

THE SPHERE

MAY



I, 1915.

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DRAWN BY F. MATANIA, APRIL, 1915

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THE COMMITTEE of this fund, which includes Mr. Geoffrey Robinson, the editor of *The Times*; Mr. Spender, the editor of *The Westminster Gazette*; Mr. Bruce Ingram, the editor of *The Illustrated London News*, and many other well-known journalists, was formed at the beginning of the war to supplement the work of the existing Press organisations, by dealing with the serious distress which threatened a large number of writers, both men and women, who, though not regularly attached to the staff of newspapers, yet earned their livelihood, or a considerable part of it, by contributing articles to the Press. It was evident that the absorption of public interest in the war would deprive this class of writers of the opportunities that are open to them in normal times, and that, unless help were forthcoming, many of them would be in danger of destitution.

This expectation has unhappily been more than fulfilled during the last five months, and the Committee now finds itself called upon to deal with many scores of deserving cases for which no other agency exists. Some have been helped by the finding of suitable work, some by grants or loans of money to tide over a crisis, others by hospitality. Strict confidence has been preserved and helpful and sympathetic relations have been established. The Committee has hitherto relied upon private donations, and its experience shows that a comparatively small sum of money may be of the greatest possible service if carefully expended. But the need has grown to the point at which a wider appeal for assistance becomes necessary, and the Committee is confident that it has only to make the facts known to receive the support which is necessary to carry on this work. The writers in question have a claim upon the public which has profited by their work, as well as upon the members of the literary profession, and both may reasonably be asked to help in this emergency. While the present exceptional circumstances of the Press have for the moment cut off the livelihood of a large body of people, they have brought considerable prosperity to some writers, and our appeal for assistance is specially made to all those who hold secure positions on the Press or are now doing remunerative work, that they may come to the help of their less fortunate fellows. A sum of at least £1,500 is needed to continue the work on the present scale. Donations may be sent to the Secretary, Press Contributors Emergency Fund, Parliament Chambers, 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster, S.W.

The following have been selected from the many sad cases which have been brought to our notice, and in each case adequate relief has been given. At present there is no diminution in the number of applications.

- (1) JOURNALIST. Well-known War Correspondent, but through loss of lung cannot go to the front and has lost all journalistic work owing to the war. Married, 3 children. Utterly penniless and became too ill to work much. Speaks several languages.
- (2) JOURNALIST. Assistant Editor of London Paper which suspended publication at outbreak of war. Wife and 5 children to support. Dependent on work—utterly destitute and starving when application was made.
- (3) JOURNALIST. Married, 2 children. Entirely dependent on profession. Was making £300 per annum for 18 years from own newspaper, which closed down at outbreak of war. Quite penniless on application and has since been seriously ill, so cannot work in any way.
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- GERMAN SOUTH-WEST AFRICA, April 24th, pp. 94-95.

THE SPHERE.

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NOTICE TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS.

THE INDEX OF THE SPHERE.

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THE RATE OF POSTAGE OF THIS WEEK'S SPHERE is as follows:—Anywhere in the United Kingdom, 3d. per copy, to Canada 14d. per copy (under 14 lb.) Elsewhere abroad the rate would be 3d. FOR EVERY TWO OUNCES. Care should, therefore, be taken to WEIGH AND STAMP correctly all copies before forwarding.

THE GREAT EUROPEAN WAR: WEEK by WEEK.

"TO SONNY"

Wance I was a lil' lad, jest the same
as you,
Brave an' busy doin' things childer
wants to do,
Mos'ly goin' glad an' gay wi' laughs
a bubblin' through,
But sometimes on my gammuts, jest
the same as you.

But now I'm a man, an' there's
work to be done;
Somethin' for mother an' for you,
my son;
I must be goin' where the strong
men go,
An' you'll mind mother like a
man, I know.

Wance I made a slashin' sword with
withies fresh an' peeled,
An' called the thissles soljers as I
slayed them in the field;
I beat the drum-taps on a can, a penny
trumpet blew,
An' played the finest battle games, jest
the same as you.

The WESTERN THEATRE of WAR *The New German Offensive Around Ypres*

The capture by the British of Hill 60 about ten days ago forestalled a heavy German offensive against the Allies' positions around Ypres. Hill 60—lying two miles to the south of Zillebeke—is of such strategic importance that any offensive in the neighbourhood must be precluded by its capture. The stroke by which it was wrested from the enemy disclosed his long-meditated offensive and compelled immediate action.

The French, holding the line from Langemarck to Bixschoote, were forced to fall back in face of the successive attacks directed at their positions. With this falling back of the French there was a corresponding withdrawal of the extreme left of the British line. The French and British took up new positions along a line Boesinghe - Pilkem - Ypres, and after checking the initial rush of the enemy, vigorously counter-attacked. Lizerne, a village which had fallen into German hands during the withdrawal of the French, was recaptured by them last Saturday morning.

If, as is believed, this onslaught is in the nature of a new offensive with Calais as the objective, it has now signally failed—as previous offensives have failed. The ground the Germans have gained will not materially help them, and their successive failures to achieve their objective must surely have some deleterious effect on the enemy's moral.



General Artamonov, the Governor of Przemyśl

Przemyśl, which fell to the Russians on March 21, is now being administered by a Russian military governor-general, General Artamonov, whose portrait we give above. The capture of this strongly fortified Galician town is amongst the great Russian achievements of the war.

"TO SONNY"

But now I'm a man, an' there's
work to be done;
I must fight for mother an' for
you, my son;
I must march to drum-beats where
the bugles blow,
While you'll mind mother like a
man, I know.

Wance I thought the Flagstaff hill
brave an' stiff to climb,
An' miles was awful tirin' things as
took a turble time;
An' when I went a visitin' to folks as
father knew,
I allays wanted to be home, jest the
same as you.

But now I'm a man, an' there's
journeys to be done,
Far away from mother an' from
you, my son;
But I shall be a mindin' as afar
I go,
Of mother an' a brave lil' man
I know.

BERNARD MOORE

The WAR by AIR in FRANCE *The Importance of Aerial Supremacy*

In no engagement since the war began have aviators come so much to the fore and rendered so much valuable help as the English and French aviators have during the struggle for Hill 60 and round Ypres. It was mainly owing to the activity of the British aviators that the concentration of troops and artillery for the attack on the now famous hill was concealed from the enemy; this, it will be remembered, was also the case at Neuve Chapelle.

Over a period of five days—from April 15 to April 20—no fewer than five German aeroplanes were brought down in the area of Ypres alone. Every enemy aeroplane appearing over the British lines was immediately chased and either brought down or driven away. Garros, the famous French aviator, who has since been captured, was responsible for one of the five aeroplanes.

This acknowledged supremacy of the air is due not only to the large number of flying machines available but also to the personal bravery of our aviators. In one or two cases our airmen have found themselves in the midst of three or four enemy aviators and yet have managed to come out successfully. Usually, however, it is owing to the fact that it is possible at almost any time to send up aviators to beat back intruders that the British preparations at Neuve Chapelle and Hill 60 remained unknown.



A Serbian Defence Work

The Crown Prince of Serbia chatting with men in one of the works near Belgrade



Signor Fortunino Matania

"The Sphere" artist, who has just returned from a tour of the British lines in France, undertaken at the invitation of the War Office authorities

Signor Fortunino Matania—the well-known "Sphere" artist, who has just returned from a visit to the British lines in France—comes of a well-known Neapolitan family. He began to draw at a phenomenally early age under the tuition of his father. When quite a young man he joined the staff of "Illustrazione Italiana," an illustrated Italian newspaper known for the quality of its drawings. He left Italy and came to England at the special request of "The Sphere," and is now universally considered one of the most prominent black-and-white artists in England. For faithfulness and accuracy to detail his recent pictures in "The Sphere" constitute some of the finest work done since the outbreak of war.

Monsieur Paul Thiriat—who recently visited the French lines as special correspondent of "The Sphere"—was born in Paris in 1868, the son of a famous portrait wood-engraver. When quite young M. Thiriat came over to England in order to acquire some mastery of the English language. Most of his time, however, was engaged in drawing pictures illustrating episodes in the 1870-1871 war. After returning to France and completing three years' military service at Tours in the 32nd Regiment of Infantry he joined the staff of "L'Illustration" and "Le Monde Illustré" before finally joining "The Sphere." M. Thiriat is an official artist of the French Military Museum.



Monsieur Paul Thiriat

"The Sphere's" special correspondent in France and an official artist of the French Military Museum, who has just completed a visit to the French lines

A WEEK of FIERCE FIGHTING around YPRES: Where the GERMAN GAS BOMBS were USED.



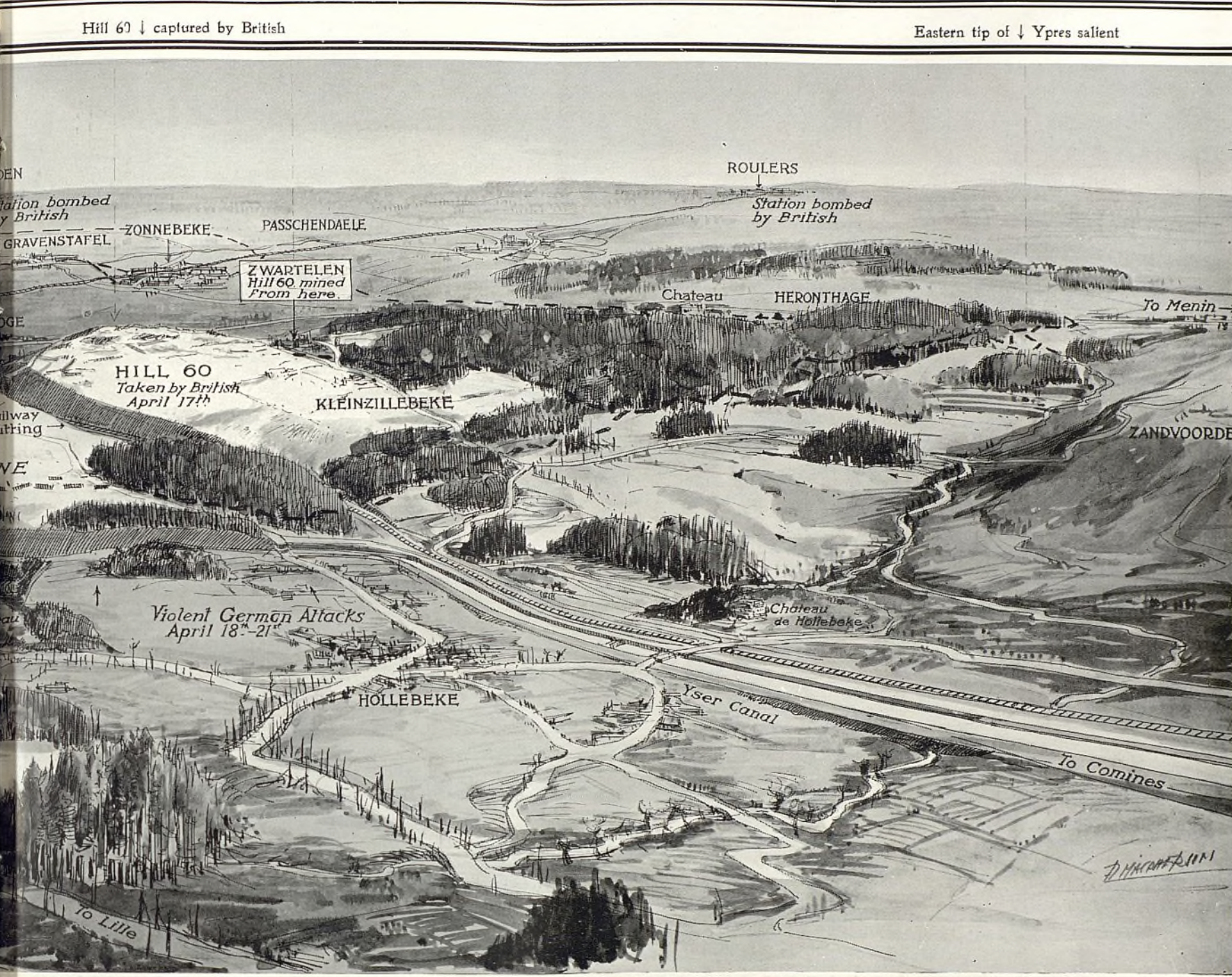
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British line running south from St. Eloi

WHERE THE FIERCE FIGHTING FOR HILL 60 AND THE FURIOUS COUNTER

The above diagrammatic bird's-eye view of the British salient in front of Ypres has been drawn to show the conditions surrounding the capture of Hill 60 on April 17 by the British troops acting from Zwartelen, the little village almost hidden by the rise of the ground, and the subsequent alteration of the previously-existing battle line to the north and north-east of Ypres. In the middle distance of the view is seen Hill 60 rising to a modest height among surrounding woods. The British line now skirts the base of this hill, and to the left is seen proceeding across

the Yser Canal through St. Eloi to the immediate foreground of the view on the extreme left. On the right the British line is seen proceeding in front of Klein Zillebeke, out beyond Herenthage, where the British salient reaches its most easterly position. The battle line then continues past the chateau of Herenthage in a northerly and north-westerly direction towards Passchendaele and the villages of Zonnebeke and Gravenstafel, all of which lie in the hotly-debated territory of the northern side of the salient. The former position of the line is seen passing in front of



DRAWN BY D. MACPHERSON

ONSLAUGHT OF THE GERMANS, AIDED BY GAS, HAS TAKEN PLACE

Forêt d'Houthulst. The new battle line is seen passing from Gravenstafel through St. Julien to Pilkem. The Gas Zone.—Between these two lines is what may be termed the "gas zone," for it is here in this stretch of country that the Germans have made use of various bombs and other devices for asphyxiating their enemies with poisonous gases. In the extreme upper left-hand corner of the view is seen the village of Lizerne, on the left bank of the Yser Canal. This little village

has been lost and retaken by the French and Belgians during the fighting on April 23 and 24. The view also shows the position of Het Sast, a position on the right bank of the canal which has just been recovered by the Allies.

As regards the foreground of the view, the Germans occupy the major portion, including the village of Hollebeke and its chateau on the right bank of the canal and Zandvoorde. The whole of this region was the scene of violent German attacks on April 18 and 21.

THE NEW GERMAN THRUST AT YPRES

THE furious fighting which has now raged round Ypres for nearly a week is the direct outcome of the capture of Hill 60 by the British. The capture of the hill was effected on Saturday night, April 17, when we fired heavily-charged mines under the German position, blowing up a length of trench manned by about 150 men. Then, within a few minutes, the infantry rushed the craters in the enemy's lines and gained possession of some 250 yards' length of the latter. On early Sunday morning the first of a series of violent counter-attacks was launched against the new British position on the hill. After one very critical moment reinforcements were hurried up to support the infantry entrenched on the crest, and our possession of the hill then became unquestionable.

Immediately after this severe set-back the Germans began their long-meditated offensive, and, abandoning further frontal attacks against Hill 60, threw all their weight against the Allies' position to the north and north-east of Ypres. By the use of poisonous gases the French were driven back on the 22nd to their positions on the canal banks, where they were subjected to a violent artillery bombardment throughout the night. In the early dawn of Friday, April 23, the German infantry came swarming up to the French lines, aiming at the Dixmude-Ypres road at the point where it crosses the canal. Steenstraete and Het Sast, on the east bank of the canal, immediately fell to the enemy, whilst, further to the south, Pilkem was also captured by the enemy. The French still falling back, the village of Lizerne fell after a stubborn fight.

But this was the high-water mark of German effort. Here the French held the Germans in check along a line running near Boesighe-Pilkem-St. Julien. Meanwhile, as the extreme British left was uncovered by the French retreat, a corresponding withdrawal of our line had to be made. During this compulsory withdrawal a division of Canadians left four guns in the hands of the



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First Use of Asphyxiating Gas Bombs by the German Army on the Western Front, Thursday, April 22

This drawing has been made to give some idea of the manner in which the Germans attacked the French with gas bombs and to place on record this latest infraction of the Hague Convention by Germany

enemy; these were recaptured later in the day when the Allies' counter-attack began.

The French, who were now reinforced by Belgian troops, had again joined up with the British, and during the afternoon of April 23 a general advance was ordered. Lizerne was quickly recaptured by the French, and the enemy was once more driven back across the canal. At the same time the Canadians drove the Germans from the valleys of Pilkem and reoccupied it.

By this time the battle was fully developed and was raging furiously along the whole front. On the 24th the enemy, redoubling his efforts, once more forced the passage of the canal between Steenstraete and Het Sast, and again possessed Lizerne, into which large numbers of troops were thrown. The village was, however, soon rendered untenable, and a whole German battalion was cut off and later surrendered to the French. St. Julien, a small village to the south-east of Pilkem which had throughout the fighting remained in British hands, was unfortunately lost, and was occupied by the Germans on the 25th. This loss of St. Julien was practically unavoidable—the line at this spot had worn very thin, and it bore the brunt of many a heavy attack.

At the time of writing, however, there is reason to believe that the Allies' counter-attack will be successful, and that shortly the lost ground will once more be recovered and held.

The nature of the asphyxiating gases employed by the Germans in their recent attacks is still under discussion, but evidence as to its deadly, suffocating effects is gradually accumulating from all quarters. A French officer who was driving along a road two miles behind the British lines described to a *Morning Post* representative the effect of the gas. The air, he said, was filled with a strange pungent, suffocating odour, bearing some resemblance in smell to escaping acetylene gas. So blinding were the fumes that it was impossible for the chauffeur to continue. In the distance clouds of dense yellow smoke could be seen. The officer further stated that the Germans throw their gas bombs with a species of sling.

The ARMY of the NEAR EAST : TWIN REVIEWS of the ALLIED FORCES on the SANDS of EGYPT.



