

# PAGE of NEWS from OVERSEAS

## King George's Coolness While Zeppelins Hover Near Palace

Stirring Incidents at Sandringham Narrated by Dramatist-Officer—Village Schoolmaster and Rector Refused to be Disarmed King Had Splendid Body of Guardsmen

Cosmo Hamilton, the English dramatist, who is an officer in the Royal Naval Aviation Corps and was held personally responsible for the safety of King George V. at Sandringham Palace during the Zeppelin raids, gives any minute details of the life of the Emperor's head under war conditions.

"King George is a great little man, a sailor and a soldier every inch of him. There is not much connected with the navy and the army that he does not know about. When the war first started it was the magic name of Kitchener that caused the thousands in England to enlist, but to-day the men in the trenches speak with affection of 'K', which is their pet name for the King.

Real Guardsmen, These! With regard to his duties at Sandringham Palace, Mr. Hamilton said: "We left London with two 47 guns and two electric searchlights. The guard consisted of thirty-six men of the Royal Naval Aviation Corps under the command of a lieutenant as my aid. On our arrival at Sandringham we found a detachment of 250 Grenadier Guards commanded by Major Gilbert Hamilton, with Lord Stanley, son of the Earl of Derby. The guns were placed in position with the searchlights nearby on motor trucks. As the guards had been billeted in the village a mile from the palace gate, among the thirty-six men in my detail I had fifteen baronets, who owned town and country houses with yachts and motor cars, two well known surgeons from Harley Street, a clergyman who was the son of a Bishop, a professor of history at Oxford University, two painters, three architects, four lawyers, two young bankers, and the remainder were merchants and insurance and shipping brokers.

On the night of the first raid, the King During First Raid

### HEIGHT OF SOLDIERS

Does Modern Warfare Demand Size?—Height of New Armies

Whether the tall man is any better soldier than the short one was the question discussed by Dr. M. S. Pembrey, lecturer in Guy's Hospital, London. The question is a pertinent one, for many short men are giving up their positions and applying for service in the British army, and if there is any disadvantage in an army so constituted, the authorities ought to know it. There has always existed a popular admiration of the tall military man, and when his height is exaggerated by means of the great bearskin cap of the grenadiers, the people on the street, from the archway up, are struck by the magnificence of the display.

There probably was a time when size, if it carried proportionate muscular ability, was an advantage. When the knights in armor engaged in personal strife and the best man left his antagonists on the ground, brawn had unquestionably important standing. In intervening times with battles at comparatively long range and military movements much after the fashion of the chessboard, reliance has been placed in macketry and cannonade from a distance. Here the mathematician will figure that the little man exposes less surface, or rather cross-section, to the fire of the enemy, and in consequence has the chance of being less easily disabled.

To-day men have gone back into armor, they are using catapults and hand grenades at short range, they lie in trenches but little distant from those of the enemy and they are again infusing the personal element into the fight. The question is a fair one, whether little men may not be an advantage in warfare of this kind. Dr. Pembrey's discussion is fundamental. It takes up the official view which is establishing a minimum of height for the soldier reflects public opinion. "In times of peace," he says, "height is a recognized standard for recruits, and those men will agree that the tall soldier is more imposing, details and dignified than the short one."

There is the implication that the short man may be more turbulent and a better fighter, but the general considerations are those of expediency and incidentally some figures of height and some of the factors to

### MOTLEY ENGLISH UNIT

A private in the British expeditionary force, writing from the Gallipoli Peninsula, told some remarkable facts about his companions. Of his platoon not one had ever been a soldier. The members included: A London solicitor, half a dozen van men, several railwaymen, two commercial travelers, the "boots" of a London hotel, a policeman, a bookbinder, two show assistants, a barman, a taxicab driver, and an Oxford undergraduate. "What a crowd!" he says. "But they fought like devils, and a Turkish officer who was taken prisoner said it was the first fight he had been in, though he had helped defend and retake Haricot three times."

### RUSSIA'S BRITISH HERO

Frail English Lad Rises in Czar's Army From Ranks

Writing from Petrograd, the special correspondent of the London Times said: "While the British public is applauding the deeds of daring and fortitude that its sons have been performing in all quarters of the globe during the war, it should be of interest to them to know that one modest boy of English blood has risen to holding in the Russian army the traditions of the service. John Wilton, a frail boy of seventeen, secured, by special permission of the Czar, the right to serve in the ranks of one of the famous regiments of the Petrograd Guards. For six months he took part in practically every big battle in which the famous corps was engaged and these battles were practically continuous. He was with the party of scouts which penetrated to the nearest point to Creacow and was at one time within eight miles of the city.

