# The Greatest Day of the War

## August 8th, 1918—When Victory Dawned!

By MAJOR A. CORBETT-SMITH
(Author of "The Retreat from Mons," etc.)

"August 8th, 1918, was the black day of the German Army in the history of this War."

If that clean-cut sentence of his memories General Ludendorff set down his realization of Germany's impending doom. For a little while the end might be staved off. There was still a gambler's chance of holding to fortified lines throughout the winter, of rebuilding behind them against the following spring. But in his heart of hearts Ludendorff knew that it was the beginning of the end.

### A War-Weary World

It was a day upon which the eyes of all the leaders upon both sides were opened. It was the day when Marshal Foch also saw clearly. The whole of the mighty German allied structure began to crack. Five days later the Kaiser had given instructions for peace negotiations to be opened, if possible through the Queen of the Netherlands.

How did the two sides stand on the eve of that momentous day? The whole world was war-weary. The British peoples, desperately driven by the submarine menace and the disasters of the previous March (Haig's "back to the wall" message), had swung their temper into a grim, teeth-set resolution. They stood at their most dangerous—for an enemy.

### Locked in Stalemate

But the opposing forces were locked in stalemate. Neither side was able to move towards a decision. Yet, for Britain, there were gleams of light. The enemy submarines were now being swiftly and surely hunted down. America was beginning to put her weight.

In Germany, the people had now begun definitely to lose faith in the redemption promises of their leaders. There was sullen suspicion. In the Near East things were going badly. Also there was continued serious and complicated trouble with Russia and the new Bolshevist regime. But German still clung feverishly to the hope of peace by the winter. Her [illegible]

[illegible] at the Western Front through the eyes of Marshal Foch, and you will see how he and Marshal Haig built the victory of September, 1918.

Allied attacks had always ended in a way "whereby troops were met by fresh enemy reserves." The attack went on hammering at one iron door [illegible] was so difficult to convey [illegible] the intricate machinery of communications, big guns, and all the [illegible] of modern war.

### Into the Open Again

[illegible] get movement into it," [illegible] "I shall strike at a point, [illegible] we get the iron door [illegible] in the enemy's attack at another [illegible] I shall keep the enemy for [illegible] battle surely. To will rush [illegible] to meet those attacks. I shall gradually wear down [illegible]

[illegible] months Foch had had [illegible] in mind. But he had to [illegible] for his chance. It was the [illegible] of the "tanks" which at last [illegible] the clinch. Here was the [illegible] weapon of mobility. Foch [illegible] and broke up the whole system of trench warfare. He got battle [illegible] the open again.

From the middle of July the Allied [illegible] upon these strategical lines, [illegible] to develop. We were fighting [illegible] again over the Marne and Aisne [illegible] where we had won the decisive battles of 1914.

With each day our advance became more sure. In twos and threes enemy holdings were taken. By July 24th Foch held 25,000 prisoners and 400 guns from the drive. But the enemy was still making a brilliant retreat, with many a hard and successful counter-attack. By August 6th he was holding the line of the Aisne that had been held just our years before. But the initiative now lay everywhere with the Allies. It was upon that day that Foch was created a Marshal of France.

The day, August 8th, dawned in [illegible] rain-soaked mist. The most [illegible] precautions had been taken to deceive the enemy. At 4.20 a.m. a [illegible] terrific bombardment which [illegible] the enemy gun emplacements [illegible] Bough with a great sponge. [illegible] new his Fourth Army under [illegible] Rawlinson against Prince Rupprecht. [illegible] four infantry divisions and three of cavalry against twenty German divisions. Four hundred and twenty-one British tanks swept onward; 1,955 British guns—field and "heavies"—supported the attack over a front of 20,000 yards upon the Albert—Moreuil line. Upon our right eight French divisions roughly 14,000 men—followed into action.

The surprise of the enemy was complete. So swift was the British attack, so utterly unexpected, that tanks went clean through the enemy lines and captured here a regimental officers' mess at breakfast, there the complete staff of a divisional H.Q.

### Mutiny in German Ranks

Behind pressed the infantry—English and Scots, Canadians and Australians. They crashed into the villages behind the enemy lines, seizing enemy troops as they tumbled, sleepy-eyed, from their billets. Through the village into the harvest fields beyond, Germans dropped their sickles to mount machine-guns above the upstanding grain.

"We were completely overwhelmed," Ludendorff has said. "Six or seven battle-worthy divisions were completely broken."

