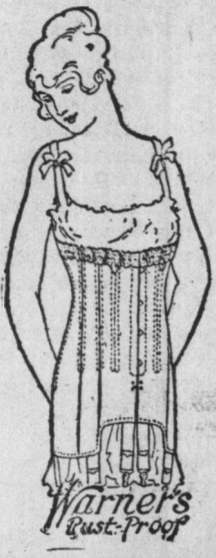


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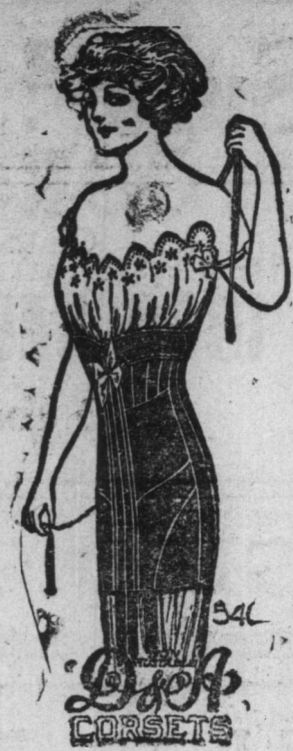
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SALT AS A BEAUTY AID.

A solution of salt and water applied to the skin will not act as a stimulant and remedy enlarged pores if one systematically follows the treatment. Of course, the skin must be thoroughly cleansed before bathing it with salt water. Otherwise, the salt water which is an astringent, will contract pores clogged with their accumulation of dust and grease. If you conscientiously use salt water baths your skin will be improved before many weeks have passed. If the skin is flabby try "salt Rub." This means that you take a handful of salt and rub it over the face, not too hard, or it will redden the skin. Then bath the face in the usual manner. Salt water will make the skin firm and to accomplish the best results it should be used twice a day. Always have a box of salt in the bathroom, throw a handful in your bath three or four times each week. Salt is splendid for nervousness and weakness, and it will invigorate the system so that you will not be troubled with that tired feeling. Sea salt is obtainable at every drug store, or you can use common salt, adding two cupfuls to the water in the bath tub. There is nothing better for the eyes than a weak solution of salt and water. If the eyelids are bathed frequently with the lotion it will "tone up" the tissues and promote a healthy condition of the eyes. When the eyes are inflamed or irritated they may be soothed by salt water applied in an eye cup. It will not only relieve the inflammation, but will increase the brilliancy of the eyes. There are so few home remedies that may be safely applied to the eyes that you should always remember salt.

The Tonnage Committee.

A. E. HICKMAN BRINGS A FEW THINGS TO LIGHT.

Following is the correspondence on subject of the Tonnage Committee which reference is made in our editorial columns.

Dear Sir:—In view of the rumors put out in reference to the Tonnage Committee, I will be glad if you will publish the enclosed correspondence.

The principal exporters having lost confidence in the Tonnage Committee, for which I had no control, the working done by majority, I felt it my duty to compel the Tonnage Committee to so reorganize the conduct of business so that in future it might be worthy of the confidence of the public before I could retain my seat in the Executive Council.

On the assurance of the Hon. Dr. Lloyd that he will facilitate me in getting the full information in reference to the charter of the S. S. Rutjenfel, I have decided not to vacate my seat in the Executive Council.

Thanking you in advance, I remain, Yours truly, A. E. HICKMAN, St. John's, Nfld., January 5, 1918.

LETTER TO HON. DR. LLOYD. St. John's, Nfld., January 3rd, 1918.

Dear Dr. Lloyd:—I decided to remain at your request in connection with the Tonnage Committee; nothing to be done excepting through the Secretary. Regular meetings to be held at an appointed place: a Government preferred, but not at my mercantile office.

The issuing of Policies and Certificates of War Insurance to be done by the Department of the Government on recommendation of the Tonnage Committee, and same to be signed by the Secretary of the Tonnage Committee and the Minister from whose department the Policies are issued.

