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The Siam Observer.

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FIRST DAILY TO BE PUBLISHED IN SIAM.

VOL. 43. NO. 57

BANGKOK FRIDAY, MARCH 9, 1917.

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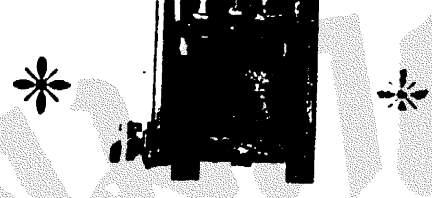
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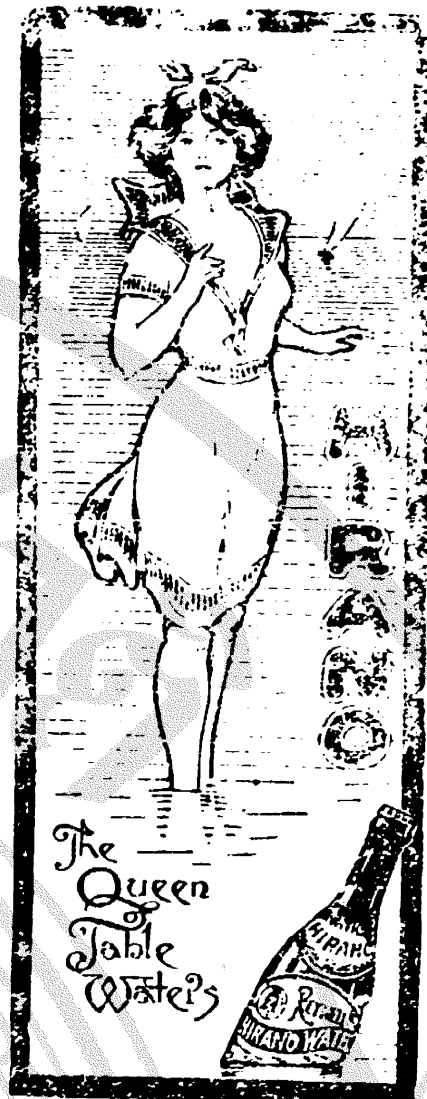
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Germany and the Next War.

No lasting peace appears, whatever may be the official views of the Government, to enter into the calculations of some of the captains of industry in Germany, at least if the views of Dr. Walter Rathenau are typical. As the head of one of the greatest electrical industries in the world, the Allgemeine Electricitäts Gesellschaft, popularly known as the "A. E. G.," Dr. Rathenau occupies high rank among the commercial magnates of the Fatherland, while his genius for organisation is such that, since the war began, the task of mobilizing industry has been committed to his charge by the Government. Under these circumstances, Dr. Rathenau's utterances acquire special significance, and it is somewhat of a shock to find an article from his pen in the Berlin Lokal Anzeiger, in which he discusses the need of industrial preparation for a future war, which he apparently regards as inevitable. He says:

"We began the war a year too soon. When we have secured a German peace we must begin at once a reorganisation upon a broader and firmer basis than ever before. Establishments that produce raw materials essential to the Army must not only continue their work, but enter into it upon lines of increased energy, forming thus the kernel of economic Germany in preparing in the economic sense for the next war. We must carefully calculate in advance, in view of lessons learned in this war, what our country lacks in raw material or essentials of raw material, and secure immense reserves to remain unused until a day in the future. We must organise as genuine an industrial mobilisation as we had a military mobilisation. Every technician or semi-technician, enrolled or not in the list of mobilised, must be empowered through official credentials to take charge and direction of a given establishment upon the second day following a new declaration of war. Every establishment manufacturing for commercial purposes must be mobilised also and understand officially that upon the third day after declaration of war its entire abilities are to be devoted to serving the Army upon demand.

"It must also be determined in advance just what quantities and sort of essentials such establishments can furnish the Army in a given time. Each

establishment also should be required to furnish a detailed list of workmen who can be dispensed with, those alone to be mobilised in the military sense."

While preparations must be made at home, Dr. Rathenau would have the diplomats of the Fatherland busy abroad in order that some of the experiences of this war may be obviated in the future. He writes:

"We must finally establish some definite commercial understanding with nations outside Europe that will offer them advantages to be duly specified in detail whereby these nations, as neutrals, will find it to their direct disadvantage commercially to trade or sell munitions during war to either ourselves or our enemies. We can afford to offer such conditions ourselves. And finally, when the next war comes, it must not be a year too soon."

These frank utterances from one of the leading capitalists of Germany have produced in France a marked reaction against peace, and we find that brilliant French author and academician, M. René Bazin, using Dr. Rathenau's article as a text for an impassioned appeal to the United States not to insist too strongly on peace-proposals at the present time. M. Bazin writes:

"Here, in a nutshell, is what Allied Europe has long understood, and what has not been truly understood in the United States save by a relative few.

"It is the reason why the war would be continued for ten years if necessary by France, England, and their allies. It is the reason why nothing short of the 'knockout' will serve. It is the reason why any talk or effort for peace would be ill received, even if backed by the best of motives and official sanction from the greatest of neutrals, or the smallest, or all the neutrals collectively.

"The war-cloud that hung over Europe for thirty years prior to August, 1914, must be dispersed finally and for ever. The intolerable conditions prevailing must be finally made impossible of repetition. The horrors and miseries, the suffering and privation, the whole gamut of evil that no single individual can understand through reading the writing of another, that must be seen, felt, experienced through the senses to be grasped even in the least degree, must never again be a worldly portion.

"This will only be possible through making war against war until a humane peace is the reward. It would be as impossible under a German peace as would a railway-journey to Mars."

Meteorological Data

Registered in Bangkok during February, 1917.

