

BRITISH WAR OFFICE VERY HUGE MACHINE

As the Establishment is Two Miles Long and Than 4,000 Persons Work in It.

(Correspondence of Associated Press.) LONDON, March 25.—Sir Reginald Brade, secretary of the war office, received a representative of the Associated Press, and gave facilities, through one of his staff as escort, to see something of this huge war machine in full swing under the pressure of one of the greatest wars with which it has ever had to cope. It was an experience of several hours, exploring the labyrinths of the vast institution, fairly vibrating with energy at every point and yet proceeding with precision and efficiency in meeting the big part it is taking in the conduct of the war.

Some idea of the immensity of this war establishment may be had from the fact that its corridors are two miles long—a good brisk walk of an hour. And along these two miles is a good-sized city of people, over 4,000, engaged in the infinite details of this war work, great and small, all the way from Lord Kitchener, secretary of state for war, down to boy scouts and girl messengers. And this is only the central establishment, for the war exigencies have even outgrown even this huge building, and many outside buildings, business blocks and many other premises have been taken in as war office branches. The sudden extension of censoring as a precaution of military defense has called into service a large army of censors, and a number of large business premises in various quarters have been acquired for the military censors' branch. Three or four other branches are at other points, and practically the whole ordnance branch has grown into a separate government department, with a cabinet minister, Lord Curzon, at its head.

Throbbing Center

The war office still remains the throbbing center of the war work; here the larger questions of strategy and the campaigns in various theatres of the war are worked out; here the army council and the imperial general staff, hold their meetings, and here the many branches of military work ramify from the headquarters of Lord Kitchener, General Sir W. Robertson, chief of the imperial staff, Lieutenant General Sir H. Slater, adjutant general to the forces, Lieutenant General Sir I. Cowans, quartermaster general, and the two members of Parliament who represent the civilian branch and keep the war branch in touch with Parliament, Mr. Tennant, Parliamentary under secretary for war, and Mr. Foster, financial secretary for war, with Sir Reginald Brade as secretary of the war office and of the war council.

It is difficult to get into the war office, and more difficult to get out—like the continental railway system, Guards turn away all those without papers from authorized sources, stating a definite purpose for the visit and a fixed time. Passing this barrier, one's name and address is taken, and a permit issued, and the addresses are always available if Scotland Yard wishes to investigate the antecedents of anyone making unauthorized inquiries.

High Pressure Work

Within the building there is an air of work under high pressure and with rigid military discipline, with many officers in uniform, old soldiers as messengers, and the boy scouts and girl messengers also in uniform, the girls in brown khaki dress and blouse with brass buttons and a brass device on the collar.

There are two outstanding figures of interest at the war office just now—Lord Kitchener, the supreme head of the whole establishment, Lord Derby, whose scheme for increasing the army has brought him very much in the public eye, while across the road, at the horse guards is Field Marshal French, now Lord French, of Ypres, who as commander of home defense, is now directing home defense in general and the aircraft defenses in particular. Lord Kitchener's windows look out on the busy traffic of Whitehall, with the mounted horse guards across the way, and the bronze equestrian statue of the Duke of Cambridge, in sweeping plume and full regalia of a field marshal at the entrance. The offices are stately, with portraits of distinguished war ministers. But under Kitchener they have taken on an air of the camp, with maps all about and on the walls indicating the campaigns in many fields of British operation—in Flanders, at Salonika, in Egypt and Mesopotamia, and of all operations on the Austro-Italian front, in Russia, and other points.

Kitchener Comes and Goes

Lord Kitchener comes and goes, always as a soldier, in uniform. He goes in uniform to Buckingham palace for his conferences with the King, and in uniform to the House of Lords, where he is a member, to announce government policies on the war. His busy hours at headquarters are in the morning and at night, attending war councils, seeing the chief staff officers and directing plans. He appears always calm and unruffled in the mass of details pressing from every side, and returns the salutes of soldiers along the corridors with the same deference they give him, like Washington, who bowed to his servants because he would not permit his subordinates to outdo him in courtesy.

