

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

London, Dec. 20.—The "London particular," the blinding, choking, solid, 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 reaches 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, 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 first are lighted in 2,000,000 fireplaces and the smoke is unable to penetrate the clouds. For several years, there had not been much fog; last year there was almost none. This year it is electrically lighted signs that now almost encircle Piccadilly Circus. But though the fog is, in a way, unpleasant, and leaves its grimy marks on skin and clothes, it is as much a part of London as is London Bridge.

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 Lt.-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 subaltern in the Royal Canadian Dragoons, and returned as its colonel.

Lt.-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 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 Farnoume, 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 Garry's, 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 Boche 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 battle of Riffe 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-

Old inhabitants will not admit the fog is as bad as it used to be. We cite the well-authenticated incident when one of the old horse-drawn omnibuses rattled into the fog under the archway of a bridge, full of passengers, and was never seen again. They recall when it used to be futile for a cabman to lead his horse along the curbstones with the aid of a lantern because he wouldn't have been able to see the lantern's light.

Possibly the fog is not what it used to be; probably it never was. But it hurts the eyes, chokes the throat and makes a trip outdoors a journey into the unknown. It is unescapable. It gets into rooms through cracks around doors and windows. It is like a trip to the spirit world to get on top of a bus in a half-fog—no thick enough to halt the apparently reckless, but always safe "bus-drivers"—and watch passing vehicles loom up out of the fog five yards away in the narrow, tortuous streets, and at night to emerge suddenly into the golden glow of the usually glaring electrically lighted signs that now almost encircle Piccadilly Circus.

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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 railways when the next wage agreement is presented to rail executives, according to tentative plans now under consideration, Harry Campbell, 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 connected with the 1912-13 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 82.14 cents, and to equal the rate of pay received in 1914 should be 92.14 cents an hour, according to labor officials.

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 two of the nine ballot boxes. For this reason A. A. Potvin, returning officer for the constituency, is considering recommending the election 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. Mishaps 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, as of 122 men in the squadron who set out, but 16 were left to tell the tale, it did not prove much, however, as the infantry coming up were unable to go over the same ground without experiencing a single casualty.

In September the cavalry broke through the enemy lines and in October reached Le Catena, 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 lecture.

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 sailboats with battleships. The British, who have no sense of humor where warships are concerned, are propagandizing with the utmost gravity against the French. The French lack with a pin prick and the British reply with a whole Statesman's year book of facts, figures and statistics to prove the solemn duty of the conference 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 half a billion more battleships? A navy equal to Japan's? A vast economic cataclysm. 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 action 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 lorded it long enough as the elder brother of 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 battle ship. 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 adding 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 only ten with fast gunning 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 the right to bristle 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 land's 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 Poincaré's men in bukm. 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 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 a 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.

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35-cents buys a bottle of "Danderine" at any drug store. After one application you can find a particle of dandruff or a falling hair. Besides, every hair shows new life, vigor, brightness, more color and abundance.

Regular Monthly Board Meeting

Reports from All Branches of
the Y. W. C. A. Were Re-
ceived 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. 29. The association are also looking forward to a "Mother and Daughter" banquet in January.

Mrs. Lugsden 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 Sellers, 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, Mrs. Simpson, Mrs. 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 Tietos and Aroya, in Peru. These towns situated between 12,000 and 14, 000 feet above sea level, are the cen- tres of extensive American mining op- erations.

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 De- partment, are to be the finest burial grounds in Europe.

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Here's a Store Devoted to Useful, Sensible Gifts
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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
45-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

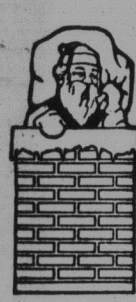
PERSIAN LAMB COATS

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
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Season's Greetings

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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
Jonathan Apples	Oranges	FANCY LAYER FIGS	LINE OF
Florida Grape Fruit	Sweet Florida Oranges	COOKING FIGS	MOIR'S AND
Bananas	Red Macintosh Apples	DATES	NEILSON'S
Malaga Grapes	Wine Sap Apples	MIXED NUTS	CHOCOLATES
	Lemons	FILBERTS	BARLEY TOYS
		WALNUTS	RIBBON CANDY
		ALMONDS	POP CORN FOR
		BRAZILS	DECORATING
		COCONUTS	XMAS TREES
		PEANUTS	

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