SUPPLIED BY THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Atmospheric Temperature	1917		Data for previous 14 years.	
	Fahrenheit	Centi-grade	Fahrenheit	Centi-grade
Mean during month	80.9	27.2	81.6	27.5
Mean of Maxima	89.7	31.9	92.6	33.6
Mean of Minima	72.1	22.2	70.8	21.7
Highest recorded	93.0	33.9	106.0	41.1
Lowest recorded	64.0	17.8	56.0	13.3
Greatest daily range	24.0	13.8	41.0	22.7
Least daily range	12.0	6.6	3.0	1.6
Mean daily range	17.6	9.7	21.7	12.1
Rainfall				
	Inches	Milli-metres	Inches	Milli-metres
Total during month	0.06	1.52	0.539	13.7
Total from 1st January to date	0.07	1.78	0.873	22.3
Greatest rainfall in 24 hours	0.04	1.01	2.47	62.7
Total registered at Borneo Co.	0.03	0.76	0.56	14.2
Number of days on which rain fell	2		2.2	
Mean relative humidity during month	6.6%		67.5%	

FIAT MOTOR CARS.

NEW MODELS 1917.

Including:

Mod. 62, 4 cylinder 10-12 H.P.

" 70, 4 " 15-18 "

" 85, 4 " 25-30 "

" 65, 12 " 40-50 "

All models fitted with electric light and self starter.

A consignment of mod. 62 (4 seater and 2 seater) and mod. 70 will arrive shortly.

G. KLUZER & Co.

SOLE AGENTS FOR SIAM,

DUNLOP TYRES

STILL SELLING

at
Reduced Prices.

GOODRICH

and

UNITED STATES

ALSO STOCKED

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HAND MASSAGE.

An ingeniously made massage ready for use at any moment. Come and see it at our shop.

Prices.

Tcs. 7 First quality

" 5 Second "

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Oriental Bakery.

ORIENTAL AVENUE.

Daily supplies of white bread & rolls.

Fresh Cakes:—Plain, Currant, and Assorted tea cakes. Other cakes made to order.

Crown bread every Wednesday & Sunday.

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MRS. G. K. WRIGHT,
Hon. Secretary and Treasurer.

"Clogs on Our Wheels."

By ASYABAHU.

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DREAM BOOKS.

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THE "SELF-EDUCATORS".

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"I Accuse" By A German
"Nurse" " Alice and C. Askew
"Defenceless America" " Hudson Maxim
"The Way of the Red Cross" Preface by H. M. Queen Alexandra
"Training of Volunteers for the War"
"War and Peace"
"The Submarine in War"
"The Secret Seaplane"

NOVELS:—

The Poison Belt " " " Conn Doyle
Heart of the World " " " Ryder Haggard
Mrs. Fitz " " " J. C. Smith
etc., etc.

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WE DO THE REST**

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Bird of Paradise Feathers.

Feathers of best quality are obtainable at very reasonable prices from Mr. M. E. Coster at the Oriental Hotel. Mr. Coster, who is only here on a visit, solicits the favour of calls or enquiries.

t. f. n.

Notice.

Mr. Daniel Neubronner begs to inform all those who are interested in Orchids that he has removed from the Oriental Hotel to the domains of H. R. H. Krom Luang Sanprasart where the grand valuable collection will be on show.

Don't miss the opportunity of securing Philippines, Java, New Guinea, Borneo and South American Orchids.

Prices from 5 Ticals to 200 Ticals.

9-10

BRITISH RED CROSS FETE.

Frankfield, Sathorn Road
Saturday, 10th. March, 7 p.m.
onwards.

Entrance 1 Tical, payable in cash at the gate. Children free.

No vehicles admitted.

Principal Attractions.
Military Band.
Cinematograph provided by the British Chinese Patriotic Asen. Siamese Lakhon provided by the Phathanakorn Cinematograph.

Raffles.

ALL THE FUN OF THE FAIR.
Coconut Shy Hall of Chance
Aunt Sally Freak Show
Tug of War Kicking the Goat
Mystery Mirrors
Bran Tub Dancing
&c. &c. &c.

Sale of Queen Alexandra's Red Cross Flag
2-30 to 10 o'clock
at Mr. Dering's Auction Stall
Sales at attractive stalls throughout the evening.

Siamese, Chinese and European
Drinks and Light Refreshments.
(LOTTERIES AND BARS
LICENSED.)

8-11



Notice.

Application for license to sell
spirituous liquors in Mondol
Krungthep. in the
Year B.E. 2460.

Persons desiring to carry on the sale of spirituous liquors in Mondol Krungthep during the year 2460 must send in their applications to the Department of the Inspector General of Finance and Registry of Revenue Farms and License Departments, Wat Muang Khao Lane, Bangkok.

Persons who already hold licenses for the present year should send the same attached to their applications to the above departments within the 15th. March B.E. 2460. The Licensing officers will not undertake to issue licenses in time for use on the 1st. April 2460 to any persons, being previous license holders, who fail to make their applications with licenses attached within the time above mentioned.

Dated 10th. February 1917.
Department of the Inspector General of
Finance and Registry of Revenue
Farms and License Department.
F. 10-13 & M. 8-15.

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DATE BLOCKS

FOR

1917

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Tcs. 1-50 only
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made from best *British Steel*
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Patent fire and thief resisting.
several sizes in Stock.

Bangkok Dock Co., Ltd.

SOLE AGENTS FOR SIAM.

IN STOCK B. M. C. TO-DAY.

FISH
Dried Cod
Oodroe Caviare
Haddock
Bloaters
Kippers
Filleted

Pheasants
Boiled Ham on cut
French Ham
Raw Ham
Breakfast Bacon

CHEESE
Roquefort
Australian
Cheddar (English)
Canadian
Gruyere

Fresh Australian Butter and Best English Margarine
Pure Beef Dripping in 2lb Tins.

Picnic cases containing Ice, Aerated Water and Well Water for travellers by Railway or boat delivered free at Railway Station or any Bangkok landing.

"White Horse" Whisky.

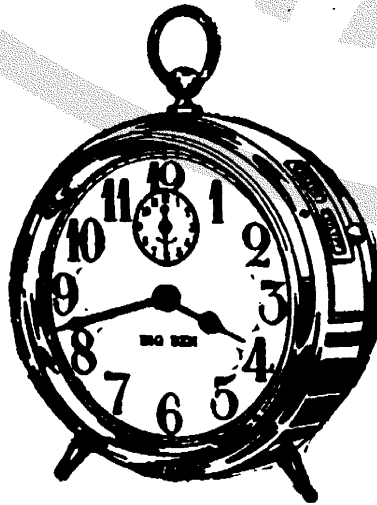
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THE BEST ALARM-CLOCK EVER MADE.
SPLENDID TIME-KEEPER! UNRIVALLED ALARM!

