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OXO CUBES

The little Strength-builders!

LONDON GOSSIP.

GERMAN ARMED FORCES.

LONDON, Jan. 5. A singular statement has just been officially issued here entitled "Appreciation of the Military Situation in Germany, January 1, 1920." It shows the organization, constitution, and estimated strength of the armed forces in existence in Germany "on the eve of the final ratification of peace," and it gives a full and elaborate analysis of those armed forces, so far as their numbers and composition are known. The figures are startling. The German Regular Army stands at 400,000; the Navy land forces at 12,000. Then follow three series of so-called Volunteers, Civic Guards, and Constabulary, numbering 500,000. These are all armed men, every one of whom has had the professional training of a soldier, and practically all of whom have had war experience. We thus get a total of over a million men, of whom only about 50,000 appear to be exclusively assigned to the work of civil police. The inference to be drawn from the analysis of the bodies is that Germany could field them into a fighting force of a million men without much difficulty. So far as can be judged they are well-supplied with rifles, revolvers, machine guns, and other war material. They are what is left of German military organization; and it is not unfair to assume that any Germans regard them as the foundations of a greater organization. The Treaty of Peace not yet ratified, it appears that Germany is technically within her rights to maintain this large armed force, which she justifies on the ground of internal dangers. But on ratification she will be entitled to retain only a regular army of 100,000 men; and under the terms of the Peace Treaty must have reduced her army to a number by March 31, 1920. Her police and other civil guards are not to exceed their pre-war numbers. A large portion of her armed force will therefore exist in contravention of the Treaty at the moment of ratification. This has been pointed out to the German Government by the peace Commission—with what results she will show.

KOLCHAK'S RETREAT.

A correspondent who has a young nephew fighting in Kolchak's forces, writes that the conditions under which the retreat is being conducted are almost inconceivably tragic and difficult. He describes them, indeed, far worse than those of the retreat from Moscow in 1812, for the son that the army is accompanied by its march through Siberia in 40 degrees of frost by an enormous number of civilians, who are dying by

hundreds daily of cold, starvation, and fatigue along the track. It seems to be the tragedy of Serbia on a far larger scale, with enormously greater distances to be covered and even less prospect of relief except at the hands of death.

THE FATE OF CONSTANTINOPLE.

Now that the assumption by America of a mandate for Constantinople appears to be out of the question, the problem has become at once more complex and more delicate since its main difficulty arises from the number and diversity of the interests involved. The discussions which took place in London between Clemenceau and Lloyd George have apparently led to an agreement on the subject, though their result has not been made public yet. There is reason to believe that the decision finally disposed of the policy which would keep the Sultan in Constantinople, and provides for the establishment of an international regime. The solution will no doubt cause much disappointment, and one must fear also a good deal of trouble in the Mohammedan world. But it should prove the most satisfactory for the development of international trade, as well as the most likely to neutralize the conflicting interests which centre on the Bosphorus.

CONTRASTS IN PARIS.

A private letter received in London from a very intelligent Parisian woman paints a gloomy picture of conditions in Paris. On the one hand, reckless frivolity and unbridled luxury, on the other, misery and privation, not restricted to the working class. The oppressive indirect taxation makes the cost of living rise higher and higher, and falls heavily on persons with small incomes, whereas it is hardly felt by the rich, who, however large their incomes may be, pay no higher a rate of income tax than is levied in England on an unearned income of \$3,000 a year or so. The French, says the writer, seem to have entirely lost their habits of thrift, and the rich are squandering their money in a way which suggests the feeling "Après moi deluge." Night after night the restaurants, the theatres, the music halls, and the dancing halls which have sprung up all over Paris are filled to suffocation, and people think nothing of spending \$40 a head on an evening's amusement. But even people earning incomes that would have been considered substantial before the war, can hardly make both ends meet, and the poor are falling into greater and greater misery. There is no coal to be had, and those who have not laid in stocks of wood—the large majority—have to go fireless. The writer

notes bitter antagonism between the classes, which is beginning to show itself openly. At a recent inauguration of a new dancing hall, which was attended by "all Paris," a crowd collected in the street and hooted the arrivals. The demonstration became so threatening that the police had to intervene.

CUTTING DOWN THE NAVY.

