

GEORGE GEARY WRITES OF JACK LONDON RANCH

Glen Ellen, Sonoma Co., Calif.,
December 22, 1916.

To the Editor of the Bulletin:

Today I was impressed so deeply and forcibly by a certain number and the part it played in the life of a man whom everyone knows, that I take upon myself the liberty to acquaint you with the facts regarding it.

The number is twenty-two, and the man, no other than Jack London. I have visited Jack London's home town and Valley of the Moon ranch several times previous to his departure on this last trip over the trail which leads always onward.

In 1913, Jack London was having constructed a home in every sense a home according to his light. It was a beautiful edifice built of native rock, and was situated in an ideal location. Large redwood trees rose majestically about it, and for a background there were the thickly wooded Valley of the Moon mountains, which were his and re-christened by him. This home was being constructed in the center of his 1,700 acre ranch. On the 22nd of August of 1913, through an unknown cause, this building caught on fire, leaving nothing but the rock. I was shown through this building in 1913, and today I again saw it—nothing but sad ruins.

I had the pleasure of being with Jack London's nephew, Irving Sheppard, who took me on this tour of inspection over the entire ranch. I was shown prize hogs, pedigreed cows, bulls and horses. Never before have I seen a ranch with such sanitary buildings for stock. Everything was built of rock with concrete floors—and the floors were scrubbed daily. Before we entered the corrals we stopped at a small house where we dipped the soles of our shoes in a disinfectant to kill any dangerous germs which might be transmitted to the stock. My guide informed me of the fact that there was one animal not present which was Jack London's favorite—a \$2,500 stallion called Neudad. This beautiful animal died on October 22, 1916.

With me and Mr. Sheppard was a Mr. F. C. Ranker from Westwood, California. He, like myself, was on a vacation—and this tour through Mr. London's ranch was a treat beyond duplication. At one o'clock we were served luncheon in Mrs. Sheppard's home. Mrs. Sheppard is the superintendent of the ranch—and, also, Jack London's sister.

After luncheon we were told to roam around to do whatever we felt like doing. There was enough to do. Throughout the house were trophies which Mr. London had gathered from the far corners of the world. Nowhere in the house were these trophies in profusion—they blended in harmoniously with the color scheme, and gave that home that certain something which made you feel it was different, but only in a pleasing way.

What interested me keenly were Jack London's books—the set was a complete autographed collection of all his writings. All of these books contained a short greeting to his "dear sister Eliza"—a greeting couched in words that bespoke London's characteristic whole-hearted style of rhetoric.

During the entire day it rained with intermittent snatches of sunshine. We minded this not at all, for we were fully togged out in waterproof slickers. I had one which Jack London wore while he was in Alaska and on his voyage in the Sparg. Mr. Ranker had on a pair of boots loaned him for the occasion, which had felt the touch of many strange lands. That these articles of wearing apparel had a history we knew not at first. But soon we were made aware of what they were and where they had been by such incidents as an extra heavy shower or an especially muddy spot in the trail, which brought forth elucidating remarks from our host which made us feel proud that the rain was falling and that the road was muddy.

On our return to Glen Ellen we walked on a trail leading through a dense eucalyptus grove. On leaving this grove of trees we came to a

British Gains in Science of War Reviewed by Expert

By Ed L. Keen.

(United Press Staff Correspondent.)

LONDON, Dec. 26.—John Bull spent a goodly portion of this year applying the lessons he learned last year.

The mistakes of 1915 were rather distressing at the time, but they proved excellent teachers. Being a backward pupil, as always, John Bull had to be driven, and the process was necessarily painful.

From the Dardanelles to Mesopotamia, from Neuve Chapelle to Loos, from Sofia to Athens, he blundered along, but, as subsequent history has demonstrated, all the time acquiring merit. Out of every strategic failure, every unfulfilled expectation, both military and political, he managed to learn something—and the lessons stuck.

First of all the lesson of centralized power in the direction of war, of internal government, of domestic economy and of efficiency, thoroughly learned, led him to put the man who above all others has done most for England—David Lloyd George—into a practical dictatorship over all those branches of British activity.

The Asquith cabinet, with its "muddling along" fell because British public opinion, almost solidly aligned behind "the little Welshman" demanded supreme efficiency in England's fight for life. It was characteristic of Lloyd George, the breaker of precedent, that he should sweep away nearly all the old ministerial authority and substitute for the loosely knit, slow moving, over-officered cabinet a small, compact war council of five members—and take this step with the eager acquiescence of John Bull. And John and who usually hates newfangled Bull, who usually has to be driven, things, showed the transformation in his character which the war has wrought by standing behind Lloyd George.

In the field of diplomacy wherein the Germans at first cut circles all around him, John is steadily improving. He lost Bulgaria to the allied cause, but the experience he acquired in that process enabled him to gather in Roumania. Just now, by the fortunes of war, Roumania appears to be a doubtful military asset, if not a liability, but at the time unquestionably the enlistment of this country with the allies was a diplomatic stroke of first importance.

