

## BRITISH SAILORS ENDURE INDESCRIBABLE HARDSHIPS IN PATROL WORK ON NORTH SEA

Conditions on the Battleships Not so Bad, but on Torpedo Boats Men Are Very Cramped and Uncomfortable

### BRITISH EAST COAST MAZE OF TRENCHES

Soldiers Everywhere in Evidence in and Around London—Startling Story of the Kaiser's Last Visit

London, Dec. 20. (By Mail)—It is said here that the Germans will protect Metz and Strassburg with half a million men each and these will be the hard nuts for the Allies to crack. These fortresses are reported to be virtualized and defended for an unlimited time.

The reputation of Gen. Joffre continues to grow. He is continually surprising the Germans, not only with the quality of his men, but with their numbers. It is said he has \$50,000 more than was credited to him.

British Recruiting. It is further stated that the British War Office have now ceased to publish the real amount of recruiting or of "Kitchener's Army," but it is believed to be far in excess of what it was thought to be. Kitchener spoke recently in the debate in the House of Lords, and let it be understood that he was quite satisfied and when Kitchener says he is satisfied about the recruiting it must be indeed proceeding favorably. It was close to him as he descended the steps of St. Paul's at Lord Roberts' funeral, and of a truth he is every inch a man.

One feels sympathy for the convalescing soldiers here in hospitals. They say it is the worst they have had to yet endure—consequently everyone who can takes them out for a motor drive, and where they are fit enough to some other form of diversion, picture shows and the like.

Such peculiar and varied experiences of shell-fire there are—one man was found suspended high in a tree, still grasping his rifle, but stone dead. Their muscles seem a tingle to become atrophied or fixed from one continual posture, awaiting attack on the

trenches. Another man walking about here with his comrades, was injured only in his hearing from a bursting shell close to him. He is stone deaf.

Suffering on Ships. Some of the greatest suffering is endured by sailors in the North Sea. It is not so marked on the large battleships, where there is space to walk more, but on the torpedo craft, where the men are cramped for walking space where they are on constant watch day and night (and have been so for months past), little chance is secured for very necessary sleep; bitter cold and wet sprays dashing over the low-hung bridge, the craft tossing continually and so violently that even hardened sailors become seasick. This has all obtained to such an extent that now no torpedo boat is kept on duty more than one week at a stretch.

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3 Pairs of our 75c. value American Silk Hosiery or 4 Pairs of our 50c. value Am. Cashmere Hosiery, or 4 Pairs of our 50c. value Am. Cotton-Lisle Hosiery or 6 Pairs Children's Hosiery. Give the color, size, and whether Ladies' or Gent's hosiery is desired.

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The men are brought ashore in turn and given a twenty-mile walk there.

The whole eastern coast is corrugated by trenches in preparation for any attempted invasion. Many beautiful private estates, and even the handsome residences upon them, have had to allow this mutilation.

There will be one class of the artizan population, not only in Britain, but in Italy and in several other countries, which at least will benefit by the war when it is over. Think of the thousands of stonemasons who will be in demand to restore the countless demolished homes of Belgium and France.

### Affairs in London.

Reaching London-centre, after passing miles of camping and drilling soldiers, one was compelled to ask if this really was London. One first noticed that there was a vast predominance of women over men to be seen, and nearly every other man of those about was clad in khaki.

A romantic tale is told here to the effect that the Austrian Archduke, Rudolf, one-time heir to that throne, whose supposed scandalous death in a common brawl over a woman nearly eighteen years ago, is well-known by the police to be living in London ever since under the name of Dr. K—, and practising as a vegetarian surgeon, and although his identity is known to court circles here, he is often employed by them in his present chosen vocation.

More amazing still, it is said, that upon the Kaiser's attendance at King George's coronation there was included in his personal entourage (who with himself was billeted in the King's Royal residence his chief of spies.

### Kitchener Story

A Kitchener story is to the effect that early in the war, after his appointment as Secretary, he requested the General Post Office authorities to send him eight clerks. He received the reply that they could not be spared to him. He at once sent a messenger to say that if the eight clerks were not at the War Office in half an hour he would come and take them.

