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LONDON CARD INDEX BUREAU FINDS THOUSANDS OF SOLDIERS

Mrs. Alfred Deakin, Wife of Former Premier of Australia, Speaks of How Families Are Kept Informed of Those Who Serve at the Front

At 54 Victoria street, in London, there is an office in which a large force of men and women work day and night compiling an enormous card index system, writing letters and dispatching hundreds of telegrams and cablegrams daily. These men and women, many of them persons of wealth, keep thousands of wives and mothers in Australia almost in daily touch with their husbands and sons, whether they be in the trenches on the Somme, in a German prison camp or in a London hospital.

The wonderfully efficient system which has been devised for conducting this "port of missing men" was described by Mrs. Alfred Deakin, wife of the former Prime Minister of Australia, who is accompanying her husband on what she characterized as his first holiday in thirty-five years. The office, which is known as the Bureau of Missing and Wounded Australians and which is conducted under the auspices of the Red Cross, is in charge of Miss Vera Deakin, their daughter. Mr. and Mrs. Deakin are stopping at the Stratford House, at 11 East Thirty-second street.

"You'd be surprised at the wonderful work which is being accomplished by this bureau," said Mrs. Deakin. "All of those in it are giving their services gratis. They are doing their bit. It is rather odd to see a wealthy Australian working as a clerk over a card index 'abinet, but they move about their work quietly, quickly and as if they enjoy it.

Mothers Seeking News. "Hundreds of letters pour in daily from mothers seeking some news of their boys. A clerk steps to the cabinet, runs quickly through the cards and in a moment the desired information is at hand.

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cian to make the present trip only on condition that he was not to speak at any function. It was on the advice of his doctor that he resigned as leader of the opposition in the Commonwealth House of Representatives in 1912. Deakin Out of Politics "I'm out of politics," he said, "maybe not for all time, but for the present at least." Mrs. Deakin explained that while the trip was made principally to visit their daughter, to see some of the "men of Anzac" in the London hospitals and for her husband's health, she and Mr. Deakin are making an informal study of playground systems and infant welfare work. Mr. Deakin is vice-president of the Guild of Play and Mrs. Deakin is a member of the Council of One Hundred of that organization. She described the system in use in Australia where fatherless children are turned over as wards of the state to women registered by the government as competent foster mothers, instead of being sent to institutions.

THE NOBEL PEACE PRIZE

Strange That Founder Was Inventor of Dynamite

He Left Fortune of Ten Millions—The Terms of His "Peace" Bequest—Roosevelt One Winner

By a curious piece of irony the founder of the Nobel peace prize was the inventor of dynamite! Alfred Bernard Nobel, the man who left a fortune of nearly two millions sterling in order to reward those who have rendered most service to their fellow-creatures was of a different opinion. He was born in Stockholm on October 21, 1833. His father, a man of considerable means, was an architect and became a professor of geometry, but failed to find the true bent of genius till he went to St. Petersburg where he undertook the manufacture of torpedoes and established great engineering and shipbuilding works.

He prospered for nearly twenty years, until after the Crimean War, the depleted resources of the Russian government no longer afforded him sufficient business to make it worth his while to remain on the Neva. He returned to Stockholm and betook himself to the study of the fabrication of explosives. Between 1861 and 1862 he discovered a method of making a very powerful explosive which rendered it possible to make practical use of it. In October 1868 Alfred Nobel, the son, took out the first patent for the manufacture of an explosive compound of nitro-glycerine and of other materials. He took out a second patent, but for some years the use of nitro-glycerine was confined to the manufacture of dynamite. In 1868, when the Belgian government had taken over the firm and nine other persons were blown to atoms. An explosion near Newcastle-on-Tyne, England, killed three men, and several others lost their lives, created a great prejudice in England against the use of high explosives, and various proposals were made in many countries for prohibiting its use.

Dynamite Invented. In 1867, however, Alfred Nobel invented dynamite, a compound of nitro-glycerine with kieselguhr, a very finely-powdered siliceous substance, and from being the most dangerous, nitro-glycerine thus compounded became one of the safest of all explosives. About 1869 Nobel patented ballistite, the first of the high explosives which inaugurated the era of the smokeless powder that has destined to effect so rapid a revolution in the methods of war.

As the result of his prodigious success in the development of a gigantic business—the manufacture of explosives which revolutionized modern industry, Alfred Nobel acquired a fortune which was estimated on his death at £2,000,000. He entertained views as to the unwisdom of leaving large sums to heirs, and in order to carry out his ideas concerning the distribution of wealth he made a will in which he left the whole of his fortune to form a fund, the annual interest of which was to be divided into five annual prizes of £50,000 each. These prizes were to be awarded equally among the men who made the greatest discoveries, in the demands of physical science, chemistry, or medicine, the writer "who produced the greatest work of literature of an idealistic tendency," and, finally, to the man "who shall have done the most or the best work for the fraternity of nations, the suppression or reduction of standing armies, and the formation and propagation of Peace Congresses."