The vessels "Herbert Warren" and "Maid of Harlow" purchased by the Tonnage Committee for the Government, and the register of said vessels to be transferred from the name of John C. Crosbie to the Minister of Marine and Fisheries or some other department, which will control the vessels. The accounts of these vessels up to date to be furnished immediately, and any balance due Hon. C. Crosbie to be paid to him, repaying the vessels of all debts or encumbrances.

A full explanation to be given me in connection with the S. S. Rutjenfel, which was under charter to our Government and under offer to the exporters here, and afterward reported to be chartered to the Italian Government. As a member of the Tonnage Committee I should have been acquainted with all the transactions of the Tonnage Committee in this respect.

I also require to know if the purchase of fish for the Italian Government was done through the Tonnage Committee, and if so I want to have all particulars and copies of cables applied me.

Unless the above requests are complied with, I will find it impossible to retain my seat in the Executive Council. I remain, yours truly, (Sgd.) A. E. HICKMAN.

HON. DR. LLOYD REPLIES. Prime Minister's Office, St. John's, Nfld., January 4th, 1918.

Dear Mr. Hickman:—In response to your letter of yesterday's date, I gladly give you the assurance you ask, namely:— I, a capable Secretary to be appointed by the Government to keep minutes and records of all proceedings of the Tonnage Committee; nothing to be done except through the Secretary. Regular meetings to be held at a Government office, but not any mercantile office.

To-Day's Cables.

10.00 A.M.

PEACE NEGOTIATIONS SUSPENDED.

LONDON, To-day. An official statement issued at Berlin yesterday and forwarded by the Zurich correspondent of the Exchange Telegraph Co., announced that because of the Russian request to transfer the peace parleys from Brest-Litovsk to Stockholm, the Central Powers had temporarily suspended the negotiations with Russia. The message, which was filed at Zurich on Saturday, said: Another Crown Council was held to-day at Berlin which Field Marshal Von Hindenburg and General Ludendorff attended. After the meeting the following statement was issued:

I would gladly discuss with you the means of carrying out your suggestions. I am informed that at present minutes are kept and submitted to the Governor almost daily. I will offer for your consideration the idea of the advisability of my becoming a member of the Committee, of the records being kept in the Prime Minister's Office, and the meetings being held in my office.

The purchasing of fish for the Italian Government was not done through the Tonnage Committee. Certain gentlemen interested in the export of fish have put a similar query to me, and I took it up with His Excellency the Administrator at the time. As, however, the information given by the Secretary for the Colonies to His Excellency was in a cypher message marked and not to be disclosed, it was impressed upon me that I was bound not to disclose even for the purpose of either giving information or correcting false reports. As to the strictly confidential character of the despatch, I refer you to His Excellency the Governor, Sir C. Alexander Harris.

As to the S. Rutjenfel, an informed that the English purchasing agents of the Italian Government, on the suggestion of the then Prime Minister, Sir Edward Morris, applied to the Tonnage Committee for space on the Rutjenfel, and that this request was acceded to. I am further informed that the space left will meet the requirements of the Trade. I shall be glad to facilitate you in any way I can to obtain all the information available on this matter.

I am given to understand that the vessels "Herbert Warren" and "Maid of Harlow" are the property of the Government, and although registered in the name of John C. Crosbie, he holds them in trust subject to certain claims of advances he has on them, and that the vessels will be transferred to the Minister of Marine and Fisheries immediately matters are adjusted.

I have been asked by the Hon. J. C. Crosbie, the Chairman of the Tonnage Committee, to have the account connected with these vessels and all other matters taken up by that Committee audited by the Auditor General immediately. I have already directed Mr. Berteau to audit these accounts and everything should be ready for new arrangements in a day or two.

Yours very truly, (Sgd.) WILLIAM F. LLOYD, Prime Minister.

