

## LIBERAL LEADERSHIP LIES BETWEEN LLOYD GEORGE AND SIR JOHN SIMON

Asquith Considered Indifferent—General Plumer Returns to Blighty—France and Belgium Gallantly Rising From War's Ashes—Pink Appearing in Men's Suits—Gossipy Notes From Empire's Centre.

(Correspondence of Times-Star)  
London, May 22.—Mr. Asquith by general admission begins to wear the mantle of Liberal leadership loosely and even carelessly. And the question is often discussed by Liberals on whom it will eventually descend. There are only two claimants possible at the moment, and the rivalry between them, reviving, as it still does, old party quarrels, is very keen indeed. These rivals are Lloyd George and Sir John Simon, personalities of extraordinary contrast in all sorts of ways, and mutually antipathetic. Mr. Asquith cannot be unaware of this competition between his two lieutenants, and it is probable that his retention of the position is in part, due to its existence. The question will probably be decided by sheer force of circumstance. Most Liberals are disposed to put their money on Lloyd George, if only for the reason that he possesses the greater personal magnetism.

### Trip For The Duchess.

King Ferdinand and Queen Marie are thoroughly enjoying their London visit, and the more informal episodes perhaps more than the set ceremonies, as may easily be imagined. Warm invitations have been pressed upon King George and Queen Marie to visit Bucharest next year, and a return visit must be paid, but, as the King and Queen cannot make so long a journey abroad, and the Prince of Wales will be in South Africa, the Duke and Duchess of York will probably undertake the pleasant task. Such a trip will undoubtedly delight the Duchess, to whom the Duke has given fascinating accounts of the romantic Balkans.

### The One Exception.

This week saw the home-coming of a grizzled veteran of the war in the indomitable person of drapper, cheery-checked, monocled Lord Plumer, who has added a really fine closing chapter to a brilliant career. During his five years as Governor of Malta, "Old Plumes," as Mr. Thomas Atkins calls him, has done a great work. He found his island kingdom in a grave post-war upheaval, but leaves it a prosperous, self-governing community. General Plumer is a wonderful old gentleman. His gallant efforts for Mafeking relief first brought him popular fame, but his real renown rests on his heroic defence of Ypres with the Second Army. He was a great old autocrat. Military rumor asserts that he allowed only one living soul to bully him. The old soldier who held the salient, and made more than an empty boast to dictum that No Man's Land was "Ours," was tyrannized over by his batman. But the batman was another old soldier in the full sense of the army phrase.

### A Kipling Soldier.

General Townshend was the sort of "little hothead" Mulvaney used to chaperone on hunting expeditions and frontier raids. His ancestry included a whole gallery of soldiers, sailors, and statesmen, of whom the most famous was the first Marquess Townshend, a gallant field marshal whose life he wrote. From the day he joined the Royal Marines as a subaltern of 20 in 1881 until he sent in his papers as a disgruntled major-general 39 years later, he was in all the imperial scrapings except South Africa. He began with the Camel Corps at Abu Kira, and ended with Kut, a tragedy which must have recalled younger days in Chitral Fort. At Kut he was either urged, or

tempted, to make an inadequate bid for Baghdad, the lure of which was the greater for so enthusiastic a classical scholar as General Townshend. To complete the Kipling touch, General Townshend was a great amateur on the harp—"the war-drum of the white man round the world."

### Bad Taste.

Sir Gerald du Maurier's after-dinner little-tattle about the butler at No. 10 Downing street regulating the Labor Premier's sartorial habits and putting him right about black and white evening-dress ties lacked any verisimilitude from the first. Ramsay MacDonald probably knows as much about the mores of dress as Sir Gerald du Maurier, and most people would regard him as making an infinitely better figure either in evening dress or plus fours than the actor. But this thrilling gossip item, the taste of which is certainly open to high art criticism, has received official contradiction. There is no butler at No. 10, and no servant takes the Prime Minister about social etiquette. The sooner some people realize that the real danger of the Socialist movement is that it is being led by upper-class bourgeois of the most perfect savor faire the better.

### The Battlefields.

I talked today with a man just back after a tour of the old western front, who described the metamorphosis from war to peace as miraculous. Armistices and Ypres are practically rebuilt now. Only an occasional shattered ruin stands among the brand-new red-brick houses. My friend was particularly impressed by the number of new factories put up. Between Lille and Mesines the roads still bear evidence of the barrages, and many of the bridges are only now being renovated. Between Mesines and Ypres the country is still dotted with German pill-boxes, and there is much rusted wire. The scars of what were once little woods, where fierce fighting took place, are also much in evidence.

