PENSION PROBLEMS:

HOW TO SOLVE THEM.

By AN EXPERT.

British and Victory Medals, Queen Mary's Army Auxiliary Corps—Navy Medals—Disabled Men and the Civil Service A New Handbook That All Should Possess: "The Rights of the Ex-Service Man and Woman."

FREE ADVICE TO OUR READERS.

I learn that all British War and Victory medals awarded to members of the Queen Mary's Army Auxiliary Corps are now available for distribution. Those members of the corps who have not yet received the decorations to which they are entitled should apply to the Secretary, War Office, Percy House Schools, Isleworth, Middlesex. The whole of the records have been transferred to this place, and all correspondence should now be addressed there. I understand that the decorations are awarded only to those who went overseas. Applicants for the medals should give their full postal address, and their regimental number while serving.

* * *

War medals are now available for issue to officers and men of the naval forces, retired, demobilised, etc., who have received, or are entitled to the naval award of either the 1914 Star or the 1914-15 Star, except those whose surnames begin with one of the letters B, H, W. Applications should be made to the Accountant-General of the Navy, Medal Branch, Cornwall House, Stamford-street, London, S.E.1, accompanied by certificate of service, etc. All service during the war in any other branch of H.M. Forces should be fully stated, quoting regimental number. It has been pointed out to me that personal applications, and applications out of the order shown, cannot be dealt with. Men whose services do not qualify for one of the Stars should not apply at present.

* * *

Mr. Hilton Young, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, stated recently in the House of Commons that the number of disabled men who are at present under notice of discharge from Government Departments in London is, so far as can be ascertained, 126. This figure does not include those engaged in an industrial or manipulative capacity, in respect of whom information is not immediately available. Except where the employment is of a casual character, the cases of these men are still under consideration, as a result of which a considerable proportion of them will certainly be found employment in other branches of the departments in which they are engaged. The special claims of disabled men is of very considerable concern to the Government.

* * *

A correspondent raises a question which is of general interest, so I will answer it here. He asks if the scheme for the higher education of officers and men at the universities and other institutions is still open. The service is continuing only in the sense that obligations to particular individuals long since entered into are still in course of discharge. Except in a few exceptional cases of officers and men whose discharge from the Army was delayed on such grounds as detention in hospital or compulsory detention in a remote theatre of war, no new applications have been accepted since June 30, 1920.

* * *

I can now lay before you "the bill of fare" provided by Mr. Wilkinson Sherren in the new handbook entitled "The Rights of the Ex-Service Man and Woman," to which Mr. C. A. McCurdy has written an introduction. The picture seems to be a most complete one, in that it has background, middle distance, and foreground. In the foreground is put in plain language all the rights and advantages to which disabled officers and men are entitled, including widows and children, nurses and dependants.

* * *

Those who desire to see chapter and verse for every statement can turn to the Appendices, in which they will find, in the utmost detail, all they want to know. Then there is set forth all the various training and educational facilities that have been provided by the Government, and the categories of men who are still able to enter for training. The compiler affords a good deal of space to medical treatment and so on, and here again the information is supplemented by references to the Royal Warrants. The Handbook also includes the regulations as to medals, and some interesting information as to present conditions of pay and service in the Navy, Army, and Air Force. Mr. Sherren provides a plain and consecutive statement of very useful and interesting facts, and Mr. McCurdy gives it as his opinion that "he has carried out his difficult task carefully and well, and the information seems to be arranged in the best possible manner."

* * *

It is stated in the introduction to "The Rights of the Ex-Service Man and Woman," that: "Apart from the provision of pensions and allowances to approximately 3,250,000 men, women, and children, and the provision of medical treatment at a cost of £16,000,000 a year (including artificial limbs and appliances and treatment allowances in excess of pension), the Government has also expended £12,000,000 on training facilities, £5,721,600 on education facilities, £10,860,267 on Civil Liability Grants, £3,144,748 on Civil Liability Resettlement Grants, £40,000,000 on out-of-work donation, £11,622,077 on land settlement, £1,111,382 on emigration, making a total of £84,460,074." The handbook can be obtained at any of the railway bookstalls.

ANSWER TO CORRESPONDENT.

