

## LONDON GOSSIP.

LONDON, July 24th, 1916.

### THE DUC DE ROHAN.

The Duc de Rohan, who has been killed in action, had been at his own request transferred to the infantry, whose duties are more dangerous than those of any other arm. He was head of one branch of a family that gave Brittany its dukes and kings. Henry I, Duc de Rohan, was leader of the Calvinist party in the days of Louis XIII. The Chevalier de Rohan, Grand Veneur de France, was beheaded for conspiracy in 1774. Cardinal de Rohan was deprived of all his honors as Grand Aumonier of France for being concerned in Marie Antoinette's diamond necklace affair. Another Rohan, a Grand Master of the Knights of Malta, gave the "Code Rohan" to Malta, where it is still in force. The Code Rohan exists nowhere else than in Malta, but most of our dominions have law that greatly resembles the Roman-Dutch, which is very like the Code Napoleon. The family was split up into several branches, one being that of Gue, another of them being that of Soubise, whose name is associated with a rich onion sauce. The late Duke was a prominent member of the French Jockey Club, and he hunted in Leicestershire, England. The family motto means "Cannot be omnipotent. Will not be a menial. Am a Rohan."

### WOUNDED IN CLOVER.

The hospital trains still roll into London twice or thrice a day, but I am told that there still is not enough wounded to "go round" among those people who wish to entertain them, or, as I am afraid I must in truth say, to obtain the presence of the wounded to justify their own entertainment. Recently I met a lady who told me that she had tired herself out telephoning to the hospitals to see whether they could send a party of wounded out to tea. Everywhere the reply was "All our wounded are booked up. If you give us a week's notice we might probably be able to arrange a party." My acquaintance had arranged a garden party for seventy people, and had been told at the last minute that only forty or so were coming. To telephone for a party of wounded seemed a happy and kindly inspiration till she tried it. "What did you do?" I asked. "Oh," she said, "it turned out all right. The forty women who came had been selling flags all day, and they ate up everything. I never saw people so ravenous."

### LONDON VOLUNTEER CAMPS.

Some of the suburban Volunteer camps (attended by men over military age acting as spare time soldiers) projected for the first week in August have been abandoned in consequence of the postponement of the Bank Holidays; but it is understood they will be held as soon as the substituted holidays are announced by Proclamation. Under the new command the preparation of the London defences is in active progress, as is evidenced every Sunday and Saturday afternoon by the bodies of men engaged in trench-digging under depressing weather conditions. The trenches that are being made are in some instances educational, being designed to allow of a rapid comparison of various types that have been developed in practical warfare on the Western front. It may be expected that in the event of the rather remote prospect of an invasion in any part of Great Britain, the completion and extension of these entrenchments would be carried out with the aid of civilians and not by Volunteer soldiers alone.

### YACHTS FOR CARGO CARRYING.

A number of sailing and auxiliary yachts are being employed for the transport of some kinds of cargo. Craft of the type are at first sight not very suitable for work of the character. They must be, however, more suitable than they appear to be, for I hear that the use of them under the Red Ensign is spreading. Several well-known steam yachts—one or two of them are of more than average dimensions—are understood to be the subject of negotiations which are well forward. The conversion of vessels of the type involves the scrapping of a good deal of elegant accommodation, but it does not take long, or cost a great deal to make the necessary alterations. That the converted vessels would not pay their way under ordinary conditions is of course certain, but the state of shipping is so far from normal that their profit is not for the time being in the least degree doubtful. "It really looks," said a well-known shipping man, "as if almost anything in the shape of a surface ship were a paying proposal to-day." Most of the trades for which yachts are being

bought or are in demand are, I may add, what are called "special." A number of them are between overseas British possessions.

