LONDON GOSSIP.

LONDON, Nov. 18, 1918.

LONDON LIGHTS UP AGAIN.

East and West, Nort and South, London is like a foreign city to us at night time now, for the lights are nearly all at full pressure, and on every side there are beautiful buildings which are strange to us, yet strangely familiar. The Clock Tower at Westminster is lighted—for the first time in four years—and Big Ben striking the hours and chiming the quarters as he did in the old days that seem so long ago. Whitehall is a blaze of light, and from Trafalgar Square eastward to Temple Bar the Strand is doing its best to emulate the brightiess. Beyond the crest of Ludgate Hill, behind St. Paul's Cathedral, the City stretches out in unexpected clearness, with the space between the Bank, the Royal Exchange is striking the hours and chiming the a white jewel in a rey setting. Nowhere in central London is a single blind drawn. London is a city of light and the role is new but very becoming to it.

CENSOR'S LOST JOKE.

Affected by the high spirits natural to these happy days, the Censor, not to be out of the fun, announces this week that H.M.S. Audacious sank, after striking a mine, off the Irish coast on the 27th October, 1914. So it's out at last. The announcement revives many old memories. The event was witnessed by the passengers and crew of one of the largest vessels on the sea—the White Star liner Olympic. The Olympic stood by and a number of the rescued seamen were brought on board, and she attempted to tow the battleship. Notices were put in all the cabins telling the passengers not to say anything about the event, and those notices, I have been told, were there when the Olympic was in New York. America had then no idea of entering the war, and the American press published their accounts of the disaster and even photographs of the sinking. These photographs and stories were reproduced afterwards in the German papers. Whoever was in the dark about the affair, it was certainly not the Germans. Covert jokes about the censoring of the Audacious story appeared in the comic press, and the pantomimes used to refer to it. When the Hearst papers were struck off the list for cabling facilities from England (they were afterwards reinstated) they retaliated by republishing pictures of the Audacious going down and other instances of the British Censor's reticence, and said that defiance of silly prohibitions was the reason why the British Government had stopped their services. Then everyone forgot about the Audacious except the Censor. He bided his time, and now the whole situation is regularised.

OUTLINE OF THE GOVERNMENT'S PROGRAMME.

Last Saturday Premier Lloyd George opened the election campaign for the Government. It is eight years since the last Parliament was elected and its life has been continued beyond the legal five years by various temporary enactments. The parties this time in this country are divided mainly into three. First, there are the Coalitionists pure and simple. These support Lloyd George and are composed of certain Liberal, certain Labor and certain Conservative Members of Parliament. Then there are the unqualified adherents to the old Liberal and Conservative and Labor parties. The two former groups of these will probably more or less adhere to the Coalition Government, whilst Labor, if it emerges from the election with any strength, will be the main body of opposition, along with a few independents and of course the Irish members. The Coalition programme is on comprehensive lines. Its main points may be presented as follows:

(1) Financial provision for the munition workers to enable them to tide over the period of unemployment after the cessation of hostilities until they become absorbed in peace industries.

(2) Discharged Service men to receive financial assistance until employment is found for them.

(3) Schemes of land settlement for soldiers and sailors.

(4) Restoration of all trade union rules and customs.

(5) Extension of the principle of a minimum wage generally to industry.

(6) Housing policy directed from a central authority presided over probably by a Minister of Housing, but worked through local authorities. Prompt action to be taken to provide materials so that building can be begun immediately. Timber now in the possession of our armies in France, including our captures from Germany, to be collected for this purpose.

(7) Key industries to be safeguarded; dumping of cheap foreign goods in competition with home products to be prevented; inter-Imperial trade to be stimulated.

(8) The Government also hopes to submit to the new Parliament a Home Rule scheme for Ireland.

GERMANY'S FINANCIAL OUTLOOK.

It is not only Germany's military and political, but her financial position which is desperate and rapidly approaching the breaking point. The ninth war loan has proved a fiasco. On the strength of the Kaiser's promise in the spring that the war would end victoriously this year, subscriptions were obtained to the eighth loan of £758,000,000, exceeding by £87,500,000 the previous record loan, the sixth, which was raised in the spring of 1917. After Germany raised the eighth war loan the national debt, it is estimated, apporached £6,000,000,000; but it is assumed that since then it has reached a thousand million more. In June the Reichstag passed a vote of credit of 15,000,000,000 marks, which, it was then declared, would raise Germany's war debt to 139,000,000,000 marks. Assuming that her debt stands now at 142,000,000,000 marks, Germany has mortgaged over two-fifths of her national wealth, estimated at £16,000,000,000. That this figure is approaching Germany's limit is indicated from remarks made from time to time by her highest financial authorities, but that would not prevent a levy being made on her future resources for the purposes of restitution and reparation to the countries she has ravaged and wronged.

