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LONDON GOSSIP.

LONDON, March 29th, 1916.

THE PRIME MINISTER'S ILLNESS.

It is possible to speak with authority about the health of the Prime Minister. Nothing serious is the matter. But it is significant of the strain imposed by the war that the present instance and the one last November are the only two cases in which he has been laid up in the last twenty-one years. His physical health is really abnormal, and is in startling contrast to that of his fellow-barrister, Sir Edward Carson, who is only slowly becoming convalescent, and yet more so that of Mr. Balfour, who suffers so much from colds that he is now, I hear, trying a new system of inoculation. One of Mr. Balfour's greatest friends is that apostle of inoculation, Sir Almroth Wright, who now has a military laboratory at Boulogne, and it is due to his faith in this treatment that the First Lord is now testing it.

FOREIGN SECRETARY RUMOURS.

It is widely rumoured in diplomatic quarters, not only here but on the Continent, that Lord Hardinge, on his return from India will become Foreign Secretary, and that Sir Edward Grey will retire. Nothing looks more improbable than this late, but it is accepted in such prominent quarters that I think it merits publicity. Lord Hardinge, of course had a distinguished diplomatic career before he went to India. Until now it was generally understood that Lord Hardinge was to succeed Lord Bertie in Paris.

PORTUGUESE ARMY UNDER BRITISH TRAINING.

No amount of the military association of Britain and Portugal should ignore the remarkable reorganization of the Portuguese army during the Peninsular War, and the part that army played in checking the attempted advance of Soult on Lisbon. That wild Irishman William Carr Beresford, who undertook the reorganization, found that the Portuguese were almost useless when first opposed to Soult. He accordingly set down to teach them better ways. He decided on having a small and efficient army instead of a big and inferior one. He picked out the best men and officers, and turned the rest into a militia. The small and select army was treated, after Beresford's manner, to Draconian punishments for their failings and to lyrical praise for successes in the field. The method paid, and Beresford transformed the small army into really excellent light infantry.

AN ALLIED CONFERENCE IN ROME.

There is to be a conference of the Allies in Rome within the next week or two. It will be political rather than military in character, and, as the Prime Minister cannot leave London, the Minister of Munitions, Lloyd George, will probably represent this country.

ARCHITECTS AND AIRCRAFT.

Some architects here already are embodying in their designs for new constructions various devices suggested by the conditions introduced by aircraft development. Recent experience shows it to be very tedious and expensive to insert blinds (or other shades to prevent internal lightning

showing outside) in stone and concrete buildings, such as churches, public halls, and the like, many makeshifts are being adopted in the present emergency which detract materially from the appearance and integrity of walls, skylights, and the like. Apart from this it is realized that, during the prolonged period of peace which it is hoped will be the sequel of the war, the navigation of the air will make a definite entry into the normal life of mankind, and this will bring in its train the ever-present risk of injury from collision, or the accidental fall of heavy substances.

ENTERPRISE AT LLOYD'S.

One of the most remarkable commercial revolutions produced by the war is the new method of signing policies by women in connection with Lloyd's, Britain's greatest centre of marine and odd kinds of insurance. There is now a big staff of girls working in the policy department at 19, Great Winchester Street, by a new arrangement organized by syndicates of the underwriters, with the intention of releasing men for the army. Lloyd's is far from conservative, and has taken the lead in many recent developments of insurance. When the Zepelin raids started in earnest some groups of underwriters began to deal in war risk policies while the ordinary insurance companies hesitated, and a considerable amount of general business has come into the room through this lead. Much of the energy of Lloyd's is due to two men. One is Cuthbert Eden Heath. He is the younger son of the late Admiral Sir Leopold Heath, and he could not enter the navy himself owing to deafness. His only son is now serving in Egypt. The secretary of Lloyd's is Admiral Edward Ingfield, formerly a distinguished member of the Admiralty staff, who succeeded that witty and popular figure Captain Hosler. His appointment closely cemented the union between the Admiralty and Lloyd's. Admiral Ingfield works at Lloyd's as though he were on his ship. He is the willing assistant of every new development.

THE LONDON FAIR.

Differing from the recent British Industries Fair promoted by the Board of Trade, inasmuch as it includes examples of the trades and industries of a number of other countries, the London Fair and Market, which opened in the Agricultural Hall on March 14th, is an equally serious attempt to imitate the Leipzig model and bring together the manufacturer and buyer, the wholesaler and retailer, in new British enterprise. As the British manufacturer has been decimated by his lethargy, it is only fair to note that the present exhibition, comprehensive though it is, would have been a much bigger scheme had the Government not requisitioned Olympia, and in their quest for skilled workers prohibited the exhibition of jewellery, gold, and silver ware, and kindred articles. The Fair has made a promising beginning, with between 300 and 400 manufacturers showing. A high order of craftsmanship is revealed. In conversation with some of the exhibitors I learned that in many directions enemy trade is being surely captured. Some of those who had the courage to launch out a year ago are getting

a lucrative return to-day. I heard of one man, a civil engineer a year ago, who found his normal occupation gone, and who now employs 120 hands in the toy-making trade. All sorts of people and institutions are making toys of the more substantial order. One of the most notable exhibits in this class is that of the Lord Roberts Memorial workshops, where 200 disabled soldiers are turning out vast loads of toys, noteworthy for freshness of idea and good workmanship, and which appear to find a ready sale. Some of the men were disabled at Mons and among them is Sergeant Richard, V.C., the hero of a notable incident in the Gallipoli trenches.