Needless almost to say, it is the Peace Prize which has attracted by far the most attention throughout the world. It was intended to be a lasting monument to Nobel's devotion to the cause of international peace. At one time, indeed, he is said to have wished to bestow the prize on the man who should be wished to devote the bulk of his fortune to founding this prize. In his will, however, it ranked as one of five objects among which his fortune was equally divided.

Nobel's Ideal. His idea was thus expressed—"I would like to dispose of most of my fortune in founding a prize to be given to whoever had made Europe make the greatest advance towards the idea of universal peace."

Some people imagine that the bequest was prompted by a feeling of remorse at the thought of the extent to which high explosives had been used in warfare. Nothing was further from Nobel's mind. He was very much disposed to believe that the more you increase the deadliness of weapons the more you diminish the chances of war.

The "Dynamite King," as Alfred Nobel has been described, became a cosmopolitan European, and as such he was constantly reminded of the absurdity of the present state system of the Old World. He believed in the United States of Europe, and wished to hasten the day when the armed anarchy of the Old World could be superseded by the reign of reason and law. Therefore, for all time to come every year the sum of about £50,000 is given away to the person, institution or society who or which has done the most in the preceding year "for promoting the fraternity of nations, for the suppression or reduction of standing armies, as well as for the formation and propagation of congresses of peace."

The List of Recipients Since 1901, the year in which the Peace Prize was founded, it has been awarded every year up till 1914, when the peace of the world was overthrown and the god of battle prevailed. The recipients of the prizes may be set out in order: 1901—M. Frederic Passy, France; M. Henri Dunant, Switzerland. 1902—M. Eric Ducommun, Switzer-

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land; Dr. A. Gobat, Switzerland. 1903—Sir W. Rendel Cremer, M.P. 1904—The Institute of International Law of Ghent. 1905—Baroness von Suttner, Vienna. 1906—Theodore Roosevelt, United States. 1907—E. T. Moni, Italy; L. Renault, France. 1908—K. P. Arnoldson, Sweden; F. Bajer, Denmark. 1909—Baron P. Lescaur de Constant, France; M. Beernaert, Belgium. 1910—The Berne International Peace Bureau. 1911—T. M. C. Asser, Holland; A. H. Fried, Austria. 1912—Elihu Root, formerly secretary of war of the United States. 1913—H. La Fontaine, president of the International Peace Bureau at Berne.

The First Woman Winner Perhaps the most conspicuous figure in this list of peacemakers is Baroness von Suttner, the first woman to whom the prize has ever been awarded.

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Bertha von Suttner, the first woman to whom the prize has ever been awarded. She is known as "the woman who moved the Peace." Baroness Suttner was one of the leading disciples of the peace movement on the continent, and her book, "Lay Down Your Arms," is said to have influenced the Czar to issue his famous Peace Rescript, which eventually led to the Hague conference. So far only one Englishman has received the award for helping to promote peace and amity among the nations—the late Sir W. Rendel Cremer, M.P., secretary of the International Arbitration League. He was also founder of the International Parliamentary Conference which meet annually since 1888 in the capitals of the world and worked for more than thirty years in the cause of international arbitration. At the present juncture it is significant to note that in 1906 the then president of the United States, Theodore Roosevelt, was given the Nobel Prize in recognition of his services in the cause of international arbitration generally and the valuable help he rendered in connection with the Portsmouth treaty which concluded the Russo-Japanese war.

Whoever the future laureates may be, none will be more honored as peacemakers than those who have already tried to hasten the day when "nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more."

George Burns and Oscar V'itt, who played first and third bases, respectively, for the Tigers last year, have refused to accept President Navin's terms and have not much of their popularity in Detroit. Burns and V'itt, two years ago, were unable to play ball because of injuries, yet they were paid in full. Hugh Jennings has notified Navin to stand pat in view of the fact that Heinman can play first base, while Jones, a new third sacker from the Coast League, is said to be a sterling player. In 194 games with the San Francisco team last season Jones made 192 hits for a batting average of .278, and also stole forty bases. The Tigers still appear to be rather weak in the box.

PLOT TO BLOW UP BRITISH CONSULATE IN HOLLAND

Amsterdam, Feb. 23, via London, Feb. 24.—The Nieuws Van Den Dag says that a plot against the British consulate at Groningen, 92 miles northeast of Amsterdam, has been discovered. A box of explosives to which fuses were attached, the paper adds, were found in the hotel where the consulate is housed. The newspaper reports that five arrests have been made. Conspirators Well Paid. London, Feb. 24.—An Exchange Tele-

graph despatch from Rotterdam says that the persons who were arrested in connection with an alleged plot against the British consulate at Groningen, admitted that they tried several times to blow up the consulate, for which they received 2,000 florins. A woman in Hume, Mo., bought a dozen eggs from her grocer and had the item placed on her charge account. She then took the eggs to another grocer, to whom she sold them for cash, buying tickets for herself and friends to the movies with the proceeds. Some kinds of antelopes can make a leap of 36 feet in length and 10 feet in height. The kangaroo can leap with ease a distance of 60 or 70 feet, hop over a horse or take fences 12 or 15 feet in height.

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