

AYLMER'S RELIEF FORCE ONLY SEVEN MILES FROM KUT.

DAILY SKETCH.

GUARANTEED DAILY NETT SALE MORE THAN 1,000,000 COPIES.

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LONDON, FRIDAY, MARCH 10, 1916

[Registered as a Newspaper.]

ONE HALFPENNY.

THE MARRIED MAN'S BURDEN

"Single men first and then we'll follow" is the cry of the attested married men all over the country. Until all the single men go and all the married men have been treated alike the attested married men will say they have been deceived.



"Mr. Asquith must fulfil his pledge."



"Our country—not the single man—our motto!"



Scenes at the great meeting at Portsmouth to demand fulfilment of the pledge to married men.



"Into the Valley of Debt."—Will Dyson's striking conception of the charge of the Married Men in the full regulation war-kit at present required of them.

—(Copyright © Will Dyson.)



Germany's munitioneer is a married man.



Our older married men should be trained for the same work.



The unskilled munition-worker need not be an able-bodied single man. This Birmingham cripple does the work

GALLIPOLI HEROES ON THE SUEZ CANAL.

First Account Of Great Defences Of Egypt. RAILWAYS IN THE DESERT.

Empire Army's Preparations Against The Turk.

From W. T. Massey.

SUEZ, Wednesday.

[This is the first dispatch sent by Mr. W. T. Massey, the brilliant correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph*, now representing the *Daily Sketch* and other London newspapers with the Mediterranean Expeditionary Force, and gives the first account to English readers of the steps taken for the protection of Egypt and the Suez Canal.]

If the danger of a Turkish attack on Egypt is not entirely removed, a serious attempt at invasion is becoming very remote.

The warm season is approaching. With it departs the possibility of moving large bodies of troops across an inhospitable desert unless elaborate preparations were previously completed.

Of these there are no signs—certainly not for an army large enough to measure strength with the defenders.

The Turks and their German masters may have intended a descent on Egypt, but the well-grounded fear that full protective measures had been taken against them, and the disaster at Erzerum presumably caused them to change their plans.

TOO LATE TO ATTACK.

That at least is the conclusion formed by the absence of indications of enemy activity at a time when the precious days of moderate temperature are becoming fewer. There may be sporadic attacks by small parties, but a serious effort to reach the Suez Canal is practically impossible this season.

Having seen the defences which 13 months ago were sufficient to break the effort of 15,000 Turks to cross the canal, I make bold to say that a quarter of a million of the enemy have less chance to-day.

The enemy have not the faintest prospect of sending such an army against us. The canal and Egypt are therefore perfectly secure.

Indeed, it is doubtful whether any part of the European battle front is so safe from results of an attack.

If it has been necessary for Britain to make a vast expenditure in money and labour to secure the freedom of the waterway connecting the seas of the East and West—an insurance premium which no home or colonial Briton will grudge—how much greater must be the cost of adequate preparations by the enemy?

He has to cross practically waterless waste with nothing to sustain an army except what he can carry from his base 100 miles away.

RAILWAYS, ROADS, AND WATER-PIPES.

Prudence prompted our command to construct numerous light railways on the eastern side of the canal, and to lay an elaborate system of pipelines for water supply.

Unless the Turks make similar arrangements over ten times the mileage they cannot bring an army equal in numbers to that which they will have to meet, nor keep them opposite our lines for more than two days even without a shot being fired at them.

Our preparations were planned to resist the most serious attack which could in any circumstances be made against Egypt. We have stores carried miles into the desert, rapid little trains, and hundreds of miles of metalled roads made for wheeled transport.

The hum of the motor is carried far in the desert air, but even the aid of almost every modern appliance for speedy locomotion is not sufficient.

AS IN PHARAOH'S TIME.

While long clouds of dust, raised roads, and self-propelled vehicles tell the story of an up-to-date transport service, you see camel trains moving, as in Pharaoh's time—larger, perhaps, than ever before in history—carrying different loads, but in the same slow, methodical, follow-my-leader way.

This curious blend of ancient and modern transport is necessary and desirable to bring to the service of the Army every possible means of carriage, and it is due to the employment of all available resources that such astonishing defensive works have been completed.

What the system of defences is must not be indicated, for a very good reason, but it is certain that if ever there were chances of a Turkish success they have completely vanished.

During a visit to the front line defences I was much impressed with the character of the work and the enthusiastic labour of the troops.

In this sector the preparation of the lines was given to a division composed of veterans of Gallipoli.

Some had held on to their duties longer than health warranted because they wished to see the quality of the reinforcements and to impress upon them how vital it was that the younger nations should show the mother country the stock was true.

READY AGAIN.

They came to Egypt with nerves unshaken—for Gallipoli ordeals had merely tempered them—but jaundice and other forms of sickness had lowered their systems.

After recuperating for three weeks in a desert rest camp they were ready for fresh trials. Indeed, the divisional commander told me that the news that his men were to prepare and occupy the first line gave intense satisfaction. Though the subsequent toil was heavy, and the calls upon their cheerfulness and endurance great, their health is splendid.

Work for the Empire acted as a tonic, and the sickness rate among these war-worn heroes has fallen to three per thousand.

Hired labour is used on railway and road construction, but only troops are employed on the defences.

For weeks troops, British, Colonials, dug, levelled, sand-bagged, and so on, until they produced a system of earthworks incomparably superior to any made in Egypt before.

Those who watched them were amazed at their skill and the pride in their work.

They have done magnificently, and in the whole of the wonderful line the men see to it that there is not an idler.

10,000,000 MAIMED MEN.

The Greatest After-War Problem: What Can We Do For Our Broken Heroes.

"When this war is over there will be ten million maimed men in Europe."

The man who said this is no whining pessimist, although he has seen sufficient mutilation by the shells of the Boches to sicken the heart and make the blood run cold.

He was introduced to the *Daily Sketch* by the Countess de Morella at her house in Grosvenor-square as Commandant Capmas, Médecin-Major who on the field of battle had been decorated with the Legion d'Honneur and the Médaille Militaire.



COMMANDANT CAPMAS.



COUNTRESS DE MORELLA.
(Daily Sketch Photographs.)

"This is going to be the greatest after-war problem of all," said the commandant, who has come to London to see and report to the French Government what methods we are following in the mending of our broken men.

The commandant told the *Daily Sketch* that the fighting near Verdun means a great necessity for hospital comforts. The Countess de Morella has been working hard at 24, Grosvenor-square, to supply him with the things that are needed, and through the long months of the war has worked wonders of organisation and assistance.

She will be glad to receive any gifts in kind or money for the commandant, his brave men, and those they are succouring.

£1,000 FOR NEEDLEWORK.

Entry Forms Now Ready For This Year's Big Exhibition.

The time has arrived when readers of the *Daily Sketch* should begin to bestir themselves in connection with the second great Needlework Competition.

You remember what a huge success was the three days' exhibition at the Central Hall, Westminster, by means of which over £2,000 was raised for the British Red Cross Society and the Order of St. John of Jerusalem.

The amount of prize-money given by the *Daily Sketch* will be the same as before—£1,000.

There will be a new class for munition overalls, and also for metal work, leather work, and carved woodwork.

At one end of the scale the boys' class has been widened to include all boys under 15 years. At the other end a special "veterans' class" has been designed for Darby and Joan, who must have attained the age of 65.

Send a large stamped addressed envelope now to—

Needlework Competition,
Daily Sketch Buildings,
46, Shoe-lane, E.C.

There will then be forwarded to you an entry form and list of classes, and you can begin to make up your mind what you prefer to send in.

DARDANELLES: 11,500 MISSING.

Mr. Tennant yesterday gave some more Dardanelles figures:—

Wounded and missing: Officers 333, other ranks 11,221.

Prisoners: Officers 32, other ranks 470.

Major the Hon. C. H. C. Guest is gazetted to special appointment under the Ministry of Munitions.

KITCHENER'S NEPHEW AND NIECE TO MARRY.

Their Engagements Announced On The Same Day.

A BERMUDA MEETING.

By a romantic coincidence the engagements of Lord Kitchener's nephew and niece are announced on the same day.

Lieutenant Henry Hamilton Kitchener, R.E., is to marry Miss Winifred Everest Bluck.

Lieutenant Kitchener, who is 26, is a flying officer in the R.F.C. His father was the late Lieut.-General Sir Walter Kitchener, brother of the War Minister. Lord Kitchener's title, by virtue of a special remainder, can descend to his brothers and their children, and Lieutenant H. H. Kitchener may, in course of time, come into the earldom.

Miss Bluck is the daughter of the Hon. A. W. Bluck and Mrs. Bluck, of Bermuda. Sir Walter Kitchener died in 1912 while he was Governor of Bermuda, and the young couple met in that delectable island.

Lieutenant H. H. Kitchener's sister, Miss Philippa Chevalier Kitchener, is engaged to marry Captain Terence Desmond Murray, 1st Leinster Regiment, now with the Salonika expedition. He is the son of the Lieutenant-Governor of Papua.

Mentioned in dispatches for gallantry at Neuve Chapelle, he proposed to Miss Kitchener while recovering after being wounded for the second time in France.

WOMEN BAKERS FOR LONDON.

Filling The Places Of Men Who Have Gone To The Front.

For generations the housewives of the north have baked their own bread, while the London woman has been content to rely on the vanman's daily call or the little shop round the corner.

But the war is going to alter all that, so far as the London part of it is concerned.

Six girls are being taught by Mr. W. T. Barton, one of the largest bakers in the East of London, how to make bread. None of them has ever baked a loaf in her life before, but now they are being initiated into the mysteries.

When war broke out Mr. Barton was employing a large number of men bakers; he put no obstacles in the way of their enlisting, and he has claimed no exemptions since, so that his staff became depleted, and he thought of girls.

They have started under the direction of a qualified baker over military age.

"UP YOU GO."

Mr. Neil Lyons' Vivid Picture Of A Scene In France.

Another of the popular series of Mr. A. Neil Lyons' vivid pen pictures from France will be given in the *Illustrated Sunday Herald* on Sunday, when he will give incidents associated with the departure of a draft from camp in France for the front. Mr. Lyons' article will be entitled "Up You Go."

In his weekly article the Rev. R. J. Campbell will dwell upon "the mystery of the world's pain, and the sad farewells without certainty of meeting again."

"Our best-beloved are passing from us through the red mist of war," he writes, "and our knowledge cannot follow them further, our hands cannot serve them more. Life's farewells derive most of their poignancy from this fact."

Mr. Campbell points out that all that is fine and exalted in human character and conduct is the fruit of "this not knowing for certain"—that is, it is born of faith. "If we could see the glory of the invisible world as it is round about us, there would be no atheists; but perhaps there would be no saints either."

TAKING THE YOUNG AND THE OLD.



General A. S. Montague Flight-Commander W. R. Brown.



Major-General A. S. Montague Brown, who has just died at 80 years of age, was a veteran of the Crimean War, in which he fought with the Scots Greys. Flight-Commander William R. Crocker was a brilliant young airman, who has just been killed on active service.—(Lafayette and Swaine.)

STEEL HELMETS FOR OUR SOLDIERS.

Lord Sandhurst told Viscount Bryce in the House of Lords last night that our forces in the field had been supplied with steel helmets on the scale of supply recommended by Lord French.

Representatives of the War Office are visiting the colliery districts for the purpose of recruiting miners for tunnelling work in various theatres of the war.

"LET'S BUILD ZEPPELINS!"

Lord Haldane's Admission: "We Must Make Up Time Wasted."

GRAVE SHORTCOMINGS.

Lord Montagu of Beaulieu raised the subject of Zeppelins in the House of Lords last night, when he made his first appearance in Parliament since his escape from death in the torpedoed *Persia*. He asked the Government, in view of the growing importance of aviation in modern warfare, to create a separate Air Ministry.

The creation of Lord Derby's Committee was a confession of weakness, and the present position of our air service was unsatisfactory. Our anti-aircraft guns were much too small, and ought to be replaced by guns of larger calibre.

Germany's Zeppelin fleet was very considerable (he believed she had between 30 and 40), and the best types had a radius of 2,000 miles. We ought to build airships of the Zeppelin type and raid German manufacturing districts.

A Great Opportunity Missed.

Lord Haldane said he had no fear of our being able to hold our own in regard to aeroplanes if we only used our opportunities. If we were behind in this respect he doubted if it was more than temporary.

With regard to Zeppelins it was a different tale. We had missed a great opportunity of applying to the construction of Zeppelins the same science we applied to the construction of aeroplanes, and we had got to make up the time neglected.

If an Air Minister were appointed he would have to deal with construction, and would never, Lord Haldane considered, be able to take the weapons away from the Commanders-in-Chief of the naval and military forces.

What we really wanted to do was to insist that all the problems of the construction of Zeppelins received the amount of scientific attention they required.

"Attack Them In Their Sheds."

