

MINE SWEEPERS FACE MANY PERILS

Many Have Gone to Sea and Never Returned

DANGEROUS WORK

Admiralty Keeps News of What These Ships do Secret

Liverpool, Sept. 26.—In comparison with its population, Liverpool has given more soldiers, sailors and war workers to the nation than any other part of the Empire.

The bravest of them all are the mine-sweepers. The mine-sweeper earns but does not get a Victoria Cross every voyage. He is always engaged in a forlorn hope, a work so dangerous that it is a wonder he returns safely to his home so often. It is not alone in the Irish Seas that he is risking his life, so that ships may pass to and fro in safety; in the North Sea, no longer the German Ocean; in the Dardanelles, in the English Channel and the Arabian rivers and Persian Gulf you will find Liverpool sailors engaged in the perilous task of mine-sweeping, and so rendering easier, one cannot say easy, the work of our submarines destroyers, cruisers and battleships.

At present the British Grand Fleet is resting in a spot unknown even to the censor for strange as it may appear, there are scores of telegrams which pass between the fleet and the Admiralty, and messages from our armies, which reach Whitehall without the censor passing a line of it, or, for the matter of that, even seeing a word of it.

Little Recognition Given

These messages record in so many curt words the day's doings of an arm of the fleet. Sometimes the Admiralty and the military authorities consider that it is worth while sending these messages to the press; more often than not they don't.

One of the messages seldom published is the work of the mine-sweeper. To announce that so many mines had been cleared on such a day is information to the enemy.

Competent authorities estimate that Germany has scattered about ten thousand mines in various waters controlled by the British fleet. Although a large number of them have undoubtedly been laid by trawlers, many of them have been just thrown into the water at Heligoland, at Ostend and at different points of the Baltic, and allowed to drift out with the tide in the hope that they would sink one of the British ships of war or ships of commerce.

In the Baltic alone Denmark, Norway and Sweden have picked up hundreds of these mines, which have been washed on their shores unexploded. And yet for her vast expenditure of over five million dollars in sea mines Germany has little or nothing to show beyond the destruction of a few trawlers and a few neutral ships, as in the rare cases where British trading ships have been struck by drifting or stationary mines the damage done has been of a more or less harmless character. The mine sweeper, as one of the most valuable

sections of the navy, can claim full credit for this.

Trawlers Go in Pairs

Most of the work in clearing the seas of mines is done by trawlers, which usually act in pairs. We have quite a large fleet of trawlers and drifters engaged in this work, which is one of the reasons why fish is so scarce and dear. They set out at night so as to be in their working area by daylight, then they fish for mines by a long rope stretched between the two trawlers. Proceeding at a very gentle pace, they lift the mine, which is usually about a foot and a half or two feet below the surface.

It is no uncommon thing to find half a dozen stationary mines brought to the surface by one rope. Once in sight, a well-aimed rifle shot explodes them, then the trawlers proceed with their work until another shot is needed.

Apart from the number of mine-sweepers who have lost their lives through a German submarine, many have been killed by the explosion of the mines they were gathering, and in other cases the authorities have lost track of trawlers, drifters and their crews. They have gone to sea, never returned, and left no trace of themselves. Still this has not lessened the supply of volunteers for this dangerous work.

Once the war is over, the mine-sweeper will go back to his ordinary vocation as a fisherman, sailor or fireman.

Stanfield's Get Big War Order

Stanfields Limited, in a letter to the Maritime Merchant say "that they have been awarded a contract for supplying a large quantity of underwear to the British and Canadian soldiers at the front. In competition with all other manufacturers, they were awarded the contract to supply the Canadian soldiers at the front with 190,000 Stanfields' Red Label shirts and drawers, and already substantial shipments have been made.

"The underwear that is being furnished the soldiers is made from the best quality of English and domestic wool; and for warmth, comfort and durability no soldier will be better protected, as far as the underwear is concerned, than our Canadian boys at the front. The shirts are trimmed with a soft worsted finish known as the French neck. Inserts are put in on the shoulders. The drawers are made of heavier material than the shirts, to afford additional warmth to the legs; and besides, they will wear longer. The drawers are finished up with a heavy satura trimming, and are really a better finished garment than Stanfield's Regular Red Label."

