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LONDON GOSSIP.

FOOD HOARDING.
LONDON, Feb. 11th, 1918.
Directly certain classes of food have been hoarded and some surprising results have matured. For a long time it was only a matter of gossip and conjecture but lately the Ministry of Food has been moving in this connection and food hoarding has become a criminal offence. Some hundreds of prosecutions against people for having in their houses supplies of food greater than is required by them for say a few weeks' keep have been instituted and some surprising results have matured. For example, Miss Marie Corelli, the famous novelist, was one food hoarder summoned and heavily fined, whilst several magistrates, one Admiral and one Member of Parliament have also had to pass through the ordeal—the Member of Parliament being an Irish one sitting for an Ulster constituency. Fines have followed of between £1 and £500 and as a rule the surplus stocks of food have been confiscated. At the same time there has been a lot of difference of treatment extended to food hoarders. In some parts they have been let off very lightly whilst elsewhere they have been dealt with very severely, sometimes periods of imprisonment also having been inflicted. As the evil is observed to be so widespread, Lord Rhonda, the Food Controller, is giving these food hoarders one more chance. All people with surplus stocks will be allowed one week in which to surrender these surplus stocks to the local food committees. Stocks so surrendered will be sold to people in want of supplies in the locality and half the prices realised will be handed back to the original owners. Henceforth any food hoarders caught will be not only very heavily fined but terms of imprisonment are to be, it is said, inflicted upon every occasion without regard to the class or social standing of the offender.

THE SALE OF HORSEFLESH.
To avoid misunderstanding of the position with regard to the sale of horseflesh in this country it has been pointed out that its consumption as human food, so far from being an innovation, has been on the increase here for some time past. Natives of the Continent where horseflesh is a

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staple food created the sale as a matter of demand and supply some years ago, and the large accession of Belgians among the population of Greater London and other populous centres has materially increased the scale of consumption. In London and its suburbs there are already some thirty shops at which horseflesh may be purchased, and at Richmond, on the southwestern outskirts, where there is a considerable settlement of Belgians, not only have shops been opened by their countrymen, but horseflesh has been obtainable from British shops.

THE CROWN AND OAK LEAVES.
After deliberating for the better part of a year, the Board of Trade Committee, consisting of Government departments, shippers, and merchant officers, appointed to fix the new uniform for officers of the mercantile marine will shortly report. The new uniform which they propose for adoption will be worn only by certificated officers, and will be distinct from that of the navy. The chief feature, it is said, will be a cap badge of a crown surrounded by oak leaves. It is thought also that a new cut of coat will be proposed instead of the reefer—perhaps something akin to an army officer's tunic, cut in blue cloth. The chief point is that the uniform will be regular and distinctive, and will meet the demand of the merchant service for a uniform that cannot be confused with that of the navy. There will be no excuse in the future for those painful incidents, arising from objections taken by naval officers to the close resemblance of merchant officers' uniforms to their own, which have caused much resentment in the merchant service. The war has brought everyone to acknowledge that the merchant service is, as much a part of our national equipment as is the fighting navy or the army. This granting of a regular uniform is only one sign of the new status of the merchant service—that general raising of the conditions of work upon the sea which will be, as everyone hopes, one outcome of the war. The long delay in coming to a decision about the uniform has been caused by the difficulty of persuading all the shipowners to give up the badges and uniforms which have been the marks of the difference in rank. The consent of Parliament will be necessary before the new uniform comes into use.

GERMAN INTRIGUES ABROAD.
According to a report which has come to hand here from an authoritative quarter in Rome, the Italian Government are conducting a systematic search of all banks and financial institutions in the country for funds and securities believed to belong to Prince Bulow, the former Imperial Chancellor, and other German magnates. That the funds exist and are being covertly operated upon is said to be beyond reasonable doubt, and it is confidently added that the authorities in Rome are now in possession of facts of considerable significance as bearing on Germany's system of international intrigue. One development of this has resulted in the present strained relations between the Argentine Republic and Germany, and it is of interest to hear that important and explicit information has just reached an authoritative quarter here from Buenos Ayres showing the extent of recent enemy intrigue in that country. It would seem that Germany has been able to carry on this system of intrigue with practical impunity through her consular agents, and a so-called commercial bureau organised by Count Luxburg, the dismissed Ambassador, before the order was issued by the Ar-

gentine Government for his expulsion from the territory of the Republic.