W. H. R., Chinnor.—This was dealt with in our last article.

Our Pensions Expert is anxious to assist sailors and soldiers and their wives and dependents in dealing with intricacies of the War Pensions System.

Address your queries to "Pensions Expert," c/o Editor of this paper. All essential facts should be stated as briefly as possible, such as name, number, rank, regiment of soldier, name and rating of sailor, particulars of families and separation allowance and (in inquiries concerning civil liabilities) pre-war or pre-enlistment income, present or war income, and full liabilities. Do not send any documents, birth certificates, or discharge papers, etc.

Will correspondents please make a point or sending their regimental number, rank, name, and regiment?

WAR GRAVES.

COMMISSION DECIDES TO ADD AGES FREE OF COST.

The War Office announces that the Imperial War Graves Commission has discussed the question of the engraving of ages on headstones, and has decided that in all cases where the next-of-kin desires that the age should be engraved, this shall in future be done at the expense of the commission.

Up to now the engraving of the ages on the headstones has been done at the expense of the relatives, and the commission paid only in cases where the people were too poorly circumstanced to pay themselves. This system led to endless complications and a great deal of misapprehension.

Thus a long and totally unnecessary dispute with the War Commission ends satisfactorily. The war was a young man's war, and it was felt on all sides that the memorials would be practically meaningless unless they showed how Great Britain and its Dependencies gave the flower of their youth for the Empire, as well as the pick of their manhood.

CHILDREN'S SKELETONS.

DETAINED MAN DECLARES HIS INNOCENCE AT INQUEST.

Charles Herbert Wolfe, the steam-roller driver who has been detained in connection with the discovery of the skeletons of two children in a field near Scunthorpe (Lincolnshire), declared at the inquest that he was "innocent of anything."

The coroner said a Mrs. Martin would state that she was formerly housekeeper to Wolfe, and that he had two children, aged six and four. In August he said he had sent them to a home in Doncaster.

Mrs. Martin said Wolfe told her the girl would become a nun and the boy a sailor. His wife, he said, was dead.

A police inspector stated that Wolfe, when detained, said he believed his children were in a home in France.

KENSINGTON ROBBERY.

MEN WITH A VAN STEAL FURNITURE FROM A SHOP.

In the absence of the tenants, Mr. and Mrs. Harris, furniture dealers, several men drove up in a van to 137, Church-street, Kensington, and took away with them three sets of furniture, 24 plate trays, a large quantity of valuable damask, and other goods, worth £350.

Scotland Yard, who are investigating the burglary, are also engaged in solving the mystery which surrounds the theft of jewellery valued at £1,000, the property of Mrs. Stanhope Tollemache, of Connaught-square.

The missing property includes eight brooches set with diamonds and rubies, an emerald pendant, a gold watch set with pearls, a gold handbag, diamond and pearl earrings, and diamond necklets.

ELECTRIC BRIGHTON LINE.

GREAT SCHEME THAT WILL GIVE WORK FOR FOUR YEARS.

Regular employment for four years for 15,400 men will be found by the L.B.S.C.R. scheme to electrify the whole of the suburban system and the main lines to Brighton, Worthing and Eastbourne.

The scheme, which has been prepared by Sir Philip Dawson, M.P., consulting electrical engineer to the company, is ready to be proceeded with at once.

Official details are given by "Modern Transport," which says 774 miles of single track are affected, of which 662 remain to be equipped.

CORNISH VILLAGE MYSTERY.

The inquest on Mrs. Black, who died at Tregonissey, Cornwall, under circumstances which have not yet been explained, has been postponed owing to the analyst's report having been delayed.

Mr. Black, the husband, an ex-insurance agent, has not yet been traced. He is wanted by the police on charges concerning two insurance policies.

LICENCES FOR "POP-GUNS."

NONE REQUIRED IF THEY ARE USED IN HOUSE OR GARDEN.

The imposition of a ten shillings fine on a boy for carrying a "pop gun" without possessing a licence has caused considerable perturbation in nurseries throughout the country.

