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HOW BRITAIN IS DEFENDED.

Britain's Naval Strength Compared With Germany's.

Home Fleet Stronger Than Kaiser's Entire Navy.

Britain's Torpedo Boat Flotilla Twice as Large.

A recent number of the Daily Graphic has an article by Gerard Fienies showing how Britain's naval forces are disposed for the defence of the heart of the Empire. He points out that the principle governing the distribution of battleships is that the main strength of the Empire should be concentrated so that an overwhelming and rapid blow can be struck in that direction from which danger most obviously threatens. As the political situation changes from time to time, and sometimes with great rapidity, it is therefore obvious that the permanence of any particular disposition can be at most but relative.

THE EMPIRE'S HEART MENACED.

In general terms it may be said that up to 1904 the strategic frontier of the Empire faced south and east, and that "far-flung battle-line" was widely extended. Since then, however, it has turned east and north, under circumstances which permit and prescribe closer concentration. In other words, since the conclusion of the South African war, the overthrow of Russian power in the far east, and the happy improvement of relations with that great power and with France, since the conclusion of the renewed and extended alliance with Japan, and the increase of the naval strength of the greatest military power of Europe, the potential menace is no longer directed against the outlying States and dependencies of the Empire, but against its heart, and in the effectiveness of the measures taken to shield the heart from a possible blow the more distant members find their best security. National defence and Imperial defence are, in the last analysis, one and the same.

THEORY OF BRITAIN'S DEFENCE.

Because the outposts of the Empire were no longer in danger, the battlefleet was withdrawn from China, the Mediterranean fleet was reduced and the naval force around the shores of the British Isles enormously increased. For the same reason, Portugal, Berberia and Gibraltar are no longer the chief rendezvous of the great squadrons, which are more and more being centred at Dover, the North Sea, and the English Channel. The theory of Britain's defence is briefly as follows: She relies on her navy to keep the lines of sea-communication to herself and to render them dangerous to an enemy. She relies on the army to ensure that, if an enemy contemplates an attack on her shores, he should be met with such numbers of well-trained troops that the mere evasion of the observing squadrons and a hasty landing on an open beach would profit him nothing, but only involve him in disaster. The situation of her islands helps Britain greatly. The North Sea is, as it were, a harbor, and Great Britain is like a breakwater, denying ingress and egress, except through narrow channels at the northern and southern ends. At least, that to the north is narrow, while that to the south is broad but cold, and leads nowhere in particular.

THE HOME FLEET.

To carry out her purposes Britain has now the following force, combined under Admiral Sir William May:
Battleships—Let Division (8)—Dreadnoughts (two), Lord Nelsons (two), Formidables (four).
Guns—44 12-inch, 20 9.2-inch, 48 6-inch.
Broadside—40,200 lbs.
Battleships—2nd Division (8)—King Edward class.
Guns—32 12-inch, 32 9.2-inch, 80 6-inch.
Broadside—37,280 lbs.
This is the fully-commissioned battle squadron of the home fleet, having its bases at Portland, the Nore, Rosyth and Cromarty, and its repairing bases at Portsmouth and Devonport. Its commanders are:
Admiral Sir William May (Commander-in-Chief), Rear-Admiral C. J. Briggs, Vice-Admiral Sir Berkeley Milne, Rear-Admiral James Stirling.

Attached to it are two squadrons of armored cruisers, as follows:
First squadron—Invincible, Indomitable, Inflexible, Drake, Defence.
Guns—24 12-inch, 6 9.2-inch, 10 7.5-inch, 16 6-inch.
Broadside—24,860 lbs.
Second squadron—Shannon, Defence, Warrior, Natal, Cochrane.
Guns—24 9.2-inch, 32 7.5-inch.
Broadside—10,800 lbs.

GERMANY'S BROADSIDE AND BRITAIN'S.

Compared with the whole effective force of the German navy, the fully-commissioned home fleet stands thus:

| | | |
|---------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Battleships | 16 | 20 |
| Guns of battleship | 72 12-in. | 40 11-in. |
| | 52 9.2-in. | 40 9.4-in. |
| | 128 6-in. | 290 6.7-in. |
| Weight of broadside | 77,480 lbs. | 52,410 lbs. |
| Armored cruisers | 10 | 7 |

Guns of A. C.

24 12-in. — 30 9.2-in. 2 9.4-in.

42 7.5-in. 32 8-in.

16 6-in. 52 6-in.

Weight of broadside 35,660 lbs. 10,122 lbs.

The British armored ships of the home fleet in full commission, then, throw a broadside almost twice as heavy as that thrown by all the armored ships of the German navy.

AUXILIARY SQUADRON.

