

"THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL."

[The Editor discourses upon passing events and topics of the day.]

PEACE-M-PERFECT PEACE!

The Labour Conference.

We attach no importance whatever to either the votes or the proceedings of the Labour Party Conference at Southport. Based upon the fraud of the "block" vote, the whole thing is a farce.

Premium Bonds.

It is rather amusing to see Mr. Austin Chamberlain shying at this form of invest-ment, when all the while he is gently feeling his way towards it by means of Victory Bonds.

Hun Prisoners.

Now that Peace is, in the words of Clemenceau, "an accomplished fact," let us clear out, with all possible speed, the hideous Hun prisoners at present in our midst. They are a foul blot upon the countryside.

Fryatt's Funeral.

Don't forget that the public funeral to be accorded to that gallant martyr, Capt. Chas. Fryatt, has been fixed for Tuesday next. By the way, what about our suggestion of monuments to Fryatt and Nurse Cavell, to be placed on the northern plynths of Trafalgar Square?

Bonds, Beer, and Fares.

Letters continue to reach us from readers declaring their determination to withhold subscriptions to the new Loans unless they get good beer and cheaper railway fares. And they mean it.

A Great Meeting.

By the way, what a fine meeting that was at the London Empire to demand the removal of the "50 per cent." And what a fine Sunday afternoon, too!

"Sister Millicent."

So the war marriage of Brigadier-General Fitzgerald and Millicent Duchess of Sutherland has been quietly dissolved in Paris where they fixed their residence in 1914. "Sister Millicent," as she was known during the war, is now looking after some of the devastated villages of France.

The Williams-Bottomley Debate. So the proposed debate is "off," Mr. Ben Tillett having come to the conclusion that "no public utility would be served by what would be a purely academic discussion-especially in view of the inability of the parties to agree on the terms of reference." Well it is not our fault-for we were quite prepared to tackle Mr. Williams on his plea for Soviet government in England

Country Police and Murders. No wonder there are so many undetected murders! In the recent, Hitchin case Scotland Yard was not "called in" for five weeks after the crime-when most of the evidence had been removed; and now we find that in the case of the murdered W.A.A.C. at Haynes Park, Bedford, "The Yard" has been invited to take up the investigation—six weeks after the murder. When will the country police the murder. When will stand less on their dignity?

The Scapa Scuttle.

One of our readers, who witnessed the whole incident of the scuttling of the German fleet, tells us that "some of the ships that were saved had the decks covered with blood, as if there had been a battle between themselves over the sinking." As a matter of tact there was, and it is now common knowledge that at least two of the German commanders were killed by their crews.



"The Only Way"!

By-the-bye, cynics are industriously spreading the rumour that the sinking of the German fleet was effected in collusion with the British Government, in order to get rid of a nasty bone of contention between the Allies for the. future possession of the ships. What terrible depths politics must have sunk to !

Watch Jamaica!

What are the odds against this island becoming an American colony before long?

A Fashionable Rendezvous. From the "Cologne Post"—run by the Army of the Rhine: "Winehaus Köhler, Grosse Landkaul 24-26, the most fashionable place in the city—for officers and civilians only." Con-grats to Tommy.

Trading With the Enemy. And, by the way, how is it that trade circulars from Vienna are now being allowed to come into England through the post ?

That 1.594.

We mean the number of persons of neither British nor Allied birth who, during the war, were engaged in Government departments. How many of them are still there-and what about the rest?

Election Fees,

Many of the officials in connection with the General Election of last December complain to us that their fees have not yet been paid. And if they are not sharp about it, they will find the Local Government Board dissolved!

Our Dogs.

That was a scandalous breach of faith by which the Government performed a complete volte face over the Dogs' Bill. And we congratulate Sir Frederick Banbury on the fact that, despite a three-line whip, nearly half the House voted for him.

Medicos and Vivisection.

We confess we were not impressed with the arguments of the Parliamentary medicos. Sir Watson Cheyne, for instance, made the amazing confession that from 130 B.C. down to the date of Harvey's circulation discovery the whole profession were under the impression that the arteries were air vessels. He did not, however, tell us whether the vermiform appendix was regarded as the bellows !

"To Hell with Servia!"

We have often had this famous poster quoted against us. It was issued when the crime of the murder of the late King and Queen was in our minds. And now we read that the bodies of the men who assassinated the Austrian Archduke have been exhumed and buried, with honours, in their native countries ! War makes us acquainted with strange allies !

Exit Lord D'Abernon,

We believe the Liquor Control Board is to go. The *Daily News* does not, however, think that good and plentiful beer will do anything to settle industrial unrest-and puts its faith in teetotal Labour leaders! It is really time the Old Lady of Bouverie Street woke up.

A Parson's Plea.

Here, on the other hand, is the plea of an English rector. "For Heaven's sake, use your powerful influence in every way you can to upset the game of the teetotal cranks, who are bringing discredit on the Christian Churches and are becoming a serious menace and nuisance to the country." Anything to save the. Christian Churches from discredit!

A Skill Competition. As evidence of the large element of skill required in our recent Racing Competitions, we may mention that one reader—Mr. W. Hobson, of 95, The Chase, Clapham Common— correctly placed the first three horses in both the Derby and the Royal Hunt Cup, as the result, he tells us, of a close study of "form."

Local Limericks.

A Scarborough spinster named Hirst Kept a cock that the neighbourhood cursed ; They fined her a pound For permitting the sound Of its crow midnight's silence to burst.

A Railway Point.

The following hint to the Railway Executive is from a private in the A.S.C.: "Why don't they take a pattern from the French Railway Authorities, who charge a quarter of the ordinary fare to all soldiers, irrespective of nationality ? " Our friend thinks this an "excellent concession" and "a feather in the caps of the French." Now then, Sir Eric!

An Impudent Crank.

We suggest to Mr. Julian Cedric Bates, of We suggest to Mr. Julian Cedric Bates, of Whitchurch, Salop, that he should amend his idea of a joke. To scan the newspapers for advertisements by demobilised soldiers in search of employment, for the purpose of sending them a wad of rubbish concerning a "Cosmic-Thought College and School" for the pursuit of "Health and Mental Culture" is a wanton impertinence which Bates may live to regret.

Extravagance in Victory.

No wonder the State needs money ; it wastes so much. A gentleman at Lincoln received by post 36 separate sets of Loan prospectuses, forms, and envelopes, all addressed to himself and his daughter. After that dose it is quite refreshing to hear a reader say he has received only five sets. But the Victory Loan postal department seems sadly amiss when it wastes so much material, time, and money.

Long Winded.

Not only is the Government retaining Post Office Savings Bank deposit books and delaying the payment of war gratuities, but it appears that large numbers of discharged soldiers who have entered for a two-years' course of special training for various industrial occupations with the promise of financial assistance by the State, "have been working for some months now without receiving any allowance." Of two things one: Either the Government hasn't any money, or somebody must have vamoosed with the national cash-box.

Consumers' Council.

We forget who the Consumers' Council are, whom they represent, and who asked them to represent anybody ; but if they have been of use or ornament since their appointment, they may send on particulars to this office for registration. Meanwhile, can the Council tell us why hundreds of tons of meat have been sold at Smithfield at 21d. and 3d. per pound during the last few weeks, and re-sold to the public at full controlled prices, and who has pocketed the profits arising out of the entertainment? An early reply will oblige.

A Roaring Dove.

We note that the Bishop of London has been paying compliments to the Editor of the Daily Herald, wishing "there were a few more men like Mr. George Lansbury among the leaders of the Labour movement." Left to himself, George is quite a decent sort of chap, and wouldn't harm a fly; but unfortunately he has lent the light of his genial countenance to the Bolshevist wreckers whose machinations we have fully exposed. And the queer part of it is that under a full-blooded Bolshevist régime George would be one of the first to protest and suffer. It is a funny world!

Old and Tired.

Two old railwaymen, at a Great Western main-line station, are feeling the weight of their years. One is a signalman, tired after more than forty years of it. They can both, if they wish, retire on pension. The amount in each case would be 13s. a week. How can they "retire"? They plod on painfully, fearful lest their back break beneath the burden.

Fivepence a Minute.

Private Tarrant, of Uckfield, left one leg in France, and has to undergo a further operation on the other one. His mother has been wheeling him about in a bath chair. She is elderly, and feeling tired took him home the other day by rail, only one station, six minutes in the train, And they made her pay the brutal fee of twoand-six for that bath-chair, on a railway run It does seem hard that by Government. nobody can wink the other eye in so plain a case.

"THE FARM SCHOOL SCANDAL." See page 4.

Latest from Lewisham.

There is a house to let at Lewisham, with 3 bedrooms, 2 reception rooms, and, kitchen. The rent is f_{30} , which sounds moderate, but this addition is frightening:— Premium Required." And if you apply to "Owner, 53, Overcliff Road, Lewisham," you will learn that the premium required is-hold "Owner, 53, Overcliff Road, Lewisham," tight—only Fifty Pounds! Gee-whizz! What a pity we aren't all "Owners."

A Photographic Ramp. In the Plaistow district a week or two ago, a man was going from house to house offering to take photographs of the kiddies at 6d. a time. After some manœuvres with a camera the photographer walked away with the sixpence develop his plates," but nothing more has been seen or heard of the promised photographs. The "coupons" distributed bore the name and address of the Art Photo Company, of Mare Street, Hackney. If there is a reputable firm of photographers at this address they will doubtless take steps to justify their reputation.

The Open Grave. Still, still that grave in the Luton Cemetery has not been closed 'up; it is "waiting for another coffin." When Mrs. Nutting went there the other day Mr. Bloomfield, who is in charge of the cemetery, "dared her to put the case in the papers again." It is no defence to say that this sort of thing goes on elsewhere. It has got to stop right away. Poor Nutting has been lying practically unburied for six weeks and nothing has been done yet ! If the Luton Cemetery will not act, then Parliament must step in.

Shelomith.

As a begging letter writer, the Rev. L. R. Rawnsley, Vicar of St. Jude's, Kensal Green, strikes a demobilised soldier as rather hot stuff. He has issued a circular re his "Church and Hall Repair Fund." "If" concludes the Vicar, "each soldier or sailor would dedicate part of his gratuity to this work, it would be true of them as of David's soldiers, 'Out of the spoils won in battles did they dedicate to maintain the house of the Lord." We understand from this soldier that if he had gathered in any spoils our rev. friend could have had one or two, but Shelomith in chase of his Army gratuity is another matter. Shelomith, in short, will have to look elsewhere.

Two Pictures.

Adown Wimbledon High Street sped, in lively procession, about 30 cars. Each was inscribed, "A.S.C., M.T., School of Instruction," and each was laden with girls learning to drive, and being paid while learning. Down the road, further on, were four or five hundred of the great demobilised waiting for unemployment money. Among them were competent drivers, and others willing and anxious to be taught. The two pictures are drawn from life, and are not copyright.

The Bar in Action.

A man had almost completed his engineering apprenticeship, when, as a Territorial, he went away to the war. On his return he started as electrician with an eminent engineering firm. In two days the shop-steward threatened a strike if the man was retained. Although the ex-soldier had had eight years' engineering experience, his qualifications were not considered satisfactory by that shop-steward. Such antipathy to, instead of sympathy with, soldier-men is as saddening as it is perplexing.

Not Barred Here.

There is no bar against the ex-Service men at the Locomotive Department of the Midland Railway at Bedford. Every returned man has been reinstated to his old position, and, in addition, other fighting men have had no difficulty in obtaining employment there. As one of the old hands puts it : "We are all working together like brothers, thankful "We are for what the boys went and done for us." That is the right spirit, with the genuine ring.

Naval Officers Demobbed.

Some 7,000 temporary Naval officers were marked down for demobilisation by the end of June. The great majority of these fine fellows came from the Mercantile Marine, and they will experience difficulty in getting back. to it, on account of the shortage of tonnage. Few of them can expect to get a ship until next year. And, like the old mercantile officers we have often sympathised with, there will be no unemployment donation for them. Will the Admiralty do the right thing?

More Mercy for Cruelty.

The Birmingham Bench must have rather a weakness for cruel people. A blackguard named George Baldwin assaulted a poor woman by striking her in the chest, knocking her down and then dealing her several more blows as she lay on the ground before him, in addition to which his dog bit the woman's ear so badly that she had to go into hospital. More than that, the prisoner had already been convicted several times for assaulting the police and women-and this blackguard was let off with a month in gaol. Lucky he didn't steal a loaf of bread; then he'd have copped it

An Unfair Distinction.

The other day a petition was presented to Lord D'Abernon on behalf of the nightworkers of Fleet Street, praying that, now the war is over, they might be permitted to wet, their whistles in the "wee sma' hours" at certain hostelries in Newspaperland. The official reply was a blank refusal, although all through the war the early morning workers at Covent Garden and Smithfield have enjoyed substantial concessions in this respect. Will Lord D'Abernon kindly explain why the legitimate thirst of the weary typographer is less worthy of respect than that of the gentleman who handles the meat and veg.?

Local Limericks.

A Catisfield milkman named Pink Sold milk mixed with slops from the sink, But an £80 fine

Crowned his dirty design

To sell filth for the public to drink !

"Out of Bounds."

Our recent paragraph anent the placing out of bounds for Q.M.A.A.Cs., stationed in Edinburgh, of two of that city's most famous beauty spots, has not yet elicited a satisfactory explanation of so arbitrary a rule. According to an Edinburgh newspaper, one of the officers offered as a solution a statement to the effect that "some girls had not been behaving." Without desiring to encourage a spirit of insubordination amongst the corps, we beg to inquire whether the girls in question were Officers of the Corps or members of the rank and file ; for, judging by our own observation, indiscreet behaviour in public is not the monopoly of the latter.

Sequel to our Dog Story.

Probably very many readers will recall the story we told, soon after war began, of the dog Prince who, deserting his mistress in London, went in search of his soldier master. To the man's utter amazement, the animal came up to him in the trenches. How he arrived there and by what miracle he tracked his master is a mystery known only to the dog. We told the wonderful story in a poem, written by Mr. Richard Morton, and Prince's deserted mistress says she has often read it over, as have hundreds of others. And now the dog, after 41 years in France, is back in England in quarantine at Friar's Place Farm, Willesden. When master, mistress, and Prince meet at home in Stafford, what a day it will be. And what a dear, faithful creature is that dog!

Fanciful Patriotism.

The residents of Regent Square, Doncaster, are very particular in their taste. They have never had any objection to a military band playing in the Square Gardens, but when it was suggested by the Corporation that the War Savings Tank and two German guns should be put there as a slight reminder of what the Doncaster lads had done, the residents were horrified at this intrusion into their private pleasure grounds, and will have none of it. The dear creatures actually say that they don't think the beauties of their garden will be enhanced by the tank or the guns. Perhaps if they saw the beauties of the gardens of Flanders they might alter their opinion. Personally, we don't think the beauty of Doncaster is much enhanced by the residents in Regent Square.

Compulsory Thrift. Up in Glasgow the Civil Liabilities De-partment advertises "Clerks Wanted," and, knowing the Scots are a thrifty race, offers the lucky ones who may be appointed a whole f_2 a week as salary. The Department must think clerks have no civil liabilities of their own, or that they are adept in evading them.

Dishing Old Seventy. Old-Age Pensions Committees have discovered a neat way of dishing applicants. The law says that if an applicant has an annual income exceeding £31 10s., his grant will be nothing So, if Old Seventy happens to live per week. with a relative or friend, the process is simple. The Pension Officer assesses the value of such board and lodging at 13s. a week—total, $\pounds 33$ 16s., "annual income"; therefore, no pension. It is manifestly unjust, but our daily post-bag shows that the artful game is in full swing all over the Kingdom.

It was never believed that the Metropolitan Police would strike-until they did. Nobody believes that the L.C.C. Firemen will ever "down hoses," but if they do, they will probably have as good reason as any other body of workers who adopt the strike policy-if not better. They have their grievances, but they are loyal and brave men; and, being such, they deserve to have their grievances removed. For instance, twenty-four hours of freedom every ten days is not enough for men whose nerves are kept continuously on the stretch and who may be called upon at any moment to undertake risks of an appalling nature.

