

TOMMY ATKINS' WIFE OR WIDOW ENJOYING LIFE

Separation Allowance Gives 'Mary Ann' Her First Spending Money

"GOOD TIME" COMES FIRST

By ELLEN ADAIR

Written especially for the EVENING LEDGER. LONDON, Feb. 25.—A girl's revolution in the structure of life. Although in one sense the condition of the very poor is slowly ameliorated, results of additional money flowing into the home have led to many grave complications.

For instance, the home of the workingman who before the war earned a week—quite a fair average for the day—has in fact, cover everything, allowing the home, honest John keeping the remaining \$2 for his own little luxuries.

The wife spent every cent of the \$2 allowed her in stern necessity. No pocket-money for her! The British workingman, in short, was inclined to regard his wife as the automaton who did the cooking, reared the children, and washed the minimum of money with the maximum of sense.

SLIPS WERE PUNISHED.

MARY ANN, then, never had a superfluous cent that she could spend on luxuries. All the drinking that was to be done was done strictly by father. If by chance she ever slipped from grace and partook of the convivial cup out of the household \$5 entrusted to her care father was sure to apply such summary discipline that she did not venture the lapse a second time.

When war broke out, and father went off gallantly to the front, the lady of the house found herself deprived of the original weekly dose of \$5, but in its place she received the separation allowance for herself and the grant for each child in the family. Moreover, an extra allowance was made should she remain in London and, say, "joy's" she was now her own mistress, with no man to feed, no man to tell her in graceful phraseology what he wouldn't do for her if the house wasn't kept up to the pink of perfection, no man to mete out summary chastisement should she show flighty tendencies and, above all, for the first time in her drab life she gave herself in complete command of the situation.

Poor Mary Ann! It was only too obvious what would happen to many of her type. After years of rigorous economy she and her children were now "languishing" in their pockets. "I may as well have a little fun out of this," she reflected stolidly, and dropped in next door to see what Mrs. Jones whose man was also at the front, thought about it.

Now, Mrs. Jones also had extra money to spend. Not that the separation allowances were lavish—no, indeed! It was just that Mrs. Jones and Mary Ann were unaccustomed to their financial liberty, and that a little excess of hard cash went to their vacant heads at once.

OFF TO THE "PUB."

So, believing that imitation is the sincerest form of flattery, they at once followed in the footsteps of their departed neighbor and adjourned to the nearest "pub," leaving their joint families in charge of the eldest member, probably a child of 9 or 10.

At the local tavern they encountered all the other married Mary Anns of the district, and a convivial time ensued. Later in the day, Mary Ann and her female friends returned to their respective homes, tumbled into their beds, and next morning they were given lists of soldiers' wives and were enjoined to keep a strict eye on them. Mary Ann's little convivialities were checked by stern minims of the law.

After this little setback, the gentle lady decided to mend her ways and to practice economy. To this end she was encouraged by government schemes. She invested her savings in the local post-office. Prosperity came to her. Life was sweet and smiling.

After a time the good news arrived from father at the front that he was coming home for a short leave! Immediately all his faults were forgotten by excited Mary Ann—a halo of romance surrounded him. Gone was the remembrance of the money, what surly, bony person who used to keep her well in hand—in its place stood the hero of a hundred fights, the savior of many German towns. Mary Ann rushed to welcome her lord and master.

TELLS OF SAVINGS.

Now, with the total lack of reticence which women of her class always show, could she refrain from telling him that she had actually \$20 in the local post-office. Oh, fate, revolution! Father does not say much at the moment, perhaps, but next morning he artlessly expresses the wish to glance at that savings book. From Mary Ann produces it for his inspection—alas! the proceeds are soon flung in father's pocket.

Before nightfall, father has spent at least \$5. Whether he plunges farther and spends more than on two things: Is his leave long enough? Can he procure extension?

