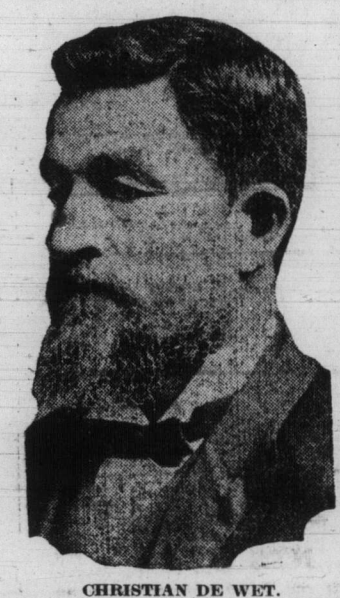


How Christian De Wet Lost Admiralty by Acts That Displayed Treachery

THE recent refusal of the Cape Town Government to issue passports to Gen. Christian De Wet and Pieter Grobler, a grandson of President Kruger, who desired to proceed to Paris in order to submit proposals for an independent South Africa to the Peace Conference, recalls the futile effort of these irreconcilables and their confederates, Beyers, Maritz, and Kemp, to break up the Union and establish a republic in the early months of the great war. De Wet, captured in the field and tried for treason, was sentenced to six years' imprisonment, but, with Pieter Grobler, upon whom a sentence of two years was imposed, was soon pardoned for political reasons. It was no time to enforce the rigors of the law against a famous veteran who was still a hero in Boer households, or to make an example of a descendant of Paul Kruger.



CHRISTIAN DE WET.

No doubt the influence of Gen. Botha and Jan Smuts, who had accepted British rule in the belief that it would be for the welfare of South Africa, was exerted in favor of their old comrade in arms. The truth, of course, was that martyrdom for De Wet would have fomented the rebellious spirit still latent in the Transvaal and Orange Free State. The Transvaal, with a population of nearly 2,000,000, is the richest province of the Union, and it was wise to try

conciliation with those Boers whose loyalty was still under suspicion. They were chiefly the older men who had fought in the war of 1899-1902. A good many of the veterans were staunch supporters of Botha and Smuts, but there was an element that gave sullen allegiance to the Empire. It is active enough at the present time to agitate for independence and ask to be represented at Paris. The influence of the two veterans who have been honored by the British Government with high place and who have driven the Germans from Africa is so strong, however, that "self-determination" would doubtless show the Boer people of the Union to be satisfied with the British administration, which is liberal, progressive, and farseeing. The younger Boers understand its advantages, and are proud to be represented by such soldier-statesmen as Louis Botha and Jan Smuts.

Looking back, the rising which brought out De Wet from his retirement is seen to have been an irrational and dishonest enterprise doomed to failure. Maritz, who beguiled De Wet to his undoing, was an unscrupulous and graceless figure. The propaganda of the revolt was a tissue of lies to delude the Boer farmers who were out of touch with true conditions at Cape Town. At first they were allured by the promise that it should be a bloodless revolution. Then they were told that Botha had inspired and would lead the movement. Soon after Christian Beyers joined it he was reported to be bombarding Pretoria with German artillery. Maritz was said to be on the Vaal with 30,000 men and 100 guns. But when Gen. Botha took the field the rebellion crumbled like a fungus.

De Wet had had his choice to serve with the Imperial forces in the great war. He might have gone to France, so it was said, with a corps of British and Dutch Afriander scouts, but he elected to attack the Government of the Union from ambush. There is no doubt that he could have had a command under Botha or Smuts in South Africa. For his fame it would have been better if the ablest guerrilla leader that the world has probably ever known had at least remained in retirement during the struggle. He had been a most romantic figure and was greatly admired by a generous enemy. After the Boer war he was treated with consideration by the victors, and accepted office from them. In the rising of October, 1914, he lost his prestige as a soldier, and in a cause that had little to recommend it from any point of view he cut rather a pitiful figure.

Heat and Sound.

When the temperature is 23 degrees, sound travels 1,090 feet a second and one additional foot a second for each additional degree of temperature. Electricity over a wire where there is no resistance travels 192,924 miles a second.

Teutons Accept Defeat Without Much Dignity Future Looks Very Dark

THE moral backbone of the German people is broken," said a correspondent of the London Times who left Berlin at the end of January. "There is no dignity in the way they carry their defeat." Comparing the way in which the Germans take their loss of the war with the way the French acted after 1871, the correspondent continued:

"The Germans seem to have lost all spirit of enterprise. Only the most necessary work is done, and even that is badly done. Nobody seems to care. Nothing is done to transform the factories which had served the purposes of war into factories for peace production. In some of them the workmen are kept and paid, though the works stand still. The workmen pass the day playing cards. But do not think they are satisfied. In one factory where not a stroke of work had been done for months the workmen, or card players, even asked for an increase of pay and a six-hour day. When this was refused they threatened to strike."

"Capitalists do not dare to invest their money in industry, mines or commerce, but try to smuggle it out of the country out of reach of socialization and taxes. Several people whom I did not even know came and offered me large sums if I would smuggle their money and securities into a neutral country."