War Office Ships.

It will perhaps be a curious item of news to many that the War Office owns a small fleet of steamships. They are, and always have been, manned by civilians; some of them, in wartime, have been engaged in carrying munitions to the Continent. The War Office, however, shows bad form in utterly declining to recognise the standard rate of pay as fixed by the Shipping Controller. In consequence, the Masters and Officers have to accept a wage about 30 per cent. lower than that received by those on similar vessels privately owned. The men of the War Department vessels have other grievances, but this principal one surely needs rectification, for the War Office cannot afford to set an example of defiance to State authority.

Watch this figure GROW! The Number of Claims already Paid under our Free Fire Insurance is: For Registration Forms see page 20.

Parasitical.

More about the Esplanade Hotel, Frintonon-Sea. Reply by the management to a lady who sought accommodation, in one room, for herself and little daughter, aged 10 years: "28th May, 1919.—In reply to your kind inquiry, I shall be pleased to accommodate you at thirty guineas per week for yourself and little daughter, for a stay of not less than a month from July 29th. — F. DUNLOP, Manager." What a game it is!

3

More Ramsgate Rot.

Ramsgate seems anxious to qualify as a nice place to stay away from. Its Licensing Magistrates have barred music in the local cinemas on Sundays, so visitors will have to allocate their Sunday evenings to Bethel and bed. Meanwhile, the local tramway service is advertising for more women conductors, average weekly salary, 32s. 6d. Evidently it wishes to get its work done on the cheap, and so rules out all the men who could do with it.

Enterprise in Excelsis.

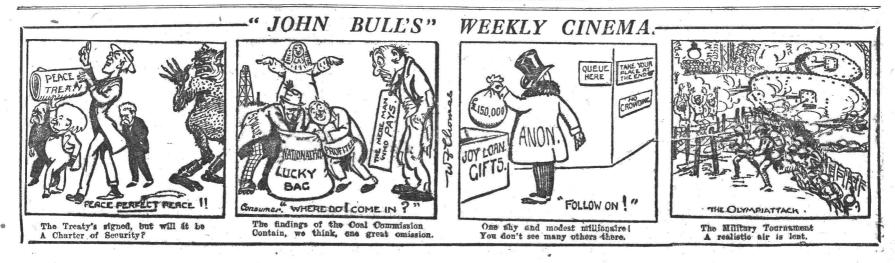
Lambton's, Ltd., of 75, High Street, Lewis-. ham, are enterprising moneylenders. But they sometimes overreach themselves. Recently, letters from Lambton's were received at the Theatre Royal, Portsmouth, addressed re-spectively to "Richard Chalford, Esq.," and "Miss Marie Chalford," to whom loans were offered. It happened that at that time a play, entitled "The Thief," was running at the Theatre Royal, and that Messrs. Lambton's letters were addressed to two of the principal characters in the piece ! Lambton's will be touting the principal characters in fiction next. We suggest Wilkins Micawber, for a start.

An Old Inn.

Mr. Pierpont Morgan, having bought an Abbey with his mighty dollars, now seeks to buy an inn near by for the purpose of closing it and turning the premises into a workmen's club. If Mr. Morgan has any sentiment, he will change his mind. The inn is the historic "Chequers" at Aldenham, which, 250 years ago, was left to the poor of the parish who attended the aburch. It is parish who attended the church. It is a restful, peaceful place, one of the old inns of England so typical of the national life. Also, it is the only fully-licensed house in the neighbourhood which does not seek to "go dry" in the American fashion. Mr. Pierpont Morgan will be a popular man if he does not close the "Chequers."

More Holiday Prizes.

Turn to page 20 and let "Bullets" pay for your holiday.



JOHN BULL.

THE FARM SCHOOL SCANDAL.

"JOHN BULL" v. THE OFFICIAL REPORT OF THE HOME OFFICE INSPECTOR.

HREE months ago, we felt it our duty, in the public interest, and after careful inquiry, to offer some very direct criticism on the conduct of the Dorset

Farm Colony, at Milborne St. Andrew. What is more, in quoting some of the adverse com-ments of the Home Office concerning the Farm, we called upon the Home Secretary to institute an immediate and a special Inquiry into the School-into the discipline, the accommodation, the disgustingly inadequate sanitary arrange-ments, and the treatment of the boys." Let us Let us say at the outset, that we anticipated the abuse which has been showered upon us as a result of our revelations.

THE BISHOP OF SALISBURY.

Fortunately, the demand we made of the Home Secretary was quite expeditiously com-plied with. A special Report has been forth-coming, and by that Report, we are prepared to stand. His Grace the Bishop is pleased to read into it a revelation of the "worthlessness of the charges brought against the management of the school in a weekly paper [meaning JOHN BULL] with its reckless accusations of cruelty, starva-tion, and overwork." The local paper which. be it noted, is the official organ of the Dorset County Council, devotes a leader to the Report, and to our alleged delinquencies. It carefully omits all reference to the Home Office's criti-cisms of the School, and coolly claims an un-qualified verdict, which, we are told, "nails to the counter" the amazing mendacity of the charges." Without going into the English of the phrase, we directly challenge its accuracy. Our charges are in print. Let us see what are the admissions of the Home Office inspector and We alleged, in connection with the others. others. We alleged, in connection with the loaning of the scholars to neighbouring farmers, that "the lads toil all day—and get nothing; the wage—such as it is—goes to the institution." As to this, Canon Goodden, at a subsequent meeting of the Council, was frank enough to admit that "the School receives the wages that the boys earn." Another of our criticisms

concerned "the disgustingly inadequate sanitary arrangements" at the Farm School. What is the confirmation to be found in the Home Office Report? Here it is: "It is important that Report : Here it is: "It is important that early steps should be taken to improve the sanitary arrangements of the School." We asserted—and this was one of our most serious allegations—that these little lads "are sent to work in the fields on a breakfast of bread and milk and water." The Home Office Inspector not only supports that, but goes beyond our charge. "The dietary of the school requires consideration—especially as regards breakfast, which consists, on four days of the week, and in the summer five, of dry bread and milk." And here is the new fact: "It has been the practice recently to give milk and water instead of milk." If every one of our criticisms had been found to be without justification, this hideous fact of the underfeeding of growing lads, made to do a labourer's work in the fields, would have been ample justification for our attack.

DIPPED IN THE SWILL TUB.

But there is more to follow. Not only did we declare that "these poor lads are veritable slaves of the land "; we also made a definite statement that if any of them were caught in the act of escaping from their bondage " a in the act of escaping from their bondage "a ducking in the hog-wash may be their fate." What has the Home Office to say on that? "Evidence was given by two old boys, and one of the boys now in the school, that on occasions hows have as a purishment bod occasions boys have as a punishment had their heads dipped by other boys in the swill-tub." The fact that the Superintendent, who has been in charge of the School for nearly a quarter-of-a-century, pleaded that he knew nothing of such incidents only emphasises our contention that there is lax discipline and supervision. It is no answer for Canon Goodden "speaking under strong emotion" (to quote the local paper and official organ of the County Council), to declare that what we wrote was "actuated by spite and vindictiveness"— that it was "a very sordid attempt" to do the School as much harm as possible. We care nothing for such abuse. Our duty is to the public and to the boys who are consigned to these industrial institutions.

DENIAL OF OVERWORK.

But to continue: we stated that "some of the boys are skin and bone." The Inspector, while declaring that generally the lads appeared to be in good condition, admitted that he found four hows "rether this : of these there is the four boys "rather thin; of these three had been in the school under a year, and the fourth just a year." It is true he denied that the boys were over-worked, and that the lads were given lessons on returning from their labour in the fields. But when the Inspector denies mal-treatment on the ground that a number of the treatment on the ground that a number of the boys re-visit the school, and has the temerity to allege that our criticisms are "inaccurate and misleading," all we can do is to refer to the admissions made and rest content that our exposure has led to a Home Office Inquiry, and to findings which, we trust, will result in ameliorating present conditions to the advan-tage of the hows. The Home Office Inspector amenorating present conditions to the advan-tage of the boys. The Home Office Inspector agrees with us when he states that the question of allowing them to work on neighbouring farms will require "careful attention." "The first object of the School is to provide instruction and the instruction and training for the boys, and the sending of the boys out to work can only be justified in normal times, if by going to other farms occain normal times, it by going to other farms occa-sionally they can thus supplement the training given in the Home Farm." With these sentiments we most heartily agree. We dislike the system of industrial schools and farms which practically makes prisoners of young lads and denies to them, often for the mere offence of over-fullness of spirit, the liberty and joyousness which is the guerdon of youth. We have made our criticisms on the Dorset Farm School, and in the main we stand by them in spite of the fulminations of the Bishop of Salisbury, the stupid attacks of the local newspaper (the County Council's official **or**gan), and the "strong emotion" of Canon Goodden.

TOMFOOLERY AT ITS HIGHEST.

WASTE IN TRAINING UNWANTED WOMEN.

The Housing Department of the Ministry of Munitions is well in advance of the drum-in fact, the whole band. It is having the impudence to train twenty women-a small number to commence with-as house and estate agents. Of course the Ministry has no houses to speak of, but it is training these females to manage workingclass houses. They are provided with a course of lectures at the Battersea Polytechnic, the course to last three months, and are to learn, and to be lectured upon, collecting rents, interviewing tenants, payment of rates, keeping accounts, drainage, water supply, building sites, and repairs. When qualified the women will become Superintendents, at £250 a year. This cold-blooded, premeditated throwing-away of public money is the most outrageous so far. The whole project is so absolutely absurd, futile, and unnecessary. First of all, if such jobs are to be created, the men should have them. But the major monstrosity of the scheme is that it overlooks the fact that there are already thousands of men, with a lifetime experience of such duties, who require no training whatever, and could tackle the work at a moment's notice. Clerks of house and estate agents and of auctioneers, master-men as well, are unemployed because they have been to war, and if house managers are needed for houses—when they are built-these men should have the work they understand. Costly training of, women is an insult to the public intelligence and an act of wanton folly on the part of a State Department.

GUARDIAN-GHOULS.

THE BITTER COMPLAINT OF AN EX-FIGHTING MAN.

When death overtakes an "inmate" the methods of the Poor Law authorities are positively ghoulish, as witness the complaint of an ex-soldier at Brighton. "My wife having died in the Poor Law Infirmary," the poor fellow writes, "I was unable to recover her wedding ring and other trinkets, except on payment of £4 15s. 11d., failing which I was told the things would be sold to pay for my poor wife's maintenance up till the time of her death." Visiting the mortuary, the bereaved husband found that the rings had actually been stripped from the dead woman's fingers, to be held as security for the payment of the outstanding charges, £2 12s. for a parish funeral, 7s. 6d., for mortuary expenses, and £3 for food and shelter during the fatal illness. "I am directed by the Guardians of the Poor of this Parish," writes their Clerk, Mr. Horace Burfield, "to inform you that upon payment of the sum of £4 15s. 11d. the property in question will be handed over to you." Just that, and no more; not a word you." Just that, and no more; not a word of sympathy, not a trace of human feeling, no hint of compunction for the outrage to the dead. Freshly demobilised, the ex-soldier was not at the moment in a position to meet the guar-dians' demand, but if he had been sympathetically approached, he would no doubt have been willing to adjust the matter in a reasonable spirit. Instead, the authorities chose to follow the ghoulish routine which has helped to made the Poor Law the best hated institution in the land.

"LABOUR " FINANCE.

AMATEUR JOURNALISTS' HEAVY DEFICIT.

A peculiar fascination attaches to the inner workings of the "Labour" movement. Among the latest items of interest is the Balance Sheet of the River Thames Shop Stewards Move-ment. It finished up the year with a balance in hand on the general account of $\pounds 19$ 0s. $5\frac{1}{2}$ d. Unfortunately, however, this is not the whole of the picture. Not content with Clea Partice, Lagr Banda and other empiric with Glee Parties, Jazz Bands, and other sportive diversions, the Committee have been tempted into the stormy waters of political journalism, and its organ, the Consolidator, is practically repeating on a smaller scale the history of the Daily Herald. It does not appear to be a case of extravagant management. We know of extravagant management. We what we are talking about when we Sav what we are taking about when we say that in these days you cannot purchase first-class editorial talent for less than £5 5s. weekly, the salary paid by the Committee; moreover, it is a familiar maxim that if you want sound art, you must pay for it, and the Consolidator cannot be said to have bought the services of its cartoonist too dearly at £2 for a six weeks' run. However, sales receipts declined from £53 7s. 10d. on the first issue, to £7 3s. 7d., and at this low ebb it has apparently been thought expedient to cease publication. From a separate balance-sheet issued with the accounts, we gather that the little enterprise has saddled the Shop Stewards with a deficit of £93 16s. 5d., which is owing to the printers. Luckily, they, the Twentieth Century Press, are staunch "Labour " men !

JOHN BULL.

Candid Communications. This space is devoted to Open Letters to Cele-brities, Notorieties and occasionally Nonentities.

To the Right Hon. T. J. Macnamara, M.P.,

Parliamentary Secretary to the Admiratty. My DEAR MACNAMARA,—It is a long, long way to Hong Kong, but it should be within your knowledge that, what with the rise in the Income Tax and other charges, some of the employees in H.M. Dockyard there are actually receiving lower wages than before the war, not to mention the vast increase in the cost of living which has still further depleted their resources. I am certain the matter need only be mentioned to ensure prompt inquiry and speedy redress JOHN BULL

To John Scott Wishart, Farmer, Wester Dura Farm, nr. Cupar, Scotland. SIR, —You are an ill-natured, brutal man—

that is certain; and your daughter, Mrs. Gerrat, is very much in the image of her father. An orphan girl in your employ did not please you at the milking, and while you dipped her head into the pig's meat pail so that "a lot of the stuff went into her mouth," Mrs. Gerrat beat her stull went into her mouth," Mrs. Gerrat beat her with a stick, and when charged "regretted she did not give her more." In these circumstances I regret that Sheriff Dudley Stuart merely fined each of you 40s. for what even he termed your "unjustifiable and disgusting" conduct. Outrageous brutality has seldom received a cheaper magisterial lesson. JOHN BULL

To His Worship the Mayor (G. F. Parsons, Esq.), of St. Pancras. DEAR MR. MAYOR, — News comes my way that

the Borough Council of St. Pancras have requested the Government to open an Inquiry into the causes of the present high prices. My own opinion is that the chief cause of the rise in prices is the Government letting 'em rise. My own If it had sat on 'em at first with all its weight, they wouldn't have been able to get enough wind in 'em to rise enough to do much harm. Once the profiteer got the bit between his teeth, nobody has been able to hold the hoss, so the Government has simply sat on the fence, stuck its pipe into its mouth, and watched him run—a winner all the way. You can take this as being straight from the stable. JOHN BULL.

PLUCK ON THE PAVEMENT.

HUMBLE HERO IN TRAFALGAR SQUARE.

There is to be found, on the north side of Trafalgar Square, near the National Gallery, a pavement-artist who has one arm useless, the result of his courage and readiness to risk his own life to save others. Some eighteen months ago the man, by calling a miner, came upon a grenade lying in a Man-chester street "a source of danger to pedeschester street "a source of danger to pedes-trians-----," as the Ministry of Munitions quite truly states. Smith-the man is one of the myriad of plain, good Smiths-instead of running away from the explosive, essayed to remove it, and it exploded. As a result, Smith's arm was rendered useless, his hand being mutilated and now badly withered. That is why he is unable to work, and is compelled to show his picturegallery in Trafalgar Square to raise a few coppers. There is another reason for him leading such a precarious existence, and that is the refusal of both the Ministry of Munitions and the Home Office to recognise his pluck by other than fine words. They have "no funds," though they "re-cognise the deserving nature of the case." They would be blind not to recognise it, for it is patent to all eyes that Smith sacrificed the use of hand and arm in heroically averting a possibly grievous loss of life. A man of that stamp deserves a better fate than his present position. The pavement artist goes hungry in wet weather and the winter; and on the sunniest day his takings are but sparse. And this lowly hero would far prefer suitable work, which ought to be found for him. The public authorities will not, or cannot, assist him. What does the public itself say ?

