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KING EDWARD'S RETURN.

H. M. the King of England arrived back in London at 6 p. m. on Saturday last.

MR. HALDANE AND BRITISH MANUFACTURERS.

In a speech delivered at Abernethy on Saturday evening Mr. Haldane replied to several criticisms which had been made of his manner of administering his office, especially with reference to his having placed large orders in foreign countries. On taking up his official duties, he said, he had noticed that the War Department had been in the habit of giving preference to certain firms and that the country was paying too much for many requisites. As far as meat supplies to the army were concerned, it mattered not so much whence they came so that they were good and cheap. He had saved 50 to 60,000 pounds a year. Horse-shoes he had ordered in America because by doing so he had saved 15 to 17 per cent of the cost, and besides this, delivery was quicker. He had no greater desire than to order the army supplies in England, and he hoped that the home manufacturers would in future make more reasonable offers. Although wages were higher in America the prices were lower than in England.

Referring to the Anglo-Russian agreement Mr. Haldane said that this was an important document. He hoped that it would serve to finally remove the intolerable tension which had existed in Asia. The agreement was a great work of the Foreign Minister and the Government.

In conclusion Mr. Haldane declared that before appealing to the country, Government would endeavour to introduce social reforms. In the next Parliamentary Session it was intended to bring up the subject of Old Age Pensions and the subject of alcohol.

FIRE IN NEWMARKET.

WOMAN DEAD. 300 PEOPLE INJURED.

London, September 9.

During cinematographic performances at Newmarket yesterday the boarding caught fire. A terrible panic ensued. About 300 people were injured. One woman died.

WILTSHIRE MANOEUVRES.

APPARENT SHORTAGE OF MEN AND HORSES.

A *Globe* correspondent who is following the manoeuvres states that the weakness of battalions and the shortage of artillery horses among the units taking part in the manoeuvres in Wiltshire have called forth an authoritative statement on the question of strengths and establishments, which will no doubt be read with widespread interest. It is especially a matter that has been taken note of by the foreign military attachés.

In case of war a British battalion takes the field with a total strength of 1,024 officers and men, not counting about 100 men who remain at the base of operations. This strength is called the "war establishment". In peace the establishment of a battalion is only 720 rank and file, and on mobilisation all gaps can be filled with Reservists. But at the manoeuvres we often see as few as 400, and rarely more than 600 men marching in the ranks of a battalion, owing to the number of insufficiently trained recruits, men in hospital, and others left behind to carry out necessary work. Besides this, in September also the home battalions begin to send drafts of men to their linked battalions abroad; these men are entitled to a furlough, and in some cases, when manoeuvres are held late in the year, this fact may account for a weak battalion. Other causes also operate in the same direction. The whole question of strengths is a very complicated one, but enough has been said to show that the variation in the strengths of units at home is not necessarily the result of fluctuations in the recruiting market, but is largely a matter

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of administration, and that care of the public purse is at the root of the matter.

A field artillery brigade consists of three batteries and an ammunition column. In time of war each of the batteries would have nearly 200 men, 170 horses, six guns, and 12 ammunition waggons; while the ammunition column would have over 300 men and nearly 400 horses. But in time of peace it is nothing unusual to see batteries with only four guns and a couple of waggons, and sometimes as few as 56 horses. But there is no great cause for alarm. The public purse is again the governing factor; the balance of men, guns, and waggons is available for instant use, and plans are made for the provision of the necessary horses. The cost of keeping up mounted units to war strength in time of peace would be prohibitive, and even Continental armies are obliged to resort to a similar system.

THE GREAT WYRLEY OUTRAGES.

AN ARREST.

At the Wolverhampton Police-court on Friday, before Messrs. A. C. Twentymen, J. Marston, and Joseph Evans, Hollis Morgan was charged with feloniously killing a horse at Great Wyrley, on August 26, and with wounding and maiming another on the same night. On appearing in the dock prisoner, who has a slouching appearance, commenced crying, but recovered himself. His mother had to leave the court.

