

LONDON'S FOG BACK AGAIN AND REAL COCKNEY IS 'APPY

London, Dec. 20.—The "London particular," the blinding, choking, sooty, yellow fog, the Londoner's pride and the visitor's despair, has come back into its own.

London's fog is not the soft, moist, grey mist that hangs over an American city in wet weather. It may be absolutely dry or as wet as rain itself. It may envelope all of London, a blanket that recedes unwillingly step by step as a pedestrian advances. It may envelop one or a dozen sections, when it may be seen in the distance, and is stepped into as definitely as one steps into a doorway.

Whatever the real "London particular" character is, it is a real fog; and when it comes trains stop or slow to a nervous crawl and street traffic is all but halted.

The London fog comes with the autumn and early winter, when the smoke from 2,000,000 fireplaces and the smoke is unable to penetrate the clouds. For several years, there had not been much fog, but last year there was almost none. This year it is back, and the Londoner, cursing it when it makes him an hour late for work, secretly begs it to his breast—he couldn't help it if he wanted it—and glasts over it as part of his heritage. No one knows where it passed its vacation.

Lecture Delivered By Lt.-Col. Newcomen

Members of Officers' Garrison Mess Heard Address on Cavalry Operations During the Great War.

An interesting lecture on Cavalry Operations During the Great War was delivered by Lieut.-Colonel Newcomen, M. C. of the Royal Canadian Dragoons of Toronto, to the members of the Officers' Garrison Mess, at the Armories last evening. Major N. P. McLeod, president of the mess, presided, and introduced the speaker. He also stated that the Garrison Mess had been recently reorganized and urged all the members to co-operate in making it the success it should be. A hearty welcome was extended to all active militia officers, those on the reserve, or retired, to join the club and make it a success.

In introducing the speaker of the evening, the president said that he was well qualified to speak on the subject, having gone over as the junior subalter in the Royal Canadian Dragoons, and returned as its colonel.

Lieut.-Colonel Newcomen, in the opening of his address, said that some of the reasons cavalry were not more widely used in the great war were because it cost seven times as much to keep up a cavalryman as it did an infantryman, and that it required from two to three years to properly train one.

The idea had gone abroad that because of the small part played by the cavalry in the great war that they were no longer of any use in modern warfare. This, he said, was an entirely erroneous idea, for the same had been said of infantry in the Boer war. The nature of the terrain and the methods of fighting adopted by the enemy were largely responsible for determining which arm of the service was most essential, and therefore it could never be said that any part of it was wholly to be dispensed with.

He then briefly sketched the part the cavalry took in the war. One division of cavalry accompanied the first English troops to France in August, 1914, and it was largely to their splendid reconnaissance work that the famous rear-guard actions were fought successfully, and that once the tide had been stemmed that the British forces were enabled to gradually fight their way back to as far as Messines Ridge, where the 2nd Lancers held the ridge for five whole days until the infantry were able to march up to relieve them.

The Canadian cavalry, he said, reached the front at Fesitbert in May, 1915, but as dismounted troops. In the spring of 1915 they were made into one corps with the British and Indian cavalry. In September an action was fought at High Wood, but without much success. In the winter the troops were again dismounted and sent into the line near St. Quentin.

In March, '17, they were sent back to their horses and were hurried to Farnouze, where the Fort Garry's captured a village, and the armored cars were used for the first time. Harvey of the Garrys got the V. C. in this action.

In October the 3rd Cavalry Division in one of the most intensive cavalry actions since the beginning of the campaign captured Bourlon Wood. It was in this action that the necessity of having cavalry as near the front as possible was learned. The mounted forces had been kept so far behind the lines that their horses were exhausted on reaching the open country, and thus could not push on as would have been the case had they been held in readiness to advance immediately behind the infantry.

During the winter of '18 the mounted troops were billeted in a sector which was admirably fitted to mounted warfare and in consequence the Fort Garrys, the R. C. D.'s and the Strathcona's pulled off several very successful raids. In February the Indian cavalry were sent to "Meppot," and the Household Cavalry dismounted and formed into machine gun companies.