To A. R. Picklys, Esq., Director, Education Office, Burnley.

DEAR PICKLES,--You are the chilli in the jar! DEAR PICKLES, You are the child in the jar! Fancy wanting a temporary clerical assistant at the Technical Institute for 23s. 6d. a week, including bonus. I suppose your Committee ex-pect the young man, or woman, to keep clean and nicely dressed on that? But, dear Pickles, could you do it yourself with things at their or sent price ? Do they include sweating as one of the subjects taught at the Institute ? They ought to make very good instructors.

JOHN BULL.

To Sheriff Crole, Edinburgh Sheriff Court.

DEAR SIR, -- You appear to be devoid not only of romance but of pity. That youthful couple, Raymond Lee Hiles (an American) and his wife, certainly had lied pretty considerably in order to get married from an Edinburgh hotel. But they have done no one harm. The man has seen good service at the front, and the whole story of the elopement is romantic enough to make any man with a softness for youth take their part. And you sent the poor young fellow to gaol for two months. If he had wronged the girl and left her, he would have gone free. Hadn't you better try to get him out again ? JOHN BULL.

To R. Taplin, Esq., Chairman, District Council, Itchen, Southampton.

SIR,-It does not in the least surprise me that there is irritation in Itchen as a result of the decision of the District Council not to have an Official Peace Celebration in the town. The Council not only will not go in procession to church, but it appears that they cannot even agree to go in procession to chapel. The Germans would no doubt have celebrated the Peace in Itchen if they had got there; and I suppose the inhabitants feel thankful that the Treatyif not so good as it might have been is not worse than it is. So by all means let them jubilate if they wish to do so.

JOHN BULL.

MISPLACED ECONOMY.

WAR OFFICE GETS SHOOTING ON THE CHEAP.

There was a war on in the early days of 1918. Then it was that certain War Office officials, Prospectors of Stunts, fell across 350 acres of goodly shooting land on the Wilbury Estate, Wiltshire, in the tenancy of Mr. A. H. Hoare, of Schickurg Constitution that correspondences of the state Salisbury. Coveting that same—ostensibly with a view to the "extension of the experimental ground at Porton"—they promptly comman-deered the lot. Mr. Hoare explained that if he were allowed to shoot over the ground with his keepers at such times as Army experiments were not being conducted, he would forgo any claim for compensation. The War Office, how-ever, refused him access to the land, and when as a consequence he claimed compensation in respect of the rent and rates, the Losses Commission turned it down on the ground that it represented really nothing more than a loss of pleasure. Returning from military duty, Mr. Hoare inquired locally what had been going was told, had been used very little, if at all, for military purposes, but "had been constantly shot over by officers or men at the school." The War Office then admitted that one pheasant had been shot! If they got only one pheasant out of 350 acres, the shooting for some reason or other must have been too shocking to mention. As the War Office have shut up Mr. Hoare they try to shut up everybody. They appropriated his shooting, shot over his land, and probably ate his birds instead of getting along with the war, and we agree with him that to shut him up in this despotic way when he airs his grievance is a bit above a joke-even for official poachers.

To Mrs. Burleigh Leach, Commandant-in-Chief, Queen Mary's Army Auxiliary Corps.

MADAM, --- I have particulars of a case in which a member of the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps was sentenced to severe punishment for declining to take part in a concert rehearsal. As this was in no sense a military offence, I am bound to take the strongest exception to the whole proceedings and to deplore the severity with which the poor girl was treated. Perhaps if I furnish you with the details you will have full inquiry made. JOHN BULL.

To Mr. C. R. Shilling, Nurseryman, Winchfield, Hants. DEAR SHILLING .- If you are not afraid of the shock to your system, I wish you would try to behave like an honest man. It is bad enough when people have to go to the County Court to compel you to fulfil your engagements, but when it is found that your goods re claimed by your wife and already covered by a bill of sale. there is nothing for it but to warn the public of the kind of treatment they may expect at your hands. What has brought you to this pass? May I have three guesses? JOHN BULL.

To Col. A. Chichester, Chief Constable, Cambridge.

DEAR SIR,-Be good enough to inform m whether you have yet had occasion to arres the Chancellor, Vice-Chancellor, and Senate of the University, the Mayor and Corporation, and most of the rest of the population, for being drunk and dis. and assembling to create a nuisance? I am told that the pubs and the clubs in Cambridge open early of a morning and remain open until late at night; that the beer is plenteous and the Scotches not a few; and that nevertheless the people are living such a righteous and sober life that the policeman on the beat, and the Magistrates on the bench. have so little to do that they have at times to pinch themselves to discover whether or not they are awake. Blease let me know about all this at your earliest, as I would like to hit D'Abernon on the head with statistics which will make him feel his bumps. JOHN BULL.

THE UNEMPLOYMENT SCANDAL.

IMPERTINENT OFFER TO DISABLED SOLDIERS !

Some of the Labour Exchanges have a poor idea of the kind of employment suited to the needs of demobilised soldiers. A few days ago a number of them-some partially disabled-were invited to attend at the Exchange in Catherine being marked "Outdoor work. Can earn £3 weekly." On inquiry at the Exchange it was found that the work was to consist of house to house touting for orders for a lithographed "Roll of Honour," published by the Disabled Soldiers' and Sailors' Handicrafts Association, of Jessel Chambers, Chancery Lane, W.C. The coloured scrolls, with spaces for the reproduction of photographs and particulars of family service, were to be retailed at 2s. 6d. each, the wage of £3 mentioned on the Labour Exchange forms being contingent upon the weekly sale of 60 copies, on each of which a commission of one shilling was to be allowed. We understand that over a hundred discharged men were offered this work, and that they all flatly declined it. We do not blame them; and if their refusal to embrace such debasing and unpromising employment is to be made a pretext for withdrawing the Out-of-Work Donation, we shall consider it our duty to register an emphatic protest. Meanwhile we are curious as to the exact constitution of the Disabled Solciers' and Sailors' Handicrafts Association, who, in the make-up of their gaudily coloured roll, have made an entirely unauthorised use of the badge of the Discharged Soldiers' and Sailors' Federation. We notice, moreover, that the concern is registered neither as a War Charity nor under the Business Names Act 1

In giving publicity on this page to the views of correspondents, preference will be accorded to brief letters bearing name and address for publication.

All envelopes and letters must be marked "P.P." in left-hand corner.

Victory Bond Bluff.

Victory Bond Bluff. How does the Government expect the working classes to buy Victory Bonds with the cost of living so high and the quality of the goods so rotten ?--MRS. AINSCOUGH, Brackstone, Mosterton. (That is exactly why we are promoting our own scheme. See page 12.)

Dulce et Decorum Est. On the 4th August, 1919-anniversary of Great Britain's declaration of War-could not the whole of the United Kingdom pay to our "Clorious Dead," in commemoration of the Peace they gave their lives for, the same tribute that was paid to King Edward, the Peace-maker-"Five minutes of Prayer and Silence"? --F. GREENWAY, Vine Street, Barbourne, Worcester. Worcester.

(We are of opinion that any National Peace Celebration should be preceded by some kind of Angelus for our fallen heroes, and August 4th would probably be the best date.)

The Vacant Embassy.

The Vacant Embassy. What is the true reason for the delay in appointing an Ambassador to U.S.A.? It is simply amazing that while our enemies are sparing no effort, striving tooth and nail to injure, even destroy, the good relations and mutual esteem between the peoples of our great Empire and the great Republic, upon which the welfare and freedom of the world so largely depend our coveryment seems to be doing practicely. depend, our Government seems to be doing practically nothing to counteract these infamous and utterly unscrupulous intrigues !—W. J. RUDD, Marlboro' Square; Great Yarmouth.

(We presume Mr. Wilson has not yet given his tanction to the British nominee for the post !)

For the "German Invasion." The German is getting his sweated-labour goods ready for the world's markets. For instance, the little press studs known as "patent fasteners" which lisappeared from our drapers' shops at the outbreak of war because they were exclusively a German "line," are being "finished" for market to-day in almost every home in the little Rhineland village of Cressiet by Dire in which our bottom was stationed Gresnich by Düren, in which our battery was stationed. Men, women and children turn out millions of the What markets are they intended for? JOHN BULL Gunnerst are they include of the John Bull. [Gunners] T. Clewes, New King Street, Middlewich. (Our correspondent is quite right. Now that Ger-nany has got so lightly off the Indemnity, we shall soon tee her back at her old dumping games. Let our own panufacturers take maring) nanufacturers take warning.)

WHAT DID DADDY SAY?

STRANGE LENIENCY FOR FURIOUS MOTOR DRIVER.

We should like the Grantham Bench to explain the case of Horace Lincoln, of 65, Walk Road, Grantham. As it stands, it seems a bit strange. This man had been convicted on eight previous occasions, for motor offences. In the present instance, he was convicted of driving a car at a furious rate without a rear light; of having disregarded two injunctions to stop; and of having told a book full of lies to get himself out of a scrape. The Chief Constable had a con-versation with the defendant's father, and the result was that he asked the Bench to suspend the son's licence for three months, stating that he would be satisfied with a small conviction. Lincoln was fined 10a. This, on the face of it, is a perfectly ridiculous punishment for the offence, and we should very much like to know precisely what it was that Lincoln senior said to the Chief Constable-and what the Chief Constable said to him. It is not the practice of the Grantham Bench to be exceedingly lenient to taxi drivers—for, only the other day, one was fined £1 and his licence was endorsed, for having his number-plate missing. Why this curious inconsistency ? And what does Grantham think of young Lincoln being let loose on them again in three months^{*} time ?

THE PEOPLE'S PULPIT.

The readers of "JOHN BULL" discuss matters of Public Interest.

Five Guineas will be paid each week to the writer of what we consider to bethe most interesting letter. That amount has been sent to Mr. Clifford, the writer of the starred letter.

That "No Children" Clause.

"Landlords must be compelled to accept tenants with children." Quite so, but also parents should be compelled to train their children so that they neither destroy the landlord's property nor render the lives of neighbours unliveable. It is unjust to attack the effects of evil instead of the cause.—C. VEHEYNE,

Graham Road, Dalston. (That is the other side of the question. What about a course of teaching in our schools on the proper ethics of the home?)

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Costly Royalty. The King's popularity is lessened in working-class towns when Royalty pays an official visit to them, and works close down with conse-quent loss of wages to the worker. Wages to-day are none too high to meet the high prices due to profiteering, and if workers are compelled

to lose wages they view with disapproval the Royal visit—and re-action is bound to come.

Let us see the King, and honour him; but why penalise the workers by stopping their daily bread?—FRED J. CLIFFORD, Clifton Street,

Stourbridge. (Surely every patriotic employer would pay full wages upon such an occasion, especially as loyalty to the Throne is one of his best assets.)

Psychology of the Scapa Scuttle. The German High Canal Fleet scuttled at Jutland. Now it's scuttled for good. One might think it would have been borne in upon the Hun that he lost the war chiefly through his rotten psychology. Yet at the moment when the soft of heart (and head) are trying to persuade us that the democratic German is an honourable man he selects the most spectacular is an honourable man, he selects the most spectacular means in his power to demonstrate "beyond a peradventure" that the Hun of 1919 is the Hun of 1914 and no other. Perhaps it is well that Germany has chosen this moment to remind the world of all that is associated with her Imperial name. Olet.— JASPER SMITH, The Overseas Club, London, W.C. (It would not so much have mattered if the crews had

gone down with their boats. But that would have been too realistic for the Hun!)

THE OLD GAME.

ANGLING FOR A PENSIONER,

We wonder whether the vacancy for a man and wife as caretaker and cook-housekeeper, advertised by the Richmond (Surrey) Education Committee a few weeks ago, has yet been filled. It would not surprise us if it has not. The printed list of duties, which lies before us, is an appalling document, detailing an amount of work that might well keep a man and his wife hard at it from morning till night, seven days a week throughout the year. "Preference will week throughout the year. "Preference will be given to men who have served in the Army or Navy," says the advertisement. No doubt, and very good reason why. Only a man drawing a decent pension could keep himself and wife on the meagre pay offered by the Education Committee. "Joint wages, 27s. 6d., plus 5s. 6d. war bonus, per week, with quarters." Sixteen-and sixpence a week each to live on, with the purchasing value of the sovereign reduced to 9s. ! If public bodies set this shocking example, how can one honestly rebuke the greedy, private employer? One "representative of the people" had the "face" the other day, in defending another such starvation wage, to say that it was in the interests of the employees that they were not fairly paid, as otherwise they might be tempted to continue in their jobs !

Letters for this page must relate to public. as distinguished from personal, topics.

For short acknowledgments of com munications and replies to other lettersselected from our general mail—see "Letter Bag," page 18.

Factories—or Houses? In Nottingham it is stated that the reason for house shortage is that building material is controlled by the Government, who will not let the builders have sufficient quantities for their work. Yet large factories and workshops on a large scale are being erected, and extensions added on to other factories. but not one house can be seen being built—or to let Where are the workers in those factories to live? —JOHN HARRIS, Hucknall Road, Notts (We must have notice of that question, and mean-while will refer it to Dr. Addison.)

Abolish the P.S.M. Bourds.

Every six months the pensioner is re-examined, and if possible his pension is cut down. If the Pensions Board was abolished the saving in that direction sourcey Board was abounded the saving in that direction would more than compensate for the amount the Government deprives the discharged Service man of, and would remove the feeling of discontent which is rife among the Badgers who at great inconvenience have to attend these Boards.—L. GLIBERT, Fernbrook Road, S.E.

(It is an old grievance, and we will do our best to get it remedied.)

A Firm Hand.

be.—(Ex-SERGEANT) G. EARNSHAW, Malcolm Street, Heaton, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

(Perhaps now that Mr. Lloyd George is escaping from President Wilson's clutches, we can get on with this kind of work.)

A Place in the Sun. Here's my conception :--Guaranteed continuity of employment, maximum 48 hours working week; minimum wage, consistent with comfort and self-respect; increased maternity benefit; State grant towards maintenance and education of children till there except the arrs of 14. choose a transit increased they reach the age of 14; cheaper transit, increased facilities for travel, and opportunities for cultivating the mind; and when working days are done an adequate pension, not given as a charitable dole, but as an act of justice towards honourable labour and good citizenship.—W. CROSBY, St. Paul's Avenue, Cricklewood, N.W.

(If our friend will add " and healthy robust recreation," then he will have a complete programme for making Britain "fit for heroes to live in.")

PRINTER'S PIE.

(Half-a-crown is paid to the sender of every item published under this heading. Envelopes must be marked "Pie.")

GLASGOW CITIZEN" (advertisement) :---

"Bedroom, suit TWO YOUNG GENTS, dinner out; ALSO SHARE GIRL."

DAILY MAIL" :---

"The little five-year-old daughter of a well-known woman was gambolling in the park in the company of a PEKINESE DOG CLAD IN A STRIPED YELLOW AND WHITE LINEN FOWDERED WITH TINY SPRAYS OF FLOWERS AND A CABRIOLET HAT OF YELLOW GLAZED STRAW TIED WITH A NATTIER BLUE RIBBON."

"HALIFAX EVENING COURIER":

Who was the bowler who out in France was nearly blown into MATERNITY by a shell explosion ?

"BIRMINGHAM DAILY MAIL":----

"The visiting parties, in some cases ACCOMPANIED BY MOTOR LORRIES, ENTERED THE HOUSES and pro-ceeded to examine every room."

JULY 5TH, 1919.

JOHN BULL.