British cavalry actually advanced twenty-three miles and captured rolling stock far behind the lines. Trench warfare was broken at last.

But, most ominous of all for Germany, came now the first open signs of insubordination and mutiny. Retiring German troops, meeting a fresh division going gallantly into action, shouted out upon them: "Blacklegs!" and "You're prolonging the war!" Phrases like that. Not only the men, but the officers also. Little wonder that Ludendorff, looking about him and taking stock, found that thenceforward leadership must prove no more than an "irresponsible game of chance," and that "the war must be ended."

### The Avengers Unleashed

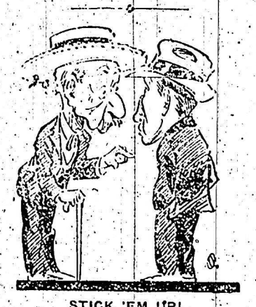
Haig, for his part, reported the capture of 13,000 prisoners, 300 to 400 guns, and vast quantities of ammunition and stores of every description.

In such fashion, then, appeared the dawn of final victory. Much stern fighting was yet to follow. But the avengers were now unleashed, and in mighty bounds they leaped forward. Once the first cracks in the German stronghold appeared the whole vast building swayed over, tottered, and crashed to its doom.

A hundred books have told the story of those last days. But, when all is said, we come back to the incontestable fact of August 8th. If it were the supreme genius and high leadership of Foch which conceived the plan of victory, it was Douglas Haig, his first lieutenant, together with the plain British soldier in the ranks, who put that plan into execution and brought it to a triumphant close.

"Victory," as Mr. John Buchan has said, "was won less by genius in the few than by faithfulness in the many."

The humor, humanity, and steadfastness of the British sailor and soldier represented the true guiding spirit of that victory.—"Answers".



STICK 'EM UP!

"I asked a man in Chicago how far it was to Michigan Boulevard."
"What did he tell you?"
"He said, 'What do you care, this is as far as you're going.'"

## Corfu Palace Sought As Rival Monte Carlo

Athens—The Greek government is considering a plan to convert the famous Achilleion of Corfu into a gambling resort, rivaling Monte Carlo.

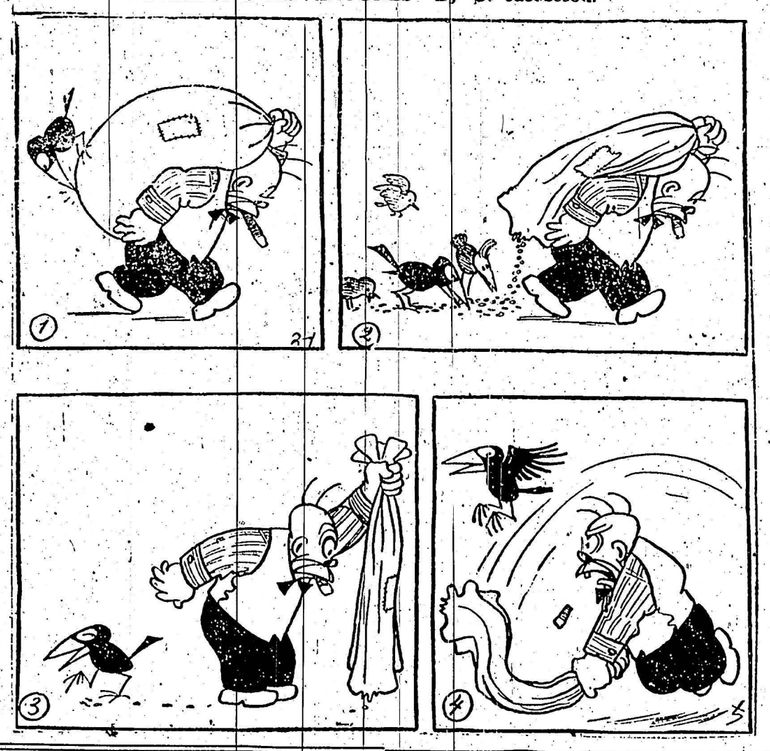
The late Empress Elizabeth of Austria built the estate and it was later sold to the chief citizen of Doorn, ex-Kaiser Wilhelm. The Greek government bought it back for $200,000, and having expended this amount, feels that the property should not be idle.

A private corporation has offered to spend $2,000,000 in developing the property in return for gambling rights. The first signs of public sentiment in Greece have indicated opposition to the project. Public gambling has recently been suppressed at two points near Athens.

