

LONDON GOSSIP.

OUR REDUCED NAVY.

LONDON, Nov. 20th, 1920.
I am told the huge new aircraft-carrier, Eagle, recently completed by Armstrong's, is not to be kept in commission, after her present trials. A shortage of men seems to be the cause for this, and other measures, such as the increase of the numbers of boys in the big ships of the Atlantic Fleet, and for the paying-off of the Ramona before her relief ship, the Repulse, is out of dockyard hands. Still, no one can say that Lord Beatty is not out for economy.

BOON IN GOOD FELLOWSHIP.

A writer has recently remarked that the observance by the Briton of the multitudinous ceremonies, great and small, entailed in a traditional celebration of Christmas and New Year are of all childish things the most childish. We cling to them all, from mutual participation in the stirring of the pudding to the visitation of acquaintances on New Year's morning with, he says, a tenacity belonging more to superstitious juvenility than worldly wisdom; while the most-honored of all customs—that relating to Christmas cards—he characterizes as fatuous frivolity. His finger is not on the pulse of the times. In these days the fact that those trifles are not cast into the limbo of things uprooted by the war is of particular significance, indicating as it does the prevalence of a wholesome spirit of homeliness and good fellowship, little enough in evidence in the world at large. Not only is their survival assured for this Christmas, but in the case of cards the custom will be more popular than ever. The orders placed to date with firms which produce them break all records, and constitute the heaviest public demand in the history of the trade. From designs already prepared by one large firm it can be seen also that public taste in regard to the cards has changed. It is now required of them that they shall be of artistic worth and beauty—not half-penny-worths of conventionalism. It is 21 years since the Christmas card was first introduced, and the coming of age coincides with its recognition as the child not only of tradition but of art.

THE USE FOR GERMAN SUBMARINE.

Various uses were suggested for the German U-boats when they were surrendered, but nobody seems to have thought of the one to which U.C. 76 is being put by the firm of Wards, the well-known scrap-iron merchants. She is lying alongside the quay of the ship-breaking yard which they have established in Milford Haven, and the big electric motors which propelled her under water have been converted into generators linked up with her Diesel engines, and now supply current for the lighting and power installation of the whole establishment.

BLACK-COATED TRADE UNIONISTS.

The action of the insurance clerks' trade union in declaring war on the General Accident Corporation for its dismissal of clerks for joining the union is winning its support from the other "black-coated" unions. Eight or nine clerks' unions are holding a meeting in Westminster to protest against the dismissal of the insurance clerks and to "vindicate the right of brain workers to combine for mutual protection." This is an interesting event of its kind. For the first time these clerks' unions have come out in drawn together by the common danger which threatens middle class trade unionism if employers are to "make membership of a union a bar to employment. The unions taking this action are those of the South Exchange clerks, the shipping clerks, the commercial staffs, the accountants' clerks, the Scottish Bankers' clerks, the women clerks and secretaries, the railway clerks, and the Clerical Officers' Guild, which is connected with the Civil Service. It is a week since the Insurance Workers' Guild called out their members in the employ of the General Accident Corporation and resolved to pay their salaries by levy until they are reinstated. So far there

has been no move towards a settlement.

SPOILS OF WAR.

The last of the enemy ships held in trust by this country on behalf of the Allied and Associated Powers have now been handed over to the countries appointed to receive them. Of those not assigned to Great Britain for breaking up, the Ostfriesland and Frankfurt have gone to America, the Emden to France and the Oldenburg, Nassau and Augsburg to Japan. Brazil and Poland were each allowed to select half a dozen torpedo boats to be used for police purposes. These were taken over on November 4th.

KING TINO'S HEAD.

In a letter from Lucerne a friend says: Although King Tino's present garters are not a royal palace, they are not unenviable. The Hotel National at Lucerne is the local Ritz, and actually owned by Ritz. That magnate's partner, Baron Pfeiffer, who still lives at his own villa close by, and is a member of one of the oldest of the Swiss noble families, supervises such details at the hotel as the proper cleaning of boots. The rooms of the ex-King and Queen of Greece overlook the Lake of the Four Cantons. But Lucerne, though beautiful, is extremely circumscribed for an ex-sovereign, and King Tino is said by those who know him to be eating his heart out from boredom and malice. The refusal by Prince Paul of the throne of Greece has greatly pleased his father. The ex-King of Greece, my correspondent adds, has one characteristic not generally known. He has the strongest head in Europe. He can take practically any amount of strong drink and not "turn a hair." The gift is a most useful one upon occasions for those born in the purple. At one ceremonial banquet, a foreign diplomat who sat near Tino saw with some envy that the King's glass of champagne was filled over two dozen times.

FINANCIAL VALUE OF BEING TRIED.

The result of the Kidwelly poison case has given ordinary people a chance to turn their minds to other subjects, but they are not done with it yet. Several newspapers, anxious that the public should miss nothing that might have been omitted from the published reports, have been tempting Harold Greenwood for his personal reminiscences of the affair. This is a very curious development of modern journalism. Mrs. Maybrick's reminiscences were published in the press after her release from prison, and James Balfour was also paid a large sum of money for his story the day he was free. What purported to be the confession of Crippen appeared in a London newspaper and a considerable sum of money is said to have been paid for it. But the offer to Greenwood when his trial was going on is the first instance I can remember of an accused person being approached in this way while his trial was proceeding. Greenwood has been found innocent of the charge, but the big amount he is to receive for his story will be some compensation for his suffering. Apart, of course, from the present case, but arising out of the newspaper offers, the fact emerges that a man creates a valuable property by being tried for a crime that arouses great popular interest.

THE VINTAGE OF 1920.