Hant

(A)

HISTORY'S NEW PAGE

HISTORY

1919

ALLIES'

PEACE TERMS

Enello Herris

OF

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PATIENCE OF JOBS. MARVELLOUS LABOURS OF MODERN HERCULES.

Whether Mr. C. F. Smith is a good Assistant Clerk to the Knaresborough Board of Guardians and is likely to make a good Clerk to the Board, we do not know. But it makes us rather suspicious when we see how the Finance Committee tumbled over itself in its hurry to get him appointed. One of the Guardians supported a proposal to increase the Clerk's salary with the statement that sometimes the poor fellow the statement that sometimes the poor fellow had to work 24 hours a day to keep up with his work. Ahem! The strange fact is that Mr. C. F. Smith, at present Deputy Clerk to the Guardians, is also Clerk to the Agricultural Executive Committee, Clerk to the Agricultural Military Service Tribunal, and Lord knows what besides. When his 24 hours' work as Clerk is over, what a rush he will have to get through the rest of his duties before the next day begins the rest of his duties before the next day begins ! But, for heaven's sake, don't let him overwork himself. Twenty-four hours a day is enough for any man.



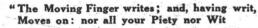
HOW JUSTICE AND THRIFT COULD BE COMBINED.

It goes without saying that discharged and demobilised soldiers have little chance in the competition for Government stores against speculative "rings" and wealthy contractors. It is possible, however, that municipalities would be able to get in most times where the ex-Tommy is frozen out every time. "Glasgow ex-Tommy is frozen out every time. "Glasgow is on the point of spending £30,000 in a spread," a Langside reader informs us; "but if this sum were invested in the purchase of Army boots and blankets, the benefits accruing would be infinitely more lasting." He points out that the blankets could be sold to ex-Service men either at cost or at a nominal profit, and in necessitous cases they could be given free. Boots could be sold in small lots to soldiers who are trained or being trained in the boot trade, and three months' credit given to enable them to make a start. Similarly, harness, tarpaulins, goods of all sorts, could be purchased by municipalities for municipal use-all with advantages to the over-burdened ratepayers' pockets. In many ways it is a promising idea. The better to secure their objects, municipalities might take a leaf out of the book of the specu-lators' "rings"; that is to say, act in com-bination and divide the spoils.

JUSTICE DEFEATED.

GROSS SCANDAL AT A LONDON POLICE COURT.

We feel bound to press for a review of the circumstances in which a young man named Frank Turner was recently sentenced, at the Clerkenwell Police Court, to a month's im-prisonment. It appears that Turner was jointly charged with a youth named Davies, the two of them, it was alleged, having been concerned in the theft of cigarettes at King's Cross Railway station. Not till Turner was actually in Court on the morning of the trial was he aware that any charge was to be preferred against him. If he had known that he was to stand, not in the witness-box, but in the dock, he might have procured legal assistance, or at least furnished himself with evidence of character, which, in the doubtful circumstances of the case, could scarcely have failed to procure his acquittal. At least he could have met his accusers on level terms, instead of being unable, on the spur of the moment, to marshal the very strong evidence in his favour. If the Magistrate was aware of the circumstances in which Turner had been placed on trial, his conduct of the case was deserving of the severest censure. If not, the learned gentleman will doubtless be eager to co-operate wth those people, headed by the Member of Parliament for South Islington, who are using all available means to procure the redress of an undoubted wrong.



THE BOOK

1871

GERMAN

PEACE TERMS

Shall lure it back to cancel half a line Nor all your Tears wash out a word of it."

VICAR AND ORGANIST.

Many moons are likely to wax and wane before the Rev. P. Youlden Johnson, Vicar of St. Mary Elms, Ipswich, is likely to hear the last of the discredit he has done to his ministry by his ungracious treatment of Mr. F. S. Bedwell, the late Organist. Mr. Bedwell, be it said, volunteered for the war four years ago, and has served in Gallipoli, Egypt, on the Somme, and served in Galipoli, Egypt, on the Somme, and at Vimy Ridge, where he was gassed and sent into hospital. The Vicar is a comparatively new comer, his "High Church" views being strange to the parish. He found an organist de-putising for Mr. Bedwell. "I understand," the rev. gentleman opens in his letter to Mr. Bedwell, " that you were organist here before joining the Army, and that your position was to be kept open for you on your return to civil life; in fact, your name is in the parish magazine as organist and on war service," The Vicar goes on to state and on war service," The Vicar goes on to state that a new incumbent is not bound by the agreements of his predecessor, but offers to reinstate Mr. Bedwell at the handsome salary of £30, providing he undertakes new duties as Choir-master. He thinks it "fair to mention that master. He thinks it "fair to mention that he has heard rumours that some of the choir will resign at the same time as Mr. Bailey," the *locum* tenens. The restraint of the reply of Mr. Bedwell does him credit. "In reference to the to the rumours that some of the members of the choir intend to leave at the same time as Mr. Bailey, and having no wish to upset the harmony existing between them," he writes, "I herewith tender my resignation as organist from this date. In fairness to myself, I only wish to add that I am very much surprised that a Vicur should pay attention to rumours before facts. Also I had a better opinion of the choir than to think they would desert the church and their late organist who had been doing his bit for God and humanity during the last four years." end of the story is precisely as it began. The The deputy-organist remains. As the end is, so the Vicar must have wished it would be. And thus he lets his light shine before all men.

AN AMAZING JUDGE.

UNGRACIOUS TREATMENT OF A FIGHTING MAN.

EXTRAORDINARY SCENE AT A RECORDER'S COURT. His Honour Judge Todd, of the Derry Recorder's Court, can be very civil when he likes, even if this is not as often as some of his friends might wish. However, when he is really in a nice temper, his Honour will "roar as gently as any sucking dove." It hap-pened that a solicitor in regular attendance at the Derry Court was temporarily absent through illness, whereat his Honour, if he did not actual y shed the sympathetic tear, was so moved as to be an affecting spectacle to all beholders. Happily, the absent lawyer's deputy was able to state that his sick friend "was improving," to which the learned Judge sweetly replied, "I am very glad to hear that. Convey my sin-cere wishes for his early and complete recovery." Very nice, very neat, and very appropriate; but alas, it is not always so, and, as faithful chroniclers, we must present the portrait of Judge Todd, as Lely did Cromwell's, "warts On another day, in exactly similar and all." circumstances, it was his Honour's lordly pleasure to be rude. Perhaps the Judge was a little tired of sick solicitors, for on this occasion he had nothing but snorting contempt for the deputy who essayed the task of his absent colleague. "I will relieve him of his duties," colleague. "I will relieve him of his duties," thundered this amusing judicial personage. "I don't like this sort of thing." "But," ventured the anxious deputy, "I attend to his duties for him." "By my permission," howled the irate Recorder. "You have no rights otherwise than by my permission. Tf I am back at the next Sessions, I will consider whom I will appoint. I will allow you to act for him in the meantime. I don't like this way of treat-ing the Court." We venture to hope that the learned Judge is by now convalescent; meanwhile, for the avoidance of such shocks to his system in the future, it might be as well if it were generally understood that solicitors proposing to be sick should acquaint the Recorder of their intention, preferably in person and on bended knee.

"TOMMY AND JACK." N/28

Dealing also with the Discharged Sailor and Soldier and their Dependents.

OUR PLEDGE.—" No case of hardship or injustice; no instance of beggarly treatment or mean cheeseparing, shall go unchallenged and unremedied."—Horatio Bottomley, 19th August, 1916.

TOMMY."

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From Egypt :-- Our Egyptian post-bag is always full. The men there ask us to deny the statement that the majority of them volunteered to remain in Pharaoh's country until the disturbances should be quelled. They also ask us to assure ex-employers in the Motherland that they wish to come home to their jobs.

Saints by Compulsion :--The Lieut.-Colonel Commanding the Wharncliffe War Hospital has issued the following notice : "Church Attend-ance.--It must be understood that going out on Sunday afternoons was given as a Special Privilege. All men fit to do so must attend a Service on Sunday mornings. Neglect in this matter will lead to the privilege of going out on Sunday afternoons being withdrawn." The Colonel is evidently desirous of turning men into plaster-of-paris saints, but we fancy that the sick would derive more benefit from fresh air and sunshine than staying in a stuffy church

listening to the droning of the parson. Officers First :- There is an Order forbidding the Army of the Rhine to fraternise with the Germans. A young "Tommy" of the New Army writes : "They have got some very nice-looking girls out here, and they dress up like dolls; but we are not allowed to talk to them, although the officers can take them to the arms of sources. officers can take them to theatres and pictures in motor-cars." The War Office should at once inquire into this serious allegation.

Again :- Here is an advertisement from the Officers' Sports Club, Lindenthal .-- " Opening of Lawn Tennis Club, on Wednesday, at 3 p.m., at Stadtwald. Trams 1, 2, and 8. All Officers, whether members or not, are invited to come and bring lady friends. Band and pipes will play during afternoon." Where are the "lady and bring lady friends. play during alternoon." friends " found ? It is rumoured that some of our missing " Tommies " have married German Frauleins and are ashamed to write home. it be the same with some of our Officers ? Will

The Watch on the Rhine :-- Once more we say that the Army on the Rhine is being underfed; letters containing complaints of this distend our mail-bag. The bulk of the troops are mere boys with healthy appetites, and it is too bad to leave them hungry, and to compel them to spend the loose-end of their scanty pay on food to keep body and soul together.

"JACK."

More Pay -- We are semi-officially informed that the pay of Officers of all ranks in the Navy is about to be materially increased. At last, the Admiralty has been convinced that when a Naval Officer reaches the rank of Lieut.-Commander he usually desires to get married, and they have decided to increase his pay so that he may maintain an establishment. The midship-mites will be glad to hear that in future they will receive sufficient money to keep them in cigarettes and sweets.

Joy-Rides and Income-Tax :--- We are taxed up to the back teeth to help the nation get along, but again it is necessary to direct attention to the waste in connection with the motor launches attached to the Hydroplane School at Portland. A flotilla's main duties appear to be to give joyrilles to and from Portland and Weymouth to Officers, W.B.N.S. and other ladies, though they are also used for conveying dancers at parties arranged by the Officers. This scandal must be stopped.

Over-Paid Snobs :--- On board H.M.S. Victorious, at Scapa Flow, are a number of dockyard men who have done but very little since Armistice was signed, but have always been paid at a rate much above that of our good bluejackets. Those funk-hole men recently held a meeting on board, demanding that they should be served at a different door at the canteen to that used by the sailors ; that they should have seamen for mess-men; and that all naval ratings should be cleared out of the bed-flat, as they did not wish to sleep thirty in a space in which 130 seamen would find angle room in Service conditions. The crew want to know who runs the ship—those dockyard men or the Com-manding Officer Possibly Whitehall will decide.

A Dirty "Joke" :- The other day an A.B. on one of our ships requested to see his officer for the purpose of getting 48 hours' leave to visit his wife, who had presented us with a little bluejacket. When the Officer saw the letter of request, he simply remarked, "Well, is it yours?"—and he refused the leave. Members of the crew ask us if we think that the remark in question was becoming an Officer and Gentleman. Our reply is in the negative.

Secretaries of Discharged Sailors' and Soldiers' organisations, in sending cases of injustice or other information, should mark their envelopes "Silver information, Badgers."

"THE SILVER BADGERS."

Profiteering: — Those little white - metal resettes for the Mons Ribbon sold, as we recently said, by traders to "Tommy" at from 2/- to each, are obtained wholesale at 3s. 9d. per dozen. Will some Government Department step in and prevent our discharged soldiers from being robbed in broad daylight ?

The Pensions' Committee :--- The Select Committee of the House of Commons on Pensions is still sitting, and we hope that ample evidence will be given to prove the rottenness of the Baker Street Pensions Issue Office. The delays and inattention of this Department are causing much distress among the families of our serving men; and, making all allowance for shortness of staff and the incompétence of its personnel, we fail to find anything like reasonable excuse for the deplorable want of business methods.

The Main Office :- There is equally little reason to feel satisfied with the main department of the Ministry of Pensions. Its delays are often disastrous. As an example : Last year, a man entitled to long-service pension left the Army. In February he wrote to Chelsea asking about it; in April he received a postcard telling him that the matter was receiving attention ; but, although he has written several times since, his letters have not been answered. If an official in a commercial house treated a correspondent in this way the management would soon hoof him into the street.

Our Work :- As we have said, the negligence of the Pensions Department creates much distress, and many of the unfortunate victims, wishing to keep out of the workhouse, come to us and ask for assistance. Thus does JOHN BULL, through the kind friends who contribute to its Fund, help those who are supposed to be in the care of the State-which, judging by its actions, or want of them, does not seem to care à damn.

Where to Get a Car :- Ex-Service men. including officers, often ask us how to go about securing a cast War Department lorry, motor car, or motor cycle. We are glad to note the formation of the War Motors Association with Offices at 240, High Holborn, W.C.1. It is a non-commercial body, and has an advisory Council of prominent public men, working under the chairmanship of the Hon. Sir A. Stanley. The Organising Secretary will be glad to give all information to applicants.

"THE GREATEST OF THESE-(Registered under the Act of 1916 as "The John Bull War Sufferers' Fund.")

This fund affords immediate relief to the dependents of soldiers and sailors stranded for want of money. Every farthing subscribed goes to some deserving person—we gladly defray all expenses.

Among the numerous cases we assisted during the week were the following :-

Departed Glory.—An ex-junior officer who cannot find employment, and has a wife nearing con-finement, in his desperation decided to buy fruit in Covent Garden and compete with the costers in the West End. We provided him with the necessary to West End. procure stock.

"Desperate Need."-Another discharged man is suffering from heart trouble. His pension has not been fixed, and he cannot work. With a wife and two children, he was in d're need until he applied to us.

Demobilised and "Out."-An ex-soldier, whose pension has not yet been put through, cannot find work, and has a wife and three young children to keep.

Discharged Unfit .--- Another has a small pension, to provide for himself and his wife, who is about to be confined.

Another Case.—The wife of another "crock" is about to be confined, whilst he himself has been under two operations recently. He cannot work-and has no pension.

Discharged and Jobless .-- An ex-Service man's wife is suffering from influenza, and his baby is also ill.

Stranded .- The wife of a deserter has four young children, and was without money. The soldier who deserts and leaves his dependents to suffer in this way is the most despicable of beings.

Cases in Short :-A widow has two delicate children to support. They

wanted clothing and nourishment. On the death of an old soldier, who fought in the Zulu and first Boer wars, his widow asked for help to bury him.

An ex-cavalry man, of long service, cannot work, and, with his family, was threatened with eviction for arrears of rent.

A widow's pension is in abeyance owing to the negligence of the Baker Street Pension Issue Office. We helped her to tide over. The wife of a discharged soldier who is unable to

work through wounds. She owed a doctor's bill and was hungry.

The wife of a discharged man cannot work at present,

A discharged man with a wife and four children is awaiting an operation. There was kunger in the

A discharged man is unable to work owing to wounds. His wife is ill, and his child has just died,

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

"RULE, BRITANNIA!"

Before the War we used to sing "Britannia rules the waves!" And to affirm like anything We never would be slaves! But times have changed ; our former boast A mockery has grown— Even along the British coast We cannot hold our own!

The ships surrendered by our foes-"Surrendered" is the word-At anchor where the Scapa flows

The Huns' instructions heard ! Despite the presence of our Fleet,

With guns of ponderous power, They scuttle, and our aims defeat In one disgraceful hour!

Behold the Trident of the Seas

No longer in our grip ! Who now hears carried on the breeze The cry of "Ship for ship !"? The moment when that just demand

Could have been given effect Is gone for ever, and we stand Of our Allies suspect!

The nation that long hesitates

To enter in the fray— I'll name it : the United States !— Assumes Britannia's sway!

Although the last to join the fight Against the Devil's hosts, She arrogates the victor's right, And benefits the most!