Lord Beresford did not think the establishment of an Air Ministry would help the case, and declared we had spent money like water in buying useless machines from other nations.

We had lost some of our finest airmen by sending them up in bad machines. Warnford was sent up in an experimental machine. We had no right to send men up in experimental machines. (Hear, hear.)

Zeppelins were tremendously dangerous weapons. In war we must always meet like with like, and we must meet Zeppelins with Zeppelins.

We should at once set to work to build Zeppelins. This would take years, and the only thing we could do to meet the danger now was to pick the best aeroplanes to cover the distance, and not monthly but weekly, and if possible daily, attack the Zeppelins in their sheds, which were enormous targets. If Zeppelins came here, he did not see how we were to attack them.

Correcting Old Defects.

Lord Lansdowne said no one could deny that there had been grave shortcomings, and it was the Government's duty to devote its energy to correcting the defects and miscarriages that had arisen.

So far as warfare at the front was concerned we had certainly not been outclassed by our opponents in the quality of pilots. As regards quantity, the output a month was now twenty times that of peace, and would more than double itself during the summer. The output of aeroplanes a week was about three-quarters of that for the whole of the year ended August, 1914. All the types which accompanied the Expeditionary Force had been replaced by something better, and the progress continued. By the end of the month the number of squadrons abroad would be eight times the number that accompanied the Expeditionary Force in 1914.

It was the Government's duty to take every possible precaution to meet air raids on this country.

A ZEPPELIN "HERO" IN GERMAN EYES.

Lieut. - Captain Odo Loewe, commander of the L19, "which sank in the North Sea after English fishermen had refused to save it." This is how the German journal, *Kriegsbilder*, announces the Zeppelin commander's death, without reference to any of the crew's baby-killing exploits.



LLOYD GEORGE, DISTILLER.

Hopes His Whisky Pellets Will Do The Germans A Whole Lot Of Harm.

"I have become the greatest distiller in the world," Mr. Lloyd George unblushingly told a deputation from the Temperance Council of the Christian Churches yesterday.

As Minister of Munitions I have taken over the whole of the patent-still distilleries in the country, and I am doing my best to provide whisky—for the Germans.

"And if the whisky pellets do half as much harm to the Germans as whisky has done in this country I and every other patriot will be truly thankful."

As the result of the drink regulations police records showed a reduction of something like 40 per cent. in drunkenness throughout the country. Success in the war would very largely depend on removing the drag on our efficiency caused by drink.

GERMANY DECLARES A STATE OF WAR WITH PORTUGAL.

FURIOUS GERMAN ASSAULTS OF NO AVAIL. GERMAN DECLARATION OF WAR ON PORTUGAL.

Massed Attacks Hurlled Back By The French.

COSTLY FAILURES.

Enemy Beaten In Battles On Both Sides Of The Meuse.

ROUTED AT VAUX.

The German news again claims a success in the alleged capture of the fort and village of Vaux, on the eastern flank of the main ridge running into Verdun.

The mendacity of this German claim is clearly shown by the French reports dealing with the same events, showing that Vaux was entered by the enemy, who was driven out again, and return attacks yesterday were of no avail.

Indeed it is probable that the name of Vaux will be associated in the German mind with ghastly failure, for yesterday's attacks on the French positions only resulted in wholesale slaughter of the enemy.

By their victory in the Rooks' Wood (Bois des Corbeaux) on the west, or Paris, side of the Meuse the French have gained a very substantial success, making it impossible for the enemy to advance on the opposite side of the Meuse.

VAUX DEFIES GERMANS' FIERCEST ASSAULTS.

Massed Formations Mown Down By The French Artillery.

French Official News.

PARIS, Thursday, 11 p.m.

In Belgium our artillery was active against the enemy positions to the south of Lombaertzyde.

In Champagne we effectively bombarded to the west of Navarin, to the east of the Butte de Mesnil and in the Massiges district the enemy defensive organisations.

West of the Meuse our troops continued to make progress during the day in the Raven's Wood, almost all of which we hold.

East of the Meuse the Germans directed several attacks against our front from Douaumont to Vaux.

At the outlet from the village of Douaumont an attack was shattered by our infantry and artillery fire.

Furious assaults against the village of Vaux were also repulsed with heavy losses to the enemy.

Finally, the Germans launched against our trenches bordering the foot of the slopes of the crest on which stands the fort of Vaux violent attacks in mass formation.

These were repulsed, the enemy losing enormously from our curtain fire.

The activity of the artillery, both west and east of the Meuse, was very violent on both sides.

In the Woevre there was an intermittent bombardment.

In Upper Alsace we carried, after a hand-grenade fight, an element of a German trench in the district between the two Largue rivers east of Seppois.—Reuter.

GERMAN FAILURES.

Attempt To Regain Lost Ground Beyond The Meuse.

PARIS, Thursday, 3 p.m.

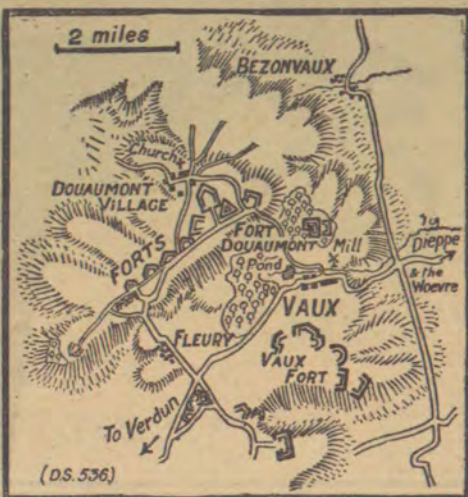
In the Argonne our artillery continued the bombardment of the enemy's lines of communication, notably in the Eastern Argonne and in the region of Montfaucon and Nantillois.

West of the Meuse the enemy attempted several times during the night to repair his failures of yesterday.

Two attempted attacks, preceded by an intense artillery preparation, against the village of Béthincourt, were stopped by our curtains of fire, which prevented the enemy from debouching.

In the Rooks' Wood the enemy's renewed efforts could not dislodge us from the wide strip of ground which we recaptured and are consolidating.

East of the Meuse the struggle continued with



evening and during the night in the region between Douaumont and the village of Vaux.

The Germans directed several attacks with strong effectives against our positions, but in spite of the intensity of the artillery fire and the violence of the assaults the enemy was unable to bend our line and was completely repulsed.

Some elements of German infantry which had penetrated for a moment into the village of Vaux were driven out at once by a counter-attack at the point of the bayonet.

In Lorraine a surprise attack west of the Priest's Wood enabled us to make some 20 prisoners.—Reuter.

FABLE OF VAUX.

German Story Of "Glorious Night Attack" On The Heights.

German Official News.

Thursday Afternoon.

The artillery activity on both sides frequently increased to great violence.

The French have recaptured the western part of the trench near the farm Maisons de Champagne, where hand grenade fighting took place yesterday.

To the west of the Meuse our troops are occupied in clearing out the rest of the French troops yet remaining in the Rooks' Wood.

To the east of the river, in order to shorten the connections between our positions to the south of Douaumont and the lines in the Woevre district, the village and the armoured fort of Vaux, with numerous adjoining fortified positions of the enemy, were captured in a glorious night attack after thorough artillery preparations by the Posen reserve regiments Nos. 8 and 19, under the leadership of the commander of the 9th Reserve Division, Infantry General von Guretzky-Cornitz.—Wireless Press.

LIVELY GUNFIRE ABOUT YPRES.

British Repel German Attack Near The Hohenzollern Redoubt.

British Official News.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS, FRANCE.

Thursday, 9.31 p.m.

Last night we repulsed a small attack near the Hohenzollern Redoubt.

To-day the enemy sprang a mine near Givenchy, but made no infantry attack.

There has been considerable artillery activity by both sides about Ypres.

Belgian Official News.

Thursday Night.

There were reciprocal artillery actions, especially in the region of Dixmude and further south.—Wireless Press.

AVALANCHES AS WEAPONS OF WAR.

Italian Official News.

ROME, Thursday.

In the high mountainous regions bad weather continues, its effects being detrimental to our operations. The enemy tries to intensify these disadvantages.

For instance, yesterday in the Lagarzuoi zone (the Upper Travernanzes Valley) by means of a high explosive shell he created a fall of avalanches towards our positions, without however causing us any damage.—Reuter.

KEPT ALIVE BY PARCELS FROM HOME

The steamer Kilkenny landed at Tilbury yesterday a large party of refugees from Rotterdam. Among them were 20 English ladies expatriated from Germany, and seven Englishmen released from Ruhleben.

The Ruhleben members of the party told numerous stories of privations, saying it was only the parcels from home that kept them alive.

Lord Rosebery arrived in Bath yesterday for the

Portuguese Representative In Berlin Receives Passports.

'MANIFESTO' TO THE LISBON GOVERNMENT.

German Official News.

BERLIN, Thursday.

The Imperial Ambassador in Lisbon, Mr. Rosen, was instructed to-day to demand his passport from the Portuguese Government, and to hand over at the same time an extensive manifesto from the German Government.

The Portuguese Ambassador in Berlin, Mr. Sidonio Paes, was also given his passport to-day.—Wireless Press.

MADRID, Thursday.

The *Heraldo* states that the German Minister in Lisbon to-day notified the Government that Germany considered herself in a state of war with Portugal.

The journal adds that the Spanish Minister in Lisbon and Spanish Ambassador in Berlin will be entrusted with the protection of German interests in Portugal and Portuguese interests in Germany respectively.—Reuter.

GENERAL SMUTS STRIKES IN EAST AFRICA.

Important River Crossings Seized With Slight Loss.

From the War Office.

Thursday Evening.

The troops under the command of Lieut.-General Smuts have advanced against the German forces in the Kilimanjaro area.

On Tuesday General Smuts seized the crossings of the Lumi River, with insignificant loss.

Several counter-attacks by the enemy were successfully repelled.

[Mount Kilimanjaro (18,700 ft.) is just over the frontier of the German colony from British East Africa. It is about 110 miles inland from Mombasa.]

COLONEL CHURCHILL'S FUTURE

Will He Return To France Or Remain To Lead Opposition?

From Our Parliamentary Correspondent.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, Thursday Evening.

Mr. Churchill's future was a topic which served to pass away dull moments in the Lobby to-day.

Probably if he wished he would have no difficulty in securing a release from Army duties, although it would be an unusual step in war-time. But his return to political life in such circumstances would certainly not be of an auspicious nature.

The theory that he could lead an effective opposition in the House of Commons must be tested in the light of what he suffered on Wednesday at the hands of Mr. Balfour, and of the well-appreciated fact at Westminster that he could hardly find a body of ten faithful, consistent followers in Parliament.

It was stated last evening that Mr. Churchill had got an extension of leave. So far as is known, however, he has not yet arrived at any decision as to his future course of action.

WHAT'S WRONG WITH WINSTON?

Lord Beresford Advises Him To See A Specialist As Soon As He Can.

Referring to Colonel Churchill's speech on the Navy, Lord Beresford, in the House of Lords last night, said there was one unfortunate result which happened to men who went to the front. Their mentality was affected. Whether in this case it was high explosives or gas he did not know, but the right hon. gentleman ought to go and see a specialist as soon as he could. (Laughter.)

Lord Beresford could not account otherwise for Colonel Churchill's confusion of thought. He came back from the trenches—where, no doubt, he had done very good work—and arrogated to himself the right that only belonged to the Government and the Crown of appointing a First Sea Lord.

It was a most mischievous agitation. There was no great support behind it, and he hoped it would soon cease, but he would ask Lord Fisher to remember that he could stop it in one day. If Lord Fisher did not at once stand up it was because

5 a.m. Edition.

AYLMER ONLY SEVEN MILES FROM KUT.

Turkish Position Attacked, But No Decision Yet.

SEVERE LOSSES INFLICTED ON THE ENEMY.

Battle Fought Within Gun-Sound Of Townshend's Force.

From the War Office.

Thursday Night.

General Lake (British Commander-in-Chief in Mesopotamia) reports that General Aylmer advanced on Monday, and, moving by the right bank of the Tigris, reached the Es-Sinn position, about 7 miles east of Kut-el-Amara.

This position was attacked on Wednesday, but General Aylmer was unable to dislodge the enemy.

General Aylmer states that the enemy suffered very severely, and beyond strengthening his position has shown no activity.

Our casualties were not heavy, and the majority of the cases were very slight.

BUSYBODIES' IMPERTINENCE.

Letter Proposing Injustice To Soldiers Publicly Burned.

There was a striking incident at the meeting of Chester-le-Street Board of Guardians yesterday, when a letter from the Exeter Guardians was publicly burned by Mr. J. A. Mole, J.P., vice-chairman of the Board.

The letter suggested that the Government should be urged to withhold 20 per cent. of the allowances granted to wives and families of soldiers and sailors, the withheld amounts to be paid in weekly instalments on the return of the men to civil life.

