

Gen. Botha's Victories

Will Take High Rank In Military History

IN the titanic struggles which are taking place in Flanders and the Dardanelles, we are apt to overlook the great work which General Botha has accomplished in South Africa. Thanks to his military skill, powers of organization, strategy, and energy, we have cleared South Africa of the German menace. His victory will rank as one of the finest exploits in military history. For it should be remembered that German South-West Africa is a country nearly three times the size of the United Kingdom, and considerably larger than Germany itself. Botha is a natural soldier. One only needs to glance at his record to un-



GEN. LOUIS BOTHA.

derstand that. When the Boer War broke out in 1899, he was practically unknown. He was only a field-cornet, but his remarkable abilities earned quick promotion. He commanded the Boer forces at Colenso, and was Commander-in-Chief during the rest of the war. Briton as well as Boer recognized his sterling ability, solidity of character, and honesty, and when the final settlement came he set himself to work for peace and prosperity with the same energy as when he had fought against us.

Loyalty is the keynote of Botha's character. "There can only be one reply," he said, when war broke out. "The Empire is at war; consequently South Africa is at war with the common enemy. To forget our loyalty in this hour of trial would be scandalous and shameful."

It is due to Botha more than any man that old wounds have been healed. In 1910 he became Premier of the Union of South Africa, and two years later was appointed an honorary general in the British Army. The Germans hated him because he refused to be influenced by their machinations, and it is interesting to recall at this moment that eight years ago they attacked him under the title of "Mr. Botha the Englishman" for his base ingratitude to German sympathizers at the time of the South African War.

Fifty-two years of age, Botha lives at Groote Schuur, the country-house, eight miles out of Cape Town, which was presented by Cecil Rhodes in his will to the Premier of the South African Union for the time being. And he owes, as he has often confessed, much to his wife, a deeply religious woman, simple and domesticated, gentle and lovable.

Charges Unfounded.

It is officially stated here that the Berlin story of ill-treatment of Germans at Amherst internment camp is without the slightest foundation. There were 687 men interned there, most of them from German cruisers sunk early in the war. They were comfortably housed, fed with Canadian military rations, and given no work or duties. On the objection of some of the naval officers to being quartered with the army, they were removed to Halifax. "The basest of fabrication," the reports of ill-treatment are characterized.

The despatch from Berlin referred to read in part: "As the result of increasingly serious reports concerning the treatment of German civilian prisoners interned at Amherst, Nova Scotia, according to which men housed in an unventilated and insanitary factory building had been punished for attempted escape and less serious infractions of the rules by confinement in a brick oven, the German authorities are now contemplating retaliatory measures against Canadians, both soldiers and civilians, imprisoned here. Approximately seven hundred Germans are now interned at Amherst."

"The German officials believe that the conditions at Amherst are in sharp contrast with those under which Canadian civil and military prisoners live in Germany. United States Embassy investigators have pronounced camps where Canadians are imprisoned as good. An Associated Press correspondent recently visited Gottingen, where the greatest number of Canadian soldiers are confined, and found conditions apparently satisfactory."

Something Like It.

Educated Egyptian—You have no wonderful hieroglyphics in your country, sir; no mysterious inscriptions, no undecipherable relics of an ancient literature whose secrets the wise men of the world have tried for ages to discover.

Tourist—No, we haven't any of those things, but—brightening up—"we've got our 'railway guides'."

ENGLAND'S NEW ISLAND.

The Annexation of Cyprus Recalls the Days of the Crusades.

England's recent proclamation of the annexation of Cyprus turns back the pages of history to the days when King Richard Cœur de Lion conquered the island from the Emperor Isaac of Constantinople, who had behaved discourteously to the Lady Berengaria of Navarre, whom the King subsequently married in the chapel of the Castle at Limassol. These things happened more than seven centuries ago, and now once again an English king claims the sovereignty of Cyprus.

King Richard sold the island to the Templars. They could not pay the full price, and so Cyprus came back to King Richard, who gave it to Guy of Lusignan, the dispossessed king of Jerusalem. Thus Cyprus, the island of Aphrodite Anadyomene and of Saint Barnabas, became an outpost of Latin civilization in the Levant and one of the most important trading centres of the Middle Ages.