"Britannia rules the waves!" But say, Where are our noble ships

That used to plough the trackless way, Well-built on British slips? In plumbless ocean depths they lic--

No crime to Heaven more rank !--And now our sea supremacy Is usurped by the Yank!

We won the War! Who dare deny The sacrifice we made; Who, when no other help was nigh,

Still fought on unafraid? Not only on the Western front

But in the distant East Unflinchingly we have the brunt And crushed the German Beast!

Exploited by our so-called friends-Shall this be our reward ? Is this how Britain's prestige ends?

Be with us yet, O Lord! Raise up a race of men who're mcn,

Red blood in every vein, A-throb with love for Britain! Then We'll win our own again!

Else Britons shall indeed be slaves And scorned where'er they roam, No longer monarchs of the waves,

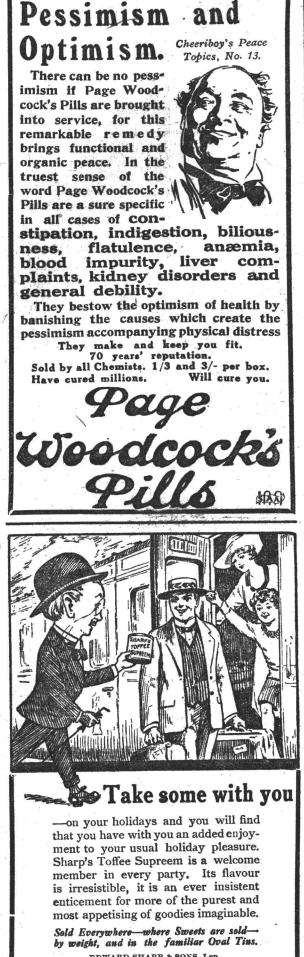
And bondsmen here at home! These bureaucratic fetters break, By free-born men abhorred,

And Britain soon again will take Her rightful place abroad !

MINERS AND CONCHIES.

PATRIOTISM OVER-RULED AT HEADQUARTERS.

The members of the North Walbottle branch of the Northumberland Miners' Association gave of the Northumberland Minlers Association gave evidence of their sound and sturdy patriotism when they insisted that twelve of their number who were "conscientious objectors," should be dismissed by the management of the mine in which they worked. But at the annual meeting of the Council of the Association, held at Newcastle, it was agreed by 43 votes to 9 that the North Walbottle branch be requested to remove the embargo placed upon the twelve "Objects." The Walbottle miners declined to work with cowardly rats, but the Council of their Association insists that they take the vermin to their bosom again! They need some Walbottle blood in that Council.



EDWARD SHARP & SONS, LTD., Kreemy Works, Maldstone.



IN THE BARBER'S CHAIR

THE HOME SECRETARY.

I beg pardon?...Can I shave you? I must 'ave notice of that question ... Wot do I mean? I've given the right honourable gentleman an answer. 'E is entitled to shove 'is own interpretation on it ... Do I intend to be insolent? That question is under con-sideration ... You've 'ad enough o' this foolery -do I intend to shave you or not? No awnswer was returned. There you are, sir! 'Ow do you like it? That's a true an' faithful repre-sentation of the dam foolery wot goes on in sentation of the dam foolery wot goes on in the 'Ouse o' Commons pretty near every day. Never a straight awnswer to a plain question . You didn't come 'ere to be made a fool of? good many Members say the same to theirselves after their first experience of question time in the 'Ouse. It wasn't my idea to make a fool of you, sir, but jest to give you a little demon-stration of the sorter thing you're rather too fond o' doin' yourself . . . Oh, yes, I know 'oo you are, right enough. The 'Ome Secretary. But take this chair, sir, and I'll git on with it.

Wot put the idea in my 'ead w'en I see you come in was a report I'd jist bin readin' in the paper, givin' your evasive replies to questions wot Sir John Butcher arsked you. 'E inquired 'ow many of the 849 persons in Government orffices 'oo are not children of British-born or Allied subjects, of 'oom Lord Justice Bankes's Committee found that ' there is no definite reason for such employment,' ave bin removed from their appointments ? " an' you sed " None. The Committee didn't say they oughter be dismissed, but that there was no special reason why they should be retained." Thet was wriggle number one. But you did better 'n thet nex' time, w'en Sir John arsked again: thet nex time, wen Sir John arsked again: "Was not the inquiry wether there were any persons 'oo quight not to be retained?" An' you replied: "The question was not wether they should be dismissed." Wriggle number two, an' I s'pose you was proud of it. Then, wen Sir Edward Carson arsked: "Are there not 849 officers out of employment 'oo might fill these appointments ? " you sed : "Thet matter is under consideration." Wriggle number three. But I call thet carrying on like a lot o' silly kids. You know very well wot Lord Justice Bankes's Committee was formed for. You know there are so many 'undreds of aliens 'oldin' jobs in Gov'ment orffices, wot 'aven't no definite reason for their employment there. An' you know there are thousands of discharged orfficers lookin' for work. W'y can't you play a straight game an' give honest arnswers to reasonable questions?...

You would be breakin' the traditions of the Ouse if you was to do so? Then break the bloomin' traditions! Better to break the traditions of the 'Ouse then break the 'earts of the gallant young chaps wot 'ave fought for the country and now carn't find no work to do! 'Ow do you think a chap feels wot's bin through 'ell at the front, bin discharged, an' forced to 'ell at the front, bin discharged, an' forced to spend every penny of 'is gratuity on board an' lodgin' becos' nobody'll find 'im a job? 'Ow do you think 'e feels w'en 'e 'ears that there are 'undreds of aliens 'olding cushy Gov'ment posts in the country 'e's fought an' bled for ? W'y do you seem to show more symperthy an' con-ideration for these foreign theory for do you seem to show more sympertay an con-sideration for these foreign parasites than for the men wot 'ave done their bit? You may think it sounds clever in the 'Ouse, but it looks dirty from outside. Somethink like the beer question. W'y won't they tell us 'oo this bloomin' Board o' Liquor Control really is ? Some little mob o' cocoa-boozers, I expeck, wot the're ashamed to mention. Any 'ow Mister the're ashamed to mention. Any 'ow, Mister 'Ome Secretary, jest remember wot I've sed, if you don't mind. Never mind about lookin' clever in the 'Ouse. Give plain, honest arnswers to straight questions, instead of evasive ones, like the sailor in the fairy tale. Goo'day, sir.

JOHN BULL.

o set

T is in no spirit of irreverence that I have chosen the main title of this article. I can think of no phrase which better describes the Peace of Versailles, which was formally-very formally-signed on Saturday last. To vary a somewhat hackneyed simile, the mountain which has been in labour in Paris, for the past seven months, has ultimately brought forth a still-born mouse. In any case, however, I do not think it very material to analyse in much detail the terms which have been accepted by Germany.

Who and what is Germany to day? Have you an atom of doubt that almost before the ink is dry, the Treaty will be repudiated Parliament. For the moment, I content myself with recalling the resistance ? never be signed by any delegates possessing the necessary authority to enforce the observance of its provisions. However, for what it annihilation, and prolonging for many months the burden and expense of the war. A few days ago, when the House of Commons was discussing the question of official Peace Celebrations, I ventured to ask whether those of us who might think the Peace scarcely worth celebrating might be excused from going mad, and I strongly advise my readers to follow my example and wait till we are really out of the wood before commencing to shout.

A False Foundation.

The primary cause of all the trouble is undoubtedly that pre-posterous League of Nations idea. I have always warned the public that it is quite impracticable and utterly Utopian in its character, and that it will cause infinite mischief and friction between the nations of the world. There is nothing new about it. The principle is as old as the hills, the best illustration I can find being one as long ago as B.C.358-when there was a League of Nations in Ancient Greece, called "The Amphictyonic League," an assembly composed of deputies from twelve Greek tribes, the names of which are given as Ionians, Dolopians, Thessalians, Octoeans, Magnetes, Phthiotians, Dorians, Phocians, Delphians, Locrians, Boetians and Perrhibaeans. The tribes sent two deputies each, who assembled with great solemnity, composed the public dissensions and the quarrels of individual cities, by force or persuasion; punished civil and criminal offences, and particularly transgressions of the law of nations and violations of the temple of Delphi. At first the deputies met at Delphi, afterwards also at the village of Anthela, near Thermopylae—at the former place in Spring, at the latter in Autumn. After the decision was published, a fine was inflicted on the guilty State which, if not paid in due time, was doubled. If the State did not then submit, the whole confederacy took arms to reduce it to obedience. The assembly had also the right of excluding it from the confederation. And what is the comment of the historian upon the operations of this League? "The exercise of these rights gave rise to the Phoeian war, which lasted ten years "! And so it will be again. History, we know, has a nasty knack of repeating itself. Already America is up in arms against the thing, and it now requires only the early admission of Germany into the family circle to "put paid to the And yet this blessed project has the place of honour in picture." the Peace Treaty and governs the whole of its provisions. How President Wilson must be laughing at the way in which we have fallen into the trap! You have only to pick up any American newspaper to read this sort of thing : "The State Department and War Trade Board have learned that American business houses are ready with large consignments of goods to send into Germany the moment the blockade is lifted and communication resumed. A Dutch syndicate, formed to supply Germany with cheese and butter, has purchased 140 shops in Greater Berlin." And now that the Treaty is signed and the scramble for Germany's trade has commenced, we shall soon see how much the nations love each other. I shall not trouble to-day about the financial portions of the Treaty, beyond observing that they falsify practically every pledge given by the Prime Minister at the General Election. I shall, however, have s good deal to say on this matter when the Treaty comes up in

THE PEACE WHICH "P A False Foundation—LestW

as another "Scrap of Paper," possessing no moral force, and justifyed definite promise of Mr. Lloyd George that the bill should be delivered ing, at present passive and at the earliest possible date active, is "in full," and that we would " search Germany's pockets" for the Some weeks ago I expressed the view that it would money-a policy which was emphasised and elaborated without any kind of qualification by more than one of his colleagues during the election. I, however, looked through the Treaty in vain for any is worth, there it is. I can quite understand the anxiety of the reference at all to Indemnities, as distinguished from reparation for Government that there should be no premature jubilations. We damage done—whilst even under the latter head we have been most solicitous of Germany's "capacity to pay," and are apparently to let the Armistice mafficking was a sorry spectacle in the eyes of those who realised that it simply meant saving the German army from commercial prosperity. It is a sorry business—for which again, I appihilation and prelonging for more descented of the base of hose there are best to be best to be and prelonging for more descented of the base of the set of th ber off altogether just at the time when she should be recovering her have no hesitation in saying, Mr. Wilson was primarily responsible.

"Lest We Forget."

I confess that my mind travels more to some of the incidents of the last four-and-a-half years. As I write, I can still see from the window of my office some of the wreckage of the night of "Flame, Fire and Fury," when, on the 28th of January, 1918, in the greatest London air-raid tragedy, scores of men, women and childrenincluding the old Rector of St. Paul's, Covent Garden-were burnt to ashes on our premises. The hideous scene will dwell for ever in my memory, and God forbid that I should ever knowingly shake hands with a Hun! And yet, forsooth, we are told by the brothers Cecil-Robert and Hugh-and by a variety of other public men and writers, that we must now forget the past-and, I suppose, also forgive it-and admit Germany forthwith to the League of Nations. I cannot believe that they who speak like this can ever have seen of suffered anything of the real horrors of the war, and I am certain they have altogether failed to understand the sentiments of the British people in general and of the fighting men in particular. I should like these peace-mongers to see some of the letters which reach me daily from our sailors and soldiers! However, we will have the whole thing out in Parliament, and-probably much earlier than is anticipated-in the country too. Meanwhile, the process of pacification and whitewashing has commenced-the official view apparently being that, now peace is signed, Germany and her allies are no longer to be regarded as in any way our enemies.

Whitewashing De Laszlo.

"We must remember we are now practically at peace." That was the dangerous and preposterous attitude of Mr. Justice Salter in the Laszlo case. God forbid it should be also that of the nation and the Empire ! But it is a mental view against which we, the People, must be on our guard; otherwise we shall have fought and suffered in vain. The case of this Society petted painter is a solemn warning to us to be wary of those in high places who are now ready to whitewash the Hun and forget all the offences and infamies of the last four-and-a-half years-because "we are now practically at peace"! It must make the average decent British citizen sick to see how the fashionable personages hurried to the Law Courts to bolster up the case of this Hungarian traitor who, when it suited him, became naturalised-and, when it suited him, broke and defied the laws of the country whose protection he sought and on whose money he waxed rich. I have no sentiment where my country's interests are concerned, and I say without hesitation that Laszlo played the traitor, defied the laws made to safeguard and protect us in the war with the despicable Hun, and that the verdict of the Naturalisation (Revocation) Committee is a scandalous miscarriage of Justice.

Rich, and a Society Darling.

Let us look at the facts as dispassionately as is possible. Laszloassisted by Mr. Balfour, Lord Lee, Lord Devonport and Mr. Guinnessbecame naturalised after the murder at Serajevo which precipitated the war the Central Powers were determined to provoke. It cost

SETH UNDERSTANDING. Forget-The Laszlo Whitewash. E EDITOR.

> him "a severe mental conflict." He had been thinking of it for it consistent with his position and his duty to the State to declare six years, and he timed his transfer of allegiance well. According that Lasz o had erred from "hoble motives." to the Home Secretary (Cave), he became naturalised "from a desire to continue and improve his business as an artist" and to save his sons from military service under Hungarian law. His motives were purely selfish; but no sooner had be taken the oath of allegiance to the British Crown than he began to break the King's laws And so grave were his offences in the eyes of the Government that for the safety of the realm he was interned. Now I have said more than once that a British subject who so offends in war time as to involve imprisonment, should be brought to trial forthwith and punished with the utmost rigour of the law. But Laszlo, who was until July, 1914, the subject of an enemy country, was the darling of Societyand the rich. Which meant that he was quietly interned and as quietly released, on the score of ill-health, and sent to the comfortable quarters of a Convalescent Home at Notting Hill. It was argued on his behalf by Sir John Simon that his offences were "noble," that he had done nothing more than comfort an escaped prisoner, succour his relations—enemies of the country—dodge the Censor by getting his letters included in a sacrosanct diplomatic postbag, and so forth. If there was no crime in all this, why was he interned " in the interests of the safety of the realm"? And remember this-Laszlo, for whom Mr. Chamberlain, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Lord Lee, an ex-member of the Government, were ready to proclaim his honour and his innocence, was not interned in a panic. For months he had been violating his oath and breaking the law before the policeto their credit took action; and what happened then? "After a careful inquiry extending over many days" the Internment Con-mittee decided in the interests of national safety that this person should be put under lock and key. But that was not the end of it. Lord Cave (then Sir George Cave, Home Secretary) confirmed the order for internment. Later on, in December, 1917, the Home Secretary reconsidered the case, and the result was that Laszlo remained a prisoner!

Denaturalised and Deported.

It would occur to the ordinary common intellect of the average man that a naturalised enemy who had so offended as to bring down upon himself the punishment of internment, should at the close of the war be denaturalised and deported. But we have to remember that Laszlo is rich, with influential friends. And so we have the farce of one member of the Government, the Attorney-General, eloquently explaining the dishonourable conduct of this man, and another member of the Government, Mr. Chamberlain, standing in the witness box with his hands on his heart, if not tears in his eyes, proclaiming his integrity and honour. What a game! But that is not the worst of it. Laszlo, as I have said, had no difficulty in securing certain Society sycophants to vouch for him, and even to secure the testimony of eminent artists (thus giving the lie direct to Lord Weardale, that "a certain section of the artistic world" were involved in a jealous conspiracy against Laszlo) as to his immaculate loyalty. But why was the evidence of those who were prepared to depose to disloyal utterances not brought forward? Is it not a fact that Mrs. Max Muller (nèe Wanda Maria Heiberg), wife of our Consul in Budapest down to the outbreak of war, had given statements on this point; and is it not also a fact that Mr. Henry Vincent Higgins, C.V.O., as familiar a figure in Society as he is prominent in the management of Covent Garden Opera, was prepared to testify to certain conversations-in the one case in the August of 1915, and in the other in the Autumn of the same year? The failure of the Attorney-General to call these witnesses needs some explanation. Laszlo's counsel pretended to put to the painter, in a rather mysterious way, these names, and he made play with the fact that they had not come forward. Whose fault was that? Surely not the witnesses'. It leaves an ugly impression. While Laszlo, ennobled by the Austrian

Emperor and a member of our own Victorian Order, was able to parade those who were ready to make oath of his loyalty, and thereby to denounce the conduct of the Home Office and the Police for securing his internment, neither of these two material witnesses was called by the Crown. There is always a fountain of sentiment ready to be turned on where a Hun is concerned, and Sir John Simon, who claimed for this breaker of British laws that he is "one of the greatest artists the work has ever seen," was outmatched by Sir Charles Mathews, the Director of Public Prosecutions, who thought

Comforting the Enemy.