To show how Canada's action in the contribution of forces and other kinds of supplies has affected circles here, I may mention that the manager of one of our large Canadian banks in London told me that several English customers of importance had acceded to his bank's clientele, giving as their reason for so doing merely the fact of Canada's generosity and practical sympathy with the Motherland.

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## FRENCH AIRSHIP NEAR BLOWN UP BY OWN BOMB

Was Sent Some Distance Across the Enemy's Lines To Bombard Important Railway Junction

### MADE THE TRIP SAFELY BY NIGHT

And Performed its Allotted Task Successfully and Safely Although had Close Call

THE story of a thrilling airship raid carried out by French officers is related by a correspondent from Arras. The captain in command of a certain airship had received orders to make an incursion into the enemy's country and try to destroy a railway junction outside a certain village, where the Germans were just then conveying troops. The raid was a perilous one, as the line was well guarded, and it was necessary to cross the enemy's positions for a considerable distance. The airship, however, set out at dusk with all lights out, and rose to a height of some 6,000 feet. Then it disappeared from view.

### Reached its Goal.

The airship succeeded in crossing

the enemy's lines without being perceived, although numerous searchlights were playing in all directions. It reached the village where the railway passed, and soon located and descended to within easy striking distance, after which it dropped in rapid succession three dynamite charges on the doomed junction. The damage to the rails was considerable, and the airship by that time was discovered by the enemy's searchlights, and all the field guns and mortars in the neighborhood were aimed at it.

Soon the sky was ablaze with bursting shells, and some of them were coming dangerously near, showing that the gunners were finding the range. The order had been given to throw over all the available ballast, which enabled the airship to rise rapidly, and, as a departing salute it attempted to drop a fourth charge of dynamite.

### Destruction Threatened.

But just then something went wrong, which threatened the airship with instant destruction. The dynamite charge got stuck in the tube, and the automatic detonator had already been set in motion. Its clicking could almost be heard, and it would not be many seconds before the charge would explode. Rapidly the captain in command seized a hatchet, climbed over the rigging, and struck a few vigorous blows, at the risk of his life at the tube, which released the charge and saved the airship. A few hundred feet below, and long before it reached the ground, the dynamite exploded with a terrific crash and burst of flames, so much so that the enemy must have imagined that the airship had been blown up, as the firing ceased.

It was a narrow escape. The French airship quietly headed back for its station, and in the morning was able to report the success of its expedition.

## P. J. Shea.

I respectfully ask the Members of the F. P. U. to purchase their Christmas and New Year stocks

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314 Water Street,  
St. John's.



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Agent Globe-Wernicke.

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### Removal Sale of Stylish Blouses

NOW is the time to buy a fashionable Blouse for that particular event.

We have them in a variety of White and Cream fabrics such as Lawns, Voiles, Silks, etc., and an enormous range of Colored fabrics, as Wool-Crepe, Challis, and Sun-Resista; also abundance of Black Blouses in the best fabrics as French-twill faced goods and Silk—kinds and qualities that will surely please you—all imported this season and mostly manufacturers' samples, priced about one third off the original value.

Store; owing to expiry of our lease, and move to our New Modern Store in the West.

Therefore we invite you to come often—whenever you want to save money on your purchase, come! because, hourly we are turning out new lines of dry-goods, and marking them at liberally cut prices to make it easy for you to buy. Come today and share the benefits of this REMOVAL SALE.

### Removal Sale of Elegant Dress Robes

A SPECIAL lot of fine twill, all-wool, Navy Serge Dress Robes going at liberally cut prices during this sale.

These Dress Robes are handsomely trimmed and quite suitable for people that dress well.

Here are some prices:  
Orig. Value \$7.00. Sale Price \$4.  
Orig. Value \$8. Sale Price \$4.25.  
Orig. Value \$15.00 Sale Price \$6.  
Also some Rich real-silk Dress Robes. Original Value \$15.00. Sale Price \$6.25.

See our Dress Robes for young girls' wear. Call early to-day.

### Removal Sale of Stylish Furs

EVERY fur that we have in stock are now marked at Sale Prices, and if you want the best, at reasonable prices, call and see our stock and buy at a considerable saving.