Lord Derby's quarters are across the corridor, and though he is a civilian and wears no uniform, he is surrounded by a military staff and is doing one of the most important military works—establishing a reservoir, he calls it, which will supply a steady stream of recruits as the war progresses. Instead of war maps, Lord Derby has a map of the United Kingdom hanging back of his desk, for his problem has been the assembling of men in proper quotas from different points within the country. Field Marshal French's quarters are not far away, the center of bustling activity in connection with the new air defenses. Just what these are is not being made known, even in the guarded announcements of Lord Kitchener to Parliament, as the theory of the war officials is that surprise is an essential element in the effectiveness of a war weapon. So that all that

is known is that Field Marshal French is working with Sir Percy Scott, the naval expert, in an extensive scheme of land and coast defenses and warnings, with rapidly increasing air-defense guns around London and in all exposed parts of England.

Vast Organization

But while these main figures of the war office are most before the public, there is also a vast organization carrying on the innumerable day-to-day branches of military work. The main divisions are the general staff, the adjutant general, the quartermaster general and the civil and finance departments, with most of the ordnance branch now transferred to the ministry of munitions. Under these main heads there are some 120 divisions, taking in the whole range of military activities. The war council is, in effect, made up of the heads of these main divisions, seven in all, with Lord Kitchener as president of the council, and General Robertson, chief of staff, Adjutant General Slater, Quartermaster General Cowans, Major General Von Donop, Parliamentary Secretary Tennant and Financial Secretary Foster as the other members of the war council. The general staff, with General Robertson at its head, makes the scientific studies of military defense, assembles all the available intelligence on different campaigns, furnishes the experts, and has charge of the military inter-communication by telegraph and signaling. Unlike the American system, the British army medical service is under the adjutant general. The extensive purchase of American horses, harness and supplies has come under the direction of Quartermaster General Cowans, who has general charge of food, clothing and supplies, land and water transportation of troops, supplying hospitals, etc.

The recent transfer of ordnance from the war office to the ministry of munitions shows the remarkable development of ordnance, particularly artillery, since it first came into use. It was not until 1483 that England established an ordnance officer, the war office showing records that Rauf Bigod was the first master of ordnance. That was the time the Germans were using these strange engines called artillery, throwing enormous stones. So the English appointed a master of ordnance, and soon after Ferdinand of Spain also got some of these new engines of warfare and with them succeeded at last in battering down the walls of Grenada and driving the Moors out of Spain. From that time on artillery was a main factor in settling wars, and in England such men as the Duke of Marlborough, Lord Cornwallis, Lord Howe, and the Duke of Wellington were the masters of ordnance. It is a curious fact that after Lord Cornwallis' surrender of Yorktown, he returned to England and became the master general of ordnance.

This matter of big guns has been growing ever since, until this war made it such a factor that a new cabinet minister took it over as a separate department.

Registry Branch

A visit to the registry branch of the war office gave an idea of the immensity of the work going on, for this branch receives everything coming in and distributes the business to all branches. Over 100,000 letters are received every week, and of these an average of 40,000 go through the formality of registering. Once registered, a communication is an official record of the government, eventually under the control of the master of the bolts. The mere registering of this vast influx of 40,000 pieces of separate war business is a prodigious work. Ten youths were at a long table engaged solely in slitting open the envelopes. Fourteen sacks of war business had come in the first morning mail, and this was only the start. Room after room is filled with men and women workers, registering these communications and getting them started to the 120 branches. A war communication addressed personally, to Lord Kitchener or any other official, is delivered direct, but unless personally addressed it is part of the war office business, and goes to one of the 120 branches, according to the subject treated. There is no time for high-sounding titles, and so every branch and every official is known by a group of letters, and every officer in the service has a number. This registry branch under the direction of one of the veteran members of Sir Reginald Brade's staff, Mr. Pedley, is a model of efficiency in the handling of the avalanche of documents which the war turns loose on every branch of the war office. Going down in the sub-basement, below the level of the Thames, one could see the bewildering vistas of documents, stretching for long distances but arranged with mathematical precision for instant reference as a government record.

One of the curious requirements growing out of the rush of war work is the need of a staff of "searchers" to look up lost documents. The "searchers" make their rounds every morning. Very often in the pressure of many kinds of work, an important war record will get laid aside or covered up on some desk, and it is the business of the "searchers" to ferret out every lost record and get it back again in the regular channels. Although this glimpse of the war office and the passing exchanges with the many officials along the miles of offices, gave the impression of a perfectly regulated machine with the steam-gauge wide open and working under full pressure; and from end to end of this vast establishment, along with the sure and steady movement was the spirit everywhere manifest and expressed among these war workers: "Let us do our part to win the war."



