

After the Dance

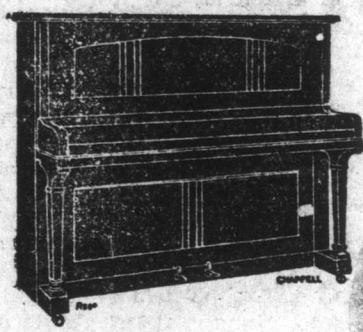
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GREETINGS!

To our City and Outport Friends we extend Sincere Greetings and Best Wishes for a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

WILLIAM FREW, Water St.

LONDON GOSSIP.

LONDON, Dec. 2nd, 1918.

KING OF SPAIN ON THE KAISER.

Spanish papers just arrived throw an interesting sidelight on the effect produced on the King of Spain by the flight of the Kaiser. It is well known that King Alfonso feels very strongly on the standard of personal courage, which kingship demands, and that in a previous case which he had special opportunities for watching very closely he expressed his strong disapproval of the undignified manner in which the monarch concerned sought safety in timely flight. In the face of strong public opposition in Spain, which openly demands the abdication of King Alfonso, the Marquis de Santillana, a member of Parliament, recently took up the defence of the Throne and called upon the Conservative elements of Spain to close their ranks against revolution. The Spanish papers report that the King sent to his noble supporter a message of thanks, the last words of which were "You may be sure that I am not of those who run away."

A LAMENT FROM LONDON.

Politicians in London lament the apathy of the people towards the present British general Parliamentary election as if it were something novel. It is nothing of the sort. The average Londoner is no politician, and certainly he does not carry through the business of an election with the seriousness of the people of Scotland, for instance. The Londoner's proverbial attitude on all things Parliamentary is well illustrated in Augustine Birrell's amusing story of a gentleman, who, taking his accustomed stroll down Bond Street (London's fashionable shopping thoroughfare) one sunny afternoon, met an acquaintance hurrying in the direction of Westminster. "Whither away so fast this hot day?" he murmured. "To the House of Commons," cried his strenuous friend, rushing past him. "What," said the idle stroller with a yawn, "does that go on still?"

WOMAN DIPLOMAT.

Mme. Rosika Schwimmer, who is said to have been appointed by the Hungarian Government Minister to Switzerland, and who is therefore the first woman diplomatist, is very well known in London feminist quarters. She was here for some months before the war, welcome alike as a well-known writer and as a prominent suffragist. She attended the International Council of Women held here in July, 1914, and she was one of the speakers at the International meeting of women held in the Kingsway Hall, London, on August 4. Speaking of her own experience of what war meant, she drew a picture of it, whose ghastliness only came short of the horror on which we were at that moment entering. Mme. Schwimmer was one of the party accompanying Mr. Ford in his peace ship.

GERMAN "LOOT" FROM RUSSIA.

What should prove a sensational statement may be published in the early days of December, showing the approximate amount of the valuables and gold which the Germans have "looted" from banks, churches, and buildings, both public and private, in Russia. The estimates, of necessity, have been only roughly made, but I am assured that the exact sums, stolen from the banks are known, and that there need be no difficulty in establishing the precise location of the Russian gold reserve, which in bullion and currency was recently moved to Germany as a consequence of a bargain between the ex-Kaiser's Government and the Bolsheviks.

A REMARKABLE CURE.

The orthopaedic treatment of the injuries of disabled soldiers which is being carried out by the Ministry of Pensions in various centres throughout the country is achieving remarkable curative results. It has been the means of restoring to use many seemingly dead limbs. The treatment is in many cases necessarily of a protracted character. There is at present, for instance, in one of the hospitals a patient whose treatment was extended over a period of nine months. This man received a bullet wound in the shoulder, and his arm became paralysed and useless. By means of massage, electrical treatment, and bathing the muscles were gradually developed and strengthened, and the patient has now recovered the use of the limb from the shoulder to the base of the fingers. The doctors are confident that after a further six months' treatment the arm will be almost as useful as it was before the wound was received. This is a typical example of the work which is being carried on in London, Glasgow, St. Helens, and elsewhere with great patience and perseverance.

THE HOT MEAL STORY.

