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## LONDON GOSSIP.

**LONDON, Nov. 27th, 1915.**  
**A PRINCESS'S DOLLS.**  
 Princess Napoleon scored a notable success as a royal doll-dresser at the Allies' Doll Show at the Grafton Galleries on November 12th. Her Imperial Highness not only opened the show, but she contributed to it one of its chief features. This was a tableau of dolls in the large gallery which she had dressed herself from the designs of M. Albert Delastanche, a noted Belgian artist. One of the prettiest of the royal dolls was that depicting a lacemaker of Bruges, in which, of course, real Bruges lace played a prominent part. The Princess has always been fond of Bruges lace, and I remember some years ago when I was in a famous lace shop in that city I was ushered into a private parlour by the proud proprietor and shown a wonderful set of lace made to the special order of Princess Clemantine of Belgium, as she was before her marriage to Prince Napoleon. Another of the Princess's dolls represented a peasant woman of the Spa district in the Ardennes. Princess Napoleon, I was told during the afternoon, is a constant visitor to Spa, which until a generation or two ago was the resort of all the wit and fashion of Europe. Monte Carlo has now taken its place as the premier gambling place of the Continent, and the Riviera generally has superseded it as the Continental holiday center of society, but Princess Napoleon, with many of the Belgian aristocracy, is still faithful to Spa, and, war time of course excepted, visits this charming little town at least once a year. Other dolls dressed by the Princess are "A Shiraz Fisherman of Bas Panois" and "A Cow Girl of the Ardennes," the whole displayed in a setting by M. Julien Celos.

**WINTER BILLETING OF TROOPS.**  
 The very large number of troops under training who are now being sent into winter billets will bring a welcome influx of trade to the localities concerned. The householders on whom they are billeted, however, are beginning to realize that the position this winter is very different from that of a twelve month ago. The billeting money has been cut down about thirty per cent, and the cost of supplies has increased by ten or twenty per cent. Those, therefore, who found that their military guests last winter approximately paid their way, apart from dilapidations of house and furniture, are recognizing that the same standard of hospitality, if now repeated, would result in a considerable tax upon their personal resources. The situation is the more acute in middle-class families because domestic servants have found munitions labor more agreeable and profitable, with the result that housewives find it more and more difficult to secure help, and then only at an extravagant rate. Their daughters, too, have in many instances undertaken war nursing, and the result is to throw a very serious burden upon the elder women of the households affected.

**A CLUB FOR COLONIAL SOLDIERS.**  
 The eagerness of soldiers from the British Dominions to "see London" at the earliest moment after their landing in England has produced a "where-to-sleep problem" of an unusual kind. When the soldiers from the Dominions—many thousands of whom are in training camps in various parts of the country—get a week's leave they come with one consent to London. If all were as well provided with pocket-money as, say, the first contingent of the Canadian forces the problem would not have arisen. London's hotel and boarding-house accommodation would have been

equal to the rush. But many of them have lean purses—the South Africans, for example, often have only what they have been able to save of their thirteenpence a day. Scores of them have innocently come to town with rather less than a sovereign to spend, and it needs a very frugal mind to plan a week of sight-seeing in London on that much. Institutions like the Union Jack Club and the Y.M.C.A. have done much to ease the situation by providing cheap quarters for these men, but their accommodation is altogether inadequate for the demand, and at last a special effort has been made to provide what is wanted. A committee has been set up by the Home Office and the Colonial Office, Mr. Steel-Maitland, as Under Secretary for the Colonies, is the chairman. The Committee has promptly furnished a large Government building in Westminster—it is called Peel House—as a residential club for soldiers from over the seas. The institution is scarcely in full working order yet, but it has been organized with such swift efficiency that one night last week it fell and "slept" over 600 men. They have to pay for their accommodation, but the charges are small—a shilling for a substantial midday meal and eightpence each for breakfast, tea and bed. Peel House is planned to provide for 500 men. The crowding of it right away at the start suggests there is room for a supplementary institution.