Mr. Mole moved that the letter be burned as a public protest against such inhumanity. He hoped the public would see that returned soldiers and sailors were maintained from the wealth of the country.

THAT MORATORIUM.

Government Proposals To Be Laid Before The Commons Shortly.

In the House of Commons yesterday Mr. Asquith said the Government was carefully considering the question of a moratorium in the case of married men called to the colours, and would lay the proposals before the House.

In the absence of Mr. Walter Long, the Secretary of the Local Government Board (Sir Horace Monro) on Wednesday received a deputation from a conference called by the National Housing and Town Planning Council to consider the best means of preserving the homes of married men called to the colours.

The deputation was unanimous in the view that there should be no moratorium for rent, but appealed to the Government to adopt the following proposals:—

Appointment of committees to administer funds to preserve married soldiers' and sailors' homes;

One-third of the fund administered in each district to be raised locally by voluntary contributions or rates, and the rest contributed by the Government; Committees to sit in camera and to have power to pay the whole or part of the rent and also building society charges;

County courts to have the power, on the recommendation of the committee, to allow a lease to be terminated on terms at short notice if the tenant is willing to vacate the house.

LORD R. SUTHERLAND-GOWER DEAD.

Lord Ronald Sutherland-Gower died last night at his residence, Mount Ephraim, Tunbridge Wells.

RESCUED HIS GASSED PALS.



Private Thomas Bythway, 2nd Battalion Oxon and Bucks Light Infantry, attached to the Royal Engineers Tunneling Co., has been awarded the D.C.M. After the Germans had exploded a mine near the British trenches, Bythway went into a mine gallery and rescued three gassed men, and then carried out two underground explosions at great personal risk. He was afterwards

THE QUEEN OF THE KITCHEN NOW RULES THE BAKEHOUSE.



The man is the sole survivor of the former male staff.



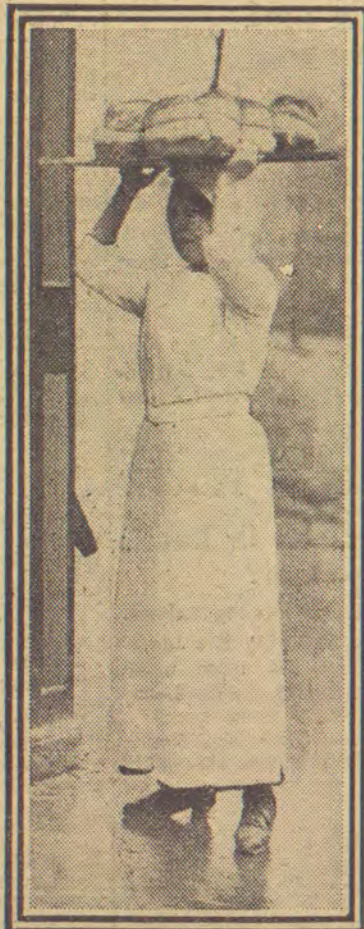
To empty a sack of flour wants some knack.



"There are two nice crusty loaves."



Weighing the dough.



Like the muffin man.



Loading the bread ready for the roundsman.

The bakehouse has not escaped the influences of the war, and another trade formerly monopolised by men is being carried on to a large extent by women. Only one of the former male staff at the bakery of Mr. W. J. Barton, Forest Gate, E., remains, and he is the instructor of the women who now make and bake the bread.—(Daily Sketch Photographs.)

A BRIDEGROOM RECOVERS HIS SPEECH IN TIME FOR HIS WEDDING.



Rfn. Monk lost both hearing and speech at the Battle of Loos. A few days before his wedding at Hassocks, Sussex, he recovered both.



Lieut. E. D. Johnston, Canadian F.A., with his Selkirk bride, Miss Jessie Douglas. He won the D.C.M. while serving in the ranks.



Chief Stoker W. G. Short, of H.M.S. Chatham, with his bride, Miss Nancy Belton. They were married at Gillingham.

After the Snow Storm.



AFTER the snow comes rain, wind and slush—then colds that bring on:—

Kidney and Bladder Troubles, Backache, Gravel, Rheumatism, Stone, Dropsy, Lumbago, Sciatica.

Safeguard the kidneys against the strain of Winter. Avoid unnecessary stimulants. Get into regular habits of diet, sleep and exercise. Let Doan's Pills help. They are only for the kidneys and bladder—and these they tone and heal so that pure blood and freedom from uric acid may be assured.

Sciatica

On October 8th, 1910, Mr. Comber, of 3, Salisbury-terrace, Bexhill, said:—"I was laid up for months with Sciatica. There was tenderness and burning in the whole sciatic nerve, whilst if I stooped a stabbing pain attacked me in the back. The bladder, too, became disordered, and caused painful urinary trouble. "I tried at last Doan's Pills, and they have cured me completely. The sciatica and the kidney weakness are gone for ever. Every sort of weather has left my cure unimpaired." (Sgd) "W. Comber."

Six Years Later.

On February 28th, 1916, Mr. Comber said:—"Doan's Pills cured me of sciatica and kidney weakness six years ago, and I have had sound health since."

Do as Mr. Comber did—Ask for Doan's Backache Kidney Pills—and get DOAN'S.

DOAN'S

Backache Kidney Pills
For Kidney & Bladder Ailments only

All dealers, or 2/9 a box, from Foster-McClellan Co., 8, Wells-street, Oxford-street, London, W.

Why Not Rely On Cuticura



Cuticura Soap to cleanse and purify.
Cuticura Ointment to soothe and heal dandruff and itching.

Nothing better at any price.

Samples Free by Post

Address F. Newbery & Sons, 27, Charterhouse Sq., London, E.C. Sold everywhere.

To Care for Your Hair and Scalp

Foster Clark's

A 2d. packet makes 1 1/2 pints of Rich Nourishing Soup. Seven Varieties. Only water to add.

2d SOUPS

REVISE THE EXEMPTIONS!

THE strength of a nation is the strength of its married men. I ask the Government to remember that. The knowledge of this fact was used with remarkable adroitness when the Compulsion Bill was passed; it was the strength of the married men that passed it. Everybody realised that many more recruits were needed, and when the Government stated the problem thus: "We shall have to have either compulsion all round or compulsion for single men" there was no doubt about the passage of the Bill.

THERE is no doubt either about the meaning of Mr. Asquith's pledge that single men should go first. In the letter that pledge has been redeemed. In the spirit it has not. There has been no lack of faith on the part of the Premier, but he has left far too much to local tribunals. In many parts of the country the most flimsy pleas for exemption have been lightly upheld, far too many men in reserved trades have been held indispensable, and generally speaking men who have joined a starred industry since the outbreak of the war have been allowed to escape.

BUT though I do not accuse Mr. Asquith of a breach of faith there is no doubt he is largely to blame. Without definite instructions the tribunals did not feel justified in refusing exemption to men who were actually working at a starred trade. We look to him now to issue those instructions. The vast majority of these young men are without special qualifications for the work they are now doing, and there are a large number of elderly men, many of them married, who are at least as competent. Numbers of them, indeed, have had long experience in those very trades.

TAKE the case of the dockyards. At a Portsmouth meeting of attested married men it was stated by Councillor Timson, an ex-dockyardman, that while Portsmouth tradesmen have refused to employ eligible single men the dockyard authorities had done nothing of the sort, that the dockyard now swarmed with men who ought to be in the Army, and that pensioners who were willing to go back to work to release the single men were informed that if they did so they would lose their pensions. Surely this is criminal folly. In the case of private firms no pension has been involved, but employers have welcomed single young men into their factories with criminal eagerness. This must be stopped!

AGAIN, there are in Government and other offices enormous numbers of unmarried clerks doing work which is either non-essential or could easily be done by women or by older and married men. What steps have the departmental authorities taken to weed out these possible recruits?

A SHOCKING allegation was made at the Portsmouth meeting. I mention it with reluctance; first because I can hardly believe the thing alleged could have happened, and secondly because I cannot conceive how the fraud, if actually perpetrated, has escaped detection. It was stated that a wealthy woman had paid a premium of £50 to get her son, a professional man, into a munition factory, in order that he might escape enlistment. It is the duty of the authorities to investigate the case, and, if the allegation is proved, to punish all the parties concerned.

AS for the men in reserved occupations, some of the pleas for exemption are grotesquely trivial. One employer dubbed a man "indispensable," and then admitted he paid him 30s. a week! From the proceedings of the tribunals it is plain that with very few exceptions reserved occupations could "carry on" without the help of single young men.

MIND you! I have never understood why a pledge to married men was necessary. If really adequate separation allowances were paid there is no reason why all fit men under 41 years of age, and not urgently needed at home, should not be taken. But the pledge once given should be kept, and certainly all those mean young fellows who are skulking behind a star, or a fake doctor's certificate, or on the other side of the Irish Sea, should be collared.

THE MAN IN THE STREET.



Echoes of the Town.

What Will Winston Do Next?—
Sir E. Grey And His Tailor—
Balfour's Rapier.



Queen Alexandra's Busy Life.

IT is fifty-three years to-day since the beautiful Danish Princess who is now Queen Alexandra was married to the then Prince of Wales at St. George's Chapel. Her Majesty, who appears little older to-day than she did in the 'sixties, is now well enough to take a keen interest in the many war charities. This week, in addition to presenting motor ambulances to the Russian Red Cross Society, Queen Alexandra has visited the offices of the British Prisoners of War Clothing Fund, attended a concert at Apsley House for wounded soldiers, and patronised the Duchess of Somerset's sale for various war funds.

Parliamentary Sword-Play.

HERE is Tom Titt's impression of the First Lord of the Admiralty. He doesn't look like a sailor bold, does he? But he was the old Balfour, the old "Prince Arthur," in the House on Wednesday, for the withering of Winston. Even the object of his attack pleaded in extenuation of his own position after the Balfourian onslaught that the First Lord is a master of Parliamentary sword-play. On the whole they are too sporting down Westminster way to kick a man when he is down or to rub in a well-deserved lesson; but most of them were unfeignedly delighted at being able to listen to a master of the game at the top of his form. It reminded them, and us, that the days of giants in debate are not over after all. And, anyway, Winston asked for it.



Winston—Next Phase.

I'M INCLINED to think that those who see Colonel Churchill going quietly back to France to stay there for the big push may have a surprise. Among his activities on Wednesday was a lunch with the Liberal War Committee, at which he said that he was seriously considering his position. Now if that didn't mean that he was considering at least the possibility of returning to the House of Commons as that long-expected Opposition leader—well, what does it mean? Perhaps, however, the handling he got at night may have produced another change of heart.

A Judicious Nip.

BY HIS statement on the approaching economic conference of the Allies at Paris, the Prime Minister has nipped in the bud what promised to be a very pretty revival of the fiscal controversy. The principal object of the conference is to combine economic pressure with naval and military pressure in the most effective manner. We are out to win the war, and when we have done so, the time will have come to talk about how we are going to treat our enemies commercially.

More Breakers Ahead.

FROM WHAT I hear I fancy there will be some rough weather in the House next week when the Army Estimates come on. Colonel Seely has no intention of imitating over the Army the blazing indiscretions of his young friend Winston, but there are a good many members who have their knives in K. of K., and some others who wouldn't mind touching Jack Tennant up a little. The Liberal War Committee, too, is rather anxious to justify its name.

Economy.

THIS latest economy in Government departments is calculated to make the flesh of the superannuated Civil Servant creep. Now, when a letter runs to two pages it is typed on the back of the first sheet, and a sheet thus gained. And here is the joke. In a certain department the instructions suggesting this sensible economy with others were typed and sent round. The instructions ran over the first side of the sheet. And a second one was used.

A Wounded Sailor.

WOUNDED soldiers are, more's the pity, a common enough sight. But a badly-wounded sailor is more rare. One was limping along Fleet-street yesterday morning, looking as pale as death, poor devil, and obviously in pain. Never did a jolly Jack Tar look less jolly.

Sir Edward Grey's Portrait.

I HAD THE pleasure of seeing the almost completed portrait in oils of Sir Edward Grey by Mr. Fidis Watt, the Scottish Academician, who was commissioned to paint the portrait by some of Sir Edward's admirers. Sir Edward had arranged with the artist to pose in his favourite attire—a loose-fitting fishing suit, with baggy knickers.

Pomp And Circumstance.

AT THE LAST minute, however, Sir Edward's tailor came along with the full Court dress of a Knight of the Garter, and "insisted" on Sir Edward being painted in the regalia—much to his chagrin. It is a fact that Sir Edward literally hates "pomp," and is never happier than when he is on his estate, chasing butterflies with a net.

The Taxi-Chauffeur.

"I ENCLOSE a photograph," writes a Nottingham cab proprietor, "of a young lady I have engaged as a taxi-driver. I am speaking with all-round knowledge that she is a great success. I should very much like to know the views of our most esteemed friend, Mr. Gossip, the one that all taxi-drivers love. Anyway, I can assure you that he has got his match this time, at anything he cares to name." When next I'm in Nottingham I'll see about that challenge.