A well-known toy merchant stated that there are two kinds of "pop guns," the old-fashioned wooden gun with a piece of cork and a piece of string, and another which is a small spring gun. Some doubt was expressed as to whether the gun, for the carrying of which a fine was imposed, belonged to the former category.

A gunsmith who discussed the question pointed out that licences were not required even for air guns or shot guns, providing they were used in the house or garden. Any firearm which expelled a bullet, however, such as a pistol or rifle, came under the Act requiring a licence.

£20, accumulated "tips," were found on Robert Laidlaw, who died in Hackney workhouse.

The Reserve Fleet at Portsmouth has been inspected by Sir Eric Geddes and his economy experts.

Captain F. E. Guest, Secretary for Air, flew to Paris to attend the International Air Congress.

KAY'S "LINSEED COMPOUND" (with Aniseed Senega, Squill, Tolu, &c.), for Coughs and Colds.

A Bombay typist, charged with threatening the life of the Prince of Wales, was sentenced to two months' imprisonment.

"You cannot frighten the Japanese or browbeat them or bully them," said Sir Ian Hamilton, speaking at the London Press Club.

KAY'S "LINSEED COMPOUND" for Coughs, Colds and Bronchial troubles. 1/3, 2/-, 4/6.

"I am not aware of any strong feeling in favour of the Government undertaking the censorship of films," said the Home Secretary in Parliament, adding that local authorities had considerable powers of regulation and did exercise a close control over the films exhibited.

CINEMA NOTES.

By "LOCKER-ON."

A fine private show was that of "Sibilla, the Dancer," which has two special features: these are the exquisite pictures of the Alhambra and other fine old Spanish buildings, and its grim study of life. With in an atmosphere of realism Marcel L'Herbier (producer of "The Judgment of the Deep") has presented a tragedy—the last pages of a woman's life, the summary of her existence, the story of the cross she bore to the bitter end.

WITH GRIM REALISM.

From the point of view of dramatic art, his work is of the greatest interest, and on this account it should appeal to high-class audiences. Otherwise, the main appeal of the picture must be to audiences with a taste for "Grand Guignol"; not that the

picture is an "out and out shocker," but, with its grim realism, it more nearly falls within that category than any other. It is a fine piece of work with a special appeal to be duly appreciated by the right type of audience. The cast is as follows: Sibilla, the Dancer (Eve Francis); Joã, the Jester (M. Heriat); Estiria (M. Paulais); Iliana (Marcelle Pradot); Iliana's maid (Edith Rheal); and Hedmik (M. Jaque-Catelain).

A PIONEER PLAYER.

Ethel Clayton, the Paramount actress, who stars in "Crooked Streets," can be termed a pioneer film player. She graduated from the stage to the screen during the period of the cinema's evolution. It was while Miss Clayton was playing in "The Country Boy" that she attracted the attention of the film producers, and she afterwards appeared in sixteen features during the first three years. She again returned to the stage in "The Brute," but found that she preferred the silent to the spoken drama, so went back to the motion pictures. Since then she has played in many well-known photoplays with increasing success, and to-day she is one of the most popular artistes connected with the motion picture field. Her work in the Paramount pictures is along the line of emotional domestic stories.

FILM-WORK OR DOMESTICITY?

Another sidelight into the life of a film actress is that given by Pearl White, who says that during the course of a year she receives thousands of letters from picture-goers all over the world, the majority of which are from girls who tell her how much they wish they could get into motion pictures. "I was playing," she says, "in a stock company in South America when I first wished to enter motion pictures. Did I remain in that stock company and wait patiently for my wish to come true? I did

not. At the earliest possible moment I journeyed to New York and made a tour of the various companies. One manager told me to go home and get married. He said the screen was no place for me. I didn't want a nice little home and a husband to support me. What I needed was a good job to keep four walls around me, a roof over my head and three meals a day, and I wanted a few luxuries for which I was willing to work hard. There have been many stars in motion pictures, but take it from me that those who have lasted are those who have taken the work seriously."

ATTENTION TO DETAIL.