I have no hesitation in sayin's that if any poor German in this country had done what rich Laszlo did, there would be little of this slobbery sentiment forthcoming. Doubtless the nobility of motive was the sending of hundreds of pounds to relatives, who, the Attorney-General tells us, were "not badly of for money." I have a plainer phrase for i - "comforting the enemy." If every naturalised German and Hungarian had thus broken the law and helped to finance the foe, it would have mean a weakening of that pressure by blockade which was brought to bear on the Hun, and ultimately was the prime factor of victory. Yet this man, who of his wealth sent money into enemy territory, erred only from "noble motives." Was it a noble "British" motive which made him write a letter ϵ_i in which he expressed the hope that one of his nephews, fighting against the Allies, would return "victoriously" from the war? I have an uglier word for it. This man, who was "proud" in 1912 of becoming "a noble of Hungary," was in 1914 ready to become a citizen of the British Empire. This man, who was "greatly attached to the country of his birth "—" an enthusiastic Hungarian" -suddenly changes his enthusiasm and attachment, and on the outbreak of war swears allegiance to King George !

The Prime Minister's Promise.

When he was cajoling votes last December, the Prime Minister promised that every interned. Hun should be kicked out of the country and no enemies allowed to enter it again. What value is to be attached to such a promise-after this farce? Mr. Justice Salter, Lord Hambledon, and Judge Radcliffe, sitting in the High Court, in all the dignity of lounge suits, counsel making pretence of judicial proceedings by wearing their wigs, the jury-box packed with Society women, and no evidence taken on oath! I wonder how many British readers who followed the case have realised that there was nothing really judicial about the Inquiry. The whole thing was a sorry farce, and the result is that a man who so offended against the law in the agonising years of war that he was interned, has now been confirmed in his British citizenship. Laszlo was anxious to make the best of both worlds. He succoured an Austrian escaped from Donington Hall, and postponed denouncing him to the police, fearing what would be said in Hungary. And he actually delayed becoming a British citizen out of regard for that old reprobate, the late Austrian Emperor, who ennobled him only two years before the war. He defied "Dora," which every decent Britisher had to respect ; he attempted to communicate with the enemy through five countries-Spain, Holland, Switzerland, Italy, America; he violated a diplomatic postbag; he sent expressions of sympathy to the enemy. And yet to-day, after this solemn farce of a pseudo trial, the claim of the State that the continuance of his naturalisation "is not conducive to the public good" is denied; and the man who for our safety was sent to Brixton Prison, is to continue to share with you and me-with every patriotic and loyal subject of the King-the priceless boon of British citizenship. Laszlo knows in which country his bread is buttered. If we had lost the war he might have found refuge in his native land-where, according to the Attorney-General "his affection and sympathies are" and have renounced the British naturalisation which cost him "a severe mental conflict." But a farcical Court has declared him to be truly British. And now, if he chooses, he can bring an action against me for calling him a traitor! But then the jury box would contain twelve honest men who love their country and honour their King, and who would not be influenced by any considerations of sycophancy and toadyism towards a social upstart, however well placed he may be with those of high estate.

JOHN BULL.

£40,000 FOR A SOVEREIGN.

WIDESPREAD INTEREST IN MR. BOTTOMLEY'S VICTORY BOND CLUB.

HE scheme which we propounded last week for the formation of a Victory Bond Club, for the purpose of bringing the "little man"—and woman—with less than £5 to invest, into the Chancellor of the Exchaguer's Victory Bond Scheme Exchequer's Victory Bond Scheme, has thoroughly caught the imagination of the public. Clubs are being formed in various towns, factories, workshops, etc., whilst large numbers of people are subscribing direct for the £1 shares in the Club, the proceeds of which, together with those remitted from the local Clubs, are to be invested in the purchase of Victory Bonds at £85 per £100, for which there are to be annual drawings for payment off at £100—or, in other words, with a bonus of £15 per cent. In addition to any bonuses so drawn, it is proposed that the members of the Club shall pool the whole of their interest and have annual drawings of their own, as explained

in our last week's article, and set out in a circular, ¹¹ our last week's article, and set out in a circular, a copy of which may be obtained by any reader on application to the Secretary, Victory Bond Club, 26, King Street, St. James's, London, S.W.1. Should sufficient subscriptions be re-ceived, it is proposed to limit each series of Bonds to one million each set of prizes ranging in that event from £40,000 down to £5. The London War Savings Committee are having a special demonstration outside the Boyal Evenance. special demonstration outside the Royal Exchange from to-day (Wednesday) till Saturday, 5th from to-day (wennesday) thi Saturday, 5th inst., and have been good enough to offer a stall in connection, with this scheme. The Club's representative will, therefore, be present to supply forms of application and all necessary information, whilst Mr. Bottomley hopes to be able to run down for a little while each day, between one and two o'clock, and personally expound the project, whose manifold advantages will immediately appeal to the Man-in-the-Street.

RACING NOTES AND ANTICIPATIONS.

THE LONDON CUP. "THE SQUIRE," Ru

Interesting as will be the racing on Newmarket's July course this week, there is no handicap that will create quite the same amount of speculative interest as Saturday's London Cup. Close on a score of three-year-olds have accepted, and although the class of probable competitors may not be in keeping with the monetary importance of the prize, a well-drawn-out contest is promised.

drawn-out contest is promised. The stables dually represented are those over which Hartigan and Reisse preside. Maybe, the chosen of these two all-powerful training establishments will bear the brunt of the battle, and perchance the top weight is given to race with more zest than BERGLEUSE, whose form has not so far this season been conspicuous for its consistency. Will Kerk can indeed he for its consistency. KILLIGRAY can indeed be relied upon to give of his best, while ROYAL WELSH'S Ascot running entitles Lord Glanely's Colt to a certain amount of respect; an ex-pression of opinion that applies with equal force to CORIOLANUS. Especially should Atty Persse depend on Sir G. Murray's fine up-standing colt in preference to TETRA COLON. CORIOLANUS is a three-year-old that requires therefore of hording. This ho will require the strongest of handling. This he will receive on Saturday next with Carslake able to do the weight and at liberty to ride. Jockeyship on this course counts for much in any horse's favour, hence my vote going to CORIOLANUS.

WEEK'S SELECTIONS. NEWMARKET-WEDNESDAY. Soham Plate-Inish King. Plantation Plate—FAIR SIMONE. Duke of Cambridge Handicap—*QUADRILLE. NEWMARKET-THURSDAY.

July Cup—*Diadem. Girton Handicap—GLACIALE. Exeter Stakes—Cinna. Two Year Old Selling—HardbakE.

NEWMARKET-FRIDAY. Princess' Plate-BRIGHT FOLLY.

Fulbourne Stakes ORPHEUS. Ellesmere Stakes DANSELLON. CARLISLE -- WEDNESDAY. Corby Castle Plate -- * Throsga Colt.

WORCESTER-THURSDAY.

Stanton Plate-CHAMARIN. Midsummer Plate-*OLD CHRIS.

Coventry Handicap—GAY LORD, WORCESTER—FRIDAY, Hindlip Maiden Plate—*MILO. Greswolde Welter—ORSAN. Worcestershire Plate-Girvan.

ALEXANDRA PARK-SATURDAY. July Maiden Plate-RowLAND.

ANSWERS TO INQUIRIES.

POINTS RAISED BY READERS CLEARED UP.

ONE MILLION SERIES .- As will be seen from the foregoing, it is proposed that a fresh series of drawings shall be instituted in respect of each million of shares taken up, the Prize Fund remaining the same in each series.

INCOME TAX.—Of course, Income Tax will be deducted from the interest payable by the Govern-ment, but it could not be claimed upon the prizes, those amounts not forming part of "statutory income." ONE SHARE ONE CHANCE.—Each share in the Club is entitled to one chance in the prize drawings. Thus, a holder of £5 would have five chances. WITHDRAWAL SHARES.—Every shareholder may at any time withdraw from the Club, receiving repayment of his subscription in full. CLUB-HOLDERS.—We shall be glad to hear from Club-holders prepared to co-operate with us in making the scheme a success. INCOME TAX .--- Of course, Income Tax will be

RHYMES OF THE TIMES.

THE WAIL OF THE RETURNED TOMMY.

Through ev'ry sort of cruel Hell

And sights I cannot mention, I marched and fought (they tell me, well !) To earn my trivial pension; And now, with shattered health, I'm free

To work, nor wish to loiter,

The pensioned find their promised boon Denotes starvation wages !

The pension that I draw I earned In deadly strife and bitter,

When dressed in khaki raiment-

And give me decent payment !

ROYAL HUNT CUP COMPETITION.

It will be seen from the list we publish below that as many as 126 readers successfully placed the first three horses in the Royal Hunt Cup. In the circumstances, we have increased the total prize to £504, so that each winner receives £4.

It will be seen from the list we publish below that as many as 120 read. In the circumstances, we have increased the total
Asheroft H., 32, Waterloo St., Kilderminster, Asheroft H., 32, Waterloo St., Kilderminster, Terse, B., 20, Oxford St., Stafford; Bell G., 'Hard and Feather Hotel, 'Durham; Bolland, J., St., East Oxtages, Beacon Rd., Luton, nr., Chat am, Brearley, G., 22, Bank Top. Slaithwaiter, nr. Huddersfield; Brett, A., 51, Parkhurst Rd., Holloway, N.7.; Bridges, E., 'Clovell,', 'Wilford, Kenhead, Brown, N. 20, Belmont Rd. Belmont Stuton; Burges, C. A., 24a, Higrove Rd., Ipswich, W.5; Burress, C. A., 24a, Higrove Rd., Jawa Kenhead, Brown, N. 20, Belmont Rd., Belmont Stuton; Burges, C. A., 24a, Higrove Rd., Jawa Kenhead, Brown, N. 20, Belmont Rd., Belmont Stuton; Burges, C. A., 24a, Higrove Rd., Jawa Kenhead, Brown, N. 20, Belmont Rd., Belmont Stuton; Burges, C. A., 24a, Higrove Rd., Jawa Kenhead, Brown, N. 20, Belmont Rd., Belmont Stuton; Burges, C. A., 24a, Higrove Rd., Jawa Kenhead, Brown, N. 20, Belmont Rd., Belmont Stuton; Burges, C. A., 24a, Higrove Rd., Jawa Kenhead, Brown, N. 20, Belmont Rd., Belmont Stuton; Burges, C. A., 24a, Higrove Rd., Jawa Kenhead, Brown, N. 40, Stutterfaled, B. 19, Oircular Rd., Werv-Marker, Brown, N. 20, Belmont Rd., Belmont Stuton; Burges, C. A., 24a, Higrove Rd., Jawa Kenhead, Brown, N. 40, Stutterfaled, B. 19, Narton Street, Lloyd's Square, W.Cl., Torke, C. S., Gordon Avenae, Queenboroush; Harbur, R. 6, Grey St., Bishop Anockland, Co., Durham; Hellaw, H., 10, Williggrins, S., New, C. Staff, Hum, Kit, Werker, St., Kenptow, St., Forts-Marker, C. S., Staff, Bellaw, W.; Higgrins, S., New, C. Staff, Hum, Kit, Staff, Karker, K. S., Kenptow, Kenker, S. S., Kenptow, K., Kenptow, Kenker, S. S., Kenptow, K., Charker, C. S., Harburger, M. W., St., Mitsy, Kenker, S., S., Kenptow, K., Kenptow, Kenker, S. S., Kenptow, K., Kenptow, Kenker, S. S., Kenptow, K., Kenptow, Kenker, S. Kenptow, K., Kenptow, Kenker, S. Kenptow, K., Kenptow, Kenker, S. Kenptow, K., Kenptow,

Rd., S.W.11: Lyon, Wm., 131, Bernard St., Bridgeton, Glasgow.
McLood, D., Newton of Falkland, Fife, N.B.: McLood, D., Newton of Falkland, Fife, N.B.: Marshall, W. J., 141, Albert Road, Sth. Nor-wood, S.E.25; Mason, J., 39, Salterford, Rd., Tooting, S.W.: Milner, Mrs. E. B. R., "The Firs," Milford, Surrey; Mongey, N., Lyn-felde," Meols Dive, Hoylake; Morris, E. W., 69, Warwick St., Heaton, Newcastleon-Tyne.
Nanton, J. M., "Low Moors House," Edmond Castle, Carlisle; Neale, F. W., 2, Broad St. Swindon, Wilts; Newlyn, R., 112, Edith Rd., Kensington W.
Oates, E., 27, Ogilby St., Woolwich, S.E.18. Pain, M. J., 14, Littleton Place, Stoke, Devon-port; Parry, L., 37, Markland St., Hyde, Ches.; Parsons, A. J., 11, Derbligh Rd., West Ealing, W.: Perry, B. R., 50, Davies St., Berkeley St., W.: Pohilips, J., 46, Robson St., Glasgow, S.S. Powell, E., 34, Beckhampton Road, Bath; Protheroe, H. E., "George Hotel," Aberdare, S. Wales, Bande, Mabel, "Station Hotel," Brookwood, Surrey; Rearden, No. 96250, Ptc. J., King's Liverpool Regt., Seatorth. Liverpool: Richard son, B., Chase Cottake, Kenlworth, Warwick; Ridding, C. H., Barn, Newtown, Mont; Ritchie, D., 52, Constable Street, Dundee; Rivelan, A. E. W., "Shelbourne Hotel," W. O. Roberts, D. C., 13, Hill Street, Rd., South Shields; Rowe, F., 88, Weston Rd., Gloucester; Rowe, W. H., 64, Towneley St., West Staley, C. Durham; Rovston, F., 13, Dyson Rd., Ley-tonstone, E.11; Ryan, C., 85, Church Rd., Acton, W.3.

Sandy, A. C., 125. Sandford Rd., Moseley,

der receives £4.
Birmingham: Sandys, F., 45, Derby Rd., Pon-der send, Mcduk.: Sohutz, 59176 Ptc. O. C., 17th Batt., A.I.F., 57 Q., Sutton Yeny, Wilts; Soutt, I. H., Glastonbury, Boyne Hill, Maidenhead: Senior, S., 83, Atlas Rd., Canklow, Notherham; Sewell, F., 5, Park Lane, Watham Gross, Herts; Sharpe, H. J., 29, Eastville Rd., Bedtord; Sheldon, W. G., 187, Foleshill Rd., Coventry: Shrinupton, J. E., 314, Worple Rd., Wimbledon, S.W.19; Smart (?), J. P., Mahton Arms, Long Ashton, Bristol; Smith, E. E., "The Hermitage," Holmes Chapel, nr. Crewe; Smith, E. T., 7, Royston Terr., Edinburgh Smith, J., 67, Wood Lane, Shepherd's Bush, W.; Smith, M. P., "Devonshire Villa," Datohet; Smith, M. P., "Devonshire Villa," Datohet; Smith, M. P., doval Lane, Shepherd's Bush, W.12; Thomas, F., 48, Station Avenae, Sandown, L. of W.; Thomas, Wm. 63, Staroliffo St., Bolton; Trenwith, W. H., 59, Little Ealing Lane, South Ealing, W. Uden, C. 13, Union St., Canterbury, Kent, Valker, 6253, Fte F. R., "A." Company, Watker, H., "Grand Hotel," St. Annes-on-Sea; Whitton, W. M., "Coniston," Elim Treo Ave., Esher, Surrey; Williams, D. A. P. H., Mostyn, an. Chester: Williams, W., 6, Bailey St., Oswestry, Salop, Winyard, G., 6, Shard-ringham Rd., Lowestoff; Woodyatt, F., 18, Ellerslie Rd., Clapham, S.W.4. Worthington, H., 16 St. George's St., Chorley, Lancs.

