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LONDON GOSSIP.

LONDON, Feb. 14, 1916.

ROYAL ECONOMIES.

Almost half the staff at Buckingham Palace have been "released" for duty at the front. The King still allows no wine at table, and there is now a short, war-time menu in dress the ladies of the Royal Family have long shown an example of self-denial. Queen Mary also insists on economies in all the bazaars and other entertainments for charities which she recognizes by her name or presence. She will have nothing to do with any cause that is not run on businesslike lines, and is of opinion that a good deal too much money is often wasted on expenses of charities where the results are meagre. In her own household the Queen takes great trouble to prevent waste at any time. She has curtailed many customary expenses. One of the many Court visitations she has reduced in cost is the Royal orchestra. At Princess Christian's house in Pall Mall the door is now opened, not by a sergeant footman or any other grandiose Royal servant, but by a parlour-maid in a dark-blue uniform.

THE RED POSTERS.

The first of the forty thousand red posters that are being put up in London calling out eleven classes of conscripted single men appeared on the walls on February 9th. They aroused much less interest than the early Derby proclamations. It was not expected that the summons would be out so soon. The posters give a definite warning to the unattested single men of these ages that they have from now to the end of the month in which to join voluntarily. The Parliamentary Recruiting Committee is making a final spurt, and big placards have appeared everywhere containing the mildly witty reminder—"Will you march too, or wait for March 27?" The attestation of single men is understood to have been going on at a fairly satisfactory rate since the bill was introduced, and recruiters expect a big rush in the last few days of this month, as was the case at the close of the first Derby period. But it seems to be too late for the Premier's hope to be fulfilled—namely, that voluntary enlistment should make compulsory a dead letter at the eleventh hour.

CURTAINMENT OF POSTAL DELIVERIES.

As more than 50,000 employees of the Post Office have joined the armed forces of the country a further curtailment of postal facilities has become necessary. For some time there has been a reduction in the number of collections from pillar boxes, but

henceforth the deliveries will be fewer. These services in the past have been almost superabundant, and no one can complain of reasonable curtailment. The authorities are of opinion there should be only two deliveries of letters per day in most of the English towns and three or four in great cities. There is also a prospect of shortening the hours during which post offices remain open. No decision has yet been reached on the question of abolishing Sunday deliveries. London people are not concerned in this matter, as they never receive letters on Sunday.

JAPAN CAPTURING THE TOY TRADE.

One of the chief retailers has given me some particulars of the position in the toy trade which suggests that hopes of Britain capturing this formerly pre-eminently German industry must be modified. Up till a certain date last year the outlook for the enterprising British manufacturer was promising. Then the expanding operations of the Ministry of Munitions began to put an entirely different complexion on the situation. Firms which had contracted to produce toys were taken over as controlled establishments and every man who could use a tool or work a machine was in request for national work. The effect was felt in the Christmas trade. Unexecuted British orders had to be made good from Japanese and American sources. British retailers, who had loyally supported the efforts of the British makers, are now looking elsewhere for future supplies. America being preoccupied with munitions production, the plumage of the market seem likely to be captured by Japan, whose abundance of cheap labor serves to balance freights. The Japanese have a natural gift for toy making, and subsidised for the moment by their Government, they are turning out a large and varied assortment of mechanical and other toys previously supplied by the Germans.

THE ROMANIAN SITUATION.

A Russian military man now living in England with whom I have discussed the possibility of Roumania's action gives me many reasons why it is unlikely at the present moment that Roumania should depart from her neutrality or that Germany should force the issue. Though the Russo-German forces on her frontier are not strong, he thought that Roumania alone would not be able to oppose them, as she probably has no abundance of ammunition, the supply of which had been stopped by Germany. The conquest of Roumania would bring an advantage to Germany.

Here Is a Certified Cure Of Chronic Salt Rheum

By Use of Dr. Chase's Ointment—Also a Bad Case of Eczema Just Reported Cured.