NEAT FINISH.



You'll like "BIG BEN" face to face. He is seven inches tall, spunky, neighbourly, downright good all through. He rings two ways—ten half-minute calls or steadily for five minutes.

To see BIG BEN means to buy BIG BEN.

Only from S. A. B.

SOLE AGENTS.

PINKETTES clear the complexion and sweeten the breath

These dainty laxatives act gently with no griping. The 1/2 per phial at your druggist's or direct by mail on receipt of price from THE BRITISH DISPENSARY, Bangkok, Siam.

The Siam Observer

FRIDAY, MARCH 9, 1917.

AMERICAN BILLS OF LADING.

Bills of lading are documents of such great importance to trade and commerce that any fresh piece of legislation in regard to them must interest the business world. On January 1st of this year the new American Federal Bill of Lading Act came into operation. Primarily the Bill was designed to deal with railway bills, the issue of which was formerly so irregular and so little controlled by statutes that cases of fraud in their connection were very difficult to deal with, and fraudulent acts could to a very considerable extent be committed with impunity. But the Act governs bills of lading for the transportation of goods to foreign countries as well as internally. It requires the carrier to assume the risk that was formerly borne by bankers; hence the unusual importance of the measure to the business and banking communities. A bill of lading is rendered a complete negotiable instrument, and the conditions under which it shall be issued are prescribed. The Act defines two kinds of bills of lading, which are severally designated the "straight bill" and the "order bill."

A straight bill is one which states that the goods are consigned to or destined for a specified person. Such a bill of lading is not negotiable, and must be so marked. An order bill is one by which the goods it covers are consigned to the order of a certain individual or mercantile firm, and a bill of lading in this form is always negotiable, unless specifically endorsed to the contrary. Order bills may not now be issued in parts or sets for the transportation of goods to any place within the United States; or, if so issued, the carrier will be held liable to anyone who purchases a part of the shipment for value in good faith, even though the purchase be made after the delivery of the goods. Order bills may, however, be issued in parts or sets for the transportation of goods to Panama, Porto Rico, Alaska, Hawaii, the Philippines, or foreign countries. When more than one order bill is issued, all except the one first issued must be plainly marked "duplicate" or with words indicating with unmistakable clearness that the document is not an original one; and a bill so marked renders the carrier liable only to the extent of declaring that it is a true copy of the original. Under the terms of the Act a carrier is to be held liable when delivery is made to one who is not lawfully entitled to the goods; also when the carrier has been requested by a person having a right or possession not to make delivery; or when informed at the time of delivery that it was to a person not lawfully entitled to the possession of the goods, provided that such information be given to a proper agent of the carrier and in time to stop delivery. Not to go into detail, we may say in short that this very salutary piece of legislation settles indisputably the exact degree of liability that is incurred by the carrier. It also imposes certain duties on the latter. When the goods are loaded or shipped, the carrier must count the packages, when it is package freight, and must ascertain the kind and quantity if it is bulk freight. The endorsement of a bill does not make the endorser liable for obligations of prior endorsers, or for any failure on the part of the carrier to fulfil his obligations. Furthermore, it is laid down that the validity of the negotiation of a bill of lading is not impaired when the bill is received in good faith for value, even though the negotiation was a breach of duty, or if the owner should have been deprived of the bill by fraud, accident, mistake, loss, theft or conversion. Frauds or forgeries in connection with bills of lading are made punishable by a term of imprisonment up to five years, or by a fine not exceeding \$5,000, or by both. The passing of the Act serves to remove a long-standing reproach against the American bill of lading system, and its promoters deserve the thanks not only of America but of the world in general, and in particular of the Far East, between which and the United States so extensive a business is carried on.

LOCAL AND GENERAL

A REFERENCE to the Annual Report of the Siam Steam Packet Co., Ltd., will be found in another column.

THE Department of Ways and Communications is, we understand, constructing a road from Laupang to Chiengrai.

ENTRIES for the Siam Turf Club meeting have been on the whole very encouraging. For the three days there are 145 entries and the sum received in entry fees was Tcs. 2,175.

THE s.s. *Kuala* will leave from the Borneo Company's wharf at 4 a.m. sharp, on Saturday the 10th inst., and should arrive in Singapore on Tuesday morning.

DRIFTING mines, supposed to be German, laid in the Gulf of Finland, have been observed off the Baltic coast of Scandinavia. They had gone adrift with the ice.

FRENCH officers repatriated from Germany say that Germany is lacking in wolfram, an essential material in steel works, and a price of 100,000 marks is offered to any savant who can find a substitute.

LORD Derby has sent an officer to France to inquire into the delays in granting permits to the British mercantile community in France to enable them to make business visits to places with in the war zone.

AT Doncaster and Peterborough the military commandeered oats at 47s. 6d. per quarter, many factors having purchased at 3s. to 4s. above the price. Potatoes were ten guineas a ton at Peterborough, the Government commandeering at from £7 to £8.

THE Director of the Department of Ways and Communications left this morning on a visit of inspection to Lamphang. It will be remembered that the Department is engaged in building a new bridge over the river there which is expected to be completed in 1918.

THE German Government has decreed that all imports of neutral merchandise into Germany are to be under the control of a special department. Intended to improve the rate of exchange, it is practically equivalent to a general prohibition of Swiss merchandise.

ACCORDING to the report of the Medical Officer of Health, one case of bubonic plague was notified to him as having occurred in Bangkok during the week ended March 3, and this case ended fatally. There were no cases of cholera or small-pox during the above period.

MR. M. E. Coster, who is at present staying at the Oriental Hotel, has bird-of-paradise feathers of the first quality for sale at particularly reasonable prices, and will be pleased to receive enquiries, either personally or by letter. Mr. Coster, who has gathered his stock in the actual haunts of these rare and wonderful birds, is making only a short stay in this city.

NEW advertisements.—Mr. Daniel Neubronner notifies that his valuable collection of orchids will be on show at the palace of H.R.H. Prince Sanparart. To-night will be the last night when the famous war films "The Battle of the Somme" and "Britain Prepared" will be shown at the Phathanakorn.