### DEARER HATS.

Men's "bowlers" and soft felt hats are to be much dearer. This is due to the great and continued increase in the price of all the materials employed in the manufacture of the hat and to the greatly lessened production. Both wool, which is used for the cheaper qualities of felt hats, and the fur for the better grades cost very much more—quite 50 per cent. Dyes have of course soared to an unprecedented figure. Methylated spirit for proofing the hats costs at least four times as much. The silk linings and the ribbons are about a third dearer, and the leathers are considerably higher in price. Packing materials and paper of every description all cost more, the cheapest cardboard boxes being nearly double the old price, while coal costs twice as much and cotton is also up. In addition, the marked shortage of labor occasioned by enlistments has very seriously affected the output of the factories, and the vast number of men now in the Army has caused a great decline in the demand for civilian headwear. Although certain advances in price have already been made, the manufacturers have up to the present been working to a large extent on old stocks, but they are now unanimous in regard to the inevitability of further increases. So far as the public are concerned, to obtain a "bowler" or soft fur felt of the old quality they will soon have to pay quite a shilling more than previously—or be served with a much inferior article.

### SEEN IN BOND STREET.

The feminine "nut" of Bond Street, London, and thereabouts has started an effective new fashion during the last few days. She has taken to wearing the severest of white stocks worn tightly wrapped round the neck crossed at the back and fastened in the front in the fashion of a hunting stock with a small regimental badge. The hat worn with this is a black hatter's plush, but it is not the man's

topper affected by so many women last year nor even a bowler, but a Tyrolean shape with a softly rolled brim. Gauntlet gloves are worn, and coat and skirt of studiously plain cut in one of the numerous beige and covert shades.

### WAR SAVINGS WEEK.

In London the activities of War Savings Week are chiefly taking the form of attempts to form war savings associations in factories, schools, professions and so on. These associations are "catching on" all over the country—over 2,600 have been started within the last few months. The aim is to popularise the purchase of War Savings certificates of 15s 6d by small instalments. The minimum payments are usually fixed at sixpence, and members are encouraged to subscribe regularly. The value of the certificate increases annually, and at the end of five years it can be cashed for twenty shillings. In London over 200 new associations have been formed quite recently, and one interesting little piece of propaganda is the action of the London County Council in circulating War Savings literature among the residents in the Council's dwellings. Millions of leaflets are being distributed throughout the country by the National Committee this week, urging economy in domestic and personal spending, and women's organisations are doing their share in appealing to women. If this latest attempt to cut down luxuries by exhortation is no more successful than the earlier ones it will not be for want of trying.

### Incandescent Gas Lighting.

Possibly, the feature of incandescent gas lighting most frequently noted by casual observers is the great ease with which tasks, ordinarily arduous under artificial light may be performed under the Wohlbach gas mantle. The light has a peculiarly soft quality, difficult to describe, but which is readily recognized by those who have had experience with the gas mantle lamp.

In its general effect upon bodily health and comfort, the use of incandescent gas lighting is decidedly favorable. The currents of air set up by the burning gas improves ventilation, sending it direct to the lungs, and respiration and draw in fresh air to replace it. Harmful or dangerous disease germs are instantly destroyed in the flame. The extent to which this effect takes place may be verified by placing a gas lamp close to a ceiling without any protection or interfering with the up-rushing air currents. The charred particles which collect immediately above the lamp are the remains of dust particles which before passing through the flames were laden with germs and microbes. Actual experiments have shown that the burning of gas lamps in rooms previously containing bacteria, resulted in absolute sterilization of the air. Contrary to the popular notion the temperature of rooms lighted by incandescent gas lamps is seldom markedly greater than under incandescent electric light, even under unfavorable conditions of ventilation, while in rooms provided with the ventilating facilities required by the demands of hygiene, the temperature in gas-lighted rooms is frequently lower.

### WIDER FIELDS.

The young men drift away from home; they go to Rahway and to Noma, to Boston and New York; and some of them will cross the sea to try their luck in Gay Paree, in Edinburgh or Cork. They go afar, to play the game, to win the laurel wreath of fame, acquire a goodly roll; their native village doesn't field a chance, they want a wider field than Punktown-in-the-Hole. Yet Punktown is a goodly town, and here a man may gain renown, and wealth, and honors, too; but you are full of dreams, my lad, and so you'll like for Petrograd, across the ocean blue. Across the hills and far away, you'll have a better chance, you say, as hosts have said before; and so you say farewell to all, and leave behind your father's hall, his roof-tree and his door. I know you'd do as well at home as you will do, wherever you roam; but it were vain to speak for youth must tread the distant road, and for itself its own abroad, its Eldorado's seek. Go forth and hew and carve and build, and may the visions be fulfilled that agitate your soul! Go, wander 'neath a foreign sky, while we old codgers wilt and die, at Punktown-in-the-Hole!

