

**REPAIRING WARSHIPS**

**Huge Dreadnoughts Can be Taken Clear Out of Water**

Among the greatest engineering marvels of to-day are the gigantic floating docks owned by the British Admiralty and utilized for the repair of naval vessels. The biggest type of these docks has a minimum lifting capacity of 32,000 tons, and is capable of lifting a battleship like H. M. S. Lion, which displacement over 30,000 tons, high and dry out of the water to a height of 36 feet in three hours and ten minutes, thus permitting every part of the vessel's hull to be accessible.

Some idea of the labor involved in the construction of one of these huge docks may be gathered from the fact that whereas a first class warship takes about two or three times as long to construct a floating dock of a size sufficient to receive the vessel.

A floating dock may be likened to a box with neither ends nor lid. It is built of steel throughout, the largest type having a length of 880 feet and a width of 144 feet, while the walls are 60 feet in height.

The dock is first submerged by admitting water into the ballast tanks, of pontoons forming the base of the structure. When it has been sunk to a sufficient depth to receive the vessel the latter is warped into its correct position on the steel blocks of the dock, and is then made fast. Powerful pumps are set to work to eject water from the pontoons, causing the structure to rise gradually with its burden. To lift a battleship the size of the Lion 46,000 tons of water has to be pumped out of the pontoons. So perfectly, however, are these huge floating docks constructed that one man can control every movement from what is known as the valve house, which is at the end of the side walls.

Most infants are infested by worms, which cause great suffering, and if not promptly dealt with may cause constitutional weaknesses difficult to remedy. Miller's Worm Powders will clear the stomach and bowels of worms and will so act upon the system that there will be no recurrence of the trouble. And not only this, but they will repair the injuries to the organs that worms cause and restore them to soundness.

Automobile tires fastened to the rear of machines crossing the river from Windsor to Detroit are being used as secret storage receptacles by peddlers of habit-forming drugs, who are unable to procure the "dope" in Detroit.



**Former Wyoming Girl Declines High Honor**

Wyoming, April 15.—An offer of considerable importance and an honor was recently laid before a former Wyoming lady, Mrs. Shotwell, nee Miss Margaret Harvey, daughter of Dr. A. E. Harvey, who spent a lifetime in practice here. The Belgian relief committee of New York invited Mrs. Shotwell, who is the wife of Prof. J. Shotwell, that city, to spend two months in Belgium studying conditions there and to tour the United States upon her return, lecturing.

Mrs. Shotwell is a fine linguist and eminently fitted for the position, having already a pretty clear understanding of the languages, customs and history of these people, gathered during her stay there on former occasions. However, owing to home ties and the added dangers attendant at this time upon an ocean voyage, the offer, which was tempting in many respects, was declined.

Miss Rosa Harvey, London, is a sister.

**What the War Costs**

The cost of the war seems to be the principal reason for predicting an early end to the struggle. It is estimated that the war is costing \$50,000,000 a day, or about \$18,000,000,000 a year. When it is considered that the total wealth of all the nations at war is estimated at \$365,000,000,000, it can be seen that the financial problem is one which must be given consideration. The Wall Street Journal considers the present indebtedness of all the warring nations at \$30,000,000,000. To bring about a realization of what these figures mean, the Wall Street Journal makes this comparison:—

"We look upon the Panama Canal as a mighty work for the world's commerce. Yet, at the present rate of expenditure, the god of war could duplicate that work in eight days. His maintenance for three weeks is more than is spent in a year for education in this land of free schools. A year and a half of such war would pay for all our live stock, the products of the farms, the output of the mines, and still leave enough to take up the capitalized valuation of the railroads."

**Donald Sutherland Dies**

**Pioneer Farmer of Lambton Ex-Reeve of Brooke Township**

Forest, Ont., April 15.—Donald Sutherland, a Lambton pioneer, died at his home here yesterday, aged seventy-six years. He was a native of Scotland. He cleared up farms in Plympton, Bosanquet and Brooke townships. He was for many years Reeve and Deputy Reeve of Brooke. He moved to Forest five years ago. His wife, three sons and five daughters survive him. One son, Donald, is a sapper with the troops in Ottawa going with the second contingent to Europe. Another son, Alexander, is in Victoria with the third contingent.