The public, and sometimes exhibitors, too, rarely realise the immense amount of trouble which film producers take to secure comparatively unimportant effects in pictures. For instance, Will Kellino, who has just finished the production of a new "Westminster" film, "Class and No Class," very anxious to give dramatic realism to a narrative made in the witness-box at a magistrate's court, decided to "mix in" his "flash-backs." (The effect of "mixing" his scenes in this film will be that the pictures of the man telling his story will be dissolved into a visualisation of the action and scenes which he is describing.) In order to do this he had to take a portion of the studio setting of the court out to various spots in the country; the effect could not be gained otherwise. As there were a large number of scenes, scattered all over the place, and the witness-box, etc., in a magistrate's court is not a vest-pocket affair, some idea of the work entailed may be gathered.

THE CHILD PRODIGY.

This is an age of infant prodigies, yet it would be difficult to point to any stage star of the juvenile persuasion who could hold the attention of an audience for nearly two hours. This is what Jackie Coogan, the wonder boy of the screen, is accomplishing. In his latest film, "Peck's Bad Boy," which Pathe's are releasing in this country, this youthful £200 a week actor bears the responsibility of a six-reel film on his diminutive shoulders. And he performs to audiences often far in excess of the numbers which fill the average-sized theatre. Coogan's success is largely the triumph of personality, which the camera catches and reflects on the silver sheet with irresistible appeal. Further, because Jackie Coogan is much too young to be affected or forced in his work, he is human to the highest degree.

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WIDOW WELCH'S FEMALE PILLS
Prompt and Reliable for Ladies. Awarded Certificate of Merit. Ordered by Specialists for the cure of all Female Complaints. 1/3 and 3/- of all Chemists, or post free 1/4 and 3/2 from CATHERINE KEARSLEY (Dept. C.C.P.), 2 Waterloo Road, London, S.E.1
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Immediately you notice any irregularity of the system take Towle's Pills. They will quickly remove all suffering. Boxes 1/3 and 3/-, of all Chemists, or sent anywhere on receipt of P.O. for 1/4 or 3/2 from
E. T. TOWLE & CO., Ltd.,
11, LONG ROW, NOTTINGHAM.
(Established 1826.)
Write for Booklet containing most invaluable information for Married Women. Post Free.

KAY'S "LINSEED COMPOUND" for Coughs and Colds. Of over 50 years' proven efficacy.

The body of Harry Adler, aged 27, of 25, Stayners-road, Mile End, has been recovered from the Serpentine.

At an inquest at Southampton on John Aleck Thomas, 25, who shot Lilian May Wheeler, 19, whom he was to have married at Christmas, and then himself, the jury found a verdict of Murder and Suicide while of Unsound Mind.

WINE FOR CHRISTMAS
Send 2/- in stamps or P.O. to NEWBALL & MASON, Nottingham, and they will send you per Parcels Post
TWO BOTTLES
MASON'S WINE ESSENCE
GINGER, RASPBERRY, ORANGE OR ELDERBERRY FLAVOURS.
GOOD it's MASON'S
Absolutely the finest, cheapest and best drink for Children's Parties and Winter Festivities.

ICEBERG DANGERS.

Icebergs—true icebergs as apart from floe ice—are simply the broken-off ends of the great ice rivers which flow slowly off Greenland and other Arctic lands. Consequently the lower part of an iceberg is full of rocks and boulders which it has picked up in its passage towards the sea. As the iceberg melts it drops its load of boulders, which sink to the bottom. Most of these are dropped in the comparatively shallow water near the coast, and in the course of years accumulate so as to foul the whole of the sea bottom, and thus make trawling impossible.

All along the southern part of the Greenland coast there are quantities of fish on a great natural fishing bank, yet owing to the icebergs these fish remain unmolested. Should a trawler drop her trawl there it is bound to catch in the boulders, in which case as much as a thousand pounds' worth of "gear" may be lost.

KAY'S "LINSEED COMPOUND" with warm water is an excellent gargle for Sore Throat.

A firm of Merthyr bakers has introduced two loaves for 4½d.

For abducting Jeremiah Thick, 2 years 9 months old, from his mother, who lives in Rutland-street, Stepney, E., Ivy Wheeler, 25, a seamstress, who was stated to have replied to the charge, "Yes, I took him away. I thought I could look after him better than she could," was sentenced at London Sessions to 9 months' imprisonment.