No plea will procure additional leave so well as a statement that one of the family is at death's door. Intimation is therefore sent to the commanding officer that the youngest child has bronchitis. The commanding officer telephones the police and the police visit the doctor. The doctor admits that the child is genuinely ill. Father, then, is granted extra leave. But when the money is gone, the illness of the child is not very apt to detain him further.

I have frequently noticed that the woman who has the most debauched husband—who has suffered all manner of ill-treatment at his hands—is yet always delighted to welcome him back on leave. This does not prevent him from immensely enjoying the distinction of wearing widow's weeds. The other day I visited a slum where a certain war widow was living. Her husband had been a chronic drinker and subject to alcoholic fits. Before the war she had had to support her bed. But great distinction has befallen her since his death. She enjoys the honor of being the first war widow in that particular tenement, and she boasts of her widow's weeds from house to house. More, she even flaunts them. She is pensioned for life, too, and will never need to do a stroke of work again.

And such a glamour has fallen over the memory of the departed. "My poor, dear Bill was a saint on earth, he ever there was one," she murmurs, casting her eyes tragically up to heaven. "Too good for this wicked, wicked world, he were."

In the same building is a war widow with eight children who had an idle husband. Before the war their joint earnings were about \$7 a week. The husband was now fighting at the front, and the wife was wretchedly enjoying an allowance of \$11 a week! True, she has four soldiers' dependents on her at \$6 per head. But never before has her life been such a dream of bliss. More, she even enjoys the distinction of being the first war widow in the block, and wishing her were what she is enjoying the property!

The War Today

Repeated German attacks against the village of Bethincourt, eight miles northwest of Verdun, throughout last night were repulsed. The French report this afternoon. The German advance was stopped by the French certain of fire from Goose Hill and Dead Man Hill, to the east.

The Germans attempted to swing forward with their right wing on the Forges-Bethincourt front, west of the Meuse, planning to straighten their front before making a grand assault on the Goose Hill and Dead Man Hill positions. At the same time they made fruitless attempts to dislodge the French from the Corbeaux Woods positions, southeast of Bethincourt, recaptured by the French yesterday. The Germans, by a terrific attack, won the town of Vaux, northeast of Verdun, but were immediately driven out.

The Russian campaign in both Oriental fields is being vigorously prosecuted. The army in Anatolia is advancing at the rate of three miles a day upon Trebizond. The Black Sea fleet is off the Turks' naval base and the land forces are only 28 miles from their goal. The city of Rizeh, 35 miles away, has been occupied.

In Persia the drive against Bagdad is gaining. Senner, a city 33 miles north of Kermanshah, which is in the Russians' grip, has been captured.

Petrograd reports repulse of German attacks on the Dvinsk front. In Galicia, the Austrians have halted their offensive after occupying the 1000 yards of Slav trenches captured near Tarnopol.

KAISER'S FLEET BACK AT KIEL AFTER DASH

Cruisers and Consorts Make Successful Reconnaissance in North Sea

AMSTERDAM, March 9.—A German cruiser squadron, accompanied by several speedier destroyers, conducted a successful reconnaissance in the North Sea, and returned to its base without encountering any enemy ships, according to Berlin dispatches received here today.

The second dash of the cruiser squadron, it is now believed, explains recent reports from Dutch shippers that the German battle fleet had left Kiel Canal and was cruising the North Sea in search of the British fleet.

The reconnaissance expedition, according to well-informed persons here, probably was inspired by news of the return of the commerce raider Mowee to a German port. Several fast scout cruisers, accompanied by speedy auxiliary craft disguised by false funnels and a flotilla of destroyers, embarked on the enterprise, knowing they could take to cover if the British fleet came out, and counting upon no difficulties should British patrol-boats engage them.

Police Court Chronicles

"I'll work as hard as I want when I want to." The remark was made by a rotund individual, who awoke uncertainly in the Kensington breeze. The statement was addressed to a tree. The tree nodded its limbs in approval.

"What do you want to do and where do you intend to go?" asked the stranger, "lets-a-vandrink." But the tree made no reply.