**War Items**

London, April 15.—The total British casualties in the war from the beginning of hostilities up to April 11th is 139,347 men, according to an announcement made in the House of Commons this afternoon by Harold J. Tennant, Under-Secretary for War.

London, April 15.—The trial of the three alleged German spies, Kuepferle, Hahn and Muller, charged with sending military information to Germany, has been definitely fixed for April 26th. The proceedings will be in secret before the Lord Chief Justice. The authorities intimate that the case is one of the greatest importance.

Ottawa, April 15.—Arthur De Witt Foster, Conservative member for King's, N.S., and William F. Garland, Conservative member for Carleton, Ont., have been publicly reprimanded for wrongdoing by Sir Robert Borden, the Premier, in Parliament. The two offending members are expected to tender their resignations and step out of public life. The course of the Premier follows the disclosures made during the past few weeks in the Public Accounts Committee, in relation to Government purchases of war supplies.

London, April 16.—Two Zeppelin airships visited the east coast of England shortly after midnight, dropping bombs on several towns, doing considerable damage to property. As far as has been ascertained, only one person, a woman, was injured. It is said she was only hurt. The airships dropped four bombs on Malden, in Essex county, thirty miles northeast of London, but no damage resulted. Bombs were also dropped in the Heybridge Basin, two miles across the river. These set fire to some buildings. The airships came up the Black Water River and over the marshes and circled around.

**The Joy of Walking**

The New York State Department of Health has issued a special bulletin saying now is the time to take walks in the open, because at this season of the year, after the rigors of winter, the body is at its lowest ebb of efficiency and needs upbuilding. This is quite true indeed, except for the limitation to this particular time of year. Every day in the year is the time to walk, and whoever neglects it suffers loss in more ways than mere deterioration of health.

Modern means of transportation are very good, but they can be turned from a blessing to a curse. He who avails himself of them too strictly may be not only cutting his life in two in the middle, but is missing half of the life that he lives. The automobile is a wonderful machine, but the human machine is far more wonderful. The average man owning an automobile would be considered a fool if he gave no more care to the condition of his machine than he gives to the condition of his body. If his engine misses a few strokes he hurries it off for repair, but his own heart may be wrong for months and he lets it take care of itself. If a tire goes down he stops at the first repair shop, but he will limp with rheumatism in his leg for weeks before going for repairs, or overcoming the cause of it. Walking to the office is better for health than riding to the doctor.

And, as an exchange points out, there is far more than health for the body in walking. There is health for the mind and soul in it, too.

**Lime in Agriculture**

One of the principal functions of the Chemical Division of the Dominion Experimental Farms is to attempt the solution of problems connected with the maintenance and upbuilding of fertility. Among the many valuable results so far obtained in these investigations is the demonstration of the vital part played by lime in the increase of a soil's productivity.

The subject is treated in an interesting and practical way in Bulletin No. 80 of the Experimental Farms' regular series, by the Dominion Chemist, Dr. Frank T. Shutt, who discusses it under the following heads:—

- The nature of lime and limestone.
- The agricultural functions of lime and its compounds.
- Comparative values of lime compounds.
- The application of lime compounds.
- The use and misuse of lime.

Those interested may obtain a copy of this bulletin by applying to the Publications Branch, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.

**Lord Roberts' Prayer**

The following prayer was written at Lord Roberts' request by Dr. Alexander, late Archbishop of Armagh, in 1899, for use by the troops in South Africa. Lord Roberts, recently told a friend that it was his favourite soldier's prayer and that he would himself say it every day at noon during the present war:—

"Almighty Father, I have often sinned against Thee: O wash me in the precious blood of the Lamb of God. Fill me with Thy Holy Spirit, that I may lead a new life. Spare me to see again those whom I love at home, or fit me for Thy presence in peace. Strengthen us to quit ourselves like men in our right course. Keep us faithful unto death, calm in danger, patient in suffering, merciful as well as brave, true to our King, our country and our colours. If it be Thy will enable us to win victory for England; but above all, grant us the better victory over temptation and sin, over life and death, that we may be more than conquerors through Him who loved us, and laid down His life for us, Jesus our Saviour, the Captain of the Army of God. Amen."

