

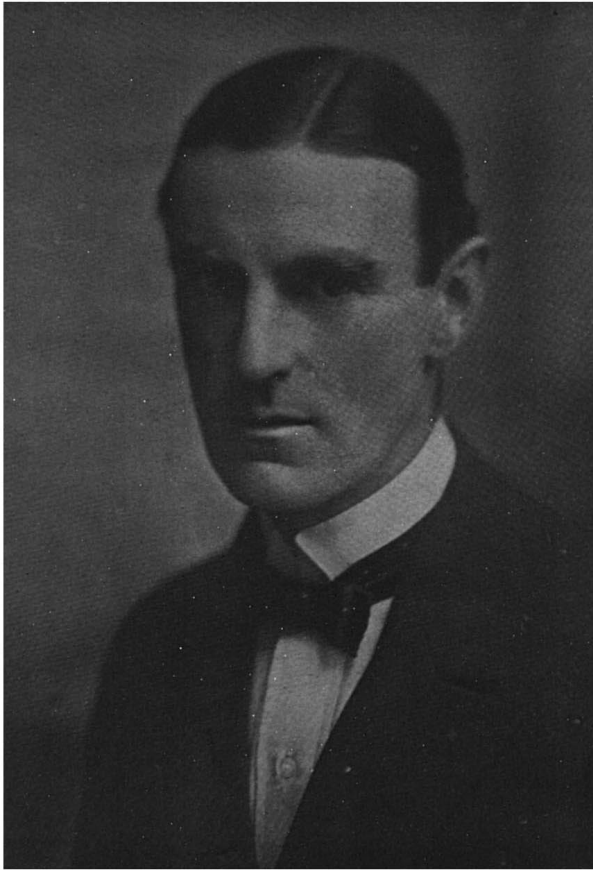
THE SAD EXPERIENCES
OF BIG & LITTLE WILLIE



W. K. HASelden

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Varro Vo.



Camera Picture by E. O. Hoppe.

Mr. W. K. HASELDEN.

W. K. Haselden

THE SAD ADVENTURES

of

Big and Little Willie

DURING THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF THE GREAT WAR

August 1914—January 1915

As

PORTRAYED BY

W. K. HASELDEN

in

“The Daily Mirror”



“Dieser Verdammte Krieg!”

LONDON

THE FINE ART SOCIETY

AND

CHATTO & WINDUS

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The Legends to the Illustrations have been
written by Mr. CLIFFORD HOSKEN.

The portrait of the Artist has been specially
taken by Mr. HOPPÉ.

A number of Mr. Haselden's Original
Cartoons are on view, and for sale, at the
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FOREWORD

IN presenting a specially selected number of the cartoons that have lately appeared in *The Daily Mirror* under the title of "The Sad Experiences of Big and Little Willie," Mr. Haselden is responding to a very strongly-voiced appeal by the public.

The phenomenal success that has attended *The Daily Mirror* is undoubtedly, due to its intrinsic merits, but some portion of it must be placed to the credit of the brilliant Artist who has contributed with an amazing fertility or invention to its columns year in and year out, and there must be many of its readers who, as in the writer's case, turn first of all to the page which is so regularly filled by Mr. Haselden's kindly wit.

Wonder is often expressed that it is possible for an artist who relies almost entirely on his own invention to maintain the high level which has so continuously marked his work, but the recent creation of "Big and Little Willie" proves how remote from any exhaustion are his wonderful powers and it places him alongside our great caricaturists who at one time or another have invented a character by which their fame has been specially perpetuated and which subsequent presentment by others has never improved upon, for instance, Seymour's "Mr. Pickwick," Leech's "Mr. Briggs," and Tenniel's "Alice in Wonderland."

In common also with the great captains of caricature, Mr. Haselden never allows his satire to degenerate into venom, as witness the report that when one of these "Willie" cartoons was passed the other day from ours into the German Trenches it was hailed with uproarious laughter.