Eczema and Salt Rheum are different names for practically the same disease. Small pimples or vesicles form in groups, break and run watery matter, a crust is formed, itching is intense and the disease shows a strong tendency to spread over the body. Whatever may be the cause, Dr. Chase's Ointment will cure, for it heals and dries up the sores and leaves the skin soft and smooth. Mr. Geo. E. Compton, Brooklyn, Lot 61, P.E.L., writes:—"I suffered for two years with Salt Rheum. Though I consulted three different doctors and tried many medicines, it was all to no effect. A friend advised me to try Dr. Chase's Ointment, and I am glad to say that when I finished the sixth box the Salt Rheum was all gone. There can be no doubt that the cure was entirely due to the use of this ointment, and I want other sufferers from Salt Rheum and Eczema to know about it." Mr. Geo. Hume, J. P., Brooklyn, Lot 61, P. E. L., writes:—"This is to certify

to Powers only in so far as Roumanian granaries and oilfields would fall into their hands, but against this would be the inevitable loss of men which Germany can ill spare, for the German military staff must be considering with some anxiety the possibility of a coincident offensive in the spring on both fronts. Regarding Bulgaria, my informant did not think that the Germans could set Bulgaria in motion against Roumania. A governing point in Bulgaria's policy is her relations with Turkey. Under the rumors of a Russian landing Bulgaria had let the Turks into her fortresses, from which they could not be thrust out. In consequence of this Bulgaria would hardly commit a new blunder in sacrificing her soldiers for no purpose, and thus making stronger the position of the Turks in Bulgaria. He said that all the Russian correspondents agreed that the Bulgarians are already weary of fighting for German interests. At the beginning of the war with Serbia they were asked to assist Germany in that campaign. What happened was that Bulgaria had to fight the campaign with Germany assisting her. My informant did not expect any significant development of the Roumanian situation for some weeks.

LONDON'S RESERVOIR OF MEN.

An Australian on his first visit to this country, with whom I talked, told me that his main impression of London was that it was full of men, and that he had written to his friends "down under" that he could not imagine it ever to have been fuller. He was frankly astonished and even sceptical when assured that, to the accustomed dweller in the Metropolis, it had never seemed so bare of men, and that its male reservoir was daily being further drained. London is so vast in itself, and so great a center for visitors, that a passing glance reveals nothing of its real life. It is not to the places of amusement or certain leading thoroughfares that one must look just now to see proof of the drain. That is better perceived in the business establishments, whether banks or shops, for the male clerk or assistant has given place to the female within the past few months in a previously undreamed-of degree, while women ticket-collectors at the railway station and conductors on omnibuses and trams are now so many as to attract no special note. They have even invaded the sacred precincts of the clubs, whether of the cosy or the caravanserai type, and prelates at the Athenaeum, politicians at the National Liberal and the Constitutional, and public men generally at the Royal Automobile have their creature comforts served them by waitresses. This is an innovation which, to those who know the right traditions of London club life, is not the least striking social outcome of the war.

SCARCITY OF MOUTH ORGANS.

The harmony of the British Expeditionary Force is seriously affected by the present scarcity of mouth organs. Laggard pupils in the camps in England practised musicians in the trenches of France, in vain send urgent requests for the "meritorious but misguided instrument." The London shops cannot supply them, and one of the largest stores could only produce three "slightly damaged," its sole stock for the past two months. They say it was difficult enough for Switzerland to cope with the demand even at first after the German supply was exhausted, and though Japan has just begun the new industry her mouth organs lack the German finish. A soldier devotee explained that the mouth organ was to be regarded as a necessity. "The men must have something to make a cheerful noise with, and while the next best thing (an accordion) was very well in its way, a man must know how to play it, and besides it soon got knocked to pieces in the trenches. He rather resented the suggestion that a Jew's-harp might fill the present gap—that was only an instrument for small boys. The shops say that all branches of the army, colonials as well as Scots and English, buy mouth organs freely, but the navy leaves them severely alone. For a life on the ocean wave the banjo, they say, or mandolin is the best companion. Yet one has seen our sailors in France buying up the small organ stock of a music dealer.

PHOTOGRAPHIC PRODUCTION.