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For making the lightest, most digestible and appetising Bread, Cakes, Pastry, Puddings and Pies.
BORWICK'S
BAKING POWDER
has had an unrivalled reputation all over the world for nearly 80 years.

Jumping from a back window when he found the house in flames, William Wheeler, of Kearney, Ontario, fought his way into the front of the house and rescued his mother, whom he found with four children, who were dead.

KAY'S "LINSEED COMPOUND" the old-established remedy for Coughs and Colds. 1/3, 2/-, 4/6.

As the £6,000 necessary for the purchase of Castle Wood, a woodland estate of 22 acres, near Woolwich, S.E., has been raised by the Shooter's Hill Preservation Committee, the London County Council have agreed to take it over and lay it out as a public park.

Miscellaneous Sales and W...

CHURCH BAZAARS supplied Stationery ... Goods, sale or return. Write or forward ... parcel.—F. Jason, 21, Cairo-road, E.17.

JUMPERS, Best English Art Silk, ... able, fast dyes. Send for free shade card ... paid.
Spencer & Co., 223, Bishopsgate, E.C.2

KNITTING Wools, 4d. oz. Silk, 5/11 4-oz. ... —Austin, King Richards, Leicester.

FIVE GUINEAS for 300 words essay. For particulars write to Walford Cross, 74, ... Handsworth, Birmingham.

SKIRTS. All-wool Tweed, smart tailor-made ... value. All one price, 11/9. Patterns free.— ... Serge Co., Exchange, Huddersfield.

WALLPAPERS.
New Season's Pattern Book Now Ready.
Goodier & Son, Sheffield

GENUINE OFFER TO HOME WORKERS ... Not M.O. No canvassing. Send stamped ... envelope for particulars.—A. (S.N.), 97, ... Reading.

RIBBONS! RIBBONS! All colours ... drapers and shopkeepers. Parcels £2, £3, £... paid.—Ross & Co., Ribbon Specialists, Dept. ... North-street, Leeds, Yorks.

BARBED WIRE. 5,000 New cwt. Coils, 17/6 ... Norman-street, Cardiff.

CHRISTMAS DECORATIO...
Make your Home cheerful for Christmas with ... Wallpapers. Prices: 7½d., 9d., 10½d., ... rooms and the price you wish to pay. Pattern ... R. E. Shröder, Ltd., Catford Bridge, S.E.6.

GOLD Imitation Bracelets, 2/- doz. Sample ... equalled.—C., 14, Hamlet-gdns, Hammersmith.

AS INTRODUCTION.—10,000 35/- exclusive ... fumery sets for 10/6. Write for ... sample. Postage 5d. Either Chypre, Origan, ... Fleurs, Mille Fleurs, etc.—French Perfume Co., ... Inn-rd., London.

BUSINESS.—Start your own. Small ... Commence now, offer not repeating.—Mar... stone-street, London, S.E.1.

JUMPERS. "Sunset" spun silk, white, ... 4lb., post paid, samples free. Cash back ... TEXTILE CO. SILK MILL, LOWER BENTHAM, ...

WE BUY FOR CA...
Old Gold, Silver, Antiques, Artificial Teeth ... any condition. BEST CASH OFFER ... Bankers, Barclay's Bloomsbury Branch, ... 116, Amhurst-rd., Hackney, London. ...

XMAS OFFER.—25 Choice Xmas Cards ... 2/6. Sent by return.—Raphael Bros., ... lane, Ipswich, Suffolk.

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The London County Council ... seek parliamentary powers ... run railless tramway-cars from ... wood to Lee Green at a cost of ...

A bronze tablet was laid on the ... Warriors' grave by a ... Rotarians.

Piles are caused by the disorder of functions of the system which cannot be corrected by external remedies.
"Pylitna" Powder ... harmless ... warm milk ... the causes and ... or prevent attack ... M.D. (Lond.) ... quickly and ... usual treatment ... Of Chemists, 2/9 & ... of "PYLITNA," 3, Farr... London ...

Mr. Justice McCardie, during the ... of a bigamy charge at Cardiff Assizes ... that if a poor man knew his wife ... unfaithful he could institute proceedings ... divorce at a total cost, if successful ... or £12. "It is desirable that this ... be known," said the judge.