Its reticence however made no difference to him of the avoidipoint. He explained that he, too, had been upright and innocent like the tree until he found that it was a waste of time. The recollection of the age of innocence revived a flood of memories, and the stranger launched into an oration, in which he proved by accumulating figures that sobriety was the ruin of the country. He pointed out that if every man in Philadelphia was sober, thousands of cops and 23 magistrates would be out of work.

The tree showed a sign of impatience, and rattled its branches nervously. "Honey-you-wouldn't say," said he of the burden, "but tell me—"

"That's what they say," replied the stranger. Then, finding his tongue, he added, "when-ever-a-guy-dont-know-what-to-say-he-opens-his-mouth-and-says-what-he-likes. Now, what I'd like to know is—what's what idea. I don't see none around here—and I'm looking right at you."

The stranger admitted he had fallen off the water wagon, but promised his wife he'd swear off at the beginning of Lent. He said, confidentially, "and keep sober for 40 days. I went to get just one to celebrate my swearing off. A couple of fellows treated as a mark of respect on my swearing off. So I had to treat to do the square thing. Then the bartender, he felt as though he ought to do something, so he treated. Then we each took turns treating the bartender, and then some fellow came in with a brown derby and we treated him, and there was more reciprocity—and I found myself—not at 7th and Second—but away up there in Third Avenue, and you know."

The prisoner gave his name as Allen Eckert, but he was somewhat uncertain as to his address. After explaining matters to Magistrate Dietz, Eckert felt relieved. "In falling from the wagon," said the Judge, "you lacerated your conscience, broke your pocket, ruffled your demeanor and you suffer from general contusions of the feelings. But you have suffered enough, so go home and be good during Lent."

WINTER RESORTS ATLANTIC CITY, N. J.

Hotel Dennis Superior location with an unobstructed view of beach and boardwalk. A recognized standard of excellence. C. M. 500. WALKER, BRYAN.

ATLANTIC CITY TRAYMORE has set a new standard of service. Superior location. L. W. WILSON, RESORT HOTEL. WHITEHEAD, IN THE WORLD. WILSON & CO.

THE LEADING RESORT HOTEL OF THE WORLD. Smartborough-35 Kennelms. ATLANTIC CITY, N. J. OWNERSHIP MANAGEMENT JOSIAH WHITE & SONS COMPANY.

SWARTHMORE, PA. STRATH HAVEN INN will open June 25. F. H. SCHRIBLEY.

PARCEL POST HEMSTITCHING 5c A YARD. Finishing and Buttons covered. S. C. FISHBURN, 112 South 11th. Phone LOUET 268.

Fresh Flowers THERE'S a "look well, keep fresh" quality to the flowers you obtain here at "The Sign of the Rose." Let us suggest what the flower gift should be.

Charles Henry Fox The Sign of the Rose 221 South Broad St. In the Middle of the Block

RUSSIANS PRESS ON TO TREBIZOND; NEARER BAGDAD

Capture Town in Persia 35 Miles to North of Kermanshah

WIN BLACK SEA CITY, TOO

LONDON, March 5.

Russian troops are continuing their progress along the north coast of the Black Sea toward Trebizond. Following their occupation of the Black Sea city of Rizeh, they are nearing Solihli, only 28 miles from Trebizond, Petrograd reports. Naval and land forces will co-operate in the attack on Trebizond, which after its capture, will be used as a base of Russian operations in northern Asia Minor. A large fleet of transports has been gathered at Odessa to carry additional forces to Trebizond.

Advices from Tiflis state that the Russians are confident of capturing the important Turkish port, which has a fine harbor.

Though heavy snowstorms have been raging along the Black Sea littoral for weeks the Czar's forces are advancing at the rate of about three miles a day. The Turks are falling back slowly as the Russians advance. Tiflis dispatches state that since the capture of Erzerum the progress of the Ottoman troops has appeared to weaken.