Young Wilton's record was such that after six months of service he was promoted and became an ensign strictly on the basis of merit. He is a nature that his activities came repeatedly to the attention of the commanding officer of his regiment. At the end of five months he was in command of the mounted scouts of the regiment and since becoming an officer he has twice been recommended for decorations for services in the field. His latest feat was the withdrawing from under a heavy fire, of his command of scouts, which had been ambushed by a squadron of German cavalry. The young Englishman conducted this operation so skillfully that he extricated his command with the loss of only one man. He has become an ambassador of the young Englishman rising from the ranks has caused much favorable comment among Russian officers.

### IMMUNE FROM ARREST

Ambassadors Cannot Ever be Sued For Debts

The behavior of Messrs. Dumba and Bernstorff in the United States would have been bad enough if they were ordinary foreign visitors to the States, but because of their conduct became doubly reprehensible, for an Ambassador is always on his honor. No Ambassador, for example, can be arrested or sued for debt. However much he may get credit or even defraud a tradesman, he cannot be prosecuted. It is the same with an Ambassador's wife. The wife of a Spanish Ambassador at Turin once had her goods seized by a creditor; whereupon Spain at once demanded the most profuse and abject apologies from the Italian Government.

### HOW ITALY HEATS FOOD

A hot meal is one of the best tonics after a long day in the trenches. With the excellent system of field kitchens used by all the armies there is not very great difficulty in giving the soldiers a hot meal once every twenty-four hours. But a very different method of getting hot food to the soldiers has to be used on the Austro-Italian front. There the fighting often takes place several thousand feet above the sea level, and the only roads are narrow mountain passes which it would be impossible for a field kitchen to traverse. Twice a day hot soup, meat, or other food is carried on the backs of mules in special cooking cases, holding enough for a ration each for twenty-five men. These are hung from a aluminum with a circular opening, tightly closed by a screw plug. Each pan is kept in a case lined with cork and cotton waste which act as non-conductors of heat, keeping the food boiling hot for at least twelve hours.

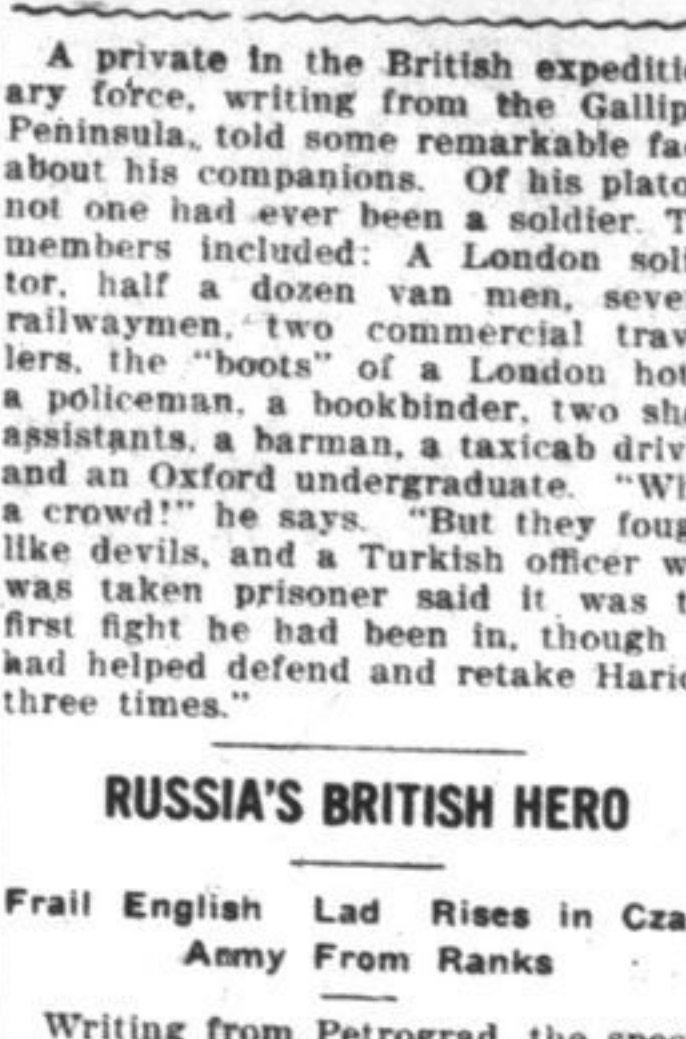
### German Snipers Allowed to Wear Special Yellow and Blue Tassel

Their Caps to Show their Superiority in Shooting.

A placard outside the Navy Recruiting Office in London says: "Come inside and be measured or a nice navy suit from."

Sir Edward Holden, the British banker, started as an ordinary clerk in the Manchester and County Bank.