**DEARTH OF DOCTORS.**  
 Serious concern is being manifested by the heads of the medical profession at the threatened dearth of doctors in the near future because of so many students forsaking the profession and volunteering for combatant service. The case in favor of retaining these in the medical ranks is not made the stronger by declaring that Germany is far superior to the United Kingdom in its exercise of foresight in this particular, for no proof has been offered that any such foresight has been displayed, but injudicious advocacy will not blind the public to the gravity of the situation. Very much of the future of this country depends upon the conservation of its health, not only through the present period of travail, but after peace has brought its own responsibilities, and the military authorities are not likely to shut their eyes to the possibilities of the situation now revealed. It is noteworthy that it is not only doctors whose numbers are declining just now, for Mr. Glyn-Jones, an authority on all matters relating to the apothecary, will, in the House of Commons ask the Under-Secretary for War, whether, in view of the limited number of persons qualified as pharmacists, and the difficulty of providing dispensed medicines for the civil population, including insured persons under the scheme of National Health Insurance he can state if pharmacists are to be enlisted for service in the army except to perform duties for which their special technical qualifications is needed.

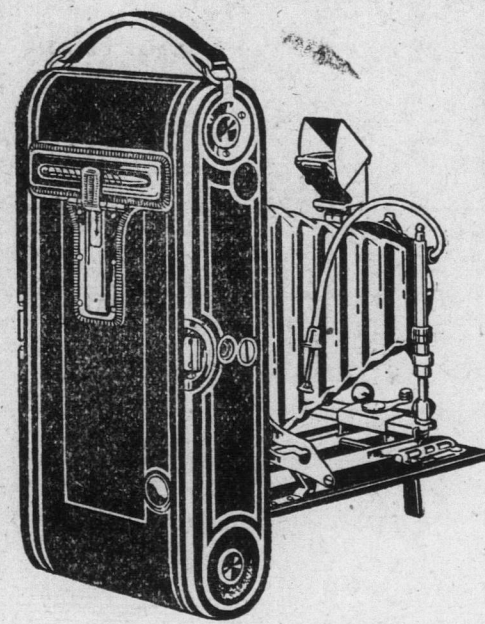
**IMPORTS FROM NEUTRAL COUNTRIES.**  
 One of the factors which traders think should be kept in mind by the Government in replying to the American Note is the stream of goods of German origin which flows to this country from the United States. Traders who have been endeavoring to capture the business which Germany did with this country before the war feel more strongly than ever the relaxation of the blockade which allowed the millions of pounds worth of German goods lying at Rotterdam to be exported. There is no hostility to American trade with the United Kingdom in this attitude. On the contrary there is now in full swing in London an organization which represents 100 American firms and is backed by the largest dry goods store in America. This organization, though it competes with British manufacturers by importing American goods into this country, is conducted on the principles of a clearing house. Against the American goods which it imports is a department which exports British goods to the American, Russian, French, and Australian markets, thus preserving to some extent the balance of exports and imports. Importers of goods from neutral countries, by the way, might take a hint from a well-known Paris firm if they suspect the place of origin. This firm which does

a large business with Switzerland, asks the firm with whom it deals to say expressly if their goods are really of Swiss origin, and if "there exists in your house any interest belonging to a subject of the Powers with whom we are at war." Replies to these questions, it is added, should be certified by competent Swiss authorities and also by an authorized representative of French interests in the particular town.

**CHILD WEALTH.**  
 Evidence comes in from all quarters of the remarkable support that is being given to the crusade for the saving of the child life. The statistics showing the deplorable increase of infant mortality since the outbreak of war, published in the early part of this year, sounded a national alarm, and the impressive meeting in the city a few weeks ago showed how thoroughly the movement had been taken in hand. From one of the most experienced women doctors in England, the head for many years of a pioneer maternity establishment, I learn that the enthusiasm for the care of babies and small children has spread far beyond the ranks of those who were represented at the recent demonstration. She tells me that every maternity home and every center concerned with mothers and infants has been reinforced by voluntary helpers, and that there is a constant stream of educated young women applying for instruction and experience in the tending of children. This, of course, is natural enough. Never before in modern England has the truth that the real wealth is life been brought home

