

The Conning Tower

EVERYTHING BUT GASOLENE

My desk is wholly clear of work;
The typist's remington is still;
The office-boy is fast asleep;
The Boss is in Chicago, Ill.;
And all the place is like a kirk.

The signs are right, beyond a doubt:
I ought to write, with febrile ink,
Of something palpitant and deep—
But, cuss the luck, I cannot think
Of anything to write about!

R. W. H. L.

What happens at a meeting between husband and wife, and what is said, are interesting things, though none of the reading public's business. And it is a thoroughly kind act of all husbands and wives—this "I" is based on reading about the meeting between the Le Ducs—to allow the reporters to witness such meetings, so that the public may learn, word for word, just how it was.

A week from to-day this column will be written and edited by Columbia Jester, which delightful periodical annually makes it easy for us to see the first game of the w. s.

LINES ON ENTERING THE WAR ZONE

As I board the boat for Europe, for to visit my Jeannette,
Who has been away a twelvemonth, more or less,
I am wondering whether she's the kind that ever can forget
That I used to run a column in The Press.

Boatside, Saturday. SMEED.

Overheard on Fifth Avenue bus: "Sh!" "What?" "Don't talk so loud." "Why not?" "Some of them ree-porters might hear you an' put it in The Tribune."

"I ask you," the President asks us—and you, too, for the matter of that—"if you take up the morning paper now with any degree of nervousness." Take up? No. Make up? Yes.

Gotham Gleanings

- ***Gus Hutaf is going to play tennis next Tues. a. m.
- ***Bob Wildhack passed through Gotham Friday afternoon.
- ***Jim Crowder of the Inland Printer was a Friday caller.
- ***C. Gus Riegelman is over-Sundaying in Lakeville, Conn. and environs.
- ***Ye scribner spent the wk. end at Charlie Beck's Beach Haven estate.
- ***Herb Jones will leave next wk. for a visit to George Ade at Brook Ind.
- ***Looks like we would have to go to Boston again to see another world series. Also to Philadelphia, hey Robbie.
- ***Last yr. Ring Lardner give us our choice on betting, so we picked the Phillies to beat the Red Sox. Give us our choice this yr. Ring is all we ask.
- ***Percy Hammond the famed critic though an actress who saw him once said "Oh, that one so gross should write of Art!" was a pleasant caller Thurs.
- ***J. Deems Taylor of here left for Europe yesterday to be gone until Dec. 1. Deems will write pieces while there for The Tribune Sunday Magazine.

VACATION DAYS.

X.

CAPE ELIZABETH.

Most perfect of all days, the last one,
Pure and fair on the blue waters!
Like children we played over the rocks,
Daring the surprise of the dashing spray,
Counting the circled jelly-fish,
Rivalling each other in our search for shells.

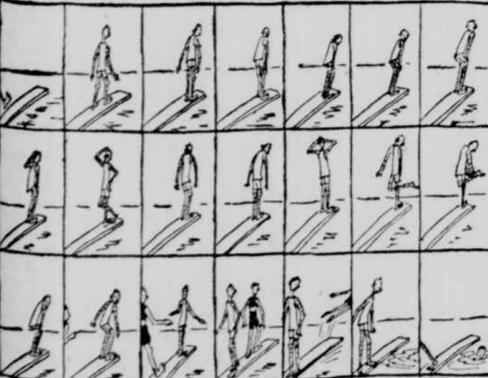
Sunset!
The clear air mellowed and grew rich with color;
The shades deepened to dusk;
There was no world but sea and sky.
Then sudden shone a firm radiance to our right
And far out a repeated beat of light
Where the beacons recall wanderers to the thought of life
Lost, careless, they drift on into the limitless beyond.

ALICE.

The terror of the hat-check nuisance is, it seems to us, exaggerated. Our attorney has looked up the statutes and he tells us that you can't be put in jail for not giving the hat-boy—or even the hat-girl—a tip.

Swimming Bard Loses Nerve.

By Ignatz.



TO FANNY.

Many were the lines I penned you,
Though I hardly ever sent them;
For I feared I might offend you—
Well, perhaps because I meant them.

They are gone now and forever—
E'en my heart has lost their rhythm;
Ruthless Time who pities never
Pitied me and took 'em with 'm.

Of a hope in its ascension
O'er a dream suffused with glory
Nothing now remains to mention—
Nothing that would make a story.

