

THIS MEANS YOU!
When you have finished reading ANSWERS hand it over the counter of any post-office and it will be sent to lighten the dreary hours of some fighting man. No wrapping—no address.

ANSWERS

The Popular Journal for Home and Train.

BUY A WAR BOND TO-DAY.

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MAKE YOUR MONEY FIGHT. BUY A WAR BOND.

"My dear, did you make this Christmas-pudding out of the cookery book?"
"Yes, love!"
"I thought I tasted one of the covers."

BLACKEST CHRISTMAS ON RECORD.

SOME people are apt to think that these last three Christmases have been black ones, even though some of them have been white in the old sense, but it is not the truth.
No; for the worst and blackest Christmas on record we must go back to the Crimean Christmas of 1854. It was perhaps the worst managed war on record, and is an object lesson in inefficiency this country, with all its faults, has never forgotten. For one thing the frost was terrible, the water-logged guns freezing and the metal actually cracking. Our splendid heroes went almost bare-footed and a shipload of boots came which were all for the left foot! Food ships were close at hand and nobody seemed to know anything about them, and the result was that the men were not only frost-bitten but hunger-bitten. Disease broke out, and the whole case was terrible.
One good thing came out of the trouble—our splendid modern nurses and the splendid organisations and systems under which they perform such beneficent work. Their patron saint is Florence Nightingale, the heroine of the Crimea, as Edith Cavell, one of her successors, is the heroine of Belgium and Britain to-day.

SHE: "You interest me strangely—as no other man ever has."
HE: "You sprang that on me last night."
SHE: "Oh, was it you?"

POPULAR DIVORCE CUSTOMS.

BEFORE very long Parliament will be engaged discussing the revision of our marriage laws, and this revision of laws brings to mind the procedure adopted by wedded parties requiring divorce in other less-civilised countries.
Everybody knows that in China chop-sticks are used for eating food; but few know they are used in a divorce ceremony. The parties desiring divorce must break a pair of chop-sticks in the presence of witnesses, and the thing is done. But that is not all. Divorces are allowed in all cases of criminality, mutual dislike, jealousy, incompatibility of temperament, or—mark you!—too much loquacity on the part of the wife!
In Siberia the man can just please himself as to whether he shall divorce his wife or not. For the most trifling act of his wife he tears a cap or veil from her face, and that constitutes a divorce.

MRS. TATTLE: "I have never seen such an extraordinary variety of presents as you have."
MR. JESTER: "Yes, My wife says we have enough material for Bridge prizes to last the rest of our lives."

Would You Like £5 a Year?

You can buy a War Bond at any bank or post-office.
It is the simplest and most profitable form of investment ever devised. You get £5 a year for every £100 you invest. There is no risk and no trouble. The very least you receive if you pay £100 now for a No. 1 Bond will be £127 by five years' time. You get a proportionate value for a £5 Bond.
Just fill in the simple form to be got wherever War Bonds are sold, hand over your money, and thereafter you will get your interest twice a year posted on to you. It is as easy as buying a stamp. You can lend your money for five, seven, or ten years. If you want to lend it for five ask for a No. 1 Bond. Till 1922 you will have £2 10s. sent to you every April and October. In October, 1922, you will be paid £102.
On the No. 2 and No. 3 Bonds your loan will run to 1924 and 1927 respectively. For No. 2 you will get back £103; for No. 3 £105.
If you need your money back at any time before those dates you simply fill up a form and ask for it. Why not buy a War Bond to-day?

"I MET your wife in the street yesterday. She'd been shopping for Christmas and was about done."
"Yes, she was so tired all last evening she could hardly keep her mouth open."
"The banquet to-night can't get along without me."
"You have a very good opinion of yourself. Billed for a speech?"
"No; I was invited to listen."

"PA, who was the first inventor?"
"Adam, my son."
"What did he invent?"
"The poor excuse."

CASTLES IN THE AIR.

"WITH the coming of peace," said a well-known pioneer of flight, "the world will witness an astonishing revolution in travel. I foresee the time, not many years distant, when it will be possible for a man, starting after his breakfast, to journey by air to Paris, transact his business there, and be back in London for his luncheon within five hours."
In those days you will be able to travel to Rome in eight hours; and to start for Petrograd or Constantinople early in the morning, and eat a late dinner there the same day. And, if you wish, you will be able to take a trip to Bagdad, spend a few hours exploring the wonders of that Eastern city, and be back in your home within three days.
One can imagine aero-liners winging their way across the Atlantic at an average speed of 130 miles an hour, arriving at New York within twenty-four hours of leaving England, so that a week-end trip to shake hands with "Uncle Sam" will be within the reach of any man who has the money to spare. Each of these giant-planes will carry at least fifty passengers, and the return fare need not be more than thirty pounds, or less than a penny-farthing a mile.

"HAVE you a servant whom you can trust?"
"Absolutely. We even let her peel the potatoes."

WHO FIRST CAMOUFLAGED?

A WORD that has quite a vogue at the moment, but was probably never heard of until the outbreak of war, is "camouflage"—the art of making a thing look what it is not. The word and, to a great extent, the idea, is French in origin. Early in the war a group of young painters in France formed what they called the Battalion de la Camoufite, and their duty was to "make up" guns, cars, shelters, and gun emplacements, and whole stretches of landscape, to deceive German aviators.
The art of camouflage is both negative and positive. It aims at making practically invisible what is to be hidden by merging it into the background, and it rejoices in ingenious fakes—fake batteries, fake trenches, fake ambulances—to make the enemy waste a little ammunition.
The Americans have now in training in Connecticut a Camouflage Corps, where is taught and practised the art of making an observation post resemble a tree, and a motor-car merge into the road it is travelling.

THINGS WE COULD DO WITHOUT.



Mr. Hamilton (formerly Schmidt): "I am from der bombs of der 'orrible 'Shermans cover taking, yals."

ANSWERS Pays £1 1s. per Column for All Original Contributions. Stamped Addressed Envelopes Must Be Enclosed.