### Removal Sale of Dress Fabrics

FIVE hundred yards fine-make, light-weight, woollen, dress fabric, richly Embroidered with a handsome Art Spray—suitable for making garments for Evening wear for yourself or child. Original price 70c. Sale price 40c. yard.

### Sale of Women's Sweaters and Sport Coats.

A great variety to choose from in White and Colored. Sale prices: 87c., \$1.25, \$1.65, 2.05

### A Special Bargain

\$1.25 for three and four dollar value, Cream Kersey, Street Skirts, slightly soiled—a limited quantity.

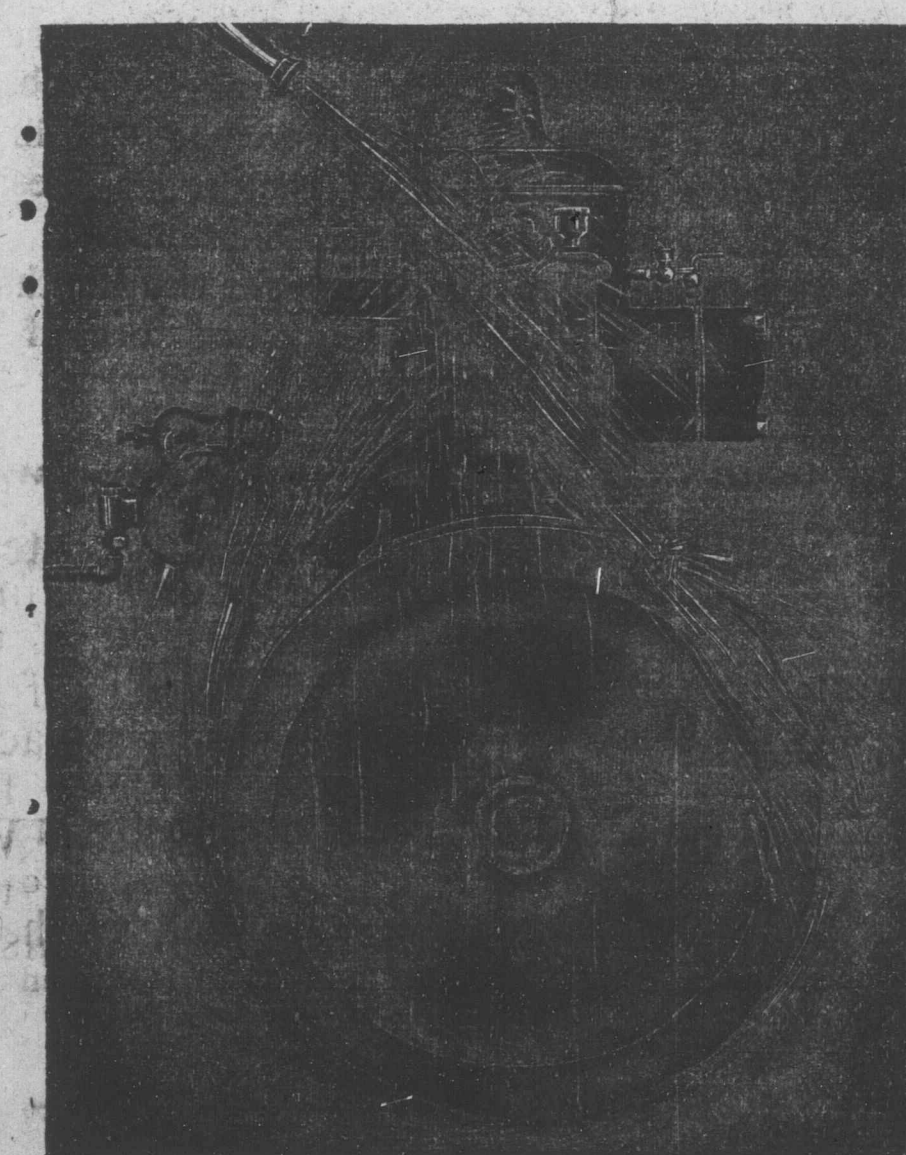
### Sale of Silk and Satin Underskirts.

We have the latest styles. Silk or Satin Underskirts, Black; also Colored. See them.

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