When the Hoch advanced in February the Canadian Cavalry were quarantined on the French flank and fought with them in turning back his advance at Le Fer. The corps of Rifle Wood followed and one of the Strathcona's won the V. C. there. It was here the Canadian Cavalry gave the enemy the first shock in his advance with the ex-

Shop Employees of Canadian Railways To Ask Wage Increase

Will Affect About 7,000 Workers Throughout Canada—Saw-Off to Wage Reduction.

Winnipeg, Dec. 20.—An increase of approximately thirty-five per cent will be asked for shop employees on all Canadian railroads when the next wage agreement is presented to rail executives, according to tentative plans now under consideration, Harry Kampsteck, secretary-treasurer of District No. 22, International Association of Machinists, announced today. This would affect about 7,000 workers throughout Canada. The claim for an increase is based on the purchasing power of a Canadian dollar as compared with 1914. Much, however, depends upon the outcome of negotiations with the railroads with the 11-2 per cent cut made last July, and whether or not it becomes permanent. The men are now voting on it, and if the reduction is eliminated, the increase demanded will be modified.

The present rate of pay for skilled shopmen is 77 cents an hour. Prior to the July decrease it was \$2.15 a week, and the rate of pay received in 1914 should be \$2.14 a week, according to labor officials' claims.

Perilous Trip To Springfield May Prove Useless

The Election There May Be Declared Invalid Because of Irregularities in Returns.

Winnipeg, Dec. 20.—After enduring the hardships of the rigorous northern "freeze-up" to obtain the vote of the recent Federal election from the northern waves of Springfield constituency, along the shores of Lake Winnipeg, members of the Dominion Election Registration and voting expedition may see their perilous journey rendered useless, because circumstances of a nature compelled them to return without the use of the ballot boxes. For this reason A. A. Potvin, returning officer for the constituency, is considering recommending the election be invalid.

Two trips were made by the organizing party, the first to register the voters and the second to distribute the ballot boxes and poll the vote. Mistake occurring in succession delayed the party so they could not have reached Berens River, the farthest north point, until a day after the election and they consequently had to abandon taking the vote of this poll. A deputy returning officer at Devil's Island has not yet appeared with the second missing box and the vote for that district has not been polled. R. A. Hoey, Progressive, was elected in the Springfield constituency.

ception of that he received from the Australians at Villers Bretonneux.

In August the cavalry were sent out in the advance with the whippet tanks, which were used for the first time, but did not prove fast enough to work in conjunction with the horsemen.

At one spot the advance was made over a plain over a mile and a half long, the cavalry passed over it at a gallop and reached their objective but the regiments were decimated by machine guns. The speaker said he was in this action and thought it was a needless sacrifice and that 122 men in the squadron who set out, but 16 were left to tell the tale, it did not prove such, however, as the infantry coming up were unable to go over the same ground without encountering a single casualty.

In September the cavalry broke through the enemy lines and in October reached Le Cateau, 9 miles in advance of the infantry.

On Armistice Day they had reached the German line of demarcation when the word to cease fire reached them. A vote of thanks was moved by Col. W. H. Harrison, seconded by Major R. McAvity and extended the speaker by the president at the close of his

FRANCE PLAYS GREAT GAME IN ITS DEMANDS

Hasn't Money to Build Naval Programme Suggested and Won't Get Allowance Asked.

Washington, Dec. 16.—The French with their navy demands are again furnishing the comedy of the conference, as they did when M. Briand made his famous epigram about floating for sailines with battleships. The British, who have no sense of humor where warships are concerned, are propounding with the almost gravity of a mathematician the French demand for a billion on battleships and the British reply with a whole Statesman's year book of facts, figures and statistics to prove the solemnity of the conference, and not to let France spend such vast sums upon battleships as the French say they would like to spend.