But besides these ships there are in full commission the battleships and armored cruisers of the Atlantic fleet, of which Prince Louis of Battenberg is in command. They are as follows:

Atlantic fleet—6 battleships. Guns—24 12-in. 72 6-in. Broadside—22,800 lbs.

Fifth cruiser squadron—4 ships. Guns—14 9.2-inch, 4 7.5-inch, 42 6-inch. Broadside—6,400 lbs.

Next there are the third and fourth divisions of the home fleet—vessels with nucleus crews on a sliding scale.

The third division is composed as follows:

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Eight battleships. Guns, 32 12-inch, 96 6-inch; broadside, 32,000 pounds.

Eight armored cruisers. Guns, 8 9.2-inch, 24 7.5-inch, 54 6-inch; broadside, 9,540 pounds.

As the fourth division is not kept in a condition instantly ready for war, no account of its strength can be given.

Of protected cruisers, scouts, etc., (excluding depot ships and mine-layers), Great Britain has, in full commission, or with nucleus crews, 22 ships of speeds varying from 25 to 18 knots, some of which are attached to the torpedo flotillas. Germany has, in all, 29 ships, of which 9 are credited with a speed of 25 knots, and the rest vary from 22 to 16.

TORPEDO CRAFT AND SUBMARINES

In torpedo craft Great Britain has the following in full commission:

Torpedo boats, 800-900 tons (33 knots). 4

River class, 550 tons (25 knots). 28

Older ships, 250-300 tons (30 knots). 16

Total, 350-900 tons (33 knots). 48

Torpedo boats attached to home fleet 28

Torpedo boats attached to home ports 20

Torpedo boats with nucleus crews 28

making a total of 204 above water torpedo craft, with which there are forty-six submarines.

The German force is as follows:

Große torpedo boat, 500-670 tons (31-32 knots). 36

Große torpedo boat, 400-500 tons (28-26 knots). 36

Große torpedo boat, 380-250 tons (30-31 knots). 9

Total, 350-900 tons (33 knots). 81

Torpedo boats (small and slow) 47

making a total of 128 torpedo craft. It must be understood that every German destroyer and torpedo boat in existence is included in this estimate, as against those the British fleet has in commission in home waters. Also that the British ships, nominally with nucleus crews, have really full complements on board.

THE MEN OF THE TWO FLEETS.

To man this force of ships, as well as the Mediterranean fleet, and the various cruiser squadrons and gunboats kept in different parts of the world, Great Britain maintains 128,000 men and boys on the active service list. There are also 36,000 men in the Fleet Reserve, Royal Naval Reserve (merchant seamen), and Naval Volunteer Reserve. Against these Germany has about 54,000 men on her active service list, and about as many more in reserve.

THE LAND FORCE.

Turning for a moment to the land forces, the "striking force" of the regular army, consisting of six complete divisions and as many cavalry brigades, with a fine proportion of field and horse artillery and departmental services, attached to either arm, is mainly concentrated at Aldershot, or Salisbury Plain, in London, and in the eastern counties, though considerable numbers are kept in Ireland. It is so placed that it can be rapidly conveyed for embarkation to Southampton, Dover, or the Thames, and elaborate plans are drawn up for carrying out embarkation.

Behind the regulars stand Mr. Haldane's Territorial Army, with an establishment of something over 300,000 men, and a present effective of over 200,000—if one may speak of an "effective" of troops which would confoundly require six months' training before they were fit to take the field. The land force available for home defence, however, should be sufficient to make invasion by less than 100,000 men a hopeless task, and the embarkation of such a force could hardly be accomplished without our obtaining warning, nor its embarkations brought about without giving our torpedo craft and submarines a chance of getting in among them.

Within the past few days an arrangement has been completed which entails the complete severance of the Canadian Lake & Ocean Navigation Company and the Canadian Lake Transportation Company, and during the coming season the boats of the first named company, the Pellets, Plummer and Ames, will sail under the colors of the Merchants' Mutual Steamship Line.

CHICAGO WHEAT KING PATTEN.

Winner of \$4,000,000 in Three Days--Tells of His Jump From a Farmer Boy to Multi-Millionaire.



JAS. PATTEN, THE WHEAT KING, HIS WIFE AND HIS MANSION IN EVANSTON.

Chicago, Ill., April 13.—In three days—a Tuesday, a Wednesday and a Thursday—a man in Chicago won from the world and deposited to his credit in Chicago banks between \$3,500,000 and \$4,000,000—more than a million a day. Jas. A. Patten, winning this colossal fortune from wheat, from which our white bread is made, and \$4,000,000 represents only a fraction of what he has made in his corner which has driven prices higher than for eleven years, and he will, he says, win millions more.

I came to Chicago to look into the face of this wonderful man and have him tell me his wonderful story.

