

LONDON GOSSIP.

LONDON, Nov. 30, 1915.

LONGER LIFE OF PARLIAMENT.

Under the Parliament Act the life of the present Parliament, fixed at five years, comes to an end in January. A General Election in war time is impossible, and the Government will therefore introduce the long-promised measure to prolong the existence of Parliament. The bill, which is under the charge of the Home Secretary, will be called "The Parliament and Registration Bill." When the war broke out on August 4, 1914, the statutory life of this Parliament had still about sixteen months to run. The new bill will, I learn, provide that the life of this Parliament shall extend to sixteen months after the conclusion of the war. In other words, when the war ends the Parliamentary situation will be exactly as it was on August 4, 1914—that is, the present Parliament will still have a possible statutory life of sixteen months. For any General Election which may take place a new register will have to be compiled, and provision is made for a scheme with this object to be worked out—it may be on lines which will satisfy those who favor electoral reform.

LONDON'S NEW DRINK RESTRICTIONS.

On November 29th London came under the new and stringent drink restrictions. The hours are from 12 noon to half-past two, and from six to nine on week days, and from one to three and six to nine on Sunday. The drastic rule by which no liquor may be sold for consumption off the premises between Thursday and Monday is not enforced, but the sale of liquor for consumption elsewhere ceases in the evening one hour earlier than other sales. It may safely be said that London takes the new rules quite quietly. An agitation has been carefully conducted for the past fortnight to rouse public opinion to resist such restrictions, but it seems to have entirely failed in its object. I am told that the London publicans are very disappointed in this connection by the small support they have received from the distillers and brewers. The latter are said to have declared that whatever the publicans might lose, it would not much affect their own output, for the consumption will go on through other channels. An indication of this is to be seen in the great activity in the off-licence trade. The largest wholesale traders in London are now tremendously busy, and one hears of applications being made for extended hours at the bond so that the extra goods can be got out for consumption. Much soreness is being engendered amongst on-licence traders at the apparently unassailable prosperity of the off-licences.

A TRIBUTE TO RUSSIA.

Russia's Day, celebrated in London on November 16th in a manner to which the demands of war have accustomed the whole country, found the Metropolis as generous as ever. The capital of the Empire may compare unfavorably with some of our cities in its tendencies to depression and querulousness. It has so been criticized, not only by shrewd observers at home but by officers on leave from the front. But to none does it yield in its admiration for the magnificent endurance of the Russian people, and their incomparable determination to pursue the war to the bitter end. The celebration was,

IF YOU CAN'T ENLIST

and are anxious to "do your bit," you can relieve the sufferings of the men who are spending this winter in the trenches by sending them Zam-Buk for which they are asking.

Numerous letters from soldiers at the front prove their need of it. In a letter from one of the men to his people he says: "If it is a choice between tobacco and Zam-Buk—send Zam-Buk." Constant exposure to damp and cold, inevitable in trench life, causes rheumatism, chapped hands, cold cracks, and frost bites. Zam-Buk heals these, and a box of Zam-Buk, which can be easily carried in the pocket, will save a man much unnecessary suffering. Zam-Buk is equally effective for sore hands, caused by trench digging, and an application of Zam-Buk to the feet will prevent foot-soreness and blistering on long marches.

Sold by all druggists, 50c. 3 for \$1.25, or Zam-Buk Co., Toronto.

ZAM-BUK

Address all applications for samples, and retail orders to T. McMurdo & Co., St. John's, Nfld.

Girls! Girls! Try It! Stop Dandruff and Beautify Your Hair

Hair stops falling out and gets thick, wavy, strong and beautiful.

Your hair becomes light, wavy, fluffy, abundant and appears as soft, lustrous and beautiful as a young girl's after a "Dandérine hair cleanse." Just try this—moisten a cloth with a little Dandérine and carefully draw through your hair, taking one small strand at a time. This cleanses the hair of dust, dirt and excessive oil and in just a few moments you have doubled the beauty of your hair.

Besides beautifying the hair at once, Dandérine dissolves every particle of dandruff; cleanses, purifies and invigorates the scalp, forever stopping itching and falling hair.

But what will please you most will be after a few weeks' use when you will actually see new hair—fine and downy at first—yes—but really new hair growing all over the scalp. If you care for pretty, soft hair and lots of it surely get a 25-cent bottle of Knowlton's Dandérine from any druggist or toilet counter, and just try it.