## He Always Looks Pleased

"The slow driver is just as big a menace as the speed fiend, but he doesn't know it," says the Hamilton Spectator. Maybe so, maybe so. But how are we to account for the look of supreme satisfaction that radiates over the visage of the slow driver when he gazes in his rear-view mirror and sees that he is holding up a line of cars a mile long.

ADAMSON'S ADVENTURES—By O. Jacobsson.



## Bead Bags and Old Shawls

London—There is a bead bag manufactory run by French women in Paris that is a triumph of heroic enterprise. The head of the concern is Madame Breville, who with her three sisters, who help her, was left on her own resources owing to the vicissitudes of the war.

Last year they obtained the cooperation of an Englishwoman, Madame Bodet, the widow of a French officer, and through her instrumentality some of these beautiful and unique bags have found their way to England where they have been greatly appreciated by the Queen of England who has bought quite a number of them.

The sisters began by doing bead work for other firms, and then decided to start a business of their own. The metal beads used were chiefly made in France, but as there are only a limited number of factories, difficulty was experienced in getting beads in sufficient quantities and in the colors required. Nothing daunted, Madame Breville secured a loan through the French War Widows' Association, started a bead factory, and has now paid back every penny of the loan.

The success of the bags is due to their beautiful designs, for which one of the sisters is responsible. She visits the museums, Cluny, Carnavalet and the Louvre. Up at the top of the Cluny Museum there are the most beautiful laces, brocades, and embroideries, and she goes there and gets permission to use her clever pencil in making sketches. In this way she acquires all sorts of ideas which she works out in patterns.

### Many Sources Yield Designs

One of the bags which Queen Mary bought in England was called the "Toile de Jouy" bag because its design was copied from one of the famous "toiles." It is in a diaper pattern with bunches of pink and yellow roses encased in a triangular surround of gold beads.

A charming bag with a small pattern in blue and red on a steel ground was done from a bit of an old shawl, and it was finished at the bottom with a most elaborate and intricate bead fringe. Another design was taken from an old shawl, probably from India or China, that had belonged to Mme. Breville's mother. This showed red flowers and green leaves springing from black stalks on a background of gold beads.

Quite different in style were some bags with medieval designs on them. One of these in silver beads with a pattern in blue shaded from pale to dark was very effective, as was an aumoniere in black, and steel, and gold on silver.

A typical Persian design was carried out in silver beads on steel, and showed a border of gold, and then another border with a pattern in amethyst, which color was repeated in the tip of a twisted fringe of silver.

One of the lovelist designs, of shaded pink flowers in clusters with apple-green leaves on a silver ground, was copied from a piece of old brocade. Equally beautiful for color was a bag with shaded red convolulus on a wide band of silver with a border of petunia patterned with gold on either side and a gold ringe.

The gilt metal and cut-steel tops of the bags are made by an ex-soldier who started in a small way, but whose business has increased little by little until it has become a very important one.

### Variants

Besides the all-bead bags, various beaded novelties are made, a popular one being a bag of brown silk with a band of crotonne decorated with colored silk and silver ribbons and beads on a pattern of tiny roses. Another model, that is well liked for evenings, is round in shape and covered entirely with loop fringes of white beads tipped with black or color.

Attractive bead neck chains are made to match the bags, one in gold with a scattered red-rose design being very effective. One of the newest ideas is beaded shawls. An example in black crepe de chine is recorated with applique leaves in autumn shades and is edged with red beads and clusters of berries made of gold beads. Some lovely evening shoes are entirely covered with silver beads. A sleeveless jumper made entirely of bead work is the very latest idea.

## The "Destruction" of London

Brooklyn Eagle: (London was destroyed in the Royal Air Force manoeuvres recently.) Public opinion in England is not ready to accept the contention that London can be laid waste from the air. Some 9,000 bombs were dropped on London between 1914 and 1918 without appreciable effect on London life or the conduct of hostilities. . . . Paris was readily accessible from the German front, but it came through practically unscathed. It is possible to prove everything and nothing in time of peace, and for that reason it is just as well in England and America that civilians retain control of the military purse.

## Insect Pests

New York Sun: The economic entomologists, whose business is insect control, are confident of victory in the long run, but it is rather disconcerting to learn that the battle is going against them at present. Losses due to insects are said to be increasing; strangely enough, the reason assigned is the advance of civilization. Modern nations import plants and animals and their products from all parts of the world. Along with these come the insects that live upon them. Thus local pests tend to become universal.

