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GRAND FLEET WATCHES

The "Times" has an article written by the Most Rev. Cosmo Gordon Lang, Archbishop of York, in which he says:—

To share the life of the Grand Fleet, even for a short time, enables one to realize the sacrifices its officers and men have made and are making for their country.

We are entering the second year of the war. For twelve months the fleet has been enduring the strain of immediate readiness for battle. Almost all its ships have been constantly at sea. They had no harbours secure from danger; they roamed ceaselessly over the waste of the northern and western seas at full speed, often in wild weather, with water covering the decks in a region where the winter daylight lasts only a few hours, each ship moving hither and thither in the dark, her hundreds of men shut down below.

It is almost impossible to realize the strain of such an experience. The officers and men have all the responsibilities of war without the thrill and excitement of battle.

Day by day they have to be ready for action. Leave of absence is almost impossible; many of them have not had 48 hours' leave, few have had more, since the war began.

Yet, in spite of all, they are full of cheerfulness. On deck you may see the officers wrestling with the mighty "medicine ball," men playing cricket, quoits, every variety of ingenious games. Thanks to excellent food, fresh air, and the absence of shore temptations, the health of the fleet is admirable. When I was with the largest section, the rate of sickness, including accidents, was just under one per cent.

There was no haste, no bustle, no confusion; every ship in her place, every man at his post was ready. The Grand Fleet does not ask our gratitude; it does ask our support. It was simply intolerable to be greeted on returning from the fleet by the news of one of our unworthy domestic disputes threatening the coal supply, which is the first necessity of its life.

It has become more plain than ever that it does not rest only with the fleet and the army to win this war; it rests also, perhaps mainly, with the

nation at home. I tried to take a message from the country to the fleet; would that I could now bring the message from the fleet to the country.

"We are doing our part day and night; we look to you to do yours."

CANADIAN NATIONAL

The Canadian National Exhibition, which will be held from August 28th to September 13th, will mark a great epoch in the history of the Patriotic service. This year is essentially a patriotic year, and every event that marks its progress must breathe the spirit of Patriotism and Imperialism.

When the smoke of battle is passed away and the great guns have ceased belching forth their messages of death, and the wave of peace has settled on the surface of the world, when other years and other times have changed the strong spirit of national hatred to national understanding, the year 1915 will still be engraved upon the memories of the people of the world.

As this year is destined to become historical, so every event connected with it must also be historical.

A GAME OF GUESSING

The oak tree gave a party (At least, so I have heard); She sent her invitations

By Master Dickey Bird.

The first one who accepted Was dainty Mistress —, The fairest, sweetest flower That in the garden grows.

The next one was the —, With pretty, golden eye, And if you are not lazy To guess her name you'll try

In charming dress of yellow Came Mistress —, Her name, pray can you tell me? Come, do not give it up.

The pretty, gentle —, Looked half inclined to cry, 'Twas really rather silly, She was so very shy.

The flowers that came were many, All very smartly dressed; If you have guessed the others We'll never mind the rest.

A SOLDIER'S CAMEL RIDE

A soldier in Cairo sends the following description of a ride on a camel, says the Manchester Guardian:—

"Before a camel gets down it makes a noise like a sitz bath being dragged along Oxford-road at the rate of about four miles an hour. Then it folds its legs under it like a four-fold two-foot rule, and then you start. It's your turn now. You get on its back and its legs unbend, and you clutch and think of all the bad deeds you have ever done, and then open your eyes expecting to find the pyramids far beneath you. The motion when it starts is that of riding astride the banner in a Good Templars' procession, and when the beggar runs it's like being astride the banner in a Bad Templars' Procession.

"It's when a camel gets down that one really begins to see life. Have



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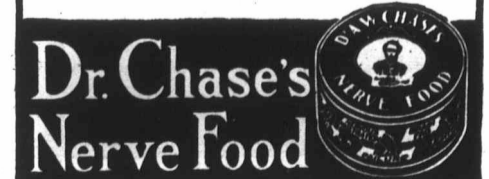
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you ever trodden on a loose stair rod? That is the second sensation. The first is like one you get when you come across the top stair from above in the dark, when you don't know it's there, and the last makes you remember the day the hammock rope broke."



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