MESOPOTAMIAN FIGHTING AND BABYLONIAN RESEARCH.

The course of the Mesopotamian expedition is being followed with keen interest by the group of distinguished scholars interested in Babylonian geography and research. The locality now reached by the British forces was of supreme importance to the ancient world, because, within a circle of a hundred miles, there lie the sites of the cities by which the Mesopotamian plain was dominated throughout the whole period of written history. The northward drift of the political center of the land began when "Ur of the Chaldees" was abandoned for settlements further up the Euphrates, and it was realized by all the great captains of antiquity, from Amraphaph, King of Shinar, to Sargon, from Sennacherib to Cyrus, from Alexander to Haroun al Raschid, that the true center of dominion lay in the narrow neck where the Euphrates and the Tigris lay closest together. This is why Babylon and Seleucia, Ctesiphon and Bagdad, draw to themselves the envious eyes of conquering soldiers, why German ambition has sought to secure this region for its Asiatic capital, why our own statesmen have resolved to eliminate from the future an inimical settlement whose influence would be felt as far as Egypt and Aden on the one hand and Persia and India on the other.

THIRD-YEAR MEDICAL STUDENTS

Fourth and fifth year medical students were sometime ago recommended by the War Office to continue their studies and to proceed to qualification with all possible speed. Those junior to them in the curriculum are permitted to enlist in the combatant branches of the army. I understand that the military authorities are being urged that when third-year students do join the army arrangements should be made by which they should not lose association with medical work, and that they should be attached to the Royal Army Medical Corps. The idea is that in such circumstances they would be more likely to resume their medical studies at the conclusion of the war. Of course, it has been suggested in the House of Commons and elsewhere that third-year medical students should be exempted altogether from military service. This suggestion has found no favor in official circles and the one that they should be associated with the Royal Army Medical Corps is put forward after the rejection of the proposal that these young men should be exempted. Whether the second suggestion will receive any more encouragement than the rest remains to be seen. Medical students, by education and temperament being admittedly to the class from which excellent junior combatant officers are supplied, and it is at least open to doubt whether the military authorities will be prepared further to restrict the source from which they are drawn.

COMFORTS FOR TROOPS.

Patterns of comforts for troops at the front will in future be "sealed" by Sir Edward Ward, the Director-General of Voluntary Organisations, who has now, after consultation with representative members of the drapery trade, completed the details of the plan by which it will be assured that our soldiers receive really necessary and useful articles. The Drapers' Chamber of Trade, which represents the whole of the retail drapers of the United Kingdom, is co-operating with Sir Edward Ward, and will appoint representatives in each of the towns approved by the Director-General. Standard patterns of comforts—shirts, pants, vests, body belts, bed jackets, etc.—will be supplied to these representatives, who will make a flat pattern of each garment and also one completed article. These will be sent to Sir Edward Ward for inspection, and if approved will be "sealed" and then sent to the voluntary organization depot for each par-

ticular district. Comforts made from the "sealed" patterns will be consigned by the drapery experts, who in effect become Government officials. If the garments do not conform to the standard patterns they will be promptly rejected, for the object of the scheme is to see that the men at the front and the hospitals get garments which will be of service. Another duty of the drapery experts is to see to the proper packing of articles. Secretarial work for the whole of the country is to be given by the Chartered Institute of Secretaries, who have volunteered for this duty under the scheme.

STAMPS AS PAPER MONEY.

The shortage of small coin for change has been the cause of an interesting innovation in Russia. To meet the difficulty postage stamps of the value of 10, 15, and 20 kopeks have, since the first of October, been in use as paper money. At the same time they can be used for postage, but they are printed on stout paper and have an overprint on the back in black which denotes the new use to which they have been put. It is not intended to keep them in use for long, and currency notes for these small values are being prepared. This is not the first time a Government has resorted to this expedient. About 45 years ago the current postage stamps of the Russian Empire were used as money, and the design formed the central portion of the 5, 10, 15, and 20 cent banknotes in use in the Republic of Uruguay. I have also been shown a new "war stamp" from New Zealand. The current halfpenny stamp with head of King George is overprinted with the words "war stamp" and two stars. It is used in reality as a war tax in addition to the ordinary postage.

THE WIDOW OF A BONAPARTE.