## Britain's Surplus Workers

New York World: Several weeks ago the British Industrial Transference Board announced that there were some 200,000 workers in Great Britain for whom there were no jobs in the industries in which they had formerly worked. . . . No other nation has ever faced such a gigantic and complicated task as the British Government faces in this necessary transference of population. The workers must not only be moved but they must be provided with jobs and with a certain reserve of supplies and cash to tide them over the period of their adaptation to their new environment.

## Find No Definite Cure for Cancer

### Dr. Blackader Returns From Conference Held at Cardiff

"Canada is well equipped, and as far ahead as anyone else in the treatment of cancer and other diseases of this kind," stated Dr. A. Blackader, M.D., who returned from the Old Country, where he attended a medical conference in Cardiff. He said that a great many reports on cancer and consumption were received at the conference, but nothing was definite. The Blair-Bell "lead cure" was discussed, but was found to be only efficacious in certain forms of cancer. Other cures were discovered to be the same.

"It all comes to the same thing. We are really no further ahead now than we have been as far as cancer is concerned. What we are concentrating on at the present time is finding a preventive for the dread disease. England is looking for money for research just the same as we are in Canada, and for that matter, every other country is also seeking funds. We are waiting for some bright young man to come along who has hit on that one infinitesimal and elusive fact that will lead us to the solution. He will come along in time and then we'll be able to go ahead and improve upon what he has done."

Canada is in reality a little further ahead than most other countries in the cure of tuberculosis, but again in this case the real solution of the problem was yet awaiting discovery. The conference in Cardiff had spent much of its time discussing midwifery, a sore point at the present time due to the enormous mortality rate throughout the world. Research in this connection is also being provided for on a large scale. The past year's mortality rate among mothers has aroused the medical profession to action in the matter, and further conferences on this subject will be held.

Dr. Blackader is editor of the Canadian Medical Journal.

## Motors and National Parks

New York Times: The Canadians have "beat us to it." They have decided to keep automobiles out of Glacier National Park so that the region may not be defiled by dust, noise and gasoline fumes. Even hot-dog stands have been banned. The park is to be a sanctuary for mortals seeking peace and quiet. Had such a plan been projected by our own park service it would have been condemned as undemocratic and un-American. But the idea is sound. . . . Experience in the Yosemite Park has shown that where a small region, like the floor of the valley, is particularly popular it becomes so overrun that it is almost urbanized. The Canadian experiment deserves the serious consideration of Americans.

I am merciful with almost any one except a perjurer.—Judge Julian W. Mack.

An international expédition organized in Russia plans to explore the unknown territory of the highest mountains in that country.

## A Reverend Gentleman Roused

(By Rev. John Brown,* as quoted in the Melita (Manitoba) New Era)

You insect pests; you villain rife;
Assassins ceaseless in the strife;
Your noses pierce me like a knife,
You dread mosquitos,
On all the joys of rural life
You set your vetoes.

Respect you've none for man or beast,
When hunger calls you to a feast
You never hesitate the least,
But drive your stings
In landlord, pedlar, pauper, priest,
Or even kings.

You stewing, longleg'd, flying leaches,
What demon is't you manners teaches,
Your every nose my vitals reaches,
Through coat and vest,
I doubt if e'en my leathern breeches
Would you resist.

My very life blood you would steal,
Your bites like cankery thorns I feel;
In scratching off the skin I peel,
Plain truth to speak,
So punctured, sore from head to heel,
I swear in Greek.

E'en while asunder words I tear,
To weave them into verse with care,
Like asps your buzzing in my hair,
My beard and neck;
A 'poet's efforts, humble, rare,
You often check.

A youthful pair by love oppressed;
The holy flame beats in their breast.
What wretches to disturb their rest,
In hall or bower;
And poison what had else been blest,
Their hallowed hour.

With ruby lips and liquid eyes,
A cherub in her cradle lies,
Yet, heedless of an infant's cries
You quench your thirst.
Like bottles filled with wine you rose,
Filled like to burst.

In dreams what sights my fancy sees—
Great vampire bats and vultire fleas,
Like humming birds that flit at ease
'Mong vines and roses;
And huge inverted bumble bees,
With red hot noses.