Verses with the lilt of freedom,
Odes and sonnets, good and bad,
You shall never, never read 'em—
Yet e'en now I wish you had.

TAPESTRY.

Even so careful a newspaper as the Evening Telegram refers to "Robert W. Chambers's novel 'Within the Law.'"

FAMILIAR MISQUOTATIONS

"Discretion is the better part of valor."
A little old last year's last line, republished by request of the Hon. Charles Ebbets.
"Consider the Phillies of the field." F. P. A.

AUTUMN BRINGS NEW SOCIAL DIVERSIONS

Southern Resorts Draw Society Folk from Summer Haunts

Lenox, Mass., Sept. 30.—Mrs. Carlos M. de Heredia's golf tea and putting competitions brought together the leading cottagers on the Lenox golf course for the first time this season. Intermittent showers dampened the putting green, but the contestants, in rain coats and with umbrellas, remained until the last hole had been played. The tea in the clubhouse was an occasion of unusual brilliancy. Mrs. de Heredia's prizes were very beautiful. To Miss Ellen Bullard and Mrs. William B. Osgood Field, who won the women's contest, the awards were hand-embroidered work bags, and to the men, Giraud Foster and Dr. John A. Hartwell, the prizes were glass pen racks, silver mounted. The boys' prizes, golf clubs and balls, went to Osgood and Frederick Field, sons of Mr. and Mrs. William B. Osgood Field.

Mrs. David T. Dana, Mrs. Carl A. de Gersdorff, the Misses Civilise and Anna R. Alexandre, Miss Anita Delafield, Mrs. Henry H. Pease, Miss Irene Turnure, the Misses Josephine and Alma de Gersdorff, Mrs. James Lawrence, Mrs. Frederick S. Delafield, Mrs. Newbold Morris, Mrs. Lindsay Russell, Mrs. Joseph S. Lovering, Mrs. Hamilton Fish Benjamin, Mrs. William M. Bullitt, Miss Gertrude Parsons, Mrs. William L. Wood, Miss Edna S. Barger and Mrs. William E. S. Griswold were contestants for the prizes.

Miss Virginia Butler, who has been travelling in the West, returned this week to be a guest of Miss Helen C. Butler, in Stockbridge. Miss Butler will occupy her country place in Stockbridge for a part of the winter. Miss Emily Tuckerman, of the Stockbridge colony, has been in New York this week, but will return later to be at the Old Place for the late season. Miss Lillian Cram, went to town after the season at Overmead, the Kohlhaas country place.

Mr. and Mrs. William B. Osgood Field went to Canada this week for four weeks of deer hunting. Up on the Little Cascapedia River, north of Quebec, in the very heart of the wilderness, they will have a camp. Mrs. Field, an excellent rifle shot, will participate in all of the hunting trips. Mrs. William Hazard Field and Miss Mary P. Field, mother and sister of Mr. Field, will be at Highlawn House, Lenox, with the family of Mr. and Mrs. Field in their absence.

Mr. and Mrs. William A. Slater, jr., after a year in France, where Mr. Slater drove a motor ambulance and Mrs. Slater assisted in nursing the wounded, have opened their new bungalow on Richmond Mountain. This house, built of logs, the first of the kind to be erected in Lenox, has been in construction since last season. It is within sight of the Slater villa, Home Farm, where William A. Slater, sr., of Washington, is passing the season. Mr. and Mrs. E. Halsey Malone came up from Long Island this week to assist Mr. and Mrs. Slater, jr., in opening their new abode.

The Rev. and Mrs. Anson Phelps Stokes returned to New Haven this week. They were called from the Berkshires by the reopening of Yale University, of which Mr. Stokes is secretary. Mrs. John Sherman Hoyt, Mr. Stokes's sister, was their guest before their departure. Mrs. Stokes's sister, Miss Annie Mitchell, after a long term in France as a nurse, is bound for New York and will be the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Stokes in New Haven.

Ex-Senator and Mrs. W. Murray Crane have been entertaining Miss Mabel Thorpe Boardman, Mrs. Crane's sister, in Dalton this week. Miss Boardman spoke on Red Cross work in that place during her visit. She was greatly pleased with the work of the Lenox Red Cross, under Miss Civilise Alexandre, which had cleared \$2,900 or the Berkshire base hospital supply. The motion picture "The Treasure of the Inca," which was produced under Miss Alexandre's direction, was shown again at the Lenox Town Hall this week.