TRAINING for the Siam Turf Club races is now in full swing. The course is in excellent condition with half its width well littered. Yesterday morning one of Phya Kathathorn's Siamese ponies cleared one of the rails with its rider and both came down. The pony was not injured at all but the rider appeared a bit shaken. Curiously enough this rider met with a somewhat similar accident at the R. B. S. C. when a grey pony he was riding rushed under the rails injuring the boy badly.

Sungei Bagan Rubber Co., Ltd.

The Secretaries, Messrs. Baker and Co., have informed us by telegraph that at a meeting of directors held on the 7th instant a second interim dividend of 7½ per cent., payable on March 31st, was declared.

Indians Holiday Making.

To-day being evidently a feast day among a certain section of Indians chiefly engaged as watchmen in Bangkok, the lower part of the town has been in a very noisy condition making work almost impossible. Sundry incessant singing and music along the streets should be put down as a nuisance, or be only allowed within certain limits.

THE Great War.

Governmental Crisis in China.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

London, March 7.

A crisis has arisen at Peking in consequence of the President's refusal to accept the decision of the Cabinet to sever relations with Germany, on the ground that he was not consulted. The Cabinet has resigned, and several Ministers have departed for Peking. Efforts are being made to effect a reconciliation. It is understood that a large majority of Parliament favours severance.

Austrian Reply to U.S.A.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

London, March 7.

Amsterdam.—The Austrian reply to the request of the United States for a statement of the submarine policy amounts to 350 words. The substance is that Austria associates herself with Germany's new submarineism, and declares that the British blockade is illegal and aims at establishing British sea tyranny, while the Central Power's blockade, which has been imposed with "pained hearts," will incline the Allies to make an honourable peace, and therefore will really secure freedom.

Germany's Plans.

("S. O." SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

Singapore, March 7.

A German paper, explaining the retreat on the Western front, says that the policy of Hindenburg is to make one maximum concentration in order to force a final decision in the spring. Trench warfare will soon end. The Germans prove immeasurably superior to the British and French. The writer adds that the Germans were forced to destroy a number of heavy guns during the retreat.

The War in the West.

(HAVAS TELEGRAM.)

Paris, March 8.

Yesterday we threw into disorder the German organisations north-east of Moulins-sous-Touvent and north of Antreches. To-day we achieved a coup-de-main at Quiennevies, taking 150 prisoners. Our artillery repulsed a German surprise-attack north-east of Filrey and Bois Bouchot. North of St. Mihiel we brought down two German aeroplanes.

The English continue to progress north-east of Ypres and north of Puisseux.

President Wilson's Constitutional Powers.

(HAVAS TELEGRAM.)

Paris, March 8.

Washington.—The Attorney General has advised President Wilson that jurists unanimously declare that the United States Constitution confers upon him sufficient power to arm merchant vessels.

Marriage and Passports.

I gather from certain facts which have come to my knowledge that there is quite an epidemic among women wanting to go out to the States and South America to get married. In some instances, it is said, it is not connected with a desire to escape from obligatory national service, if and when it arrives.

But neither men over military age nor women find it an easy matter to get a passport to-day. A friend who is desirous of going abroad on urgent business tells me that you have now to run the gauntlet not only of the Foreign Office, the Home Office, and Scotland Yard, but also of Mr. Neville Chamberlain's Man Power Department, which can, I believe, veto the issue of a passport to any person who would be useful here for national service.—London Paper.

BEST MEDICINE MADE.

A better medicine can be made than Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. It relieves the lungs, opens the secretions, aids expectoration and assists nature in restoring the system to a healthy condition. Besides, it contains no opiates and is perfectly safe to take. For sale by the British Dispensary.

About Opium.

On the 1st and 2nd instant tenders were received at the Ministry of Finance in respect of the retailing of opium in the Mondhols of Rajaburi, Nagora Jaisri, Krung Khao, Nagora Svarga, Bhisuloke, Nagora Rajasina and Pachinburi, and the amount received in security from the accepted tenders amounted to Ticals 1,351,300. On the 3rd instant the tenders for the retail of opium in the district of Bangkok were considered at the Opium Department, Rajawongse Road, and the amount received for security was Tics. 121,200. The total amount of opium which the tenderers undertook to sell was 633,400 tamblings.

Peace Note Gambling in America.

Talk About the German Embassy.

Although Count Bernstorff, the German Ambassador, has not been directly implicated in the charges, now spreading to a number of more or less prominent people, of having taken part in Stock Exchange deals through having advance information of the President's Peace Note, yet it is generally rumoured that members of the German Embassy made large sums of money on this and other occasions.

Mr. Thomas Lawson, the Boston broker, mentioned in his evidence last January that Mr. Archibald White, the well known Boston banker, was his informant as to the leakage of information about the Note, and mentioned a pool for the purpose of taking advantage of this information, which included a banker, a member of the Cabinet, and an unnamed United States senator. Nothing was said about Count Bernstorff being in this pool, but it is said by the New York "Tribune" that Mrs. White, the wife of the banker, is a close personal friend of the Ambassador.

There are some members of the investigating Committee who would like to get to the bottom of the matter, but there is another and possibly a stronger influence working, it is stated, to keep Count Bernstorff's name out of it.

The leak must have been a very great one, for Congressman Wood, who brought in the resolution for the inquiry, has been informed by correspondents in Indiana, his home State, that brokerage houses in the West were in possession of this information several hours before the news of the President's action was received over the press wires, and that favoured brokers were able to act upon it. It is estimated that the "leak" caused several hundred million dollars to change hands.

Big Financiers Called.

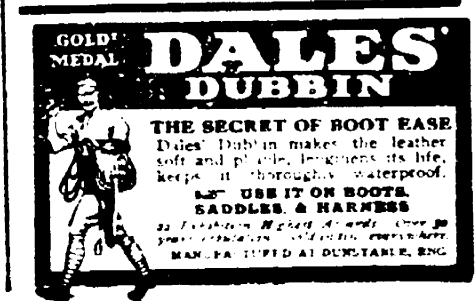
Mr. Lawson gave further evidence before the Rules Committee of the House of Representatives explaining some of the alleged conversations to which he had referred yesterday. During suspension of the hearing Mr. Harrison, a member of the Rules Committee, proposed a resolution that Mr. J. P. Morgan, Mr. J. P. Bache, Mr. H. P. Morgan, Mr. F. A. Vanderlip, and other financiers should be subpoenaed to give evidence in the "leakage" affair. The motion was carried, and subpoenas were issued.