"When Germans discuss defeat, as they often do even with strangers, they never admit that they were beaten in a military sense. One often hears the expression 'our invincible field grays.' They admit two causes of defeat, the British blockade and British propaganda; these together shook the morale of the people and prepared the revolution. That even a decisive battle was fought between Cambrai and St. Quentin they ignore, as well as the fact that the final blow of Marshal Foch's offensive was to be delivered by Gen. Castelnau in the south about Nov. 15, which, of course, was known by the German negotiators and prompted their decision to accept unconditional surrender."

"It seems to me that only the Socialists in Germany understand that the basis of the armistice was an unconditional capitulation; the others seem to imagine that the armistice was a kind of preliminary peace in which Germany obtained certain guarantees on the basis of Mr. Wilson's fourteen points. Only the Socialists admit that the situation is such that the German Government will have to accept the Allies' peace conditions, however hard they are. But the Democrats still make an attempt to show some national pride, or perhaps keep up the national bluff dear to the old government. They often say that if the peace conditions go one single inch further than Mr. Wilson's points the Germans will have been cheated, and the Government may refuse to sign them."

"The Socialists hate war too sincerely to think of revenge, even if they also would resent a diminution of German territory and heavy indemnities. But the Conservatives are chauvinists, and preach revenge whatever may happen."

Pill-making Crabs.

These tiny creatures, most of which are about the size of a pea, are in abundance on the shores of the Malay Peninsula. They are usually first noticed on the beaches after the going out of the tide, when they make the beach look covered with loose, powdery sand and holes of various sizes. Upon looking more closely it is seen that little paths converge in the sand to each hole and that the sand itself is in minute balls.

At the approach of an observer there immediately becomes apparent a peculiar twinkle—the simultaneous and rapid retreat of a myriad of the tiny crabs into their holes. Should the watcher take up his position by one of the holes and remain perfectly motionless, they will in time come out, when he can see them at work.

Coming cautiously to the mouth of the hole the crab will reconnoitre. Satisfied that no enemy is near, it will venture about its own length from its lurking place, then rapidly taking up particles of sand in its claws, it deposits them in a groove beneath its thorax.

As it does so a little ball of sand is rapidly projected through its mouth. This one put aside, the process being repeated until the smooth beach is covered with little pellets or pills. This is evidently the crab's method of extracting particles of food from the sand.

Ancient Botany.

The oldest botanical work in the world is sculptured on the walls of a room in the great temple of Karnak at Thebes, in Egypt. It represents foreign plants brought home by an Egyptian sovereign, Thotmes III, on his return from a campaign in Arabia. The sculptures show not only the plant or tree, but the leaves, fruit and seed pods separately, after the fashion of modern botanical treatises.

A New Discovery.

A new heat insulating material composed of a mixture of a special clay and cork, has been discovered by a Norwegian engineer. The clay and cork mixture is burned, and the result is the formation of a very light substance that is said to be eminently suitable for all heat insulating purposes.

FOR STREET WEAR

One-Piece Dress Important Part of the Wardrobe.

Tailored Frocks, Not Suits, Predominate in Fashion Thoroughfare During Shopping Hour.

The one-piece dress for street wear is by far the most important single item of a well-dressed woman's wardrobe. Selecting garments for wear at home, whether for morning, afternoon or evening, is a simple task. Making these garments is equally simple; but a woman's reputation for being well or poorly dressed depends upon the selection of her street apparel. The suit long ago took second place. The fact that many suit manufacturers have included dress lines in their output during the past few seasons helps to prove this, if any proof is needed. A glance at any fashionable thoroughfare is another proof. Fully 80 per cent of the women seen during any popular shopping or promenade hour will be found garbed in tailored frocks, not suits.

Each season brings out its own special colors, with navy blue always in the lead, and this year much black is being worn. It is not the dull, lusterless black of mourning, but black satin and velvet and fine black velours.



Tailored Frock of Black Velvet.

The semitailored street frock shown in the sketch would be smart made of black velvet embroidered in color and with a touch of color on the collar, sleeves and belt. The skirt of this dress, while straight, shows a cleverly arranged fullness, with the upper part gathered in to the deep straight band at the foot.

The dress fastens at the left front and on the shoulder.

Inasmuch as a great deal of fur is being used as a trimming for street dresses this season, the frock shown would be handsome made of velvet in black or color with wide skirt band, girdle, collar, and cuffs of a flat fur such as Hudson seal, beaver, nutria, squirrel, kolinsky, etc. If fur is used to trim the dress a muff and little fur toque to match may be supplied, and a charming outfit be the result.

OILCLOTH FOR GAME TABLE

Substitute for Linen Now in Marked Demand and Serving Numerous Good Purposes.