Robert Reid, portrait painter and mural decorator, has painted portraits on burlap of William B. Osgood Field and his sons Osgood and Frederick Vanderbilt Field. These portraits, with others, including an impression of Whitney Warren, jr., have been on exhibition in Lenox.

The Misses Sarah Cooper Hewitt and Miss Eleanor G. Hewitt were guests this week of Mr. and Mrs. J. Woodward Haven.

Among the important affairs given this week was a dinner by Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Frothingham in honor of Capt. Barclay, U. S. A. Mrs. Edwards Spencer entertained at the Lenox Club for the Rev. William H. Vibbert, and Mr. and Mrs. Cortlandt F. Bishop gave a dinner entertainment at The Maples. Other dinners were given by Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton Fish Benjamin, Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Sedgwick and Mrs. John E. Alexandre.

Major General John B. Brooke and Mrs. Brooke have left Pittsfield and stopped in New York on their way to Washington. Mr. and Mrs. George F. Becker have closed their estate and gone to Washington. Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Russell have gone to Middletown, Conn., and Mrs. H. Chauncey Cryder and Charles A. de R. Wissman to New York.

At Asheville.

Asheville, N. C., Sept. 30.—The season is marked by increased social activities at the various hotels here. On Friday evening a large dinner party was given at the Battery Park Hotel by Mr. and Mrs. Maurice du Pont for their son, Gerald du Pont, who will soon leave for Princeton. Covers were laid



Mountain Climbing Party on Greylock, in the Berkshires.

for forty-six. The dinner was followed by dancing. Mr. and Mrs. R. Johnson also entertained on Friday evening in honor of their daughter, Mrs. J. T. Peptit, of Augusta, Ga.

On Monday Mrs. John Horter, of Havana, Cuba, entertained with a bridge lunch. The first prize was won by Mrs. F. Rodriguez, of New York. Mrs. Horter and her little daughter will return to Cuba this week after having spent three months at Battery Park.

Dr. and Mrs. H. H. Briggs gave a dinner in honor of Dr. and Mrs. Perdue, of Asheville. Mrs. Perdue was Miss Eleanor Bartlett, of Chicago, and has spent several summers at Asheville. The table, arranged for forty guests, was decorated with pink hydrangeas, ferns and wild autumn flowers.

A party from Greenville, including Mr. and Mrs. J. Serrene, Mr. and Mrs. R. N. Tannahill, Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Mills and F. W. Lyman, motored to Battery Park on Sunday to take the trip up Mt. Mitchell, which is particularly beautiful now in the full glory of the autumnal colorings.

Miss Willy Willis, of Waynesville, is staying here a few days on her way to New York. Mr. and Mrs. V. Badham, of Badham, S. C., will start this week for a motor trip to New York after a two months' stay at Battery Park.

Among those registered here are Mrs. Ralph Connabell and Miss D. Connabell, of Toronto, Canada; Dr. and Mrs. R. V. Kennedy, of Charleston; George Loyall, of Knoxville, Tenn.; Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Bettman, of Cincinnati; Judge and Mrs. J. E. Boyd, of Greensboro; Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Perkins, of New Orleans; Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Butler and Mrs. McNeill, of Savannah; Miss Frances Deering, of San Francisco and New York; J. D. Templeton, of Austin, Tex.; Miss H. Samson, with Miss K. M. Hill, of Baton Rouge, La.; Mrs. F. Rodriguez, of New York; L. C. Riggs, of New York; H. S. Thomas, of New York; Dr. and Mrs. Wheeler, of Kansas City, Mo., and Mr. and Mrs. William Stratford, of Montgomery, Ala.

Gayeties at Brighton.

Brighton Beach, N. Y., Sept. 30.—Astor Cup race night, which was celebrated at the Hotel Shelburne last night, was the chief event of the week here.

On Wednesday evening the Knights of Columbus held a supper and dance for the benefit of the Brooklyn Home for Blind, Crippled and Defective Children. Harry T. Woods was the chairman of the evening. Several prizes were awarded for dancing contests and a series of moving pictures was presented.