The story of the island from 1200 to 1570 is one of the most extravagant pages of history. The wealth and pride of the nobles, coupled with a delicious climate and lovely surroundings, promoted a fabulous luxury and an amazing feudal insolence. The kings who for centuries clung to the shadowy title of the lost Jerusalem were twice crowned—once in Nicosia for Cyprus, once in Famagusta for Jerusalem. Their court was crowded by the bearers of picturesque titles dating from the crusades—princes of Galilee and Antioch, counts of Jaffa and Edessa; their tempers were hot and their morals loose, but they erected splendid buildings—great cathedrals, the abbey of Bella Paise, and well-placed castles—and during the days of the Lusignans, Cyprus was more important in the eyes of the world than ever it was before or since. This exotic royalty failed at last, and the island fell into the hands of Venice.

The Venetians starved the island of its revenue, and dismantled its castles; finally, in 1570, it was conquered by Sultan Selim the 'Sot' for the sake of his rich wine, and the gallant Venetian, Marcantonio Bragadino, who held Famagusta valiantly for Saint Mark, was betrayed after an honorable surrender to Lala Mustafa, and flayed alive. His skin, stuffed with straw, was for a time used as a masthead ensign by his cruel conquerors, and was finally sold to his family.

The Ottomans finished what the Venetians had begun. He closed Famagusta to commerce, and built Larnaca in its stead; but to all intents and purposes, Cyprus was neglected and oppressed until the British made themselves responsible for its proper administration in 1878.

UP TO EXPECTATIONS.

New Tariff Makes Up for the Heavy Decline.

The results of the Tariff and Special War Revenue measures introduced in his last Budget, the Minister of Finance states, have so far fully realized his expectations, as the revenues had maintained a parity with those of the ante-bellum period of last year.

In his Budget Speech the Minister, Hon. W. T. White, said that on the then-existing basis of duties of customs and excise, the revenue of the Dominion from all sources for the present fiscal year (which began in April 1st and would end March 31st next) would not exceed one hundred and twenty millions if the war continued. The revenues of the last fiscal year which ended on March 31st aggregated \$133,000,000. If therefore the present year only held its own with the last in which there were four ante-bellum months, the new taxation measures would be responsible for additional revenue to the amount of \$13,000,000 over the estimate for the revenue of the present fiscal year on the former basis of duties of customs and excise. From the day the new tariff went into effect the heavy declines which were being experienced were arrested, and since the date of the Budget the revenues have held their own with those of the corresponding months of the previous year in which the world was at peace and business flowing in its accustomed channels.

The heavy declines in last year's revenues were experienced from September onwards, the losses amounting to two and three millions a month. It is expected that the comparisons with these months will be favorable to the revenues of this fiscal year.

Kitchener's Surprise Ready?

The New York Tribune of a few days ago prints the following: "Recent arrivals from England are able to afford some explanation of the delayed British advance, which, as much in England as throughout the rest of the world, has caused considerable bewilderment."

"Their explanation is that Lord Kitchener has been waiting to launch his great surprise, and this surprise lies in the completion of new guns and a new type of shell, which it is believed will revolutionize artillery operations, and make the path of the allies to Berlin more possible than hitherto."

"The combined efforts of British chemists and ordnance experts have invented a shell unquestionably more powerful than any previously used. In destructive power it is without doubt superior to any previously known. A variation in explosive composition renders it likely to supersede all types in use."

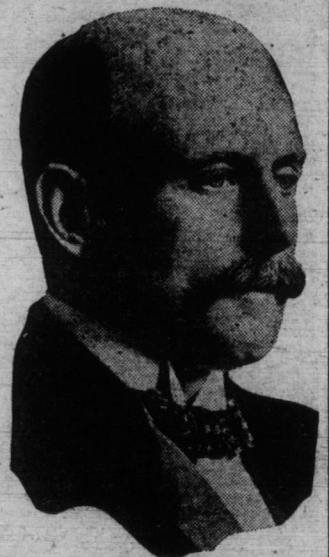
"There has now been produced a 17-inch gun that will stand the strain of the shell. Various experiments have been made, and are believed to have been entirely successful. It is stated that the shell will be carried 25-miles, and will work havoc on a scale entirely unprecedented."