A story reaches me from the front of an unrecorded episode in the closing stages of the war. At this time (the story goes) the Germans were surrendering in large batches. The Intelligence Officer when he went to the prisoners was at once met with

cries of "Hot meal, hot meal!" He was surprised, but the men kept shouting "Hot meal!" some of them rubbing their stomachs to emphasise their demand. The officer broke it to them that there was nothing doing in hot meals. Thereupon the Germans began to pull out leadets carefully hidden away in their clothes (for it would have been severe punishment for them to have been found with the leadets), and shouted "Ticket for hot meal—ticket!" The surprised officer found that they were leadets, apparently distributed from the air, telling Fritz to come in and surrender and he would get a hot meal. The Intelligence Officer told them in brief military language that there was a mistake, but the Germans kept shouting that Englishmen always kept their word—"Hot meal, hot meal!" One of them even shouted "Coupon for hot meal!" holding up his leadet. The story ends with the remark that as, of course, the division had to set to work at once to cook hot meals for the Germans, and so were unable to get on with their fighting, the advance at that point was somewhat slow. It is, I think, the prettiest and certainly the most inventive story that has been sent back from the front to the men who stayed at home.

A RARE BIRD.

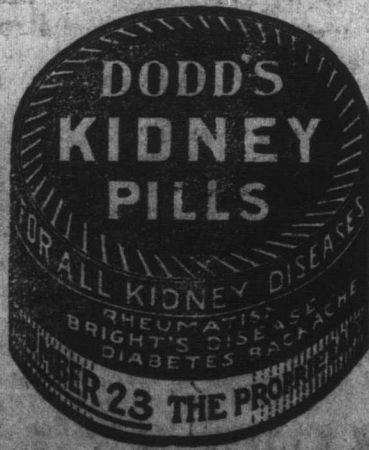
The whale-headed stork, one of the most interesting and valuable possessions of the Zoological Society in London, is dead. It was a native of the Upper or White Nile, and so far as is known the only living specimen of this remarkable bird in Europe. As long ago as 1860 the then British Vice-Consul at Khartoum—Mr. Petherick, himself an indefatigable naturalist—brought two specimens to London, and these were the first ever seen alive in this country. After an interval of many years the present Sirdar—Sir Reginald Wingate—presented to the society the specimen which has just died, and which was a familiar object in the vicinity of his palace at Khartoum. Visitors to the Zoological Gardens in London will recall the rather melancholy looking bird in the aviary adjoining the southern entrance. For long periods it remained almost motionless, save for the twinkle of an extra mobile eye.

LEAVE FOR THE NAVY.

This is the sailors' week-end in London. Leave is at last being freely given in the Navy, and the town is full of bluejackets in threes and fours—mostly young fellows, and obviously Londoners. The real long-service professional sailor from Chatham or "Pompey" (Portsmouth), does not waste his leave in touring London, but goes right through to his home port. I see a few shell-backs of the mine-sweeping service wandering about. Their attire and movements are unmistakable. American sailors also are commoner than ever in our crowds. Like all the "Yanks," they are quiet, well-behaved, civil-spoken fellows. But it is queer to notice how they look blue and unhappy in the damp chilliness of a London November day, through which our blue-jackets ramble unconcerned.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL STUDY.

At the Royal Anthropological Institute Professor Parsons gave the results of some interesting comparisons between, chiefly, German and British soldiers. The Professor has had the run of two internment camps near London, and he has made excellent use of his opportunities. Taking first of all the proportion of the breadth to the length of the head, he found that while the figure for the British soldier might be taken as 75.2, that for the German soldier was 82.5. The highest index among Germans was 94, which gave a very nearly round skull. The capacity of the German skull was 1640 as against 1419 for the British soldier and 1458 for a hundred British medical students; but the lecturer was careful to explain that the size of the material inside. Average height of 400 Germans was 5 ft. 6 inches, which Professor Parsons assured to be the average English stature. The tallest German—men of 5 ft. 9 in.—came from Schleswig-Holstein, while the Pomeranians, from amongst whom Frederick the Great drew his Grenadiers, were only 5 ft. 9 in. Great Britain, it would seem, has done better than Germany in anthropological study, but it has still far to go.



