

WAR HAS MADE
GREAT CHANGE
IN MOTHERLANDLife In Vivid Contrast To The
Normal

STREETS GLOOMY AT NIGHT

Green Lights on Street Cars Hard
to Get Used to—Khaki Every-
where by Day — Prosperity in
the Industries

(Mark Potter in New York Sun)

"Oh, to be in England now that spring is here," sang the poet, but it was not in 1915 by long chalks. Now that the novelty has worn off the new conditions it might almost seem as if the inhabitants were changing for life today is in vivid contrast to the normal condition. For one thing people are developing a sort of cat eyes, a faculty of seeing in semi-darkness.

At all times the change is remarkable, but it is at night, this becomes most apparent. The whole country is enveloped in a darkness which strangely affects the feelings. In the busiest cities the streets are shrouded in gloom for it has been ordered that all bright lights shall be dimmed or put out entirely in order that aerial raiders shall be baffled.

Store lighting is now carried on according to new principles, all the lighting being by internal lamps or by external lamps shrouded both from above and from the street. Automobiles must be run in darkness or with feeble headlights, the police stopping any vehicle which seems to show a bright light.

On the railroad it is ordered that the blinds be drawn over all windows so that trains apparently run in entire darkness. The stations, too, are in almost unrelieved gloom and even the locomotive fires are so handled that little glows show when firing up.

Probably the strangest sight is that presented by the street cars, which in England are almost invariably double-deckers. The electric bulbs are stained a deep bluish green or a vivid green, so that they almost seem to be illuminated for a gala night. These gondolas of the streets look highly pretty from the spectator's point of view, but the wretched green rays make travel miserable to a degree.

Hard On Complexions

It is said that the womenfolk are spending fortunes in trying to find cosmetics which will render their complexions less corpulent in the green light. Every blemish is shown, every redness, and the prettiest girl looks worn and haggard. The light has a curious effect on the spirits, causing moroseness and liveliness, so that the most cheery optimist after a time becomes a deadly foe to merriment and good fellowship. Ugh, those lights!

This is how the green light came. First the ordinary lights were dimmed, but that didn't work right. Then brilliant red lamps were used, and the effect was observed from a distance. It was discovered that the red light was easily visible, even in a haze, and was the easiest of all lights to spot from the skies. Experiments of various kinds were made. These showed that the green light gave the maximum of seeing power because it is the only light which is not absorbed by the atmosphere.

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"Just a line in praise of Sloan's Liniment. I have been ill nearly fourteen weeks with rheumatism, have been treated by doctors who did their best. I had not slept for the terrible pain for several nights, when my wife got me a small bottle of the Liniment and three applications gave me relief so that I could sleep."—Joseph Tumbly, 618 Converse Street, McKeesport, Pa.

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DR. EARL S. SLOAN, Inc. Dept. E Toronto, Can.IMPRESS OF WAR
ON MEN'S DRESS
BY JOHN P. CONDON

Speaking of Fabrics and Fashions at an informal gathering of sartorial experts the Chief Designer of the Semi-Ready Company said that there will be a quieter tone of patterns than for many years. This conservative trend in matters of men's dress is a reflex of the same tone in matters political and economical. Even the man who delights in striking or bright colors must forego his desire and wear the more sedate clothes prescribed by these days of serious affairs.

Plain greys and blues will be much worn, and whilst there is a steady demand for stripes, the checks will be of the blended gun club type. In stripes the silk thread is conspicuous. The old favorite Scotch tweeds will receive more attention, while homespun will also be worn by the outdoor men.

The tendency towards braiding and piping is evidenced more in garments for young men. The braided coat is a revival of a style much in vogue after the European war of 1870. The braided cutaway frock or morning coat has been worn by the outdoor men.

low, while it was not visible at a very short distance up in the air. In fact the green light cannot be seen at all from aircraft flying at anything like normal distance from the ground. So red lights and those of other colors have had to go and the ghostly green is installed.

One of the biggest changes in the life of the people has been brought about by restricting the drinking hours. At nine o'clock in the evening, in some places earlier, the sale of intoxicants comes to an end, the saloons and clubs may remain open till later, but they must sell non-intoxicants only. As a result, most men can sit in friendship over a hot cup of mineral waters. The nation may be becoming more temperate as a result, but there is a big doubt so far as regards the classes at which the measure has been aimed.

The Theatres Busy.

The places of amusement do a roaring trade, though it is too miserable to stop in the gloomy streets, where the once brilliant street lamps have been replaced by lights which an old fashioned tallow candle would put to shame—even the public clocks dare show their faces in war time. People prefer the comparative brightness of the picture theatres, which have ceased to be courting parlors.

been accorded royal favor. But the Designer, who is an authority on men's dress, does not believe that the braided coat will attain much vogue among the elect.

"The dress situation is difficult at the present time," said he. "The war in Europe had a depressing effect on men's minds as well as on their pocket books. Trade channels were clogged, and customary methods of doing business were derailed. Today we have to study questions of expediency as well as make every allowance for the psychological or mental state of the men of affairs. I believe our styles of fabrics, in the light of past events, will reflect the present conditions. And I further believe that every fortnight will witness a full step in the return to normal trade conditions."