The Avondale 500 Club held its first meeting of the season at the Shelburne on Thursday. Mrs. A. J. Goldsborough was the hostess on this occasion, and the members spent the evening on the beach and played cards in the afternoon, following luncheon.

A harvest festival was arranged for Wednesday night by Horace Underdonk, jr., director of the Shelburne ballroom, and these special events will continue throughout the winter. Flat-bush night will be celebrated on October 4, and on Columbus Day there will be a special entertainment.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Daniels, who have been at Paul Smith's for the last six weeks, are expected to return to the Shelburne to-morrow.

Mrs. Ida R. Koverman and her niece,



Governor Samuel W. McCall and Lieutenant Governor Calvin Coolidge, of Massachusetts, at Heaton Hall, Stockbridge.

Miss Vera Cravath on Bonnie Lassie, at the Agricultural Society of Queens-Nassau Counties Meet, at Mineola, on September 28.

Ray Gluckman, J. H. Tryon, Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Vineburg, Mr. and Mrs. Martin B. Strauss, Miss Lucy La Vigne and Alfred Wertheim.

Tuesday Salon Musicals.

The afternoon musicals of the Tuesday Salon are to be resumed at Sherry's this season under the direction of Mrs. Anson Dudley Bramhall, as in the past. Five in all will be given, and the dates announced are December 5 and 19, January 2 and 16 and February 6. Among the solo artists who will be heard are Mme. Edvina, Mme. Marie Rappold, Miss Anna Case, Mme. Loretta del Valle, Miss Dora Gibson, Mme. Julia Claussen, Miss Emma Roberts, Miss Frances Ingram, sopranos and contraltos; Theo Karle, George Harris, jr., and Paul Reimers, tenors; Emilio de Gogorza, Larys Graveure and Edgar Schofield, barytones; Willem Willeke, cellist; Mme. Germaine Schmitzer, Mme. Ethel Leginska and John Powell, pianists; Albert Spalding and Albert Stoessel, violinists, and Mrs. Dorothy Baeseler, harpist.

Tea will be served in the foyer after the programme, thereby affording members an opportunity of meeting the artists.

"Movie" Benefit at Rye.

Members of the younger set of Rye were seen at the American Yacht Club on Friday evening in a motion picture given for the benefit of Westchester County children crippled by infantile paralysis. The play, called "In and Out of Rye," concerned the misadventures of a blasé count in pursuit of a



On the Balloon Field at Pittsfield, Mass.

The Season Opens at Asheville and White Sulphur Springs

White Sulphur Springs, W. Va., Sept. 30.—Interest is evinced in the coming annual invitation golf tournament, scheduled for October 5, 6 and 7, in which the contestants will play for the Greenbrier cup. A special car will bring many New Yorkers, among them Charles H. McDonald, James Stillman, Charles H. Sabin, Foxhall Keene, J. B. C. Tappan, A. H. Johnson, W. Delancey Kountze, Daniel Chauncey, W. H. Sands, H. F. Whitney, J. H. Knapp, H. R. Winthrop, Conde Nast, Walter Watson, James A. Blair, jr., Herbert Harrison, Max H. Behr, H. J. Whigham, C. W. Hamill, M. W. Littleton, Jr., C. S. Lee, W. D. Vanderpool, Fred H. Thomas, D. E. Pomeroy, C. T. Cowperthwait, Edwin Schenck, John F. Harris, J. H. Harding, C. F. Shallcross and J. D. Ryan.

Many Easterners are gathering for the fall season. Mr. and Mrs. M. Orme Wilson are here and Mr. Wilson is taking the cure. Dr. and Mrs. Edwin E. Swift, of New York, have arrived. Mortimer I. Schiff, of New York, is here and has brought with him four saddle horses for himself and family. Dr. and Mrs. Braden Kyle and Mr. and Mrs. Norman Macleod, of Philadelphia, are here and play tennis every day. Frank Trumbull, of New York, came down last week in his private car, accompanied by Frank A. Vanderlip, and after several days here left for Denver, where Mr. Vanderlip will address the Chamber of Commerce.

Others here are John C. Groome, of Philadelphia, and Mrs. Henry Dibblee, Mrs. Henry Kidder Gouber, Watson F. Blair and William Seymour Warren, of Chicago.

