

The Curing of Cornelium

Written for The Western Home Monthly by Edith G. Bayne

BELLHOP number, twentythree, otherwise Jimmy Dolan, Shortstop for Stripe Sox, the eminent backlots ball team, was so very deeply immersed in "Doughty Deeds of Dick Dead-eye" that he failed to hear the night clerk singing out his number and was only aroused after the third call by a scientific short-arm "jab" from his neighbor on the bench, Pike Peterson.

"Your turn, Jim, to do de grip-grabbin'!" said Pike, reaching for the novel.

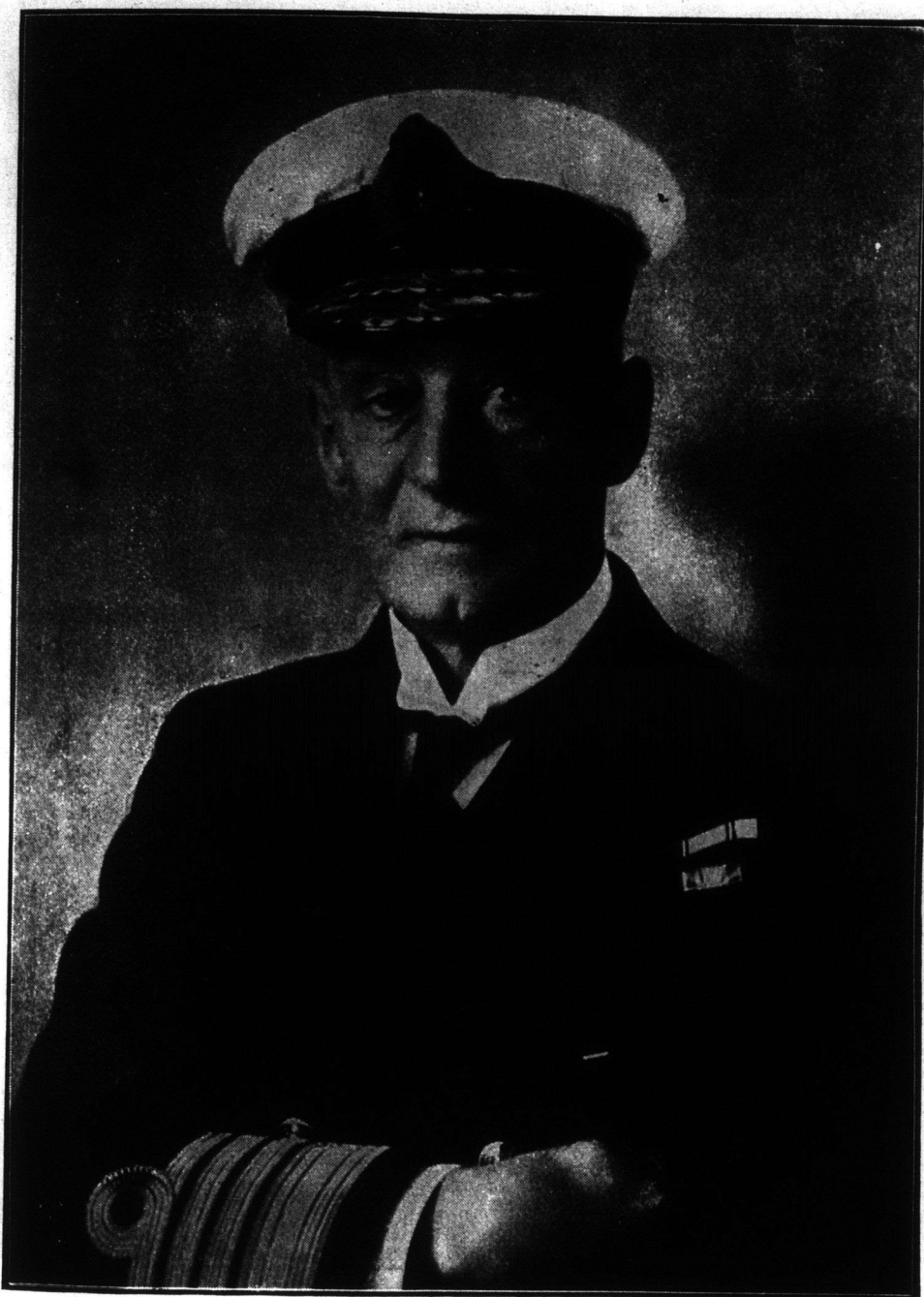
"Now mind yourself, Jim," admonished the night clerk, as number twenty-three, yawning furtively and glancing with boredom at the new arrivals who were registering, presented himself at the

in girl ringlets. He's goin' on twelve an' de English doe says "Cawnada is his lawst chawnee."

"What's wrong wit him?"

"He's got de con. De poor little beggar has a row of dope bottles in front of him all de time—two spoonfuls after meals, 'one tablet every three hours,' an' all dat. His nurse follers him around wit a spoon an' he has to go to bed at seven o'clock!"

The other boys listened round-eyed and Pike expelled a full-size grown-up oath as tribute of sympathy. The next day at Jimmy's noon-hour, having returned somewhat earlier than usual for lunch, he was despatched to suite 80 with several grips which had just arrived, and



Admiral Sir Henry B. Jackson, new British First Sea Lord, who is planning to provide safeguards for merchant ships in the war zone

desk. "Mind you treat them white for they folk from London and have all kinds of kale."

It had been estimated that Jimmy Dolan could "lick" any of the other bellhops with one hand securely tied behind his back, so it was with wholesome respect they gazed after him as, having received the above order he stalked chestily down the rotunda in the van of the new guests. Jimmy, though short on inches, was exceedingly long on muscle and, with an air that would have graced the reigning champion heavy weight, he seized three very English-looking bags mottled with foreign labels and an aristocratic suit case similarly decorated, and entered the elevator after his party.

"What was de tip, Jim?" asked Pike Peterson, when number 23 returned in the course of half an hour to the bench.

"Ain't figgered it out yet, Pike—a pitcher of Queen Victoria on a piece of de jolly yellow metal—but say, yud orta see de poor kid of de bunch. Dere's his pa an' ma, two maids, a nurse an' a keyey an' him. Dey have him all dolled up in pink check buster suits an' his hair

he found the twelve-year-old invalid alone, gazing idly out of one of the windows.

"Hello," said number 23.

"What did you say?" asked the other, with mild interest. "I said 'hello,'—how are you?"

"Oh I'm all right. They're all down at lunch, even nurse, and I've seen everything on this flat. What are those things?"

He pointed to a pair of boxing gloves which swung by their laces over Jimmy's shoulder.

"Dese? Oh I lick any guy dat chins me wit dese! Ain't nobody my size round dese digs dat ain't scared o' my mitts. I was just practisin' when I had to fetch up de grips. Want to try 'em on?"

The English boy jumped from the window seat with alacrity.

"Gimme an upper cut," Jimmy went on. "See—like dis! Fetch up your right but hit above de belt. Pooh! dat ain't hard enough. Come on wit de left! Harder, kid, harder! Gee! let's feel your muscle. Crickey, what a kitten! Come on, once more now!"



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