In Persia the Slavs are making marked progress toward Bagdad.

Turkish resistance all along the Black Sea coast is collapsing, official dispatches and war correspondents' accounts agree.

The announcement is made in the official statement issued from General Headquarters, which adds that the Russians have occupied also the town of Senneh, in Persia.

The activity of Russian torpedo-boats in the Black Sea against coast towns east of Trebizond is continuing with success. According to recent dispatches from Sebastopol the Turkish coast defenses are crumbling up before the intensity of the Russian bombardment.

There is apparently a growing disposition on the part of the Turks along the Anatolian shore to surrender without fighting. In many cases, according to reports received here, the Turkish population have sent out emissaries in boats to the Russian fleet offering submission to Russia.

rumors of Turkey's willingness to enter into peace negotiations with Russia are increasingly current here, but there is no official confirmation that Turkey has up to the present time made actual overtures to the Russian Government.

The export of Germany of meats sequestered at Adrianople is said to have been prohibited, and the cars unloaded, the meat being sold to the people at the station of Uskupinra. Sixty cars of war material are said to have arrived at Constantinople, guarded by German soldiers, and 25 of them were sent on to Angora.

A Morning Post dispatch from Petrograd remarks that the Russians, in reaching Marouabadi, have 85 miles more of mountain country before them before they emerge on the plains of Mesopotamia.

"The mountain pass at Kerind," the correspondent says, "rising to more than 5000 feet, is easily defensible by a determined force. The nomad tribes of Turks, Persians, Kurds and Germans, however, would not be likely to prove very determined foes after their experiences of the past two months, particularly as it is believed German leadership is now discredited in Persia."

DISCUSS NEW BUILDING IDEAS

Material Dealers' Association in Convention Here

New methods of construction and changes in products used in the work were discussed today at the convention of the Building Material Dealers' Association of Eastern Pennsylvania, at the Hotel Walton.

The convention, which opened last night with registration, will end today after a luncheon. F. R. Clarke, of the Convention Bureau of the Chamber of Commerce, spoke at the session this morning.

Officers of the association are George F. Birch, Allentown, president; E. L. Merriman, Scranton, first vice president; C. A. Miller, Reading, second vice president; J. S. Hendricks, Pottsville, third vice president; J. L. Tyson, Philadelphia, fourth vice president; and Charles H. Cox, of Pottsville, secretary.

FRESH AIR The Breath of Life

Without Draft Through the Bohem Adjustable Pressed Steel Window Ventilator

Sanitary—Stormproof WILL NOT RUST. Hard baked enamel finish WILL FIT ANY SIZE WINDOW For Homes, Offices, Apartments, etc.

For sale by department and first-class hardware stores, or Bohem Manufacturing Co., Phila.

WINTER RESORTS ATLANTIC CITY, N. J.

Hotel Dennis Superior location with an unobstructed view of beach and boardwalk. A recognized standard of excellence. C. M. 500. WALKER, BRYAN.

ATLANTIC CITY TRAYMORE has set a new standard of service. Superior location. L. W. WILSON, RESORT HOTEL. WHITEHEAD, IN THE WORLD. WILSON & CO.

THE LEADING RESORT HOTEL OF THE WORLD. Smartborough-35 Kennelms. ATLANTIC CITY, N. J. OWNERSHIP MANAGEMENT JOSIAH WHITE & SONS COMPANY.

SWARTHMORE, PA. STRATH HAVEN INN will open June 25. F. H. SCHRIBLEY.

PARCEL POST HEMSTITCHING 5c A YARD. Finishing and Buttons covered. S. C. FISHBURN, 112 South 11th. Phone LOUET 268.

Fresh Flowers THERE'S a "look well, keep fresh" quality to the flowers you obtain here at "The Sign of the Rose." Let us suggest what the flower gift should be.