In his further evidence Mr. Lawson repeated what he alleged Mr. Henry had said to him about Mr. Lansing and Count Bernstorff. Mr. Lawson, questioned, was unable to say positively whether Mr. Henry told him that the information regarding Count Bernstorff had come to him personally or to the Committee. Mr. Lawson corrected his former evidence that Mr. Henry was his informant regarding the alleged connection of Mr. McAdoo (Secretary of the Treasury) with the leak. The witness admitted that he received that piece of information from another source.

Questioned further regarding the connection of Mr. Pliny Fisk with the leak, Mr. Lawson declared that the banker, Mr. White, was his informant. Mr. Lawson had met Mr. White at a hotel in New York. "I said to White, 'They tell me your friend Fisk is engineering this stock gambling affair.' White said: 'You ask me just in time. I talked with Fisk the other night down at the club. He wanted to show me how he controlled Mr. McAdoo. He asked me to go to the telephone with him while he called Mr. McAdoo out of bed in Washington to tell him to come to New York.' 'Did you go,' I asked White, and he said, 'No.'"

The witness asked whether Mr. Henry still believed the leak was a "mirage," as a published interview represented him as saying. "Yes," responded Mr. Henry.

"Then," retorted Mr. Lawson, "God help the American people if they get many more such mirages." The Sergeant at Arms of the House reported that he was unable to find Mrs. Visconti, who was announced as a witness.



Siam Steam Packet Co., Ltd.

At the Annual Ordinary General Meeting of the Company to be held at the office of the "Bangkok Times" on March 13th the Chairman will submit the Report for the year. The accounts show a net profit of Ticals 35,117.97, to which Ticals 1,151.23, brought forward from the previous year, have to be added. After writing off Ticals 16,474.11 as Depreciation on Launches and Property, it is proposed to distribute the balance as follows:—Transfer to Incident Account 7 per cent. Tics. 14,210.00; Transfer to Insurance Reserve, Tics. 2,000.00; Transfer to Reserve, Tics. 1,000.00; Directors' Fees, Tics. 2,500.00; Agents' Bonns, Tics. 500.00; Carry forward to 1917, Tics. 918.09.

The Feeding of the Soldier.

(REV. ALFRED F. OZANNE, LATE OF RHODE ISLAND, N. J.)

Were I called upon to judge of the efficiency of any unit in the field I should go for my chief data no further than the cookhouse. I may be in error, but at any rate I am sinning in the good company of several well known generals.

I have had every opportunity of studying this question of Army diet both in England and in France, and I greatly doubt if even our U. S. Army is so well fed in peace time as is the British Army to-day, when England is supposed to be blockaded by German submarines.

First, then, let us consider how the British soldier fares during the first period of his training. The scale of diet at home is slightly different from that laid down for the British Expeditionary Force. In England government rations are issued daily to every officer and man as follows:

Bread - 1 lb. or ½ lb. of flour.
Meat - ½ lb.
Tea - ½ oz.
Sugar - 2 oz.
Bacon - 2 oz.
Salt as required.

In addition to these provisions there is a government grant of 5d. (eleven cents) per man per day, which can be spent on such items as milk, chocolate, vegetables, fruit, canned salmon and so forth. It is to be observed that a unit is always allowed to draw so much flour in lieu of bread. Given, therefore, a quartermaster who knows his work, an officer who takes an interest in the welfare of the men under his command, and a fairly efficient cook-house staff, it naturally follows that good and satisfying meals will be the result. I have before me the scale of diet for one week of a siege battery which has been formed about six weeks, and I am now training "somewhere in England."

For breakfast the men had each day tea and bread and butter with either sausages, or bacon and tomatoes, or salmon, or liver and bacon, etc. Dinner consisted of roast, boiled or stewed beef or mutton, with two vegetables and usually some kind of pudding. The last meal of the day was made up of tea and bread and butter with jam or cheese and pickles, or fruit and custard, or kippers, or some similar dainty. This dietary does not include the cup of tea and biscuits before the first parade, or the hot soup or cocoa which is often provided in the evening.

This is one week's menu taken at random. The mess funds of this particular battery are in flourishing condition, and there is always a balance in hand from the 5d. grant per man. These facts surely speak for themselves, but the point is that all this has been done solely on the government rations and the government grant. There is no lack of variety, and that the men are happy and contented is abundantly proved by the fact that since the day of the battery's formation there has not been a solitary case of a man being absent without leave. This is not an isolated example by any means, and the menu given can be taken as typical of every unit in the Army in England to-day.

In the case of a soldier serving overseas in the British Expeditionary Force, the government grant of 5d. a day is withdrawn and extra provisions are substituted. In France the following rations are issued daily to all ranks:

1½ lb. fresh meat, or 1 lb. of preserved meat.
1½ lb. bread or 1 lb. of biscuits or 1 lb. of flour.
4 oz. bacon.
3 oz. cheese.
2 oz. peas, or beans, or dried potatoes.
5/8 oz. tea.
½ lb. jam.
3 oz. sugar.
½ oz. salt 1/20 oz. mustard 1/30 oz. pepper.
1/10 gill, lime juice.
Tobacco, 2 oz. per week.

These last two items are issued at the discretion of the General Officer Commanding, acting under the guidance of the principal Medical Officer. Furthermore, portions of these rations can be changed for oatmeal, rice, chocolate, and so forth.

The responsibility for seeing that supplies reach the men in the front line rests primarily on the shoulders

of the Army Service Corps. I have seen the ration lorries at night taking the food along that portion of the St. Pol-Arras road which goes by the sobriquet of "Hell Fire Corner," and it has always been a mystery to me how the lorries ever get through. Yet they are always "right" at the appointed time, with food for the men, food for the horses, food for the guns. It was the same during the Great Retreat. Unit after unit arrived at the given A. S. C. "dump" to find its rations duly waiting.