### THE PATIENT



"And did the shell burst?" "No, mum, it crawled up behind me when I wasn't looking—an' just bit me like, in the leg!"—From the Bystander.

## BRITAIN'S BENEFITS; WHY INDIA IS LOYAL

Tribute of a Hindoo Member of Parliament—A Romance of Modern History—An Empire Protected and Educated.

Just one member of the British Parliament is an Indian. He is Sir Krishna Gupta, M.P., who, as the following article indicates, has a frank appreciation of the benefits of British rule in India. The substantial benefits that have accrued to India from the British connection are incalculable. The history of that connection is indeed a romance, writes Sir Krishna. Till the close of the fifteenth century Europe had little direct intercourse with India, though from earliest times a considerable trade in rich Indian fabrics and precious stones had been carried on overland and reports of Indian wealth had long powerfully attracted the imagination of the nations of the west. It was in quest of a direct route to India that Columbus discovered America, and the archipelago where he first landed is still called the West Indies.

### FOUND LABRADOR INSTEAD

The earliest English attempts to reach India were made by the Norsemen. Passage and led to the discovery of Labrador, Newfoundland and North Canada generally. The first English East India Company was formed in 1600 under a charter granted by Queen Elizabeth, and it was not till after years of severe struggle, first with the Dutch and then with the French, that the English obtained a firm footing in India.

### RUSSIA'S REVOLUTION

Nicholas is Regarded as New Liberator—A Happy People

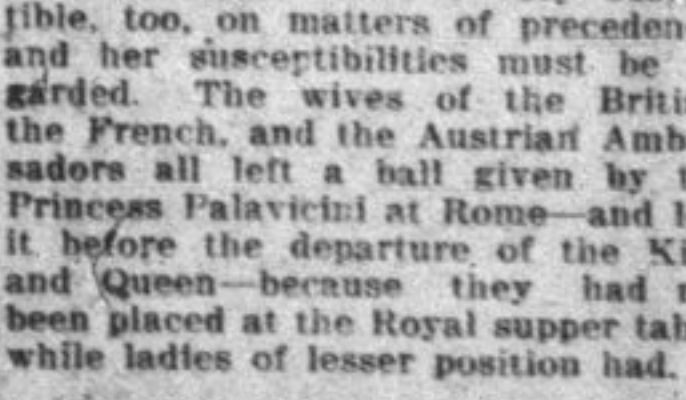
Professor J. V. Simpson, D.Sc., writes in the British Weekly: "One hundred million rubles per month would be spent in vodka, to say it remains in the economy of peasant life. On all hands the people demand that it shall be banished for ever. There has indeed been a revolution in Russia; you see it in the people's faces. It is the most outstanding feature to anyone who has known Russia before and after the outbreak of war. And it was the act of one man who knew his people. They speak of Alexander II. as the Liberator because he brought about the emancipation of the serfs. But there was a far deeper and larger sense should the title belong to Nicholas II. for while the former liberated a class, the latter has freed a nation.

### IS MACKENZIE SCOTCH?

They will have it in the north of Scotland that von Mackensen, the Kaiser's famous general, is of Scottish descent. First, it was said that his ancestor was a Mackenzie from the Highlands. Now his ancestry is much more plausibly traced to a family named Mackieson, who held lands at Invergurie in Aberdeen. There is authentic evidence that a member of the family settled as a merchant at Kulm, in what is now Russian Poland, and the transition from Mackieson to Mackensen is an easy one. At that period, and later, large numbers of Scottish merchants went to Poland, and many of them never came back to their native country.

### "BUBBLES"

From Pall Mall Gazette, London



The grapes on the famous vine at Hampton Court, London, are all to be given to wounded soldiers this year.

## SECOND FAREWELL TO SOLDIERS IS WORST

London Stations Witness Countless Affecting Scenes When Relatives Let Tommies Return to Trenches After Short Leave at Home.

One of the most unusual features of the unusual war is the system by which officers and men are permitted to come for brief holidays in Flanders. It has been found that four or five days' release from the terrific nerve strain of the present system of fighting with its tremendous and continuous noise is invaluable and does much to maintain the morale of the men. Yet if one goes to the Victoria Station in London, when officers and enlisted men board the train every night to go back to the front, one may wonder if the agony of parting does not outweigh all the advantages of the short stay at home. For to those who go and those who stay behind the wrench is far harder than the first at the beginning of the war. Then there was novelty and excitement. The soldiers left amid a crowd of cheering comrades. The women hoped they would soon return. Now both know exactly what is before them. They have no illusions. They know the worst, but they face it.