General "Sam."

THE FACE of the great Canadian soldier-politician, General Sam Hughes (it is the face of a bishop or an admiral rather than of a general), is more familiar to us over here than that of many of our own folk. Soon we shall have another opportunity of seeing him in the flesh. He has just left Ottawa, with its burnt Parliament House, for a fortnight's holiday in Florida. On his return he will sail for England, and remain here for three months. Few English generals have, like Sam Hughes, been a 'Varsity don, the editor of a newspaper, a Parliamentarian, an author, and a Methodist—all, more or less, at the same time. He has seen active service, too, and was mentioned in dispatches in South Africa.



(Swaine.)

"The First Canadians."

THE MEMBERS of the first contingent to leave Canada for Europe are very pleased that in future they alone are to be allowed to wear the coloured shoulder straps, which mark them as the first to go.

"Old Masters."

ONE OF THE trades that are flourishing since war started is the faking of "old masters." I met at a friend's studio yesterday the man who is acknowledged to be the most expert painter of "old masters" in London. He makes no great secret of his profession, and told me the demand from the States was abnormal this year. The firm he works for is expecting its travellers back this week with sheafs of orders.

Not Carried In The Pocket.

OUR PAPER MONEY may be inconvenient; or at least less convenient than coin. But it isn't as bad as the stone money that (I am told) is used in one of the Caroline Islands, which is one of our captures from the Germans. This money takes the form of solid stone wheels, anything from one to twelve feet across, having a hole through the centre in which a pole can be inserted for moving it when you go out shopping!

Nice Long Leave.

OVERHEARD in the Green Park. A very junior "sub." meets a lady friend of the family. "Why, Reggie, dear, back already?" "Yes, got leave." "For long?" "I hope so. You see, the colonel says as a matter of fact I needn't go back at all, unless I care to." "Really, how awfully ripping of him . . . and, oh, I do hope he gave you a good character!"

Boiling Oil In It?

WHAT WILL happen to the mere trooper, who "souvenired" a general's muffler from a West End tea-shop on Sunday? The trooper's explanation is that the muffler was not correct service dress, and he wanted to save the general from himself.

The New Threat.

"SAY ANOTHER word, mum," said the angry domestic, "and I'll go Back to the Land."

Advice In The Auditorium.

SOME of these Provost Marshal chaps do earn their red braid. There was one in a West End theatre the other night, a "dear" old soul of a major, who got into conversation with two sub-alterns. After asking them to what battalion they belonged, and a few things like that, the old boy said: "Look here, you lads, what d'you want to stay in a place like this for, doing no good, and tiring yourselves needlessly, when you want all your energy for your work? Wouldn't it be more of a rest for you to go home to bed?" The subs. were rather startled, but the younger one was bold enough to explain that light amusement was an essential factor in rest as far as he was concerned. And there they dropped it.

Kultur—At Home To-morrow.

THE Besier-Spottiswoode play "Kultur at Home," which is to be produced at the Court Theatre to-morrow night, will have a very charming ingenue in the person of Miss Rosalie Toller. Miss Toller has not been seen on the stage any too frequently of late, considering that her performances in light comedy at various West End theatres were invariably perfect in their way. She is not a Lady Macbeth or a La Tosca, but in the parts of which she has made a speciality (nice young things) she is unrivalled. With her mass of fair hair and refreshing personality she is a considerable asset.



Woodwork.

I HEAR THAT Epstein is busy working weirdly in wood again. I remember those curious images with long, straight noses, forbidding, half-closed eyes, and scarlet lips, which used to adorn the walls of the old Cabaret Club in Heddon-street, and have often wondered what eventually became of them after the strafing of Mme. Strindberg. Meanwhile, Epstein goes to the Café Royal as regularly as the sun sets, and still refuses to wear white collars.

Silly Satellites.

EPSTEIN is clever, and can do things. Augustus John is, of course, brilliant, and his work in this month's *Colour* is remarkably fine. Let 'em be as eccentric as they like. But I earnestly hope the Compulsory Service Act will sweep up and shove into khaki the gang of silly young satellites, with comically cut hair and an infinite capacity for taking no pains about anything except attending the Café Royal and pretending to get drunk on one absinthe. They would, I should imagine, make rotten soldiers. But they might get killed, and we should hear no more of their tag, "We are the culture our soldiers are fighting to preserve."

"Colour."

BY THE WAY, *Colour* is living well up to its reputation and its title. The cover this month is a study by Strang of a gipsy girl. Inside are nearly a score of examples of contemporary colour work exquisitely reproduced.

Civil Service Changes.

THE WAR has upset the old prejudice of the Civil Service Commissioners against employing male and female clerks in the same room. Formerly the girl clerks were housed in some secluded part of the building far away from the men, but I now hear of one girl working in a room where there are sixteen men clerks.

No Frivolity.

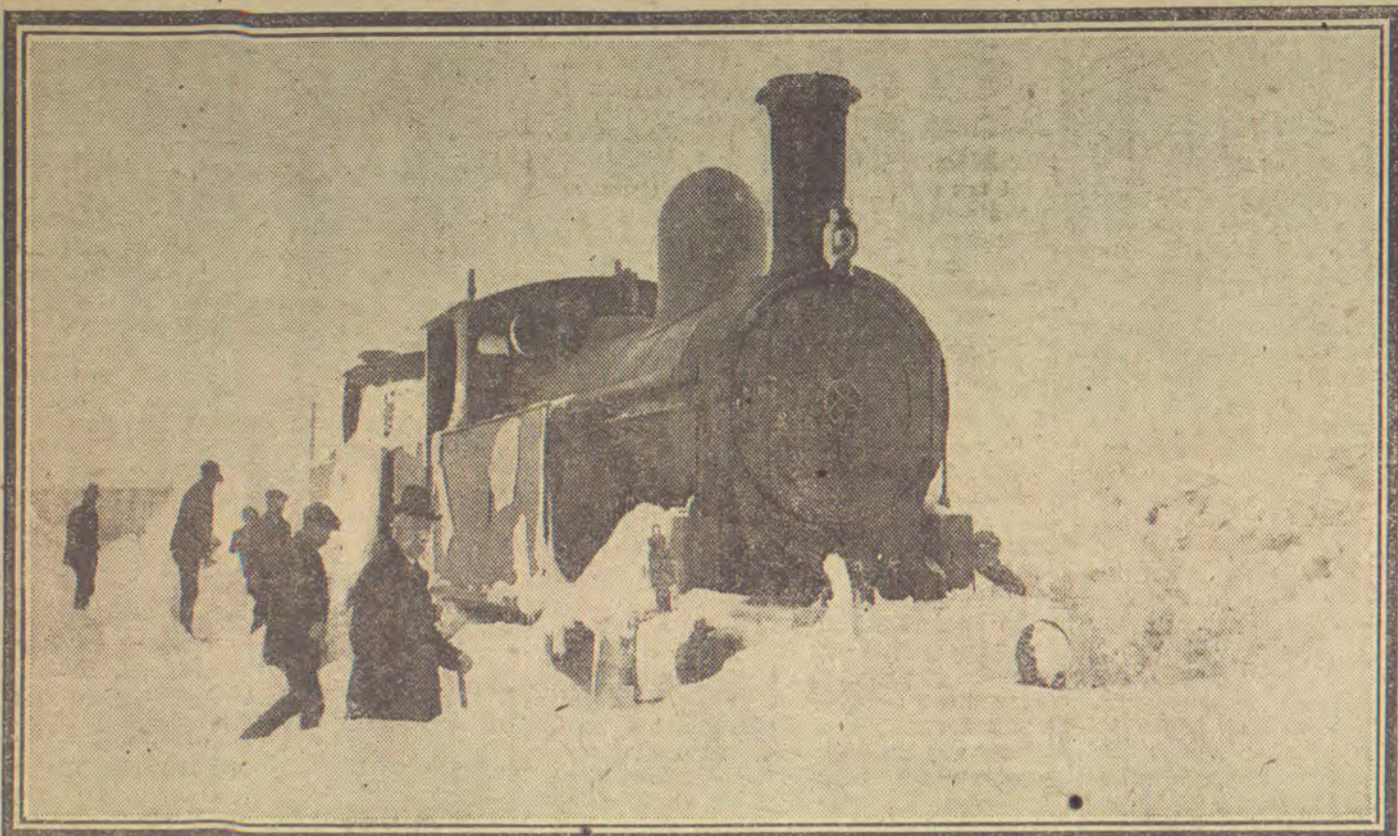
THE Civil Service Commissioners were, of course, afraid that the association would result in inefficiency, but events have proved that they were wrong. The plan has been just as successful in Government offices as in business houses. The Civil Servant of to-day has plenty of work to do, and has no time for frivolity.

Champagne For America.

CHAMPAGNE LOVERS (what's this about war economy?) may sleep peacefully o' nights. They need not be haunted by the spectre of a possible shortage of their beloved tippie, in spite of the ravages of the Hun in the place where it comes from. A wonderful supply is still intact, and the Champagne makers go about their business unperturbed by bombs. Figurey speak for themselves, and it is a fact that in 1914 91,545 dozen of the bubbly joy was exported from the Champagne district to the United States alone. That amount increased last year to 112,922 dozen.

MR. GOSSIP.

HORSE AND HORSE-POWER HELD UP BY BUXTON'S BITING BLIZZARD.



A railway engine embedded in the snow at Hurdlow Bank, on the Buxton and Ashbourne line.

Horse-drawn is no worse off than horse-power.

The Arctic blizzard which swept over the country on Sunday, and which has continued with more or less severity in the Northern counties, has been particularly felt in the High Peak district. Buxton and Ashbourne line was completely snowed under.—(Daily Sketch Photographs.)

IN "MORE."



Miss Joan Carroll, the clever child dancer appearing in "More" at the Ambassadors.—(Bertram Park.)

THE EAST HERTS ELECTION.



Captain Henderson, the Coalition candidate, and his wife.



Pemberton Billing, the Air-Service candidate. Polling for the East Herts vacancy concludes to-day.

IT'S NOT SO EASY.



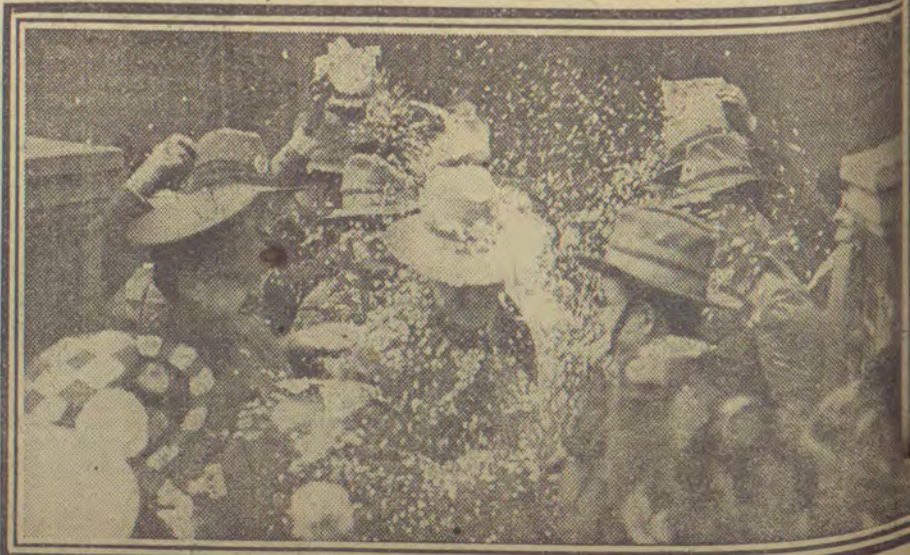
This little chap enjoys trying to skim over the snow on his home-made skis. Tumbles add to the fun.

CARMEN'S PET.