### Local Shipbuilding.

The enterprising firm of G. C. Fearn & Son at Placentia, are having built at the ancient capital a 200 ton schooner. Mr. Joe Palfrey, the famous West Coast ship builder, is undertaking to construct the vessel, which when finished will equal any of her size on this side of the Atlantic. An effort is being made to secure as much local material as possible, and with that object in view, the saw mills at Bay de Esprit are now turning out all the heavy timber.

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PHONE--434.

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## War News.

### Messages Received Previous to 9 A.M.

#### LINE ADVANCED.

LONDON, Aug. 8. (Official.) Southwest of Guillemont we advanced our line about 400 yards. Fighting continues near Guillemont station, northwest of Pozières the enemy made four attacks on our trenches again using flammen werfers. Three attacks failed completely, but in one he managed to occupy about fifty yards of our trenches. The enemy shelled Longueval high wood and Pozières heavily, also the vicinity of Mamautz. Elsewhere along the front it was a quiet day, except for some artillery activity in Loos salient near Givenchy.

#### TURKISH REAR GUARD CAUGHT.

LONDON, Aug. 8. British troops pursuing the Turkish forces, defeated last week at Romani, have caught up with the Turkish rear guard six miles east of Kalia, about thirty miles to the east of the Suez Canal, says an official statement, regarding the campaign in Egypt issued to-day. Quantities of war materials are being gathered up by the British from the Romani battlefield, adds the statement.

#### FRENCH AND BRITISH BOMB BENZINE STORES.

LONDON, Aug. 8. (Official.) On July 30th in conjunction with the French an attack was made by British naval aeroplanes on the benzine stores and barracks at Muelheim. The machines met with very heavy anti-aircraft fire but succeeded in gaining their objective and carried out successfully the bombardment. Our machines returned safely.

#### FRENCH ADVANCE.

PARIS, Aug. 8. French troops made an advance last night east of Hill 129 on the Somme front. Two attempts of the Germans to re-capture trenches east of Monacq Farm, were defeated. The Germans early this morning, launched a series of powerful attacks on the French positions from the village of Fleury to a point north of Thiaumont Wood. They obtained a footing in Thiaumont Wood, where fighting is still in progress. The attacks on Fleury were checked. The French attack north of the Somme was made by infantry operating on the right of the British. In the course of an attack made by the British on Guillemont, the French took forty prisoners.

#### FRIENDLY PERIA.

PETROGRAD, Aug. 8. Great Britain and Russia have just concluded an understanding with Persia, strengthening the friendly relations between the three countries, according to a despatch to the semi-official Russian News Agency from Teheran.

#### THE TAGEBLATT'S SUPPRESSION.

LONDON, Aug. 8. According to the Express, the following represents a translation of part of the article for which the Berlin Tageblatt was suppressed, "The declaration that the war was inevitable, and that Germany was forced into it, unprepared and against her will, cannot be supported except by the most extreme partisans. Undoubtedly the conflict could have been avoided, had the Government desired to avoid it; and doubtless it would have been had the Reichstag been taken into the confidence of our rulers, instead of merely being presented with a recital of actions taken independently of Parliament. The proposals for a conference put forward by Sir Edward Grey, were rejected before the members of the Reichstag had an opportunity to hear them, and the Imperial Chancellor's statement, with regard to the 'regrettable necessity' of violating the neutrality of Belgium, was also made after the event."

#### IN CONTACT WITH BULGARIANS.

NEW YORK, Aug. 8. A despatch from Salonika to the News Agency here to-day says that the French and Serbian forces on the Greek front are in contact with the Bulgarians. There has been severe fighting. The Allies' official report says that on the left bank of the Vardar River there have been engagements between patrols. To the right of Loumitza the Bulgarians made strong reconnaissances but they were forced back after sharp action with the Serbians and French troops.