In the scene itself on its setting there is nothing unusual. One must look closely to understand it all and learn its heroism. Those men are going deliberately and calmly to face hardship and peril, and their womenfolk and children, as they bid them farewell, are hiding dread with a smile. Most fortunate, indeed, are those with none to see them go. With rifles slung over their shoulders and packs on their backs, little groups of enlisted men stride steadily along the platform. One might be a shooting expedition on the moors for which they are bound, and they greet their comrades in the train with the air of school boys after a holiday.

### ALL CLASSES AND CLIMES

The other groups, the little gatherings of relatives and friends, clustering around a khaki-clad figure, tell the tale of misery. Strangely diverse they are, drawn from all classes and all parts of the British Empire. The scrub woman of Whitechapel, the Anglo-Indian general from Pall Mall, the young wife from the prairies of the Canadian Northwest, have met for a moment, because some one they love is going.

### THE LAST MOMENTS

The train began to fill up and the crowd on the platform closed in on the doors. Here and there a woman was crying and sometimes it was hard to get a little tot to let his father go, but generally, the self-control was wonderful. The rough criticisms of an irrepressible Tommy could still raise a laugh and the very depth of the crowd's feelings kept it still. The family groups were already broken, the wife was separated from her husband, the little girl from her father and the old couple were bereft of their son. The whistle sounded and the train began to move. Last kisses were thrown through the windows and some of the wilder girls tried to run down the platform. A cheer went up, but it was half-hearted in its ebullience and eyes grew dim as the carriages gathered speed.

### "Adjectivitis" Afflicts Our War Correspondents

Horrible Modern Epidemic of Words Causes Much Fun—Every Staff Must Be "Brilliant"—Perils of the Younger Writers.

We have come to the conclusion that the main trouble with most of our young writers is inflammation of sundry parts of speech—the adjective—and in this disorder we have ventured to attach the name "adjectivitis." In aggravated cases the patient is unable to use a noun without burdening it with a qualification. As thus: "She walked across the richly furnished room, pulled aside the heavy curtain and gazed out into the darkening landscape." Hear we see every substantive neatly fitted with its adjective, every one of which is entirely superfluous. We are chiefly concerned to know what, in the evident crisis, the young woman did. It is unkind to arrest her in her walk in order to call our attention to the facts that the room was richly furnished and the curtains were heavy. Some of these cases are chronic, and the sufferer can use nothing but adjectives which have so long been joined together with some noun that no man can put them asunder. In these cases evening clothes are always immaculate, thus, are dull and sickening, waltzes are dreamy, reports (of firearms) are sharp.

### Kipling is Blamed

The present war has been responsible for a violent outbreak of adjectivitis among correspondents and descriptive writers, not to mention experts and the constructors of leading articles. Some thousands of times has the battle line in Flanders been labelled as "far flung." (I thank thee not, Kipling, for teaching our young writers that word.) Any activity shown in entrenching or fortifying is pretty certain to be "feverish." A retirement by the allies is "stubborn"; by the enemy it is "sullen." And let us not forget the general is always attested by a "brilliant" staff.

### There is a Curious Discrimination

between a feat of arms on sea and on land. On land it is "heroic," at sea "daring." If any correspondent uses the word "heroic" in connection with a sea affair or "daring" to qualify a feat of arms on land, it is safe to put him down as blundering novice who does not know his business. But it is the maddening repetition of "far flung" that offends us most.

### Sad is the Prospect

We are not hostile to the adjective as such. In fact, we look upon it as a precious word, which in an immortal passage he pronounced "an immortal passage used moderately." Strict moderation in the use of adjectives should be the first lesson impressed upon all young writers. There is no habit more infectious than that of using adjectives when there is no need. It grows upon the victim till he writes himself into an acute attack of adjectivitis, and can no more do without the qualifying words than the dope fiend can do without his syringes or the alcoholic without his bottle. Little by little he sinks into a state when he can no longer control the flow of adjectives, when he dribbles them continuously in an unbroken stream. Then the proprietors of the fiction mill pounce upon him, bristling with contracts and fountain pens and checks on account. Before the wretched creature has realized the seriousness of his position he finds he has signed to write a cheerful fruit when a year for the next quarter of a century. Young writers, take warning!—London Globe.

### Kitchener's Prophecy

Lord Escher has revealed a forecast by Lord Kitchener at the opening of the war: "The Germans may go to Paris, but this is not the war of 1870. It must be fought to a long finish. If the German get to Paris, the French armies will retreat with them, and two years hence we, Great Britain, shall throw the last million men into the scale and win the war. That should be placed on record as the forecast of the man who prepared for the worst and was sure of the best.

London is seven hundred and forty miles from Berlin by rail route.