The prisoner is about 23 years of age, and is regarded by neighbours as a quiet, inoffensive fellow. He was an assistant to Mr. Hollingsworth a pork butcher, of Wolverhampton, and lodged in Bridge-street, Wolverhampton, going home to Great Wyrley for the week-ends.

Capt. Burnett, Chief Constable of Wolverhampton, said a cap and the bowl of a wooden pipe were forwarded to him by the county police as having been found in the fields where the horses were maimed. On August 26, from information which he obtained, he felt justified in having the prisoner shadowed. The prisoner two days before the outrage occurred took home a knife and sharpened it.

Det.-Inspector James Lewis stated that acting on instructions he received from Capt. Burnett he, together with Supt. Stokes, went to the shop of Mr. Hollingsworth, pork butcher, in Horsley Fields,



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to arrest prisoner about 7.15 on Thursday night. He went to the front and Stokes to the back door. He saw prisoner, and took him into the office, and said, "I arrest you on a charge of maiming two horses at Great Wyrley during the night of August 26 last," to which the prisoner replied, "I will tell you where I was that night. I slept at home with my two brothers."

Prisoner in dock here interrupted, saying, "I couldn't tell whether it was that particular night."

Det. Lewis, continuing, said: The prisoner stated he had been to Bloxwich Wakes with Alfred Whitehouse, and was at home at 11.30 that night. His mother got his breakfast about 5.30 next morning, and he came on his bicycle to Wolverhampton. On the way to the station prisoner said he wasn't sure whether it was a week last Monday or a fortnight last Monday that he slept at home, but it was the night of the Bloxwich Wakes. On arrival at the station I again charged him, and he replied, "I am innocent." The same night (said Det. Lewis) I went to prisoner's lodgings, and found a waistcoat in the bedroom, in the pocket of which was an amber mouthpiece corresponding to the bowl of the pipe found in the field where the mutilated horse was discovered.

May Holding, who goes every day to the lodgings of prisoner, to assist the landlady, Mrs. Thornhill, replied, when Detective Lewis showed her the cap found in the field, that it was similar to the one Hollis Morgan had been wearing. She had noticed that Morgan had a new one about three weeks ago. On seeing the pipe she recognised it as being similar to the one Morgan used to smoke.

Prisoner here interpolated he had had a new cap for five weeks.

THE PIPE CLUE.

With regard to the pipe which was found on the scene of the outrage of August 26, an interesting incident has just come to light, says the *Daily Telegraph*. John Shaw, butcher's assistant, Bridg-town, Cannock, has stated to the police that five or six weeks ago he was passing the field where Mr. Cartwright's horse was maimed, and as he was sick of smoking he threw the bowl-end of the pipe over the hedge. This bowl-end, he believed, is the one the police now say belongs to Morgan.

The *Press Association* states that Mr. R. A. Willcock, solicitor, who is engaged on behalf of Hollis Morgan, visited Morgan on Saturday in Stafford Gaol. Mr. Willcock, in an interview, subsequently said there was no doubt that Morgan was innocent of the charge brought against him, and nine witnesses would be in attendance at Penkridge Police-court, on Monday, to prove that Morgan was at his home at Great Wyrley before, and at the time, the outrages were committed.

From inquiries made by the *Tribune* Wolverhampton correspondent, there is every reason to believe that another arrest will be made.

DECEASED WIFE'S SISTER.

FIRST NOTICE UNDER THE NEW ACT.

In Aberdeen the first notice of marriage under the recently passed Deceased Wife's Sister Act has been given. A widower gave notice the other day of his intention to marry his deceased wife's sister, but the registrar hesitated to put up the necessary notice, not being certain whether the Act was yet the law of the land. In order to satisfy himself on the point, he communicated with headquarters, and a reply has been received stating that the notice is in perfect order, the Act having come into operation forthwith.

THE TRADES UNION CONGRESS.

The Trades Union Congress at Bath, England, was closed on Saturday last. For its last sitting it had only two resolutions left on the agenda—

The Finest Habana Cigars, English cigarettes and tobacco. L. Wolf, Prager Str. 48.