Long Joined Government

After Six Years in the House of Commons

"WHA" a pity Long went in for politics. You will often hear the expression among sportsmen who remember Mr. Walter Long, President of the Local Government Board, as a cricketer and footballer at Eton and Harrow; Master of the Christ Church drag; as a rider to hounds, and in the House of Commons' Point-to-Point Steeplechase. But although Mr. Long inherited a keen love of sport from his forebears he also had political ambitions. He entered Parliament in 1880, when he was twenty-six, as a Member for North Wilts, attaining Cabinet rank fifteen years later.

Some idea of Mr. Long's political capabilities, even in his early days, may be gathered from the fact that he had only been in Parliament six years when he was invited to join the



RT. HON. WALTER HUME LONG.

Government as Parliamentary Secretary to the Local Government Board, and took his share in the onerous work which gave England its county councils.

Muzzling the Dogs.

Yet at one time Mr. Long was one of the most abused and best-pated men in the Kingdom. This was when, as Minister of Agriculture, he made up his mind that rabies and hydrophobia might be stamped out by muzzling dogs. He was assailed from all sides, but he stood his ground against the ridicule of lampoonists and abusive and threatening letters addressed not only to him but to his wife.

They, however, did not know Mr. Long's fighting qualities, and his action has been vindicated by the saving of thousands of dogs from rabies and by freeing his fellow-countrymen from the once-dreaded hydrophobia, which has only once reappeared since Mr. Long began his muzzling campaign, and that was when some foolish sentimentalist introduced a pet dog from the Continent in defiance of the admirable quarantine rule for which Mr. Long is responsible.

During his political career Mr. Long has represented various constituencies, and he is filling an office in the Cabinet which he held for five years from 1900-05.

A fine type of the sturdy, political squire, Mr. Long is extremely popular with all members of the House. He is an old-fashioned Unionist, but even Labor Members confess they like him. "I won't hear a word said against good old Walter," remarked a Labor member once, when Mr. Long was being criticized for something or other, and it may be said, without exaggeration, that he voiced the general sentiment of the House.

Gen. French and the Boy Soldier

A story told at the front illustrates the solicitude for his men which is characteristic of Sir John French.

During a surprise visit behind the firing line, the British Commander-in-Chief came upon a boy Territorial, who was in the act of writing a letter. Sir John was surprised to see that he was sobbing bitterly as he wrote, and questioned him as to the cause.

The lad, taken unawares, stammered out some sort of excuses, but the Field-Marshal was not to be put off, and, speaking kindly, insisted upon knowing what was the matter. Thereupon the boy produced a letter. It was a tragic letter from a younger brother in England, telling him of the death of their mother following the receipt of an unofficial report that her son had been killed at the front. The family, it appeared, was in humble circumstances.

General French sent the Territorial home by three weeks' leave. He gave him, moreover, a substantial sum to help pay the funeral expenses, and he dismissed him with the words: "Bless you, my boy. Your mother, at my rate, died with the satisfaction of knowing that her son did his duty."

Latest German Dodge.

Sir William Ramsay sounds a note of warning as to the direction of the German authorities that in future parcels for prisoners should be sewn up in canvas linen or sacking. The amount of canvas, linen and packing obtained in this way by the Germans, he says, would be considerable, and doubtless it is a dodge to get raw material for ammunition. Let me suggest, he adds, that light cheap wooden boxes tied with string would afford a secure method of packing.

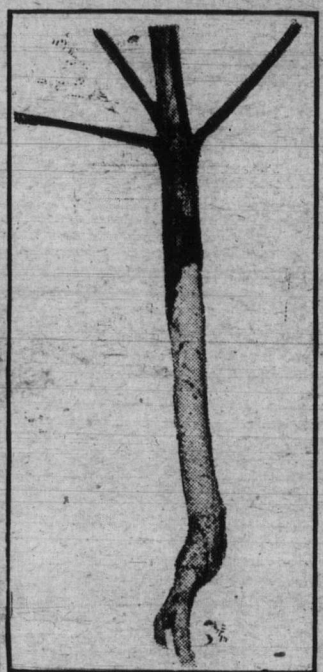
Farm and Garden

PINE MICE, ORCHARD PESTS.