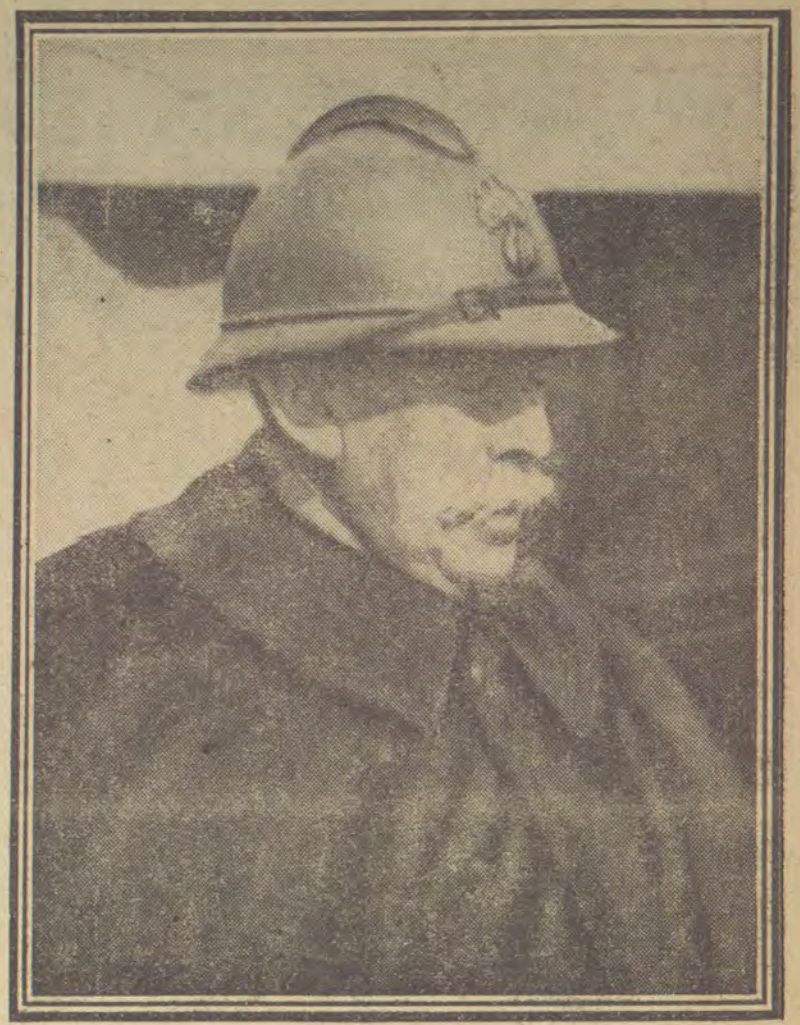
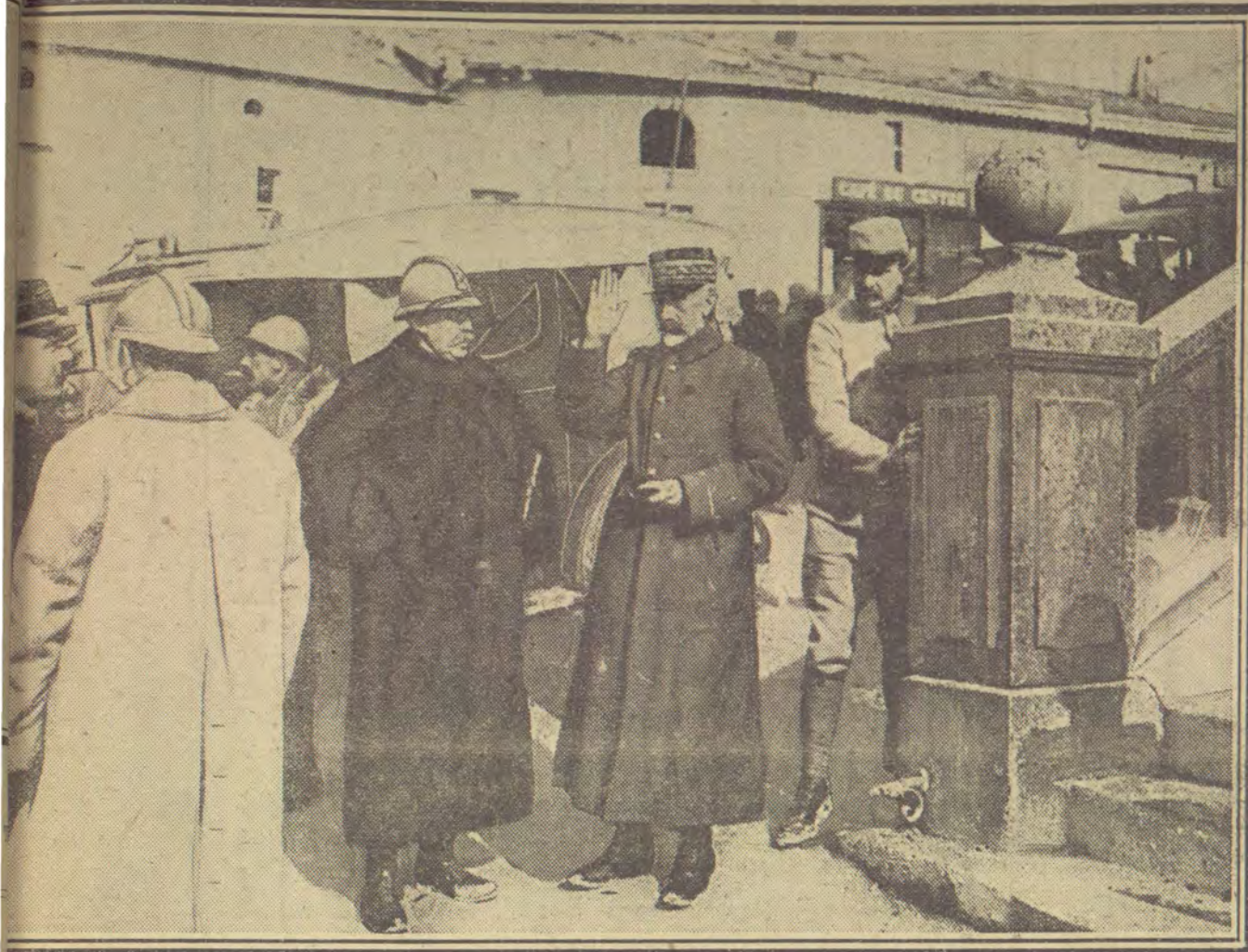
Yvonne Reynolds, who is taking part of Carmen in "Tina" at the Adelphi, with her pet.—(Rita Martin)

ANZAC AND HIS BRIDE SHELLED WITH CONFETTI.



Bandsman E. Currington, a New Zealand soldier, was married yesterday at Willesden Green to Miss Mabel Mowbray. His comrades bombarded the happy pair with confetti.

JOFFRE'S BATTLEFIELD CONFERENCE WITH THE HERO OF VERDUN.



General Petain, wearing his shrapnel helmet (left), and General Herr (right) waiting to receive the President and the Generalissimo. His magnificent resistance to the German onslaughts has won for the hero of Verdun the admiration of all

General Petain. The "strong silent face" has been worked to death by "descriptive" journalists, but General Petain is the real thing.

HIS SERIOUS "TURN."



Ackro, a well-known juggler, in a new He has enlisted, and is seen here fetching rations.



Some of the men who have withstood the battering ram assaults of the Huns near Verdun. They return to their billets for a well-earned rest.



The French poilu, though not so boisterously high-spirited as the British Tommy, makes himself happy in the trenches in the lull between bombardments.

A NAVAL BRIDE.



Miss Constance Bisset, daughter of Colonel Sir Wm. Bisset, who was married yesterday to Lieut. Gerald Banister, R.N.

GAMAGES

GREAT CASH SALE.

END OF SEASON CLEARANCE OF WINTER OVERCOATS.

Single or Double-Breasted Overcoats (with illustrations).

Every Coat well-made and lined throughout. Genuine Bargains.

In Plain Greys, Dark Blues, Browns, and Heather Mixtures. Sizes 36, 38, 40, 42 in. chest measure. All to be cleared at the ridiculous price of

13/9 each. Worth double.

Dark Grey Double-Breasted Chesterfield Overcoats at Pre-War Prices.

These are all this season's goods, and by next winter will be worth double the price. Study economy and buy early. A limited quantity only.

29/11 & 36/11

Worth 37/6 and 45/-

When ordering, please give size round chest over waistcoat.

KHAKI FLEECE WAISTCOATS

lined Brown Chamois Leather. Close fitting knitted collar and cuffs, chamois leather sleeves, single breasted, very warm and comfortable, an ideal garment for the trenches.

Sale Price **29/11** Usual Price 42/-

Send for Copy of our Money-Saving Cash Sale Catalogue. 64 Pages full of Bargains.

All Sale Goods sent Carriage Forward unless otherwise stated. In all cases cash with order.

A. W. GAMAGE, LTD., Holborn, LONDON, E.C.



Zam-Buk

BRINGS UNIQUE BENEFITS.

MADE from rich and rare herbal extracts, Zam-Buk supplies a healing, soothing, and antiseptic agent of hitherto unknown power. Zam-Buk does good quickly. When a dressing of this unique herbal balm is applied to any cut, bruise, sore, or any diseased place, all smarting or irritation is lessened and finally banished. Then, when Zam-Buk has thoroughly purified the place and killed all poisonous disease germs, it helps Nature to grow new layers of healthy skin. Zam-Buk is

- 1.—PURELY HERBAL.
- 2.—CONTAINS NO ANIMAL FAT.
- 3.—SWIFTLY HEALING.
- 4.—VERY SOOTHING & ANTISEPTIC.
- 5.—"KEEPS" PERFECTLY FOR ANY PERIOD.
- 6.—SO COMPACT & CONCENTRATED.
- 7.—MOST ECONOMICAL.

Zam-Buk is unequalled for Eczema, Ulcers, Ringworms, Piles, Poisoned Wounds, Spring Pimples, Rashes and Sore Lips, or for Cuts, Bruises, Burns, Scalds, Sprains, Rheumatism, &c. When sending parcels to your soldier and sailor friends always include a box of Zam-Buk.

Obtainable of all Chemists and Drug Stores, or The Zam-Buk Laboratories, Leeds.



Dearest Maud

Jim's mother turned up yesterday—and you know how *she* criticises. I was determined that everything should be the best, so I bought *all* our provisions at Lipton's. Maud! it was a huge success. Everything was perfection. Delicious Bacon, splendid Damson Jam, and wonderful Tea for only 1/10 a lb.! Jim was as delighted as his mother, and I am actually in pocket this week in my housekeeping money!

P.S. The bairns are fine. They are thriving on Lipton's Sunshine Margarine.

Lipton's Bacon

(Smoked in our own factory). There is nothing like it for *flavour*, nor can better *value* be obtained anywhere.

Lipton's Hams

Breakfast Hams, pale or smoked. Per lb. **1/-**

Picnic Hams, finest pale
A splendid example of Lipton's value. Per lb. **8½d.**

Lipton's Sausages

Made daily in our own factory from the finest fresh meat.
Cambridge and Oxford. Per lb. **1/- & 8d.**

Lipton's Jams

Strawberry or Raspberry. Per 2-lb. size jar. (1d. allowed on returned jars.) **1/1½d.**

Plum. Per 2-lb. size jar (1d. allowed on returned jars.) **9½d.**

LIPTONS take a personal pride in the excellence of everything they supply for table. Quality First—is the principle on which Lipton's business is being conducted. Judge for yourself how well that ideal is maintained in all you buy from Liptons.

Most nutritious and sustaining.

LIPTON'S COCOA ESSENCE

4½d.

Per ¼-lb. tin.

You always save money at

LIPTON'S

TEA PLANTERS & PROVISION MERCHANTS.

—LIPTON, LTD.—

Other Women's Discoveries.

A Novel And Nourishing Tart Filling.

Walnut custard tart is a novel sweet, and not very troublesome. Make a custard from two eggs, two cupfuls of hot milk, rather less than half a cupful of sugar, half a teaspoonful of vanilla, and a pinch of salt. While the custard is hot add half a cupful of finely-ground walnuts, pour into a dish lined with pastry, and bake in a moderate oven. The nuts will rise to the top of the custard and form a delicate crust.

When To Wear Your Smallest Hat.

An interesting theory as to the relative becomingness of large and small hats has been put forward by Miss Billie Burke, the pretty American actress, who recently confided to an interviewer that small hats are best on those days when the wearer feels "absolutely top-notch." Large hats, she declares, should be worn on the days when one does not feel at one's best, as they will shade the face in a kindly way when a small hat would be very trying. The average woman acts in contrary to this excellent theory, for she nearly always chooses a small hat for those days when she feels "a sight." Miss Burke is an enthusiastic advocate of the tilt, and thinks that a hat set perfectly straight on the head is inclined to be severe and settled looking. "I have known girls," she says, "who on a modest expenditure have acquired reputations for their smart hats just through the trick of putting them on at a clever angle and being careful to allow no stray wisps of hair to spoil the picture."

A Glove Paste For Roughened Hands.

A healing paste for roughened hands is always in request during the spring-cleaning season, and is even more so now that so many housewives are taking an active part in the heaviest work. Here is one recommended by a war-worker who still has

white and soft hands, although she spends her days doing rough work at a packing depot. It should be spread on the hands at night, and protected by loose gloves. Into four ounces of rose-water stir a teaspoon of powdered borax and five drops of tincture of benzoin; add enough finely powdered oatmeal and almond meal to make a paste.

The Cult Of The Dressing-Table Box.