Charles Henry Fox The Sign of the Rose 221 South Broad St. In the Middle of the Block

OPERAZIONI MILITARI E NAVALI IMMINENTI, DICE L'ON. SALANDRA

L'Accenno del Presidente del Consiglio ad Una Ripresa Importante di Attivita' Offensiva Calma la Camera

IL RE ANCORA A ROMA

ROME, 9 Marzo.

La crisi ministeriale, che alcuni temevano potesse risultare dalla determinazione dei socialisti ufficiali di ottenere una ampia discussione della politica estera e della condotta della guerra durante questa sessione parlamentare, e' stata evitata. Il gabinetto Salandra ha avuto, come sapete gia', una enorme maggioranza nella votazione dell'ordine del giorno di sfiducia presentato dai socialisti, e cio' si deve in parte all'atteggiamento fermo assunto dall'on. Salandra di fronte alla minacciosa tempesta, atteggiamento che valso a rendere alcuni che parevano piu' indecisi. Egli annuncio' che aveva dato re il consenso di sciogliere la Camera se erodeva che un tal provvedimento fosse necessario.

Questa dichiarazione del presidente del Consiglio precedette la discussione dell'ordine del giorno dei socialisti ed una riunione del gruppo radicale che domandava anche che si facesse la luce sulla discussione internazionale e su quella militare. In questa riunione parecchi deputati del gruppo radicale espressero il loro risentimento verso il presidente del Consiglio che aveva dichiarato di potere sciogliere la Camera se lo avesse creduto necessario. La tempesta pero' si dissolse quando il presidente del Consiglio espresse il desiderio di discutere le questioni economiche, comprese quelle che avevano relazione con la guerra. Fu allora che l'ordine del giorno dei socialisti raccolse soltanto 25 voti contro 281.

Nonostante questo voto di fiducia, la situazione parlamentare non sembra del tutto calma. Si teme anzi che una discussione agitata puo' aversi da un momento all'altro.

Un'altra cosa che valse a calmare la Camera fu un accenno che il presidente

del Consiglio fece, nelle sue dichiarazioni, ad importanti operazioni militari e navali da parte dell'Italia, operazioni che, egli disse, potrebbero anche essere imminenti. L'on. Salandra promise di spiegare nell'avvenire la condotta della guerra, ma disse che la spiegazione era fatta ora, non sarebbe che agli scopi del nemico data in situazione sulle diverse fronti europee.

IL RE A ROMA.

Il re e' ancora in Roma, e si dice che la sua presenza qui e' in relazione con la conferenza che gli alleati terranno a Parigi fra non molto ed alla quale assisteranno, per parte dell'Italia il ministro degli Esteri, on. Sonnino, ed il sottosegretario di Stato Maggiore, generale Porro. Nel pomeriggio di ieri il re ebbe lunghi colloqui con l'on. Sonnino, con il ministro della Guerra, generale Zupelli, e con il ministro della Marina, ammiraglio Viale.

Intanto la Camera ha detto, ieri, una nuova prova del suo distrettissimo, giacche', pure essendo apparentemente insoddisfatta della ptega che hanno preso gli avvenimenti, voto' quasi unanimemente la fiducia al presidente del Consiglio. L'autore dell'ordine del giorno che ha la questione delle relazioni tra Italia e Germania e' giunta ad una fine pacifica e che la vicina conferenza di Parigi potra' portare alla tanto attesa dichiarazione di guerra.

Il Messaggero pubblica un articolo inteso a smentire la voci di privazioni che si avrobbero in Italia mentre dura la guerra, voci che sono state diffuse specialmente negli stati Uniti. L'autore dell'articolo, pure ammettendo che le voci siano state sparse con buone intenzioni, allo scopo di incoraggiare sottoscrizioni per le famiglie dei soldati, dice che alla fine esse fanno male all'Italia ed agli Italiani. Dice l'articolo:

"Qualcuna delle corrispondenze dall'Italia a giornali americani disingna gli Italiani come affamati e privati di viveri. Con l'intenzione di farci un bene, in realta' lo scrittore e' da danna descrivendo la vita' come popolata di gente che non ha pane, i nostri comitati come abbisognanti di tutto e le nostre donne ed i nostri bambini come mal nutriti e mal vestiti."

