

GOVERNMENT IN POWER AT GOOD WILL OF ENEMIES

(Continued from page 9.)
sailors' eyes, even more beautifully, and they last almost as long. The old action of the Cutty Sark's race home from the Far East with the Thermopylae, has been revived by a London newspaper. The Cutty Sark was a hustler, especially in a stiff breeze, but there were faster ships about. Her best day's sailing was 363 knots, a wonderful achievement for sails, but not in it with the Yankee Lightning's 436, under "Bully" Forbes, an old skipper whose defiant "Hell or Melbourne" remains a sea classic, and who now anchors at Liverpool in Smithdown Road cemetery.

Overhauling a Mail Steamer.

The best story of the Cutty Sark is her race with the P. and O. mail steamer "Britannia" from Cape Gable to Sydney. The old sailor clipper romped home several hours ahead of the P. and O. boat, thanks to a fresh breeze that suited her down to her Pinnosol mark. When the first mail reported to the steamer's skipper that a sailing vessel was "coming up astern," the indignant skipper thought his first officer had gone mad. The first owner of the Cutty Sark lived at Richmond, and over his kitchen mantelpiece, in Latin, ran the sea proverb: "God sends the food, but the devil sends the cooks." This was before Lloyd George instituted diplomas for sea chefs. The last time the Cutty Sark put into Port of London was in November, 1922, when she berthed in the Surrey Docks.

The Mystery City.

The Roumanian capital has suddenly become a mystery city. No news has reached the outside world since the arsenal blew up, except vague rumors of revolutionary emetics and Jewish pogroms. Those who call Bucharest the Paris of the Balkans are thinking of pre-war France. Bucharest was, until this crisis, quite the gayest capital in Europe. It is a city of medieval turrets and modern cinemas, beautiful women and picturesque costumes, incredible gaiety and indescribable squalor. It combines almost theatrical tranquillity with feverish night life. In endless cabarets, bare-kneed dancers, usually camouflaged Germans, away to Spanish castanets, and at day-break the revellers take a drowsy, driven by a comic opera brigades to the chestnut groves, where gipsies chant wild melodies to the strains of a lute, until it is time to have breakfast and get to bed.

Doing Yourself Proud.

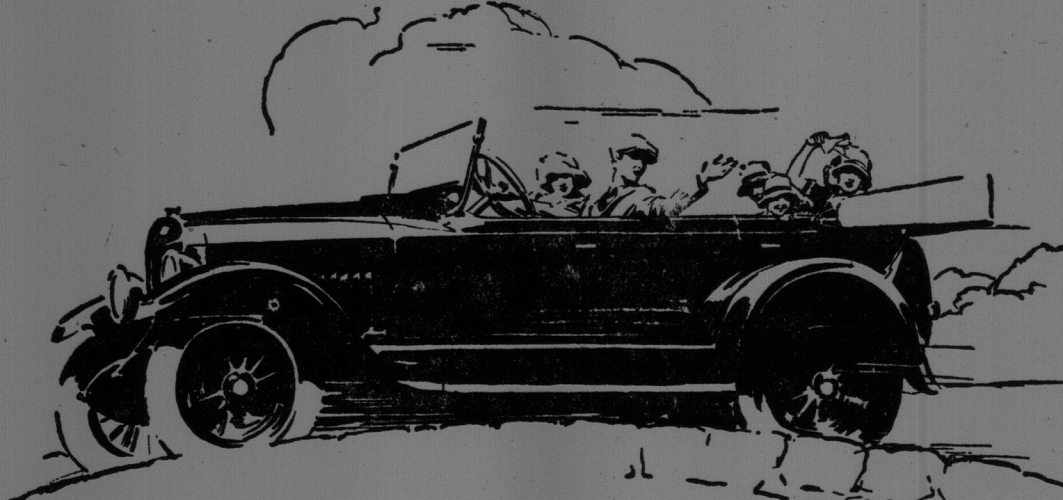
I doubt whether, without deliberation running amuck among the more extravagant vintages on the wine list, one can dine so expensively anywhere at the West End as one may at Wembley. The famous firm that looks after the catering is doing its work admirably, and there are cafes to suit all tastes and pockets. But at one restaurant in the Far Eastern section a four-pound-a-head dinner is provided, calculated to gratify at once the appetite and the social savor of any war profiteer or American dollar king. The eleven courses include such items as bird's nest soup, retailed by West End grocers at 10s. 6d. an ounce; stewed shark's fin, long familiar to frequenters of the Chinese restaurants in Piccadilly and Oxford street; stuffed duck and soothed awabi. Just the place for the well-scrubbed jaded flapper in quest of something expensive and sensational.

