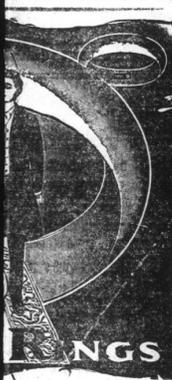


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**LONDON GOSSIP.**

LONDON, June 10th, 1918.  
**PENBERTON BILLING AND MAUD  
ALLAN.**

The trial of Member of Parliament Penberton Billing for a false and defamatory libel of Maud Allan, the famous dancer, and of J. T. Grein, a naturalised Dutchman who privately produces plays here, practically collapsed after a very sensational hearing lasting many days. The facts will be known to readers by cable long before this, but it is perhaps interesting to record that no law case for many years has made such a public sensation. People stood about in crowds round the various spots from whence the afternoon and evening editions of newspapers were distributed to grab hold of early copies with the latest reports in. When the trial ended with the acquittal of Penberton Billing, the cheering was so loud that the other charges against him were withdrawn, the scene inside the Central Criminal Court baffled description. Nothing like such tempests of cheering and applauding have ever before been heard in those almost sacred precincts. Outside the Old Bailey the cheering was taken up and the victorious defendant, Penberton Billing, had to practically fight his way into his motor car and out of the thoroughfare. The newspapers of the following morning here appeared to universally disagree with the verdict of "Not Guilty," calling it striking but undeserved. In this the newspapers were at variance with the general public who were predominately pro-Billing. In the mind of the average citizen in this country the feeling remains that there is something wrong in high places and that while this is so the definite forward action of the war is being impeded.

**MEN OF MARK.**

Fleet Street is greatly interested in the news that Mr. Le Sage has taken a title at last. The famous Fleet Street editor (of the "Daily Telegraph"), who is now 81, is believed to have several times previously declined a knighthood. He has served his journal for over fifty years and it is interesting to note that in 1870 he was the first correspondent to get to London the news of the entry of the Prussians into Paris. He is still a vigorous man, scarcely more than middle-aged in appearance, and the fact that he is in the Honors List now need not imply that he is about to leave the arena. For the ordinary Londoner, Food Controller Lord Rhonda's viscountcy is the thing noted and praised in the list. Firmness, fairness, and a clear mind have gained him more than public confidence. General popularity has followed from a task that looked the most thankless in the world. But Lord Rhonda would not have minded unpopularity. He delights in doing big things, and solving problems of organization or finance which look hopeless. Having a mind which is one in a million, he finds recreation and, indeed, life in using it.

**KAISER AND THE U-BOATS.**

One who takes a great interest in the work of Germany's submarines tells me that he regards the Kaiser's refusal to design the Kiel Municipality's monument to "U-boat heroes" as

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very significant. The All-Highest does not think much of the designs which have been sent in; but is too busy to design a monument himself. The conclusion which my informant draws is that the Kaiser, although his perverted mind blinds him considerably, apparently still knows a great deal of the full unadorned and damning character of the facts, and is accordingly disinclined to have anything to do with a failure—if he can help it. If he had been as sure of the U-boats' success as von Capelle professes in public to be, he would certainly, I am told, have taken a day off to design this memorial, and probably also to be filmed in the act.

**LENNIN AND TROTSKY.**

"There is, I believe, only one real Bolshevik in the world, and that is Lenin," said Dr. Harold Williams, the Russian correspondent, lecturing this week at the Lyceum Club, London, on the extremely muddled Russian position. Lenin, he said, was first and foremost an extremely cold fanatic, possessed with the one idea of creating a world revolution, taking advantage of the world war to seize the opportunity he had been looking for, making Russia the ground for his great experiment, caring little whether Russia were ruined in the process—hardly expecting, perhaps, that the experiment would succeed there, and probably convinced now that it had failed, but satisfied that he had advertised his idea, that it had become a living thing in the minds of people in many countries, and hoping that now it would march until the world revolution became a reality. Trotsky was more difficult to understand, said Dr. Williams. He was exceedingly clever, with a shrewd sense of reality, and knew perfectly well what was going on around him. He was an excellent speaker, with a personal magnetism that carried his audience with him. If he gave an impression of superficiality, and if he had no depth of doctrine, he had great practicality and a strong business sense. At present the Bolsheviks had installed themselves in the Kremlin, Moscow, and issued commands, as it were, from the throne of Ivan the Terrible, but the Russia they had thought of ruling, Dr. Williams said, had slipped from their grip. Russia was transformed, the Russians themselves were changed out of knowledge, all stability, traditions, customs, habits and beliefs had been swept away, and there was no constructive impulse or inspiration. Dr. Williams made the most earnest plea for England's help for the stricken nation. Left to Germany, Russia, where there is to-day no peace, would in all probability be the centre and the source of war for the next hundred years. With England's help alone could regeneration come. And England's aid would be welcomed. He told how in the journey north from Petrograd he found everywhere a pathetic belief that "the English are coming," and the conviction that, with the English, law and order and the possibility of normal life would return.