The Greenbrier Hounds met this morning at Edgely, the home of Harrison Ronick. Breakfast was served before hounds break covers. The first fox gave them a fast twenty-five-minute run and then was lost in a drain. Among those in the field with Lawrence Dickson, M. F. H., were Mrs. Herbert N. Worth, Aubert Fay and W. Symmes Richardson.

Mrs. J. Gardner Cassatt, of Philadelphia, and her two daughters, the Misses Ellen M. and Eugenie K. Cassatt, who spent the month at White Sulphur Springs, left on Wednesday for their home.

Mrs. Hartman K. Evans and Mrs. Franklin Pelton, of New York, entertained last week at luncheon and bridge in honor of Mrs. Henry Dibblee, of Chicago, and Mrs. Richard N. Townsend, of Washington.

Mrs. Henry M. Flagler, of New York, who has been here for the last two months with Miss Hannah Bolles and her niece, Miss Louise Wise, of Wilmington, N. C., left in her private car last week for New York, accompanied by Mrs. Barker Gummere, of Princeton, N. J.

Lewis Clark, president of the Merchants' National Bank, of New York, will arrive next week. Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Stickney, of St. Louis, are here and Mr. Stickney is seen daily on the links.

Finds Obedience on Field Often Disastrous to Army

Correspondent Says Personal Judgment of Soldier Is Frequently Superior to That of Commander—Execution of Skeffington in Irish Revolt Cited as Instance.

By ARTHUR S. DRAPER.

London, Sept. 27.—A correspondent of one of the provincial papers has started an interesting debate on the question, "Does a soldier owe absolute and unlimited obedience to his superiors in all circumstances?" Just now the whole subject of militarism is arousing much discussion. Martial law in Ireland is being opposed not only by Irishmen but by many Englishmen; the "combing" for "Zabernism" is bringing forth cries of "Zabernism"; the growing stringency of military regulations over civil life have combined to stir resentment and dissatisfaction in many Britons.

The case in point is the shooting of Sheehy Skeffington during the Irish rebellion of last May. It will be remembered that Skeffington was shot by order of Captain Bowen Colthurst without even a hearing before a court martial. Later Captain Colthurst was declared insane, and he now is an inmate of an asylum. At the Skeffington inquiry the military witnesses testified they obeyed Colthurst's orders without protest because they "were carrying out their duties."

"Carrying Out Their Duties." Now the correspondent raises the point. Captain Colthurst, being a lunatic at the time, might have ordered his company to seize and fire on Sir John Maxwell, the military commander of Ireland. The men, he holds, would be entirely justified in pleading they "were carrying out their duties."

The argument hinges on the question of whether a soldier, especially in a citizen army, may use his private judgment in certain circumstances. Those who contend he cannot are confronted with the defence of "Prussian militarism," the very thing the Allies are pledged to crush. The German soldiers who burned parts of Louvain and spread terror in Belgium and Northern France "were carrying out their duties," according to the discipline of the German army.

Little Discipline Among French. There is no European army where there is less show of discipline than in the French. Even in time of war discipline is more lax than in the British army, but the relaxation of discipline does not seem to have weakened the French army as a fighting force. But the French army is composed of conscripts, just as are the German, Russian, Austrian and Italian, while Britain has an almost entirely voluntary force in the field.

To those who know the British army the contrast between the discipline in the ranks of the British Isles and the colonial forces is most striking, but the Canadians at Ypres and the Australians and New Zealanders at Gallipoli and on the Somme have won undying fame. The Canadian Tommy salutes his officer with all the precision of a "regular"; so does the Australian and the New Zealander. But it is a frequent thing to see a Canadian officer and a "ranker" walking down the Strand in earnest conversation.

Democracy in Armies. You find the same democracy in France, the same spirit of equality. The British Tommy has something of the feeling of awe in the presence of his superior which is so evident in Germany. He has no fear of his superior, rather respect and pride. Most German privates fear their officers more than the enemy. It is not a physical fear, but a moral one, due to rigid discipline.

History furnishes many illustrations showing how disaster has overtaken failure to obey orders. On the other hand, however, there are innumerable instances where disobedience of orders has led to victories in the field.

The chief interest in the question here is in its intimate connection with the problem of compulsory military service. Conditions in America are much the same as they are here. The lessons of the war which Britain has paid so much to learn should be studied closely by America. There are anti-conscriptionists and conscientious objectors in every democracy, and certainly the enforcement of Draconic discipline tends to breed them rapidly.