THE NEW WORD.

A new word has appeared which, unhappily, we are likely to hear very often in future. The word is "hospitalised." It is applied to soldiers who have been a long time in hospital, whose minds have lain fallow and have lost mental fibre. So far little has been done in an organised way to rectify this deterioration. It is chiefly among officers where "hospitalisation" is evident. In many cases young officers who have been seriously wounded and had a long convalescence have found, when they went back to the army or were invalided out and returned to their profession or business, that they were far from what they were before, their mental energy having weakened, and they were unable to grip affairs. Where a man was reading for the Bar or learning some other profession the results were most distressing. I believe that the Army Council of Education has now a scheme in hand for assisting men in hospital to keep up their education and mental growth generally, and it is hoped that there will be many fewer cases of "hospitalised" officers in the future.

GERMAN NEWSPAPER CHANGES.

It is not difficult to see why the Spartacus or Left Socialists made a bee-line for the "Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung" and the "Lokalanzeiger" as soon as they got a real foothold in Berlin. The former was the semi-official German newspaper and was subsidised by the Government. At the beginning of this year it was taken over by Reimar Hobbing, the Government printing contractors, and was brightened up considerably. Circulation is chiefly among the newspaper editors, and its importance lies in the fact that its utterances and suggestions are so widely quoted, and assimilated by the provincial press of Germany. Indeed, one of its main functions was the manufacture and dissemination of propaganda. Its new name is to be the "Internationale." The "Lokalanzeiger's" case is different. These revolutionaries wanted to get at the people. "Vorwarts" already belonged to the Social Democrats; the "Berliner Tageblatt" was a Radical stronghold, and has been even kinder to the Independent Socialists than "Vorwarts"; other papers, such as the "Voss," the "Tagliche Rundschau," the "Kreuz," etc., enjoyed only a small circulation among professional and military people. There remained the "Lokalanzeiger," with a circulation of 250,000, an essentially popular paper, styling itself "the Central Organ of the Metropolis." Moreover, not long ago this newspaper had passed completely into the hands of a syndicate controlled by Krupp's, and ever since the beginning of the submarine campaign, which it had boomed tremendously, had been making itself objectionable to the Liberals and Socialists. It was a chance in a thousand, and they took it. Unhappily, their luck seems to have been short-lived, for a German wireless message says that the editor, Eugen Zimmermann, took the matter before the new Government, which forthwith took steps to right the matter. At the moment, then, the "Rote Flagge" would seem to have been hauled down and the "Lokalanzeiger" sign to be in its old place.

A Health Saving Reminder.

Don't wait until you get the Spanish Influenza. USE

Minard's Liniment

At the first sign of it It's Healing Qualities are amazing. THE OLD RELIABLE.

MINARD'S LINIMENT CO., Ltd., Yarmouth, N. S.

The Kaiser's Dream.

There's a story, I'm told, though strange it may seem,
How the great Kaiser Bill had a wonderful dream.
He was dreaming of Allies as he lay in his bed,
When his dream switched about and he thought he was dead.
In a very fine coffin he was lying in state,
And thousand were there, though none mourned his fate;
His soul buzzed about and found, to his cost,
That he and his soldiers were bound to be lost.
He wouldn't believe it, so to Heaven went straight
And, arrived at the portals, knocked loud at the gate,
"Hey, Peter, get busy, quick open the door,
See who's here. It's the Kaiser. Make everything roar.
Beat the drums, blow the horns, have a swell banquet made.
Tell Gott I have come and we'll have a parade."
Saint Peter looked out. Then, in voice loud and clear,
Said "Try down below, Bill, you can't get in here."
"Tut, tut," said the Kaiser, "you're very uncivil,
Don't probably know I'm a friend of the Devil.
And I'm going with pleasure." So he started to go,
A-whistling like blazes, to make a big show.
When he came to Hell's door he was filled with dismay,
For while waiting outside he o'erheard Satan say:
"Look here, boys, take notice, I give you all warning,
I'm expecting the Kaiser down here in the morning,
But don't let him in, he'll start mussing about,
So give him the ha! ha! and kick him right out."
"Oh, Satan, dear friend," the Kaiser then cried,
"Excuse me for listening while waiting outside,
But please let me in, for where else can I go?"
"Indeed," said the Devil, "I'm damned if I know."
"Ach, please let me in, for I'm feeling quite cold,
And if you want money, I've plenty of gold.
Let me sit in a corner, no matter how hot."
"Nix, Nein," said the Devil, "most certainly not,
You can't gain admittance by your offer of pelf,
Here are sulphur and matches, make a Hell for yourself.
Don't skinch, use them freely, for, by donner and blitz,
I've plenty more left for the Sultan and Fritz."

