

Controller's Department NOTICE!

Bergymen and others located in isolated parts of Newfoundland and Labrador, requiring Spirits for Medicinal use in emergency cases, must have their requisitions endorsed by Dr. Brehm, Medical Health Officer, or a Doctor on his behalf, before they can be honored by this Department.

To make requisitions without complying with these conditions will be useless.

J. T. MEANEY,
Acting Controller.

sep11.101

LONDON GOSSIP.

TIGHT MONEY.

LONDON, Aug. 16, 1920.
Money in the City (London's banking and financial district) has never been so tight as in the past week. Commercial houses find the facilities for negotiating business cramped both for home and foreign trade. The banks say frankly that they have not the resources to give even ordinary facilities, and they have cut down, it is understood by agreement, the accommodation they are prepared to offer on account of foreign business. As London is still the financial centre for discounting bills, this greater tightness of money is seriously affecting even foreigners trading in other centres of Europe, and they are making bitter remarks against us. Nevertheless, the Government's trade experts say that they see no signs of a slump in foreign trade, and expect the trade returns for August to be about as satisfactory as July's. Silk, jute, boots, and hosiery are the four manufacturing trades which are in the doldrums, but other exporting trades are still in general doing good sound business, even although some firms in every country nowadays attempt to trade on "Japanese terms," repudiating their orders as soon as they see it would be unprofitable to take delivery. Of course goods now being exported were ordered last year, or very early in this year. The cutting off of money facilities at present will affect the trade returns of exports several months hence.

DISARMAMENT OF GERMANY.

A British representative in Berlin has sent home a copy of the proposed German law providing for the fulfilment of the disarmament agreement signed by the German delegates at Spa. It authorises the appointment of an official who will be the Disarmament Dictator, and will have more police authority than any other officer in the State. He will have the right of domiciliary search, confiscation of arms, the opening of mailbags, and listening to telephone conversation. He can interfere with railroad, shipping, and air transportation, and can issue instructions to the Safety Police and requisition the aid of the Reichswehr. All civil authorities will be obliged to comply with his demands, and the courts must give legal assistance within the limits of the law. He can create an organisation for carrying out disarmament, offer rewards, and pay indemnifications. The penalty for infringements of this law is a minimum of three months' imprisonment, the maximum being a fine of 300,000 marks and ten years' hard labor. As a new State Commissary, he will commence work with a fund of 200,000,000 marks. The Bill is expected to become law without material alteration.

THE WHITE CITY AND THE BRITISH LEIPSG.

The White City (the large exhibition buildings and grounds in the west of London) is now being whitened and smartened up for its after-war career—it has just been booked by the Government for next year's British Industries Fair in the spring. This is a war institution that not only lives in the "peace" world but grows quickly. The amount of business done at the Crystal Palace this year was double the amount done in 1919. It was in the neighbourhood of ten million pounds (\$50,000,000). The astonishing increase in London's attractive power as the world-centre of trade since the war has been shown dramatically in the Fair's statistics. The ambition to rival the old Leipzig Fair is in a fair way to being consummated. Next Feb-

ruary buyers will flock here from every corner of the world and from every State, civilised or other, brought over by the vast propaganda of the Overseas Trade Department, which is circulating millions of leaflets through the Consular Service in many languages. The Fair is strictly a business affair. It will be attended by about two thousand buyers, and this amazingly varied collection of visitors will be treated by the Government as honored guests. They will do business and have a good time generally.

SEASIDE SHOPKEEPERS' HARVEST

The large numbers of people who are staying at the holiday places this month are placing a big strain on those who have to find food for them. But the shopkeepers are all doing well. It seems as though they can command their own price for everything, and as business is done only on the ready money basis, with little pandering to the tastes of anybody, the harvest will be a very good one. The tradespeople will be well able to enjoy the scenery for the rest of the year. Warehouses must necessarily be stocked before the season begins—and the task this year was, I am told, very difficult on account of the shortage of some of the goods most in demand. Everyone who can be induced to take employment is put on to weighing and wrapping, and as it is impossible to deal with all orders within anything approaching ordinary business hours, wages have to be regulated by circumstances. Assistants as well as shopkeepers of course share in the spoils. Every morning the staff is at work by six o'clock to get ready for the day's business, and they are well pleased if they get away by eight or nine o'clock at night. Many young grocers seem to take a delight in this rush, and at the beginning of every summer throw up their employment in inland towns to take a season's engagements at higher wages at the seaside, where they get all the enjoyment they can at the week-end. It is truly harvest time for them as well as for the apartment houses.

TEA AS A "FAITH CURE."

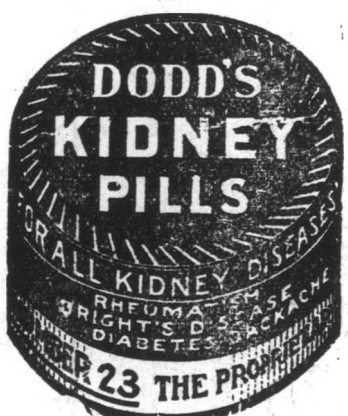
Did you know that tea as a stimulant is a harmless fraud? Lord Dawson of Penna, the King's Physician, asserted as much in the House of Lords when speaking on the Proprietary Medicines Bill. He said that a harmless remedy advertised as a patent medicine would inevitably have a greater effect in curing an ailment than if dispensed as a prosaic prescription. Why, said he, remove the illusion which was conveyed by the advertisement? We lived among such

WEST LONDON IN AUGUST.