LA BATTAGLIA DI VERDUN.

La violenza dell'attacco tedesco contro la fortezza francese di Verdun e' stata rotta ancora una volta da un violento contrattacco francese che ha fatto guadagnare alle truppe della Repubblica una buona parte del terreno perduto nei giorni scorsi. Il terreno riguadagnato dai francesi e' a nord-ovest di Verdun, nel Bosco di Gouzeville. I nostri soldati hanno perduto il villaggio di Honville, che del resto restava fuori delle nuove linee di difesa.

La situazione a Verdun non e' pero' af-

fatto disperata, che anzi i francesi sono pienamente convinti di avere arrestato l'offensiva tedesca contro la fortezza, offensiva che costa ai tedeschi perdite enormi confermate dai prigionieri giunti a Parigi.

Generalmente si ritiene che la battaglia di Verdun e' entrata nella sua terza fase, la fase finale, e l'attesa pero' e' enorme anche in Italia, dove si seguono con vivo interesse gli avvenimenti di Francia.

Intanto ultime notizie giungono dalla Russia. Le forze dello czar hanno occupato il porto fortificato turco di Rizeh, che si trova ad appena 35 miglia ad est di Trebisonda, mentre le forze operanti in Persia hanno fatto nuovi progressi e sono giunte a Senna, che hanno occupato, (Hidogin).

CA proposito della battaglia di Verdun, un diplomatico dell'Intesa aveva telegrafato da Washington chiedendo notizie al suo governo circa la situazione a Verdun. Il governo in parola ha risposto: "Non datevi pensiero. Joffre non si strappa mica i capelli." Infatti negli ultimi due giorni tutto lo sforzo tedesco era spento nella conquista del Bosco di Corbeaux, e quello che i tedeschi avevano guadagnato e' stato perduto ieri quando i francesi hanno ripreso al nemico la maggior parte delle posizioni nel bosco stesso.

PLAN TO RESTORE RACES IN FAIRMOUNT PARK

Continued from Page One

Philadelphia is desirous of having these races reinstated so as to get the benefit of these exciting outdoor sports, but the Quaker City Motor Club, at the present time is unable to father the plan without assistance from the city. This assistance should be given in the nature of prizes to get entrants, as the expert automobile races will not pay an entrance fee, but expect to get a cash prize sufficient to warrant him in paying the expense of getting his machine in condition for the race and have something left for himself.

The Chambers Umbrella Factory 18 N. 6TH ST. 3034 MARKET ST.

All money obtained from parking spaces and privileges after the expiration of the race is paid should be donated equally to the Police Pension Fund and the Park Guard Pension Fund, or any other way as designated by a committee of Councilmen, but the Quaker City Motor Club should be guaranteed against any loss.

I believe that a donation by the city to a special committee of Councilmen to an amount equal to about \$25,000 would be ample to secure sufficient entrants to make the race interesting, and thereby give our citizens a day of special pleasure and enjoyment and also advertise the city to an extent which it could not get in any other way for a like amount.



EYES EXAMINED FREE

WE never use drops in the examination of the eyes for glasses. Therefore you cannot obtain anything but your honest refraction. Be honest with your eyes, especially when they are in distress, as they are priceless in value. The best service money can buy is obtainable here at the most reasonable cost in the city. Prescriptions Accurately Filled and Broken Lenses Duplicated AT HALF PRICE.

CHAS. MILGROM & BRO. 29 S. 8th St. 32 N. 13th St. Established 1903

Advertisement for Packard Light Service Trucks. Text: "Ask the man who owns one For SPEEDY SERVICE With Capacity for Profitable Loads and Stamina for Steady Traffic, Buy These PACKARD Light Service Trucks". Includes an illustration of a Packard truck and the Packard logo at the bottom.