

What We Owe to the Navy

Indictive has finished her a sentence thing, old Vindictive in a highly becoming way, in the terrible ordeal in which bore so glorious a part off bridge on St. George's Day, old cruiser, though much battered, emerged in seaworthy condition and made her way unassisted back to England. It was suggested at the time that she should be preserved in her scarred and stress condition, her sides and deck gaping with wounds, as a historical relic of a famous exploit. A nobler fate awaited her. One last service she the end was asked of the old ship, and in performing it she found her final resting-place beneath the element on whose surface she had floated so proudly fought so well. On Thursday it was sunk off Ostend, has virtually sealed that harbor—sealed it certainly to but small craft. This fine exploit on the part of the British is a happy sequel to the romantic and daring adventure of George's Day. If she had been

THE WORK OF THE BRITISH NAVY

One advantage of a deed of this kind is that it enables a corner to be lifted of that thick veil which conceals from view the work of the British Navy. Much nonsense has been spoken and written about the passive role of the Navy in this war; and we dare say that certain writers will select Vindictive's last exploit as a theme for lyrical articles extolling the positive in naval warfare over the negative.

People need to be on guard against superficial reflections of this kind. Febrile folk crave constantly for something spectacular. They cannot believe that anything is being done if there is an absence of fuss and clatter in the doing of it. We hope the Admiralty will never be influenced in its policy by this itching for sensation. Silently and unseen, the Navy has performed, and is performing, its true function in this war with the greatest skill and with supreme devotion. Never in the annals of warfare has there been a complete triumph of seapower. The seas have long since been swept clear of enemy merchant vessels. Millions of soldiers, many of them brought from the uttermost parts of the earth, have been transported to and from the theatres of war with an absence of casualties that is perfectly amazing. Day after day, week after week, our Armies abroad are reinforced, munitioned and supplied with a precision and regularity that would be marvellous were it not that custom has dulled its wonder for us. Through the combined efforts of our merchant fleet

and the Royal Navy, these islands are kept supplied with food and raw materials drawn from sources thousands of miles away. What labor, hardship, and sacrifice, what vigilant and unceasing care are involved in these operations, our landsmen only very dimly realize. Could we but visualize them we would take off our hats to every sailor we meet, whether he belong to the Navy or the merchant service.

NAVY TRUE TO TRADITIONS

Whatever fighting has had to be done, the Navy has shown that it is true to its noblest traditions. It has had to face in this war perils unknown, even inconceivable, to the sailors of bygone generations. The floating mine and the invisible U-boat have multiplied tenfold the perils of naval warfare. Against these methods of barbarism, as treacherous as they are lawless, the British Navy has shown not merely heroism, but also resourcefulness and flexibility of adaptation. The Admiralty was slow in realizing the potentialities of enemy submarines, but that grim menace is become much less formidable since the initiative and the inventiveness of our sailors have had free scope. Necessarily much the greatest part of the Navy's work is unseen and unrecorded. Let us not, however, be guilty of the base ingratitude of forgetting it. Every day deeds are done by officers and men of the Navy as intrepid and as skilful as those rare exploits which the Press is permitted to reveal to the nation. In applauding the Zebrugge and Ostend raids, let us not forget the silent work done day and night by the unknown heroes who keep watch and ward over our island home.—London Chronicle.

Bismarck's Secrets In England

When Bismarck died he left instructions that the concluding portion of his memoirs should not be published until after the death of all the persons mentioned therein. Says the "Paris Matin": "This section of the great statesman's autobiography described his relations with the present Kaiser, and doubtless treated Wilhelm and his chosen friends with characteristic Bismarckian candour. Although Bismarck created modern Germany, he had no great trust in the modern German. For safety's sake the temporarily suppressed manuscript was, therefore, deposited with the Bank of England. It is there still. The British Government might well seize this 'enemy property' and publish it. The German Government would, of course, shriek 'Forgery!' but Bismarck is still the hero of his fellow-countrymen, and the influence of his last words might hasten disillusionment and peace."

\$12,500 a Year Too Small For This Poor Yankee Girl

She Avers That Owing to War Time Conditions She Really Cannot Get Along on Less Than \$28,850 a Year

Although Miss Lorena Carroll, seventeen years old, enjoys an income of \$12,500 a year, the sum is wholly inadequate in her belief to provide properly for her maintenance. She has requested Surrogate Fowler of New York, to increase the allowance to \$28,850 annually. The young woman, who is attending school, is the daughter of the late Joseph D. Carroll, head of Fiss, Dorr & Carroll, horse dealers, and derives her income from his estate of \$1,150,000.