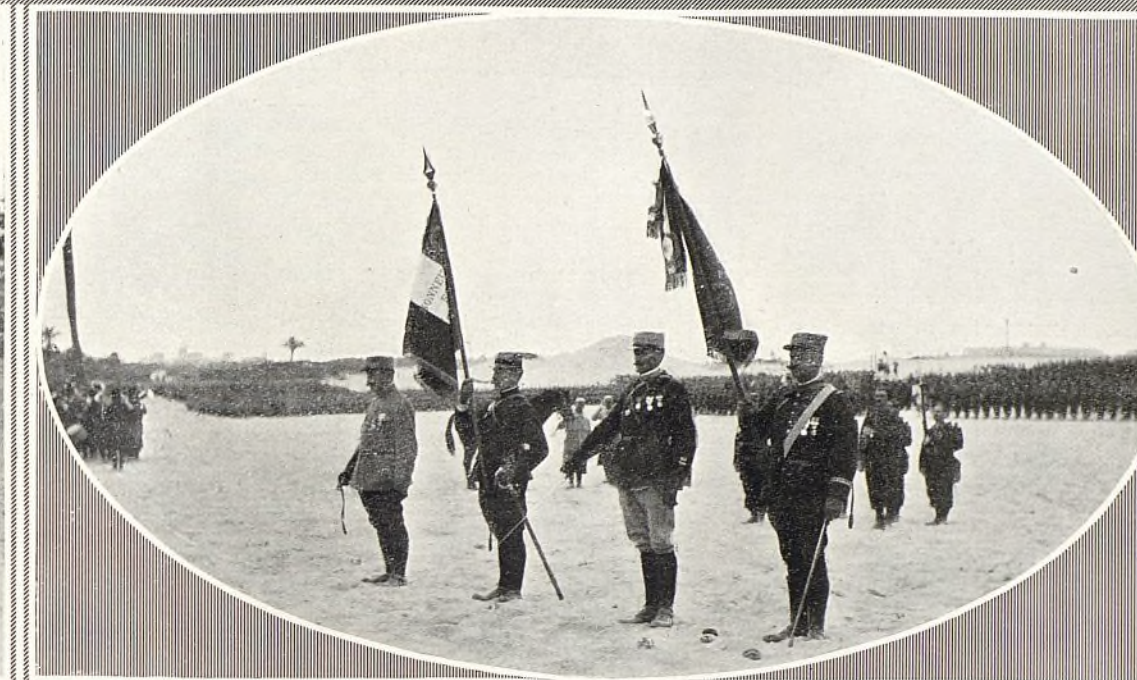
General d'Amade Presenting the Colours to Two New Infantry Regiments
The French general before presenting the colours addressed the colour-bearers, reminding them of the splendid traditions of the French Army. To the extreme left of the picture may be seen General Sir Ian Hamilton, who is in chief command of the Expeditionary Force.



French Troops, Forming Part of
The splendid condition of the French troops in Egypt has been commented on by more than one observer. The troops were on board, prior to landing in Egypt, for four weeks, at Alexandria.



General d'Amade's Command, in Egypt
any loss of tone on this account has been made good at their camp, which is situated on slightly rising ground near Alexandria.



After the Presentation of the Colours by General d'Amade
After the presentation of the colours the troops marched past by battalions in double column to the music of the "Marseillaise" and the national anthems of England, Russia, and Serbia. After the infantry came the artillery, followed by the Chasseurs d'Afrique at the gallop.



March Past of the Australian Light Horse before General Sir Ian Hamilton
Independently of the review of the French troops, General Hamilton also reviewed the Australian and other troops at Mena Camp, near Cairo. Not the least interesting feature of this review was the splendid appearance of both the Australian and the Maori contingents. In the above picture the Australian Light Horse are seen passing the saluting base.

THE REVIEW OF THE FRENCH AND BRITISH TROOPS IN EGYPT

The official announcement on Tuesday last that part of the army of the Near East had been successfully landed on the Gallipoli Peninsula lends special interest to this pictorial record of French and British reviews in Egypt before the various forces left for the scene of operations against the Turkish forts and land forces.

Mr. W. T. Massey, "The Daily Telegraph's" correspondent in Egypt, in a recent article gave a vivid description of the scenes illustrated here. He wrote: "Two battalions, one of French colonial infantry and the other of Senegalese, were to have placed in their hands the colours which are the emblems of patriotism and duty. The presentation of flags preceded the march past, and instead of the colours being trooped, as in England, the whole

force marched by them. General d'Amade, holding the flags in his left hand, addressed the colour parties, reminding them, and through them the troops, what the colours stood for. In a few words he spoke of the traditions of the French Army, and concluded by saying that their best traditions would be upheld in service under 'our General Hamilton.'

"General d'Amade, who wore but few of his decorations, handed the colours to the parties.

"The march past of infantry, artillery, and cavalry was magnificently executed.

"Next day General d'Amade accompanied Sir Ian Hamilton when the British general inspected the British regulars. The cavalry, artillery, engineers, and details were reviewed near the town, and the brigades of infantry at a wind-swept, sandy camp several miles away."



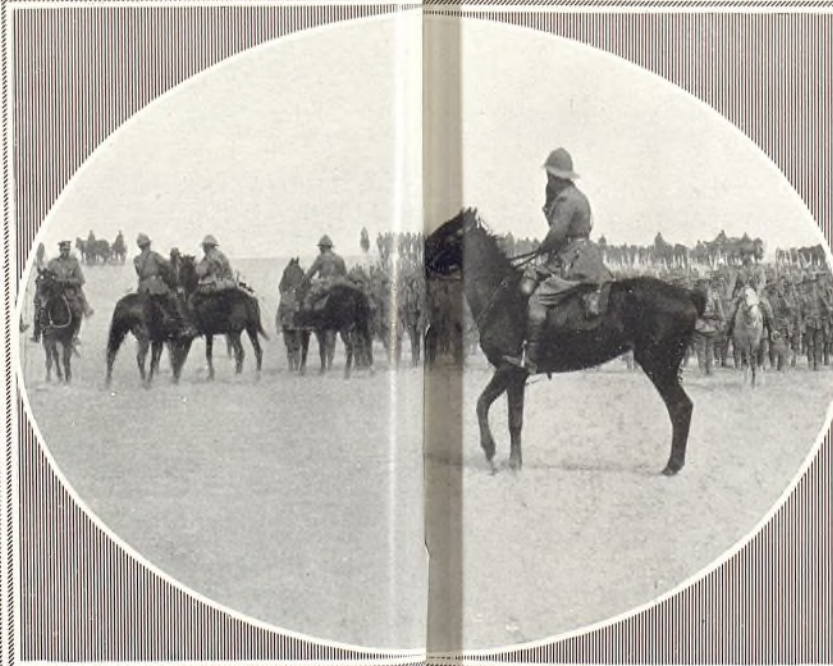
General View of the Great Military Review Held by General d'Amade
French infantry marching past by battalions in double column during the great review held before General Sir Ian Hamilton, Commander-in-Chief of the Expeditionary Force, and General d'Amade. The neighbouring elevations were crowded with interested spectators of the stirring pageant.



A Parade of the Australians in Full War Kit Prior to Departure from Egypt

Mr. W. T. Massey, in the course of the same article in "The Daily Telegraph" from which we quote above, also wrote: "It seems strange that at this stage we can put into the field a body of regular troops who have not fought in this war. The fact is that with one exception the battalions have been sentinels in the Empire's outposts. They have been relieved by troops more fitted for garrison duty, and Sir Ian Hamilton has with him as the backbone of his Expeditionary Force a body of soldiers the like of which is not to be found in the world to-day. The other divisions have yet to prove themselves. Encamped at San Stefano, where refreshing Mediterranean breezes bring health to the European whose blood is thinned

by the heat of a Cairo summer, is the division of General d'Amade's French Colonial troops, forming part of Sir Ian Hamilton's command. In the French lines you miss the careful arrangement of bell tents such as one sees in British training camps. There is a war camp. Bivouac tents, in which a marvellous number of men manage to house themselves, horse and mule lines, gun parks, and supply depots are dotted over the sand, thoroughly businesslike and quite picturesque. The horses are getting rid of their sea legs. Nearly a month on rolling ships has made them lose some of their fitness, and they exercise stiffly. But they are picking up condition, and when Sir Ian Hamilton wishes the troops to march on their transports they



General Sir Ian Hamilton Inspecting the Australians at Mena Camp

will be ready. The men are happy to be serving in the expedition, in which the British have the larger representation. Many of the French soldiers have had months in the fighting-line.

"The alertness, vigour, and physical fitness of the French troops, as well as their patriotic enthusiasm, were displayed a day or two ago when Sir Ian Hamilton inspected them within visual range of the ground whereon Abercromby won the decisive battle of 1801. As a ceremonial the parade was perfect. The artistic sense of the French was illustrated by the choice of ground. The troops were drawn up along the flat surface of a valley in the rolling



The Maori Contingent of the New Zealand Expeditionary Force on the Parade Ground

desert. On the rising ground on the western side the British and French population of Alexandria enjoyed the spectacle, and on the irregular crest-line on the opposite side of the valley were mountain batteries, mitrailleuse sections, and other detachments silhouetted against a glorious blue sky. In this splendid setting was a picture of rare animation, of kaleidoscopic changes, the air full of stirring music, and the dull-red ground alive with martial pageantry. To the French, soldiers and civilians alike, the day meant much. The troops were to be inspected by the general of an allied nation, under whose command they are in operations which everybody believes will have a far-reaching effect on the war."



Japanese Civil Volunteers Disbanding at Singapore

The story of the outbreak at Singapore of the 5th Light Infantry was given in *The Rangoon Gazette* by an eye-witness, who arrived in Rangoon from Singapore shortly after the mutiny was quelled. He wrote: "On the afternoon of the outbreak, between five and six o'clock in the evening, a large part of the European population of Singapore was out at the park near the golf links, where there is a fine drive, enjoying splendid weather. Without warning there came, it seemed from a dozen places, rifle volleys, and several people fell mortally wounded. The alarm was quickly brought into the town and volunteers assembled rapidly at their armory. Europeans who were not Volunteers were called to the police headquarters and made special constables and were sent out to bring women from the residential quarters into the hotels of the town, where they could be protected, and this was done. It was then learned that nearly all the 5th Light Infantry were trying to make their way into the town. The Volunteers were rushed to the scene of the firing, which was close to Kettle Harbour, where the regimental barracks are, in motor gharries and rickshaws, and at once opened fire on batches of men they could see. To locate them was difficult as they were not in one column, but in numerous small columns or bands. Fighting took

The RIOTING at SINGAPORE.

How the Mutiny of the 5th Light Infantry was Quelled

place all Monday night and the Volunteers, aided by a detachment from a British gunboat in the Singapore Harbour and men of the R.G.A., prevented the rioters from getting any nearer to the town than the outskirts.

"In the meantime wireless messages were being sent out to ships which were known to be somewhere in the neighbourhood of Singapore. On Tuesday morning women who had been guarded in the hotels the previous night were sent on board the ships in the harbour. The prompt work of the Volunteers and R.G.A., aided by sailors from the gunboat, saved the situation, and while they accounted for a large number of the rioters, it was not without some loss to themselves both in officers and men. Large numbers of rioters were captured in addition to those who were shot, and about 150 or 200 laid down their arms when they were first attacked.



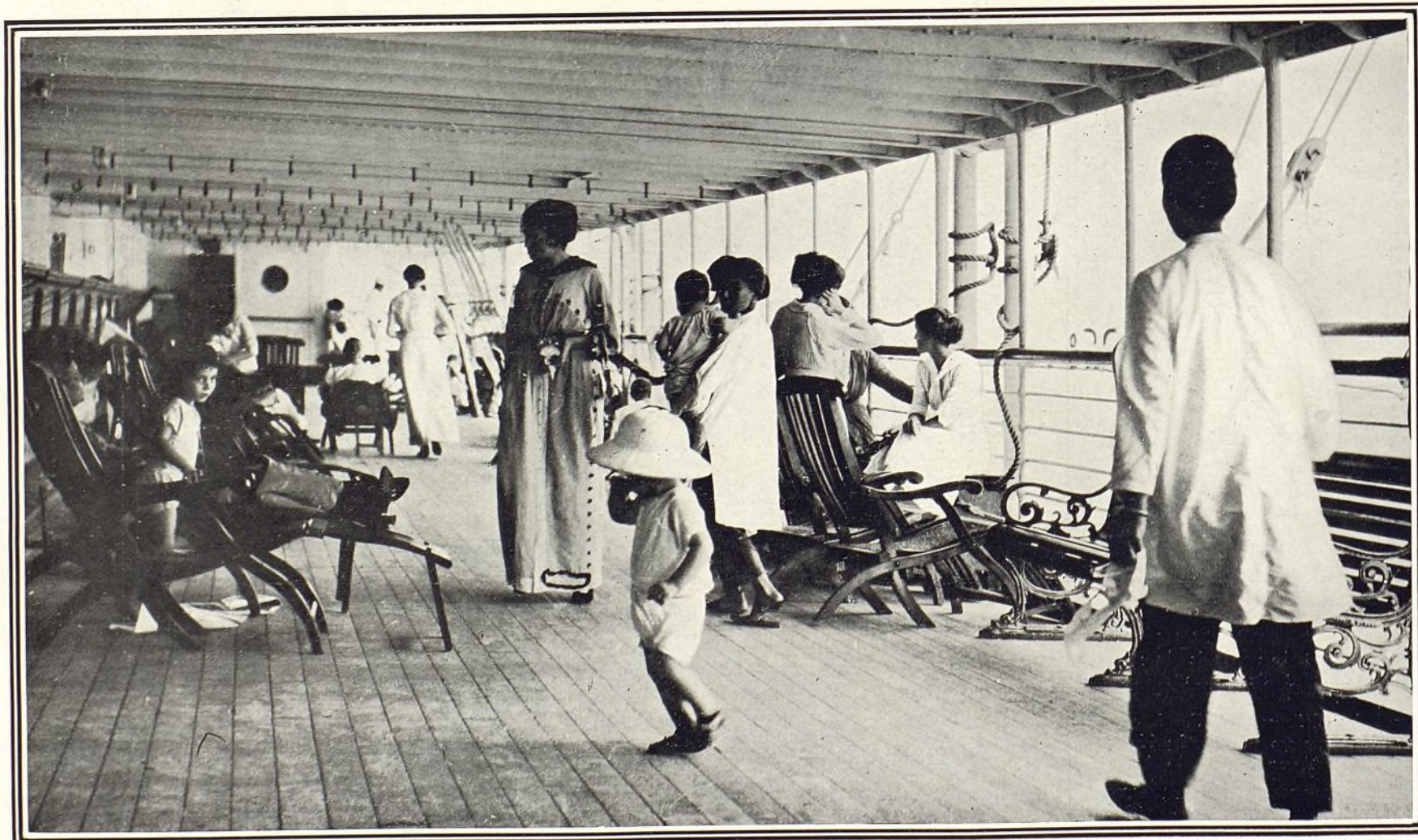
Shropshires after the Disturbance had been Quelled

"The next morning various vessels began to arrive, and as fast as they did they sent men ashore. There was still fighting on Tuesday night and Wednesday, and the riotous troops, finding large forces were operating against them, fled in the direction of Johore, closely pursued. On entering the Sultan's territory many were captured, and those who resisted were put out of the way. After the landing of men from the vessels the women on the ships were allowed to go ashore again, but only to houses in prescribed areas, hotels, or Government House."

A personal narrative in *The Times* ends thus: "I couldn't stand the dirt of the same old clothes on any longer this evening. S— was dying for a bath, too; so, armed with a rifle and with two warders, both armed, we marched up to the house. Everything looked as usual, only a horrible garment soaked in blood just outside the garden to remind us of the dangerous time we have been through. Such a sweet, pretty young bride who was out at Changi with us the other day was killed with her husband. One of our warders died from his wounds yesterday, and twenty-one English men and women were buried yesterday afternoon. The Sepoys went quietly about in couples with haversacks full of ammunition and shot at every European."

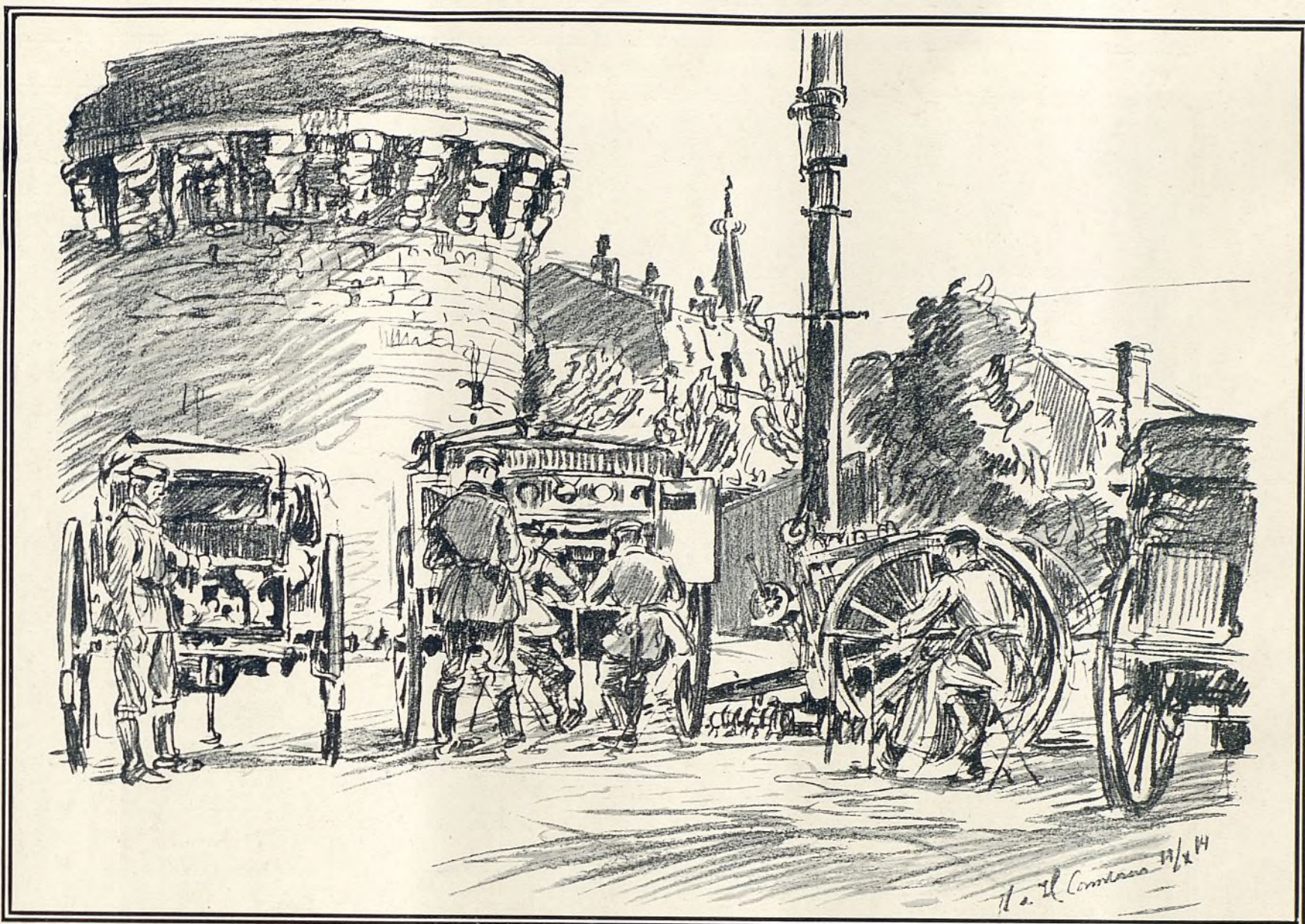


Women Taken on Board the "Nile" During the Singapore Rioting



WOMEN AND CHILDREN ON BOARD THE "NILE" WHILST THE SINGAPORE MUTINY WAS BEING QUELLED

In FRANCE and FLANDERS with the GERMANS.



