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LONDON GOSSIP.**THE DUKE OF YORK.**

LONDON, July 5, 1920.
The Duke of York (Prince Albert) has finished his studies at Cambridge University, and has now taken up the duties which fall to his lot. Prince Harry also will be taking his departure soon to commence military duties with his regiment.

L. 71.

What is the meaning of the secrecy surrounding the surrender of the German airship L. 71, which arrived unexpectedly at Pulham aerodrome, Norfolk, in the early hours of the morning of the day last week? Naturally Germany was not anxious for publicity. L. 71 was sent over before anyone expected her. She carried no wireless, and even the British Air Ministry officials had no idea she was on her way. There was no landing party waiting for her, and she had to be moored by a party of local military which was suddenly called out. The sudden appearance of Germany's latest and largest type of airship over the east coast prevented any elaborate stage-managing of the surrender, as was the occasion in 1918 when the German fleet was handed over. On that occasion permits were issued to the press, the proceedings were vividly described, and the whole event was regarded as a matter of great and popular interest. Except for one or two paragraphs in the morning papers, however, the surrender of the airships has been almost unheralded. But there is surely no need for a continuance of this secrecy. Enquiries at the Air Ministry as to what was going to be done with L. 71 produced no definite information. So far as could be gathered, press permits are not to be issued, and nothing further is to be said.

A FIVE YEARS' SOJOURN.

When Prince Arthur of Connaught takes his new position as Governor-General of South Africa he will remain there for the full five years. He has already some acquaintance with South Africa since he was there for a time towards the end of the South African war, when he caught dysentery and was invalided home. Princess Arthur's father, the late Duke of Fife, was one of the original directors of the British South African Company, a position he resigned after the Jameson Raid.

"SPA" OR "SPAW"

At question time in the House of Commons the other day, Prime Minister Lloyd George referred to Spa as "Spaw." This was the old-fashioned way in which the British Spas were referred to in the eighteenth century and early Victorian times, but I thought it disappeared with "good" for gold and "Jemee" for James.

HOUSEWIFE B.S.C.'s.

It would be futile as well as unwise to discuss the relative initiative displayed by the educational institutions. But no invidious distinction is implied in the observation that the London University displays remarkable enterprise along most novel lines. Its latest venture is well in keeping with the spirit of the present age when the pettiest matters in all the affairs of mankind, for it has decided to confer B.Sc.'s upon housewives. Students will undergo a three years' course in household science, embracing everything from laundry work, office management, and a study of labour problems to the correct method of endorsing and signing cheques. Such are the qualifications which the University deems essential in the ideal wife, but it has not overlooked the needs of those who do not wish to enter housework with such commendable ardour. For them a year's course has been instituted for the inculcation of valuable hints on cooking, dusting, ventilation, and so forth. By those who deary the tendency of the age to break away from the home-loving habits of our mothers the courses are applauded, but possibly the women themselves may regard them merely as the belated official recognition of the value of a much misrepresented and misunderstood science.

CANCELLING CONTRACTS.

Anxiety is being felt in London's banking and financial district over the marked tendency to disregard the obligations of contracts. Japanese merchants first adopted the practice of cancelling contracts during their financial crisis, but at that time little notice was taken as it was possible to place the goods to advantage elsewhere. Now, however, China, America, and the Continent generally are following suit, and the whole basis of international business is being undermined. Such a practice was unknown before the war.

GENERAL IRONSIDE.

General Sir Edmund Ironside, who, it is reported, will command the Allied forces against the Turkish Nationalists, is the only soldier who has achieved the honor of promotion to the substantive rank of major general before the age of forty. He was a captain when he went to France as a staff officer in August, 1914. He is, too, the only officer who possesses a decoration gained for service in the field with the German Army. He won this as a driver in the German field artillery during Von Delmilling's campaign in South-west Africa. He was then a subaltern in a battery in South Africa, and disguised himself as a Boer in order to supply the War Office with first-hand information about Von Delmilling's campaign. As a staff officer in France he was very notable, especially on the Intelligence side, and he quickly rose to the command of an infantry brigade. He is a remarkable linguist, speaking six languages fluently and having more than a smattering of several others. His appointment to Ismid is a surprise, for it is well known here that he is not popular with several army chiefs, with whom his directness of speech and his caustic candour have several times brought him in conflict.

SPORT AND NATIONAL PRESTIGE.

Unless £10,000 can be raised by public subscription within the next four or five weeks this country will be unrepresented for the first time at the Olympic Games, which take place on Belgian soil this year. The last celebration was due to take place at Ruhlben, near Berlin, in 1916, so that the Olympic Games have not been held since 1912, when Stockholm was the venue. Although there is no precedent for it, the invitation of the Belgian Government to the British Foreign Office to send a British team was more than a mere formality, for it is regarded as adding significance to the inter-national competition among the Continental countries. There is no mystery about the delay in the British preparations for the Olympic Games. They had all been planned a year ago by Lord Downham, but he has unfortunately been laid up for over six months. Hence the delay. In other countries, notably France and Sweden, State grants are made for financing their national teams. The public demand for economy has prevented the Government from giving similar support to a British team, but as it is

desirable to avoid any suspicion of discourtesy to Belgium every effort is being made to organise a team.

FASHION IN MEN'S CLOTHES: NO DANGER.

Quiet men were shocked the other day by the announcement quoted in the London papers from a tailoring journal that there are going to be revolutionary reforms in men's fashions. In particular the fancy waistcoat, "that garment dear to the heart of the middle-aged and portly some fifteen years ago," is, they say, to return to favour, while there are to be even greater varieties of hue in ties, socks, and handkerchiefs. One remembers the sartorial prophecy of a few years ago that all tail coats would be banished from the world of right-thinking men. Well, anyone who went to Ascot would have noticed how popular the morning coat was. Close observers of men's fashions have long since given up hope (or fear) of any violent change. The editor of that expert and entertaining journal, the "Tailor and Cutter," said that the chief change in West End tailoring is the number of people of the richer sort who are having their old clothes done up. The material of the older garments is of so good a quality that the owners are generally surprised at the success of the renovation. Before the war the best tailors would have been snuffy if they had been asked to do such work, but now even Savile Row (the home of London's most expensive tailors) is at it. My inquiries produced no evidence of a return of the fancy waistcoat. One fashionable but exceptional West End tailor put his disbe-

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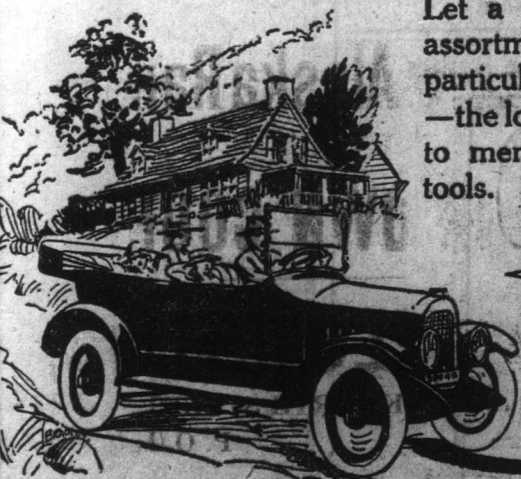
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