THE PARLIAMENTARY RIFLE RANGE.

The two Houses of Parliament have been furnished by voluntary subscription with a miniature rifle range and for a little while, at all events—while the novelty of the thing lasts—the new means of "instruction and reaction" will be to many members a welcome change from chess which is practically the only amusement that the Houses know. Billiards, bowls, and skittles have been from time to time suggested as desirable additions to the amenities of the Palace of Westminster to refresh faded legislators in the intervals of high debate, but hitherto members have shown a wholesome respect for possible popular comment upon diversions of this sort. A rifle range of a serious and dignified kind—without the heads of the Kaiser and the Crown Prince and the beard of Tiritz and the back of Hindenburg—is clearly free from any possible objection and may even assist elderly members of invincible youth to fit themselves to take part at need in the fighting line. There are, of course, many excellent shots in both Houses who will be glad of the opportunity to keep their hands in, and one may expect a succession of interesting inter-Parliamentary competitions. The new range of twenty-five yards runs under the Royal Gallery, a part of the Palace which is practically only used on the occasion of state openings.

LONDON AFTER BERLIN.

The first few days spent in England by the Englishwomen who have been living in Germany during the war months, and absorbing German views of England's position, are days of enlightenment. One woman, prepared to find London sunk in gloom, tells me that her first few hours in London were among the happiest she has lived. The people looked so care-free and the soldiers looked so happy and walked so confidently, instead of looking as the German soldier now does. It delighted her to walk past the butchers' shops, looking at such meat as she had not seen for nearly two years. It was a year, she said, since she had seen any fat, and if she asked her Berlin butcher to supply just a little fat with her mutton chops, she used to be told that "the animals hadn't got any." It shocked her to see that in her Bloomsbury hotel more bread was cut than the visitors were likely to require. She preferred the rigid care exercised in Berlin about every crumb, though it was very awkward sometimes, as when, for instance, a lady visited to have a few friends to tea could only get a supply of bread and butter by ringing up her convenient friends and begging for any bread they could spare from their individual bread tickets. The number of taxicabs and motor-cars was another surprise, since Berlin, with its rubber famine, is now very short of cars.

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TO-MORROW'S TANGLE.

"To-morrow's tangle to the winds resign," old Omar said, and thus in one brief line, set forth more wisdom than most poets spring, in all the years through which they live and sing. With present griefs man fearlessly combats; he pulls their ears and kicks them in the slats; and, like a knight in armor gone afield, he quite enjoys the tilting that they yield. But, having whipped the dragons of to-day, with manner bold and debonaire and gay, he feels the ardor in his breast expire; "To-morrow's dragons and chimeras die," he mutters low, "will seize me by the throat, remove my scalp and bear away my goat." To-morrow's dragons may be one inch tall; to-morrow's troubles may not come at all. If you to-day have fought a goodly fight, forget your fears, and sleep in peace to-night, and when you wake the good old sun will shine; to-morrow's tangle to the winds resign.

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The following information is published so that the friends and relatives of the members of the Newfoundland Regiment may address their letters in accordance with the following directions:—
Always put the regimental number, full name, rank and Company (if known) of the addressee.

1. If the addressee is understood to be at the Depot in Scotland the letters and parcels should be addressed as follows:

(No.) (Rank) (Name)
Company
Newfoundland Regiment,
Newton-on-Ayr, Scotland.

2. If the addressee is understood to be on active service:

(No.) (Rank) (Name)
Company
1st Newfoundland Regiment,
British Expeditionary Force,
c/o Newfoundland Pay and Record Office,
88 Victoria Street,
London, S.W., England.

3. If the addressee is understood to have been invalided to Great Britain and is in Hospital:

(No.) (Rank) (Name)
c/o Newfoundland Contingent,
Pay and Record Office,
88 Victoria Street,
London, S.W., England.

If in doubt of the whereabouts of a member of the Regiment, use same address as above, No. 8. Never address a letter in care of the War Office or in care of the G. P. O., London.

With regard to Parcels, they should be carefully packed and bear a Customs declaration specifying contents. The outer cover should be of strong linen, calico, canvas or other textile (waterproofed), and must be securely sewn up. Packing in cardboard or paper is not sufficient.

(a) The address must be written in bold letters on the covering in ink or indelible pencil and no on a label, whether tied or pasted on. The name and address of the sender must be shown on the cover.

(b) Wooden or metal boxes with square corners should not be sent unless well padded, as such boxes are liable to damage other parcels in transit.

(c) No perishable articles may be sent, and anything likely to become soft or sticky, such as chocolate or sweets, must be packed in this well fastened down. Bottles, pudding basins, and the like are prohibited and will not be accepted for transmission.

(d) Cigarettes and Tobacco should be packed in tin boxes, soldered to make them airtight, and these should then be placed in wooden boxes, otherwise they are liable to be spoiled by damp.

Parcels must not exceed 11 lbs. in weight.
Any further information may be had on application at the Post Office.

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apr13,61,ead

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Make up a rose jar and use it all the season plenty of the perfume at small intervals. The best foundation for perfume is dried petals in alternating layers. Stir the rose leaves daily. When the last layer let the mass stand for a day daily stirring.

At the end of this perfume rose leaves out and mix an ounce of cloves and ground coarsely and a quantity of shredded stick cinnamon them back in the jar and stir and set away in a dark

