

**The Lord Mayor's Banquet:** The gorgeousness of this, the high civic festival of the metropolis of the world, is admirably brought out in this reproduction of a drawing in the "Illustrated the British Government are always expected to make an important statement at this banquet, and the picture shows the Right Hon. R. B. Haldane, Minister of War, replying to the toast, "The Imperial Forces," in a speech in the course of which he said : "Our solemm duty and obligation is to maintain at the present juncture, in their full strength and fighting efficiency, the forces of the Crown."