During the year large numbers of Royal Naval Reserve and Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve officers have been demobilised from the Navy, and arrangements have now been made under which the last executive and engineer officers of these branches will be released by the end of January. Accountant officers may be retained for some months longer owing to the shortage of paymasters in the Fleet. The individual services rendered to the Navy during the war by R. N. R. and R. N. V. R. officers are not as widely known as they ought to be. Both branches were represented in practically every unit of the Fleet, from super-Dreadnaughts to drifters. In the Dover patrol, to which fell some of the most arduous and responsible work of the war, 80 per cent. of the officers belonged to the "Wavy Navy," a generic nick-name derived from the curly gold stripes worn by R. N. R. and R. N. V. R. ranks. Nearly every British submarine carried an R. N. R. officer for navigating duties, and they preponderated in the mine-laying and mine-sweeping flotillas.

A NEW WIRELESS.

The Admiralty, I hear, is asking the American Government for a report on a new phase of wireless telephony. The ability to send out and focus radio messages, as well as to attract and compel them to travel in close vicinity to the attracting wire, seems to have been realised. Major-General Squier, chief signal officer of the American Army, claims to have perfected a system that will not only do this, but permit ten or more telephone conversations to be transmitted simultaneously by the attracting wire. It is asserted that General Squier's discovery ensures secrecy of communication, through the concentration of the radio currents within certain limits and thus of, as at present radiating, and thus being liable to be caught by stations for which they are not intended, as well as by surreptitious "tappers" of radio currents in general. The factor of secrecy is of the first importance; but the possibility of simultaneously transmitting a multitude of messages opens up a successful vista for the development of human intercourse.

LONDON CLUBS AND HIGHER PRICES.

It would be very interesting to discover the true inwardness of the situation respecting the position of London clubs. Certain of the ultra-modern and "go-ahead" caravans are raising their subscriptions in very marked degree, and their committees do not seem in the least to dread the result. It is otherwise with the solid and sedate "meccanatum" type which Thackeray satirised, with membership largely composed of "old fogies," that have steadily discouraged the admission of youth and the acceptance of progress. The greatly enhanced prices of everything, including service have hit them hard, and the social prestige they may offer in return for a heavier subscription scarcely suffices in these striving times to compensate for their "holl" respectability. Some of these, which before the war were inclined to be extremely exclusive because of their high reputation and long waiting list, went to the length at the central stage of the struggle of reducing their subscription, while a few even advertised for members—a process which gave their older denizens threatenings of apoplexy. They are just as badly off now, and some are wondering whether it is not possible to die with dignity. Amalgamations are being talked of in certain directions, but vested as well as social interests are involved, and both in clubland count for much.

Household Notes.

The filling of a bowl should never be pressed tight into the space to be filled; if it is, the filling will be heavy. Curly cress for salad can be grown in a sunny window—the cress being ready to use when three weeks old. The moment a cooking vessel is emptied it should be filled with cold water and put on the back of the range. The fine ash dust in the ash pan is a splendid thing for scouring the black from the bottom of cooking vessels. A sauce of average thickness is made by allowing two tablespoons each of butter and flour to one cup of liquid. The top of the range is the only part which should be blackened, the remaining surface can be cleaned with a soapy cloth. Always ask the butcher to split the soup bone through the center. This will allow all the juices from the marrow to cook out. Put a layer of brown sugar in the bottom of the pan before the cinnamon is put in for baking. This will give the cinnamon bun very rich and sticky.

To a Bereaved Mother.

The following verses were composed by a young lady, a native of our neat little Southern Shore hamlet, Caplin Bay, now residing in a sequestered Convent home in distant Iowa. They were written, as the reader will observe, to the mother of the boy in a khaki suit whose picture now hangs in a fisherman's cottage home, a source of noble pride, of patriotic inspiration and of love. "For the brave shall have glory forever, As sure as the morning has dew, And Love that is born of a sorrow and like sorrow as true." I would ask you to give them space Mr. Editor, believing that they bear a simple message that will find a responsive echo in many a home of this sea-begirt cradle of "The better than the best," The Royal Newfoundlands.

A LITTLE COT I KNOW.

There's a little cot in a far off land
Away near a homeland hill,
There are dear, dear friends in that
little cot
Whose love is faithful still.

Many days I've spent in that little cot
When my life from care was free,
They were happy days with the good
folks there.

In that cot by the crab-apple tree,
There are tender thoughts of those
dear, dear friends
In my heart, now far away,
And memory clings to that little cot
Whose walls may soon decay.

There is one sad thought of that little
cot
Of one who was brave and dear,
Who left us here for a better home,
With a smile and a word of cheer.