**THE BATSFORD GARDEN.**

Every garden lover—and to many of us in London, as in every great city, the cult of a garden is an ennobling passion—will note with sorrow that Batsford Park is included in the sale of the Midland estates of the late Lord Redesdale, and will hope that the famous gardens will pass into the ownership of some one worthy of them. Lord Redesdale was a very fine character, as pure in spirit as he was wise and learned; and in the varied achievements of his long and crowded life his personality found no more fitting and beautiful expression than in the wonderful garden at Batsford, in which he sought to re-create in England something of the charm and mystery of the pleasure-grounds of Japan, which he had learned to love in the far-off days when he represented Queen Victoria at Tokio. What reader of good literature does not know his book "The Bamboo Garden," and who that has seen or learned something of the nobler gardens of England cannot call to mind the great statue of Buddha against its umbrageous background, and the Japanese rest-house, with its alluring vistas, where Lord Redesdale spent the meditative but fruitful years of his later life? One would like to think that whoever buys the place will be a man steeped as Lord Redesdale was in the lore of the Far East, and endowed with his contemplative and fanciful spirit. The sale, it appears, is one of the consequences of the war. Lord Redesdale's eldest son fell in France in the spring of 1915, after a career, brief but glorious, with the Expeditionary Force under Sir John French. The aged father bore the blow with high courage. He found solace in his reveries in the Batsford Garden, and then produced "Yeluvana" and some other fragments, which his friend Edmund Gosse has collected and edited with affectionate care.

**LAST STAGE VILLAIN.**

For many years, W. L. Abington, the actor, whose death in New York is announced, was known as the "Adelphi villain." "Billy," as his int-

mates called him, was genial and popular in private life. In the eighties and nineties at the old Adelphi Theatre, Strand, London, Abington's villains were almost as indispensable to the long sequence of Sims and Pettit melodramas as William Terris's "The Harbor Lights," "London Day by Day," "The English Rose," and "The Fatal Card," are remembered even now. His last Adelphi villain was Professor Motrarty, in "Sherlock Holmes," with William Gillette in 1902. A year later he went to the United States, and did not return to England. The Abington out-and-out villain as a type has almost disappeared from the West End stage.

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**The International  
"Fourth."**

It is a tender and heartening thing for France to celebrate our Fourth of July, but—let it be freely acknowledged—it is a nobler thing for England to celebrate it. Among the words which we made immortal in the Declaration of Independence, adopted on our first Fourth of July, are many phrases of deep scorn of England's Sovereign and Government. "A history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute tyranny over these States"; "that our senses, ravaged and our spirits, burnt out towns and destroyed the lives of our people"—the fundamental document of our independence, read at every celebration of the day, is a terrible arraignment of Britain. But we see now that something has happened not only to make us forget these old reproaches, and the bitter words that were founded upon them, but to render those very words no longer an insult to our British brethren, but actually sympathetic to them. There is no occasion whatever to put the Declaration of Independence aside, even in our joint celebrations of the day with these British brethren, for in truth they have come to see George III., and the Prussian aggression which he practised against us, with our eyes.