BAVARIAN TELEGRAPH CORPS AT WORK IN CAMBRAI (NORTHERN FRANCE)

From a drawing by a German artist

The Germans have worked up the telegraphic side of their army equipment with the same attention to detail as one finds in other branches. Here we see some of the men of the telegraph corps at work under the old walls of Cambrai in France. The town lies to the south-east of Arras. The men are seated on little light iron folding stools at the base of a telegraph pole



BURNING OF A PICTURESQUE OLD MILL BY THE GERMANS IN FLANDERS

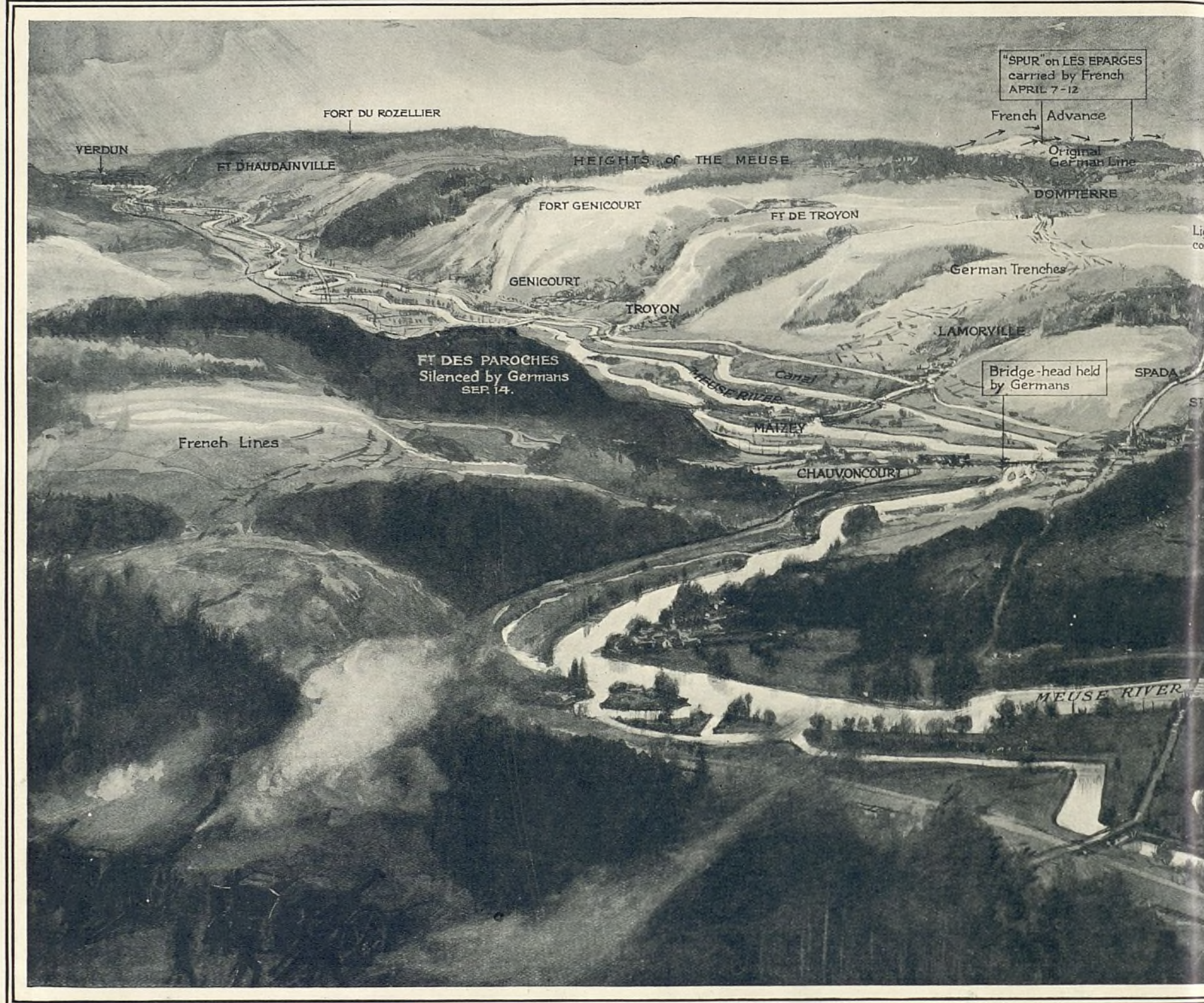
The Germans declared that the mill had been used as a signal station and must therefore be destroyed. A handful of villagers and a dog are seen watching the flames as they burst through the windows and consume the sails. The number of mills destroyed has been very great

b

THE STRUGGLE FOR ST. MIHIEL : The Hotly

Valley of ↓ the Meuse

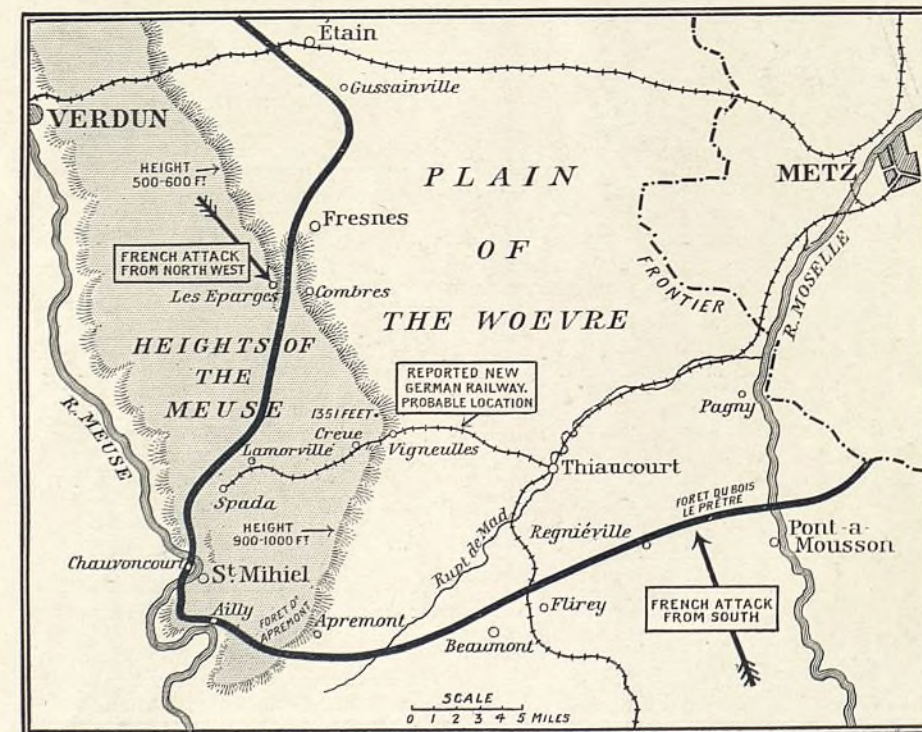
↓ French troops in possession of this ridge summit ↓



↑ French artillery and troops on foreground hills on left bank of River Meuse ↑

↑ German trenches

THE POSITION AT THE TIP OF THE GERMAN WEDGE—THE FRENCH ON THE LEFT BANK AND THE



How the French "Nippers" Have Been Closing in Upon St. Mihiel

Showing the direction of the two main attacks designed to cut off St. Mihiel

HOW the FRENCH and the GERMANS

WE are now able to put before our readers the first pictorial view of the situation at the tip of the German salient, which for very many months has defied the efforts of the French. Our readers will have a general idea of the way in which the firing line is indented towards St. Mihiel. This irregularity in the firing line has in fact been so conspicuous as to draw even the attention of those who do not study the movements of the war very closely. To those who are following the tactics of the battle line, this salient or projection of the German military area is crowded with interest.

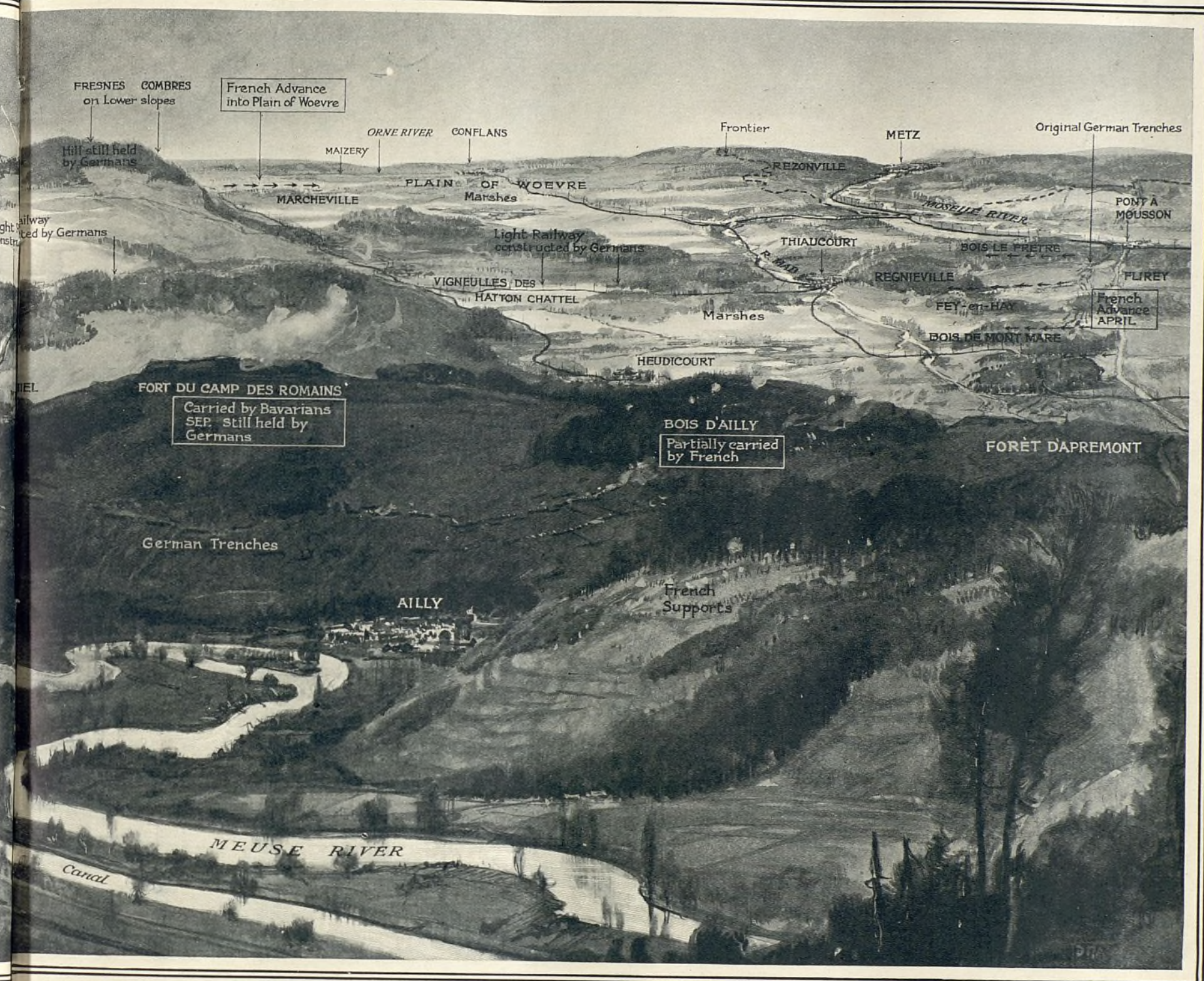
Originally the French Fort du Camp des Romains was seized by the Germans by a military *coup de main* in order to, if possible, cut off the famous fortress of Verdun. This effort, however, up to the present has completely failed, and the forward movements are now all on the side of the French. Recent official news from Paris has been full of details of advances by the French at Les Eparges, and southward at Regnierville, Flirey, and Bois le Prêtre. Numerous maps have shown these actions with a certain amount of detail. The situation at the apex has been very difficult to portray, and it is only now that we are able to show the general situation as seen from an elevated point on the east bank of the Meuse.

Let us first take the various positions of the French forces. The artillery and troops of our Ally are holding the left bank of the Meuse—that is, the western side of the river. The whole of the banks of the canal and of the river appear to be in the possession of the French as far as the foreground of the view is concerned. The only spot which the Germans still hold is the bridge-head immediately connecting with St. Mihiel. The village of Chauvencourt was recently retaken by the French, the German troops being forced back towards the bridge.

The French positions cross the river a little beyond Maizey and then climb

Contested Fighting for the German Salient in the Woevre.

↓ Plain of the Woevre in German Hands from Fresnes to Metz ↓



↑ encircling the hill ↑

↑ French troops pressing forward at Ailly and Apremont ↑

GERMANS ON THE RIGHT BANK OF THE MEUSE LOOKING NORTHWARDS TO THE HEIGHTS OF THE WOEVRE

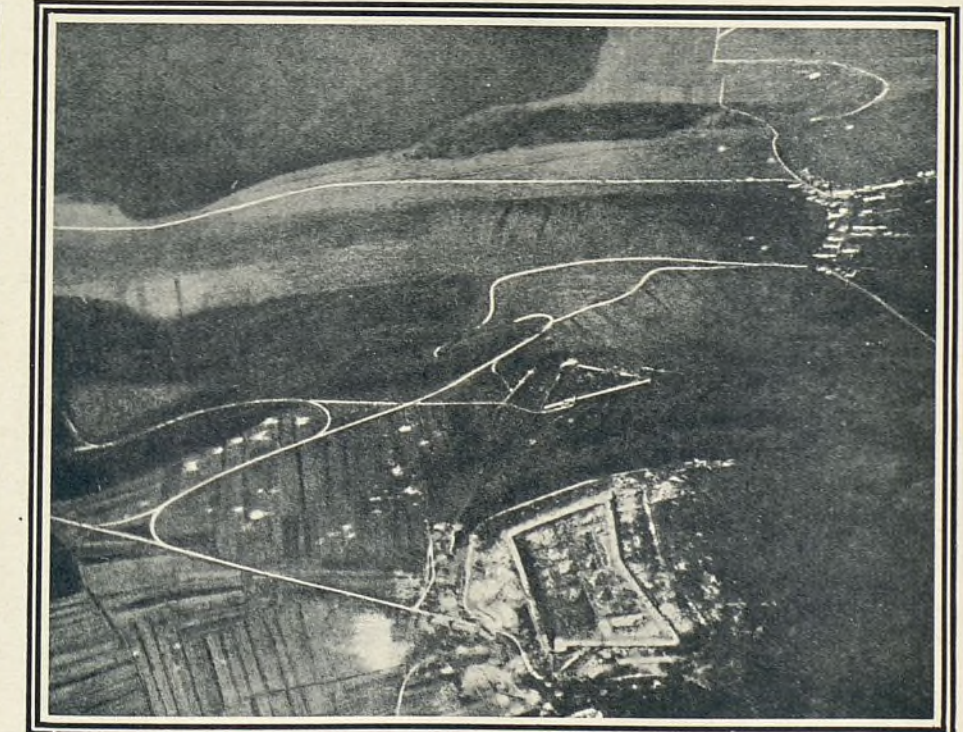
FACE ONE ANOTHER at ST. MIHIEL

the downland ridge up to the Fort de Troyon and so on to the crest. To the right of the view the French troops are also pushing their way through the village of Ailly and through the adjacent forest of Apremont.

The black hill in the foreground, surmounted by the Fort du Camp des Romains, forms the chief advanced point of the German lines. The Germans occupy the little town of St. Mihiel, and also Spada, which is just above it on the wooded slopes beyond. It is at this point that the light railway, constructed by the Germans since their occupation of this salient, is credibly reported to have its terminus. This light railway, which has played such an important part in the maintenance of this difficult position, runs from Thiaucourt westward, probably by way of the village of Vigneulles and over the wooded slope down into Spada. By this means the German base of Metz has been in railway communication with St. Mihiel. The probable route of this light railway is shown on the sketch map, also given on these pages. Part of the railway is now within reach of the French guns. This same sketch map also shows the position of the striking ridge known as the Heights of the Meuse. This downland ridge rises steeply from the River Meuse and falls still more steeply to the plain of the Woevre. It is on these heights that the desperate French attack on Les Eparges took place. The village itself lies in a hollow between the main mass and a spur which projects in the direction of Fresnes. The summit of this spur can just be seen in the bird's-eye view above.

The highest point of this striking range is just above the village of Creux, where a height of 1,351 ft. is reached.

The latest news at the time of writing states that the French had gained a further trench in the district of Bois le Prêtre. The ultimate closing of the French "nippers" upon the German salient is awaited with the keenest interest.