If on the road to walk or drive,
The hum of wings is like a hive,
Devlen! There's some tart men devise
That safety brings;
In truth, I'm nearly flayed alive,
Pierced by your stings.

If on my couch to sleep I lie,
Like swarming bees you 'round me fly;
I twist, I turn, exhausted, sigh;
I groan, I yawn,
And often never close an eye
Till morning dawn.

O! would some gifted druggist wise
Some method of relief devise—
A monument of costly size
Would bear his name,
And nations, yet unborn, would rise
To spread his fame.

But, meanwhile, let each man and sire,
Each matron, maid and man on hire,
With nets and screens and smudging fire
Maintain the strife;
Nor from the battle once retire
Or vain is life.

We dread the mud, the cold, the rain,
The blizzard winds that sweep the plain;
But all of these I do maintain
Will ne'er defeat us
Equal to this horrid train
Of dread mosquitoes.

(*Rev. Mr. Brown was a pioneer missionary of Manitoba, and in the old days when his verses were written, and to which they refer, the mosquito pest was a serious handicap—whether, because there were more of the insects, or the protective measures availabl to human kind were less effective, no one can say. Let none think, at any rate, that the reverend gentleman has departed from Christian reticence without due provocation.—Ed. Winnipeg Mirror.)

## Practical Justice

Kansas City Star: Justice takes a practical turn in the decree of a California court admitting a youth to probation for three years on condition that for the period he support two children made fatherless by an automobile accident determined on trial as manslaughter. For the defendant there would be more onus in serving a prison term, but such a course would not relieve conditions that the revised decree ameliorates. One of the marked defects of punitive law is its lack of remedial influence. A defendant found guilty of criminal negligence is assessed a penalty by fine or loss of liberty, but innocent sufferers through his crime usually are without relief except in those rare instances when civil actions are maintained and reparations secured.

## King Liked Canadian Jam

By BLODWEN DAVIES

Since childhood His Majesty King George has had the good old-fashioned habit of keeping a diary. While still a boy in his teens he joined the ranks of royal authors when the journals kept by himself and his brother, the young Duke of Clarence, were published after a long tour as middies in a naval vessel.

Some years ago these diaries of His Majesty's youth played a part in clearing up some points in dispute in the annals of Annapolis Royal in Nova Scotia. As a young man, then Prince George, he and some friends left the ship to which they were attached at Halifax and journeyed inland for sport and pleasure. In addition to the prince there were in the party Captain Fraser, Detroit, Lieutenant the Hon. S. [illegible], R.N. (now A.D.C. to the King), Paymaster George A. F. C. Scales. They stayed three days in Annapolis, [illegible] what is now Hillsdale House, went fishing in nearby rivers, drove to neighboring towns and investigated the [illegible] and deserted fort, abandoned [illegible] years previously by British troops.

During their [illegible] the young officers had their [illegible] tea, English fashion, at [illegible] house. The hostess was famous for her cooking, and was notable even [illegible] among the excellent Nova Scotian housewives. And the scones she served them were without doubt the best [illegible] hands could turn out. Sixteen years later, in 1900, Lieut. [illegible] returned, as Capt. Colville, Commander [illegible] H.M.S. Crescent, accompanied by another party of naval officers. These [illegible] their way back to the same [illegible] stopping place, and Capt. [illegible] if they could get some of [illegible] kind of scones they had had [illegible]

Prince [illegible] man found his way [illegible] of the hospitable house and [illegible] impressed with the great [illegible] of preserved fruits, jams, jellies [illegible] that he told his royal [illegible] them and urged him to [illegible] with [illegible] the cellars to see [illegible] the good housekeeping [illegible] Prince George [illegible] and purposes on to [illegible] and there he was [illegible] pressed, also, by the [illegible] jars.

Many [illegible] the custom of [illegible] some in order to clear [illegible] which some [illegible] of the skins [illegible] roundness [illegible] of His Majesty [illegible] and [illegible] Situation. The King [illegible] mixed with his [illegible] of Annapolis [illegible] basin [illegible] berry [illegible] nature [illegible] than [illegible] Mr. [illegible] found [illegible] That [illegible] polls [illegible] of [illegible] liberty [illegible] received [illegible] very [illegible] to the [illegible] housed [illegible]

## British Speed Work On Final Link of World Radio Chain

### Wireless Committee Recommends Erection of Plant at Canberra, Australia

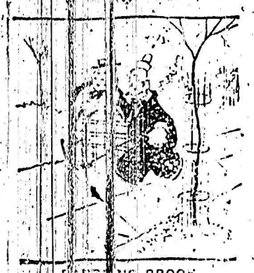
London—[illegible] the final link in a globe-[illegible] wireless chain the installation [illegible] superpower radio station at [illegible], Australia, has been recommended [illegible] the British Imperial Wireless [illegible]

The new station would have a transmitting [illegible] 5,000 miles. The nearest British [illegible] stations of similar power [illegible] Singapore and Hongkong.