It was entirely characteristic of John that although he knew Fritz had a 40 years' start of him in this military game he ignored Fritz' methods until they were forced upon him. But now, thanks to the hard knocks of 1915, there is very

pretty knoll. It was here we met with our greatest surprise. Mr. Irving Sheppard remarked, "Now let me show you where my Uncle Jack is sleeping his last sleep. He led us to the top of the knoll—all was natural, trees, old musty leaves, bushes and just one big, rough rock. Under that plain rock, which had been the corner stone of the house that might have been if "the worst had been the best," rested the dust that once breathed the air of this Valley of the Moon, the valley he loved and called his home when from foreign pilgrimages he returned.

The last twenty-two in Jack London's career ended his earthly journey. He passed into the Great Beyond on the 22nd of November. As I stood there, cap in hand, admiring the naturalness of it all, I could not restrain myself from saying, "By the turtles of Tasman, what a man!"

Very sincerely yours,
GEO. E. GEARY.

P. S.—I had formed the impression from reading newspaper articles that Jack London's dust was thrown to the breezes to be wafted whither they blew—but it is not so, for they rest in a concrete box with that big, rough stone standing sentinel on the knoll overlooking the Valley of the Moon.

G. E. G.

little more that Fritz can teach him.

Early in 1916 he adopted conscription. Had it been introduced a year before the war might have been over today. Englishmen have responded in unprecedented fashion to their king's and country's call under the voluntary system, but it was only the certainty of ultimate conscription that finally brought the enrollment up to five million men. The molding of this huge lump of human raw material into an efficient military machine has been a gigantic task, but its proper equipment has been a greater.

Little less than miraculous has been the development of the munitions industry in this country during the last year. From the start Britain has been the treasury of the allies; now it has become their armory. When Lloyd George began turning England's factories into arsenals the Germans were manufacturing and shooting about ten shells to the allies' one. There was a time when on certain sections of the battle line British gunmen were limited to four rounds per day. Upon America and Japan Britain was depending for the most part for its supplies of machine guns, heavy artillery and high explosives. Now these conditions are all reversed. More than 4,000 private firms in England, 95 per cent of which before the war had never produced a gun, a shell nor a cartridge, now are turning out munitions of one sort or another.

Moreover, England is not merely supplying her own big armies. She has had to help out Russia, France and Italy, especially the first named. It has been largely due to English guns and English shells that the Russians have been able to put the Germans on the defensive. Large quantities of English munitions were sent also to Roumania, and the Serbian army would doubtless still be fighting for Monastir had it not been thoroughly re-equipped by Great Britain.

But this is not all. The munitions industry in this country is constantly growing. If the war should continue so long next year's figures will doubtless dwarf those of 1916 as those do last year's.

Giving all due credit to the allied strategy in general and to Haig's military genius in particular, as well as to the admitted improvement of Tommy as a fighting proposition, and the present superiority of the British air service, there is after all only one answer for the recent successes along the Somme and the Aisne—munitions. The lessons of Ypres, Neuve Chapelle and Loos have been well learned.

There is one realm in which Britain didn't have to take any lessons. As a banker John Bull is not merely comfortably well-heeled; he is an expert. The British government, despite its average expenditure of \$25,000,000 a day since the war began, besides the tremendous contributions made to its friends, has had no difficulty at all in raising successive loans both at home and in America and at reasonable rates.

TO GIVE RARE SEEDS

Sinnott Has Limited Supply for Constituents.

Congressman N. J. Sinnott has received notice from the Department of Agriculture that he has been allowed a limited number of packages of alfalfa, field pea, millet, Sudan Grass and white clover seed.

Because of the very limited supply on hand this year the rule has been made that only one package of the seeds can be sent to a person. Those wishing a package of the seeds should write to Congressman Sinnott for the same at once, before the supply is exhausted. The seed will be mailed directly from the department's warehouse, and will be accompanied by a circular giving full instructions for culture of the crop. The department has also decided that no seed will be sent out later than March 1.

There has been great difficulty in securing some of the seeds this year, and for that reason only, the following number of packages could be allotted to the Second District of Oregon.

Seventy 4-pound packages Kansas grown alfalfa seed; 200 4-pound packages of improved variety field pea; 50 4-pound packages of Kurst millet seed; 100 1-pound packages of Sudan grass seed; 40 2-pound packages of white sweet clover seed.

Requests will be transmitted to the department by Congressman Sinnott in the order in which they are received. It will be a case of "first come, first served," as long as the supply lasts.

ARTILLERY FIRE IN SOMME REGION HEAVY

(United Press Staff Correspondent.)

PARIS, Dec. 26.—Official reports announce that an active artillery fire was kept up in the vicinity of the Somme during the entire day on Christmas.