#### RUSSIAN SUCCESSES.

PETROGRAD, Aug. 8. (Official.) On the river Serch our troops are advancing successfully and fortifying themselves in the captured positions. The total number of prisoners taken there in battles from the 5th to 6th of August amounts to 166 officers and 8,461 men. Four caissons, 12 machine

guns, 11 trench mortars, a large number of mine throwers and much other war material have been captured.

On the line of the River Stokhod, in the region of the town of Stophychov, a party of Austrians left their defenses during the night, and came forward with uplifted hands toward the position occupied by one of our regiments. Battle Commander Colonel Stepanenko, as he approached the Austrians, was treacherously killed by them.

On a front of 15 miles in the direction of Vazienca we broke into the enemy trenches and engaged them. During the pursuit, owing to the irresistible onslaughts of our brave troops, the enemy were driven back along the whole line. We captured the town of Flumach including the region west of the Dneister, and a ridge of heights southwest of the Kolomea-Stanislav railway. Our attack was preceded by artillery fire, and discharge of chemical gas and shells on the enemy's batteries. The enemy's artillery, owing to our gas ceased firing and abandoned their arms. Our cavalry pursued the enemy who fled in disorder. One of our gallant divisions took 3,000 German prisoners. During these engagements we captured several heavy calibre guns and many machine guns. Prisoners continue to arrive in large parties. The total number is not yet known. In this way the gallant troops of General Letchitzky are again attaining important successes.

#### SURRENDER OF LEMBERG EXPECTED.

LONDON, Aug. 8. A proclamation foreshadowing the surrender of Lemberg, capital of Galicia was issued by the Governor of the city on Aug. 4, says an Exchange Telegraph Co. despatch from Bucharest. On that date, the despatch adds, evacuation of the City by the civilian population declared that the Austrians would return shortly to wrest Lemberg from the Russians.

#### TERRITORY TAKEN.

PETROGRAD, Aug. 8. The Russians in their advance against the Austro-Germans in East Galicia, have taken territory aggregating nearly 100 square miles, according to a Russian official communication issued to-night. In the pursuit of the Teutons the Russians have taken additional villages in the Dneister region.

#### SUNK THROUGH AN ACCIDENT.

NEW YORK, Aug. 8. A News Agency despatch from Berne, Switzerland, published here to-day, says that the Berlin Tageblatt announces that the German submarine Bremen, which was to have arrived at an American port, has been sunk through an accident to her machinery, according to a despatch received here this afternoon.

#### HUNS APPEAL.

NORFOLK, Va., Aug. 8. Counsel for the German Government in the case of the prize ship Appam, awarded to her British owners by the recent decision of Judge Waddee of the United States District Court, here to-day, filed a formal petition for an appeal to the Supreme Court, which was allowed to supersede, as a bond for \$2,000,000 required by the court was given, signed by Lieut. Halsberg, the prize master who brought the vessel here and Herr Von Schilling, the German Consul. It was furnished by five American bonding companies who provided it at a premium of \$20,000.

Stafford's Liniment cures Rheumatism, Lumbago, Neuralgia and all Aches and Pains. For sale everywhere.—July 22, 16

#### A Moral Alliance.

(N. Y. Evening Post.) "It is, in fact, the knitting together of the moral alliance against German militarism which is the great feature of the close of the second year of the war. The resources and the men were always there, to make head against the German armies but they could have been got together and utilized only by nations having a great issue and a great moral unity. And these Germany, as if led by an evil genius, has herself furnished to her enemies. Against another they might have been divided. With another, they might have made a separate peace. But when they were clearly shown what they had to fight, they were thrown back upon those springs of moral action and those heroisms of the soul which your material-minded militarist can neither understand nor conquer. This is what really makes the Allies invincible. They have now wrested the initiative from the German strategists. Their military prospects seem of the fairest as they now close in upon the German forces from all sides. But as to this we make no predictions. All that we would point out is that an invisible ally has all along fought against Germany, and still presses her back. This is the adverse moral judgment of impartial men."