War on the "peace hat," a late creation in spring millinery, is an imminent possibility. Women friends of the birds declare the dove with which the hat is trimmed must go before they will set the hat on their fair heads. They are for peace, they declare, but they say they will not advertise their principles at the price of an innocent bird's life.

Privately, those who are advocating the wearing of the "peace hat" have confessed that the alleged "dove" is not a "real-for-sure" dove at all. They say it is made of chicken feathers. Nevertheless the bird champions declare it looks like a real dove and they will not wear it. So there!

The subject has been brought to the attention of the National Association of Audubon Societies of America, the last authority on bird protection. The society is making a vigorous fight against the use of bird plumage for hat trimmings. Secretary Pearson says if the alleged "bird" is the body of a real dove, the Audubon authorities certainly are against its use in millinery.

"As long as they make these 'doves' out of the feathers of domestic birds, there can certainly be no objection to women wearing them," said Mr. Pearson, "unless perhaps it may be said that by doing so they are encouraging the general subject of feather-wearing."

"The feathers of wild birds cannot be obtained unless birds are killed," said Mr. Pearson, "and therefore should never be worn; on the other hand, ostrich feathers are legitimate as well as beautiful decorations and are approved by the Audubon societies."

HATCHINGS FROM THE BOOBY HATCH

It remained for the president to discover an adjective which the motion picture press agents seem to have overlooked. The adjective is "punitive," which seems to be going the rounds these days.

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FIRE MUSIC.

(From the Montana Vista, Col., Tribune.)

Eb Abernathy was out practicing with his new fire alarm Wednesday. It hits high G without any difficulty and Ed can almost play the Rosary and Gasoline Gus upon it. Hendrick and Bolhoff made the darn thing and are doubtless proud of it. We will try to have it located in the Tribune office to let the devil know when it is dinner time.

—o—

LIGHT OCCUPATIONS.

Professional voter at presidential elections.

Trying to light a chocolate cigar in

the wind.

Looking for our stories in the leading magazines.

—o—

Sir: What do you think of a man who will add the words "You know what I mean" at the end of every sentence?

J. C. D.

In view of the existing postal laws we are unable to state our views on this subject.

—o—

HARK, HARK, THE LARK!

(From the Mattoon, Ill., Commercial-Star.)

Before Aurora, the goddess of Dawn, awoke to throw open the gates of morning for the God Apollo, to ride across the heavens in his chariot of gold, John Henton and Miss Nelle Graham, two descendants of pioneer families of Moultrie county and Cole county, went to the parsonage of the First M. E. church, and at 5:30 o'clock were united in marriage by Rev. G. F. Oliver.

ADDITION TO GLASS PLANT AT GRAFTON

Is to Be Made by the Tygarts Valley Glass Company Whose Business Grows.

GRAFTON, March 25.—Improvements to its plant that will represent an outlay of several thousand dollars have been made or will be made in the near future by the Tygarts Valley Glass Company at its plant in the Beaumont addition. The company is having good business with a weekly output of about fourteen cars of ware. Last month, however, extra orders enabled the company to ship eighty-four cars, and use up practically all the surplus ware in stock. Everything points to a continuance of prosperity for this plant.

Recently it was found that the power was not what it should be and a new and larger engine has been purchased and delivered on the ground. It is to be used with the old dynamo and will considerably increase the power for the plant.

The main building was recently widened the width of the loading platform and a cover shed placed over the space between the ware room and the main factory. A high fence is being built around part of the property, also. Some other improvements are contemplated but have not been decided upon definitely by the company. The question of the proposed increased gas rate is a serious matter to the glass factory and the results of the action of the gas company is being watched closely by the company.

city of the Methodist Episcopal church, met at the home of Mrs. B. M. Ackles on College avenue. After the business of the society was transacted, refreshments were served.

WONDERFULLY IMPROVED IS HIS CONDITION

Adolphus Shields Found Lasting Benefits in Nerv-Worth.