He was slain on the blood stained
fields of France,
His life he nobly gave—
Tho' we mourn him still, let us not
forget
He lies in a hero's grave.

A picture hangs in that little cot,
Of a boy in a khaki suit;
That is dear to the hearts of the
folks around
For who did not love that youth?

And before it often a mother dear
Stands, and a father too—
Oh! who can tell of their grief and
pain,
Of their tears that fall like dew?

Ah! no one knows but those stricken
hearts,
That are torn with grief-like
pangs,
For he was the idol of that sweet
home,
The child of their hopes and
prayers.

The eyes of the picture—so life-like,
they
Seem to speak in words of love;
Still they long for him more as they
turn away
And raise their eyes above.

One day I went back to that little cot
And stood with the mother there,
And my heart grew sad as I gazed on
both.

For mother and picture were dear.
A thought came to me in that little cot
Of another mother's pain:
Who stood and gazed at the cross of
her Son
Who on Calvary's height was slain!

And I thought how great was her
anguish as
She watched His Sacred Face,
So pale and bloodstained, so haggard
there,
As He died for the human race.

Yes, he died to open the heavenly
gates
For this other mother's boy,
Who is dwelling now with The Com-
rade Christ—
With Mary's Son on high!

That picture is telling that mother,
O'er
How blest is her darling now,
And with faith's pure eyes she is
seeing there
The crown on her offspring's brow.

And I am writing those lines to her
In that little cot far away,
To aid her joy in her sacrifice
And think of a happier day.

When she'll meet him again with angel
choirs,
To part with him never more;
Where the hero souls of the world re-
joice
On God's eternal shore. S. M. T.

Here is What the Principal Learned.

DODD'S KIDNEY PILLS ARE THE REMEDY FOR KIDNEY ILLS.

Principal of Saskatchewan Schools Tells Out of His Own Experience What to do When the Kidneys are Diseased.

Webb, Sask., Jan. 17th. (Special).—That there is one sovereign remedy for kidney disease and that remedy is Dodd's Kidney Pills is the outspoken opinion of Mr. George Hutchings, principal of the public schools here.

"I suffered for two years from diseased kidneys," Principal Hutchings states. "I was advised about a year ago to try Dodd's Kidney Pills. They have helped me more than any remedy I have ever tried. I find that my health has been greatly improved. I can conscientiously recommend Dodd's Kidney Pills to anyone suffering from kidney disease. I would not be without them."

Dodd's Kidney Pills act directly on the kidneys. They help the kidneys to do their full work of straining all the impurities out of the blood. The result is new health and energy over the body. Ask your neighbor about Dodd's Kidney Pills.

The Life of Admiral Drake.

Sir Francis Drake, the greatest of the Elizabethan seamen, was born about 1540, at Crowndale, near Tavistock, Devonshire. His father was seemingly in humble life, and the boy was apprenticed to the master of a small vessel, who subsequently bequeathed it to Drake. He followed the coasting trade for some years and in 1566 journeyed to Guinea and the Spanish Main. In 1570 he sailed to the West Indies to retrieve losses he had sustained in 1567 from the Spaniards. In 1572 he landed at Portobello, near the mouth of the present Panama Canal, destroyed many Spanish ships and crossed the isthmus to the high-point from which he was able to gaze on the vast waters of the Pacific Ocean. Drake returned to Plymouth in August, 1573, and the news of his exploits raised him at once to the height of popularity. Fitting out five small ships, the largest being only of 100 tons burden, he sailed from Plymouth in December, 1577, but, in passing through the Straits of Magellan two of his ships were lost through fire. On entering the Pacific Ocean violent tempests were encountered, during which another ship foundered with all hands, while a fourth returned home. Drake in his remaining ship the "Golden Hind," sailed on, and at Valparaiso, captured several Spanish prizes. He re-fitted his ship at Java, and rounding the Cape of Good Hope, arrived in England on September 26, 1580. For this journey round the world Drake was knighted by Queen Elizabeth at Deptford. Early in 1587 he set sail with a strong squadron and entered the harbour of Cadiz, Spain, where he destroyed 33 ships, and escaped unscathed. At the time of the approach of the Spanish Armada Drake's fleet was stationed off Ushant, and he came into contact with the enemy on July 19, 1588, fighting raging all along the Channel for a week. His seamanship and courage covered him with fresh glory and inspired new terror in the Spaniards, but want of ammunition forced him to give up the chase. The storms of the northern sea, however, swept the Spanish ships to destruction. In the following spring a great expedition under Drake sailed for Spain and Portugal, but had little success, while sickness carried off thousands on board the crowded and ill-ventilated ships. Drake spent the next few years on shore, and represented Plymouth in Parliament. In August, 1595, he again sailed for the West Indies, but ill-fortune followed the fleet from the beginning, and he died from dysentery off Porto Rico on January 28, 1596, his body committed to the deep.