MERCHANTS AND LAWYERS.
What business men think of lawyers was indicated in an interesting story with which Mr. Garrett, the President of the L a w Society, strengthened his argument when advocating at a meeting of members of the society the creation of a Ministry of Justice. Within a few hundred yards of his office in the financial district of London, where he has practised as a solicitor for 40 years, are between 30 and 40 trade associations, which settle their trade disputes among themselves without calling in the lawyer. Each association prepares a form of contract for use in its trade, containing a stringent clause by which differences of whatever kind must be referred to two trade arbitrators and a trade umpire, with generally a right of appeal to the committee of the association, also composed of business men. The arbitrators act as advocates for the parties who appoint them. No evidence is taken and no legal argument listened to. Frequently the tribunal does not even hear the parties. The umpire or the appeal committee decide questions both of fact and law. Since the war many difficult and important questions have arisen, and said Mr. Garrett, many of the decisions were grotesque. Still, rather than have anything to do with lawyers, these associations chose to settle their own disputes themselves; and so it would continue until the law provided a cheap and quick mode of dealing with them. Believing that the business world is quite out of touch with the legal profession, Mr. Garrett is not surprised at the attitude of these associations.

JEWISH SOLDIERS IN THE EAST END.
East End (of London) Jewry had its own military pageant on Monday

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Corn Syrup, 2 lb. tins. 25c.
Lunch Tongue, 1 lb. tins. 45c.
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Packard's Shoe Dressing, 15c. bottle.
Table Salt, 2 lb. box. 4c.
Lye, Washington. 5c. tin
Lye, White Swan. 10c. tin
Strawberries, tin. 20c.
Peaches, 3 lb. tins. 15c.
Bakeapples. 25c. tin
Chow Chow, 16 oz. tin. 15c.
Cleaned Currants. 20c. pkg.
Beans, Canadian. 10c. lb.
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Price's Belmont Candles.
Price's Night Lights.
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Grove Hill Bulletin THIS WEEK.
RHUBARB.
CUT FLOWERS: Carnations, Lilies.
WREATHS, CROSSES, FLORAL DECORATIONS to order.
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morning, when men of the "new Macabean"—the Jewish battalion of the Royal Fusiliers—marched down Whitechapel. The idea represented by the formation of an exclusively Jewish regiment has had to struggle hard and long before it could emerge through official discouragement. Still, the outcome is a body of soldiers which is splendid in spirit and efficiency. At their head rode Colonel Paterson—an Irishman with a deep knowledge of Jewish psychology and traditions—who organised that picturesque body of adventurous Jews the Zionist Mule Corps, and led it in the old Gallipoli days. A big Zionist banner in blue and white, showing the shield of David and the inscription in Yiddish "If I forget thee, O Jerusalem," was carried through East End highways where Yiddish is the predominant tongue. The Guards' band fell into the spirit of the thing and played the Jewish national melody, "Hatikvah" ("The Hope").
DOCKS FOR REPAIRS.—The S. S. Rutjenfel has gone on dock for repairs.
Stafford's Drug Store, Theatre Hill, is open every night till 9.30.—Feb 23, 18

The Greatest Storm For Over Thirty Years Experienced Saturday.

MUCH PROPERTY DAMAGED—LIVES ENDANGERED—POLICE DO GOOD WORK.

Undoubtedly the worst storm in 30 years to be experienced by the people of St. John's, swept over the city from Saturday afternoon till early Sunday morning. At 10 o'clock on Saturday morning the sky to the westward showed every indication of the approaching blizzard and as the hours passed the storm which was in evidence came on with terrific force. Hundreds of people from the nearby outports who came to the city to market their wares and make the necessary purchases hurried through their business and got on the road for home much earlier than usual. Those who were first to leave reached their destinations before the worst of the storm set in, while many others were compelled to remain in town or put up at farmers' homes along the road. We since learn that many of the former suffered severely from frostbitten hands and faces while several women barely escaped being smothered by the blinding snow drifts.

HORSE PERISHED.
While returning from the city to his home opposite Look-Out Farm on the Portugal Cove Road shortly after 4 o'clock on Saturday afternoon, Mr. M. McDonald lost a valuable horse. The animal which became bogged in a snow drift smothered before it could be freed from its harness. It was reported that Mrs. McDonald was returning home at the same time and had met a similar fate, but this, we are glad to learn, was incorrect.

