

## THE WORKSHOP OF THE WORLD

### BRITAIN'S NEED OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS

Why Our Foreign Trade Has Fallen Off

#### NO NEED FOR DESPAIR

By Our Commercial Correspondent

Many years ago Britain won the name of The Workshop of the World. And indeed she became more than that. Britain not only made goods, and good goods, for all the world, but she dealt so freely in foreign commodities that she became the world's greatest merchant country.

Britain was thus the workshop of the world and the market of the world. She kept shop in things made by herself, such as iron and steel, ships, cotton goods, woollen goods, engines and machinery; and in materials and goods from overseas, such as raw cotton, wool, ores, india-rubber, tea, coffee, and cocoa.

#### Importing Raw Material

Even as to the manufactures we produce, however, it is very important to notice that they are largely made out of materials imported from abroad. Britain is not rich in raw materials. Apart from coal, iron ore, limestone, and china clay, we are very short of native supplies. And many organic materials, like cotton and india-rubber, cannot be grown at all in our climate. If, therefore, we want to do good work, we have to buy huge quantities of stuff and ship them home to work upon.

Now, to get from abroad the things we lack—to get imports—we have to sell British goods abroad—to make exports. Our exports are mainly manufactures made out of imported materials. So we earn a livelihood. By good buying and selling we obtain a surplus which we need not export and which makes our home trade.

#### Home Trade and Export Trade

If our export trade failed, however, we should cease to be able to pay for imports, and so we should lose, not only our export trade, but also our home trade. Many people do not realise this. They think that our home trade could compensate us for the loss of export trade. But let us think. Suppose Lancashire failed to get any more export orders. Then the Lancashire cotton operatives would cease to earn four-fifths of their wages, and they would have very little money to spend on home trade. Our home trade thus largely depends on the export trade.

We see how true this is today. Because our export trade has fallen off very badly our home trade has done the same. It is calculated that our home trade is now only half what it was before the war.

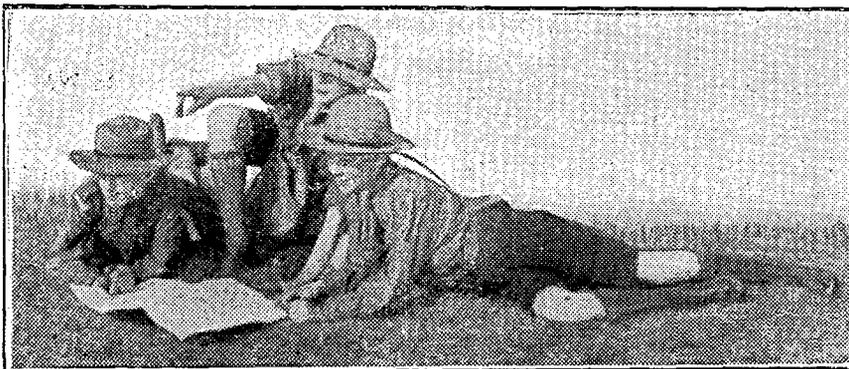
#### How to be Prosperous

Why, then, has our export trade fallen off? The explanation is that the war has so torn apart the world's trade connections, and so impoverished the world's buyers, that we feel the results in every export market. The world's trouble is our trouble. To be prosperous we need to sell in a prosperous world.

We have also to remember that we are not now the only workshop in the world as in the old days, and that we have to produce articles at a price that will tempt people abroad to buy them.

But, while the times are serious enough, there is no cause for despair. If we earnestly maintain the world's peace there will be gradual recovery of buying power in all countries, and Britain, the great exporting nation, will have the chance to come into her own again.

## ETON SCOUTS HAVE A DAY OUT



A group of Scouts study a map of the surrounding country



Taking home the dismantled trek cart



A difficult route through a wood



The Provost presents a flag



A welcome interval for lunch

The splendid thing about the Scout Movement is that it embraces all sorts and conditions of boys, and none are more keen on being good Scouts and living up to the promises they make on joining than the Scouts of Eton College, who are here shown enjoying a field day in the open country

## MARY DELANY'S FLOWERS

### BEAUTIFUL STORY OF A RARE OLD LADY

How She Used Her Time and Her Powers

#### SOMETHING ALL MAY SEE

The C.N. monthly has this month a rare and beautiful story of the big scrap-books that some little time ago were given to the British Museum.

They contain the mosaics of Mary Delany, ten books of beautiful flowers made of tiny pieces of paper of various colours pasted down one on the top of another, all so life-like that you feel you could take up a flower from the page and carry it away.

These paper mosaics have come down to us from 150 years ago. Mrs. Delany was 74 years old at the time, and was feeling rather lonely because some of her friends were dead and some gone away. One day she had an idea that it would be rather nice to make some life-like flowers of coloured paper.

#### How the Pictures Were Made

She had many shades of paper to start with, and the tints she could not get she painted on paper herself. Then she cut out all the petals, stems, and leaves, and pasted them down, getting her "shading" by means of scraps of another colour pasted on the top.

Some of the mosaics are incredibly small, as, for instance, the tiny florets of milfoil, or yarrow. It is impossible to count the number of minute bits of paper that go to make up some of the blossoms.

The amazing thing about this beautiful work is that old Mrs. Delany was both an artist and a botanist. Her flowers are not only lovely in colour, but they are correct in every detail.

For ten years the old lady went on with her labour of love, and was very happy in it. By the end of that time she had made 1000 specimens, and if her eyesight had not failed she would probably have done more.

#### Where to Find the Pictures

These books of beautiful flowers are kept in the department of prints and drawings, in a private room where only grown-up students may go; and in order that the readers of the Children's Newspaper may see what they are like, the keeper of these rooms has very kindly put several pages from the books into a glass case in the public outer room.

To find these treasures we must go up the stairs in the "front hall," turn round to the right and through the terra-cotta room, where the pretty little Tanagra dancing-girls are. Then we turn to the right again, past all those cases of children's toys of long ago, through the bronze room, straight on till we come to the mummy room. There we turn to the right again and then to the left, and the department of prints and drawings is before us.

## YOUNG INVENTOR'S TRIUMPH

### Boy's Enterprise and Ingenuity Rewarded

Cyril Upton, a boy of 18, son of a railway engine-driver living in London, has a motor-bicycle. Often while he was riding or cleaning his machine he noticed a defect in the sparking-plug, and one day he set to work to see if he could discover how to put this right.

In the course of a morning he had hit upon an improvement, and that morning's work is going to bring him in several thousand pounds.

He saw that what was good for one motor would be good for all, so he patented his invention; and soon two companies, one English and one French, were competing for it. The French firm has bought it, and intends to apply it to aeroplane engines.