Want Ads only ONE CENT a word

Gerard Absent, Grew In Charge of America's Interests In Berlin



JOSEPH C. GREW

Joseph C. Grew, secretary of the American embassy in Berlin and charge d'affaires, is the man who received from Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg for transmission to the United States the German suggestion that Berlin was ready to consider peace negotiations. Mr. Grew, who represented the United States in Ambassador Gerard's absence, is a young man for so important a post, being only thirty-six years old. He was graduated from Harvard in 1902 and began his career in the consular and diplomatic service in 1904 as clerk to the consulate general in Cairo. Since then he has served in Mexico City, Petrograd, Vienna and Berlin. Mr. Grew's home is in Boston.

FORMULATE PLANS FOR MONSTER U. S. DREADNAUGHT

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 26.—No subject to be taken up by congress, with the exception of the tariff, will be watched with greater interest than the attempt of certain patriots to lead the United States into building a behemoth battleship bigger than anything dreamed of before.

At the last session of congress Senator B. R. Tillman introduced a resolution to the effect that the committee on naval affairs be instructed to investigate just how big a man-of-war could be built.

Senator Tillman had inserted in the senate documents the plan for a colossal ship as made up by Commander Moffett, of the United States navy.

Commander Moffett is in charge of the United States Naval Training Academy at Lake Bluff, Illinois, and it was at that place that he formulated these daring plans, which have won the support of many naval experts and excited such widespread popular and technical interest.

The great, but seldom mentioned, advantage of the large ship as compared with the smaller is as a gun platform, especially at high speed and in a rough sea. At eighteen knots in a moderate sea the 16,000 ton ship can hardly fire her turret guns, and she rolls and pitches to such an extent that her chances of

PHONE YOUR WANT AD

TO
THE
BULLETIN
EVERYBODY
READS
'EM!
The Best Way
To Buy
To Sell
To Exchange

Call No. 561

Names to conjure with—
GREAT SALT LAKE
LOS ANGELES, REDLANDS, RIVERSIDE
PASADENA, SAN DIEGO, VENICE, LONG BEACH

CALIFORNIA
and return—going one way, returning another

California is delightful the year 'round. Now you may go via the SALT LAKE ROUTE, returning from Los Angeles, as you wish, by palatial steamer or limited train, or vice versa.

Call upon, or write the representative of
UNION-PACIFIC SYSTEM
named below, and the rest will be done for you.

S. L. WIGGEN, T. F. & P. A.,
O'Kane Bldg., Bend, Ore.

**CLEARING HOUSE FOR
ALL WANTS
CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING
THE PEOPLE'S
BUSINESS DIRECTORY**

WANTED—Married man who can milk on ranch. Phone Black 1531 between hours 7 and 8 p. m. Jones' Dairy. 14 tfe

LOST—Two thermos bottles in leather case. Person advertising sometime as having found these articles please return to Bulletin and receive reward. 14 tfe

FOR RENT—Two four room houses, \$10 a month each. Inquire at the Martin and Cashman store. 14 tfe

FOR RENT—Two nicely furnished housekeeping rooms. Electric lights and water convenient. Mrs. Baggs, 235 Broadway. 17 p

LOST—On November 9, between Bend and Redmond, one leather carrying case, containing badges and papers belonging to the State Board of Forestry. Finder please return to J. H. Haner, Bend, Oregon. Reward. 14 tfe

FOR SALE—Ford automobile, almost new. Inquire Bert Shuey. 17-18 c

FOR RENT—Three room house. Ten dollars per month. Inquire Bulletin. 18-19 p

hitting are small. The 27,000-ton ship is under the same conditions and even at higher speed comparatively steady and her guns can be fired more effectively. But the 60,000-ton ship will hardly know she is at sea, and while her 27-ton rivals are trying to get the range and fire on the roll she will be as steady as a church and as regularly making salvo hits.

This, the first real super-dreadnaught, would have approximately the following dimensions:

Length over all, feet	995
Beam, feet	105
Draft, feet	32
Speed, maximum, knots	35-36
Endurance at maximum speed	
hours	72
Battery—Ten 18-inch B. L. R., sixteen 6-inch R. F. G., anti-aircraft guns, anti-submarine guns, saluting battery, etc.; four submerged torpedo tubes.	

REWARD OFFERED
\$10 reward for information leading to arrest and conviction of any person breaking or defacing street intersection signs.
By L. A. W. NIXON,
Chief of Police.

Oregon Insurance Company
"EXCLUSIVELY OREGON"
HOME OFFICE, CORBETT BLDG., PORTLAND
ASHLEY FORREST,
District Manager.

GEORGE S. YOUNG
Civil and Irrigation Engineer
U. S. Mineral Surveyor.
Room 12, First National Bank Building

Farmers:
A Small Investment in
Lumber Now Will Save a
**SHEVLIN
PINE**
BEND, OREGON
Large Investment in
New Machinery
Next Spring

The First National Bank

**WISHES YOU A
MERRY
CHRISTMAS**

C. S. HUDSON, President
U. C. COE, Vice President
E. A. SATHER, Vice President
E. M. LARA, Cashier
L. G. McREYNOLDS, Assistant Cashier
B. A. STOVER, Assistant Cashier