## Sunday Services

**CHURCH OF ENGLAND.**  
**Cathedral of St. John the Baptist.**—Sunday—Holy Communion at 8 a. m.; also on the first Sunday of the month at 7 and 12.15. Other services at 11 a. m. and 6.30 p. m. Thursdays—Holy Communion, 7.35 a. m. Other Days—Matins 8 a. m.; Evensong 5.30 p. m. Fridays—7.30, with sermon. Public Catechizing—Every Sunday in the month at 3.30 p. m.  
**St. Michael's Mission Church, Casey Street.**—Holy Communion at 8 and 11 on the 3rd Sunday of the month, and 11 a. m. and 6.30 p. m. Other services, 11 a. m. and 6.30 p. m.  
**Sunday Schools—Cathedral, at 2.45 p. m. Mission Church at 2.45 p. m.**  
**Cathedral Men's Bible Class.**—The Synod Building every Sunday at 3 p. m. All men invited to attend.  
**PARISH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN, ST. JOHN'S WEST.**  
**Hours of Service in the Parish Church.**—Sundays—Holy Communion every Sunday at 8 a. m.; also, on the first and third Sundays in each month at noon. Wednesdays—Holy Communion and Intercessions on behalf of the War, at 10.30 a. m.  
**Fridays—Evensong and Intercessions on behalf of the War at 7.30 p. m.**  
**Holy Baptism—Every Sunday at 3.30 p. m.**  
**Public Catechizing.**—The third Sunday in each month at 3 p. m.  
**Churching of Women.**—Before any Service.  
**Sunday School.**—At 2.30 p. m., in the Parish Hall.  
**Young Women's Bible Class.**—Every Sunday at 2.45 p. m., in the Parish Room.  
**BROOKFIELD SCHOOL CHAPEL.**  
**Evensong.**—Every Sunday at 3 p. m.  
**Sunday School.**—Every Sunday at 4 p. m.  
**ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH, THE GOULDS.**  
**Evensong.**—Every Sunday at 3 p. m.  
**ASYLUM FOR THE POOR.**  
**Holy Communion.**—The first Sunday in each month at 9 a. m.  
**Matins.**—Every Sunday at 9 a. m.  
**ST. THOMAS'S.**  
 Holy Communion on the third Sunday in each month at noon; every other Sunday at 8 a. m.; Holy Communion on Saints' Days at 7.30 a. m. To-morrow, Dec. 19: Holy Communion 8 a. m.; Morning Prayer, 10; Intercession Service, 11; Preacher, Rev. A. Clayton; Children's Service, 3.45 p. m.; Evensong and Sermon, 6.30; Preacher, The Rector; Subject: "White Gifts for the King."  
**Christ Church (Quid Vidi).**—1st Sunday in month, Matins at 11 a. m.; 2nd Sunday in month, Holy Communion 8 a. m.; 3rd Sunday in month, Evensong at 6.30 p. m.; 4th Sunday in month, Matins at 11 a. m. Evensong at 3.30 p. m. on the 1st, 2nd and 4th Sundays in the month.  
**Sunday Schools.**—At Parish Church at 2.45 p. m.; at Christ Church, Quid Vidi at 2.30 p. m.; at Virginia School Chapel, 2.30 p. m.  
**Virginia School Chapel.**—Evensong every Sunday at 3.30 p. m.; Public Catechizing third Sunday in each month.  
**METHODIST.**  
**Gower St.—11, Rev. W. H. Thomas;** 6.30, Rev. D. B. Hemmeon.  
**George St.—11 and 6.30, Rev. N. M. Guy.**  
**Cochrane St.—11, Rev. C. A. White-**marsh; 6.30, Intercession Service.  
**Wesley—11 and 6.30, Rev. H. Royle.**  
**Congregational.—11 a. m., Rev. D. B. Hemmeon; 6.30 p. m., Rev. W. H. Thomas.**  
**St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church.—**11 and 6.30, Rev. J. S. Sutherland.  
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