The Sound is the channel between the Danish island of Zealand and Sweden, which connects the Baltic with the Kattegat and the North Sea. The waterway formerly belonged to the Danish sovereigns who for many years collected tolls from foreign vessels using it. In 1857, however, by a treaty with the commercial nations of Europe, the dues were abolished.

AT THE NICKEL

THE BRITISH THEATRE.

The Refugees' Train

ON THE COAST OF FRANCE.—The long shadows of night were stretching their grimy fingers out toward the sea. The masts ranged along the quay stood like staunch old sentinels guarding the path to peace. It was the peace of darkness, after a dazzling day of hurry.

In the railway station things are more alive. A door, upon which one noticed a large Red Cross, suddenly opens, and three or four women come out. Their eyes rest upon a sombre looking little group in raven bonnets faced with white, sitting in a corner under a light, reading aloud in low, monotonous voices.

They are refugee nuns who have been brought from Belgium, and are awaiting the arrival of more than a hundred children who are being brought from the line of fire and are to be established in France. They notice that the woman who is coming towards them in British, and that makes them very happy, for the British have been very kind to them, and are even now helping to establish them in their new home. So the prayers suddenly cease, and six smiling faces greet the kind woman of the Red Cross, who has come to say that they may go into her room and rest.

After a weary wait they see the train from Belgium coming hesitatingly into the station. The Red Cross sisters are on the platform, with a great can of fragrant cocoa and dozens of biscuits.

The tousled heads appear, cautiously at first, then more boldly. A kind faced priest jumps out of the train to look for the six sisters who were to meet the children. His face lights up at the sight of them. The Flemish children cannot understand why everyone is so kind to them. They have never tasted such delicious stuff as the brown, fragrant cocoa the British sisters are handing to them. It has been a memorable journey for them. They are very tired, but much too excited to sleep. In less than half an hour the cocoa can is empty, and the children satisfied. The luggage of the sisters is safely got into the train, and they with it. Only two Anglaises remain on the platform. There is a piercing whistle, the warning hand of a guard, and the trainful of wide-eyed exiles moves on to a new home.

Would Like War More Interesting For the Public

The Montreal Star Office, 17 Cocks pur street, London, Sept. 25.—"Why not make the war more interesting?" asks Sydney Lowe, the well known British publicist, in the Daily Mail.

Mr. Lowe complains that the American public, and through them the German general staff, are allowed to know far more than British newspaper readers, and says:

"In a recent issue of the New York Journal I read a long account of a certain novel and formidable engine of war which are being constructed for the British Government in Canada. A New York newspaper representative was present at the trials of this machine, and describes in detail its construction and capabilities. I found the report one of the most cheering items of war news I had for some time. It showed that there was some initiative and originality in certain of our military departments, but why is the British public not allowed to share my satisfaction?"

One end of the head of a new hammer has a broad angle, in which noches are cut to serve as pipe wrench.

YOU CAN DEPEND ON THE NICKEL PROGRAMME: IT'S ALWAYS GOOD

The Great Modern Problem Play:—

"THE TREY O' HEARTS."

IT WILL HOLD YOU ENRaptured, ENTRANCED, SPELL-BOUND, A WONDERFUL PICTURE.

"THE CHINESE LOTTERY."

"MABEL AND FATTY IN TROUBLE."

A powerful melo-drama by the Reliance players.

A great Keystone comedy.

Duets To-Night—ARTHUR HUSKINS and DeWITT CAIRNS in Two Dandy Numbers.

DON'T MISS TO-DAY'S SHOW AT THE NICKEL.—WEDNESDAY, THE MILLION DOLLAR MYSTERY.

2.30---TO-DAY---7.30

EXTRAORDINARY ENCHANTING—EXCITING ENTERTAINMENT

5 OF THE MOST MAGNIFICENT PHOTO-PLAYS EXTANT in one of which the World-Renowned MARY FULLER Plays the Leading Role.

And TO-NIGHT

THE FULL BAND OF THE NEWFOUNDLAND HIGHLANDERS WILL APPEAR AT BOTH PERFORMANCES, AND WILL RENDER CHOICE SELECTIONS. ...

AT EACH PERFORMANCE ON WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY THE SECOND EPISODE OF "THE TREY O' HEARTS" WILL BE SUBMITTED.