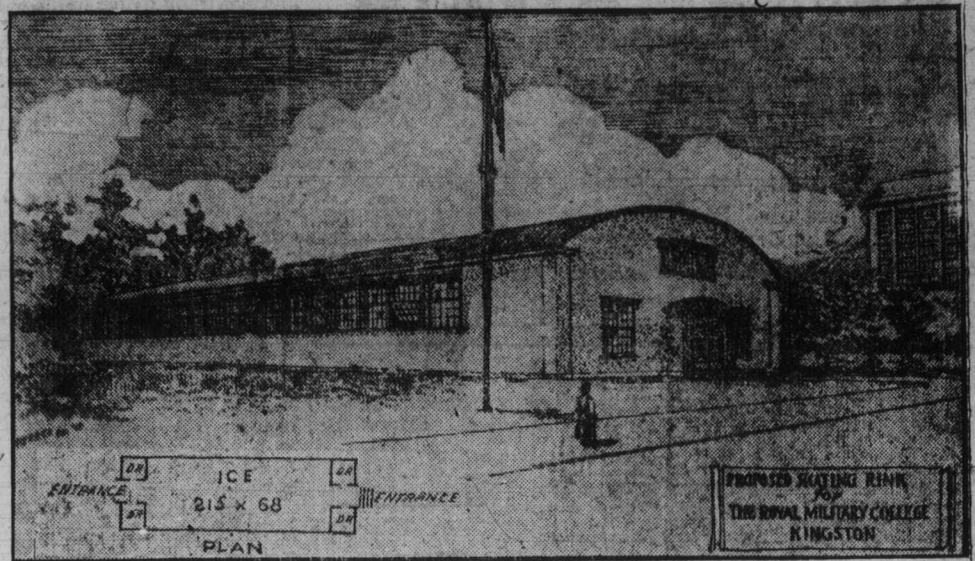
The vogue for using oilcloth, or any one of the new compositions which go under the same name, in place of linen is growing apace. And now comes the most serviceable game table cover of the oilcloth stenciled in the corners with appropriate designs. The advantage of such a cover can easily be appreciated when one considers how easy it is to wipe off the cover with a damp cloth after a strenuous game. Tapes stitched across the corners tie it to the legs of the table.

And again comes oilcloth in the very place where you might expect to find it—for a tablecloth and bib for the kiddie. This time the sanitary material is a light biscuit color and is stenciled in brown with nursery characters. A band of the brown paint around the edge of bib and tablecloth—which is really only a place cloth, large enough to fit the tray of the high chair—is the only finish necessary.

The Vogue of the Panel.

The vogue for loose flying panels on dresses seems to be increasing as the season develops. At first confined to the back, these loose and full-length panels are seen now on both front and back of formal, semiformal and afternoon frocks. They are frequently of a material different from that in the body of the dress and sometimes are of a different color. The combination of satin and serge is seen a great deal and, where the dress is all silk, the body of the garment may be of a shiny material while the panels are dull finished though of the same color.

NEW USE FOR AVIATION SHEDS



AFTER many years of waiting a covered skating rink has been secured for the Gentlemen Cadets at the Royal Military College at Kingston, and the acquisition of this building will give a great impulse to the national game—"hockey." Hitherto the Royal Military College hockey teams have had to get along the best they could, using the open ice on the lake and occasionally the city rink at Kingston. These limitations interfered materially with the quality of the game. On the demobilization of the Royal Air Force in Canada and the abandonment of the aviation camps at different points some suitable buildings, originally designed for and used as flight sheds (or aeroplane hangars) became available, and through the kindness of Sir Joseph Flavelle, Bart., Chairman of the Imperial Munitions Board, under whose direction these aviation camps were originally established, two of the flight sheds, each 120 feet long by 68 feet wide, were secured to form the basis of the new covered skating rink. The many friends of the Royal Military College were not slow in taking advantage of this opportunity nor in coming forward to assist in carrying out the idea. The Canadian National Railway, through the courtesy of Mr. D. B. Hanna, its president, and the Grand Trunk Railway System, through the courtesy of its president, Mr. Howard G. Kelley, have undertaken to free-freight the material of the sheds from Camp Mohawk to the point nearest to the Royal Military College, to Kingston. Sir Herbert S. Holt, who is deeply in everything that makes for the welfare of the Royal Military College, has generously financed the undertaking, and a contract for the removal and reerection of the flight sheds above referred to, has been let to the Kingston Construction Company, who now have the work in hand. The Minister of Militia and Defence has approved of a site within the college grounds on which the covered rink will be erected. Mr. F. L. Wanklyn, General Executive Assistant of the Canadian Pacific, who is also deeply interested in the welfare of the college, has taken charge of all the work in connection with the carrying out of the scheme. The rink, when completed, will be substantially as shown in the above illustration. The main building will be 240 feet by 68 feet wide, and the height from the underside of the roof trusses to the ice level will be 18 feet. Commodious dressing and locker rooms, 25 feet square, will be provided at one end, over which a gallery for spectators, capable of seating 300 persons, will be provided. The main sheet of ice will be 215 feet by 68 feet wide and this will, in the opinion of well known hockey experts (Messrs. "Riley" Hern and Col. Walter Maughan) make a most satisfactory hockey rink. The building will be well lighted by windows all round and with electric lights for the evenings. The outside will be neatly finished in cement rough-cast and present a generally attractive appearance. The originators of this project have received many congratulations from a host of friends interested in the Royal Military College.

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