The Ninth Crusade.

(A. J. O'R.)

The new Peter the Hermit, ungraced, uncowed, unshriven, To the ardent hearts of ardent youth, hath a splendid message given: "Come up you young Knight, powerless will I am, soul undimmed, Unstained with the lust of blood of gold—come march in this Ninth Crusade!"

This is the holiest mission that ever was preached on earth. Since the summons rang from the hill-top to rescue the land of His birth. The word of a mighty tyrant hath a tawdry host arrayed— Come up you young Knights, peerless, come, march in the Ninth Crusade!

Come, strike a blow for Justice, the might shall rule no more; Come, strike a blow for Freedom to spread from shore to shore; Come, free the smaller nations, who lift chained hands for aid From hoary wrongs, from the right of Might—come, march in the Ninth Crusade!

And now, before high Heaven, before the God who gave the world, To true men, love of Freedom and pity for the slave— We vow a solemn promise, uplifting hand and blade, No taint of aught that's sordid shall stain the Ninth Crusade!

No loot from trampled cities; no war fines manifold. In greedy imitation of Hunnish lust for gold; No lands wrung from the tyrant shall be as spoils displayed— No covet naught but Truth and Right, as we march in the Ninth Crusade.

They come from distant Austral lands beyond the Southern seas; They come from Western prairies; they come from English leas; From where the Terra Novan boy contends with Arctic foes, Where swart Algerian mounted band o'er burning desert goes— They come the young Knights, peerless, by his great words arrayed, Eyes star-like, spirit fearless, to fight in the Ninth Crusade.

"Oh, never Peter the Hermit, remember the call and the vow: Remember the young blood shed like rain—men's eyes are on you now! No little, pleading nation must longer wear a chain, Nor through the whole creation the right of might remain. No slave must just change masters, where masters live—live slaves! We conjure you by the young blood spilt, by the little, cross-marked graves! Our souls are free from the blood lust; we've injured not babe nor maid. For a Black Man's kraal, for a Hunnish heard, oh taint not the Ninth Crusade!"

Death Sentence Smile.

Murderers Who Heard the Dread Penalty Unmoved.

London, Eng.—For the murder of Mrs. Rhoda Walker, Jeweller, in her shop at Pontefract, two soldiers—George Walter Cardwell, twenty-three, of Halifax, G. B., and Percy George Barrett, twenty-one, of East Ham, were, at Leeds, sentenced to death.

Both men were deserters from the Army, and had been living at Ackworth for three months, working as miners.

On August 16th they went to Mrs. Walker's little Jeweller's shop. One of them—each said in evidence that it was the other—entered the shop under the pretence of making a purchase, for the purpose of stealing jewellery.

Mrs. Walker was struck on her head with a stick as she was passing from her parlor into the shop, and was injured in such a manner as to cause her death some hours later. The shop was ransacked, and when the men were arrested in London Jewellery taken from it was found in their possession.

Barrett's story was that when he went to the shop he had no idea that violence was going to be used. Cardwell, who had a heavy walking-stick, went into the shop and he remained outside. Afterwards he went in, and Cardwell said, "Bring me something to put over her mouth." She was then lying behind the counter covered with blood. He took a cushion, which Cardwell placed over her mouth.

Cardwell said that he went to France in 1915, and was wounded five times and gassed once. In 1916 he was recommended for the D.C.M., and later for the Military Medal and a commission.

When at Pontefract he gave Barrett 2s. to buy a watch-key at Mrs. Walker's shop. While he was standing outside he saw a bloodstained hand appear in the window and take a pad of rings. The next time the hand came he saw Barrett's face.

Barrett then came out of the shop, and said, "We'll have to get away from here; I believe I have killed the old woman." Both were found guilty.

On evidence which left them no alternative, said the Judge, the jury had found them guilty, and in a somewhat lengthy experience he had never had a more painful duty to perform than he had now in passing sentence of death upon two youths.

Barrett left the dock with a smile upon his face, having heard the death sentence, like his companion, unmoved.

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- 35 1/2-Chests "STOKFORD" B. O. Pekoe.

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Jan. 4, 1919

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War

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the claim must be sent
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The Declaration must be
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If the claimant was born
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