The up-to-date woman's dressing table is not the littered affair of glass and silver that was considered the height of elegance some years ago. Very often not a toilet implement is to be seen. A painted bottle of Venetian glass, perhaps, and a vividly coloured box or two are all that repose on its plate-glass top. Yet the up-to-date woman goes in for cosmetics to a greater extent than her fore-runners, and gives quite as much time to the details of her toilet. The mystery is revealed on opening the boxes, for inside, very compactly arranged, are the brushes and combs, the creams and powders, and all the other items that used to be strewn about. The new method is at once more artistic and hygienic than the old, and the servantless woman who will get a pretty chintz or paper-covered box and pack into it all her dressing-table affairs will find that her room is tidied in half the time, and that her implements keep clean and dainty for a longer time with less attention.

A Quickly-Made Furniture Polish.

Home-made furniture polishes which call for the shredding of soap and beeswax take rather a long time to make, and are better if they have been standing for a while, but when a polish is wanted for immediate use in these busy days one may be quickly made as follows:—Shake well in a bottle equal quantities of turpentine, paraffin, methylated spirit and vinegar. Apply very sparingly.

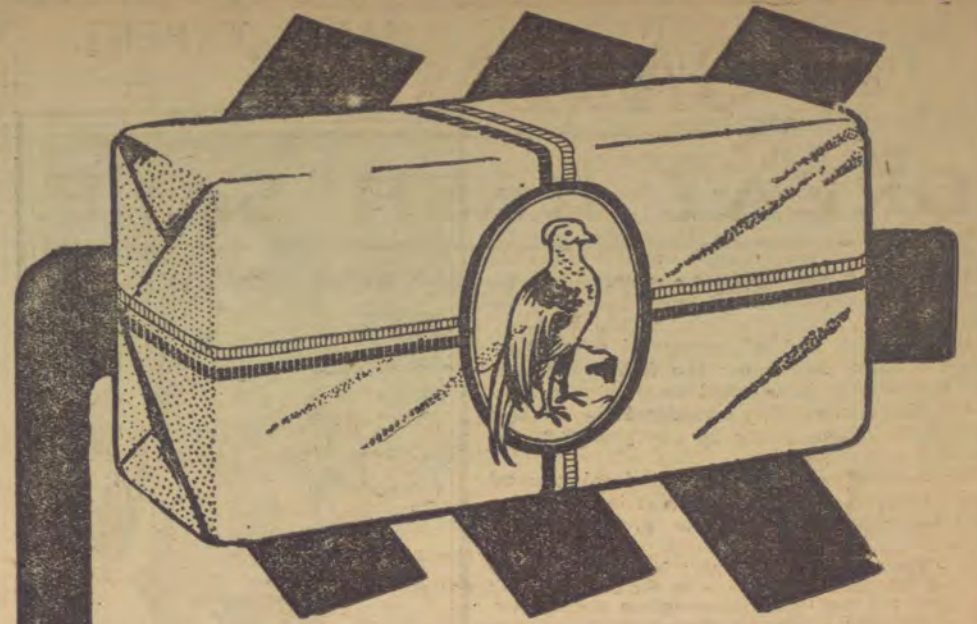


An ivory crêpe-de-Chine blouse with multi-coloured bead trimming.

BEAUTY IN HER WAR-TIME CLOTHES.



Some of the women who have liberated men for active service. They are wearing their working clothes. Reading from the left, they are acting as dispatch carrier, housemaid, window-cleaner, chauffeur, foot-woman, lift-girl, linen-attendant, commissionaire, and munition worker.



Ask for and try this

Never have such deliciousness, such perfection of manufacture, such splendid value been combined in Margarine before!

Once try *Pheasant Margarine*—you will never go back to any other kind—never go back even to the old-time country butter.

Besides, you save money!

Pheasant Margarine

Look for the ½-lb. packets with the Red, White & Blue Ribband and Pheasant Seal.

Ask your Grocer for it



MISCELLANEOUS SALES.

DRUNKARDS Cured quickly, secretly, permanently, free, privately.—Carlton Chemical Co., 718, Birmingham.

FOR SALE—Beautiful Hart's tongue ferns, healthy and well rooted, 1s. 3d. per dozen, post free.—Apply "Gardener," Messenger" Office, Roscommon.

FURNITURE, second-hand, large quantity, must sell regardless of cost; seen any time.—Depot, 272, Pentonville-road, King's Cross. Catalogue on application.

GRAMOPHONE—£25 Model Drawing Room Cabinet, very dainty, height 4 feet, on wheels, beautifully inlaid, perfect tone, with selection of celebrated records. Accept £5 15s. Approval with pleasure.—15, Upper Porchester-street, Hyde Park, London.

OFFICERS' UNIFORMS AND EFFECTS PURCHASED—Best offers. No bargainings. Instant settlements. "GOLD-MAN'S UNIFORM CONCERN," DEVONPORT. Uniforms sold.)

"V.A.D." COAT, thick serge, lined, 12s.; ditto thin serge lined, 12s. Nurse's Hat, 4s. All quite new.—Box 1, "Daily Sketch," Shoe-lane E.C.

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ANGEL'S PHOTO STUDIOS, 241, Great Homer-street, Liverpool.

SHAMROCK—Lovely sprays, 6d., 1s., and 2s. boxes.—BATE-MAN, Downen, Rosscarbery, Cork.

CYCLE TYRES AT 1914 "PEACE" PRICES—SOUNDS incredible—yet perfectly true. Previous big buying at old prices explains our offer. Grand opportunity to cut down your tyre bills. Secure FREE Copy of our large Complete Cycle Requisites Catalogue and see for yourself. Magnificent choice of styles in Covers—all prices—whilst Air Tubes are wonderfully cheap. This is a genuine money-saving chance. Don't miss it. Stocks are big, instant delivery is guaranteed, but once cleared prices are sure to rise. Why not write TO-DAY? No time like NOW. Catalogue costs you nothing but may save you pounds.

MOORHOUSE, LTD., 16, Padiham, Burnley.

ARE YOU SHORT?

If you are short, let me help you to increase your height. Mr. Briggs reports an increase of 5 inches; Mr. Ratcliffe 4 inches; Miss Davies 3½ inches; Mr. Lindon 3 inches; Driver E. P. 3 inches; Miss Leedell 4 inches. My system requires only ten minutes morning and evening, and greatly improves the health, figure and carriage. No appliances or drugs. Send 3 penny stamps for further particulars and my £100 guarantee. **ARTHUR CIRVAN**, Specialist in the Increase of Height, (Dept. D.S.), 17, Stroud Green Rd., London, N.

B!VEL CHEESE

Will help you in the Economy Campaign—more nourishing than meat and costs less.

NO ADVANCE IN PRICE.

6d. each, from Grocers and Dairymen.

"WHAT IS TO BECOME OF FAMILY LIFE?"

Judge's Pertinent Query In Society Slander Case.

"I don't quite see the good of an action like this. It is a family dispute where a stepson is alleged to have said something to his step-mother. . . . What is to become of family life if people may not say things of this sort?"

This was the comment of Mr. Justice Darling in the King's Bench Division yesterday, when a Society slander action was brought. Mrs. Pattie Waterlow, who divorced Mr. Edward Waterlow, sued his father, Sir Philip Waterlow, for, it was alleged, having said to his step-mother, Margaret Lady Waterlow, "She (Mrs. Pattie Waterlow) was to blame. She divorced Edgar to marry someone else." Sir Philip denied having made such a statement.

Mr. Gordon Hewart, K.C., for Mrs. Waterlow, said that Margaret Lady Waterlow, the only witness, was in France, and could not attend Court. He therefore asked that her evidence might be taken on commission, or that the action be withdrawn, so that Mrs. Waterlow could proceed again when her witness was available. The meaning of the statement was unmistakable.

Mr. Justice Darling: I really do not think so. A woman who has cause for divorce may perfectly well have an inclination to marry somebody else and yet be perfectly innocent.

Mr. Hewart said his client had brought the action solely to clear her character.

No Ground For The Innuendo.

Sir John Simon, for Sir Philip Waterlow, described the application as wholly unmeritorious, and said that Mrs. Waterlow pleaded that the statement meant that she had been guilty of misconduct; that she had suppressed her guilt; that she had obtained dissolution of marriage in order to marry her paramour; and that she was not a fit person to associate with decent society.

Mr. Justice Darling said he did not think it fair to be said that the alleged slander meant what was suggested in Mrs. Waterlow's claim. The English language was not so compendious that the few words which Sir Philip was said to have used could mean what was suggested. To his (the judge's) mind the action had been brought with no good reason or solid foundation, and no useful purpose would be served by allowing it to stand.

Judgment was thereupon entered for Sir Philip, with costs.

WILDE TO BOX FOR WORLD'S TITLE.

Young Rosner, who is described as the flyweight champion of America, is coming to England to meet Jimmy Wilde, of Wales, for the flyweight championship of the world at Liverpool Stadium.

THE FOOTBALL CARD.

LONDON COMBINATION.—Chelsea v. Luton Town; Watford v. Fulham; Brentford v. Croydon Common; Reading v. West Ham United; Clapton Orient v. Crystal Palace; Tottenham Hotspur v. Queen's Park Rangers; Millwall v. Arsenal.

LEAGUE: MIDLAND SECTION.—Bradford City v. Rochdale; Barnsley v. Huddersfield Town; Derby County v. Leicester Fosse; Grimby Town v. Sheffield Wednesday; Leeds City v. Bradford; Lincoln City v. Hull City; Stoke v. Notts Forest; Notts County v. Chesterfield; Sheffield United v. Rotherham County.

LEAGUE: LANCASHIRE SECTION.—Blackpool v. Burnley; Bolton Wanderers v. Preston North End; Everton v. Stockport County; Manchester City v. Liverpool; Oldham Athletic v. Manchester United; Southport Central v. Bury.

SOUTH-WESTERN COMBINATION.—Southampton v. Portsmouth; Coventry v. Birmingham; Newport v. Cardiff City.

SCOTTISH LEAGUE.—Aberdeen v. Hearts; Aldrieonians v. Raith Rovers; Ayr United v. Dundee; Celtic v. Hamilton Academicals; Queen's Park v. Clyde; Third Lanark v. Dumbarton; Falkirk v. Partick Thistle; Motherwell v. Kilmarnock; Morton v. St. Mirren; Hibernians v. Rangers.

ORDINARY MATCHES.—Nunhead v. R.G.A. (West Ham); Leytonstone v. R.G.A. (Hampstead); R.N.A.R. v. 3rd Scots Guards; Northampton v. 14th Essex Regt.; Coventry v. Birmingham; Grove House v. Harrodians (Whitley Bequest. Final, replayed); Charterhouse v. Harrow.

RUGBY UNION.—United Hospitals v. 3rd Gloucester Regt. (Queen's Club); P. and P. Public Schools v. Australians (Richmond); M.T., Catford, v. M.T., Grove Park (Bellingham).

NORTHERN UNION LEAGUE.—Bradford v. Brighouse Rangers; York v. Bramley; Hull Kingston Rovers v. Halifax (4); Dewsbury v. Oldham; Leigh v. Swinton; Huddersfield v. Rochdale Hornets; Leeds v. Wigan (4); Salford v. Hunslet.

'VARSITY RUGBY, BUT NO BLUES.

All Inter-Varsity sport has been at a standstill since the outbreak of war, but to-day Oxford will meet Cambridge at Rugby football at Cambridge. The former team is mainly composed of Rhodes scholars and the latter of medical students. Blues will not be awarded.

BILLIARDS (Close): Falkner, 7,148; Newman (in play), 6,351. Military athletic races will take place to-day at Forest Gate, Bournemouth, and Raynes Park.

MISCELLANEOUS SALES.

GRAMOPHONE.—£25 Model Drawing Room Cabinet, very dainty, height 4 feet, on wheels, beautifully inlaid, perfect tone, with selection of celebrated records, accept £5 15s. Approval with pleasure.—15, Upper Portchester-street, Hyde Park, London.

CYCLE TYRES AT 1914 "PRICE" PRICES. SOUNDS incredible—yet perfectly true. Previous big buying at old prices explains our offer. Grand opportunity to cut down your tyre bills. Secure FREE Copy of our large Complete Cycle Requisites Catalogue, and see for yourself. Magnificent choice of styles in Covers—all prices—whilest Air Tubes are wonderfully cheap. This is a genuine money-saving chance. Don't miss it. Stocks are big, instant delivery is guaranteed, but once cleared prices are sure to rise. Why not write TO-DAY? No time like NOW. Catalogue costs you nothing, but may save you pounds. MOORHOUSE, LTD., 16, Padham, Burnley.

GARDENING.

MOBILISE THE GARDENS. The Board of Agriculture advises us to save money by making our gardens produce more food. This can only be done by sowing BEST SEEDS. Send NOW for DANIEL'S ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE.—DANIELS BROS., LTD., NORWICH, PERSONAL.