Overhead View of the Fort du Camp des Romains

Taken by a German aviator. The form of the fort is clearly discernible in the foreground



THE SQUARE IN THE LITTLE TOWN OF SUWALKI WHICH HAS SEEN GERMAN AND RUSSIAN IN OCCUPATION IN FREQUENT SUCCESSION

THE SIEGE OF OSSOVETZ.

A Remarkable Feature of the Fighting on the Bobr River. Specially Described for "The Sphere" by Edward Foord

WHERE STUNNED FISH IS CAUGHT BY RUSSIANS

At the commencement of the European War Ossovetz, or Osowiec—the latter being the Polish orthography of the name—was a little obsolescent fortified place among the marshes of the Bobr, one of several of which the demolition was contemplated, but had not yet been carried out. It was fortunate for Russia that Ossovetz was left intact, for the little fortress has played a most honourable part in the struggle with Germany, and to-day its fame is world-wide.

The River Narew, which enters the Vistula at Novo-Georgievsk, and its tributary, the Bobr, form, as has been pointed out in these pages, the strategic frontier of Russia against Prussia. Flowing in a very tangle of swamp and forest they constitute an extremely difficult barrier to an invading army, which is strengthened by a number of fortified places, somewhat obsolete, but capable of being very troublesome when occasion demands.

Ossovetz guards one of the most important passages in this difficult line of river and marsh—the point at which the Prussian and Polish railway systems are linked up by the Lyck-Bielostok line. To the northward there is no similar connection before Wihballen; to the westward none until the Mława-Warsaw line is reached. Seeing how much the Germans depend for transport and rapid concentration upon their railways, the importance to them of Ossovetz may be appreciated.

The Bobr is intersected at Ossovetz nearly at right angles by the Lyck-Bielostok railway and high road, which reach the river amid a maze of wood and marsh. Ossovetz, a village of no importance in itself, lies on the left bank of the Bobr. On its north-east side a knoll lifts itself from the bog, and on the south a low ridge skirts the river for several miles. Ossovetz is besides an important junction of roads, as may be seen by the map.

The fortifications consist of two groups. The knoll outside the village is crowned by a fort, and batteries guard the eastern end of the bridges. On the right bank of the Bobr are two more forts, and beyond them a range of batteries and trenches, some probably of recent construction.

The length of this line is uncertain; it has doubtless been extended of late. These works form the fortress proper, surrounding the vital bridges. Along the ridge on the left bank of the Bobr are three forts which, with the one on the

Ossovetz knoll, can sweep the approaches to the batteries guarding the bridges. The forts are of the concrete and armoured-cupola type, like those of Liège, Namur, Maubeuge, and Przemyśl, but so far have defied the German artillery. The concrete of which they are constructed is stated to be very solid and the casemates extremely good and impervious.

Ossovetz was first attacked in September, when the remains of Samsonov's army poured through it after the catastrophe of Tannenberg. The vanguard of the pursuing German Army soon appeared before the northern batteries, and from September 26 to the end of the month they poured into the place a perfect

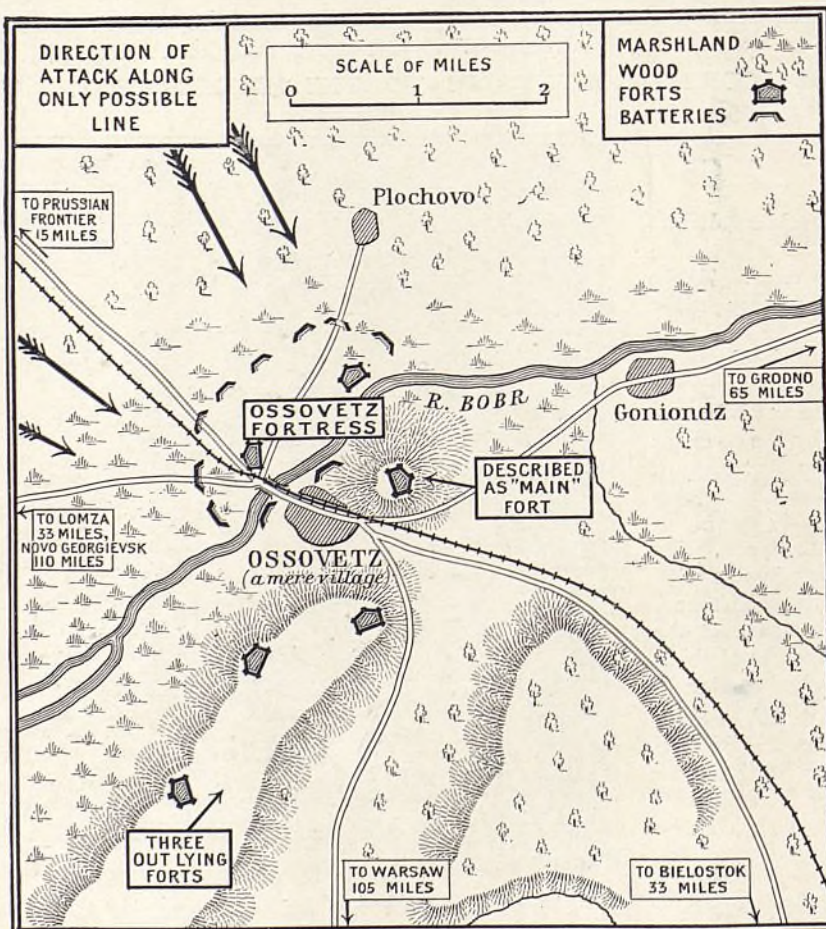
torrent of shells with absolutely negative results. This attack was abruptly ended by the German rout at Augustowo.

For the remainder of the year Ossovetz had rest, and also for the past six weeks of 1915. But with the expulsion of the 10th Russian Army from Prussia in February began a fresh attack; this time a far more serious one. A force, believed to consist of two army corps—at least 60,000 men—was brought up against the stubborn midget, and a large train of siege artillery was directed against its batteries.

The bombardment commenced on February 26 and has continued intermittently until now. All the best German devices—huge tractors, light railways, armoured trains, and moving shields—have been employed against the little fortress, without success. The Bobr and the marshes were frozen, and the conditions, therefore, were favourable for the transport of heavy artillery. But the Germans could effect little though they brought up 11-in. and 12-in. howitzers, and even, it is reported, two of the famous 17-in. giants.

The garrison gunners stoutly responded to the tremendous cannonade. They were splendidly assisted by aviators, who did magnificent work in marking down the German gun positions. The besiegers, in order not to risk unduly their heavy pieces, brought field guns into action, first to try the range, but the Russian aviators were always on the alert. The range-finding guns were overwhelmed with Russian shells before they could fairly get to work, and the great destroyers were rarely able to direct their fire with accuracy. Not a single fort cupola was hit, according to Russian accounts; the great shells buried themselves in the yielding earth, or crashed harmlessly through the ice on the frozen Bobr. So fine was the spirit of the garrison that the sturdy soldiers made a sport of catching, under fire, the fish that came to the surface in the ice holes, stunned by the explosion of the German shells.

In short, the siege has been a failure. Behind the guard of stoutly-defended Ossovetz the Polish railways have worked without intermission at the transport of supplies and reinforcements. Let the reader study the map and judge what disaster would have ensued had the Germans penetrated the gap at Ossovetz and broken loose in rear of Warsaw. Now, it may be hoped, the gallant little fortress is safe. The spring thaw is in progress; the marshes are impassable; heavy guns cannot be transported across them. The siege is practically at an end.



Sketch Map of the Fortifications at Ossovetz

Showing the manner in which it defends the only crossing of the river. The attack comes from the direction of the arrow shown in the upper left-hand corner of the view

With the GRAND DUKE MICHAEL ALEXANDRO- VITCH in the CARPATHIANS.

Exclusive "Sphere" Pictures Illustrating the Campaign on the San River with the Division Commanded by the Grand Duke



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THE GRAND DUKE MICHAEL ALEXANDROVITCH, BROTHER OF THE CZAR, WITH SOME MEMBERS OF HIS PERSONAL STAFF

The Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovitch, seen in the foreground to the left, the only brother of the Czar, was born at Petrograd on December 4, 1878. He has had a very distinguished career in the Russian Army, and when war broke out was general aide-de-camp to the Czar and the colonel commanding one of the most famous Russian cavalry regiments, the Empress Marie Feodorovna Horse Guards. He is known to English sportsmen as honorary president of the Automobile Club and as an honorary member of the Imperial Yacht Club. He married at Vienna in October, 1911, Natalie Serguievna, Countess of Brassow. At the present moment the Grand Duke is on active service in the Carpathians commanding the Caucasian Native Division of the Russian Army. Both this picture and the others reproduced on the two following pages were obtained on the upper San River south of Przemyśl.

c

With the CZAR'S BROTHER in the CARPATHIANS : Scenes Illustrating the "Division Sauvage" and its Commander, the Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovitch.



The Grand Duke Riding towards the Uszok Pass with his Staff

Showing typical Carpathian mountain slopes in background



A Few Miles South of Przemyśl

The Grand Duke with the Khan of Nakhichevan, one of the Caucasian ruling princes. The Duke's car is waiting for him outside a big convent gateway



The Grand Duke's Bodyguard

The Grand Duke

AMONG THE PINE TREES OF THE CARPATHIANS

The Russian Army has many picturesque bodies of troops fighting under the eagle banner, but none more romantic in aspect than the Caucasian Native Division, known familiarly as the "Division Sauvage." It is under the leadership of the Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovitch, brother of the Czar.

All the pictures given here are exclusive copyright pictures of "The Sphere." They were obtained by Captain Adrian Simpson, Acting A.D.C. to the Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovitch, and were taken during the recent operations on the Upper San River, the stream which flows from the Carpathians through



The Grand Duke and Staff (of the "Division Sauvage")

Ascending a snowy slope towards the Uszok Pass



Staff surgeon

Grand Duke's A.D.C.'s

Exclusive SPHERE pictures

SLOPES—THE GRAND DUKE MICHAEL ALEXANDROVITCH

The division was originally formed during the Japanese War and was re-embodied shortly after the outbreak of hostilities in August last. In this issue we deal only with the leader and his staff, and through the aid of the camera are enabled to see him in the actual theatre of operations.



Tartar Sentries Wearing their Sheepskin Uniforms

Outside the temporary headquarters of the Grand Duke. The man on the right has all the typical physical characteristics of the Tartar

the captured fortress of Przemyśl. Other pictures, which will appear in subsequent issues of "The Sphere," will illustrate the work of the Caucasian Native Division among the snow-covered slopes of the Carpathians. (Copyrighted in the U.S.A.)

NAVAL ACTIONS in the DARDANELLES: Destroyers Rescuing the Crew of H.M.S. "Ocean."



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"OUR OLD SHIP WAS HEELING OVER TO STARBOARD WHEN THE TWO DESTROYERS CAME ALONGSIDE. THE

MEN WERE TOLD TO TUMBLE INTO THEM, WHICH THEY DID, CLAMBERING FROM ONE TO THE OTHER."

DRAWN BY PHILIP DADD FROM A SKETCH AND PERSONAL DESCRIPTION, APRIL, 1915



The above picture of the sinking of the "Ocean" during the operations in the Dardanelles was drawn by "The Sphere" artist from a personal description given by an eye witness who actually participated in the event. The sinking of the vessel was also described by one of her officers in the course of a letter home which was printed in "The Times": "We had been hit ever so many times," he wrote, "and it was right at the end of the day, when we were

coming out of action, that suddenly there was a big explosion and the whole ship shook and then we began to list over to starboard. In five minutes we had listed over a good way. We had no orders to shift or anything, but one of the gun's crew looked out of the casemates door and saw that everybody had gone aft; so we went aft, and found that there were destroyers alongside and that we were abandoning ship. It was half tragic and half funny. One thing looked very funny. I saw another midshipman standing with his hands

in his pockets looking ever so pleased with himself, when suddenly he slipped and slid all the way across the quarter deck, and it was very slanting. By then I thought it was time for yours truly to be gone, so I climbed down into one of the destroyers and found the navigator, so I followed him. Then the enemy got our range with howitzers, and shells were falling about us, so the destroyer I was in shoved off, being one of the outside ones, and we steamed out with another. Then after a while we were told to go back to the

"Ocean," but when we got there we found nobody else had come back, and the enemy were still firing at her, so we were recalled and went to the "Agamemnon," where I am now." On board the destroyers which took off the men from the "Ocean" were also a number of French seamen from the "Gaulois," which had been hit earlier during the same operations.



The LOSS of "E 15" by STRANDING in the DARDA



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DIAGRAMMATIC VIEW SHOWING A WHEELED SUBMARINE FEELING ITS WAY UP

The submarine is totally submerged—not even her periscopes are above water. The wheels gently touch the bottom of the channel as the vessel proceeds towards her

mark. The wheels do not propel her; they merely keep the submarine off the sea-bottom. The vessel moves forward in the usual way by her propellers. The wheels enable the

SUBMARINES which CREEP and CRAWL and their POSSIBILITIES in the LIGHT of PRESENT EVENTS

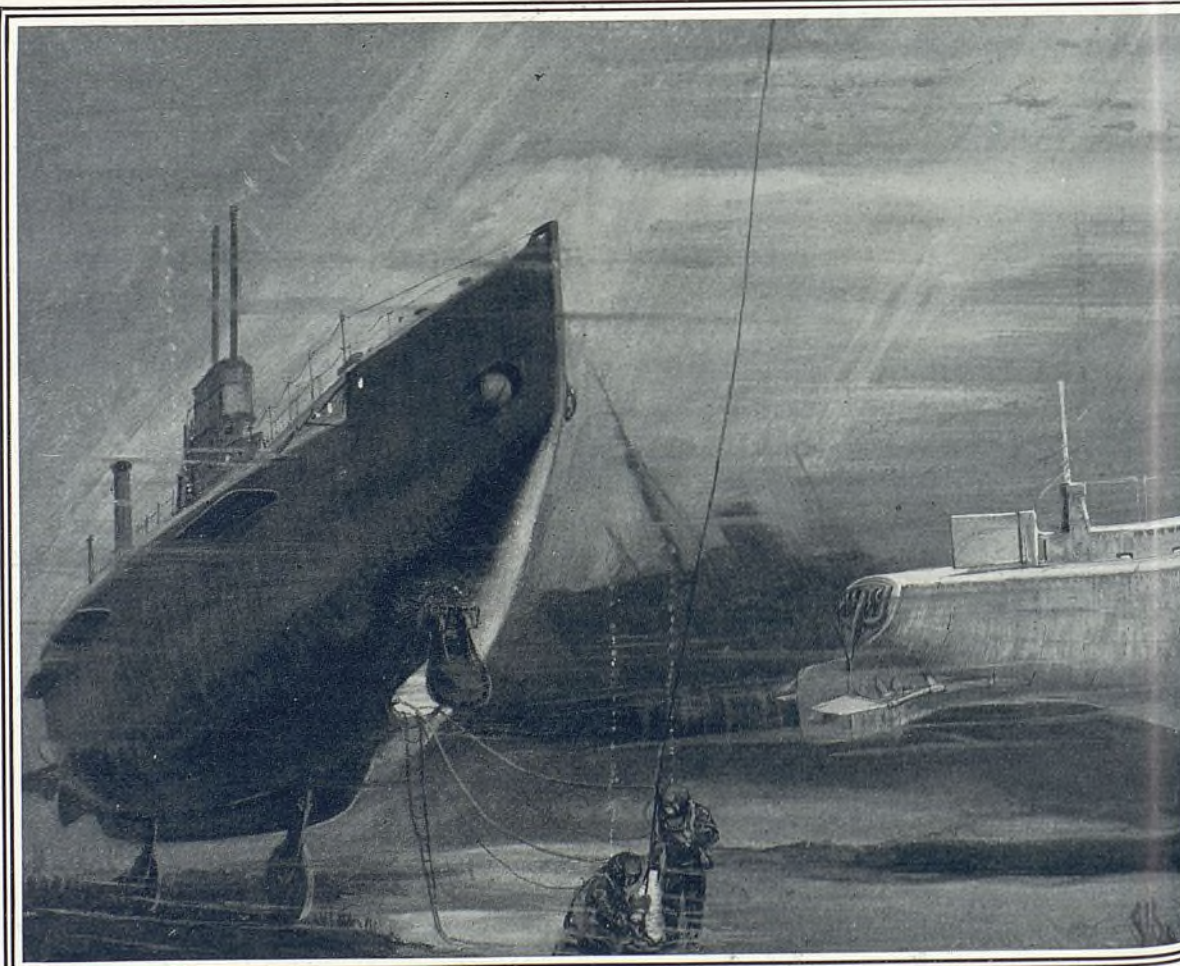
The stranding of the British submarine *E 15* at Kephez Point in the Dardanelles on April 17, draws attention once again to the difficulties of shallow-water navigation for submarines. When war broke out our submarines at once did excellent patrol work off the German coast, as was officially stated in one of the early naval despatches. Then we heard of a daring submarine raid up the Dardanelles channel and the torpedoing of the Turkish battleship, *Messudiyeh*. In this case the submarine got away with complete success, but with *E 15* luck was against the under-water craft and she ran aground.

Wheels do not Propel

Shallow-water submarine navigation has problems of its own which require a bright and clear-headed commander and every mechanical aid for their solution. One additional feature, that of wheels, for use by submarines navigating shallow waters has been for years pressed upon naval authorities of various governments by Mr. Simon Lake of the Lake Torpedo Boat Company of Connecticut, U.S.A., and the possibilities of "Lake" boats have been much discussed in naval circles. The name, it will be seen, is derived from the name of the designer and does not signify that these craft are intended for use on lakes. Neither is it correct to say that the "Lake" boats "run upon the bottom on wheels." This is not really an exact expression. The "Lake" submarines do not themselves touch the bottom or "run on wheels." When the wheels come in contact with the bottom, the boats themselves lose the negative buoyancy which carried them down, and the wheels absorb that dead-weight. As a result the boats have a positive buoyancy, the wheels really acting as rotating anchors which hold the vessels down and at a predetermined distance above the bottom. The "Lake" submarines, it must be clearly understood, move by screw propellers in the usual way, and in no case do the wheels propel.

