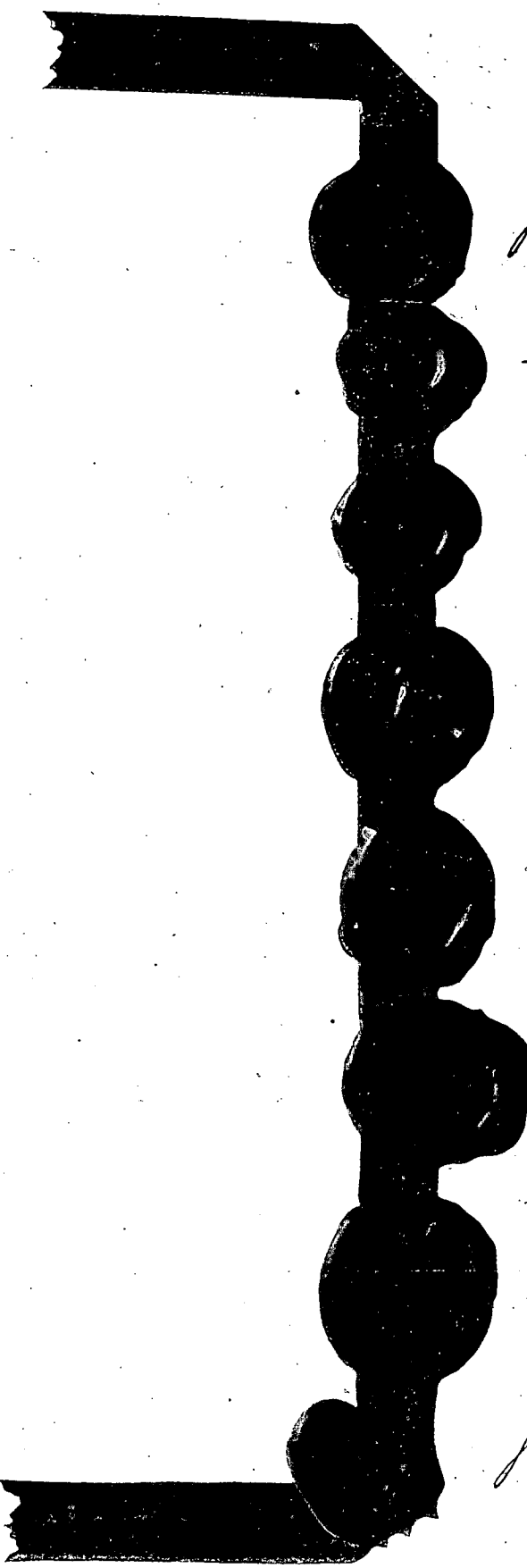
Arthur L Sifton

W. H. Hughes

Joseph Book

Louis Bothe

W. Amos.



W. J. Massey

Ed. S. Montagu

Grace Singh  
Maharajah of Bikaner.

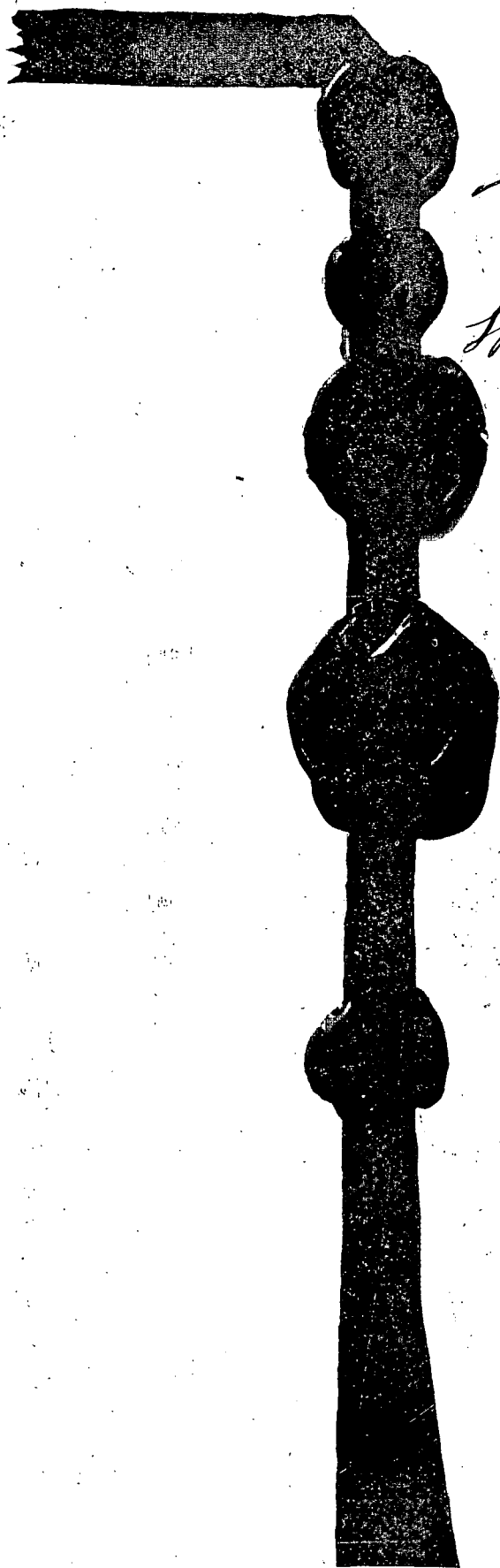
Ellenman

S. Fisher

H. H. H. H.

W. H. H. H.

Julia Cambay



*Hyasny*

*Stander Hevel*

*Wanderer*

*Herrmann Müller*

*Dr. Bell*