They Are True Rodents and Live Upon Seeds, Roots and Leaves.

Pine mice occur over the greater part of eastern United States from the Hudson river valley to eastern Kansas and Nebraska and from the great lakes to the Gulf of Mexico. Inhabitants chiefly of forest regions, they are unknown on the open plains. Ordinarily they live in the woods, but are partial also to old pastures or lands not frequently cultivated. From woods, hedges and fence rows they spread into gardens, lawns and cultivated fields through their own underground tunnels or those of the garden mole. The tunnels made by pine mice can be distinguished from those made by moles only by their smaller diameter and the frequent holes that open to the surface.

While the mole feeds almost wholly upon insects and earthworms and seldom eats vegetable substances, pine



SMALL PINE TREE DESTROYED BY MICE.

mice are true rodents and live upon seeds, roots and leaves. Their harmful activities include the destruction of potatoes, sweet potatoes, ginseng roots, bulbs in lawns, shrubbery and trees. They destroy many fruit trees in upland orchards and nurseries. The mischief they do is not usually discovered until later, when harvest reveals the ruined potato hills or when leaves of plants or trees suddenly wither. In many instances the injury is wrongly attributed to moles, whose tunnels invade the place or extend from hill to hill of potatoes. The mole is seeking earthworms or white grubs that feed upon the tubers, but mice that follow in the runs eat the potatoes themselves.

Depredations by pine mice can be found only after digging about the tree and exposing the trunk below the surface. The roots of small trees are often entirely eaten off by pine mice, and pine trees as well as deciduous forest trees, when young, are frequently killed by these animals.

For destroying pine mice sweet potatoes as a bait have been found effective. They keep well in contact with soil except when there is danger of freezing, and are readily eaten by the mice. The baits should be prepared as follows: Cut sweet potatoes into pieces about as large as good sized grapes. Place them in a metal pan or tub and wet them with water. Drain off the water and with a tin pepper box slowly sift over them powdered strychnine (alkaloid preferred), stirring constantly so that the poison is evenly distributed. An ounce of strychnine should poison a bushel of the cut bait.

The bait, whether of grain or pieces of potato, may be dropped into the pine mouse tunnels through the natural openings or through holes made with a piece of broom handle or other stick. Bird life will not be endangered by these baits.

POULTRY NOTES.

Better keep one good hen than three that you have your doubts about. If meat scraps are fed to the poultry better see that they are not too oily.

Ten drops of carbolic acid to a gallon of drink water makes a good disease preventive when cholera threatens.

Excited men and women make excited birds, and that has a bad effect on the egg producing mechanism of the birds.

Charcoal and grit should be kept where the fowls can have access to them at all times. They are a preventive as well as a cure for indigestion.

Dampness and contaminated ground are fruitful causes of poultry diseases. The quarters should be as dry as a chip and the ground in the runs perfectly pure.

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There isn't a member of the family need suffer from indigestion, sick headaches, biliousness, fermented stomach, etc., if he or she will take Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets. They cleanse the stomach and bowels and stimulate the liver to healthy activity and tone up the whole system. Take one at night and you're RIGHT in the morning.

All druggists, 25c, or by mail from Chamberlain Medicine Company, Toronto. 16

CHAMBERLAIN'S TABLETS

Evolution of a Name.

Cosmo Innes, in his work on surnames, quotes an instance showing the gradual transformation of a patronymic. "A respectable citizen of Dublin named Halfpenny threw in trade, so his children prevailed on him in his latter years to change the name, which they thought undignified, and this he did chiefly by dropping the last letter. He died and was buried as Mr. Halpen. The fortune of the family did not recede, and the son of our citizen thought proper to renounce retail dealing, and at the same time looked about for a euphonious change of name. He made no scruple of dropping the unnecessary 'h'. That being done, it was easy to go into the Celtic rage, which 'The Lady of the Lake' had just raised to a great height. So he went and ran the streets as little Kenny Halfpenny came out at the levees as Kenneth McAlpin, the descendant of a hundred kings."—London Chronicle.