In these dark days anything that will for a few moments dispel the all-pervading depression and anxiety and conjure up a smile is indeed welcome, and from this point of view, if from no other, the present publication has good grounds for its appearance.

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WHEN HEADS WERE SWELLED



WHEN THE SWELLING IS REDUCED



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AUGUST—THE WILLIES' WAR HELMETS.

ONCE upon a time there was a Kaiser called Big Willie who had a son called Little Willie. They both had splendid big heads, and they wore nice little War Helmets that suited them admirably. But when a real War came, a dreadful thing happened: their helmets grew so big and so heavy that they hid all their shining armour. The horrid "Triple Entente" must have had something to do with this.

"WE ARE NOW IN A POSITION TO RAISE THE VISOR OF OUR HELMET, AND TO LOOK WITH THE FEARLESS EYES OF A COURAGEOUS GERMAN AT ANY ONE WHO MAY BLOCK THE PATH WE HAVE MAPPED OUT FOR OURSELVES."



AND THEY DID!



W. K. HAGGARDEN.

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AUGUST—WHEN KNIGHTS WERE BOLD.

DIRECTLY the War began none were so courageous as the Willies. They told the World through their Chancellor that they were "quite sorry for Belgium," but this did not prevent them clothing themselves in their most impenetrable armour, nor with great fearlessness drawing their swords against the pigmy foe that dared to obstruct their path. Little Willie, who had been well taught in his childhood, could not help thinking of David and Goliath.



W. K. HUGHES-DEAN

(Copyright—The Daily Mirror.)

AUGUST—THE WILLIES AND THE ELEPHANT.

THE Willies were very jealous of John Bull having a fine Elephant called "India," although Little Willie had been very well treated by its keeper when he went to see it. So they tried to push John over, hoping the Elephant would trample on him. Unfortunately, directly they bit him, his Elephant played quite the wrong game.