WASHINGTON, To-day. Guatemala has been completely destroyed by the earthquake shocks of Thursday and Friday which followed those late in December, messages received by the State Department to-day said. The loss of life this week is estimated to be greater than that resulting from the earlier shocks. A despatch from the Central and South American Telegraph Companies said, "Our manager at San Jose, Guatemala, telegraphs the following: 'What is left of Guatemala City is now wiped out. Shocks at 10.35 on the fourth finished everything. Steam is coming up in the streets. The Cathedral has fallen; Las Vacas Bridge to Barrios is now down; slides on the railroad between San Jose and the City. No lines or trains reported. A further 300 killed.'

JAPAN WILL STICK. MEXICO CITY, To-day. Enemy proposals for a separate peace, no matter how advantageous to Japan, will be rejected, Baron Puglatore Otaria, the new Japanese Minister to Mexico, declared to-day in a statement concerning the attitude of his country. Japan, he said, would remain on the side of the Allies and was co-operating in the war to her full extent. Being one of the signatories of the London agreement, Japan, the Minister added, would not look upon that treaty as a scrap of paper.

THE PRIME MINISTER'S SPEECH SUMMARISED. LONDON, To-day. The Prime Minister, David Lloyd George, to-day set forth Britain's war aims more specifically and at greater length before the delegates of the Trades Unionists than he had ever done before. Having first declared that it was not a war of aggression against Germany or the German people and that the breaking up of the German peoples or disintegration of their state was not one of the objects for which the Allies were fighting, he proceeded to mention the fundamental issues for which Britain and her Allies were contending. First among these was the restoration of Belgium and reparation for the injuries inflicted. Next came the restoration of Serbia, Montenegro and the occupied parts of France, Italy and Roumania. France must have Alsace Lorraine and to this end, said the Premier, the British nation would stand by the French democracy to the death. The question of Russia was touched upon and Lloyd George said that Britain as well as America, France and Italy would have been proud to fight by the side of the new Russia democracy, but now could Russia be saved by her own people alone. He declared an independent Poland and urgent necessity for the stability of western Europe. Roumania is to be protected and the

Guatemala Wiped Out.

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British and her other Allies are with Italy in our minds. The race and tongue of Austria-Hungary is felt that, while the breaking up of the dual kingdom was no part of the Allied war aims, it was impossible to hope for the removal of the cause of unrest in that part of Europe unless genuine self-government was granted to the Austro-Hungarian nationalities. The Turkish Empire within the frontiers of the Turkish race, with Constantinople as its capital, may be retained, but peace between the Mediterranean and Black Sea must be internationalised and neutralised; and in the British view Arabia, Armenia, Mesopotamia, Syria and Palestine are entitled to recognition of their separate national conditions. The matter of the German colonies, all of which now are in the hands of the Allies, will be placed before a conference, whose decision, however, must consider the wishes and interests of the inhabitants and the future administration must be acceptable to the various tribes. The Premier made brief reference to the "placations of international law" as insisted by Germany, with special emphasis on the sea. The peace conference, he declared, must not lose sight of the outcries uttered by British and other seamen and the services they had rendered. The three cardinal points of the British terms as announced by the British Prime Minister are: the re-establishment of the status quo ante bellum, territorial settlement based on the right of self-determination and the consent of the governed, and the creation of an international organization to limit and diminish the probability of war. No British statement since the beginning of the war has been so frank and explicit as the statement of Britain's war aims as contained in the Premier's address, which was delivered before the Mansion House in London on Saturday evening in Westminster Hall. Three hundred delegates were present and also Sir Auckland Geddes, Minister of National Service, and General Sir Robert Borden, Minister of Labor. George N. Barnes, Member of the War Cabinet, presided. The proceedings were private, but a detailed and complete account of the press being admitted, and after the meeting the delegates dispersed to their homes, mostly in the north.