* * * * *

From his troublous sleep Bill awoke in a sweat,
And said: "That's a dream I shall never forget.
That I won't get to Heaven, I know very well,
But I never believed I'd get kicked out of Hell."

December 15, 1917. N. O.

MINARD'S LINIMENT CURES COLDS, ETC.

Holidays Are Kodak Days.

Put KODAK on Your Christmas List.

We have a complete line of Kodaks, Premo and Brownie Cameras, from the little Vest Pocket up to the big brother 3A.

PRICES:

Kodaks from $8.60 up.
Brownies from $2.30 up.
Premos from $2.70 up.

There are lots of other Christmas suggestions at our store. Come in and let us show you.

TOOTON'S,
The Kodak Store,
320 Water Street, St. John's.

THE HOUSE of SMYTH,

Established 1875.

"OLD AND RELIABLE," Sends Forth Its Forty-Third Xmas Announcement to the People of Newfoundland!

Although some changes have been made in our business during this long period, we still lay claim to the fact that, LIKE OUR BRAVE AND HONOURED REGIMENT, our Lines are "BETTER THAN THE BEST." Xmas Shopping, at any time, is both FATIGUING AND UNSATISFACTORY. Let us demonstrate to you this Season with what ease and promptitude you can Shop for Men at Our Store.

BEING SPECIALISTS, it is our business to know what Men require in Dress Accessories, our whole time being devoted to studying their every whim, and, invariably, the verdict of our Patrons is: "I LEAVE IT TO YOU, AS YOU ALWAYS KNOW WHAT I WANT."

Our Buyer visited the Markets earlier than usual this year, consequently our large and exclusive selection of Xmas Novelties for Men EXCELS IN VARIETY, BEAUTY, QUALITY AND VALUE any previous effort of ours. To the few who will be unable to reach this BRIGHT AND BUSY STORE during the next three weeks, we give the following helpful hints:—

NECKWEAR.

Neckwear is always most acceptable as a Xmas Gift. Everybody knows our Neckwear is unbeatable for its originality of design and superior quality. 6,000 patterns to select from. Prices 75c. to $4.00 each.

SMOKING JACKET.

A Smoking Jacket or House Coat is just what he needs to save his business coat from being mussed up when he comes in at night. We have all sizes just now, but secure His at once. You know we stock the celebrated Jaeger brand. None better.

SHIRTS.

Our Shirts are so well known for their style and durability that men always appreciate them as a gift. We have some beautiful Jaeger fine Wool Taffeta Shirts and the patterns are just the thing he will like.

We have a few Silk Shirts in stock that arrived a day or two since. Each one nicely packed in holiday boxes. Leave the size to us.

DRESSING GOWNS.

A Jaeger Dressing Gown or Lounge Robe is just what he has been looking for. We haven't been able to secure many, so get his early.

SOX.

Sox are most useful as a gift for men. Our stock was never more complete than at present.

The celebrated Jaeger and Holeproof Sox are our specials. The former are all wool, and the latter we stock in silk lisle and all thread silk. Prices: Jaeger, $1 20 to $1.50 pair. Holeproof, 50c. 75c., $1.10, $1.20.

SILK PYJAMAS.

Now is the time to gratify that wish he expressed some time ago. We have them in China Silk, very durable quality, and the patterns are most exclusive. Or perhaps he would prefer Jaeger Fine Wool Taffeta. We stock only the best, $12.50 to $15.00 suit.

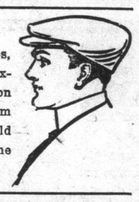
COLLARS.

Perhaps he is short of Collars. We have all the new shapes in every size. What more acceptable than a dozen Collars; or if you wish to add an all-leather Collar Box, we have them as well. Price 25c.

FANCY WOOL VESTS.

A Jaeger Fancy Wool Vest is a very acceptable gift in this climate of ours, as unlike the sweater coat, it can be worn at all times, and one does not have to change it, thereby running the risk of catching cold. All sizes in stock from 36 to 44. Price $10.00.

CAPS.



Talking about Fur Caps, we have a dozen or so extra specials in Hudson Seal. Why not give him one of these? He would surely appreciate it, as he would keep it for years.

SMYTH'S MUFFLERS are famous as Xmas gifts for ladies or gentlemen. The patterns are always just the last word. And the quality—well, you've heard about it. There is but one best, and we have it.