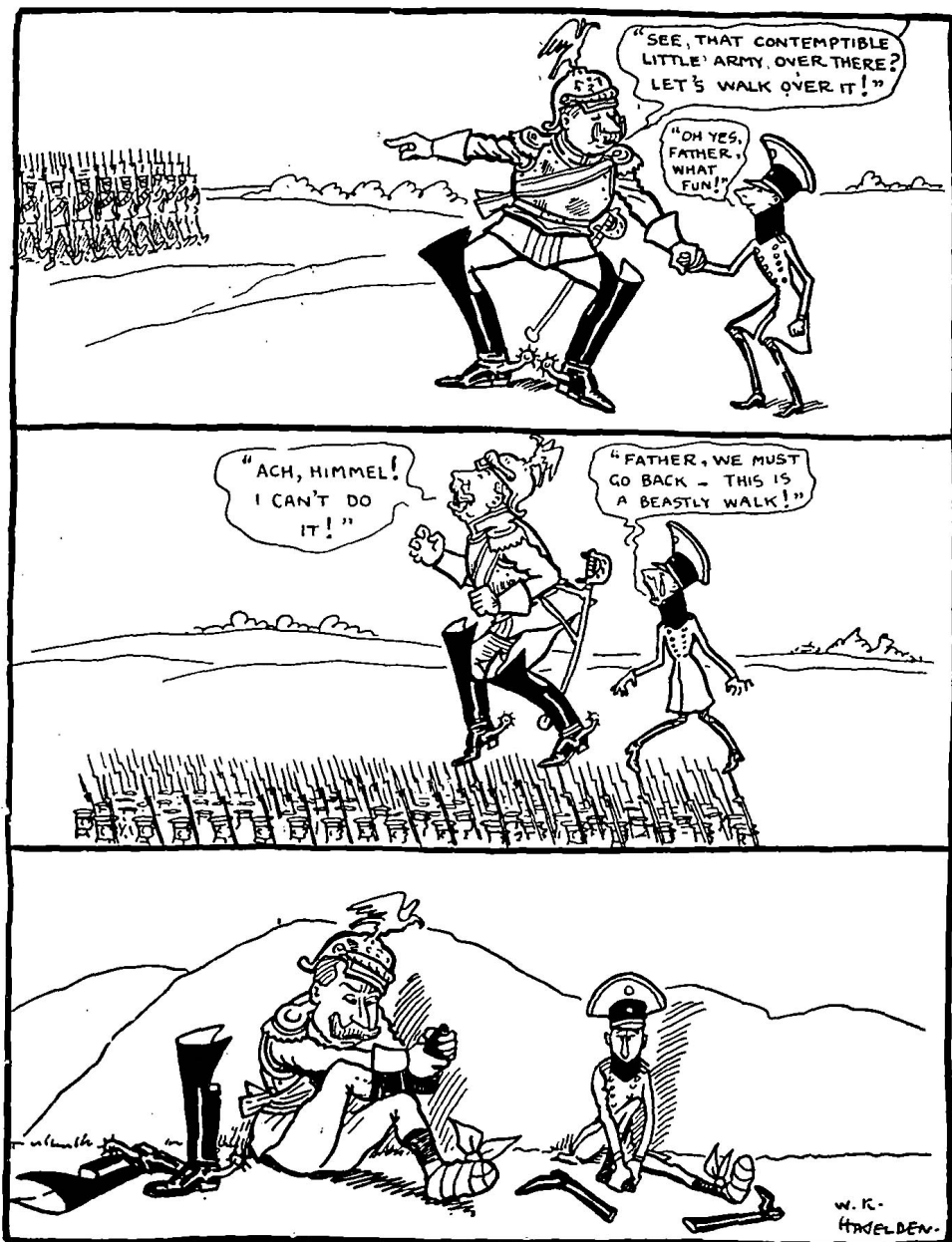


W. K. HEMDEN

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AUGUST—THE WILLIES' GREAT CONJURING TRICK.

THE beastly British Lion quickly upset the Willies' plans. After years of forethought they had prepared a lovely trick that would captivate all the world. It was so simple! just to put the Prussian military hat over the Lion and turn him into a German Eagle. But alas, at the first performance before a crowded House, the stupid beast forgot his part, and instead of allowing the hat to be put on him, jumped on it and utterly ruined the whole show

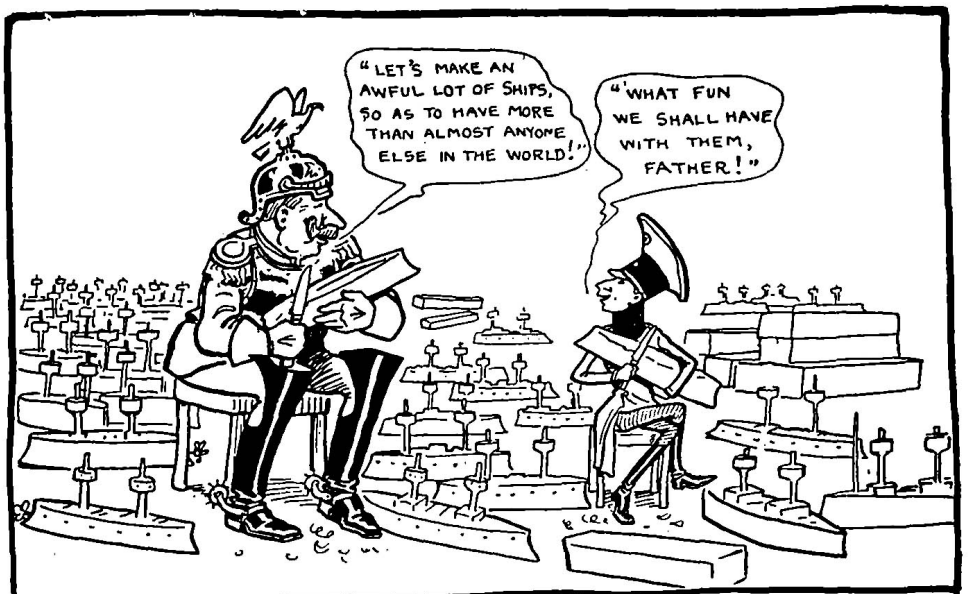


AUGUST—THE CONTEMPTIBLE LITTLE ARMY.