England to-day has got an Army of somewhere about five million men. She can feed every man in that army on the scale that has been indicated. That fact alone speaks volumes. It is calculated to make us neutrals think. It is not merely a question of money, it is a matter also of marvellous organisation. Men, money and method. England can provide them all and she has done so a scale that has amazed the world.

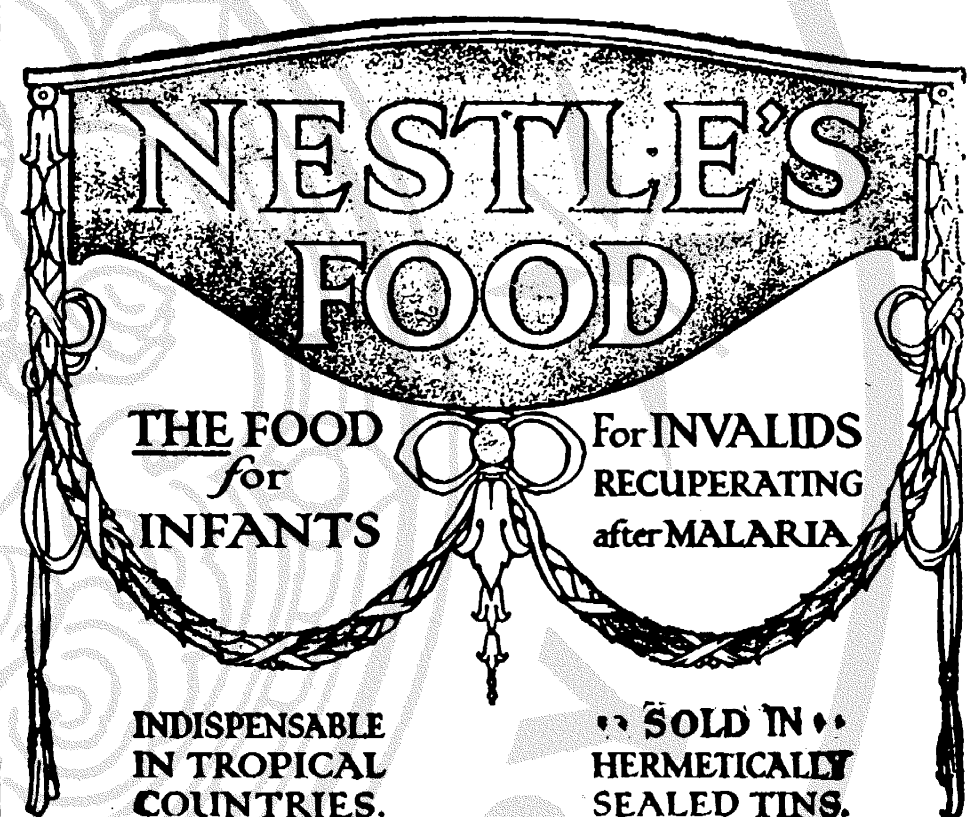
Von Wiegand's Opinions.

New York, Jan. 28.—Von Wiegand, the most famous of the American correspondents in Germany, has paid a brief visit to New York. In an exclusive interview to the Austrian Press Association he said: "We have seen Anzac in action on the West front, and have nothing but praise for their bravery and initiative. The German officers have unqualified admiration for the Australians. The Crown Prince of Bavaria, Rupert, told me the Australians and New Zealanders were the most daring of the British troops. Prince Rupert is a mountaineer, and appreciates the colonial's contempt for obstacles. Yet he said, the recklessness of the colonials sometimes led to unnecessary losses. Whereas other troops utilised all available cover, the Australians charged in the open, indifferent to, even contemptuous of, danger. During the advance at Loos the Bavarian general spoke in admiration of the perfection in every detail of the Australian plans in taking trenches."

Von Wiegand met many British prisoners at Guilleumont. "The Fomales," he said, "willingly sold me helmets and other souvenirs. I noticed 20 or 30 aloof who contemptuously refused to sell anything. They were Australians. I did not see many Australians in the prison camps. Prince Rupert asked me how he was faring. He replied, 'Not bad. I don't expect beefsteaks daily.'"

Von Wiegand considers the war will last throughout 1917. He believes the British and French will make a gigantic effort in the West in the spring. The Germans are planning extensive defences. If the Allies are not successful in the West they will transfer the offensive to other fields, most probably to the Balkans.

Germany, he said, was experiencing the severest winter privations and sufferings, but not starvation. Economic conditions hamper but do not fatally affect the military situation. The Von Tirpitzite influence was greatly exaggerated. Ex-Ministers in Germany had no influence, owing to the excessive jealousy of their successors. Von Tirpitz was practically an exile. Von Wiegand recently visited him at St. Blasien, in the Black Forest, living hermit-like in a small villa. Von Wiegand does not think ruthless submarineism is to be feared, as the Kaiser, Hindenburg, Ludendorff, and Von Hollweg do not approve, believing it likely to rupture relations with America. Germany launched her peace effort for psychological reasons, not expecting success but considering it worth while, owing to the possibility of averting the Allies' threatened offensive.



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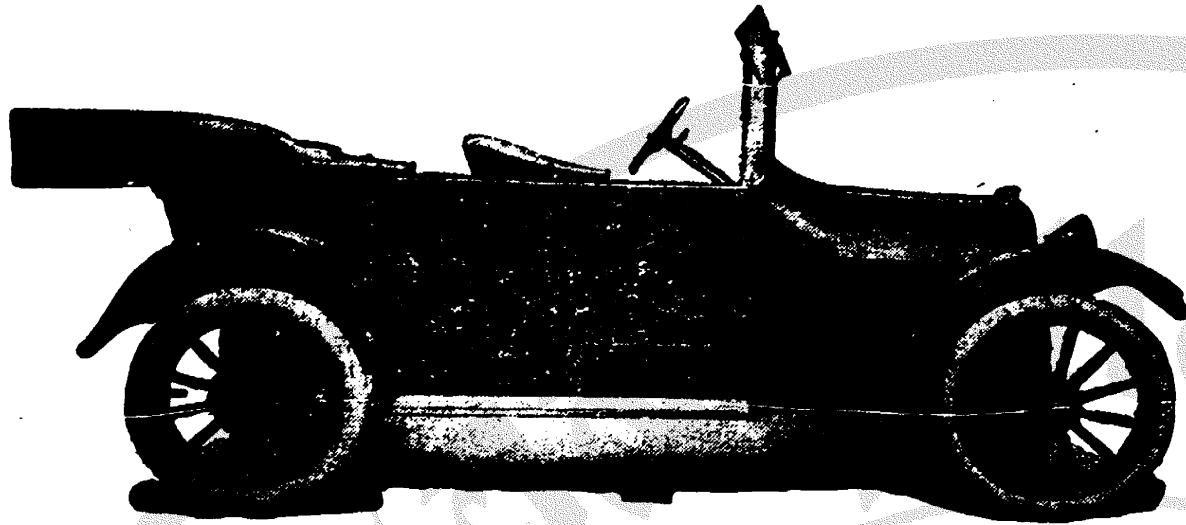
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German Opinion Re-
garding Peace.