They will reassemble for the conclusion of the negotiations with the Minister of National Service over the "related despatch from Berlin" which was received at Saturday night by the British Foreign Office. The Socialist organ in Berlin characterized the situation as extraordinary and serious. Although the weather continues cold and much snow lies on the ground in northern France, there has been considerable activity in the infantry in the Arras sector, in Flanders and on the eastern part of front, along the Moselle River. Near Bullecourt the British have Sunday captured a number of German trenches taken from them on Saturday by the Germans. There were intermittent artillery duels on Sunday along the entire battle front in the Italian Theatre. The big guns of both sides are hammering away at positions in the hills and on the lower reaches of the Piave River. Several attempts by the Austro-Germans to make headway with small detachments between the Brenta and the Piave Rivers were repulsed.

NEW YORK APPROVES LLOYD GEORGE SPEECH. NEW YORK, To-day. The New York press, morning, is unanimous in its approval of the speech of Lloyd George before the labor convention on Saturday.

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Critical Food Situation in England and France.

WASHINGTON, To-day. The food situation in the Allied countries of Europe is graver than it has been at any time since the beginning of the war, and is giving American Government officials deep concern. Official reports picture extreme food shortages in England, France and Italy. The fact that conditions in Germany and Austria are far worse offers the only ground for optimism in viewing the situation in England and France. The situation is described as critical in a cablegram from Lord Rhodes, the British Food Controller, which concluded with these words: "I view the situation with grave anxiety. Yesterday a cablegram from the French Government said that the wheat crop had been requisitioned and that the bread rations would be cut to allow only one ounce of bread daily to all persons except the very poor and those doing hard manual labor. In Italy conditions are not so good, perhaps as in either England or France. Compulsory rationing will be started in England, with meat the first commodity to be put under control. The distribution of butter and preservative foods will be added as they become scarcer. All the principal foodstuffs will be rationed by April. I have repeatedly said in public and private that there is no reason for immediate alarm, although there is every reason for strict economy and precautionary measures. These statements in some instances have been twisted into a declaration that there is plenty of food in England and France. The food situation in the Allied countries, and

understand in France only, can without exaggeration be described as critical and anxious. I am now unable to avoid compulsory rationing. I fear it will have to come with long queues of people waiting in the severe weather in practically every town in England for the daily necessities of life." Compulsory control of foodstuffs in England, France and Italy was insisted on by the American delegates at the Paris Conference and it was promised at that time.

STILL THERE. AMSTERDAM, To-day. An official Berlin despatch says: That the report published in several papers that General Von Ludendorff, First Quartermaster General, had tendered his resignation is not in accordance with the facts.

WAR REVIEW. LONDON, To-day. The peace negotiations between the Central Powers and the Bolshevik Government in Russia have been temporarily suspended by the Germans. From the meagre advice the rock upon which the continuation of the negotiations split was the demand of the Bolsheviks that the conference be resumed at Stockholm instead of Brest-Litovsk. Dissatisfied with the proposals for peace made by the Teutonic Allies before the conference, the Bolsheviks insisted that the Brest-Litovsk Conference, Leon Trotsky, Balaherki Foreign Minister, had been insisted on the deliberations being held on neutral soil instead of the German eastern headquarters. The Germans, however, had been equally firm in their determination to hold the conference in Brest-Litovsk. German advice on Saturday were to the effect that the Bolshevik delegates, on finding that the representatives of the Teutonic Allies were at Brest-Litovsk awaiting them had started for this town, but nothing has come through to show that those had any foundation in fact. The decision of the Germans to discontinue the negotiations was arrived at during a Crown Council held in Berlin on Saturday, which was attended by Field Marshal Von Hindenburg and General Von Ludendorff, First Quartermaster General. A detailed and complete account of the press being admitted, and after the meeting the delegates dispersed to their homes, mostly in the north.

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DEATH FROM ALCOHOLISM. The jury which inquired into the death of Alex. Lewis, the Newfoundland man found dead here last Sunday, returned a verdict on Monday that the deceased came to his death from the effects of the use of alcoholic liquor. The inquest was conducted by Coroner Townsend—Sydney Record, Dec. 28.