Creeping into Libau Harbour

The "Lake" submarines have been supplied to other foreign Powers, and in the case of Russia they on at least one occasion accomplished a very smart piece of work by entering during a test the war harbour of Libau. The boat followed the channel on her wheels and



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Two Wheeled Submarines Resting on a Sea Bed, Showing Diving Post

A SUBMARINE SPECIALLY ADAPTED FOR MINING AND COUNTERMINING

Another feature of great interest in the "Lake" submarine is the diving compartment. Through this double door or lock Mr. Lake undoubtedly got out on to the sea-bottom one day and gathered fresh cockles for his breakfast. The diving compartment, he claims, is an additional military feature placed in a position where it does not detract from the effectiveness of the boat in other respects, and that it permits a search for submarine cables and facilitates the

NELLES : Some Possibilities of the Wheeled Submarine.



DRAWN BY D. MACPHERSON

AN ESTUARY TOWARDS THE ENEMY'S SHIPS MOORED WITHIN A FORTIFIED HARBOUR

submarine to advance cautiously and slowly. Almost automatically it picks its way along the shelving sides of the estuary, and so yard by yard until striking distance is reached.

It acts like a man in the dark, by touch, and, of course, by compass. Such a submarine has acted successfully in this way.

The PROBLEMS of SHALLOW-WATER SUBMARINE OPERATIONS

entered a crooked passage through the fortified entrance. She also entered the dredged canal, and followed it up by passing between the abutments of a bridge. The other boats without wheels were all detected outside in the open sea because they had to rely on their periscopes to show them their position.

Hazards of Shallow-water Navigation

Mr. Lake claims that "a diving boat operating in shallow water does so facing hazards that bring with them a very large and unequal share of peril, against which even exceptional skill of control is no certain foil. With such boats to strike the bottom at all is a serious if not a dangerous matter. Even if the character of the bottom were of such a nature—sandy, for instance—as to threaten no permanent injury, to release the boat from such a predicament would require the expulsion of considerable water ballast and a very full angle of rising helm to the diving rudders. If the release of the vessel were thus secured the boat would rise at such an angle and with so much speed as to bring a large part of her body out of the water. The disadvantages, not to mention the dangers, of such an operation would be great indeed in the presence of an alert foe."

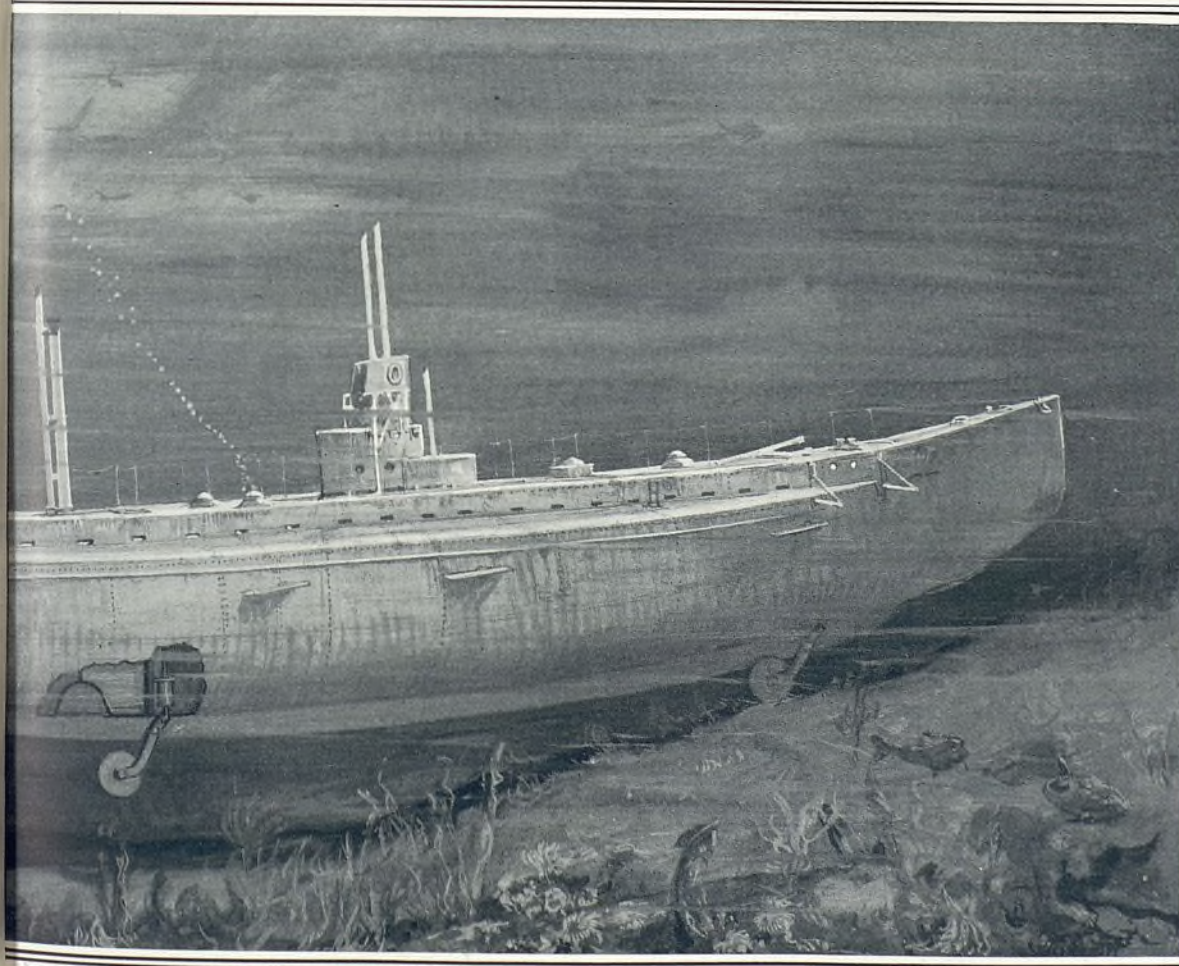
Mr. Lake, in summarising the advantages of the bottom wheels, maintains that they permit of navigation in shallower waters than is possible without them. They prevent shock to the boat when the wheels take the bottom and prevent the boat from drifting from her course when travelling on the water-bed or at rest thereon.

Bottom wheels, he further adds, prevent rebounding and broaching of the craft should the bottom be touched by them when navigating submerged. Wheeled submarines can also run on hard or soft bottoms, and permit of deliberate navigation on the bottom.

Bottom wheels give a record of distance travelled on the water-bed when a cyclometer is affixed to the wheels.

The Question of German Submarines

It has been rumoured that the German submarines have been very largely based on Lake designs. They certainly appear to have many features in common, such as the built-up superstructure, which is such a noticeable characteristic of the "U" boats.

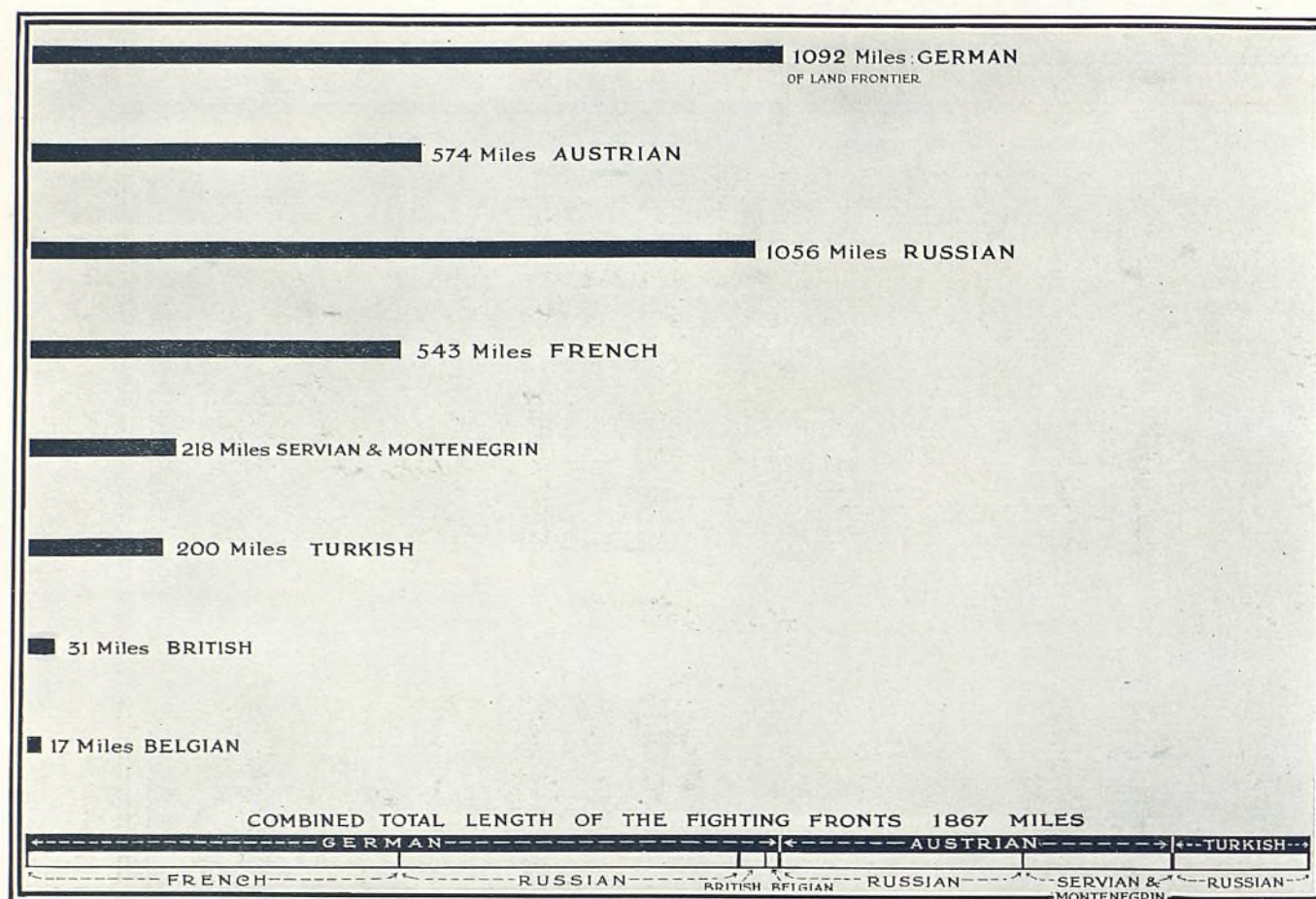


Drawn by D. Macpherson from material supplied

and the Method of Fixing the Wheels to the Keel of the Submarine

destruction or the repair of mines and cables connecting them; that it makes it possible to establish telephonic communication by submarine cables; that it permits the planting of naval defence or contact mines under circumstances denied to surface craft; that it permits the passage outboard of a diver for the purpose of destroying artificial obstructions. The value of such possibilities is, of course, evident to anyone who studies the development of the submarine's activities in the present war. In the above view a portion of the hull has been removed to show the wheel attachment. The latest submarines are considerably longer than those shown here.

BRITAIN'S PART in the WAR : *A Mileage Comparison of Our Land and Sea Operations.*



Land Fighting Lines of the Belligerents Compared in English Miles

LAND FIGHTING LINES		
GERMANS		
Western front -	-	592
Polish front -	-	500
		1,092
AUSTRIANS		
Austro-Russian front -	-	218
Servian front -	-	356
		574
RUSSIANS		
Polish and Austrian front -	-	856
FRENCH		
Western front -	-	543
SERVIAN AND MONTE-NEGRIN		
Austrian front -	-	218
TURKS		
Black Sea territory near Erzerum -	-	200
BRITISH		
Western front -	-	31
BELGIAN		
Western front -	-	17

The MEANING of BRITISH PARTICIPATION in the WAR

The diagrams given on this page have been drawn up in order to show what Britain's participation in the war means to the Allies. The various land fronts of the belligerents are given in the top diagram, and of the total mileage of 1,867 miles the British Army occupies a front of 31 miles. The Germans, it will be noticed, have the longest land front, of which part is opposed to the Russian and the remainder to the French, British, and Belgian armies. The Russians, who come next to the Germans in point of mileage, maintain contact with the enemy for 1,056 miles, and are opposed to all three nations in combination against the Allies.

In considering the 31 miles held by the British force, the nature of the country held and the character of the fighting must be considered. Along certain parts of the French line, as around Belfort and Epinal, strongly-fortified areas render the passage of the Germans almost impossible, and the task of the French is correspondingly easier. At other points, as in the Vosges and the Argonne, French and German oppose one another only at certain strategic points, and in such places there is no connected fighting line, but only a discontinuous line of small detached bodies of troops struggling for points of vantage.

With the British force, however, this is not so. Every inch of the ground is held only by the severest attack and counter-attack. The ground is quite open and exposed, and is constantly swept by artillery and machine-gun fire. Also, a short time ago the German attempt to break the oppos-

ing line was made and repulsed along the British front at Ypres, and before that the British had held, in the face of overwhelming numbers, the positions along the Aisne, where the Germans were expecting to retrieve partly the rush back from Paris. So that it will readily be conceded that the holding of this 31 miles means the holding of a storm-beaten bastion which meets the full force of the gale.

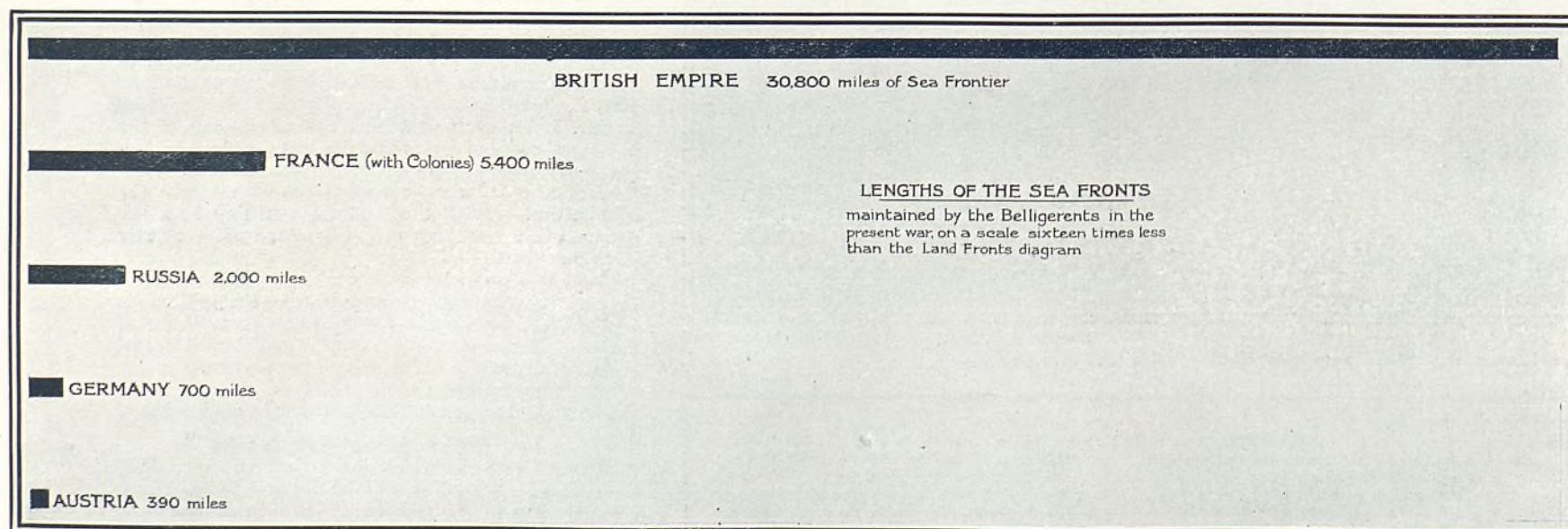
But the great value of Britain's participation is more readily seen in the lower diagram, where the lengths of the sea fronts defended by the Allies are indicated. The British fleets alone protect a sea frontier of over 30,000 miles. France, which comes next, has a total—with her colonies—of some 5,400 miles.

In order properly to visualise the great part the British Empire is playing in the present war, however, it is necessary to bear in mind that not only does the British Navy protect our own sea frontiers, but it also keeps open the great ocean trade routes by which the ships of all the friendly and neutral nations can bring the supplies necessary for their well-being.

Germany and Austria have relatively very small sea fronts to protect—700 and 390 miles respectively. The Austrian sea front is, of course, confined to the Adriatic Sea, whilst the German colonies having, since the beginning of the war, been abandoned by the German naval authorities, the sea front to be protected is correspondingly reduced.

A KEY to the DIAGRAM BELOW REPRESENTING the SEA FRONTS of the BELLIGERENTS

BRITISH EMPIRE		FRANCE	
	MILES		MILES
British Isles -	2,500	South-east France -	300
Australia -	7,250	Morocco, Tunis, and Algiers -	1,800
Canada -	6,000	Madagascar -	2,100
India and Ceylon -	3,750	Annam and Tongking -	1,200
New Zealand and Tasmania -	2,800		5,400
South Africa -	1,500	RUSSIA	
Egypt and British East Africa -	1,000	Russian Coasts in the Baltic and Black Seas -	2,000
New Guinea -	800	GERMANY	
North Borneo -	900	German Coasts in North Sea and Baltic -	700
Aden and Somaliland -	900	AUSTRIA	
Straits Settlements -	600	Austrian Adriatic Coast -	390
Solomon Islands -	500		
Fiji -	400		
Gold Coast and other territories -	1,900		
	30,800		



Sea Frontiers Defended by the Navies of the Belligerents—Shown in English Geographical Miles

THE ROLL OF HONOUR

THE FOLLOWING OFFICERS HAVE ALL DIED IN THE SERVICE OF THEIR COUNTRY, EITHER IN ACTION FROM WOUNDS, OR OTHER CAUSES DIRECTLY INCIDENTAL TO THE GREAT WAR



Capt. G. S. Browne
1st Wiltshire Regiment. Aged 24. He was adjutant of the 1st batt. and was mentioned in despatches



Lieut. M. A. A. Darby
Grenadier Guards. He received his commission in January, 1914, being promoted in November last



Lieut. Hon. G. Macdonald
Scots Guards. Aged 35 years. He was the son of Lord Macdonald and heir to the barony



Lieutenant G. D. Gordon
2nd Northamptonshire Regiment. Aged 20. He obtained his commission in January, 1914



Captain J. A. L. Campbell
Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. He saw active service during the South African War



Lieutenant D. C. Turnbull
R.A.M.C. He received his commission last December and was temporarily attached to the 1st Cheshire Regiment



2nd Lieutenant A. Gordon Irving
R.E. and R.F.C. Both he and Lieutenant Morgan were killed during a flight



Lieutenant A. E. Morgan
Royal Fusiliers and R.F.C. Aged 25. He obtained his first commission in May, 1911



2nd Lieutenant W. H. Clarke
3rd Worcestershire Regiment. The son of Lieut.-Colonel Sir Edward Clarke, Bart.