MAN INJURED.
While going in Monksdown Road at 12.20 on the same afternoon, Edward Carbery of Fleming Street was knocked down by a horse driven by Peter Murray, and badly injured. The sharp end of the shaft struck Mr. Carbery over the right eye, inflicted a nasty cut on his forehead and threw him forcibly to the ground. He was taken to McCurdy's drug store on Rawlins' Cross and had first aid rendered. He was then driven home and attended to by a doctor. Murray claims that owing to the drifting snow he did not see Carbery until he had run him down.
POLICE DO GOOD WORK.
At 5 o'clock a telephone message was received at the Police Station stating that there was a number of young children at the Nickel, and asked that the police assist in getting them home. Several police officers including Sergt. Detectives Byrne and O'Neill were immediately dispatched and in their usual light-hearted manner brought the little ones in safety to their homes. Detective O'Neill took along two tiny tots to their homes which is out near the gun at the Battery, while Detective Byrne and the other officers went to points along the higher levels as far west as the Old railway track on the Freshwater Road. Fearing a similar occurrence at night, the police, as many as could be spared, assembled at the police station. The next distress call brought them to the R. C. Cathedral where despite the inclemency of the weather a large number of people had gathered for worship. Included in the number were several elderly men and some hundreds of women, the majority of whom had to be assisted to their homes by the police. Besides this the police were called to assist hundreds of girls from down town business places to their homes.

LIVE WIRE DOWN.
All the police had instructions to look out for fallen wires, and at 4

p.m. Constable Wade discovered a broken electric wire at the junction of Murray Street and Freshwater Road. He immediately acquainted the Reid Ntd. Co.'s electrical department of the happening who had the current cut off and the break repaired.

PROPERTY DAMAGED.
As midnight approached the velocity of the wind had reached its highest pitch and as it passed off to the eastward left a trail behind it of fallen chimneys, broken windows, storm doors, gates and fences, felt roofing, slates and shingles that was everywhere visible on Sunday morning. The extent of the damage cannot yet be estimated, but included in the many such casualties were the homes and business places of prominent citizens. The photo studio of Mr. F. Noseworthy at 406 Water Street was badly damaged when bricks from the chimney crashed through the glass roof. At the time of the accident Mr. and Mrs. Noseworthy were in the next room below and were afterwards obliged to take shelter with friends. A plate glass window in Goober's store, Water Street, was blown in. Chimneys were blown down in the residence of Mr. J. R. Bennett, Minister of Militia, Monksdown Road, Mr. D. M. Baird, Monksdown Road, Mr. A. Winter, Circular Road, Mr. Stewart, Circular Road, Mr. M. Tobin, Nunery Hill. The lighthouse at Cape St. Francis was badly wrecked, the windows broken in and the roof twisted. The keeper, however, despite the danger of being crushed to death, stuck to his post and succeeded in keeping the light going.

VESSELS GO ADRIFT.
The schr. Jose, Capt. Condy, was caught in the outgoing ice and dragged out the harbor and barely escaped going ashore on the Pancake. A tug was sent to her assistance and getting a line on board towed her to sea under similar conditions at Carbonara on Carbonara Island. Sunday morning the steamer Mary went to their assistance. Fortunately no persons were on board.

SNOWED IN.
Perhaps those to suffer most from the storm were the people of Quidi Vidi Village. The dense clouds of drifting snow swooped down from the surrounding hills and literally buried over several dwellings. Many out-warens also covered in, while a large barn owned by a man named Woodward, over 25 feet high was buried several feet below the surface of the snow.
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MAY 23 THE PROPHET

ALTERATIONS MADE.—Mr. Wm. Soper, manager of Neyle's Hardware, is having several alterations made to his store on Water Street, in order to make room for increased stock.
STATUTORY NOTICE.
In the matter of the Estate of George Howard, late of Bishop's Falls, Twillingate, Lumberman, deceased.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all persons claiming to be creditors of, or who have any claim or demand upon or affecting the estate of above-named deceased, are required to furnish particulars, in writing of such claims, duly attested, to H. P. FITZGERALD of Grand Falls, Stipendiary Magistrate, the Administrator of said estate, on or before the 6th day of April next, after which date the said Administrator will proceed to distribute the said estate, having regard only to the claims of which he shall then have had notice.
St. John's, the 28th day of February, A.D. 1918.
JAS. P. BLACKWOOD,
Solicitor for Administrator.
mar5,12,19,26,apr2

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