This well known citizen tells a Nerv-Worth story in the following statement that should cause the most skeptical to want to give this world's greatest nerve tonic a chance to overcome their bodily ills:

Burke's Drug Store—I have had St. Vitus' dance for over two years and I was in an awfully nervous condition and my stomach also was in bad shape and my head ached a great deal.

I have doctored with doctors but no results. I have taken two bottles of Nerv-Worth and my condition is wonderfully improved. I feel like a new man.

ADOLPHEUS SHIELDS.

Mr. Shields is the well known bowling alley man. His Nerv-Worth experience certainly is an eye-opener. Your dollar back at Burke's drug store if Nerv-Worth fails to help you.

—Advertisement.

SOLDIERS NO LONGER DINE ON HARDTACK

To Carry Day's Food for All Would Require 115 Wagons.

SPOKANE, Wash., March 28.—To carry food for one day for one army, which in the United States comprises in round numbers 103,014 officers and men, would require 115 army wagons each with four mule teams. Captain John B. Shuman, of the Fourteenth infantry, Fort Wright, told his hearers at the chamber of commerce. Captain Shuman delivered a lecture on "Army Regulations," one of a series of talks by army officers under the auspices of the military affairs committee.

Captain Shuman exhibited sample menus of meals served to the men in his company to demonstrate that "beans and hardtack" do not comprise the soldier's diet any longer. He explained the regulations pertaining to enlistment, pay, discharge, the ration and the equipment needed in various kinds of service. He distributed a number of books and articles on army matters and asked those who took them away to distribute them among their friends when through with them.

"The pay of the enlisted man ranges from \$15 a month for the private in his first enlistment on home station to \$19.00 for the chief musician of a band on foreign service," said Captain Shuman. "For each enlistment the soldier gets an increase of \$1, \$3 or \$4 a month, depending on the grade he is serving in. An increase of pay is also authorized for excellent marksmanship, \$2 for marksmanship, \$3 for sharpshooter and \$5 for expert rifleman, paid monthly from the date of qualification to the date of discharge.

"A clothing account is started for the man the day he enlists. The initial allowance amounts to \$43.95. Then for each six months' service the man completes he is credited with the semi-annual allowance of \$12.62, a total of \$144.98 for four years. Overcoats and blankets are not charged to the clothing account. He is simply loaned these, while he buys his clothing. The revised statutes prescribe the punishment of one year's imprisonment for the soldier who loses or sells any article of his clothing or equipment and a fine of \$1,000 for any person who buys or has in his possession any article of army uniform, clothing or equipment.

"The garrison ration weighs 4.4 pounds for each man each day. The field ration weighs about three pounds and the reserve ration about two pounds. The present field ration can carry 2,700 pounds, or 600 garrison, 900 field and 1,350 reserve rations."

Captain Shuman gave the following figures of units in the American army organization:

Infantry company, three officers and sixty-five enlisted men.

Battalion, fifteen officers and 261 enlisted men.

Regiment, fifty-one officers and 830 enlisted men.

In war there is no increase in the number of officers in an infantry company, battalion or regiment. The company, though, is increased by two sergeants, four corporals and eighty privates, making a total of 150 men to a company and at total of 1,839 men for the regiment.

GLASS CONCERN MAY LOCATE IN WESTON

Free Site at Edmiston on the Interurban Line is Offered to the Company.

WESTON, March 26.—There are prospects of a new glass factory coming to Weston. A free site has been offered the concern at Edmiston on the trolley line, one and one-fourth miles below the city, and this together with the low price of gas offered them, makes it a very alluring proposition. The traction company is encouraging the movement in every possible manner.

It is claimed that when the plant is in operation it will afford employment for 400 men and the monthly payroll will total \$20,000. Local capitalists are already contemplating the erection of modern cottages in that neighborhood.

Return from Baltimore.

Mr. and Mrs. M. A. Fultz and Mrs. Kate Malone returned home from Baltimore Friday. Mrs. Fultz received much benefit from the treatment she underwent in a Baltimore hospital.

Walter H. Warren made a business trip to Burnsville Tuesday.

Girls Have Market.

The girls of the freshman class of the Weston high school held a market at Pharr and Hall's drug store for the benefit of the athletic association Saturday.

Mrs. A. B. Carfer is expected home from Parkersburg Tuesday.

Lectures to Students.