The House of Hohenzollern.

It is probable that this country would have taken little or no interest in the announcement that on January 27, 1859, an heir had been born to the Hohenzollern house, but for the fact that his mother was the Princess Royal of England, who had married Prince Frederick, later Crown Prince of Prussia. At that time the occupant of the throne was Frederick William IV., but his mind was clouded from 1858 until his death in 1861, and the duties of Regent were performed by his brother William, afterwards the first Kaiser. It, indeed, explains much in the history of William II., when we remember that the blood of his family was tainted with insanity. George III. of England died in imbecility. The Romanoffs, who were linked with the Hohenzollerns through Augusta, wife of William I. of Prussia, and granddaughter of Paul I. of Russia, had several known madmen in their line. As for the Hohenzollern house, it was far from normal. Of Frederick William I., father of Frederick the Great Macaulay wrote that "such eccentricities were never seen outside a madhouse." Frederick William II. was degenerate, and Frederick

William III. mentally deficient. It is a bad record! Yet one born of the stock was thought fit to wield supreme power in a great empire, and thus to have the world's peace at the mercy of his caprice. "My law—the law which I lay down"—that was to be the governing force of Germany, and, through Germany of the world! It is indeed well that war has swept away the autocracies; and the future of humanity demands that no one man ever again shall hold such power.

Disappearance Explained.

Bride to be Lost Her Heart to a Highlander on Passage Out.

OTTAWA, Jan. 16.—The Citizen today publishes the following: A member of the Canadian Highland regiment, returning from overseas, was the cause of Miss Annie McIntosh failing to keep her appointment to go to Centerville, N.B., and marry a returned soldier. This is the explanation given by Miss M. R. Buchanan, who has arrived in Ottawa from Scotland to join her sister, Miss Grace Buchanan, 48 Kent Street.

A Halifax despatch stated that anxiety was caused by Miss McIntosh's disappearance shortly after the arrival of the Saturnia on which she had crossed.

Miss Buchanan crossed on the same boat and says that Miss McIntosh came on to Montreal with the man in kilts who had also crossed on the Saturnia.

On board ship she had told several persons that it was her intention to marry the man she was with. Miss Buchanan is confident that there is no mystery in the failure to locate Miss McIntosh at Halifax. Miss Buchanan has wired the immigration authorities at Halifax to this effect.

A Man With a Double Voice.

Edgar Allan Dickinson, a window cleaner, living with his parents in Leigh-road, Leigh, Lancashire, and employed at Manchester, has discovered that he possesses a marvellous double voice, which enables him to sing tenor and bass simultaneously and produce notes like double chords. He arrived home the other day, after being examined for nearly an hour by Sir William Milligan, the famous Manchester throat specialist, who says that the vocal organs appear normal, and he cannot account for the extraordinary voice, but will carefully study the matter. Dickinson has sung as a professional tenor in Liverpool.

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Any doctor will tell you that the ingredients of Vinol, as named below, will enrich the blood and banish anaemia and create strength. When the blood is pure, rich and red, the body is strong and robust.

God Liver and Beef Peppermint, Iron and Manganese Peppermint, Iron and Manganese Chloride, Calcium and Sodium Chloride, Potassium, Vanillin and Wild Cherry.

Your money back if it fails. Get Vinol at leading drug stores.

THE ARTHUR SALES CO., TORONTO.

PRINCE ALBERT TOBACCO, 1/8 Tins.
EDGEWORTH TOBACCO, 1/8 R. Rubbed
Tins and 2 oz. and 4 oz. Tins Sliced.

New Crop Prunes.
New Crop Apricots.
New Seeded Raisins.
New Seedless Raisins.

Root's Atrial Honey—Genuine and pure.
Klms, 1 lb. tins, 55c.
Cattell's Macaroni.
Bordeaux Macaroni.

CRANBERRIES 70c. gallon

Puffed Rice.
Puffed Wheat.
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Helax Chow-Chow.
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Helax Peanut Butter.

FRESH PINEAPPLES 20c. each

FANCY LEMONS, GRAPE FRUIT.

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