Heroes of the Past.

A sporting newspaper man with a long memory of Derby Days tells me that he can recall no other occasion when so many famous horsemen were to be seen in the paddock at Epsom as this Wembley year. He spotted Frank Wootton, a trainer, whose jockey ambition of winning the Derby was never realized; Mornington Cannon, who won a quarter of a century ago on Flying Fox, and still maintains that that was the best of modern Derby mounts; Herbert Jones, who had the luck to be "up" on two out of the three royal winners; and Otto Madden, hero of one of the most sensational Derby Days on record. He rode that absolute outsider, Jeddah, which romped in a good winner at monstrous odds in 1898. According to legend, the only backer, outside the stable, was a lonely and benighted Anglo-Indian, home on leave, who picked Jeddah because that was the name of his Indian station.

A Tete-a-Tete.

Talking about cricket reminds me that at Leicester the other day the great veteran Lockwood, perhaps the finest bowler there ever was, delighted some old admirers by turning up "in the pink." He seemed to be eyeing the pitch with rather a wistful gleam in his bronzed face. He talked in a most interesting way of old times, and recalled one amusing episode in which he figured with Lord Hake. The old Yorkshire skipper had called a doubtful run, when he and Lockwood were



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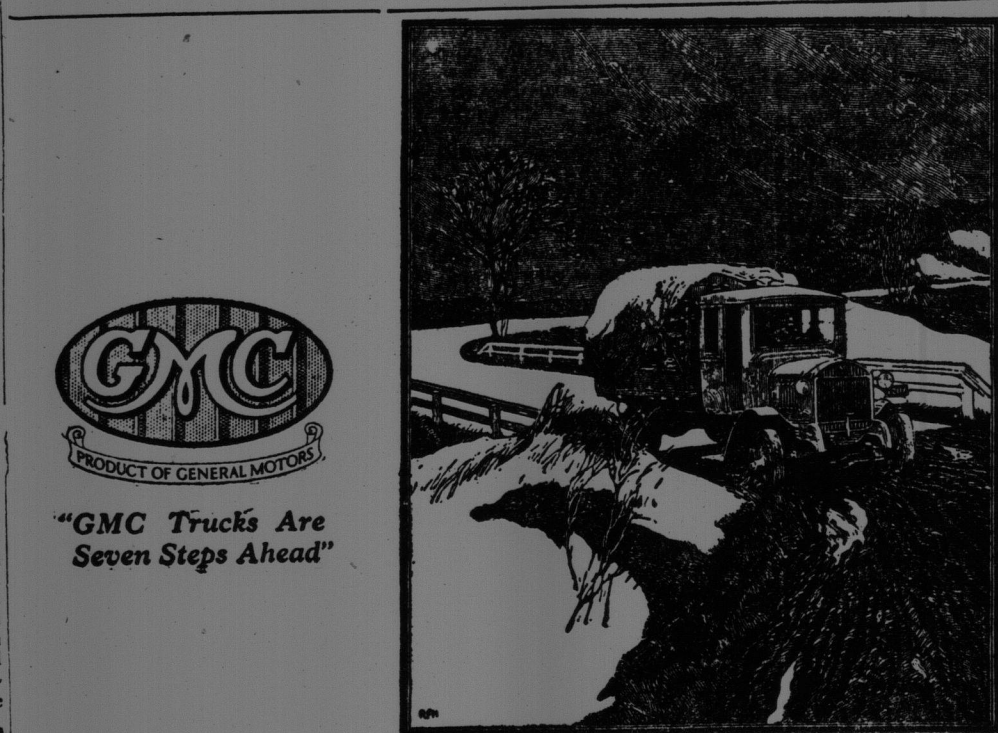
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together at the wickets, and a bit of which end the fielder threw the ball to smart fielding made it certain that one of them would be out. It depended on more valuable than the bowler's, Lockwood and his captain, when they met in mid-wicket, held a little tete-a-tete. Then Lockwood, the ball having