In fact of the Christmas festivities it is of interest to note that nearly all the wine growing districts of France and Portugal report that the vintage of 1920, although not large, is of excellent quality. Some of the exports of this year's wines with the famous vintages of 1914 and 1919. High prices will have to be paid for sparkling wines, and these have to bear an additional duty of 50 per cent. The feeling against German wines is clearly on the wane, as the imports for the first ten months of this year amount to 129,000 gallons, as compared with just over 6,000 gallons in the corresponding period in 1919. A big expansion is also taking place in the demand for Australian wines. Wine sellers, particularly hotel and restaurant keepers, are beginning to realize that the public will not go on paying the very

high prices which have been charged in recent years, for some of them are listing quite reliable Douro port at five shillings (£1.00) a bottle and claret at three shillings and sixpence (70c). The prices of spirits remain unmercifully high—three-star brandies have just been raised to twenty-two shillings (\$4.40) a bottle.

Wedding Bells.

GIBBONS-GOSSE.

A very pretty wedding took place at the Methodist Parsonage, St. John's, on Dec. 8th, when the Rev. T. B. Darby united in holy bonds of matrimony Eliza Parsons Gibbons, daughter of Stephen Gibbons, of Lunenburg, District of Fogo, to Mr. Wesley Gosse, of Spaniard's Bay. The bride was assisted by Miss Lillian Yetman, while Mr. Geo. W. Collins, postmaster, Spaniard's Bay, ably performed the duties of best man. After the ceremony the bridal party and guests proceeded by motor car to Wood's Restaurant, where a dainty dinner was served. After the dinner they motored to the Railway Station enroute to Spaniard's Bay, where the honeymoon will be spent. At the station they were greeted by numerous friends who gave them a good send off. After spending a few weeks here, the happy couple will leave for Botwood, where Mr. Gosse holds a responsible position with the A.M.D. Co., Ltd., and where they will in future reside. The groom's present to the bride was a beautiful set of white furs, to the bride a gold bracelet, and to the best man gold cuff links. Numerous and costly were the presents received by the young couple, which shows how they are respected. Mr. and Mrs. Gosse are well known in Spaniard's Bay and take the best wishes of their many friends with them, for good luck and abundant happiness.—Com.
Spaniard's Bay, Dec. 14, 1920.

Cuticura Soap
AND OINTMENT
Clear the Skin
Cures Itchy Skin, Eczema, Scabies, Ringworm, etc.
Sole Agents: The Canadian Dispensary, Ltd., 111 St. John's St., Montreal.

Ping Pong Tournament.

A very interesting ping pong tournament was held last night in the C.L.B.C. Armory between a team of visitors led by Mr. R. B. Job, and a team representing the officers. Ping Pong is a game at which one requires a great amount of skill to play well and in last night's tournament some very fine play was to be seen. The visitors won out by the small margin of five points, the scores being 223 and 228. The players were as follows: Visitors—Messrs. R. B. Job, W. A. Reid, W. Goodridge, A. Goodridge, A. Donnelly. Officers—Lieut-Colonel Goodridge, Major Haley, Captain Henry, Lieutenants H. Hayward, Reid, Perlin.

It is to be hoped that another tournament in which the same teams will participate, will be held shortly.

FOR LADIES' COATS.—We have some splendid Blue and Brown Nap suitable for making a magnificent lady's coat at \$10.50 per yard. Worth \$15.00. SPURRELL the Tailor, Water Street.—nov12,ed,if

Shipping Notes.

The tern schooners Jean Wakeley, Over the Top and Little Princess, sailed yesterday morning for Gibraltar, fish laden.
Schr. Marjorie McGlashen has entered at Fogo to load codfish for Alicante, from Messrs. Earle Sons & Co.
S.S. Rosalind left New York yesterday morning for Halifax and this port.
Schr. Douglas E. Parks has entered to load codfish for Brazil, from G. M. Barr.
Schr. Nina Lee has entered to load codfish for Oporto from A. E. Hickman Co., Ltd.

PILES

Do not suffer another day with itching, bleeding, or protruding Piles. No surgical operation required. Dr. Chase's Ointment will relieve you at once and afford lasting benefit. See a box; all dealers of Edmondson, Hays & Co., Limited, Toronto. Sample box free if you enclose last paper and enclose 2c. stamp to pay postage.

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We are offering Men's Suits and Overcoats nearly half the price what they are sold at their regular everyday sale price.

Everybody talks values now but not everybody gives it—except now and then. Here you are sure to get values now.

To avoid argument, everybody admits they are worth more—a lot more, as you will see when you see them. But, profit or no profit, we are determined to sell this surplus stock as a Sensational Sale.

COME HERE AND SAVE DOLLARS ON YOUR CLOTHES.

The English-American Clothing Co.,

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Your Leaky Roof

will trouble you no more if you treat it with

LASTY GUM.

A 5 lb. pail costs \$1.60.
Put it on with a trowel.
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Our big buying price list will be sent to you free if you write for it.

Imperial Stamp Co., Station C, TORONTO, CANADA

J. Edens

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FOR SALE.

One Horse, about six years old, weight about 100 lbs. Suitable for press work or carriage.

Also, two Large Expresses; one with rubber tires; and one Express High. Will be sold at a bargain.

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Expert Work in all Branches. We are specialists in extraction. Improved method renders the extraction of teeth absolutely painless. Also make the best artificial teeth Newfoundland, at the most reasonable rates.

Upper or Lower Sets, \$12.00 and \$15.00

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J. S. POWER, D.D.S.

Diplomate of Philadelphia Dental College, Garretson Hospital of Oral Surgery, and Philadelphia General Hospital.

176 WATER STREET (Opp. M. Chaplin's)

Just Arrived!

A shipment of FIRECLAY and FIREBRICKS.

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"REG'AR FELLERS"



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