A. B. Carfer lectured last Tuesday morning at the high school auditorium. His lecture was a very practical one and he pointed out the evils of drink, gambling and spending money instead of saving and banking it.

Mr. Carfer will occupy the pulpit at the Baptist church Sunday in the absence of the pastor.

Cashier T. A. Whelan is on a business trip to Pittsburg.

Engagement Announced.

Mr. and Mrs. Kossan, of 140 North Broadway, announce the engagement of their daughter, Bessie, to Morris Freudenberg, of Weston. The wedding will take place in Baltimore Sunday. Mr. Freudenberg is a member of the firm of P. Freudenberg and Company, of this city, and has a host of friends who are now extending congratulations.

Plans Perfected.

Cecil Orr is having plans perfected for a two-story stucco residence to be erected on the vacant lot next to the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Warren, on Main street.

Attend Funeral.

Hon. George C. Cole, Judge Lynn Brannon, Judge Maxwell, R. L. Bland, Thomas I. Cummings and Garret Smith, attended the funeral of Hon. John J. Davis at Clarksburg Wednesday afternoon.

Home from College.

Clete Smith, who is a student at Wesley College, was here Wednesday.

Ressegger in Weston.

Dr. Ressegger, of Buckhannon, district superintendent of the Methodist Episcopal church for this district, was here and occupied the pulpit of the local church Sunday evening. A large crowd was out to hear him. Dr. Ressegger is a forceful speaker and awakened much interest in the revival meeting which starts Sunday.

Beautiful Home.

Lord Rinehart is making his home most beautiful. It is being remodeled throughout. New hardwood floors and new walls are being put in. Decorators Powers, of Clarksburg, is now working on the walls. A number of changes in the outside of the premises are contemplated.

Attend Auto Show.

William Weber and Reed Grow are in Pittsburg at the automobile show.

Gets Patent.

William M. Taylor was granted a patent this week for an ironing board and table combined.

Holmes Dead.

James Holmes, aged 75 years, died at his boarding house on West Second street Monday of pneumonia.

Building Two Houses.

Mrs. Walter H. Warren has under construction two houses in Shady Brook and two at Minichtown.

To Build New Home.

Lee Troxell has plans under construction for his new home in the McCarty addition. It is to be modern

Class Entertains.

The sophomore class of the Weston high school entertained their parents in the domestic science rooms of the Weston high school Saturday afternoon.

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BUCKHANNON IS TO HAVE BIG REVIVAL

"Green Mountain Evangelist" of Kentucky to Preach in Baptist Church There.

BUCKHANNON, March 25.—The Baptist church has secured to assist its pastor in a revival "The Green Mountain Evangelist," Dr. T. T. Martin, of Kentucky. Dr. Martin and his helpers have arrived here and the local church is making preparations for a great revival.

J. E. Mearns and Dr. E. B. Alford have arrived home from Alaska, where they spent several months.

A. B. Stutter, of Pennsboro, has accepted a position as foreman in the Record office.

The Ladies Guild of the Episcopal church will hold a market sale Saturday afternoon in the Whitescarver building.

Most of the Wesleyan students have gone home for the spring vacation, which will last two weeks.

Hubert Holt, of Tennessee, is a guest of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Holt.

Miss Julia Ruth is a guest of friends in Pittsburg.

Otto Dyer is attending the Pittsburg automobile show.

Prof. Trotter, acting president of the West Virginia University at Morgantown, was looking after business here this week.

Miss Jessie Trotter, formerly a teacher at Wesleyan College, was here a few days ago. She is now a teacher in the Glenville Normal school.

Miss Myrtle Reed, of Baltimore, who was employed as trimmer at the Bon Ton store, is suffering from blood poisoning caused by a needle wound. Miss Mary Kane, of Baltimore, has taken her place in the store.

A number of prominent Grafton people were here Tuesday to attend the Durbin trial. It was continued until next July.

Circle No. 2 of the Ladies Aid So

Spears Shoe Co.
FOURTH STREET

Footwear

from this store represents the accepted modes in demand by those who recognize the value of refinement, newness and smartness, in women's Boots and Shoes.

There's a thrilling dash in Spear's Shoes that compels attention and admiration.

All the latest styles and patterns can be found here at most reasonable prices.

Spears Shoe Co.
FOURTH STREET