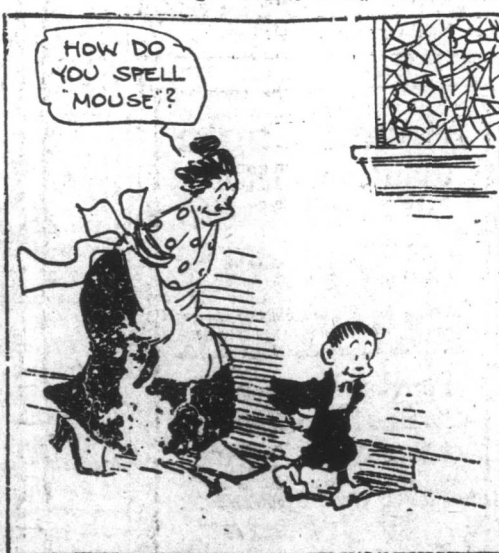
This August London is haunted by the ghost of an extinct state of things. Here and there one identifies something like the old pre-war "out of season" look—not, of course, the sort of thing that Thackeray wrote about when all the London squares ran dry of the residents and gigantic footmen in shocking undress drank beer at porticoed front doors—the sort of thing that is so happily expressed in Praed's "Goodnight to the Season." No, it is something much less dramatic. The external out-of-seasonness is there. Regent Street and many other West End streets are "up," and every day brings new problems to the taxi-driver and more grist to his taximeter, and more fares miss their trains at the station. Much painting is being done on the fronts of houses for the first time, in most cases, since the beginning of the war. There are fewer riders in the park, but then that has been a declining feature of London life since the motor came in. Most of the West End houses show signs of being well inhabited; in many cases they have been lent to friends, and the stream of carriages and motors is much as usual, while the smart restaurants and clubs are crammed at lunch hour worse than ever. About a third of the clubs are having their first big house-cleaning and repainting since the beginning of the war, and the members are investing freely in these institutions. These interchanges made a much more difficult problem than formerly, because some clubs have enormously increased their membership while their opposite neighbors have maintained their old policy and kept their membership down.

FRENCH FEELING IN LONDON.

The reluctance to contemplate entering upon a new Crimean War without the most adequate provocation, which is to be found in every social, commercial, and laboring circle here, is to be noted in what may be termed the proletarian portion of the French colony in London. There has been opportunity for talk with various representatives of this class, and they were unanimous in opposition to a conflict. In picturesque yet practical fashion one such exclaimed the other afternoon: "I was fifty months in the trenches from mobilisation to armistice, and I never want to see a trench again." "Not even for the defence of la patrie?" "Ah! that is different. If the Germans menaced France as in 1914 I would go at once, but not even compulsion would draw me across La Manche on the way to the Crimea." This was not an isolated case, for the same sentiment, though in less vivid form, was to be heard from various members of the lower-middle and working class of which the French colony in this capital so largely consists. They may not have representatives in the Embassy itself, but the diplomats there are sufficiently skilled to have already detected the difference in French feeling in London in August, 1920, compared with August, 1914.



"Reg'lar Fellers"



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By Gene Byrnes

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SEE WINDOW.

James Baird
LIMITED

From Music's History Book.

The inventor of the pedals on the harp was a Polish prince, Michael Casimir Oginski. He also suggested the idea of The Creation to Haydn. The organ for some reason seems to appeal to blind musicians. Why this is cannot be divined, since it requires the mastery of highly complicated mechanisms. As early as 1814 a blind organist was born who was considered one of the greatest organists of his time. This was Conrad Paumann, of Nuremberg. He wrote many compositions which, for the time in which they were written, are very remarkable.

The Hungarians—or more properly the Magyars who are descendants of Tartar-Mongolian stock—lay claim to the world as gypsy music. According to Engel the truth of the situation probably is that the songs and tunes known as gypsy music are really Hungarian folk songs, to which the gypsies have added many different turns and embellishments which give the gypsy character. This is shown in many of the Hungarian dances of Brahms.

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Watches as Big as Soup Plates.

The first watches ever made were as big as soup plates and as heavy as they were cumbersome. The Emperor Charles V., for instance, had one which weighed twenty-seven pounds.

The watches of that day were much like ordinary clocks. They were cylindrical in shape, finely chased, and had a hinged lid on one side to expose the dial.

A costly and elaborate watch was made for Sultan Abdul-Medjid by Messrs. Hart and Son, of Cornhill, in 1844. It was made of twenty-two carat gold, and was five inches in diameter. It chimed the hours and quarters, but was without a bell, the striking parts being made of wires.

It possessed a powerful and resonant tone, was exceptionally harmonious, and sounded like a cathedral clock. Twelve hundred guineas was its cost.

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Fashions and Fads.

Nets embroidered in tinsels and colors are featured for evening wear, heavy brushed wool.

White satin and velvet are popular for evening wear.

The décolleté evening gowns continue to be featured.

A smart plaid blouse is worn over a skirt of plaid serge.