### Vanished Trenches.

Hooge crater, the second largest blown during the fighting in the Ypres neighborhood, still remains much as our troops remember it, but filled with water now, and strewn with debris. Near here by the roadside one of our early tanks is still stranded, resting with its nose buried in a small water-logged crater. It even seems to be asserting the doctrine of protective coloring as applied to inanimate things, and is mellowing to the surrounding landscape. But as for the great trench system of the war days—and nights—it has vanished. Hardly the faintest trace of it remains, and, amid ploughed fields, and flowering meadows, farm hands labor in the strange silence of the old battlefields. In a few years' time the Armageddon will hardly have left a crack.

### Pink Suits for Men.

The fashion for pink as a color for men's wear is spreading. It started a couple of years ago with garments not normally visible in the street, spread last year to shirts in the most expensive materials, and became the subdued note in many of the smartest ties. Now the color is appearing in suit materials, not merely a single thread on a dark suit—until recently consid-

## Screen Provides Opportunity For College Athletes

Hollywood, June 18.—Motion pictures have provided a lucrative field and definite goal for college sport leaders and athletes generally.

The screen expanded the actor's stage from a few square yards to unlimited dimensions. It placed a higher valuation upon the actor's physical equipment. The expert swimmer, rider, runner, boxer had a decided edge over his mimetic competitor not thus cultivated.

Therefore, only the most limited professions had enabled an athlete to capitalize the time and hard discipline of school sports and gym training. Today, scratch a film actor and almost invariably you find an athlete.

"Doubles," once required for most difficult stunts, are rapidly disappearing.

A talk with John Bowers, popular leading man, during a gym workout, brought up the subject. Bowers is credited with a perfect physique by several celebrated trainers.

"Athletics got me into pictures," he said, "and I believe they will pave the way for many young men to screen stardom. I had intended being a lawyer. In college I was a pretty good

erred quite a "bold" idea—but actually forming more than half the general color scheme. I was shown today a wide range of materials in which pink actually preponderated, and I was assured that the "very best people" are falling for these shades. The pink is usually of crushed strawberry, and often takes the form of a number of fine lines very close together, in check form, on a ground of light brown or fawn. A young and well known actor who wears a purple dinner jacket may soon find himself a commonplace object. No doubt he will then revert to black, and be once more acclaimed as an "original."

### Lord Rosebery's Heir.

Sporting society is specially interested in the engagement of Lord Dalmeny, 42, to Lady Eva Belper, who is just ten years younger, because both are prominent hunting enthusiasts. Each has had another matrimonial adventure from which release was given by the courts. Lord Dalmeny's first wife was Miss Dorothy Grosvenor, cousin of the Duke of Westminster, and Lady Eva's first husband was Lord Belper. The lady is one of the best horsewomen in society, and ran a hunting box at Leighton last season, while Lord Rosebery's heir is master of the much-troubled Whaddon Chase. Lord Dalmeny used to be a fine cricketer, starting with his Eton days, when he was in the school eleven, and afterwards playing for Surrey. He won the D. S. O. and the M. C. as well as the Legion of Honor in the war, and was wounded. He bears much less resemblance to his famous father than did Neil Primrose, the younger brother, who was killed in Palestine with the Bucks Hussars.

### Real Life Sherlock Holmes.

Sir Bernard Spilsbury, famous Home Office pathologist, whose dispassionate expert evidence has decided many sensational murder trials, will be a principal witness in the Bungalow case. This brilliant specialist has figured in nearly all the most important murder trials during the last twelve years, and has written the standard work on the medical investigation of crime. Besides his Home Office appointment, Sir Bernard is lecturer to two London medical schools, and examiner to four universities. Nearly 20 years ago he graduated in medicine at Oxford, but he looks no more than 40 today. With his tall, thin, athletic figure, and strong, clean-cut features, he could play the role of Sherlock Holmes without any make-up, and he is probably nearer the type of that popular fiction



JOHN BOWERS

football player and was intensely interested in amateur sports. A manager happened to see some of my performances and on the strength of them persuaded me to a stage career.

"Since then, in pictures, I have never relinquished physical training, and it has proved highly valuable to me. The making of 'When a Man's a Man' is a good example of what an actor for the screen is often required to do. I was expected to ride like a cowboy. I had to take a difficult fall from a horse. I had to bulldoze a steer. Without my previous rigorous training I'm sure I would have been a total loss.