OUR LONDON LET...

[From Our Special Correspon...

...mall by degrees and beauti... ...the position with rega... worries that still beset us in ... as an aftermath of war. ... especially such comparativ... ...rs as omnibus and tram ... they are not so trivial as ... we bear in mind their intim... wayfarer in London. It is ... therefore, to find that t... ...ty Council have decided to ... fare on their tramway ser... far the biggest and most ... the metropolitan boundari... ...erable time past the lowest ... three-halfpence, a fact that ... acted as a deterrent to man... ...gers. But such is the popula... fare that the management ... of a profit at the end of twel...

FLY.

...far so good. The movement ... in the costs of daily life is ... right direction and deserves ... ...agement. This, apparent... to get in abundant mea... is a fly in the ointment—th... somewhere. Just when the ... into line with popular re... is a disagreement between t... Omnibus Company and it... time these lines appear th... probably have been decided o... other. There has already ... and the men rejected the ... L.G.O.C., not on a point of ... have been imagined, but on ... "spread-over" hours in vi... ...ience of the public. The ... that the actual working ... affected. In other words, ...ay will be spread over tw... when a settlement is reache... ...res will follow, thus red... travel in competition with ...

...LE AND RETAIL.

While discussing this question o... tendency in travel costs, ... that there has been s... ...ing in the City on the matt... It appears, from statement... ...ting of the City Corporation, ... substantial difference between ... at the wholesale mark... control and those which the ... pay retail. A resolution ... stated that these markets— Billingsgate, and Leadenh... ...oving supplies," and that ... have fallen almost to pre-w... therefore difficult to under... ...are so extensively charg... Even while allowing ... increased burden of overhea... bills, rates and taxes, and ... clearly a sufficient margin... for example, in cabbages, ...ght wholesale for a penny ... fifteenpence to eighteenpe... charged to the consumer.

PERCENTAGES.

...is yet another point wo... this matter of dietary cost... from figures given by the ... National Farmers' Union tha... ...ancy between producers' ... charges in meat, wheat ... the question of beef cos... it appears that since the ... ...uary last up to the end o... ...mer has been getting 36 ... his cattle. But the consu... to the extent of a reduc... In the case of mutton ... even more marked, for th... ...ceived 48 per cent. less for ... reduction in mutton to ... has been only 33 per cent. ... the average price at 45s., ... drop of 47½ per cent., but t... has fallen by only 25 per ... ...gued that instead of an e... penny loaf, it should be pu... ...pence. These and other ... certainly deserve conside... consumer.

GALLOPING SPANKERS.

...I remember well the outcr... ...talists when the coming ... vehicle threatened the exti... traffic in the streets. I ha... ...tion of one particular pha... ...ency. It was seriously urge... the poor old hacks in the ... by machine traction would ... de-humanise the London ... to me at the time a ... ...nt, but you never can ... in advance. The result h... That the real de-humanisin... treatment by overwork and ... ...n-out animals, has been pu... our moral feelings, like th... ...n of the streets, have ... for the change. All this ... fact that this week the L... has parted with its las... and will henceforth rely ... Now, if there is any ... it is for the loss of the ... ...le of former days of a span... ...-fed horses being driven a... rescue. But even there ... ...st in picturesqueness has b... ...iency.

...E AND RETROSPECT.

...another jubilee. We seem ... of them. This time it is th... Victoria-street, the noble ... believe that is the corre... connects the Mansion H... Embankment at Blackfriars. ... personal, and therefore ... ...ed, point of view, it is o... in the whole of London ab... very little. Like its na... ...inster, it is so spacious and ... ...ngly to suggest the utilitari... must have inspired its co... the air of having bee... ...h" some congeries of an... but historic byways bound... in the records of old-time... ...ore to me it is always su... appreciation is limited accor... much rather dwell on the b... ...tiveness of the magnificent ... ...ent, dating from Roma... was found nearly twenty ... surface at the end of Bucklers... Victoria-street was under ... There it stands in the base... Guildhall Museum, a sple... ...man London. You would ne... ...istence as you trail along t...

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