As I was ushered into the offices of Bartlett, Patten & Co., just across from the Board of Trade building, where dealers were howling and fighting like madmen, the big man sat, hat on, cigar in mouth, in a leather chair against the wall, trying to balance two miniature sacks of wheat on his generous knees.

In each hand he held a little mound of the precious grain.

First he poked up one, smelled of it, and then did the same to the other.

His unlined, genial face looked untroubled.

"Want to talk to me?" he grumbled. "Why, I'm nothing but a farmer eld. I'm a freak, an accident, no education, nothing of that kind. All I know is wheat."

A bag slipped. Kernels poured out and filled his lap. Little heaps trickled from the marble floor. He didn't shake them off or order them swept up.

"You see my business is exactly like a doctor's," he said. "I have to diagnose the case carefully. I have to look out for all kinds of symptoms. And after I'd done that on the wheat question I decided it needed a cure, so I set about it."

The grumble was all gone. The unit cigar was used as a sort of pointer. The whole man became absorbed in explaining his "corner."

Farmers all over the country have been steadily giving up the growing of wheat," he went on. "They would grow only about 15 bushels to the acre, and selling that at 80 or 90 cents a bushel netted them less than they could get for almost any other crop."

But while the crop of wheat was going fairly well, as ordered, the country didn't stop eating white bread. The fact didn't stop eating white bread. The fact didn't stop eating white bread. The fact didn't stop eating white bread.

"That means just one thing, that at least I diagnosed the case that way. Higher prices had to be brought about to induce the farmers to raise wheat. Somebody had to do it, and so why not I?"

But more than that, this year I saw that the crop of wheat was going to be smaller than usual. The drought made the soil in Kansas like powder when it was sown. It hadn't come up by Christmas. There are droughts in many places now. And in South America, where much of the wheat for Europe is grown, the January crop was less than two-thirds what it was last year. That meant that United States wheat would be bought up by the exporters and leave this country with no wheat at all.

The coming "pinch" didn't seem to weigh on the wheat king's spirits. In another breath he was laughing about how his youngest son, Jack, 13, played a joke on him at dinner, the night before.

"Jack asked me what the president's name was 10 years ago," he said. "I floundered around from Johnson to Grant."

Jack shook his head.

"Finally I had to ask."

"Taft," he chuckled, and of course it was. You see I bite on other people's games. Wheat's the only one I know."

I wanted Patten to tell me what he thought of the moral of gambling in this desperate business. Higher prices for bread is a tax on women. I wondered if this man realized what a penny more a day meant to the average housewife, or a thinner slice of bread meant to a tenement child. He sees no wrong in what he has done. He thinks it is only fair trading. "But," said he, "I'm not arguing that I don't like to make money. In that respect I'm like 99 out of every 100 men. I like to make it and to spend it. I have no fads for spending it."

He was in the house in company with two women when a quarrel broke out. Snider and Evans, it is alleged, attacked Dillon, and knocking him down, kicked and beat him about the head and body. He was then thrown downstairs, carried out, and left on the sidewalk, where the constable found him.

The two women who were said to have been in the house when Dillon was assaulted were taken into custody as material witnesses. They are Bessie Frayley and Mrs. Eva Snider, wife of one of the prisoners.

PUT UNDER ARREST.

Kingston Man Charged With Passing Worthless Cheques.

Kingston, April 13.—Police Constable Mulling went to Nanapanee to day and placed Edward Routley, of Kingston, under arrest. He is charged with giving cheques for which there were no funds in the bank, and another charge may also be lodged against him. The proprietor of a Wellington street restaurant is the complainant. Routley just completed a short term in Nanapanee Jail for drunkenness. His term expired to-day, when he was again placed under arrest.

CASTORIA For Infants and Children.

The Kind You Have Always Bought

Bears the Signature of J. C. F. H. H. H.

Street railway conductors at London, Ont. have been provided with yellow cards containing a notice against spitting in the cars, which they hand to offending passengers.

It is reported that Lloyds and other great underwriting companies in England are contemplating an increase of 1 per cent. on hull insurance on all steamers using the Welland Canal and trading east of that waterway.

London, April 13.—Serious fears are felt here for the safety of a French aeronaut named Bellamy, who went up in a balloon from the Crystal Palace yesterday. His balloon was last seen twenty-four hours ago passing over the Isle of Sheppey, at the mouth of the Thames. The airship was then flying low, but Bellamy threw out some of his ballast and disappeared in the clouds over the North Sea.

He was last seen floating over the North Sea.