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Everybody who has met the South African cricketers speaks in high praise of their sportsmanship. In the vital matter of weather they have experienced the worst of luck, but they still preserve a gallantly cheerful spirit worthy of a companionship that played its full part in the war, because there is not one of these visitors of service age when the bell rang in 1914 who failed promptly to answer the call. Nourse is an old campaigner who wears the Matabele medal as well as the European ribbons, or is entitled to do so, and Pegler, who was with the Rifles in the immortal salient, is a D. S. O. man. Hands is an old gunner with the M. C. His battery of "hows" came in useful more than once, especially when the Germans made their big push on the Ginchy front.

A New Caruso.

An old opera enthusiast assures me that the ovation accorded to Alfred Piecaver at Covent Garden after his debut in the leading role of Puccini's "La Tosca" equalled anything of the kind within his recollection. The English Caruso, as the newspapers call him, is a Lincolnshire man, of sturdy physique, good looks, and pleasing address. In early youth he accompanied his parents to the U. S., and his first public singing was in a New York choir. His first operatic engagement was at Prague, as the result of a friendly competition, while on a holiday in the Austrian Tyrol, and Mr. Piecaver was there when the war broke out. In consideration for his vocalism the Austrians refrained from internment him, and he organized an association football club to help pass the time away. Probably he is the first really notable operatic star who was a devotee of "soccer."

CADETS PRACTISE SHOOTING.

The cadets assembled at the Armory in large numbers last night and had a practise shoot under the direction of Capt. D. V. Palin, cadet instructor. The cadet uniforms are being called in and many were turned in last night. The remainder will be handed in on Tuesday night.

FINED IN LIQUOR CASE.

In the police court yesterday afternoon James McCausland was fined \$200 for having intoxicating liquor in his beer shop in Mill street.

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GET DUCKING AT TEST.

A test of the chemical motor pumping engine from No. 1 fire station, Charlotte street, was made on the North Market wharf last evening to see how the apparatus would draw water from the harbor. The pumper started on full right but eventually refused to draw the water from the slip. She was then taken to a fire hydrant nearby and a good stream was thrown. It was so good that the hose got clear of the two firemen handling it and, as

it slashed about, several citizens who were looking on as well as the chief of the fire department received a ducking before the water could be shut off.

Another attempt at drawing water from Market slip was made from the opposite side of the pumper and was found to work alright.

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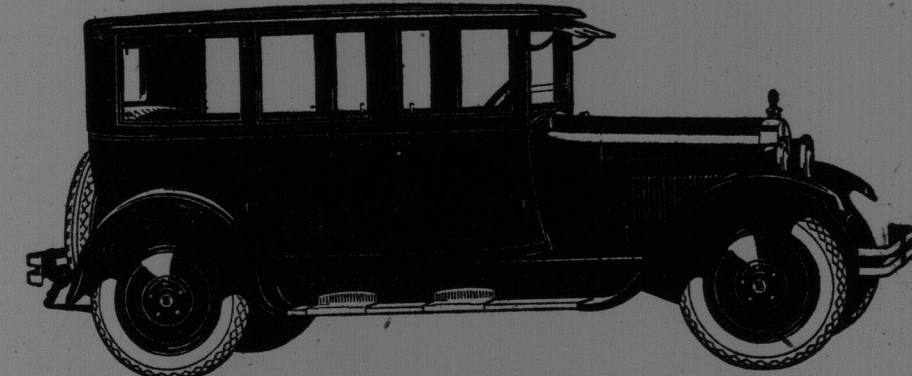
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