What is the cause of the change of sentiment and relation in and between our two nations? It is not altogether a matter of reflection—of the ripening reason of the people. It is simply this: that Americans and Britons have risen above the old plane of the maintenance of their own particular interests, and have placed themselves on the common and exalted ground of the service of humanity. For ourselves, we are surely seeking no aggrandizement, no material advantage. Our French friends are good enough to put it in this way: "America, pacific by principle and tradition, entered the most atrocious war because human liberty and the rights of democracies had to be defended." Probably there is not a real American between our two oceans who is not conscious of the service of this ideal. The Declaration of Independence was for our defence against invasion—in its own language, it was put forth in order that our coasts should not be



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ravaged, our towns burned, the lives of our people destroyed. That was surely a sacred cause. But for more than a hundred years we needed no such defence. No one (except ourselves) ravaged our coasts or burned our towns. We grew fat and morally indolent in our security, and dull to the appeal of world service—until the call came, and at last was heeded, and we took our place with France, our old-time ally, and with Britain, twice our enemy. And then we found no difference at all in our ideals. The old differences had disappeared in a new duty loftier and more stirring than the mere defense of our own rights. The union of purposes and sympathy became complete in this new spirit of sacrifice for a cause higher than that of the nation because it is of the nations, and of man.

Already the British people, just by the process of thinking about the matter in their cool, reasoning way, had come to recognize the fact that our Declaration of Independence was not really against them, but against a Government of theirs that was really foreign to the principles of the British constitution. It was not George Washington, John Hancock, Thomas Jefferson and Benjamin Franklin, who were the rebels in 1776, but George the Third and Lord North, and their following. As we all know the better part of the British nation was then on our side in sympathy, though it could not prevent the war upon us. And when the misnamed "rebellion," by the aid of France, had prevailed at last, in so far as the territory of the thirteen colonies was concerned, it simply vindicated the principles of the British constitution, against a foreign attack, within those colonies, now made through that vindication an independent republic. Little by little, Britain has come to share in that vindication; and under the inspiration of a greater and a higher cause than the immediate affairs of either of our nations could ever supply, the two great countries have come to stand at last on identical ground.

Not only we, but Britain, the Mother, can afford to celebrate the Fourth of July this year with peculiar earnestness and profound gratitude to the directing intelligence of the world for bringing the three nations who stood at Yorktown, two upon one side and one upon the other, into an alliance which, let us hope, will last forever.—Boston Transcript.

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**American Commanders  
Praised.**

Through its ambassador to this country the British government has just conferred exceptional honors upon the commander of a United States navy vessel operating in foreign waters. For service in an encounter with a German submarine the British admiralty has recommended the decoration of the Distinguished Service Order for Lieut. Com. George F. Neal, U. S. N., who was in charge of an American destroyer. This ship was one of a number escorting transports through the war zone when the quartermaster sighted the wake of a periscope, 1,800 yards distant. General quarters were sounded and the commanding officer at once began to manoeuvre with the enemy. He immediately shot his ship head on at the U-boat. Getting ahead of the periscope he ordered a depth charge dropped. Nothing more was seen of the submarine and it was evident that her damage had been serious. The British admiralty credits the success of the destroyer to the alertness of the commander and the manner in which he handled the attack. Lieutenant-Commander Neal is a native of Tennessee. He graduated from the naval academy in 1897. Under the laws of this country officers are not allowed to receive decorations from foreign powers—N. S. paper.

**Incombustible  
Celluloid in Japan.**

About a year ago a considerable amount of interest was aroused in the United States by the announcement that a professor in one of the Japanese universities had invented a successful incombustible substitute for celluloid, to be manufactured from soy bean cake. At the time it was not found practicable to secure any more definite information with regard to the project, but recently their data have been received by the

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bureau of foreign and domestic commerce. The new product has been given the trade name of "satolite," derived from the name of the inventor, Prof. S. Sato, and a company for its manufacture has been started with a capital of 2,000,000 yen (\$1,000,000). Satolite is a galathite made of the glucine of soy bean, coagulated by formaline. It is said to be produced much more cheaply than ordinary celluloid, and to have several advantages for industrial use not possessed by the latter. The factory is to be built in the Kujukoma district in Tokyo, and the actual production will begin this autumn.—Commerce Reports.

Use Stafford's Peroxide Cream for Sunburn. Price 40c Jar.—June 22, 1918.