What will happen if the French build a navy equal to Japan's? Vast economic cataclysms. Utter ruin of the naval balance. The precipitation of the world into hideous naval competition. And it all starts because France, utterly without money to meet running expenses, dependent upon the fiction of immense payments from Germany to keep up a fictitious solvency, solemnly tells the conference that she desires to spend half a billion dollars on battleships. Of course, if France must spend half a billion on battleships, Italy too must spend half a billion on battleships. The hegemony of the Latin races is at stake. France has larded the peoples who speak "a bastard Latin." National pride requires that Italy's navy shall equal France's. Of course Italy sympathizes deeply with the Anglo-Saxon point of view that the only real sea Powers should be Anglo-Saxon. France has no need of ten new capital ships, but if France must have them Italy must have them, too. Minimum navies set like minimum wages. Everybody must have them. Establish the ratio of three for Japan and what self-respecting Power can get on with out a navy rating at three? France must have three, Italy must have three with other Powers to hear from. The nations of the earth are like the women residents of a suburban town. All must have three servants because Mrs. Jones has three.

Diplomatic Freedom from Britain.

Suppose France gets a rating of three and Italy gets a rating of three. Great Britain gets out its rating machine and three and three making six. Six, why Great Britain has only five. Add the three of Japan to the three of France and the three of Italy, you get the astonishing total of nine. Add the rating of the two Anglo-Saxon brothers, the United States and Great Britain together and you get ten with far flung empire to defend and a food supply as easily cut off as a telephone wire. The divinely appointed order of the earth is upset.

Of course, it is more than natural pride which actuates the French. Given such a navy as she asks for, built, I suppose, out of the vast surplus to be obtained from German reparations over and above what is required to balance the French national budget, and France is independent, diplomatically, of Great Britain. Or, rather, if Great Britain attempts, as she does rather unsuccessfully, to restrain French designs on the continent of Europe and in the Near East France has only to mobilize and England yields. The rivalry of these two Powers for the political mastery of Europe and Western Asia is based upon France's possession of an army and the possession of a navy. Give France both army and navy and she becomes the dominant ally, for with ten brand new battleships France's friendship becomes vital to Great Britain.

Thus the game of international politics is played with navies as real as Falstaff's men in buckram. Of course, France won't get a rating of three. British tenderness for the French exchequer, and the vast concern statesmen have for the economic consequences of France and Italy spending over an imaginary billion, will be enough to guarantee against that.

But for waiving her claims France will get something, if not out of the Conference at least out of England when Lord George and Briand hold their projected meeting. Up to now France has got little in Washington except kind words, a postponement of land disarmament, which everybody felt too thorny to touch, and a place in the four-Power group in the Pacific where she was let in largely because of America's regard for appearances.

The Americans are known as the greatest travelers in the world, and the French, as a nation, are the greatest to stay at home.

Regular Monthly Board Meeting

Reports from All Branches of the Y. W. C. A. Were Received and Found Most Encouraging.

The regular monthly board meeting of the Y. W. C. A. was held yesterday afternoon in the recreational centre, King street east, with the president, Mrs. John McAvity, in the chair. The secretary, Mrs. Alfred Morrissey, read the devotional opening. Mrs. C. A. Clarke was elected to a vacancy on the board.

The gymnasium report was read by Mrs. McKenzie and showed an enrollment of four hundred and fifty-four pupils besides the club girls. Two new basketball teams have been formed, called the Mistletoes and an indoor basketball league organized, consisting of eight senior schoolgirls' teams, and six senior teams. Special gymnasium committees have been formed, consisting of refreshment, decorating and entertainment committees, each class having four representatives. Plans have been completed in the formation of a girls' city basketball league for the coming winter, in which there will be three teams from the Y. W. C. A., two from the Y. M. C. A., and one from Fairville.

Mrs. J. D. Hunter read the girls' work report, which told, amongst other things, of a supper which was given to the girls' council at which seventy-five were present. Mrs. Hunter told of attending the girls' council at Woodstock at which there were one hundred and sixty-eight girls in attendance. A reunion of all the camp girls has been planned for Dec. 23. The association are also looking forward to a "Mother and Daughter" banquet in January.