Miss Carroll attributes war time conditions to the need for her additional allowance. Originally her income amounted to \$5,000, and by successive appeals to the Surrogate grew to \$12,500. Despite this latter sum Miss Carroll declared she was \$3,686.82 in debt to her mother for the last year. Itemizing her expenses, the young woman, who is a student at the fashionable Ogontz school near Philadelphia, presented the following accounts in support of her application:

For tailored dresses, school dresses, coats, sport coats, sweaters, evening gowns, party gowns, lingerie, shoes, stockings, skirts, hats, shirtwaists, jewelry, automobile coats, parasols, furs, toilet articles, perfumes, collars, laces, ribbons, hair-dressing, shampooing and make-up—\$3,000.

For upkeep of a limousine and a touring automobile, including club dues and insurance, \$5,000. Education, including tuition in music and French, and contributions to church, \$2,000.

Life insurance, bonds for her guardian, burglary and household insurance, \$850.

For pleasure, including travelling, rent of summer cottage, railroad fares, sociables, hotel bills, luncheons, dinners, dances and theatre parties, \$3,000.

For physicians, opticians and dentists, \$1,000. After summarizing her expenses, Miss Carroll informed Surrogate Fowler that it would be more economic for her to buy a new touring car instead of having the old one repaired.

Asquith as a Bookman

(From the Boston Herald.)

The former Prime Minister of England never has appeared to greater advantage than since he gave his great office into the charge of Mr. Lloyd George. He has sought neither to embarrass nor to harass the Government, he has neither vexed nor bedeviled his successor. He is aiding him with all his might the British endeavour to win the war; he is not "playing politics." Lately, however, he has appeared before the public in a new role, that of a bookman. As a speaker he long has been known as the possessor of a fluent and charming style and a master of literary allusion. In a volume of "Occasional Addresses" he includes papers upon a variety of topics, six of which show his love for books. He discourses agreeably upon "Criticism," upon "Biography," and upon "The Spade and the Pen," the last essay being a resume of recent development in Greek archaeology. Felicitous phrases are plentiful, and wise counsels for those who would write and speak good and forceful English. For instance: "The man who wants to write or speak English will go to the great authors, whom I have just named, again and again; not to echo their cadences or to mimic their mannerisms; not even to enrich his own vocabulary, but to study the secret of their music; to learn how it is that, with them, language became the mirror of thought." And again: "The man who has studied literature, and particularly the literature of the ancient world, as a student should, and only as a student can—I am not speaking of those to whom it has been merely a distraction or a pastime—such a man possesses resources which, if he is wise, he would not barter for a king's ransom." There Mr. Asquith spoke out of the fullness of his heart and revealed himself anew as belonging in the line of statesmen of whom England always has been proud and of whom America has all too few, statesmen who also are scholars, men of the type of Lord Morley and Gladstone.

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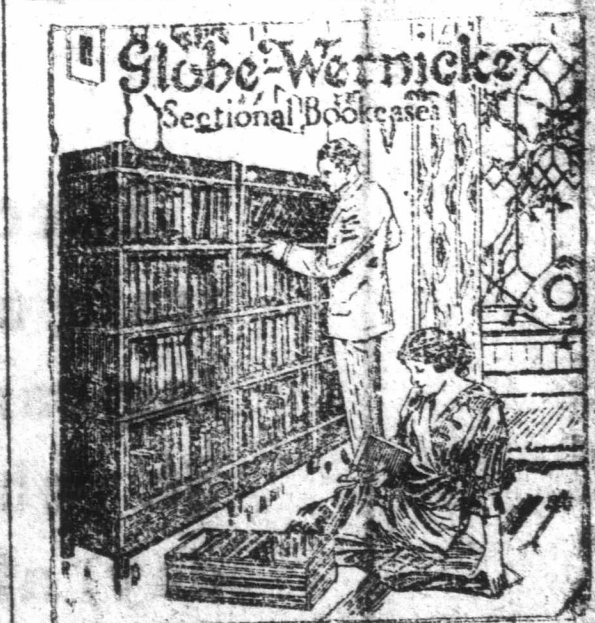
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