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THE Willies were slow to learn. Their experiences in Belgium should have taught them that small armies could fight for the right. Even when they saw the British Army cross the sea so easily, they believed they could easily walk over such "a contemptible little thing." "Fun," Little Willie called it, until they got on to the top of the bayonets, when they quickly climbed down, very footsore.

"August 27.—The British Army withstood the attack of five German Army Corps."—Sir J. French's Despatch.



W. K. HASELDEN.

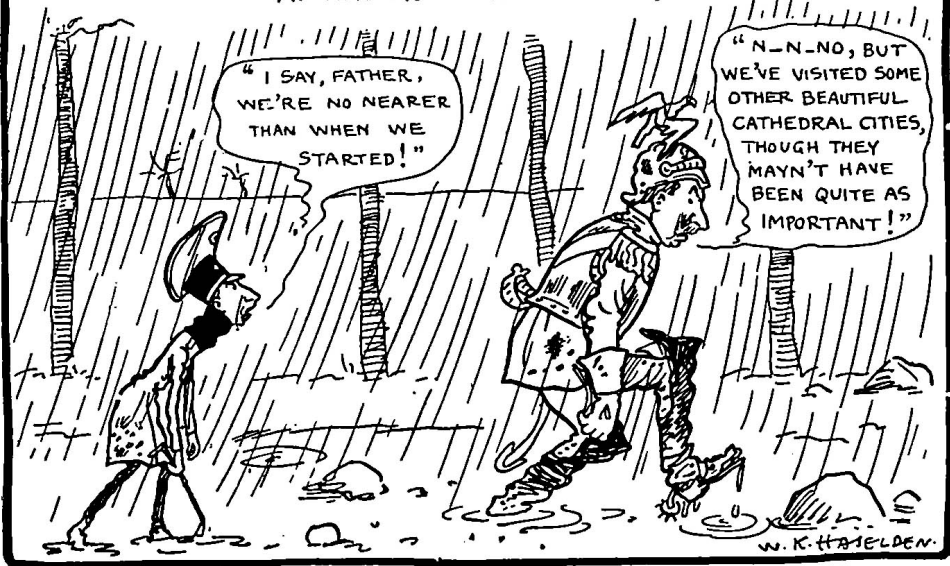
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AUGUST—THE WILLIES' BIG FLEET.

THE Willies had long ago determined that they must not only have the biggest army but the biggest navy in the world, so they made an awful lot of ships and also a big canal by which they could move them from one sea to another. But a nasty big man called John Bull came along and looked them all up. It wasn't "Cricket" at all.
 "August 28.—The British Fleet appeared off Heligoland and sank cruisers."



AFTER ABOUT TEN WEEKS !



[Copyright—The Daily Mirror.

SEPTEMBER—THE WILLIES' MORNING WALK.

1914 HAD a delightful September—"Just the weather," said Big Willie, "for a good goose-step to Paris." But although the days continued so fine they never got there, and now that the rain seems never ending they have decided that Paris must be a horrid place not worth going to.