Each suave employer proves to be A pensioner exploiter ! Time after time the ads. declare That preference will be given To men who, glad to do their share, For Britain's flag have striven : It looks so nice in print, but soon The bitter truth enrages—

And now when home I am returned I'm treated like a quitter!

I did not draw a handsome screw

Give me a job that I can do

" RETLAW."

London Cup—CorloLANUS. Hornsey Welter—*PRIORITY. July Handicap—SUMMER'S JOY.



sovereign-see page 1

JOHN BULL.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

FINANCIAL NOTES AND ADVICE TO INVESTORS.

IN

THE CITY.

BY OUR CITY EDITOR.

Better late than never is the best that can be said about the Chancellor's belated appeal to issuing houses not to invite public subscriptions of capital while the Victory Loan lists are open. It should have been done at the start, or, better still, the old Treasury restrictions should have been re-imposed for a month. A mere request to postpone issue may be ineffective, because it leaves all sorts of thorny problems to be settled between the different parties.

This is illustrated by the case of Morums Oriental Stores, Ltd., where all the details were so settled as to render postponement out of the question, even after the Chancellor's appeal had been made. An Order in-Council would have had a different effect, as contracts would have had to be kept in suspense while it was in operation, and none of the parties could have withdrawn from their engagements. However, it is not a very attractive looking pro-position, and I do not suppose it will hurt the Victory Loan to any appreciable extent. Harrods Stores offer of 475,000 shares at £2 10s. to existing holders had also gone too far for the arrangements to be altered in deference to the Chancellor's wish.

Several correspondents draw attention to the hard case of holders of Consols and the original 3½ per cent. War Loan. Before the Boer War Consols rose to 114, and there were many buyers at 100 and upwards. Now the price is about 53, inflicting cruel loss on the unfortunate owners. It is true that they were given the opportunity of converting into the 5 per cent. War Loan, but only on condition that they put up a large proportion of new money. That was a simple enough matter for wealthy people, but great numbers could not find the extra cash, and had either to sell at a heavy sacrifice or sit still and watch the Similarly with quotation crumbling away

regard to the 31 per cents. It was the first of the War Loans, and for that reason, if no other, the original subscribers were entitled to special consideration. Many of Many of them having patriotically "invested up to the hilt" were unable to avail themselves of the opportunity of converting into subsequent loans, which of course had the effect of depre-ciating the value of their security, and the price is now at a discount of over 12 nor cont is now at a discount of over 12 per cent.

But the Chancellor of the Exchequer on being appealed to has only this to say for himself: "The position of holders of the $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Loan was carefully considered by his predecessors in connection with the issue of previous loans, but they did not feel justified in giving an uncovenanted benefit to the holders of that Loan. The Chancellor has looked into the question fully in relation to the Loan which has now been issued, but he regrets that he is unable to depart from the position taken up by his predecessors."

This argument is not very convincing, and the decision is to be regretted. There are very good reasons why the holders deserve to be treated liberally, and although it is true that conversion rights were not specifically included in the first Loan (as they were in subsequent issues) it would have been sound policy to grant them unconditionally. Does the Chancellor really think that it is a good advertisement for the Victory Loan to have 280 millions of Consols standing at 53 and 60 millions at 88?

A novel stipulation is made by Provincial Cinematograph Theatres, Ltd., in offering 225,000 Preference and 75,000 Ordinary shares for subscription. Applications for Ordinary shares alone will not be considered, and as the Company last year made a profit of over £100,000 the reason is not far to seek. But the Preference and Ordinary together make a very good mixture.

B. C. (Netherby) - I fear we cannot publish such a list as that you mention, but I am always happy to nst as that you mention, but I am always happy to give readers advice in regard to outside share brokers, and they should certainly communicate with me before opening accounts with these people.— P. V. (Rugeley).—East Rand Orchards : Very speculative.—W. W. J. (Aberdeen).—P. Coutts and Sons : I have no faith in their promises. and Sons: I have no latth in their promises. H. T. B. (Hammersmith).—Dublin Tombola: I believe it is perfectly genuine, but I should prefer the Victory Bond Club.—C. J. H. (Cardiff).—R. and A. Stewart: I do not recommend dealings.—W. G. P. (Laun-ceston).—India: 3½ per cent.: Present price about 65½; the exchange would not be very piofitable; better hold.—OIL (Ammanford).—Boryslaw Petro-leum: Vou may regard your money as lost - pay no better hold.——OIL (Ammanford).—Borystaw Petro-leum: You may regard your money as lost; pay no more.——H. C. (Sutton).—Income Tax: Your best plan is to see the local Surveyor and explain every-thing to him. A copy of the Finance' Act would only "fog" you worse than ever.—_J. W. M. (Konnis-head).—Clyde Valley Ship Welders: Sorry, but your point is not worth bothering about; neither is the company.——F. M. G. (Southsea).—B.H. Jenkins ord Co. : You ought to have inquired hefere sending is the company.——F. M. G. (Southsea).—D.H. Jenning and Co. : You ought to have inquired before sending your money ; my advice would have been "Don't." —J. P. (Llanelly).—King's Patent Agency : Please send papers : I do not know the firm. Meantime, your money; my advice would have been 150nt. J. P. (Llanelly).—King's Patent Agency : Please send papers; I do not know the firm. Meantime, stand off.——P. H. F. (Cotham).—Ex-Officers' National Federation : I fail to see any particular advantage in such a scheme, and the entrance fee is not only exorbitant—it is ridiculous.—J. F. E. (Aldershot).— Nakamun Asphalt : It is quite useless flogging a dead horse, but I am obliged for your information.— A. H. (Preston).—Loyal Line : I do not recommend a purchase.—J. E. G. (Edinburgh).—Income Tax : Bonus must be included in income for tax purposes, but if your statement is correct you are only liable for the past year.—W. J. P. (Port Talbot).—R. and A: Stewart : I do not think so.——AD. REM. (King's Lynn).—Various Mines : All are highly speculative, and to attempt to pick the winners is an impossible task. Name of broker sent by post. Redway Mann and Co. : I do not recommend dealings with this firm. ——R. T. D. (Oswestry).—Morris and Jones : Pre*and Co.*: I do not recommend dealings with this time. — R. T. D. (Oswestry).—*Morris and Jones*: Pre-ference shares appear to be safe, but the market in them will be a limited one.—J. R. (Belfast).— "*F. M.*" *Trust*: I do not recommend dealings.

"The Hidden Hand" Film is being exhibited this week af Kilbirnie, The Cinema; Kilsyth, Victore Hall; Leith, The Palace.



14

JULY 5TH, 1919.

TOHN BULL.

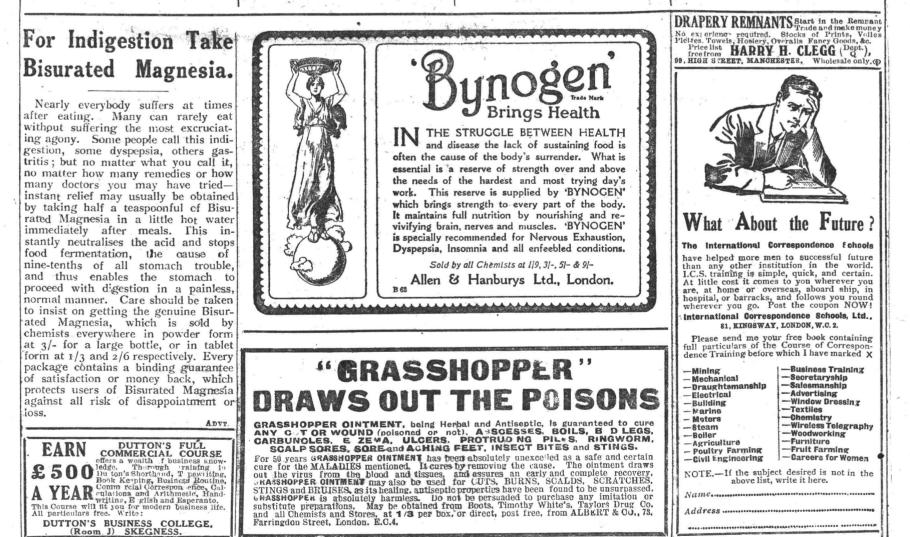
IMPORTAN NOTICE.

Owing to a Printer's error the heading "Judging Character at Sight "was placed above a Roth Memory Course announcement in last week's "John Bull." These two courses are obviously quite separate, dealing with entirely different subjects.

Little igne that several barriers in the bird of the many several in the bird of the many s

Judging Character at sight to sum people up from their How

Little signs that reveal character at a Glance-Plain as print when you know how to read them



£40,000 for a Sovereign—See page 12.

16

SPITSBERGEN. NEW FIELD OF BRITISH ENTERPRISE. The Gate to the Nort ern Markets of Europe

The ordinary general meeting of the Northern Exploration Company, Ltd., was held on June 26th at the Abercorn Rooms, Great Eastern Hotel, Liverpool Street, E.C., Mr. Frederick Lewis Davis, chairman of the company, presiding. The Secretary (Mr. D. Martin-Watt, F.I.S.A.) having read the notice convening the meeting, the Chairman said: Ladies and Gentlemen,—Since I last addressed you our list of shareholders. has enormously increased, and I there fore think it well that I should briefly cover the period from 1910, so that the new shareholders will be conversant with the operations of the company in Spits-

bergen. The Northern Exploration Company, November Limited, was registered in November, Igro, to take over certain properties in Spitsbergen acquired by the expeditions sent out by the vendors. Coal was discovered and opened out on our proper-ties, and later large iron deposits were discovered in 1913 and 1914 of hematite iron ore and magnetic iron ore in Recherche Bay. Other valuable mineral deposits were found (17 rare metals in all) including load, since constitution all), including lead, zinc, graphite, molybdenite, asbestos, and indications of gold; there were also strong indications

of the existence of petroleum. From this information you will clearly see that our titles date back to early in 1905, and our records by the original prospectors who discovered these properties and staked them out, have been lodged with our Foreign Office, and are recognised and profected by them as this company's legitimately acquired interests.

Some few months after war broke out I saw Mr. Lloyd George, and told him of the great deposit of iron ore that existed in our properties in Spitsbergen, and asked him if it were not worth while the Government sending two or three of their own engineers to report on these deposits. Mr. Lloyd George said this country was in great need of iron ore, and he asked me to send samples to the Ministry of Muniticins to be analysed, when he would instruct that Ministry to thoroughly into the matter. go

After some months' delay, the Minis-y of Munitions arranged for a ship to try take the Government engineers up to take the Government engineers up to Spitsbergen, the minimum cost to be about \pounds 14,000, which the Government would pay. I was informed by the Ministry of Munitions that everything was in order, and that they were only waiting written confirmation from the Treasury. Judge of my astonishment a few days later when I was informed by a the Ministry of Munitions that the Treasury had turned the whole matter

down. There were influences working against us in the Ministry of Munitions all the of applying for shares on favourable time, and they may have influenced the terms. Treasury. It took more than two years however, to find this out.

There were very clever engineers in the Ministry of Munitions, who reported that there was no iron ore of value in Spitsbergen. These clever gentlemen, Spitsbergen. These clever gentlemen, who had never been to Spitsbergen them-selves, fancied they knew much better than our company and its employees, who had been there several times.

Government and Adverse Reports.

Now I wish to deal with two adverse reports that were made on our properties in the years 1910 and 1914. I believe that these reports may have influenced the gentlemen above referred to; but neither I nor any official of the company was ever given an opportunity of ex-plaining how these reports were made or stayed in Spitsbergen. I wish now to give you the whole story.

In 1910 an American gold mining engin-neer went to Spitsbergen to report on the minerals of this company. He was sent by an important company in the City of London. He reported well of the marble Mr. Salisbury-Jo deposits but turned down the coal and the proceedings.

iron ore. It would be interesting here for you to note that since the time referred to, between three and four hundred thousand tons of coals have been shipped from Spitsbergen by the Scandinavians. Also since that date considerably over one million sterling has been spent by Scandinavian companies in working coal in Spitsbergen. As my old friend Mr. in Spitsbergen. David Hannah, David Hannah, mining engineer and director of D. Davis and Sons, Limited (my old company), for over 30 years had reported to me on the coal a year earlier, and reported most favourably on both analyses and quality, I naturally came to the conclusion that the American knew nothing about coal. The other report was made in 1914 by

The other report was made in 1914 by three engineers employed by a group in the City of London. These gentlemen arrived at the iron deposits one afternoon and spent ten hours in all, to examine a range of hills 35 miles long. Now, I ask you, would any business man consider either of these reports seriously made or worth considering if he knew the circum-stances under which they were made It is possible the Ministry of Munitions and the Treasury may have been influenced is possible the Ministry of Munitions and the Treasury may have been influenced by them, but they never told me so or gave me an opportunity of telling them what I have just told you. We were prevented from doing any thing beyond just keeping the company alive until 1917, when I brought the matter to the notice of Mr. F. W. Salis-bury longs your present managing dige.

smatter to the notice of Mr. F. W. Salis-bury-Jones, your present managing direc-tor After several talks with the coal and iron mining engineers, A. and B. Mangham (the former had wintered five winters, and the latter ten winters in Spitsbergen), and also Mr. Mansfield, the original English prospector, and satisfy-ing himself by very searching inquiries into the existence and richness of our deposits, he threw himself with charac teristic energy into the scheme, and advanced considerable sums of money to enable the company to be kept alive and enable the company to be kept any and to deal with our more pressing claims. In 1918, he and his group entered into a contract to provide a large amount of capital, which enabled us to send out a well-equipped expedition in that year. The 1918 expedition sailed in July under the command of Sir Ernest Shackleton, but on reaching Tromsoe Sir Ernest was recalled by the Government under for military duties, and Mr. Salisbury-Jones, who was in Kristiania, on receipt of an urgent telegram from Sir Ernest, proceeded immediately and took over control of the expedition from

Tromsoe. The various expeditions referred to have made a considerable drain on our cash resources, and it may be necessary in the near future to increase the capital for further developments, until some por-tion of our property is sold in the manner already referred to. If the Board finds it necessary to take such steps the shareholders will have every opportunity

In concluding, I hope that I have made hyself perfectly clear to you to-day as to the enormous national importance of the Spitsbergen, more particularly in connec-tion with the future supply of coal and iron. We are now admittedly living in what J may term a coal and iron world, which really means that the countries who which fearly means that the countries who have the control of the largest and most cheaply worked coal and iron deposits are going to survive in the long run. Therefore, the mineral wealth properly exploited in Spitsbergen is of such im-I am perfectly convinced from the figures which I have quoted to you that the cost which I have quoted to you that the cost of working the coal and iron will be exceptionally low, this being entirely due to the extraordinary fine climate and almost unlimited labour at a reasonable price; but most important of all with re-gard to the economical working costs is the fact that the minerals are practically lying at the mouth of the magnifi-cent harbours with which Spitsbergen abounds. abounds.