A curious little footnote to history of a kind is to be found in the announcement of the death in a nursing home at the age of 84 of the widow of Prince Louis Lucien Bonaparte. It seems a far cry now to the quiet Napoleonic philologist who repaid this country for the asylum it afforded him by almost the first attempt to provide a systematic record of its dialects. It is one ever knew that he was married one had forgotten it, for the marriage seems to have ended in a mutual recognition of incompatibility and a separation. Conjugal happiness was scarcely perhaps to be looked for in a life controlled by the obsession of linguistic research and the amassing of a philological library choice enough and representative enough to claim a guinea for the price of its sale catalogue. Perhaps one has some glimpse of the reasons of the failure of life on this side in the seeming lack of sentiment or of humour which selected "The Song of Solomon" as his medium for dialectical record. At his instance "The Song of Solomon" made its successive appearance in the dialects of Somerset, Dorset, the Scottish Lowlands, and other parts of the country—versions which may be almost as valuable in their way as a phonographic record, but are certainly weird enough to make Solomon himself and the scholars responsible for the authorised version of "the song"

YOU NEED

to aid nature occasionally when your liver is sluggish, your stomach disordered or your bowels inactive. Let this safe, mild, dependable remedy regulate these organs and put them in a sound and healthy condition.

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turn in their graves. It is a strangely freakish chapter in the annals of the Bonaparte family, to which the death of this obscure old lady puts a belated close.

WAR AND THE CHRISTMAS BOOK.

The "National Book Fortnight" organized by the Publishers' Association, began on November 22nd a plucky attempt to persuade the public that they ought not to economise on books—at any rate most London bookshops show a poster appealing to you to take a book home. It is hoped that this effort will do something to save the Christmas book season, for which the prospects are by no means bright. War is hitting the book trade by concentrating the buyers' attention upon war books, which are extremely short-lived and not at all profitable as the staple of shops. The sale of general literature has fallen off seriously, and expensive books, which always bring the biggest returns, are hardly selling at all. This Christmas there will be very few of the guinea and half-guinea books illustrated by famous artists which are usually produced specially for the Christmas present trade. This kind of book is, of course, a luxury, and luxuries are not in fashion. Some beautifully produced colored books are coming out to be sold for the benefit of various military charities, but the booksellers say that although many people buy these books who in ordinary times do not buy books at all, this does not compensate for the shrinkage in the ordinary trade. The cost of producing books has increased by probably 25 per cent owing to the rise in paper and the cost of labor. There is a fairly good demand for cheap reprints of light literature to be sent out to the trenches and the training camps, but here the booksellers have to meet the severe competition of the voluntary libraries. It is true that a good many people nowadays will buy a book with the intention of sending it to the soldiers after they have read it. In the South of England, at any rate, there is not much evidence that the war prosperity of the artisan is benefiting the bookseller.

CAPTURED FROM GERMANY.

The color printing trade in this country formerly dominated by Germany is on the whole shaking itself free from these old trammels. Two firms, Raphael Tuck and Sons and Gale and Polden, have made a tremendous fight to provide England with all-British Christmas cards, Christmas gift books, calendars, etc., for this end of the year. The artists were always here and a certain amount of the printing and production, but never before have British enterprise and British artists had the field clear that they have upon this occasion. Raphael Tuck especially feature Christmas and New Year cards and calendars and the result of this occasion is beyond even this house's previous high records. Over three thousand different types of cards have been issued besides a large array of other novelties, including the ever green "Tuck's Annual" a substantial illustrated volume for the little ones. Gale and Polden have issued for the end of the year trade between 30 and 40 large and small gift books all in colors and all wonderful examples of new British enterprise in color printing. It is believed that never again will Germany get back her lost trade in these goods with this country.

Makes Hair Grow

The time to take care of your hair is when you have hair to take care of.

If your hair is getting thin, gradually falls out, it cannot be long before the spot appears.

The greatest remedy to stop the hair from falling is SALVIA, first discovered in England. SALVIA furnishes nourishment to the hair roots and acts so quickly that people are amazed.

It destroys the dandruff germ, the little pest that saps the life that should go to the hair from the roots. Large, generous bottle for 50 cents.

Household Notes.

Equal parts of olive oil and turpentine make an excellent polish for mahogany furniture.

The new ermine furs are usually small straight choker collars and small round muffs.

If Fashion has a particular weakness for any type of coat, it is the three-quarter length.

A very Russian-looking hat indeed is bordered and made with a very high full crown.

An ideal country hat is one of mouse-gray felt, so soft it can be rolled up for packing.

Definitely folded satin or ribbon is much used as applique blossoms on brims and crowns of hats.

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