"At one time or another I have wrestled in training with most of the best mat men of this generation. So, in the case of the steer, I decided that what would be apt to get Frank Crotch's legs from under him ought to work equally well with the beef. It did.

"In another scene I had to make a dive with the villain for a knife he had thrown at me. If I hadn't learned to slide bases in baseball I probably should have had a wrecked shoulder.

"So all through the picture I found my athletic culture serving me well. I kept saying to myself, 'Well, old boy, here is where the years of pulley work will help; here is where the old medicine ball heaving will serve you well!'

Applicants' cards in Hollywood filing cabinets lay almost as much stress on a man's physical prowess as on his presumed acting ability. That's something to bear in mind for those seeking a film career. There are few movie men of any standing who are not ready and capable to undertake strenuous and often hazardous exploits. Mere dandies or weaklings are simply out of luck among this new breed of active actors.

Wembley Exhibition opened, the number has been augmented, and handsome especially are new to be met tooling along the Strand even in the daytime. The explanation is not that the influx of visitors for the exhibition is more than the taxis can perform, but that the overseas visitors are especially keen on horses, and take a sentimental interest in London's old-style vehicles. The old cabby gets a fare often enough just because sporting or romantic visitors want to have a ride behind a "gee" in one of the old London gondolas.

### A Resurrection.

One remarkable effect has been produced by the Wembley Exhibition. It has caused a resurrection of many old growers and hansom men in the streets of London. A few of these obsolete Victorian chariots have always lingered superfluous as part of the night life of the West End, but since the

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### MOVIE QUEEN



Four years ago Venera Alexandrova was a little Rumanian peasant girl. Today, at 20, she is known to European movie fans as the "woman with the fatal eyes," and the "best dressed woman in the films." She is about to make her

first appearance in American features. Right now, she is en route to Hollywood with an extraordinary collection of Parisian gowns.

### DUSTIN FARNUM IN SUIT FOR DIVORCE

Reno, Nev., June 17.—(United News)—Dustin Farnum, the actor, has filed suit for divorce here, charging desertion. His wife was Miss Mary Elizabeth Conwell.

Dustin Farnum is well known in St. John, having played here some years ago with W. S. Harkins.

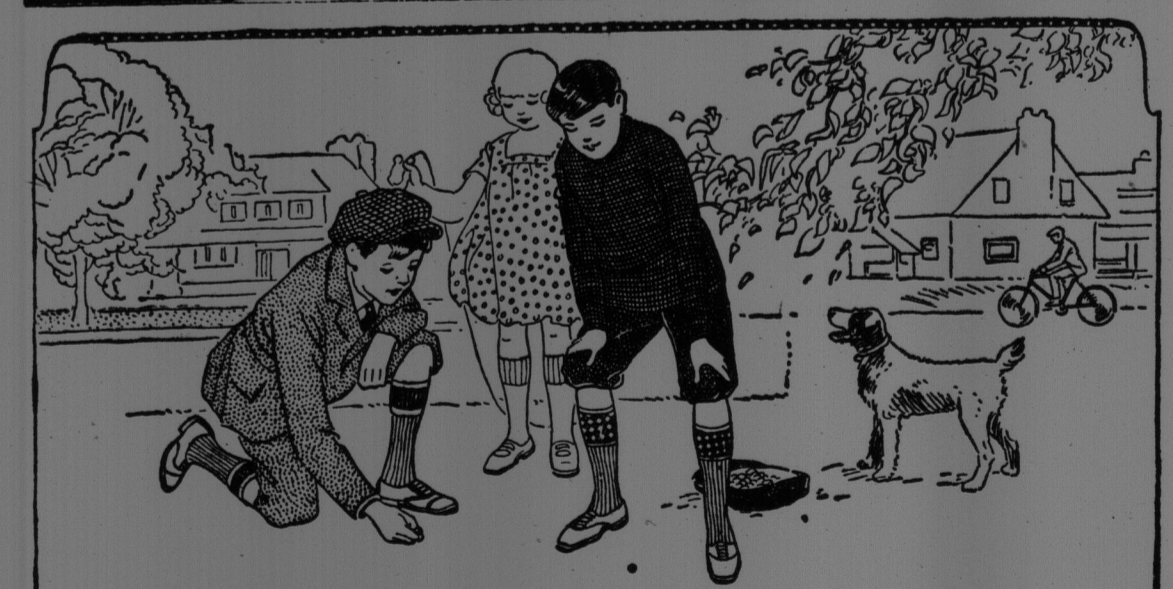
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