

FIVE O'CLOCK TEA FOR FIGHTING MEN

That is One of Miss Boulnois' Innovations in Making "Homes" for Allied Soldiers.

(Philadelphia Bulletin.)

Wherever Miss Helen M. Boulnois goes, the British Tommy can be reasonably sure of finding a "bit of home."

It won't be "home" in the sense of armchairs and slippers, of course. It will be just a rough recreation hut, fitted out with the things which spell HOME in capitals for the man in the trenches—a cat, a piano, a cup of five o'clock tea and a writing table.

For while other women roll bandages, Miss Boulnois, working in conjunction with the English Young Men's Christian Association and the Church Army, is laboring to keep social amenities alive for the fighting man.

Since the beginning of the war, when she was visiting at Edinburgh, Scotland, and found 6,000 men drifting loose because the one social club for soldiers was closed, Miss Boulnois has devoted herself to this phase of work. She finds "Tommy the finest gentleman in the world," she says, and having given the Englishman his due, she pays the highest tribute of all to the Frenchmen.

"What they have suffered!" she exclaimed. "In the portions of France occupied by German soldiers a woman is fined her entire income if she receives a letter from her husband at the front. The French soldiers dare not write, because one letter would mean virtual starvation for their wives and children."

"The offensive which Von Hindenburg said would prove that France was down, has strengthened the nation instead of breaking it. The physique of the soldiers has been improved by the outdoor life. The men spend six or eight days on scanty rations and show no ill effects."

Miss Boulnois arrived in America a few weeks ago and will spend the next two months "thanking Americans for their generous assistance to my beloved France."

"If it were not for the splendid work of individuals in the ambulance hospitals, American prestige would be completely lost abroad," she stated. "Our English shopkeepers, who love their ease, our commercial travelers and all others left their arm-chairs to fight for Belgium. And your President would not even write a note."

"Atrocities? Well, I can only say that no Frenchman ever tells a woman what he saw in those first days of the German invasion. Things are better now."

A SOUTHAMPTON BOY WRITES FROM LONDON

Gunner Dunham Tells of a Holiday Trip to the World's Largest City—Saw a German Zeppelin Brought Down—Street Cars and Buses Have Lady Conductors.

Mrs. Alex. Corey, of Upper Queensbury, is in receipt of the following letter from her son, Gunner F. A. Dunham, who is with the 58th Battery, now in England.

Saturday, Sept. 30, 1916.

Dear Mother,—We are now in the big city of London, and a big city it is. Arrived last night about 8 o'clock on a six day's pass. We are staying at the Peel House and it is some big club, just for soldiers, and the way they treat a Canadian is no ways slow. We are going on a big motor ride in about an hour. It is got up just for soldiers, so I guess we shall have a pretty good time.

There are 90 here out of our battery, and two officers, so there are not many left.

The Sights of London.

Sunday, Oct. 1.—We did not get back to the hotel until 6 o'clock last night. I can't begin to tell you all I have seen. First of all nine teams came for us, wagons holding 30 each. We were at Westminster Abbey, Parliament buildings, Tower of London, Buckingham Palace. We saw the crown jewels, King George's crown, Queen Victoria's monument and London bridge.

We then went to St. Paul's Cathedral. We were up to the top of the tower, 365 feet. I thought we would never get to the top. After we left there we drove a mile and stopped for dinner at a large restaurant. After dinner we went through all the parks. They were fine. We also went to the King's stables and saw sights I never expected to see. The straw for bedding for the horses is all braided, not a straw lying loose.

We are going out this morning to Westminster Abbey for divine service and then to band concert given by the King's band. We were out for a walk last night, and believe me, had some job to keep from getting lost.

A Zeppelin Raid.

Oct. 4.—We are still in London, having a swell time, but are going back to camp tomorrow.

There has been another Zeppelin raid here since I wrote last. They captured one of the machines. It fell in a field here, but I didn't go out to see it. I saw it falling at a distance—it was a very pretty sight. Was all in flames and when it struck the ground it lit up everything. There was one fellow found who was supposed to have jumped from the machine. They said the place where he struck was just the shape of a man; you could even see the prints of his fingers. The place where his head struck was six inches deep. He sure must have fallen some distance and with some force.

Slackers Rounded Up.

While I was down the street I saw a bunch of fellows at a recruiting meeting who had been called to the colors. They were a sorry looking lot. I would never want to go that way. But there are not many young men in London now. On all the street cars and buses they have lady conductors, and even ladies driving delivery wagons and autos. The women seem to do most of the work.

I heard the best band in the world, a band that came from France. They were in Green Park. I saw by the papers that over seven thousand people were there. I never was in such a mob before.

Your loving son, FRANK.

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Dutch "Not-in-it" Policy Costs \$172,000,000 for First Two Years.

The Hague, Nov. 12.—The first two years of the European war cost the Dutch Treasury \$173,400,000, according to figures just issued by the Ministry of Finance. If things continue as at present the national debt will have increased by \$280,000,000 by the end of 1917, or by about half the entire figure at which it stood before the war.

The war crisis, with the retention of an army of over a quarter of a million on a war footing, has so far cost Holland \$8,000,000 a month. An expert estimates that to ensure an adequate food supply for the people at moderate prices will raise the present food expenditure to \$40,000,000 a year. If that proves to be the case, and assuming that the mobilized army is kept up to its present strength, the expenditure in coming months will rise to \$10,000,000 monthly.

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Cylinders filled with oil serve as a brake in a new life preserver of Danish invention that is intended to drop a person seated in a belt from a burning building.

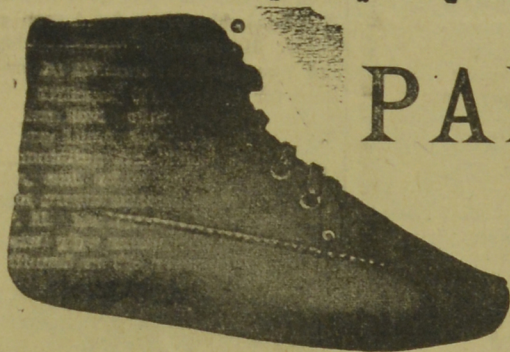
A machine invented by a Maine man digs potatoes, frees them from vines and earth and pours them into bags or barrels as it is driven over a field.

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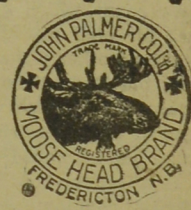
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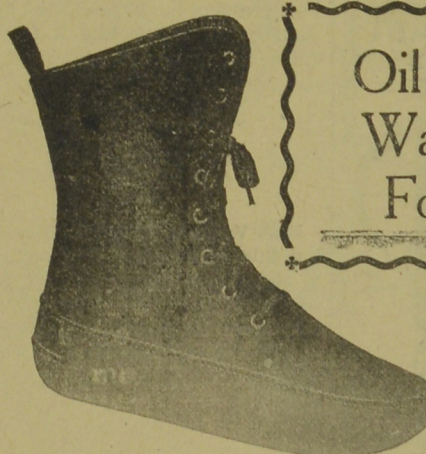
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