

POOR DOCUMENT

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15

THEN AND NOW IN ROYAL TOUR

Visit of Prince to India Fifty Years Ago.

Rebuilding Work in Historic Ypres—Controversy of British Doctors and Government—A Flying Project—English Styles for Women.

(From our own correspondents.) London, Oct. 6.—The visit of the Prince of Wales to India invites some interesting comparisons between the conditions prevailing now and when his grandfather toured that country.

more than half a century ago. Then, as now, there were heard many voices raised in protest that the visit was inadvisable, for the terrible tragedy of the mutiny was still fresh in the public mind. Queen Victoria had drawn up a formidable list of subjects that the prince should study beforehand, but a regretful memorandum indicates that these studies were rather neglected. Further, there is a cherished idea that while in India the prince should keep an elaborate diary which should be of the greatest value to posterity. For this purpose he was given a resplendent volume sumptuously bound and crested with his feathers in gold. On his return, however, when the record was called for, it was found to be disappointingly empty. The queen was "deeply grieved that such an opportunity had been allowed to be frittered away."

Modern Ypres.

When the war was just over, and enthusiasms were high and memories keen, it was understood that the ruins of immortal Ypres would remain for ever undisturbed as a souvenir of twentieth-century civilization and undying valor. But an ex-serviceman, who fought and wrought and thought in Ypres in the big years, tells me differently. He has just returned after three weeks' tour in the Belgium battle area, and among other things he explored the old Flemish capital. It is almost as greatly changed, he says, from what our men remember it in 1918, as it was changed in 1918 from what the Belgians knew in



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1914 before the German batteries literally pulverized it. About a half of it has already been rebuilt in an improvised style. The Cloth Hall ruins, such as they are, are now masked in scaffolding. The rampart dug-outs, where brigade headquarters and the R. E.'s lived, are gone, and civilians are in residence under permanent arches. The chaos or ruinousness is being cleared up rapidly and the historic spots made new and unfamiliar. The trenches where our best and bravest died are vanishing, and another Ypres, quite unlike the old historic capital or the modern Ypres of the war is mushrooming into stucco and lath existence.

Trouble With The Doctors.

There is every prospect of a serious controversy between the government and the doctors over the decision of the Ministry of Health that the capitation fee of eleven shillings a patient is too high for panel practitioners. Sir Alfred Mond wants to reduce it by eighteen pence, which would mean about 27s a year difference to the average panel doctor, and so much as £200 to these working men up to the maximum number of patients allowed. The doctors are much incensed about this proposal, and a sort of suggestions are being made for medical reprisals.

But it has to be remembered that, in spite of the big outcry with which so many medical men greeted the panel project at first, most panel doctors are making quite a good thing out of this class of work. A suggestion which to the layman sounds like a good one, is that the system should be altered and that, instead of the doctor being paid so much a head for each patient on his list, whether actually receiving treatment or not, the payment should be for each actual visit, the state contributing two-thirds and the patient one-third. This would act in restraint of abuse, either by the doctor or the patient, and would enable freedom of choice as to medical attendance to be restored to the panel public. Sir Alfred Mond is determined over this question, and apparently sure of his ground, but the medical men are mobilizing for war on a grand scale.

Flying to America.

One of the most ambitious commercial aeroplane ventures is now being discussed by a syndicate that has at its command available capital enough to start a South American republic. In the past it has always been lack of sufficient capital that has hampered the development of aviation, and this new syndicate is determined not to make a start unless ample funds are available. An international service is contemplated, but the most novel project is to moor floating docks every thousand miles, equipped with directional wireless, and to make use of giant seaplanes with twin engines and each carrying an engineer and two pilots. The scheme is at present only under discussion, but it is so far advanced that one of the technical experts is at present touring Europe making a close study of commercial aircraft used in every part of the world.

An Unfortunate Princess.

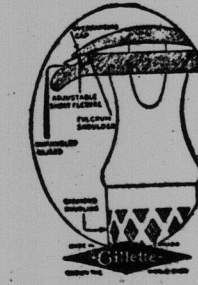
The statement that Princess Philip of Coburg, a daughter of the late King of the Belgians, is being prosecuted for obtaining money from an opera singer under false pretences, will once again draw attention to the extraordinary life story of this noble lady. There was, at one time, a probability—almost a certainty—that she would marry into our royal family, for Queen Victoria, remembering with sentimental interest that Leopold, of Belgium, had suggested the match between herself and Prince Albert, listened willingly when "Spadebeard" (the nickname of Leopold II.) suggested an alliance between his daughter and the late Duke of Clarence. However, there was a hitch, and in a fit of pique the king married his daughter to Philip of Coburg. The match was literally a failure from the first, for the sensational fight of the bride on her wedding night was soon whispered around every court in Europe. She was persecuted to return, but her subsequent love affairs are a matter of history.

The Ribboned Ringlet.

The very latest evolution of the bobbed tresses mode (writes a lady correspondent) re-institutes the Victorian side ringlet, copied tied up with a ribbon bow, which should match in hue the ubiquitous head neckpiece—incidentally an increasingly beautiful and a correspondingly costly coterie of the toilette de soiree.

The new fashion in coiffures demands that the hair be only demi-bobbed, which, being interpreted, means bobbed in thick wavy masses over the ears, with the ribboned ringlet bien en evidence, the rest of the hair being coiled in a Grecian knot just above the nape of the neck. One trembles to think how far the tenacity of the generosity-proportional middle-aged lady will lead her, but there is no denying the beauty of the mode.

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THOUGHT HE WAS WANTED HERE ON MURDER CHARGE

The local detective department has received a description and a photograph of a colored man named Ardis W. Penn, who is being held at Norfolk (Va.) on the charge of murder. This communication, which was forwarded to Halifax, was relayed to St. John by the police there. Sergeant Detective Power said last evening that he had looked into the description of the man carefully and was confident he was not wanted in this city for any crime. The prisoner is a native of Norfolk and is about thirty-eight years of age.

Chief of Police Hanrahan, of Halifax, when he found that no person of the description given was wanted in Nova Scotia on a murder charge, thought it possible that the man might be wanted by the St. John police and forwarded the letter and its contents. Both police departments, however, are confident that

some error has been made by the department at Norfolk and that Penn is not wanted in these provinces.

To Organize Harriers' Club

The Y. M. C. A. has called a meeting of the track team and all interested in the formation of a Harriers' Club for next Tuesday, at eight o'clock, at the Y. M. C. A. The object of the club will be to look after the welfare of its members in promoting activities

among which will be included track and field events and championships, swimming, skating, wrestling, boxing, hikes, toboggan parties, etc. A tentative programme of events for the winter season will be submitted to the club on Tuesday, and committees formed to handle the various branches of the club's activities. The members are enthusiastic over the possibilities of the club's development, and a big meeting is expected.

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12