The central station in the empire's network [illegible] radio stations is at Hillmorton [illegible] Rugby, England. From there [illegible] are now operated by the [illegible] of Bombay, India; Cape Town, South Africa; Montreal, Canada; and Melbourne, Australia. A short [illegible] radio service was established between Montreal and Melbourne.

Direct [illegible] service between East Africa [illegible] England has just been opened [illegible] Colony of Kenya. It is planned to [illegible] similar service to embrace [illegible] Europe and probably [illegible] nations.

British [illegible] will also penetrate the [illegible] of Africa. The British East African [illegible] Broadcasting Company, which [illegible] concession on the present [illegible] is working on the problem [illegible] developing [illegible] communication [illegible] Uganda and Tanganyika.



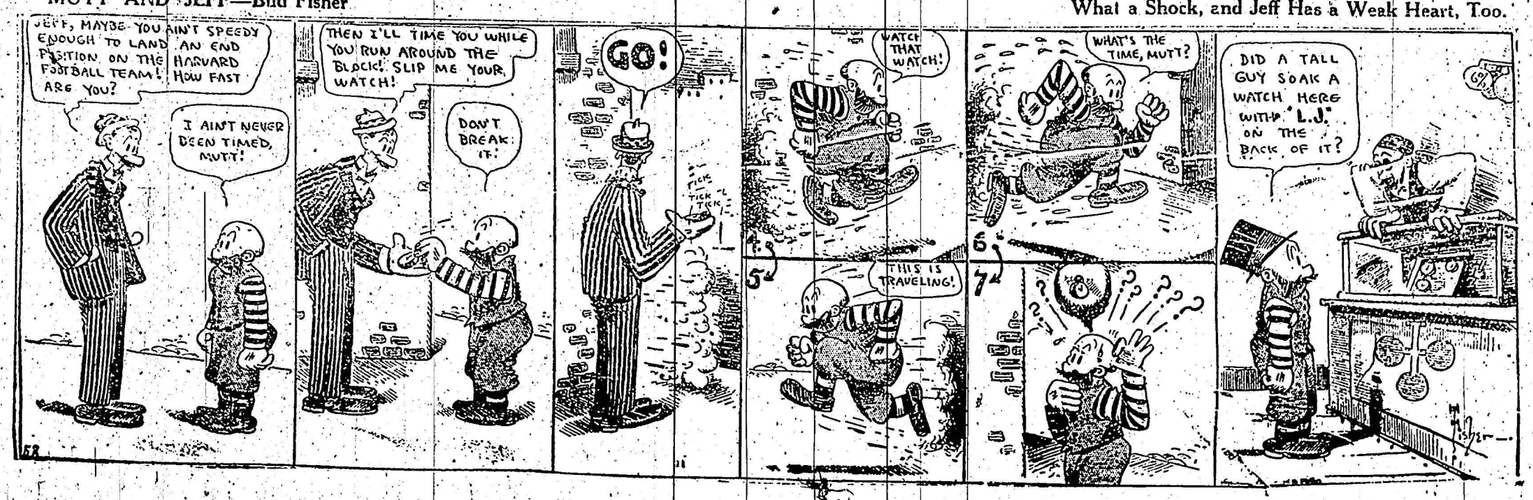
[illegible] DOES NO BROCK

"He [illegible] Does not Brock."
"I [illegible] he's [illegible] at the [illegible]

## Official Rat-Catchers Will Be Trained by London

London [illegible] particulars are to be [illegible] at the Port of London [illegible] in consequence of the recent [illegible] held [illegible] sanitary convention.

The [illegible] these ports will be required [illegible] know everything necessary to [illegible] kind of rats. For instance, he will have to be able to estimate the number of rats in a ship before he begins to fumigate, and that estimate will be checked by the number of rats found.

MUTT AND JEFF—Bud Fisher.

What a Shock, and Jeff Has a Weak Heart, Too.