By CYRIL BROWN.

Berlin, Jan. 16.—After clearing away the debris of the suddenly collapsed peace card house the consensus of the responsible German public, running the whole gamut from Pan-Germans to Socialists, is that the peace dove may be regarded as officially dead. As a well known military critic phrased it: "The winter peace campaign of 1916-17 is over."

It is generally felt that the door has not only been slammed in the face of peace but padlocked and bolted by the Entente's peace conditions as stated in their reply to President Wilson, and that only the sword can pry it open again.

Peace Terms Impossible.

To the German mind, to every kind of German, not excluding the extreme pacifists, these terms are so wildly impossible as not to warrant an instant's consideration or leave the slightest basis for further discussion. It is unnecessary to add that this view is also taken in the highest official circles.

The terms which the Central Powers were willing to make known at a preliminary conference, it is said in official circles here, have been sufficiently intimated for the whole world to have fairly accurate ideas of what they were and to judge them accordingly. If Germany were now formally to declare her "well known and very moderate" peace terms, it is felt, after the announcement of what are characterized as the Entente's absurd and exorbitant conditions, it would place Germany in the false light of sneering for peace—of imperatively needing and wanting peace at any price.

While the bottom has dropped out of peace speculation, there is still a keen popular interest in what President Wilson will do and what America will say. The questions are on every tongue. Increasing importance is certain to be attached here to America's attitude in the coming week. Scanty reports from America are utterly conflicting. Berlin is being told that President Wilson was greatly pleased by the Entente note and hoped that the Central Powers would make their conditions known, and that official Washington regards the answer as ending the prospect of an early peace.

Miss German Reforms.

A significant answer to the Entente note is given by Theodor Wolff, the brilliant chief editor of the Berliner Tageblatt, who is the champion of a

"new orientation" in Germany's internal politics. He writes:

"The Entente offer us their help as liberators. It is well known that they want to free us from militarism. To be sure, nothing is worse or less manly than for so-called Liberals in Germany, who before the war had very much to say and write about militarism, now to act as if they had never known this phenomenon. It is one small manifestation of weakness of character to confuse the army with militarism, and the thing against which one formerly fought, with that which in overwhelming measure has an eternal claim on our gratitude and admiration."

"Many people today, even those who stand far on the right (Conservative) wing, realize that a radical change must be made in the organization, structure and constitution of the German Empire. The 'obrigkeitstaat' (supreme state) has outlived itself. It is impossible that the men who guide the destinies of the German people shall in the future, without the collaboration of the representatives of the people, come or go, or arise like Venus from the salt waves. It is impossible that decisions shall be made behind closed doors affecting the fortune and future of the nation, of the body public, and of individuals without any control, without any asking of Parliament."

"This Olympian system must give way to a parliamentary system in which the people's representatives must participate, and share the responsibility of Government, as in all other states, and not remain merely irresponsible after-dinner speakers."

Real Path to Power.

"Parliament must, by becoming the real path to power, bring to the front the talented and able men, must educate the political gifts and capacities of men, and then, so metamorphosed, place them in the governmental positions as in every other 'Kulturland' has long been a matter of course."

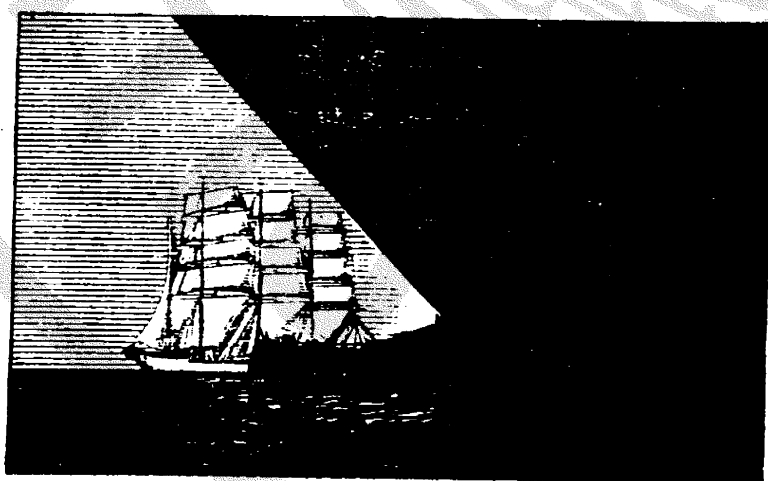
"We should at least come to realize that this reform of new orientation would create an entirely new situation for the German Empire, and that it is intimately connected with the question of war and peace."

"But what a delusion it is if the Entente apostles of liberty believe that this German nation will suffer itself to be cured from without—will let its reforms be made by a foreign tailor! The thousandfold expressed opinion abroad, that we do not understand the psychology of other nations in Germany, is by no means unfounded: but are they who undertake to dictate freedom to the German people, at the same time with subjugation, masters of psychology?"