2nd Lieut. C. A. Hudson Hillier
2nd Monmouthshire Regiment. Aged 17. He obtained his commission in the regiment in September, 1914



Lieutenant R. E. Lucy
2nd Northamptonshire Regiment. Aged 21. He obtained his commission in Jan., 1913, becoming lieut. in July, 1914



Lieutenant J. MacMillan
Seaforth Highlanders. He became a lieutenant in the 4th (Ross Highland) Batt. in 1913



2nd Lieutenant A. F. Bate
Royal Dublin Fusiliers. Aged 23 years. He received his commission in August last



Lieutenant F. G. O. Curtler
2nd Worcestershire Regiment. He received his first commission in April, 1912



2nd Lieutenant F. B. Burr
3rd Worcestershire Regiment. Aged 27. He joined from the Reserve of Officers, leaving for the front last Sept.



Lieut.-Colonel G. B. McAndrew
2nd Lincolnshire Regt. Born in 1863, he served during the South African War. He was garrison adjut. at Singapore, 1892-4, and inspector of Chinese labourers in the Transvaal, 1906-7



Captain H. B. Dixon
1st Sherwood Foresters. Aged 36 years. He saw service during the South African War, obtaining the Queen's medal with five clasps. For five years he was employed with the West African F. F.



Lieutenant L. H. Ruck
1st Worcestershire Regiment. Aged 26 years. He was the only son of Colonel O. E. Ruck, R.E., and Mrs. Ruck of Aberdovey

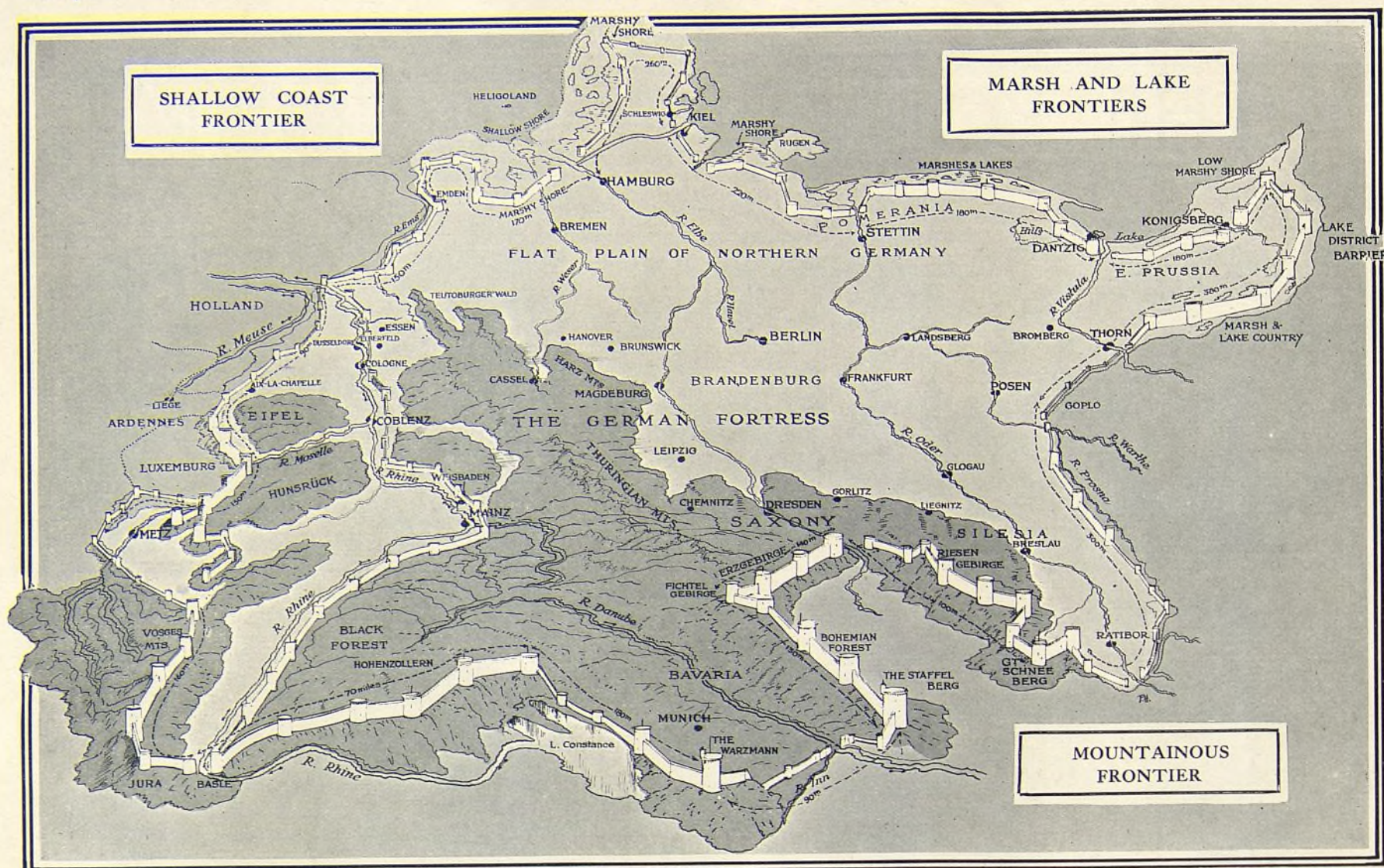


Captain H. B. Mostyn Pryce
Rifle Brigade. Born in 1881, he joined the Army in 1900. He saw active service during the South African War in 1902, for which he received the Queen's medal with four clasps



Lieut.-Colonel G. F. R. Forbes
Commanding 1st Batt., Royal Irish Regiment. Aged 48. He served on the N.-W. Frontier of India, 1897-8. From 1899-1904 he acted as adjutant of the Indian Volunteers

Pro patria mori



GERMANY AS A FORTRESS, WITH HER NATURAL DEFENCE LINES SHOWN AS FORTIFIED WALLS

In this diagrammatic view, where the natural obstacles are powerful they are shown by an increased height and size of wall. The mountainous southern half of Germany is shown by a darker tone

THE FORTRESS OF GERMANY.

A First Sketch Plan of the Natural Stronghold of Germany, which has to be Penetrated to the very Centre and Heart by the Allies

Before the Allies looms a great stronghold, the fortress of the German Empire. To the ultimate penetration of this castle all the Allies are dedicated, and as the days pass on one's thoughts centre more and more upon the problems which the scaling of this fortress will present. Nature has given it many natural barriers, some great and high-reared, others lowly, but none the less difficult of negotiation. The hand of man has sought both on east and west to perfect what Nature began. But here, in this first sketch of a great problem, we look chiefly at the *natural* barriers which form the outworks of the Teuton stronghold. For this purpose we have prepared a sketch plan showing these barriers in the form of a continuous towered wall, which rises higher where the defence is greater.

Let us take the western fortress wall first, starting at Hamburg. From that port to Emden there is a stretch of 170 miles of marshy low-lying shore guarded by very shallow water such as would keep any deep-draught Dreadnought well out to sea. From Emden to the Rhine is a stretch of 150 miles. For a considerable distance the River Ems forms a barrier, but just before the Rhine is reached there is a gap.

From the Rhine to Aix-la-Chapelle there is little in the way of natural protection on the actual frontier line, but there is the Meuse just in front and the Rhine line behind. From Aix to Metz is 130 miles, guarded by the Eifel and the Hunsrück. From Metz to the Rhine is another 150 miles, guarded partly by the Moselle, and for the rest by the heights of the Vosges.

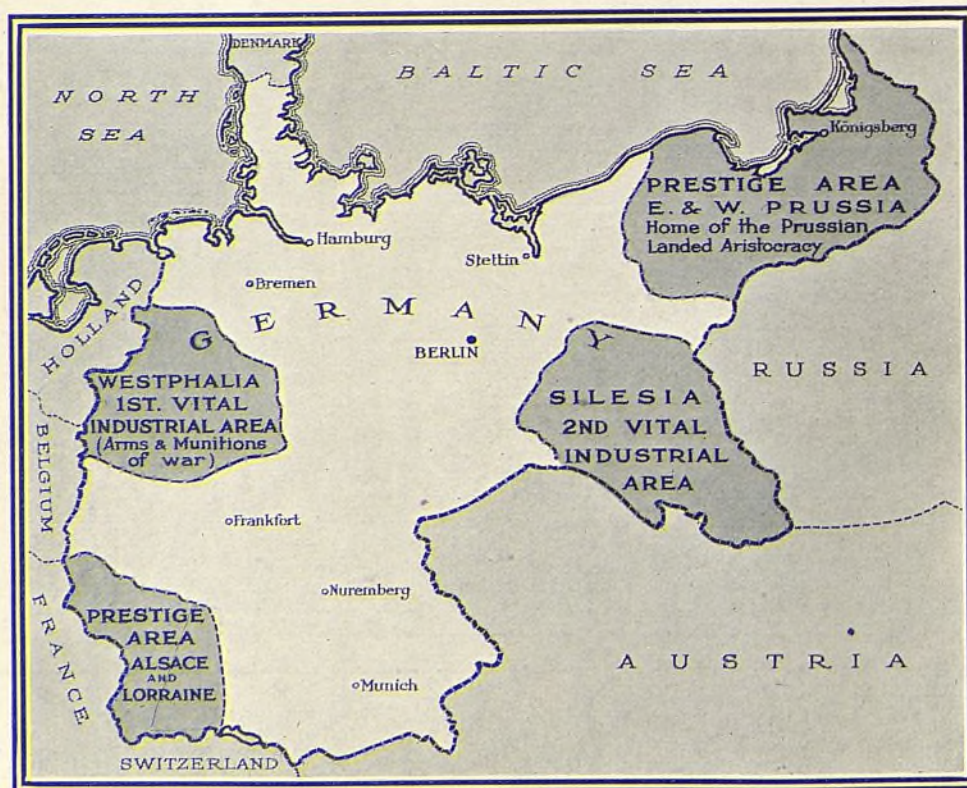
At this point we see that there extends northwards a second line of defence—that of the Rhine to beyond Essen. From Basle eastwards we pass along a very mountainous frontier line to the south of the Hohenzollern country, a distance

of 70 miles. Another 180 miles takes us to the Wurtzmann, a towering mass beyond Munich. Across the Danube stands another guardian peak, the Staffel Berg. Then for 130 miles the ridge of the Bohemian forest serves as a link with the Fichtel Gebirge. The Erz Gebirge and the Riesen Gebirge carry us round Bohemia to the Great Schnee Berg, where the mountains die away and the waters of the Oder pass northwards to Breslau and Stettin. For the next 300 miles the immediate natural defences are slight, although the Prosna and certain lakes afford some impediments to invasion. But here the line of the frontier itself proves an asset of the highest value. It prevents Russia holding the Polish frontier.

From the River Warthe there extends a long stretch of country fully 380 miles long to Memel on the Baltic. The southern portion of this line lacks natural obstacles, but as we have already pointed out in *THE SPHERE*, the political boundary here is extremely favourable to Germany and unfavourable to Russia to such an extent that the latter was compelled to deploy its troops on a line far in rear of its own Polish frontier. North of the Vistula, East Prussia would appear at first sight to be a dangerous protrusion from the main mass of Germany; it is in reality highly defended. The tangle of lakes and marshes makes the borderland of East Prussia one of the most difficult for any military commander to penetrate, as has been amply proved in the present war.

On the Baltic coast the same defences of marsh and lake extend for long stretches. In the first section of 180 miles, from Danzig past Königsberg, the low sandy shore with the number of lakes make the northern boundary of East Prussia a very difficult problem. From Danzig to Stettin is another 180 miles. Here the coast is again one long series of marshes and lakes. Leaving Pomerania, the next section of 220 miles takes us to Kiel. Shallow estuaries and marshy shores again afford protection from sea invasion. Northward from Kiel is a further stretch of 260 miles through Schleswig to the Danish frontier and south to Hamburg on both sides of this portion of the peninsula; approach by water is fraught with considerable danger.

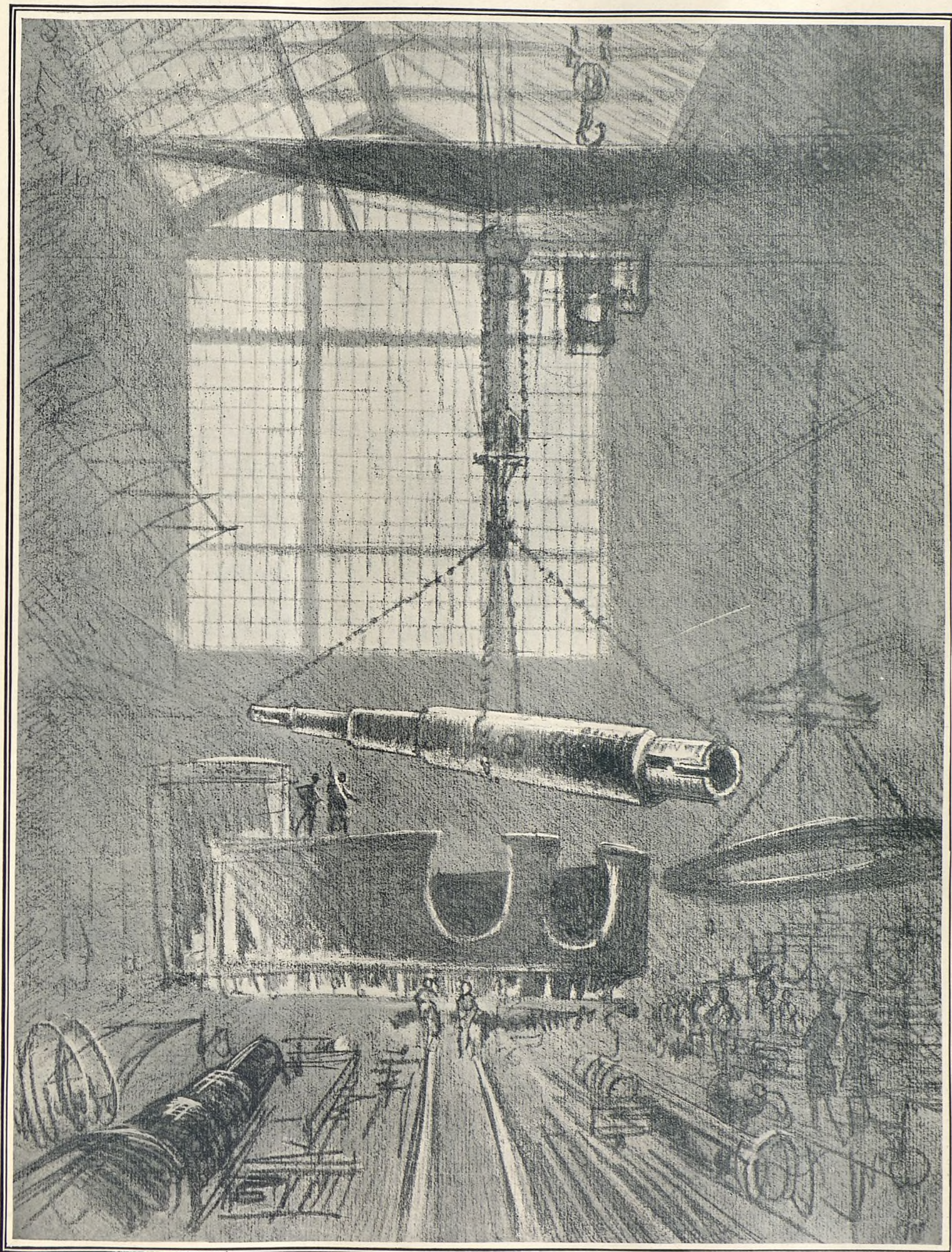
The view also shows the main characteristics of the interior of the German fortress. The great plain of Northern Germany is seen extending from the Ems river to the East Prussian frontier. Across this plain and running at right angles to any advances from the east or west run the rivers Vistula, Warthe, Oder, Havel, Elbe, Weser, and Ems.



The Strength and the Weakness of the German Fortress

Guarded by its natural ally on the south, Germany lies before us a compact and homogeneous territory. Nowhere is there any area difficult of defence. Her weakness, however, lies in the distribution of four vital districts alongside her frontiers. To north-east and south-west lie two "prestige areas," territories into which the invader must not be allowed to put his desecrating foot, and on the east and on the west are two vital industrial areas, one of which includes Essen, and other muniment-manufacturing centres liable to receive a deadly thrust at the very outset of invasion.

WHERE the "SCHÖNE BERTHA" is MADE : *The Essen Works.*



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IN THE FAMOUS KRUPP WORKS AT ESSEN

DRAWN BY JOSEPH PENNELL

Mr. Joseph Pennell, the famous American artist, was in Essen before the war, and sends us this reflection of his experience. A German-American correspondent, Mr. Roeder, has contributed to the New York "World" his impressions of the Krupp works as they are to-day, and his article has been cabled to the London "Daily Telegraph": "It is declared that the war has added 10,000 to Krupp's force of employes, that 150,000 members of families of employes at the front are being supported, and that the war has

been the means of increasing the pay of everyone. Roeder says that the guns, or mortars as they call them in Essen, of the 'Schöne Bertna' type, the 42-centimetre wonders which Krupps constructed in the greatest secrecy, are being built in plenty, and the same experts have 'succeeded in creating new engines of war more powerful and more death-dealing than any ever dreamed of by the most enthusiastic artillerymen.' How far this claim is true Mr. Roeder does not know, because he saw no tests."