"Never Too Late to Mend."

Most of us associate the phrase "It's never too late to mend" with Charles Reade's famous novel, and very likely some of us think he invented it. But it is really one of the most ancient gems of popular philosophy. A correspondent of London Notes and Queries has discovered it in a petition from the commonalty to the mayor and aldermen of the city in 1433. It must have been of a respectable age even then, seeing that it is quoted as one of the proverbs of the period.

In Thousands of Homes

early and certain relief is found for the ailments to which all are subject—ailments due to defective or irregular action of the stomach, liver, kidneys or bowels—in the most famous family remedy, the world has ever known.

BEECHAM'S PILLS

are justly famous because they have proved to be so reliable as correctives or preventives of the sufferings, dull feelings and danger due to indigestion or biliousness. If you try them to cleanse your system, purify your blood, tone your stomach, stimulate your liver and regulate your bowels, you will know why so many rely on Beecham's Pills to

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The Book For Him.

There was a backward student at Balliol who for failure to pass an examination in Greek was "sent down." His mother went to see the master, Dr. Jowett, and explained to him what an excellent lad her son was. "It is a hard experience for him, this disgrace," said the old lady, "but he will have the consolation of religion, and there is always one book to which he can turn." Jowett eyed her a moment and then answered: "Yes, madam, the Greek grammar. Good morning."

WINNING WAYS.

The people who win their way into the inmost recesses of the hearts of others are not usually the most brilliant and gifted, but those who have tender sympathy, gentle patience, self-forgetfulness and that indefinable faculty of eliciting the better nature of others.

WHY YOU ARE NERVOUS

The nervous system is the alarm system of the human body.

In perfect health we hardly realize that we have a network of nerves, but when health is ebbing, when strength is declining, the same nervous system gives the alarm in headaches, tiredness, dreamful sleep, irritability and uncorrected, leads straight to a breakdown.

To correct nervousness, Scott's Emulsion is exactly what you should take; its rich nutrient gets into the blood and rich blood feeds the tiny nerve-cells while the whole system responds to its refreshing tonic force. Free from harmful drugs. Scott & Bowne, Toronto, Ont.

Speed of Animals.

It is believed that no animal has ever exceeded the speed which can be attained by the horse. Instantaneous photographs of one famous specimen showed the full length of a complete stride to be about twenty-six feet. The hare has not, in reality, the speed of the dog. The dog, on the other hand, does not attain the speed of the horse. The giraffe is said to run at the rate of fifteen yards per second under the most favorable conditions. The elephant, going at the rate of two yards a second, carries a weight approximating to that carried by six horses.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

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The Victoria Cross.

The recipient of the Victoria cross is "V. C." and nobody sees anything strange in that. It is curious to recall the difficulties Queen Victoria felt upon the point when the V. C. was instituted. "The queen thinks," she wrote to Lord Panmure, "that the persons decorated with the Victoria cross might very properly be allowed to bear some distinctive mark after their name. * * * V. C. would not do. K. G. means a Knight of the Garter, O. B. a Companion of the Bath, M. P. a Member of Parliament, M. D. a doctor of medicine, etc., in all cases designating a person. No one could be called a Victoria cross. V. C. moreover, means vice chancellor at present. D. V. C. (decorated with the Victoria cross) or B. V. C. (bearer of the Victoria cross) might do." The queen thinks the last the best.—London Mirror.

With Military Honors.

It is not universally known what is meant by a funeral "with full military honors." In such a funeral the coffin is borne on a gun carriage.

If the dead soldier was an infantryman his sword and helmet rest on his coffin.

At the funeral of a cavalry soldier his sword and helmet are fastened to the saddle of his horse, which is led immediately behind the gun carriage, and his top boots, with spurs attached, are fastened in the stirrups, with the toes pointing backward.

A firing party, drawn, if possible, from the deceased's regiment, fire three volleys over the grave, and the "Last Post" is then sounded by buglers.—Pearson's Weekly.

Zutoo

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