A hearty vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Salisbury-Jones at the termination of

BULL. JOHN

Offer for Sale by The BEECHAM TRUST, Ltd., of 1,000,000 7 per Cent. Cumulative Preference Shares of £1 each, at Par, in the Tyre Investment Trust, Ltd. [Corr.] TREASURT CHAMBERS, Whitehall, S.W., 28th June 1019

TREASURT CHAMBERS, Whitehall, S.W., 26th June, 1919. Dear Sir,—I am desired by the Chancellor of the Exchequer to acknowledge your letter of the 25th instant respecting the issue of 81,000,000 Preference Sharcs of The Jyre In-vestment Trust., Ltd. The Chancellor quite appreciates the fact that arrangements made prevent your now postponing the issue in ques-tion. He notes with satisfaction, housever, that your Directors are undertaking to subscribe amongst themselves for £1,000,000 Victory Loan and hopes this public spirited example will be copied.—Yours truby. (Signed) C. LOCKER HAMPSON; Commander RNN.R. JAMES WHITE, Esq., 218, Straid, W.C. 2;

Commandar R.N.V.I JAMES WHITE Esq., 218, Strand, W.C. 2, THE

TYRE INVESTMENT TRUST, Ltd (Incorporated under the Companies Acts, 1908 to 1917.)

AUTHORISED CAPITAL \$1,600,000 divided into 1,000,000 7 PER CENT. CUMULA-TIVE PREFERENCE SHARES

 000.000
 7
 PERFERENCE
 SHARES

 TIVE
 PREFERENCE
 SHARES

 OF
 £1. EACH
 £1,000,000

 550,000
 PREFERRED
 ORDINARY

 SHARES
 OF
 1 EACH
 All issued

 500,000
 ORDINARY
 SHARES
 OF

 28.
 EACH, All issued
 50,000
 £1.600.000

An Offer for Sale of the above-mentioned 1,000,000 7 per Cent. Cumulative Prefer ence Shares of £1 EACH AT PAR is being made by the

of 21 EACH AT PAR is being made by the London County Westminster and Par's Bank, Limited,
 TEMPLE BAR BRANCH, 217. STRAND, W.C.2; 21, LOMBARD STREET, E.C.3; BRANCHES and HEAD OFFICE, 41, LOTH-BURY, E.C.2, ON BEHALF OF THE BEECHAM TRUST. LIMITED.
 of 218, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.2, who have agreed to acquire the same at par from the Company.

mpany.

THE. THE TYRE INVESTMENT TRUST, LIMITED, was incorporated in August, 1917, as a holding Company. Its Assets princi-pally consist of holdings in the Dunlop Rubber pally consist of holdings in the Dunlop Rubber Company (Far East), Limited, and Dunlop Tire and Rubber Goods Company, Limited (Canada). The price paid for the acquisition of these Assets was approximately £1363.000, which was provided by the proceeds of the issue at par of the 550,000 Preferred Ordinary shares and 500,000 Ordinary shares. and by the crea-tion of Mortgages for £900,000 (since reduced to £R87,500). The present issue of 1.000,000 7 per Cent.

tion of Mortgages for £900,000 (since reduced to £887.500). The present issue of 1,000,000 7 per Cent. Cumulative Preference shares has been made for the purpose of redeeming these Mortgages, and consequently there will be no charge ranking in priority to the present issue of Pre-ference shares. The sum required to provide the dividend on these shares is £70.000 per annum, which was covered more than five times by the earnings of the two Companies on the Trust's holdings last year. The following figures of the combined turn-over and profits of the two Companies show their development: Proportion of Profit

		accruing to the Tru		
-		in respect of	its	
		holdings.		
1916	 £1.052,393	£169 994		
1917	 1.392.195		1	

£1,607,215 0 0

£1,607,215 0 0 Although the Dunlop Far East and Canadian Companies are in no way controlled by The Dunlop Rubber Company, Limited (England), arrangements exist between the English Company and these two Companies whereby each has the benefit of all patents, formulae, etc., owned by the other. The following are the Directors of the Tyre Investment Trust, Limited :--Ut. Hon. Sir HENRY DALZIEL, Bart, M.P., 1, Portland Place, W. Chairman; WILLIAM EWERT BERRY, Thenct House, 232, Strand, W.C.; WILLIAM COOPER, Yorkshire Post Buildings, Lueds; WILFRID DAWSON, Estate Buildings, Huddersfield; Sir HARRY McCOWAN, K.B.E., Nobel House, 195, West George Street, Glasgow; ALEXANDER LAWSON ORMBOD, 4, Norfolk Street, Swan Alley, E.C.; JAMES WHITE, 218, Strand, W.O., Munaging Director. Screetary and Registered Office. H. MORTON, 218, Strand, London, W.C.2.-24th June, 1919.

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1917

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JULY 5TH, 1919.

JOHN BULL.

17



£40,000 for a Sovereign—See page 12.

[The EDITOR replics to, and chats with, some of his numerous correspondents.]

- CORRESPONDENTS ARE REQUESTED NOT TO SEND ORIGINAL CERTIFICATES, TESTIMONIALS, ETC., as they are eiable to be mislaid. Copies only should be forwarded in the first instance.
- LETTERS must be addressed to the Editor or Publishers, 93, Long Acre, W.C.2, according to whether they relate to Editorial or Publishing matters. FINANCIAL, INSURANCE, or LEGAL enquiries should be addressed to the Financial, Insurance, or Legal Editor, and must each be accompanied by a postal order for one shilling. No fee is charged in respect of other enquiries. Full names and addresses should be given.
- YOUR CRITIC" (of New York, U.S.A.). MRS. H. (Blackpool).—"They can turn —We are justified in standing up for to you as a child turns to its mother."
- J. W. C. (Ashton-on-Ribble) .- "You have just one fault, in my opinion." have no more than that, we won't worry a darn.
- " ONE OF THE BOYS " (Hampton).--" Can you tell us when the Government are going to wake up and give us more beer?" When their thick heads realise that their chances at the next General Election depend on how they handle this question.
- "YANK" (Edinburgh) .- "You show a more thorough knowledge of the per-sonality and motives of our dictator than do many Americans. Good luck to you in your exposures of Woodrow !" Good luck It's a bit of good luck to have your candid approval.
- MRS. M. B. R. (Russell Square, W.C.) "I am writing to make a claim for a share in the unclaimed money which you are taking such trouble over." Afraid you've come to the wrong shop, ma'am.
- INDEPENDENT" (Scotland) .- " But, Mr. Bottomley, if you wish to please Scotland, don't be a Liberal." On the other hand, if Scotland wants to please us it must not be illiberal.
- SILVER BADGER" (Nottingham), a porter in a bank says the sooner the eight-hours day and a standard rate of wages come in the sooner there will be an end of sweated labour. However, is not safe to generalise on so big a subject.
- "SHEFFIELD."-No scheme for nationalis ing the mines could be brought into operation without the consent of Parliament—and we shall be there when the matter comes up.
- AQUA VITAE" (Edinburgh).—So you judge we are a "gay dog." Who's been splitting on us this time?
- MINISTER" (Newburgh-on-Tay).--Nice to have your assurance that we have "put many crocked things straight." Surprising how well we get on with the parsons these days.
- W. W. (Smethwick) .--- " It seems as though employers think we went into the army to be killed, and they are surprised to see us safe home again." Yes, there are some who deserve your caustic sarcasm.
- "AN QLD SOLDIER" (Bloemfontein). "If these dirty rebels are allowed to land on English soil, just give them Hell!" We are reorganising our foundry department so as to give them the reception desired.

But with not quite so much satisfaction, owing to our physical disabilities.

- EASTBOURNE."-According to the Kent and Sussex Invieta Time Table for June, Sir D. Haig, was "born 19 June, 1161," Well, he is young for his yours Well, he is young for his years, and still going strong.
- LEUT-COL A. B. Much obliged for the 24 Out Patient Letters for the West London Hospital, of which we hope to make good use
- E. H. S. (Mansfield) —"I thought we were going to have something like 20,000 millions from Germany—and the Kaiser's head, too." Did not your grandmother ever tell you what happened to Thought ?
- MISS DODO" (Paris) .- "How are single girls to get their living if they give up their jobs ?" Just exactly as they did before they took on those men's jobs for patriotism. To stick to them now is not patriotism, but nasty, horrid greed.
- MONS STAR" (Leamington). pressing the wish that the British forces would be "thoroughly beaten in Russia," Councillor Kneeshaw de-serves to be thoroughly basted in Birmingham, where some congenital idiots were insane enough to elect him to the City Council to the City Council. J. P. (Leytonstone) .- " Can I call your attention to the gross unfairness of the sick benefit part of the National In-surance?" Our attention has been rivetted on it from the first.
- rivetted on it from the first. SYMPATHISER," "A READER," AND C. N.—Your kindly gifts of £1, 1s. and £1, respectively, have been duly forwarded to the old pensioner— "Helpless on 5s. a Week."
- R. W. M. (Nottingham).—" No Sunday shaves !" If at closed door you stand a baffled gazer, You'll find salvation in a safety razor.
- A PRIVATE" (London).—"Seems to me the rich and the munitioneers will have the best of the Peace Celebrations." -" Seems to Ex-soldiers out of work won't-that's certain.
- MARK R. M. (Portsmouth) .- " As it was rather hot, me and my young lady rested on the grass, when two nosey old fogies . . ." Keep off the grass.
- H. C. (London, S.W.).-" Publicity is the weapon wherewith to assail any sort of secrecy." You're a bright lad,
- sort of secrecy." You're a bright iad, but don't overwork your cerebellum. C. A. (Coventry).—"How can girl at-tendants at Picture Palace here keep themselves neat and respectable on 14s. a week?" The salary might drive them to abandon the second quali-E fication.

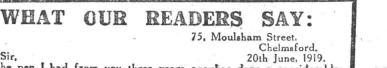
-"I won't keep A. B. (Grimsby).—" I won't ou a minute." That came true you anyway. J. W. (Eastbourne) .--- " Can you tell me

- how many fourpenny pieces there are in circulation?" None at all, as far we know, although they would be handy for paying for bitters.
- J. T. W. (Roath Park) .- Thanks for sending us the Sunday School hymn-sheet. Did you mistake the chapel for a pub?
- IGNORANT" (Tottenham). +"What is the definition of the following words: Adventuress, and Unregated Love?" You had much better remain "Ignorant."
- G. (Glasgow) and OTHERS.—The Glasgow Observer is quite in error in stating that our recent reference to a M stating that our recent reference to a Roman Catholic priest in County, Cavan was headed "A Scoundrel in a Surplice." That title appeared in the boldest possible type above an article dealing with A. A. Wilkinson, an ex-Minister of the Chirch of England, guilty of gross indecency, who well deserved the description description.
- T. (Brynnawr).—S'e renly above. Strange that the Welsh Catholic Herald Stoudd have published the same erro-neous par as the Observer and a opted its editorial comment-word for word !
- H. E. J. (Minna, Northern Nigeria) .-Many thanks for the five guineas, collected in the second saloon of the West African Mail Steamer Elmina. We have had much pleasure in forwarding the amount, as requested, to the Secretary of St. Dunstan's.
- H. G. B. (Glasgow).—"Suggested Head, re the coal shortage: 'Send the Miners to Coventry'!" You had better watch that they don't come to Glasgow and ask for you.
- THE NEW STAR" (Hastings). "I thought perhaps you would like to know what I have been doing during the great and terrible war." Rather! We've been absolutely consumed with curiosity.
- SALLORS AND SOLDIERS OF CORNWALL." -Sorry, but we're afraid we can do nothing to persuade the County Small Holdings Committee of Cornwall to get a move on.
- -" Will you please tell ARION" (Partick) .me how to clean a fawn-coloured trench coat." Wrong shop. Consult Lverywoman's.
- E. B. (Brighton) .- " It is time to dismiss all the Germans in the Police Force.' But surely there is none in Brighton.
- SWEET-STUFF" (Islington) .- You can hardly expect an assistant in a sweet shop to refrain from sampling the goods. Besides, it is written that thou shalt not muzzle the ox when he treadeth out the corn.
- treadeth out the corn. . W. (Cambridge) says that if the G.E.R. Company can run a-train to Yarmouth at 5s. return for their clerks, they can run one for the general public. If they can, they won't. Docron's WIFE" (Penzance).—Thanks for your most intresting letter. We agree that the life of a panel doctor is not all beer and skittles. T
- not all beer and skittles.
- . P. (Walmer).—"I hope you are keeping an eye on the Aliens Bill." Certainly: it only comes off at bedtime. E.

JULY 5TH, 1919.

- M. D. (Ilford).—Thanks for compliments on our "glorious article." As a matter of fact, our inspiration was derived from the gentle sucking of an acidulated tablet.
- F. F. B. (Charlton, S.E.) .--- Unless you employ simpler language, you'll soon be laid up with a broken jaw. To converse solely in polysyllables is most improper.
- H. K. P. (Nottingham).—Afraid we can-not print your "warning to motorists," but this is to inform the motoring public that you will remember them in your prayers.
- P. (Clapham) .- You are quite right. Ċ The wrong heading appeared in the Standard Art Book Company's ad vertisement in our last issue. Their Character Course (an entirely different proposition) is advertised this week.
- OLD NIMBOD" (Longmoor).—Quite time all the trenches were filled in, more especially as we shall soon be going home in the dark.
- REGULAR READER" (Fulham) .- Very wrong indeed for a big firm of caterers to promise young women night work, and then turn them adrift at 10 p.m., with nothing doing. In fact, it is wicked.
- MISS E. B. (Birmingham) .- It is Its E. B. (Birmingham)—It is your eccentric notion that girls should stick to the men's jobs because, in the event of unemployment, "men can rough it better than girls." Don't you think they have roughed it enough ?
- J. R. F. (Canterbury).-Your arguments against a widow marrying her de-ceased husband's brother would apply equally against a widow's re-marriage to any man. To learn the meaning of the racing terms that so mystify yeu, do a bit of punting on the race-course. The bookies will soon enlighten you— at your expense—unless you have "novice's luck."
- S. (Harlesden), returning after seven years' absence in America, says : "I understand no respectable woman goes into a pub." If you believe that, you'll believe anything.
- ANONYMOUS."—So the price of frying oil has gone up ? Looks like a German trick, to prevent us boiling Wilhelm in it.
- "GLADYS" (Folkestone) .-- "My young "GLADYS" (Folkestone).—"My young man in the Gordons says they are not allowed to wear anything under their kilts. Could you do anything for the poor boys?" Nothing except to ad-vise them to keep out of draughts.
 L. K. (Blackpool).—"As soon as an old soldier and sailor come with a barrel-organ they are driven around?" "Phot?"
- organ they are driven away.^{A'} That's the worst of not being a German band.
- H. H. (Middlesbreugh) .-- "Bottomley, you've bucked us all the way. See us through." "All the way !" as friend Corrie says.
- would not have been unreasonable if you had asked for two.
- SHOENUT" (Manchester).—So you think we ought to "make a show." Did you never see us in spectacles ? (Many replies are unavoidably

held over.)



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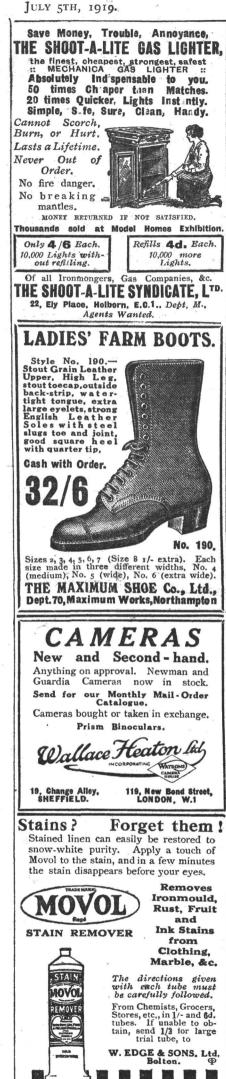
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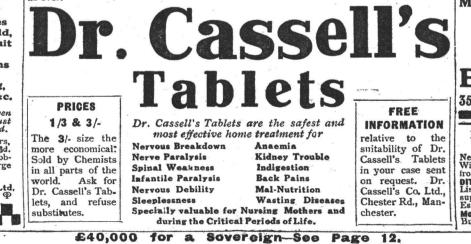
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