"My Semi-ready store at 54 King street, is well stocked with the new styles for spring, and the price in the pocket shows no advance despite the war tax and the increased cost of wool—"

—the young folk had the big streets more suitable for their courting!

The necessity for cat eyes can be seen, if street accidents are to be avoided. Curiously enough, fewer pedestrians are run down and there are fewer automobile accidents than in those far back days before the war. For one thing pedestrians are more careful, and for another the drivers are bound to go gingerly if they do not wish to finish up on the surgeon's table or get a foretaste of the eternal fires awaiting the road hog.

Deadly gloom, peace destroying green lights and black depression—that's what the evening means to the folk of England in the spring of 1915. In the day-light things are not so bad, but it is not for the vast numbers of khaki clad men one might well imagine that England had entered on a period of remarkable prosperity.

But Factories Busy.

In factories and workshops men, women and children are working overtime at wages they never hoped to get in peace times, yet the labor exchanges, the national work providing bureaus, cannot provide a sufficiency of labor. Workers go on strike and have little difficulty in getting wage increases. There is no question of a secret hour day, though even now the workers will not give up their long enjoyed Saturday half holiday, for it seems unnatural for them to work on Saturday afternoon.

Practically every concern in every branch of industry is hard at work on war orders. Engineering shops are busy making gigantic mines and what not. Woodworkers are making all manner of things, from strong packing cases to dining trestles. In the textile trade, cloths cannot be turned out in sufficient quantities and tailors cannot keep pace with the demands.

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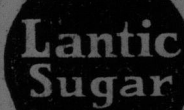
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quantities and tailors cannot keep pace with the demands.

Razor makers have given up all hope of supplying their own army with the millions of razors required and every factory has to turn away orders for foreign armies. At present it is impossible to supply the national forces, so French and Russian boot and other orders have to be rejected. There is more work than there are workers.

All this means prosperity—for the time a very different picture from that drawn by those who said three months war would mean red ruin to England. But the war is now costing England \$8,000,000 a day and will have to be paid for; up to now there are really no war taxes, for they will come under the budget which has yet to be made.

Large numbers of Belgian refugees are now working at their own desire. The refugees have made a difference to England, for large districts which have never seen any foreigners beyond a few German pork butchers, contain many Belgians. Even yet the English children have not got over their awe when they watch the little Belgians at play talking in outlandish words just as though they were speaking a Christian tongue! The English schoolboy even yet cannot repress a guffaw when he sees a Belgian lad throw his arms around another's neck and imprint a kiss.

The coming of the refugees was a wonderful time. Every little nook had its welcome committee and every house-keeper wished to get rid of some old bed, carpet or furniture for the benefit of the poor Belgians, though, perhaps, really to afford an excuse of buying newer things. Still, the refugees have been treated well, some of the best homes being put at their disposal, so that humble Belgian workers now live in splendid mansions.

When any of them choose to work at a trade they are allowed to keep a certain proportion of their wages, the balance being banked to be returned to them when they are able to go home; in every case they are fed, and trained in any way by the state and are not allowed to use acknowledged titles, so

times and comfortable puttees; how many men are under arms it is quite impossible to say, but there is every reason to believe that the official figure of three millions is much short. Recruiting never shows a sign of slackening. In each city the numbers of khaki clad men grow bigger and bigger; one day all of them vanish—sent off to some camp always far away from their own locality. Then another crop comes on, and that disappears to make way for the next, and so on without end. Nobody ever knows that a six months' trained lot is considered ready for the front till news comes from Flanders that certain members figure in the casual list.

Conditions for admission to Kitcheners' army are very strict in the fighting branches, but are easier in the case of the Territorials, the state volunteers. The rejected young men are joining with their elders in the formation of volunteer training corps, where in their spare time they are prepared for the duties of home defence.

There are now a million or more men over military age, thirty-eight, who are steadily drilling. They are not helped in any way by the state and are not allowed to use acknowledged titles, so

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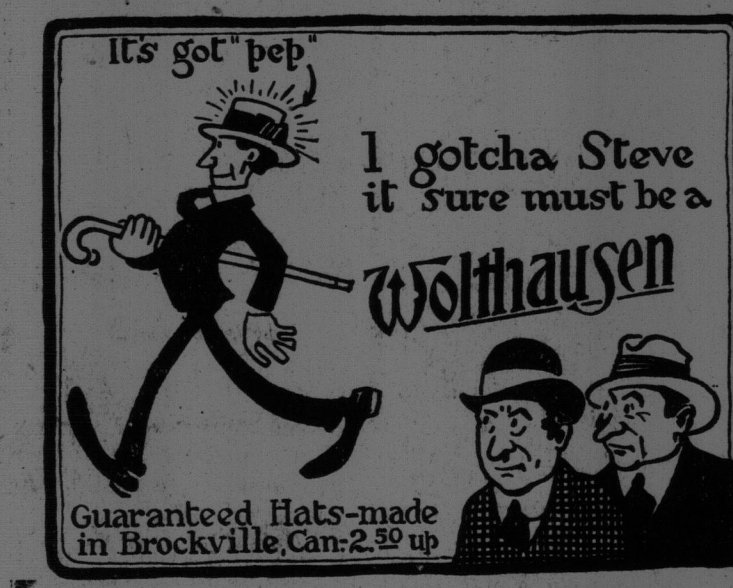
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