The past eighteen months have been a very trying period for the British photographic industry. Like so many other interests, it has suffered severely from the cutting-down of normal trade. Makers of apparatus and material have also been handicapped by the sudden stoppage of foreign supplies on which they had formerly relied, as well as by urgent demands for Government work. It is not surprising, therefore, that little has been done in the last year in the way of the design and introduction of novelties. Such new apparatus as there is this season has been produced for the most part to supersede articles which formerly came to us from Germany. In many cases it has been by no means an easy task to fill this gap,

and much still remains to be done, but a good start has been made, and greater things are promised for the future.

Mother! Your Child is Cross, Feverish, From Constipation

If tongue is coated, breath bad, stomach sour, clean liver and bowels.

Give "California Syrup of Figs" at once — a teaspoonful to-day often saves a sick child to-morrow.

If your little one is out-of-sorts, half-sick, isn't resting, eating and acting naturally—look, Mother! "see if tongue is coated." This is a sure sign that its little stomach, liver and bowels are clogged with waste. When cross, irritable, feverish, stomach sour, breath bad or has stomach-ache, diarrhoea, sore throat, full of cold, give a teaspoonful of "California Syrup of Figs," and in a few hours all the constipated poison, undigested food and sour bile gently moves out of its little bowels without griping, and you have a well, playful child again.

Mothers can rest easy after giving this harmless "fruit laxative," because it never fails to cleanse the little one's liver and bowels and sweeten the stomach and they dearly love its pleasant taste. Full directions for babies, children of all ages and for grown-ups printed on each bottle. Beware of counterfeit fig syrups. Ask your druggist for a 50-cent bottle of "California Syrup of Figs," then see that it is made by the "California Fig Syrup Company."

Ambassador Gerard's Recall.

(From the Boston Transcript.)

The departure of Ambassador Gerard from Berlin may well arouse suspicion in Germany and the United States as to the real reason for this remarkable occurrence. At a time when relations between the two countries are most critical, within a few weeks after the visit of Col. House, which the Germans hailed as hardly indicative of the confidence and esteem in which the President held his Ambassador, there comes from Washington the explanation that Mr. Gerard had been urged by Secretary Lansing "to come home and take a long rest." Whether this recall is due to his physical condition, to his dissatisfaction with being supplanted at Berlin by Colonel House, or is the first step toward a rupture of relations with Germany, only subsequent events can answer. It is idle, however, for the Department of State to expect to allay public suspicion by the assurance that "there is no significance" in the Ambassador's departure. An Ambassador does not leave his post upon the urgent request of his own Government at such a time save for an extraordinary reason. None of Mr. Gerard's relatives or friends are aware that he is seriously ill, which warrant the belief that the ailment concerns either the relations between the Ambassador and his own Government or between Germany and his own country.

Use "Tiz" for Sore, Tired, Aching Feet

No more puffed-up, burning, sweaty, calloused feet or corns.



Just take your shoes off and then put these weary, shoe-crinkled, aching, burning, corn-pestered, bunion-tortured feet of yours in a "Tiz" bath. Your toes will wriggle with joy; they'll look up at you and almost talk and then they'll take another dive in that "Tiz" bath.

When your feet feel like lumps of lead—all tired out—just try "Tiz." It's grand—it's glorious. Your feet will dance with joy; also you will find all pain gone from corns, callouses and bunions. There's nothing like "Tiz." It's the only remedy that draws out all the poisonous conditions which puff up your feet and cause foot torture. Get a 25 cent box of "Tiz" at any drug or department store—don't wait. Ah! how glad your feet get; how comfortable your shoes feel. You can wear shoes a size smaller if you desire.

The simplicity of the blouse is no longer a mark of fashion. The new blouse is a much-trimmed affair, using buttons, much hand-work, tucks, hemstitching, braiding, open work and puffs.

MINARD'S LINDENT CURES DANDRUFF.

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Painters, Contractors,
Farmers, Housekeepers,
Fishermen, School Teachers,
Artists, Sportsmen, Masons.

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Ladies' COLLARS!

Neat, Dainty and Charming

25c.

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This week, Ladies, at

A. & S. Rodger's.

SEE THE NEWEST

In Silk and Satin

Ready-to-Wear

HATS

For Ladies showing in our Windows to day for

\$1.30 each.

Black and Assorted Shades.

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