A FEW DAYS AGO : A Random Chronicle. By V. V. V.

The non-military activities of Bombardier Wells have never been satisfactorily explained by any of his supporters, especially at a time when every fit man is so urgently needed that London has become one vast hoarding for recruiting appeals. And now I see that Lance-Corporal Pat O'Keefe and Bandsman Blake are matched to box for £100. Do their regiments also need them no longer? The state of mind of an ex-soldier fit enough to punch and be punched in public for gold, and proud enough of his ex-rank to advertise it, yet unwilling to rejoin the colours, passes my comprehension.

A correspondent sends me the following beautiful passage from the Russian Liturgy:—

And for those also, O Lord, the humble beasts who with us bear the burden and heat of the day, and offer their guileless lives for the well-being of their countries, we supplicate Thy tenderness of heart, for Thou hast promised to save both man and beast, and great is Thy loving-kindness, O Master, Saviour of the world. Lord, have mercy!

It is odd that there should be no mention of these friends and allies of man in our own devotional manuals. We leave their interests to the R.S.P.C.A. and Mr. Galsworthy.

Some people must still have more money than they know what to do with. Look at this feeble jest in *The Times* personal columns:—

LOST, in early part of long knitted SCARF, SEVERAL STITCHES.—Any information leading to their recovery will be greatly appreciated by Thomas Thumbler.

But is this, possibly, another message of thief or spy?

The Times, by the way, now and then tries a headline quite in the manner of its halfpenny associates. Thus, the presence of wounded soldiers

at the Horticultural Hall recently produced the caption, "War among the Roses." Here we get an allusion to two well-known phrases, "The War of the Roses" and "Love among the Ruins." The new war of the roses could be prettily typified by a fanciful artist who set an English moss rose, say, or cabbage rose and a French Gloire de Dijon or Maréchal Niel, at enmity with a Gruss an Teplitz or Frau Karl Druschki.

At the beginning of the war, by the way, there was a movement to rename these German roses. I hope that it failed. And I now read in a morning paper that "Residents of Bismarck Road, Highgate, London, are petitioning for a change in the name of the road which now commemorates the Prussian statesman." What minnows some residents can be!

From a friend in Paris who has peculiar sources of information, I gather that the condition of English prisoners in Germany is becoming very serious. French prisoners say that they and the Russians are fairly well looked after, but preferential treatment in the opposite sense to what is customary is reserved for our countrymen. An exchanged prisoner recently brought to Paris in the lining of his cap a note from an English companion who was left in captivity. It ran thus: "Send supplies and more supplies, and again; it is urgent." The authorities do not intercept food sent to German prisoners, but invariably abstract any tobacco.

I asked last week what the teetotallers were giving up. A correspondent writes: "I know at least one teetotaller who has felt very strongly that a national sacrifice should be shared, and has therefore given up coffee, both breakfast coffee and *café au lait*. No doubt this case is not exceptional. We need more of the spirit of Uriah the Hittite, who

said, 'The ark and Israel and Judah abide in the tents, and my lord Joab and the servants of my lord are encamped there in the open fields; shall I then go into mine house to eat and to drink. As thy soul liveth I will not do this thing.' Unlike David, and fortunately for England and England's cause, it is our King himself who is acting on Uriah's principle."

The best recruiting cartoon that I have yet seen is one circulated in Sussex, which represents Chichester Cathedral as it might be, half-ruined, under a German attack by air, and calls on Sussex men to join the ranks and help to crush the foe before that can happen. The principle might be extended to other counties and to London.

The late Mr. Pierpont Morgan surely never thought that the collection of eighteenth-century furniture which he brought together with so much zeal was destined so quickly to be sold to the dealers and dispersed. His avowed sentiments with regard to all his marvellous acquisitions of things of beauty were that they were intended for posterity, just as those of a humbler but far more happy collector—in that he personally sought for his treasures and did not have agents buying for him—Mr. George Salting, were. Mr. Salting's pictures are now at the National Gallery, his manuscripts at the British Museum, and his porcelain at South Kensington. Mr. Morgan's, once the delight of South Kensington too, are being distributed. It is very sad.

Who shall say that England cannot be thorough too? Of a new Carmelite story film it is boldly stated that "to secure the correct hospital atmosphere" many of the scenes were taken "in a hospital." Could realism farther go?

A LITERARY LETTER : The Decay of Humour in England.

LONDON, APRIL 26, 1915.

With a fair knowledge of the humorous literature of other countries, I do not think it would be difficult to demonstrate that in English Literature humour has reached its highest point, although some of our greatest poets, including Milton, Wordsworth, and Shelley, have entirely lacked this quality. Shakspeare's wit is frequently tiresome, especially when he was playing to the gallery with his clowns, but his humour in *Hamlet*, and a dozen other plays, is superb. The humour of Sterne, of Swift, of Defoe, of Fielding, and of Smollett all come before us to demonstrate that we have achieved greater things than any other nation in this particular. There is humour in Scotland—in Burns and Carlyle, for example; Ireland has provided the humour of Goldsmith and many another; Spain has given us the incomparable *Don Quixote*; but when all is considered it may be repeated that England is the home of the richest harvest of humour of any European country.

It is strange, therefore, that humour is so dead in large masses of our people to-day. A friend of mine, an Irish clergyman, who may be forgiven for thinking his own country the more quick-witted, tells a story of visiting a lady in Yorkshire at the time of the assassination of Lord Frederick Cavendish and Mr. Burke—the tragic episode known as the Phoenix Park murders. Incidentally his hostess talked with natural horror of the terrible "happenings," whereupon he assured her that, although he had just come from Dublin, he was not one of the murderers. She took the remark quite seriously, and followed him to the front door, and even to the garden gate, with reiterated assurances that she had not really suspected him.

This attitude for taking things literally is brought to my mind by a letter from a clergyman which I read in the *Daily Mail* a few days ago; he made the suggestion that the unhappy mothers of what are known as "war babies" should all be rewarded by large honorariums and that the fathers of such children should receive a medal. I suspected that this letter would be taken too literally, and sure enough the poor man has had to write again to the *Daily Mail* explaining that he was only attempting to condemn through the medium of sarcasm. Such sarcasm was doubtless effective when Defoe wrote *The Shortest Way with the Dissenters* or Swift proposed the slaughter of Irish babies as a settlement of the question of poverty. But it does not do to-day; the sense of humour is clearly a vanishing quantity in this country, while it may still be found in abundance in Ireland and in a certain measure in Scotland. Scotland to-day may consider itself avenged for many an English sarcasm at the expense of its humour.

A certain quality of pathos has also surely survived more strongly in Scotland and in Ireland than in our own land. Instance in the former

country the work of Sir James Barrie, and in the latter quite a number of writers of a certain distinction. The latest of these is surely Mr. Patrick MacGill, who now comes before us as Rifleman MacGill, for Mr. MacGill has become an item in Lord Kitchener's Army. Some time ago I read his novel, *The Children of the Dead End*, and now I have from him another story, *The Rat-Pit* (Herbert Jenkins). There was a poignant pathos in *The Children of the Dead End*, and the book received the success it deserved, for we are told



Rifleman Patrick MacGill

Who has joined Kitchener's Army. His two new books, just published by Herbert Jenkins (referred to in this Letter), are certain of a great success

by the publisher that 100,000 copies were called for in ten days.

An equal success should accrue to *The Rat-Pit*. This is a story of Irish potato-diggers who leave their barren land in the season and cross to Scotland to dig potatoes on Scottish farms. The *Rat-Pit* is a doss house in Glasgow, and the story told by Mr. MacGill is of a poor girl who through tragic circumstances is driven at last to terrible poverty in the slums of Glasgow. It is in his power of presenting a certain grim and horrible poverty that Mr. MacGill excels. He is not a novelist in the best sense of the word. There is no development of character. There is no inevitable sequence of circumstance. It is for its sketches of suffering poverty that we may admire *The Rat-Pit*; in its presentation of the hopeless

struggle for good such as one hopes and believes that modern legislation, and particularly the Land Act, is slowly eradicating from Ireland. Mr. MacGill has a splendid command of language, and his experiences in the great war will not be the least interesting, when they can be written, of the multitude of books that are inevitable in the future.

Meanwhile Mr. MacGill has not lost time, for we have already from him (also published by Mr. Herbert Jenkins) a little shilling volume entitled *The Amateur Army: The Experiences of a Soldier in the Making*. Here, in a lively and cheerful manner, Mr. MacGill tells how he found himself a unit of the 2nd London Irish Battalion, how he was drilled into shape at the White City, and his training concluded at St. Albans. This is a vivacious narrative full of good points and much genuine humour, as in his description of the adjutant teaching young officers to drill their men, in his account of the efforts of many English householders to avoid the billeting of soldiers upon them. Mr. MacGill points out that it is the English middle class who have most resented this inevitable phase of the war; that the poor people welcome the soldiers, and particularly the ninepence a night as billet fee. The rich, it would seem, have accepted it with equanimity. Their houses being large and their servants many, they strip a room of its furniture and resign themselves to the experience. The middle class have in a large number of cases resented the thing bitterly. Mr. MacGill has many humorous stories to tell of what has happened—humorous, that is, to everyone except the householders who have suffered.

I recently referred in *THE SPHERE* to a little book that was published a few weeks ago by Sampson Low, *The Chronicles of the Imp*, by Jeffery Farnol, to which book I was requested by the publishers to write a brief foreword. Long and friendly associations with the said publishers made the privilege offered a quite congenial task. I was not, however, informed that the book was a very early effort of Mr. Farnol's. The fact that this was the case has been made the occasion of an eloquent piece of writing by my good friend, Mr. James Douglas, who seems to be greatly perturbed in the columns of *The Star* that this story should have been published without an indication of the date at which it was written. With the ethical side of that question I have nothing to do, but I disagree very heartily with Mr. Douglas in his estimate of the story, which impressed me as a pleasant piece of writing, as much as it has apparently impressed a great many reviewers since the book was published. The story is none the worse for being one of Mr. Farnol's earliest efforts. That is a matter upon which he may be congratulated. C. K. S.

A list of books received by "The Sphere" will be found on the second page of this issue.

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Ayuntamiento de Madrid



Woman's Sphere in War Time

By Olivia



The naïveté of the 1915 fashions is such as to disarm criticism. Their charming inconsequence is beyond everything. No one cares about consistency any more.

In the realm of fashion it is the least among all the virtues. If the *tout ensemble* is becoming, one may wear an Eton collar with an Empire waistline, a very long coat with a very short skirt, a Japanese pagoda parasol with an early-Victorian toilette, a waist-coat effect that makes one look like a man in his shirt sleeves introduced into your afternoon frock, or into even your after-dinner *negligée*, and you will only be looked upon as ultra-fashionable. The more paradoxical your garments, the smarter they will be considered.

The Reign of Stripes

And with simplicity you will always find stripes. For some unexplained and unexplainable reason, stripes are to be quite a feature of the season's effects. A welcome feature, certainly, for they invariably go hand-in-hand with smartness. The most charming results may be gained by their skilful manipulation and also by allying them with a plain material. The striped muslin or voile blouse, with sheer lawn collar and cuffs, is the most correct thing in blouses at present, while linings, facings, and waistcoats are always *chic* in "something striped." Later on, when summer comes, striped washing fabrics of all sorts will be seen everywhere. There is, by the way, a wider choice than ever this year in cotton washing fabrics. The linens, too, are particularly alluring, and are to be seen in a whole range of lovely colours, a coarse quality with a mercerised finish being among the most interesting novelties.

Changes in Tennis Attire

The question of tennis attire will soon be upon us, and it seems likely that the changes which made their appearance towards the end of last summer will be found to have established themselves and that there may be even more to come. The wider skirts, too, will make for greater grace and freedom. Cotton poplin, flowered voile, and crêpon, the new materials, Tobralco and Luvisca, as well as the new soft piqués, will come in for a full share of patronage. A distinct rubicon has been crossed of late with regard to dress for the game since the passion for colour invaded its sacred domain, so long consecrated to white. It is neither likely



A Chic yet Simple Morning Suit in Covert Coating

or desirable, of course, that this will be the case to any great extent, but the little touches of colour that are now allowable on a tennis court are a decided relief to the monotony.

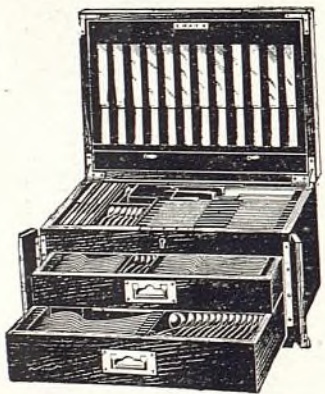
One of the latest innovations is the wearing of grey shoes and stockings instead of the traditional white with perhaps a pale-grey hat and tie. Delicate grey and white are, strangely enough, a perfectly charming mixture, giving a wonderful effect of coolness. Another welcome diversity is provided by the flowered crêpons that have been so much the vogue. A dainty tennis frock seen recently was of soft white crêpon of somewhat coarse fibre, which had the bodice and knee-deep tunic of white crêpe sprigged with flowers. This tunic bodice took the form of a coat, opening over the white frock beneath, and a wide *entre-deux* of coarse torchon was inlet all round it.

The Footgear of the Season

Bootmakers are among the people who are very busy this spring. The new ultra-short skirts make them more than ever important, for a well-cut shoe will be of as great moment as the hang of the skirt above. Paris, I am told, has gone mad on the subject of high laced boots. These are either of supple patent leather and dark blue glacé kid, or of shiny vamps and cloth or antelope tops, with moderately high heels and plenty of room for the toes. Brown boots with very high tops are also being made, and some are a mixture of black and tan, and the ankles are very supple. There is a distinct attractiveness about these tall boots, and they certainly make the feet look very small and neat. High button boots are also fashionable, but it has been determined by the powers that be that laces, either at the front or at the side, are more correct. These laces are somewhat elaborately woven and finished with short but ornamental tassels, which give the feet a great air of *chic*. The shoes of the season, however, are not to be at all ornate. Rather are we going in for an expensive quietness, therein imitating the good example of our Parisian allies, for the well-dressed Frenchwoman only wears ornamental shoes when she is *en grand tenue*, and then she seldom walks.

Coats and their Linings

One of the chief points about the new coats is the entire absence of any stiffening in their lining. To be correct the coat



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A Doctor's Advice.

... and it would be a good thing to advise people to get a larger share of body-building material from the chief kinds of fish, cheese, and skimmed milk, and simply eat less meat.

This advice was given at a food conference at the Institute of Hygiene recently by Dr. Robert Hutchinson, of the London Hospital.

The nourishing and sustaining qualities of cheese are everywhere acknowledged. Food experts strongly urge that it should be eaten in larger quantities.

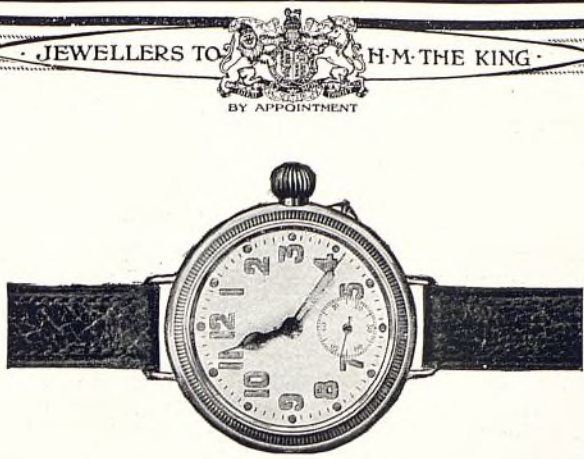
One pound of cheese contains as much nourishment as three pounds of beef, and it is superior in food value to fish and eggs.

There are, however, many people who find ordinary cheese indigestible. They should eat St. Ivel Lactic Cheese, which is very easy to digest.

St. Ivel Lactic Cheese is delicious, soft, and of a delicate creamy consistency, with the flavour of a mild, perfect cheddar.

The price has not been increased owing to the war, as in the case of most cheese.

It can be obtained from leading grocers and dairymen everywhere at the usual price of 6½d. each.



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Dressy Silk Suit (as sketch) in Chiffon Finished Silk Taffeta. Cut away Coat with belted swing back. Very full well-cut skirt.

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A morning blouse

No. S 32.—Blouse in heavy Crêpe de Chine, High Collar at back with a frill of organdi muslin, and a tie made of soft taffeta. In the following colours: Ivory, Pink, Navy, Champagne, Grey, and Black.

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The models indicated in "Fashion's Debut" for wearing with the new gowns of Maisons Cheruit, Doucet, Doeillet, and other notable Paris couturiers, are now being shown, together with a number of smart new models that are confined exclusively to us.