It is twice as easy to fool yourself as it is to fool other people.

The Lord freezes the water, but we are expected to cut our own ice.

Our idea of a martyr is a man who poses as a good example in a small town. After marrying the man who courted her a girl is apt to find that she has changed.

Toronto, April 15.—Twelve million war stamps have been sold from the Toronto postal depository. The inland revenue officials have handed out 100,000 stamps of various denominations, but the demand is greater than the supply of two-cent ones and the 50,000, which were on hand from Ottawa this morning were cleared out in an hour. One hundred thousand could have been sold.

Wyoming, April 15.—A wedding of interest to Wyoming citizens was solemnized Wednesday at 8 a. m. at St. Peter's Cathedral, London. The contracting parties being Celsus R. McKinley, a former merchant of this town and Miss Elizabeth Rae, a graduate nurse of St. Joseph's hospital, London. Miss Jean Rae, sister of the bride and Anthony I. McKinley, of Sarnia, were in attendance, the ceremony being performed by Rev. Fr. McKeon. After a brief honeymoon the couple will be at home to their friends on the groom's farm, second line east.

**Now Comes the Fall**

This European war is developing after a far different manner from that which was anticipated. In its early stages it accorded to some extent with the common belief in German superiority on land. The kaiser was first afield, as he was expected to be, but at the crucial point his war machine began to creak, stopped and finally beat a retreat to the chagrin and disappointment of its operators.

Instead of marching on from victory to victory and receiving everywhere the tributes to their efficiency that their soul loveth, the Germans are now reduced to the lesser boast that hitherto they have protected the sacred soil of Germany from invasion. That is something, but it is much less than Germans expected and also much more than the event will show is justified. Germany's initial advantage has disappeared. All years of preparation have gone for naught. To-day Germany is equaled, indeed surpassed in all that is required for successful war. The repulse of the first great German onslaught marked the beginning of the end.

**Keep Away**

The man who prays to be delivered from evil and gets up and walks into the trap has a lot to say for himself, but the plain fact of the matter is that this clinging to the skirts of the Almighty with one hand and clasping the devil around the waist with the other, has only one end. You may pray until you are black in the face, but unless, when you get up, you turn your face the other way to which you are going, you will land up in destruction here and hereafter. "Remove the way from her and come not nigh the door of her house." The man who stops to bid good-day to the devil will soon be walking arm-in-arm with him. If you would do less praying and more running you would get farther away from your besetting sin. "Escape for thy life, tarry not in all the plain," is good advice for the fellow who has been wallowing and wants to get on safe ground.—"Solomon's Sayings."

**Strange Marriages**

"Peeping outside Europe" says Mrs. Alec Tweedie, in her book, "Women the World Over," a Moorish marriage is perhaps the strangest. By the laws of the country a man can have four wives. If he is poor, he may not be able to afford more than one, or at most two; but if he is rich he acquires as many as he can manage to pay for and keep.

Until a girl is eight or nine years of age, she is allowed to run wild amongst boys and men; but when she reaches eleven she is considered grown up and is hidden away, twelve being the marriageable age for a woman in Morocco.

The girl's father looks about him to find a nice young man possessed of the wherewithal to buy her for his wife. He calls upon the bridegroom's father, and the two older men discuss the price, which is usually settled in cattle, land, or jewels, paid by the bridegroom to his would-be bride's father.

Everything formally arranged, the lady is carried to the young man's home in a sort of miniature howdah on the back of a mule, while all the male friends of both parties let off Arab guns and dance and whoop for joy.

The bridal box is deposited in the home of the bridegroom, who hands over the money or kind, frequently two or three cows or sheep. He is paying for his bride, and the girl is finally left behind. Seated on a divan, her face thickly coated with paint, alone and heavily veiled, she waits to share her husband's life. When her lord and master enters the room and raises the veil, which she clutches with henna-dyed fingers, ancient custom ordains that she should in politeness utter a cry of joy audible to the household listening outside. There is no religious ceremony.

Sometimes the bride and bridegroom never meet till this critical moment. But the girl is only a chattel, and counts for nothing more. Her mother-in-law takes her education in hand, and almost before the paint has left her cheeks and brows she becomes a sort of under-servant to her husband's parents, who teach her up in the way she should go.



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