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The Right House

HAMILTON'S FAVORITE SHOPPING PLACE

Trim suits for women at \$15

A dashing, though simple new style

PERFECT in every detail and as trim and smart as any woman could desire. Everybody wonders that we can sell so fine a suit at so small a price as \$15. Why, they are quite as smart and quite as good as any \$25 suit I ever saw," said one woman to-day.

Materials are rich, silky, pure Wool Venetian Cloth and lustrous Shadow-striped Sedans, walking length, semi-fitting. Coats, smartly trimmed with satin loops and buttons, tailored collar and cuffs, simple tailored gored skirt. Special Right House price \$15.00 only

Other new suits \$17.00 to \$60.00

\$4.50 Lainty net blouses at \$2.95

A PRETTY ecru shade in a strong, fine quality of Brussels Net; prettily trimmed with fancy braided panel down centre front with alternate rows of tuckings and lace insertion on either side. Lace edged pleat over shoulders; sleeves are tucked and lace insertion trimmed down entire length, with lace pleating to finish. Regular value \$4.50; special sale price \$2.95

\$2 lawn waists \$1.19 Fine quality White Muslin, prettily trimmed with three panels of embroidery and row of Valenciennes lace insertion; large Gibson pleat over shoulder, pretty tucked sleeve and back. Worth \$2.00, special Right House sale price only \$1.19

Voile skirts \$15

Rich silky Voile Skirts, smartly tailored in handsome new thirteen gored style; full ripple at bottom. Satin folds and strappings to finish, very elegant and a grand value at only \$15.00

New skirts \$8.50

Panamas, Cheviots and Soft-finished Serges; trim-tailored, nine-gored flare style; pleated side panel; buttons and soutache braid add a charm and smartness to the finish. Brown, navy, green or black. Special Right House price \$8.50

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Mother's Bread

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Insist on getting

this label on every

Loaf of Bread.

A.M. EWING, HAMILTON.

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A "RAT" BANK.

Philadelphia Woman Hid Her Money in Her Pompadour.

Camden, N. J., April 13.—According to a story she told Recorder Stacks to-day, Margaret Citron, of Philadelphia, has been banking her surplus cash in the "rat" which she uses to increase the size of her pompadour. Louis Bishop was the defendant on charges of assault and highway robbery. The complainant said that he had learned the hiding place of her money and had knocked her down, disarranging her coiffure and taking \$80 therefrom, beside one of a pair of pearl earrings. This last was found in Bishop's cell, after the Recorder had held him without bail for court.

SUFFERED TORTURE.

Guelph Plumber Had Strong Current Go Through Him.

Guelph, Ont., April 13.—For two minutes George Barron, a plumber in the employ of Fred Smith on Quebec street, endured a current of electricity of 104 volts passing through his body. He had hold of a water pipe that was charged with electricity, and could not let go. A fellow-workman who went to his assistance was dashed to the ground. Another man went to the rescue and with care he jerked the suffering man from his position.

The body of an Indian was found near the Mission, Vancouver. Part of the abdomen was blown away. A shotgun found nearby was spattered with blood.

MARRIAGE VOIDED.

Uncle and Niece Lived as Man and Wife.

Orangeville, April 13.—An unusual case came from Harrison to the Dufferin Spring Assizes, which opened here to-day before Hon. Mr. Justice Clute. Last November Margaret Burton was married to Samuel Roberts by Rev. Mr. Wright, Methodist minister at Palmerston, a license having been first procured by the groom. The parties are within the prohibited degree, being uncle and niece, the defendant being a full uncle. The parties lived together until February 31, and then separated. The plaintiff wants the marriage annulled and declared void ab initio under the recent statute. The defendant admits the facts. The clergyman was ignorant of the relationship of the parties. Outside counsel present are H. L. Drayton, K. C., A. R. Clute and Gordon Grant, Toronto, G. M. Vance, K. C., and F. A. Clement, Sherburne.

PART OF C. P. R.

Shareholders of Wisconsin Central Ratify Lease.

Milwaukee, Wis., April 13.—Milwaukee untimately will be one of the big terminal points of the Canadian Pacific Railway. The Wisconsin Central Railroad now loses all identity, except in corporate name in legal affairs. Within a short time there will be considered plans for building to or through the city of Milwaukee. The headquarters of the Central in Chicago will be moved to Minneapolis. All good men will be retained in their present positions or promoted.

The Wisconsin Central Railroad now is a part of the great Canadian Pacific system, after having been fully transferred to the " Soo" line, the agreements between the two companies heretofore authorized by their respective boards being ratified and approved by the largest vote ever cast, more than 90 per cent. of stock being represented.

The Wisconsin Central Railroad hereafter will not be known by the familiar name, becoming a mere division of the "Soo" line under the title "Chicago."

TO-NIGHT

Circarets

THEY WORK WHILE YOU SLEEP

25c