Jaeger .. ..$2.50 to $4.00
Silk $4.00, $7.50, $9 00, $12.50

NO HANDKERCHIEFS! — Well, why not give him some? We were never better supplied. Our Silk Handkerchiefs come direct from one of England's staunchest Allies—Japan. Prices to suit every purse.

He may be a curler of the White Division. If so, we have some splendid Jaeger Sweaters, all white. He will appreciate nothing better.

HATS.

Why not give him a Hat? Don't know his size, eh? Well, turn own the sweat band of his hid one and you will see the size on the inside, then leave the rest to us.

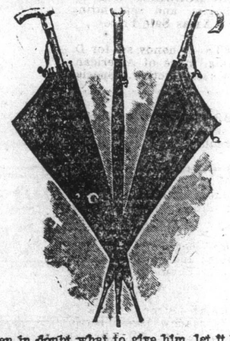
We are hatters from A to Z, and know exactly what he wants. We stock the two best makes known to hatters the world over — Christy's English Hats, Stetson's American Hats. Remember, these makes are not to be had elsewhere. A limited supply of Velours in stock.

GLOVES.

A pair of Gloves—well, rather! He is waiting until after Xmas to see if he gets them as a gift before he makes up his mind. Our stock is the largest and most select in the city. All sizes and all prices.

Wool .. ..$1.25 to $2.50
Kid, lined or unlined .. ..$3.50 to $7.50

UMBRELLAS AND WALKING STICKS.



When in doubt what to give him, let it be an Umbrella or Walking Stick.

We have some specials in both from a celebrated English firm. Look them over before deciding elsewhere. Ask to see our Silk Umbrellas; they are wonderful.

"SPECIAL OCCASION" WEAR.

Now, about the Xmas festivities this year. We are going to take the lid off and enjoy ourselves, seeing we have Peace. Consequently you will want some Evening Dress Wear. We were never better supplied with Dress Shirts, Bows, Vests, Gloves, Black Silk Hosiery, &c. We can supply your every want in this line.

SOLID COMFORT FOR HIM if you give him Jaeger Slippers. Last year you waited too long and couldn't get his size. Why not get them now when the size range is complete.

SPECIAL:--All Neckwear, Scarves, Gloves, Hosiery, Shirts and Handkerchiefs boxed specially in holiday packages free of charge. Remember, you get prompt and efficient service and speedy deliveries at : : : : : : :

Smyth's
ESTABLISHED 1875

Here's
Know
get throug

FRIDAY,

LADIES' WOOL GLOVES.—of the make in plain shades and some nic er mixtures, usually sold at $1.20. Xmas Sale Price . . ..

GIRLS' GLOVES—In plain shades of Cardinal, also Black or White, wa gloves in assorted sizes. Specia Xmas Sale Price . . . . . .

MEN'S al

MEN'S SILK SHIRTS.—A choice gift— Silk Shirt, coat style, double soft cuffs, detachable collar to match; these offe very pretty assortment of striped Regular $7.50. Xmas Sale Price . . . . . .

MEN'S NEGLIGEE SHIRTS. — This lin you a big range of good looking patte style Shirts soft cuffed, true to f Value for $2.50. Xmas Sale Price . . . . . .

LADIES' TAN RUBBERS—Real Dark close clinging and neat fitting 2½ to 5. Xmas Sale Price . . . .

SMOKER SETS—A handy set for Dadd tic looking, made of American bi ing accesories together. Special f set . . . . . .

CARIBOU BROOCHES ON PEARL — Brooch showing the Caribou head pear, circular shape. Xmas Sale

BOYS' AND GIRLS' HOCKEY JERSI with roll collar; some in Crimso cuffs; others in Grey with Crims assorted sizes. Regular $5.00. Price . . . . . .

TEA CLOTHS—English White Linen embroidered and finished with a w for years. Regular $1.50 each. Price . . . . . .

PILLOW SHAMS—Strong White Cott med with shadow lace insertion would make a tidy gift. Regular Sale Price . . . . . .

TABLE COVERS—Crimson and Green dining room cloths, fringed; regu Reg. $6.00. Xmas Sale Price . . .

LADIES' HOUSE SLIPPERS—Cosy l pers, leather sole and heel and pa fancy front. Reg. $2.00. Xmas S

PILLOW CASES—With a pretty all American cotton make Good valu Sale Price . . . . . .

TRAY CLOTHS—Rare examples of pr on white linen, wide hemstitched looking. Reg. $1.50. Xmas Sale P

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A treasured gi good Black Silk have just opene finish, the very b ly variety of p from. Special P to $10.50.