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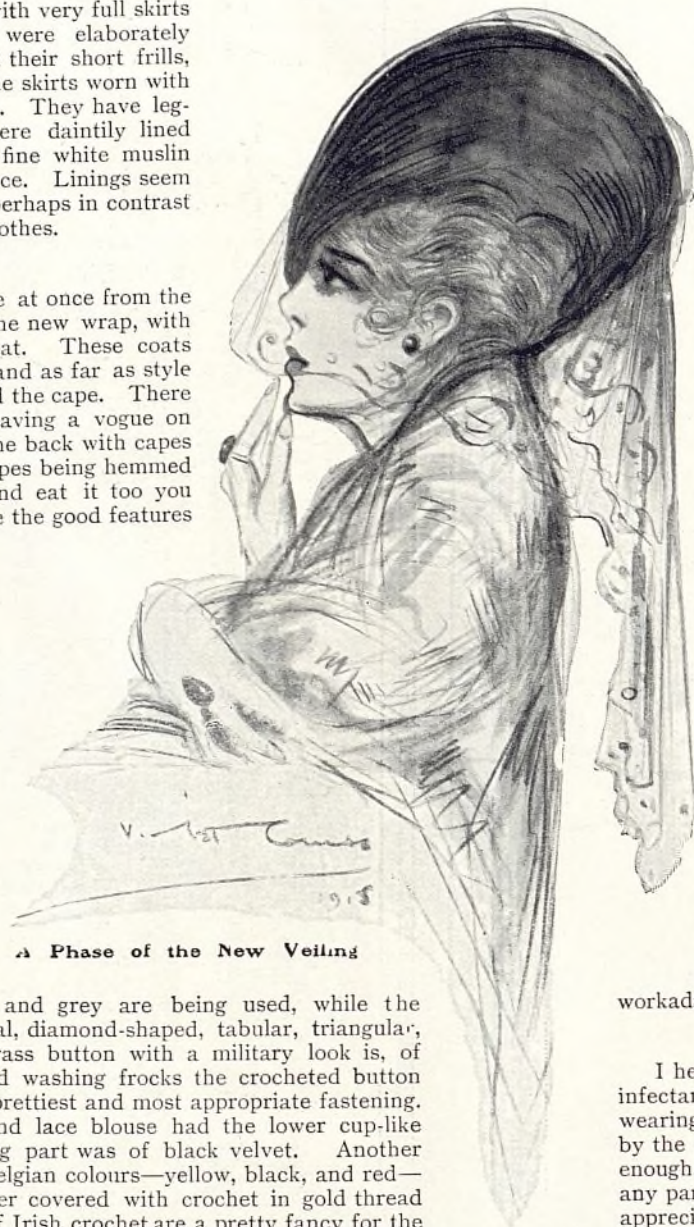
must not be or look in the least stiff however severe it may be in outline. Therefore "tailor's canvas" is having a rest, and all linings are of the softest possible quality. From Paris I hear that coats are almost as wide round the hem as the skirts. Some charming little coats newly arrived from there are made of black-and-white striped silk and destined to be worn with very full skirts of black taffeta. These abbreviated coats were elaborately trimmed with pinked-out rucheings, which edged their short frills, and have a deliciously "fussy" effect, while the skirts worn with them are quite plain or merely edged with a frill. They have leg-o'-mutton sleeves, also much befrilled, and were daintily lined with flowered muslin, and had wide collars of fine white muslin with *entre-deux* and edgings of Valenciennes lace. Linings seem more charming and more beflowered than ever, perhaps in contrast to the soberness of the outer colourings of our clothes.

The Cape Coats

Women who are too conservative to change at once from the coat to the cape are feeling their way towards the new wrap, with the compromise consummated by the cape coat. These coats with their winglike sleeves are graceful things, and as far as style goes there is little to choose between them and the cape. There is a pretty new type of this garment that is having a vogue on the Continent. It is very full and belted in at the back with capes in place of sleeves, the edges of the coat and capes being hemmed with fur. If you want to keep your cake and eat it too you can have one of the new cape-coats that combine the good features of both types of wraps. Some of these have regulation sleeves and a full body that falls in capelike folds at the back. These are easily slipped on over the light summer frock, which is in no danger of being crushed by them.

Pretty Fancies in Buttons

The description of the dainty little et ceteras of the toilet at the present moment might fill a bulky volume, and the charms of its buttons at least entitle them to a passing word. On all the new dresses and suits they figure prominently and are put to great decorative use, and it is evident that much ability and inventiveness have been employed in their designing and making. Now that we do not get so many from abroad we see with delight what native talent can do. For coats and suits large celluloid buttons in black, white, and grey are being used, while the number of their shapes is legion—octagonal, oval, diamond-shaped, tabular, triangular, pear-shaped—infinite in their variety. The brass button with a military look is, of course, a great favourite, while for blouses and washing frocks the crocheted button in every conceivable shape and design is the prettiest and most appropriate fastening. A quaint pear-shaped button for a white voile and lace blouse had the lower cup-like end crocheted in cotton, while the upper bulging part was of black velvet. Another uncommon button is a ball covered with the Belgian colours—yellow, black, and red—in crochet; while yet another was a flat counter covered with crochet in gold thread with a flower-like calyx of silver. Tudor roses of Irish crochet are a pretty fancy for the fastidious in the way of buttons, having the eternal charm of the hand-made thing.



A Phase of the New Veiling

The Care of the Complexion

The care of the complexion is ever important and ever fascinating, and every legitimate effort to attain a good natural one by natural means is most laudable, for it is woman's duty to be as beautiful as she can, provided she does not spend time and energy on that duty which ought to be spent in the greater and higher aims of life. One of the most helpful aids to facial beauty is massage; and when one is weary, and looks it, much benefit to both appearance and feelings will be found to be derived from a little massage, which may be self-effected thus: Friction the forehead gently with the tips of the fingers from temple to temple, with a rotary motion, then come down to the chin and work upwards from it to the eyes, keeping close to the sides of the nose. Come down to the chin again, each time working a little further backwards towards the ears, and repeat the gentle upward stroking until the whole face has been covered. Then, with the middle finger, work under the eyes from the nose to the corners of the eyes, always with the same soothing rotary motion upwards and outwards to the ears. This should be done every night, using a little good skin food on the fingers. The skin should first be thoroughly washed with fairly hot water and some really good super-fatted soap, and then frictioned gently for a few minutes. The difference that even this simple treatment will make to a neglected complexion is extraordinary.

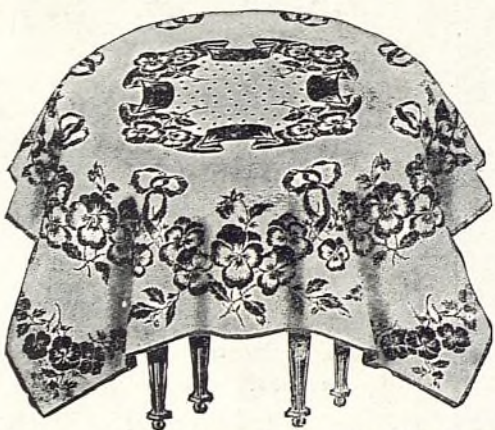
Dresses in a New Play

Soft spring colours—primrose yellows, delphinium blues, lilac, and almond-blossom pink—form the scheme of the pretty dresses in *Five Birds in a Cage* at the Haymarket. Two most delightful little hats are especially "fetching." One was of delphinium blue, almost brimless, but had a tall crown with a wide band of blue moiré ribbon wound round it and clinched at the side with a posy of wild flowers. The other was a fascinating close-fitting little affair, shading from deep wallflower to king-cup-yellow tones. Over it and over the shoulders flows a veil of brown lace, making a becoming background for the face. This is worn with a coat and skirt of brown-and-white check, the skirt hip-yoked and cut full and bell-like, and the coat fairly long and falling in flutes, with a large patch pocket at either side. A dash of brilliant colour was given by a collar of emerald-green velvet embroidered with mauve and gold. In the first act Miss Marie Hemingway wears a dainty little frock of pink-flowered ninon, triple-flounced, with an innocent wee bodice with short sleeves and a high collar of hem-stitched lawn, and a pink satin sash tied in a bow at the back. Over this is worn a quaint Chinese-blue taffeta overall with a sash, a sailor's knot bow at the throat, and two gathered pockets—a most comfortable and artistic garment, and one that might well be copied in stouter material for workaday house attire.

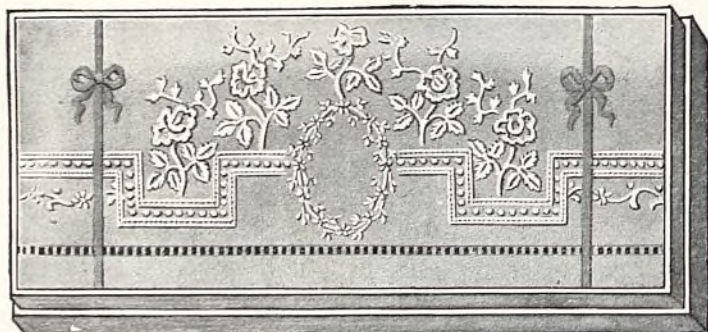
Comforts for the Troops

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SOME RECENT NOVELS of the SEASON.

Early impressions are the most lasting. The terrors of youth often haunt us when we have become middle-aged and sedate and pretend to be frightened by nothing except influenza. But I am quite sure that if most of us suddenly found ourselves in the presence of the schoolmaster who used to hammer into our brains chunks of quite unnecessary knowledge we should feel as tongue-tied and ill-at-ease as when we stood before him years ago and, in the face of his list of our misdeeds, assumed that angel-look which schoolboys always put on in the presence of their teachers. Even now as I look back upon my school-days I can never realise that the men who used to fill me with so much awe were not in reality far superior to ordinary men. I cannot imagine how they could possibly have had vices and evil thoughts and nasty habits. I cannot, indeed, imagine them being anything except men who knew the difference between right and wrong absolutely and possessed an expert knowledge of every dull thing under the sun. If I meet them when I am eighty years of age I am certain that I shall stand before them in awe. Therefore, all the time I was reading Mr. Ian Hay's gaily critical and fearless book about schoolmasters and schools, *The Lighter Side of School Life* (Foulis), I kept rubbing my mental eyes and crying to myself, "How dare he!" For this book looks upon schoolmasters as if they were ordinary folk—which every schoolboy knows they aren't—and treats of their foibles, their little vanities, their quaint stupidities, with the same bantering good humour as if he were poking fun at you and I, of whom only the pekingese stands in awe. I enjoyed the book because so much of the criticism was true, because all the humour was good and harmless, and because Mr. Hay has dared to write of things which, even at my age, I should never have the courage to write myself for fear of meeting my late housemaster face to face. One can laugh with him in this amusing "searchlight" which he throws on the headmaster's study, but one has a fearful feeling that a whacking will be the outcome of our fun. Such is the effect of early impressions. Mr. Hay's courage fills us with the same envy as does the bravery of the man who, in the middle of a dull sermon, suddenly gets up and walks out of church. One admires his act, but one would not dare imitate it. Nevertheless, it fills us with a kind of unholy glee, just as Mr. Hay's book fills us with secret delight. It is full of those things which we should have liked to say ourselves, but did not from a haunting fear that somehow or other we should be "found out." It is a book to chuckle over—like the memory of having been there when someone stood up and said, "Bosh, ma'am!" in the presence of Queen Victoria.

A Lost Memory

"Beyond the Shadows," by Joan Sutherland (Mills and Boon, 6s.), though somewhat overbrimming on the sentimental side, is an agreeable, pleasantly-written novel, one that fulfils the chief requirements of the circulating library.

Geoffrey Villiers, a tremendously popular and fascinating actor-manager, is the hero. He falls romantically and ardently in love with a beautiful and gifted actress whom he meets for the first time at the country house of a common friend.

Although they are both celebrities neither appears to have seen even so much as a photograph of the other. Marion Desmond is "superbly built, her hair clusters round a brow like a child's for smooth whiteness, and her brown eyes meet his full of as lovely a purity and tenderness as ever dwelt in a woman's soul." Geoffrey is made to match. She plays Desdemona to his Othello. During the first performance he has an accident, and a blow on his head takes away the memory of all that has happened during the past ten years of his life, which period, of course, includes his meeting with and semi-engagement to Marion. When he recovers his health, being still bereft of his memory, he meets and becomes engaged to a fascinating child, Betty Wareham, whom he eventually marries. Marion is broken-hearted. Some time after Geoffrey Villiers, playing Othello for a second time, has another accidental blow on the head—in the same place presumably—and recovers his memory. Now he too is broken hearted at having married the wrong woman, and tells Marion so.

Upon the whole the devoted little wife, Betty, is deserving of far more sympathy than the authoress appears to have given her. That Geoffrey Villiers did not marry the white-souled Marion is certainly not Betty's fault since she knew nothing of the former attachment, and being much in love with Geoffrey herself she very naturally accepted him when he proposed to her.

The problem of the story is solved by Marion directly, who most conveniently dies of pneumonia on the last page, the famous actor-manager kneeling at her side.

"Take me in your arms, Geoffrey," she said. "Geoffrey," she whispered, "Geoffrey—kiss me—," and as his lips met hers her lashes dropped—her fingers relaxed their hold."

How Geoffrey explains matters to his wife, Betty, is left to the reader's imagination, but being a person of gentlemanly manners and great nobility generally, it is to be hoped that he may try the effect of a little civility.

A Novel of Family Fetters

Whether a successful business man is bound to handicap himself socially, and indeed in all ways, by the insistent claims of a parasitic and ungracious family is a question the reader is compelled to ask himself at the conclusion of Mr. Andrew Soutar's new novel, *Charity Corner* (Cassell, 6s.). In this forcible and well-written story the problem is handled with much dexterity, but remains at the end unanswered. One can, indeed, admire the self-sacrifice and devotion of the hero, Robert MacWhinnie, while wishing him perhaps a little more of that solid common sense which is generally counted an attribute of his countrymen. Indeed, one wonders whether a man who could renounce, for the sake of his family, the woman he loved and wished to marry, and who endured the spongings and ingratitude of parents and brothers, would have had strength of character enough to enable him to become the famous and wealthy engineer of the story.

"There may be circumstances," says the author, "when

to go on living for others requires greater courage than to die for them. Perhaps the reward is greater."

This is truly put; but men capable of such self-sacrifice do not as a rule become wealthy business men.

Robert MacWhinnie of his own accord gives up without explanation the woman he loves in order to shield the good name of his sister. His mother, without knowing the true and tragic reason, approves the step.

"After a," she says, "a man wi' ambition needs on'y a housekeeper."

"At this moment he was grateful for this attitude," writes the author; "but there came a day when he realised the selfishness of it. That was long afterwards when the burden of the 'duty' that was expected of him because he had chosen to struggle above the level of the other members of the family weighed down upon him until his crushed spirit groaned beneath it."

This is probably the first time such an aspect of family devotion has been treated in fiction.

Robert MacWhinnie takes his sister Jean to China, where she dies. He then puts an obituary notice in the English papers of the death of a non-existent wife, and claims the baby girl as his own child, thus making the breach between himself and the woman to whom he had been engaged well-nigh irreparable. But Margaret Drendon is a fine and finely-drawn character, and matters resolve themselves in a way that must be discovered in the pages of Mr. Soutar's clever novel, which no one surely will regret having read.

Clever Irish Stories.

A list of fourteen short stories is the welcome bill of fare that Mrs. Dorothea Conyers lays before us at the commencement of her new volume, *A Mixed Pack* (Methuen, 6s.). Of these it is difficult to praise one more than another, so sparkling, so delightfully entertaining are they all. Several introduce Irish hunting and horse-dealing episodes, all told with verve and sprightliness, but there are others exhibiting a less buoyant mood. A little tragedy, "Escape," does not bring discord into the collection, for it is told with force and restraint. "Throosh" shows how delightful beyond all other fairy tales are those which deal with the elfin folk of Ireland. But possibly the most enthralling is the account of a certain Mr. Jones, traveller for a firm of jewel merchants. This wonderful little man, whose soul is devoted to a 6-ft. unheated greenhouse in which he strives to rear tender plants, manages to nullify the plots of a clever gang of jewel thieves time after time, and all, it would appear, without the least mental exertion on his part. If the famous diamond concealed in a ripe pear and costly ornaments hidden beneath a growing palm are a little beyond the range of credibility, Mr. Jones's adventures are none the less absorbing. The truth of one strange story, "The Moth," is vouched for in a prefatory note that gives the real name of an American railway upon which a certain weird and inexplicable event took place, and the name of the driver of a certain train that was saved from destruction by, it would almost appear, supernatural agency.

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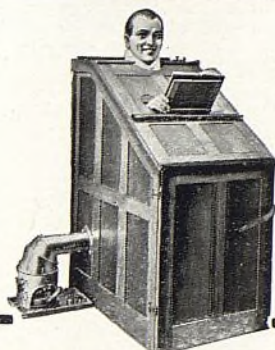
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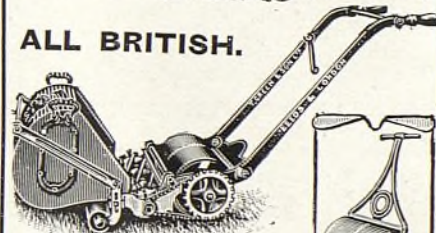
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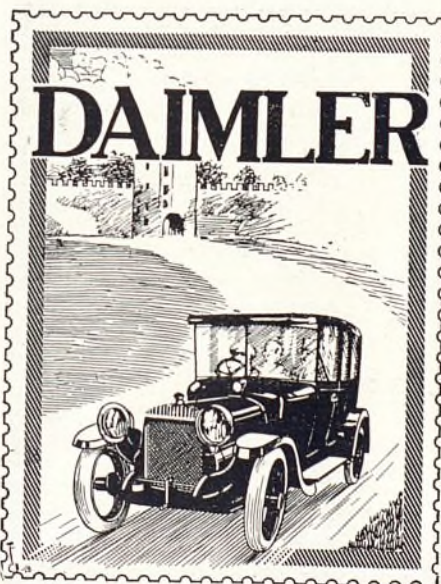
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This Insurance entitles the holder to the benefit of, and is subject to, the conditions of the "Ocean Accident and Guarantee Company, Limited, Act, 1890," Risks Nos. 2, 3, 5, and 6, when they are not incompatible with the special conditions above stated.

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Week of issue from May 1, 1915.

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Wheatley pinxit

THE DIPPING WELL: AN OLD-TIME SCENE IN HYDE PARK

James Godby sculptor

PAST AND PRESENT GEORGIAN DAYS

1789 GEORGE III ————— GEORGE V 1915

HOW THEY ARE PLEASANTLY LINKED TOGETHER

The above picture represents an interesting pastoral feature of life in the "good old days" when George the Third was King, and



By Appointment to
H.M. King George V

Pears



By Appointment to
H.M. Queen Mary

was in its first youth and patronised, as now, by Court and Society.

The animated scene is "THE DIPPING WELL" in Hyde Park, where Mothers and Nurses gathered in the morning hours to wash and bathe their infant charges in the bubbling spring well.

We have no Dipping Well in the present Georgian days, but we still have Pears, the leading Toilet Soap now, as in the old times—a soap which introduced a new era in Toilet Soaps and a new force into the Cult of Beauty.

Best for Mother and Baby too

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