Mrs. Lagsden reported for the cafeteria committee that a number of girls were going home this month to spend the Christmas season, but in spite of this fact, they looked for a busy transient trade. She also reported that the superintendent, Miss Sellars, had returned from her vacation.

The membership report, read by Miss McKenzie, showed that three new conveners had been appointed to the committee of the churches, namely, Dr. Mrs. Silmond, of St. David's church and Mrs. Blanchard Fowler and Mrs. Chas. Francis for Stone church.

Mrs. James F. Robertson reported for the travellers aid committee, that two hundred and ninety-four trains and twenty-three boats had been met. Out of one hundred and six people given assistance at the station, fifty-two were taken to the hospital and cared for.

The financial secretary's report showed some very generous donations from the business men of the city, and the association are very grateful for this generosity.

The Highest Communities in the World Inhabited by White Men Are These and Aroya, in Peru. These Towns Situated Between 12,000 and 14,000 Feet Above Sea Level, are the Centres of Extensive American Mining Operations.

The American National Cemeteries in France, according to plans of the American National Commission of Fine Arts, whose recommendations have been approved by the War Department, are to be the finest burial grounds in Europe.

Shave With Cuticura Soap The New Way Without Mud



Here's a Store Devoted to Useful, Sensible Gifts and the Prices Are the Lowest in Years

Your decision to come to H. Mont Jones' for your Christmas Furs results in satisfaction that will long remain.

HUDSON SEAL COATS	
45-inch model, yoke effect, double seal collar	\$600.00 for \$540.00
45-inch model, blouse effect, Beaver cuffs and collar	600.00 for 540.00
42-inch model, wrap effect, T. Squirrel collar	450.00 for 400.00
42-inch model, Cape collar and deep border	475.00 for 427.00
RACCOON COATS	
36-inch model, full box coat, plain	\$385.00 for \$346.00
36-inch model, full box coat with belt	250.00 for 225.00
42-inch model, three stripe border with belt	350.00 for 320.00
PERSIAN LAMB COATS	
42-inch model, self trimmed, loose box	\$475.00 for \$427.00

Also fifteen per cent. discount on Nutria, French Beaver, Marmot, Black Caracul, Black Pony and all our other coats.

"FURS"—That is Sets, Scarfs and Muffs—we are giving for this season very special prices and would advise an early selection.

H. Mont Jones, Limited
92 King Street St. John, N. B.
"ST. JOHN'S ONLY EXCLUSIVE FUR HOUSE."

Season's Greetings

HERMAN'S FRUIT SHOP

9 SYDNEY STREET ST. JOHN, N. B.

We had the pleasure of supplying the Fruit and Confectionery to H. M. S. Renown and H. M. S. Dragon during the visit of H. R. H., the Prince of Wales, in St. John.

May we have the pleasure of supplying yours? We feel confident we can do justice to your order. Our line is the most complete in the city. The following may help you in selecting your Fruit and Confectionery for the holiday:

Banana Apples	California Seedless	FANCY TABLE RAISINS	COMPLETE LINE OF COOKING FIGS
Jonathan Apples	Oranges	MOIR'S AND NEILSON'S CHOCOLATES	BARLEY TOYS
Florida Grape Fruit	Sweet Florida Oranges	CHOCOLATES	RIBBON CANDY
Bananas	Red Macintosh Apples	POP CORN FOR DECORATING	XMAS TREES
Malaga Grapes	Wine Sap Apples		
	Lemons		

35-cents buys a bottle of "Danderrine" at any drug store. After one application you can not find a particle of dandruff or a falling hair. Besides, every hair shows new life, vigor, brightness, more color and abundance.

THE ONLY BRIGHT SPOT ON SYDNEY STREET

The most powerful lighthouse in the world is under construction on Mount Agria, near Dijon, France. It is intended for an air station and a guiding light for the great airway to the east and south of Europe. The beam of light thrown from two groups of lamps of the lighthouse has an intensity of 2,000,000,000 candle power and the flash will be seen at a distance of nearly 300 miles.

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THE ONLY BRIGHT SPOT ON SYDNEY STREET

Opposite Imperial