"When has a nation possessing its own great history ever viewed a re-

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A German potentate has at last had the courage to point out to his countrymen what their position will be if the Central Empires come empty-handed out of the war. Prince Otto zu Salm-Horstmar, the Jeremiah in question, writes: "The payment of capital and interest on our war loans will in spite of all monopolies and other indirect

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Bangkok Noi ...	Dep.	7.30	8.25	1.20	2.10	Chumpon ...	Dep.								7.45				
M. Nakon Patom	"	8.56	10.13	2.45	4.27	Prachuap Kirikan	Arr.								p.m.				
Ban Pong	"	9.33	10.55	3.26	5.38	Pran Kao	"	Dep.					9.5		2.41				
Potaram	"	9.55	11.22	4.	6.17	Wang Phong	"	Arr.				6.5			4.59				
Ratburi	... Arr.	10.26	11.57	4.31	6.59	Hua Hin	"	Arr.				6.10	10.59		5.5				
						"	"	Dep.				6.13	11.14						
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Petchaburi	... Dep.	10.36	12.10	4.41		Petchaburi	... Arr.				9.37			p.m.					
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						Ratburi	... Arr.			7.10	9.52	1.56							
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Wang Phong	... Dep.	2.37	5.37																
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"	Dep.				8.46	"	"	7.43	10.19	2.43	4.25								
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Chumpon-Tung Song on Tuesdays, Thurs. & Sats.						Tung Song-Chumpon on Mondays, Weds and Fri.						Tung Song-Trang daily				Trang-Tung Song daily			
Chumpon	Dep.	6.45			a.m.	Tung Song	Dep.	6.45			a.m.	Tung Song	Dep.	p.m.		Trang	Dep.	a.m.	
Langsuen	Arr.	9.18			11.37	Surasutra Dhani	Arr.	11.37			12.2	Trang	Dep.	5.30		Tung Song	Dep.	8.20	
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Tung Song	Arr.	6.23			6.19	Chumpon	Arr.	6.19											
Tung Song-Nakon Sriharaj daily except Monday						Nakon Sriharaj-Tung Song daily except Monday						Tung Song-Singora Wed. Fridays & Sundays				Singora-Tung Song Tuesdays, Thursdays & Sun.			
	a.m.	p.m.					a.m.	p.m.											
Tung Song Dep.	6.30					N. Sriharaj													
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Arr.	8.50	2.38				Tung Song Arr.			5.20										

Dulce est Desipere in Loco.

George Robey, the actor, tells the following:

A certain man who returned to London from South Africa a multi-millionaire after five years' money-making, invited a friend to visit his mansion in Park Lane.

The friend was expatiating to other friends upon the glories of the establishment—the marble walls, the Turkish carpets, the gold plate.

"And, my boy," he said, "he's got a mint o' money. Why, he's got a Rembrandt, a Van Dyke and a Landseer!" "Extravagant bounder!" said one listener. "What does he want three cars for?"

A good story is going the rounds of Calcutta regarding belief in the efficacy of prayer. The nuns of a certain charitable institution had an omnibus horse that had done much useful service. In course of time the horse died, much to the grief of the good ladies whom he had served so faithfully and well. The providing of a successor was the next problem and, as funds were short, the nuns decided to resort to prayer. They prayed long and earnestly for a horse, and one morning they discovered a horse grazing on the lawn. They were firmly convinced that their prayers had been answered; the horse was taken to the stable and harnessed to the omnibus, which it pulled without any demur. A few days later the institution was visited by a prominent citizen, the owner of a number of race-horses and a supporter of charity. He claimed the omnibus horse as one of his racers, in spite of the protest of the nuns that it had been sent to them in response to their earnest prayers.

He was good enough, however, to give them a real omnibus horse to replace the horse that he had claimed, so the nuns still think that their prayers did good.

The laid Lord Minto used to tell a story about a famous art connoisseur who once sat next to a rather illiterate alderman at a public banquet. In the course of conversation the alderman mentioned that his grandfather had known the great Napoleon. "Indeed!" said the other. "That's very interesting!" "Yes," the alderman went on. "And I still have the fine snuff-box that Napoleon gave him. It has a hen in diamonds on the lid." "A hen!" exclaimed the other. "Oh, I see! You probably mean an eagle—the Imperial eagle?" "No," insisted the alderman. "It's a hen plain enough. I've got it with me. Look!"—and he pulled from his pocket a splendid gold box

with an "N" in brilliants on the lid.

On a recent visit to London, a young American girl of the soulful type was taken to a Shakespeare recital. Following the speakers with the text, the Transatlantic visitor came across one of those robust Elizabethan words which our more squeamish age does not utter in public. The American girl pointed out the "mistake," as she called it, to her companion, who assured her that Will of Stratford did actually and verily write that very word. "And I've always thought," wondering exclaimed the visitor, "that Shakespeare was so refined."

One of Chauncy Dupew's best stories is the story of the spotted dog, which as a boy he bought from a local dog

dealer. "The next morning it was raining," he says, "and I took the dog out into the woods, but the rain was too much for him. It washed the spots off. I trotted the dog back to the dealer."

"Look at this animal," I said. "The spots have all washed off!" "Great guns, boy!" he replied. "There was an umbrella went with that dog. Didn't you get the umbrella?"

Lord Buxton, the Governor General of South Africa, is an ardent disciple of Isaac Walton, and he tells many good fishing yarns.

One of his favourite is about an angler who one day had four hours' tussle with a huge salmon before he was able to land it. When at last he had made sure of his catch, he took it

home in ecstasy and related his triumph to his maiden aunt. Of course, like all fishermen, he made as much of the story as possible, and laid special stress on the time it took and the immense energy he had to expend before he could bring the salmon safely to land.

When he had finished he waited anxiously for the praise due to his cleverness and heroism. For some moments there was silence, and then his aunt looked up from her knitting with a puzzled expression on her face.

"But, my dear Tom," she said, quietly, "why did you not cut the string and get rid of the brute?"

Wall Street Prediction.

The head of a large brokerage house

is quoted by the "Wall Street Journal" as saying he is firmly convinced that the war will be over before next summer. Someone must finally give way and accept the other's terms, and that someone will be Germany. She does not want to face another winter of hard fighting. She realises only too well that her war supplies are at a low ebb. "But that isn't her greatest dread. Russia will be able to put 20,000,000 men in the field next September. That is the major reason why Germany wants to conclude peace. Her Eastern front could never withstand that human avalanche." New York knows more about the arming of Russia than we do on this side, so that the prediction may carry some weight.

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