BIG WILLIE HAD PLANNED THAT HE AND LITTLE WILLIE SHOULD BE DOING SOMETHING OF THIS SORT IN PARIS BY NOW



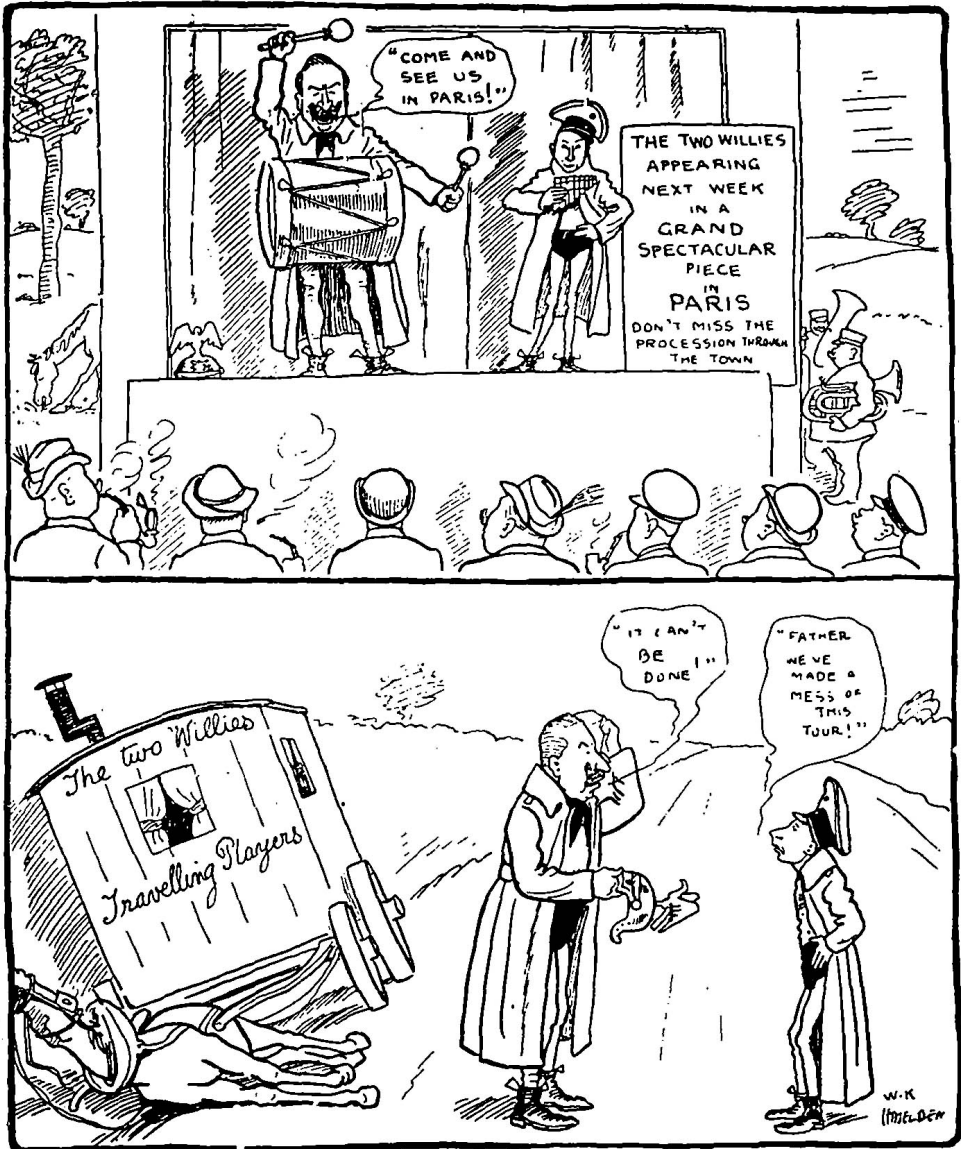
BUT OH DEAR! OH, DEAR! THEY ARE NOWHERE NEAR PARIS AND NOT FEELING AT ALL LIKE FEASTING



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SEPTEMBER—THE PARIS DINNER.

IT was long before the days of Big Willie's taking his meals off Kriegsbrod that he planned a Banquet at Paris, and during all the tedious walk there he kept up Little Willie's waning spirits by talks of the dishes and the wines of a celebrated Restaurant in "La Ville Luziere." Alas! the road seemed as long as that of the British Tommies to Tipperary, and the fare as meagre as that of the stupid Belgians who were the cause of all this delay.



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SEPTEMBER—THE PARIS GRAND SPECTACULAR PIECE.

ALL through September the Willies advertised to the world that they were going to perform in a Grand Spectacular Piece in Paris, with a procession through the Town. It wasn't their fault that they failed, but their stupid old war horse who broke down just as they were crossing the Marne.