ROSSLEY'S East End THEATRE

ST. JOHN'S LEADING VAUDEVILLE, DRAMATIC AND PICTURE THEATRE.

10c. All Over the House.

Book Your Seats Now For Friday's Competition.

CHANGE OF POLICY, 10c. ALL OVER THE HOUSE.

Farewell Week of the Mackenzie Co'y.

Great Photo-Play Production, in 3 parts:—

SANS GENE, WITH THE FAMOUS MADAM REJANE.

One of the most Magnificent Photo-Plays ever seen.

IAN MacKENZIE, in Scottish Songs and Stories. MISS GUERIN, all New Songs and Costumes. DAN ROCHE, Vocalist, Sketch Artist and Pianist. WILLIAM WALLACE, the marvellous Boy Violinist.

Jack and Marie Rossley, Your Favourites IN SCREAMINGLY FUNNY SKETCH, "THE HOUSE ON THE HILL."

NOTE:—3 Money Prizes each night given away. Those not wanting same can themselves hand it over to the Patriotic Fund, or keep it as they please.

2 SHOWS NIGHTLY—7.30 AND 9.15 P.M.

10c. All Over the House.

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BECAUSE:—We produce the best ready to wear suits in that they not only fit and hang well when you put them on but continue to do so until they are laid aside.

To turn out such suits it is necessary to have everyone experts in their line—Knowing their work thoroughly—Having a taste for their work—Qualified by Experience and Observation—and trained to do such splendid work.

Such Experts are to be found only in our Factory trained by a manager who has had over 25 years Experience in the Chief Clothing Centres of the world.

BECAUSE:—We select only the highest grade wool cloths in each particular class having an eye to such patterns and designs as will satisfy each individual taste.

BECAUSE:—We have Expert cutters and give careful attention to Linings, Trimmings, and inner Constructions.

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Sinnott's Building, St. John's.

OURS---Rossley's West End Theatre.

For the benefit of those West End Patrons who did not see this masterpiece.

MADAME SARAH BERNHARDT

In "CAMILLE," And 4 Other Splendid Pictures.

THE SUNSHINE GIRLS will sing, "The Honeymoon Glide," and their great Banjo Song. 2 SHOWS NIGHTLY—7.30 and 9.15 P.M.

ALBERTA REPORTS \$20,000,000 CROP

Yield is Largest and Best in History of the Province

MANITOBA HARVEST

Rain Has Caused Some Delay But Harvesting is Well Advanced

Edmonton, Alta., Sept. 15.—Alberta's wheat crop, which is now practically all cut, is, according to a statement of the Deputy Minister of Agriculture, the largest and best in the

history of the province, and is worth to-day nearly \$20,000,000. This compares with a value of slightly more than \$15,000,000 last year, the approximate 25 per cent increase being in spite of much lower prices.

While Alberta is a mixed farming province, and in a large measure owes its prosperity to this fact, more wheat has been grown this year than ever before, and wheat forms a much larger proportion of the crops. In some districts, even in the northern part of the province, and in the Edmonton districts farmers have devoted almost all their acreage to wheat.

The Manitoba Harvest

Although therein has somewhat delayed threshing throughout Manitoba, the Canadian Northern Railway crop

THE CRESCENT PICTURE PALACE

Presents to-day Alice Hollister in a Modern Society Drama.

"HER BITTER LESSON,"

a Kalem masterpiece in 2 acts.

"THE APPLE"

A Vitaphone feature with Dorothy Kelly and James Morrison.

"OUT OF THE STORM"

A strong Lubin Mining Drama.

"LOVE OIL AND GREASE"

A lively comedy featuring Lloyd V. Hamilton.

Good Music, a Comfortable & well Ventilated Theatre

On Wednesday Browning's Celebrated Poem

"THE RING AND THE BOOK."

Coming—Charles Reade's great story

"PEG WOFFINGTON."

Saskatchewan's Monster Crop

Regina, Sept. 15.—One and a quarter million bushels of Saskatchewan's 1915 wheat crop has been marketed up to to-day at the interior elevators of the Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator Company, according to a statement made to-night by C. A. Dunning, general manager of the company. Notwithstanding the large crop this year, in comparison with the less than average crop last year, the volume of wheat marketed to date is less than one-half the amount marketed at this time last year, owing to unfavorable weather.

A gratifying feature of the 1915 crop is that it is grading high.