OFFICERS' WIVES or WIDOWS are offered by lady owning highest-class, newly-furnished and appointed Hotel (electric light, hot baths and every convenience), Residence and Pull Board, consisting of Breakfast, Luncheon, Afternoon Tea, and course Evening Dinner, for 50s. per week, in healthy seaside resort. There is genial society. Most rooms have sea views. Children not objected to, and would be taken also on special low terms. Box 21, "Daily Sketch," 46, Shoe-lane, London, E.C. OFFICERS' UNIFORMS AND EFFECTS.—Largest second-hand stock in the world. Always reasonable. GOLDMAN'S UNIFORM CONCERN, DEVONPORT. (Uniforms bought.)

YOUNG ARMLETEERS.



Boys on duty in Government offices are now given armlets. They are very proud of their war-worker's badge.



Queen Alexandra attended a presentation of motor ambulances to the Russian Red Cross yesterday.



Capt. Pickthorn died on the bridge when he reached Boston after a five days' fight with a gale.

2,677,000 GERMAN LOSSES, 35,000 Officially Reported This Month.

The following figures are compiled from the German official casualty lists:—

DURING FEBRUARY, 1916.

Killed and died of wounds	7,301
Died of sickness	2,910
Prisoners	1,345
Missing	2,017
Severely wounded	5,217
Wounded	1,641
Slightly wounded	11,865
Wounded (remaining with unit)	2,902

Total 35,198

These casualties, added to those reported in previous months, and including the corrections reported in February, 1916, bring the total reported in the German official lists since the beginning of the war to—

Killed and died of wounds	625,936
Died of sickness	36,538
Prisoners	117,045
Missing	213,386
Severely wounded	364,053
Wounded	250,342
Slightly wounded	958,153
Wounded (remaining with unit)	111,919

Total 2,677,372

These figures include all German nationalities—Prussians, Bavarians, Saxons and Wurtembergers. They do not include naval casualties or casualties of Colonial troops.

KING'S PROCTOR INTERVENES.

On the ground that a Mr. W. P. Delaforce constantly associated with a Mrs. Eva Black, the King's Proctor is endeavouring to prevent a divorce she has obtained against her husband being made absolute.

For the King's Proctor, in the Divorce Court yesterday, Mr. Hawke, K.C., said that Mrs. Black was born in Australia, and in 1898 married at Perth (W.A.) Frank Austin, who divorced her for infidelity. In 1908 she married Mr. Black and described herself as a widow. Four years later he left her, and she ultimately obtained a divorce.

Delaforce, an ex-Metropolitan policeman and a bankrupt, slept at Mrs. Black's flat. She and he had stayed at Maidenhead and hotels at Algeiras and Le Touquet. Usually they had adjoining rooms. Adjourned.

COAL FAMINE IN CARDIFF!

An extraordinary coal famine prevails at Cardiff, hundreds of houses being without fires yesterday.

"CALL UP ALL THE SINGLE MEN."

Attested married men, who attended a meeting in Coventry last night, expressed their willingness to carry out their obligation to serve, but strongly urged that every available single man should be called up.

[Read "The Pledge will be carried out" in column 1, page 2.]

The death has occurred at Castle Donington of Mr. Joshua Burton, solicitor, in his 91st year. He was believed to be the oldest council clerk in England.

HIGHER FARES ON THE "TUBE"?

Lord George Hamilton's Plain Talk To Shareholders.

Speaking at the annual meeting of the London Electric Railways yesterday, Lord George Hamilton said that Sir Robert Perks was for ever advocating an increase in fares. It was true that shareholders had been a long time "out of their money," but that was due to the promoters' estimates being far too optimistic.

Receipts had been over-estimated and expenses under-estimated, continued Lord George. The company, while not enjoying a monopoly, held a predominant position in the control of London's passenger transport. Further, the House of Commons was very jealous of any undertaking which came daily into contact with the comfort of the people raising its charges.

To raise fares in order to increase dividends would, he thought, lead to a public outcry and a decrease of passengers. Traffic in the metropolis was easy to lose and difficult to regain.

THE ELECTRIFIED "LOOP."

Electrical trains will run on the London and South-Western Company's "loop" line commencing to-morrow. A new station, for the convenience of riverside residents at Barnes, will be opened at Barnes Bridge.

SIX LONDON STATIONS TO CLOSE.

On and from Monday, April 3 next, the following London stations will be closed: Battersea Park-road, Camberwell and Clapham, and to South-Eastern and Chatham services only Wandsworth-road and Clapham.

Brixton Station will also be closed for passenger traffic to and from the City and intermediate stations, and Loughborough Junction for traffic to and from Victoria and intermediate stations, while the service of S.E. and C.R. trains now running to and from Moorgate-street will be temporarily discontinued.

This is done in order to make the best use of the engines, rolling stock and remaining staff.

MONEY MATTERS.

There was a sharp rise in the price of copper yesterday to £103 1/2 per ton, accompanied by a little more activity in Copper shares, and more especially those of the Australian companies, such as Hampden Cloncurry.

South African shares remained active, with Far Eastern Rand shares in continued demand. A minor feature was a run upon East Rand Mining Estates, market gossip stating that an Anglo-American syndicate has been formed to supply the company with the necessary capital to develop its properties.

Rubbers were firm, without showing much activity, the price of the raw material being 3s. 7 1/2d. per lb. There was a little stir in Russian Mining shares, Russo-Asiatic being bid for at 4 13-16 for the £1. This is a company which has a great future before it.

Consols were quoted at 57 1/2, and War Loan stock at 86 1/2.

LIVERPOOL COTTON.—Futures closed steady; American 3 up to 1 1/2 down; Egyptian quiet, 3 up to 7 down.

AMERICAN COTTON (close): New York, 2 to 4, and New Orleans, 1 to 3, points down. Tone steady.

OUR CIGARETTE FUND.

£1 5s.—Millars' Timber and Trading Co.'s Staff, London, 9s. 6d.—Vernon and Sons' Staff, Victoria Docks, 8s.—"Daily Sketch" Readers and Comps. 2s.—Mrs. Miller, Bearsden (60th cont.), 1s.—M. M. Stott, Notting Hill.

Sir Robert Lucas-Tooth, the Anglo-Australian banker, died worth £276,297.

CALL FOR PREMIUM BONDS.

City Men Ask Chancellor To Receive A Deputation.

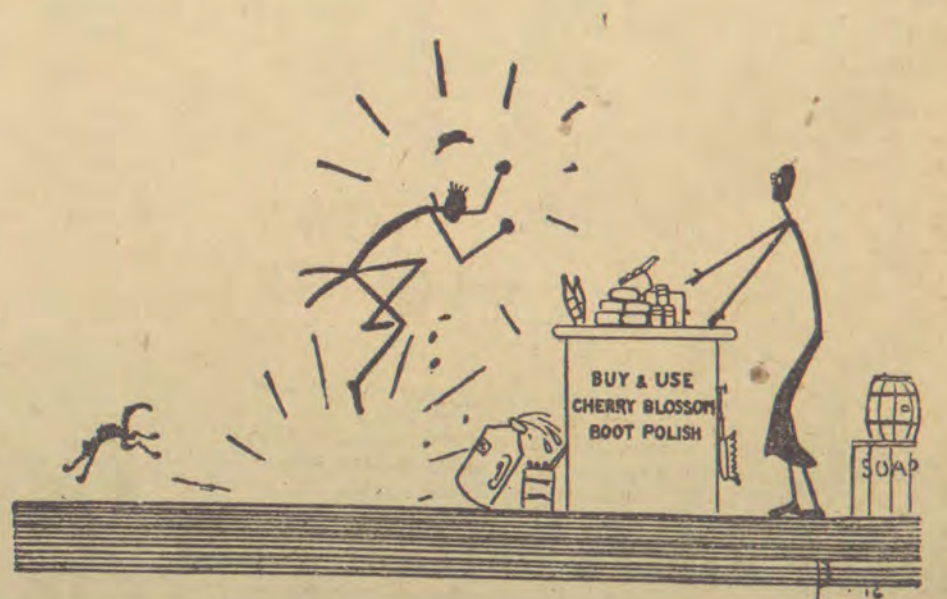
At an influential meeting of business men held in the City yesterday under the chairmanship of Sir William Plender the following resolution was passed:

That in the opinion of this meeting the Government be urged to take into early consideration the question of making an issue of premium or prize bonds, and that the Chancellor of the Exchequer be respectfully asked to receive a deputation on the subject.

KEEPING OUT OF DANGER.

King Ferdinand of Bulgaria, after a visit to the Austro-Hungarian Emperor, has left (says Reuter) for Hungary (where he has private estates). This absence from his own country is a good sign for his enemies.

Cardinal Mercier has directed his auxiliary, the Right Rev. Bishop Dewaechter, to comply with the invitation of the authorities of St. Patrick's Church, Soho-square, to preach at High Mass on St. Patrick's Day, March 17. Cardinal Bourne will be the celebrant.



Advice to Citizens.

Don't get annoyed and blame the poor shopkeeper when he has sold out of CHERRY BLOSSOM BOOT POLISH. It isn't his fault—there's always a rush on it, and transit delays are unavoidable.

Mansion Polish is just as splendid for Furniture, Floors and Linoleum as Cherry Blossom Boot Polish is for Boots and Shoes. Both polishes are sold by all Dealers in 1d., 2d., 4d. and 6d. Tins. Chiswick Polish Co., Ltd., Chiswick, W.



LOVE GOES ASTRAY

By Howel Evans



"The Man I Married!"

Closer and closer crept the woman, till at length she was bending right over Sheila. The girl could bear the strain no longer, and suddenly sat up. "Who are you, who are you? What do you want? What are you doing here?"

Sheila's eyes were taking in the woman's appearance now, and she recognised her as one of the lodgers in Mrs Jessop's house. She had been present when Sheila and Bill had returned, bringing poor injured Meg with them, and Sheila had noticed then how curiously this woman had eyed her.

"I—I thought I heard you cry out," said the woman rather hesitatingly, as if searching for some excuse, "and so I—I came in to see if I could do anything. I expect you're feeling rather nervous after all you've been through to-night, aren't you? Can I do anything for you?"

"No, thank you, nothing. I only want to be left alone to try to sleep. That's all, thank you."

Sheila lay down again and drew the clothes round her, and the woman left, after hoping she had not disturbed Sheila.

A troubled, restless night, a fitful sleep, then the dawn of another day, and Sheila saw herself in the little mirror, looking, as she thought to herself, so old, with hollows and dark rings under her eyes and a pale face and a troubled expression.

She didn't know that this added to her beauty, the beauty of resignation, of suffering, which so often merely chastens when we think it is sent to destroy.

When she was dressed she went to Meg's room, to find her friend, as she expressed it, "sittin' up and takin' nourishment."

"Awful bruise on my ribs, my dear. That brute handled me roughly. I can see 'is face now as plain as I saw it under the gas lamp—dark beard and moustache, and good-lookin', too, in a way. Yes, I could pick 'im out of a thousand, and as soon as I can 'obble, I'm off to the police-station to describe 'im."

"Meg, Meg," Sheila took her friend's hand in hers, and turned her own face away as if ashamed, "don't, please don't give information to the police. I begged Bill not to. I told him I'd tell you the reason, and that some day I might tell him, too. Meg—oh, I'm ashamed to my very soul—but the man—the man who struck you was—the man I married."

There was silence for a moment. Sheila felt she dare not look Meg in the eyes. Then she felt a rather rough hand touch her turned-away face very gently, and Meg pulled Sheila down to herself on the pillow and kissed her.

Meg The Cheerful.

"My dear, my dear, you've no call to feel ashamed," said Meg. "You couldn't 'elp it. It's 'im that's shamed, 'im for 'avin' treated you so badly, it's not you, my dear. But there, it's all right."

She changed her mood and began to speak in her old, chaffing manner.

"I've forgotten what 'e was like, my dear, if that will please you. I wonder 'oo the chap was as Bill laid out, the one as tried to get you. Oh, it's an old game, that is, sneakin' up be'ind and puttin' a 'andkerchief or a muffer over one's face. But, my dear—if it don't 'urt you to talk about it—what d'you think they was after?"

Sheila noted the delicacy with which Meg would not especially speak of her (Sheila's) husband.

"I—I don't know, unless he—he wanted to kill me. Perhaps it might be that. And I almost wish he would. Meg, I almost wish I might die."

"Now, I don't like to 'ear that, you know. You and me and Bill's all goin' to live together, and we're going to make a fortune. I shall put you in a nice white cap and apron be'ind the counter,

A Winter Diet

should include plenty of heat producers. The most wholesome and delicious are puddings made with Shredded ATORA Beef Suet, which needs no chopping. Sold in 1 lb. cartons 10d., and ½ lb. cartons 5d. Ask your grocer for it. Sole Manufacturers—Hugon & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—Advt.

THEATRE.

AMBASSADORS.—To-day at 2.30 and 8.30. "MORE." Brilliant Revue by Harry Gratton. DELYSIA. DOROTHY MINTO. MORTON. MORRIS HARVEY, etc. Evenings 8.30. Matinees Thurs. and Sat. at 2.30. Regent 2890

COMEDY THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Arthur Chudleigh. SECOND EDITION, "SHELL OUT!" by Albert de Courville and Wal Pink. Every Evening, at 8.45. Mata, Mon., Fri. and Sat. 2.45. Phone, Ger. 3724

STRAND.—"THE MERCHANT OF VENICE." Last 2 performances. To-day at 2.30. To-night at 8.

VARIETIES.

ALHAMBRA.—AUGUSTUS YORKE and ROBERT LEONARD. ODETTE MYRTLE MANNY and ROBERTS. BEATRICE LILLIE and Alhambra Girls, THE QUAINTS. Imperia. Russian Dancers in ALEKO Doors 8. Mata Weds and Sat. 2.15.

COLISEUM.—At 2.30 and 8 p.m. Augustus YORKE and Robert LEONARD in "Isadore, You Tell Her." Hall Caine's New Play "THE IRON HAND." VIOLET VANBRUGH, LEE WHITE, and Jack Morrison, etc.

HIPPODROME. London.—Twice Daily, 2.30, 8.30 p.m. New Revue, "JOY-LAND." SHIRLEY KELLOGG HARRY TATE, YETTA RIANZA, BERTRAM WALLIS, CHARLES BERKELEY, and Super-Beauty Chorus.

MASKELVNE'S MYSTERIES. St. George's Hall. Daily at 3 & 8. 1s. to 5s. Children half-price. Phone 1545 Mayfair.

PALACE.—"BRICA-BRAC" (at 8.35) VARIETIES at 8. MAT. WED. and SAT. at 2.

PALLADIUM.—2.30, 6.10, and 9.0. "THE PASSING SHOW" featuring ELLA RETFORD, FRED DUPREZ, CHRISTINE ROY. Varieties by LILY LENA, ERNEST HASTINGS, FIVE BOMBAYS, etc.

EXHIBITIONS.

MADAME TUSSAUL'S EXHIBITION.—Life-like Portrait Models of HEROES of the WAR on SEA and LAND. Adm. 1s. Children 6d.

RUSSIAN EXHIBITION. NOW OPEN. In aid of Jewish Refugees from Poland in Russia. CENTRAL HALL, WESTMINSTER, LONDON. March 4 to 18. 11 to 9.30. 1s.

and all you'll 'ave to do is to look pretty and 'and out the portions. There, what d'you think of that?"

"I think it's a beautiful idea, and I should just love to do it, especially for you, Meg."

"You are a kid!" said Meg. "As if I should let yer! A lady like you! Oh, ain't I stiff! And my ain't I a sight, too!"

Meg, you make me feel very angry with myself," said Sheila. "You're always so happy and jolly, and you always look on the bright side of things. You act on me like a tonic."

"Do I, my dear? That's all right, then! But, bless you, I ain't worried like you are. No! But anyway, whatever your trouble is you always bring it along to me, and I'll try and take a share of it and see if I can't laugh the beastly old thing away. But I'm gettin' up, now, though I don't feel exactly like it."

Meg was undoubtedly sore and bruised, and with the bandages and plasters on her face she didn't look beautiful, as she herself expressed it, but she kept up her spirits, and at length, with Sheila's assistance she was fully dressed.

"Now, then, we'll get away downstairs and 'ave some breakfast. By the way, my dear, excuse me askin' yer, but I ain't got no money till I get some out of the Post Office, and we ought to be 'avin' Mrs. Jessop a bit to go on with, you know. She can't manage on nothin'. Can you do it, my dear? I'll share it with you afterwards."

"Oh, Meg, my dear Meg, I'm so sorry, but d'you know it's only just occurred to me that I haven't got a farthing. All the money I had was in my purse, and that went in the fire. I'm penniless, just simply a pauper!"

Meg laughed as if in thorough enjoyment.

"Oh, that don't matter!" she said. "I'll 'ave to borrow off Bill. Oh, I ain't above doin' that! We understand each other. 'E's goin' to get the rest of 'is money to-day. A nice little chap is Bill."

The Spy.

"Meg," said Sheila, "who's that dark-haired woman, a lodger here, who was downstairs last night when we came home? Something rather strange happened last night."

And Sheila related about the woman creeping into her bedroom.

"Oh, I know 'oo it was!" said Meg. "Jane Gladdytch. She's lived at nearly every 'ouse in the street at one time or another. Nobody can stand 'er for long. Sort of Nosey Parker she is. Works in one of the big stores just round 'ere."

"Whatever's a Nosey Parker, Meg?"

"One who puts 'er nose into other people's business, always pryin' and pokin' about."

Like a flash Sheila's mental horizon was lighted with a sudden illuminating thought.

"Then, Meg, I believe I know what she was in my room for! I believe she'd noticed that advertisement about me in the paper, and had come to see if I answered to the description, or if she could find out anything about me. Meg, I must go, I must run away from here. I won't let anyone find me. I should never feel safe if I went back home. I should never be safe from—from him. Oh, I'd sooner be walking about the streets penniless, homeless, than go back!"

"All right, my dear, don't take on so. I'll look after you. You shan't go back if you don't want to. I'll look after you, and we'll soon find out if that there Jane Gladdytch suspects anything."

But Jane Gladdytch had gone to her work at the stores close by, where she was employed from nine in the morning till six at night.

"Never mind, I'll put Bill on 'er track," said Meg. "E'll watch 'er and see if she sneaks off after 'er tea, when she comes 'ome. Or maybe she'll write?"

"Yes, yes, I expect she'll write," put in Sheila. "My aunt's full address at her country home was given, and this Gladdytch woman couldn't go down there. It's too far off—right down in Cornwall, you know."

"Um, that's rather awkward. Well, as I said before, we'll 'op it, change our address. And, my dear," Meg half whispered, "don't forget as there's to be a weddin' in less nor a month, and you've got to be my bridesmaid. You'll do that, won't you?"

"Yes," answered Sheila, thinking of how once she, in her girlish way, as all girls will, had imagined herself standing a bride at the altar, with a girl friend as bridesmaid—and her marriage had, after all, only been the civil ceremony in a stuffy office.

Sheila's Peril.

"Well, all right, let's go down and eat a good breakfast. And then, to make sure, my dear, we'll see about slippin' away from 'ere. You shan't be worried, you poor little girl. Why, little things like you oughtn't to be allowed out without a guide. There!" Meg laughed her cheerful laugh again. "Don't you mind me. I'm one of that sort as can't 'elp speakin' out what they mean, but I always mean well for you, my dear. You look just like a pretty little flower out of place 'ere."

Meg didn't realise that she was speaking prettily, almost poetically. She was just speaking out of the pure goodness of her heart, and she laughed again as she put her arm through Sheila's to go downstairs.

"You're full of pluck, if you ain't as strong as I am," said Meg, laughing. "And see, I'm obliged to lean on you, so I ain't got all my own way."

It was about ten o'clock when Bill arrived, and Meg at once, with the instinct of true love, saw that something had happened.

His hands were trembling, his face was white, he seemed hardly able to collect himself and speak coherently, but at last he managed to blurt out:

"It's gone—it's gone, Meg, it's gone! All our money's gone, every cent of it!"

"All the money gone, Bill? What d'you mean by all the money gone? Where's it gone?"

"That backer o' mine, 'e was a fraud. 'E's bolted with the money, all of it! I was a mug. I told 'im to keep it till I wanted it, and asked 'im for a fiver to go on with. That's just what 'e wanted. I suppose 'e'd 'ave got it any'ow, but that give 'im plenty of time to get away. 'E's bolted, leaving me and lots of others in the cart. It's good-bye to the little shop, Meg. We shall 'ave to start all over again."

And then the eternal woman rose in Meg. What mattered money? They still had each other!

And, stiffly, laboriously, she rose and went and put her arm round the bowed shoulders of the little boxer as he sat doubled up in a chair with his face in his hands, and Sheila thought she had never seen anything so spiritually beautiful as tall, buxom Cockney girl, whose bandaged face winced with pain as she put her arm round her man, and mothered him and crooned to him in a voice that was just an anthem of love, of consolation.

"You're thinkin' of me, I know, Bill," she said. "But bless you, we shall be all right. D'you know I've got nearly forty pound in the Post Office? And we're goin' to get married just the same. I can stop on at my present place, and you can get a job as a teacher of boxin', I know. Oh, we shall be all right. But 'e was a swine, though, 'e, that backer of yours?"

"But the shop, Meg, the shop! We'd so looked forward to it, 'adn't we?"

And he turned his rugged little, tear-stained face to hers, and she bent down and kissed it.

"O' course we 'ad, and we shall look forward to it again. We shall 'ave it one of these days, you see if we don't! And what are you lookin' so startled about, Sheila?"

Sheila had turned away to hide her tears of emotion, and her eyes fell on a paper lying on the table by her side. Something made her pick it up. It was a similar paper to the one in which she had seen the two advertisements about herself the night before.

Yes, there they were again; at least, they had been there, for one of them, the advertisement offering the hundred pounds reward, had been cut out! Who could have done that? A glance from Meg and Bill assured her that it was not they who had cut the newspaper.

Again she felt that sples were about her. Again she felt herself threatened by some unseen peril. Again she thought of John Finch—and shuddered.

"He's been here," she reflected. "He and Jane Gladdytch are perhaps working together. Oh, what shall I do? What shall I do?"

(Another Splendid Instalment on Monday.)

MARVELLOUS VICTORY OVER VARICOSE VEINS

Wonderful New "Spirastic" Supports.

Old-Fashioned Dangerous Elastic Stockings Entirely Superseded.

A well-known Manufacturer of Surgical Appliances has made a marvellous discovery, which entirely revolutionises the treatment of Varicose Veins.

For the first time it is now possible for the sufferer from this most painful and dangerous ailment to go about in perfect comfort and at the same time to so strengthen the parts that a complete and permanent cure is ultimately assured.

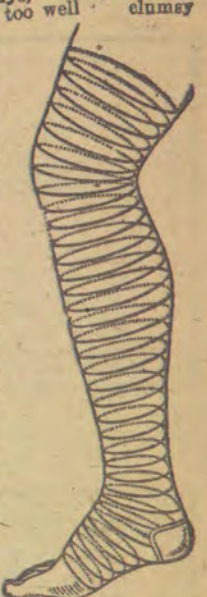
As Mr. Cooper, the inventor, says, "Every sufferer from Varicose Veins knows only too well the ordinary elastic stocking, but few realise that there is a grave danger in wearing these appliances."

"Ordinary elastic stockings are made with harsh, coarse ribs at the back and sides, and these constantly pressing upon the distended blood vessels may at any moment set up inflammation and ulceration, and thus cause the Varicose Veins to burst."

"Now, however, by my wonderful new 'Spirastic' method the hard, dangerous seams of the old-fashioned elastic stockings are entirely abolished, and perfect comfort and support are given to the limbs."

The new Mecca "Spirastic" Supports, as clearly shown in the accompanying illustration, are woven on a similar principle to "puttees," which any soldier will tell you are the only possible leg supports for long marches. Fitting with the softness of a kid glove, they neither press, pinch nor cut the limb, nor do they wrinkle or lose their elasticity. They cost no more than the ordinary hard-ribbed stocking, will last at least three times as long, and, moreover, are sent on approval.

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LILY ELSIE'S LATEST



The latest studio portrait of Lily Elsie, who lately reappeared at a West End charity matinee.—(Rita Martin.)

THE EXAMPLE OF FIVE MARRIED BROTHERS.



Edward, married, lost a leg in action.



J. Greenwood, the father.



Thomas, married, has four children.



Tom, 2nd Cheshires, has been wounded.



George has attested. He has four children.



Joseph, married, has John, seven children, Charles has been at the front five months. These sons of Mr. Greenwood, of Manchester, have set an example to the single men who have sought escape in reserved trades.

WATCHING TOMMY'S SPORTS



General Sir Bryan Mahon and a nurse, seated on a "grand stand," improvised from an army wagon, were among the interested spectators of a gymkhana held by the troops in camp at Salonika.—(Official Photograph.)

A HAPPY YOUNG MOTHER.



Mrs. Rufus Isaacs, wife of Lieut. the Hon. G. Rufus Isaacs, only son of the Lord Chief Justice, has given birth to a son.—(Barnett.)

LEARNING A NEW JOB.



Fair candidates for 'bus conductors' posts on the London General routes learning how to collect fares.

A NEW D.S.O.



Sir Lionel Alexander, who has just been awarded the D.S.O.

JACK AS SURGEON.



Ginger, the pet of H.M.S. Pactolus, broke his leg, which Jack has skilfully set in splints.

ON NURSING DUTY.



Miss Macmillan, of the well-known publishing family, is nursing in a London military hospital.