Sept. 10.—"First and Second German Armies are in full retreat."—Sir J. French's Despatch.

WHAT THE BRITISH LION HAS ACCOMPLISHED SO FAR



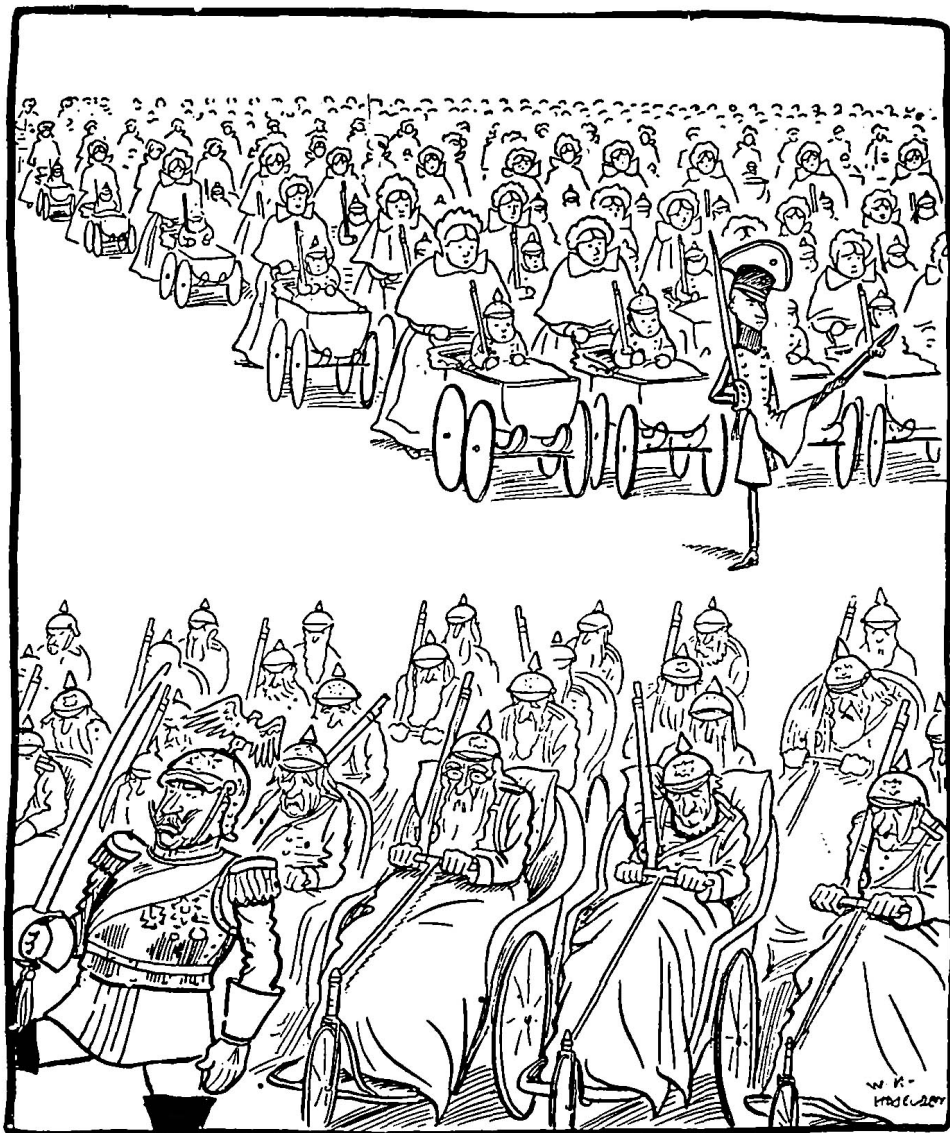
WHAT HE MIGHT DO IF HE WOULD ONLY PUT OUT HIS FULL STRENGTH



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SEPTEMBER—THE LION'S CUBS.

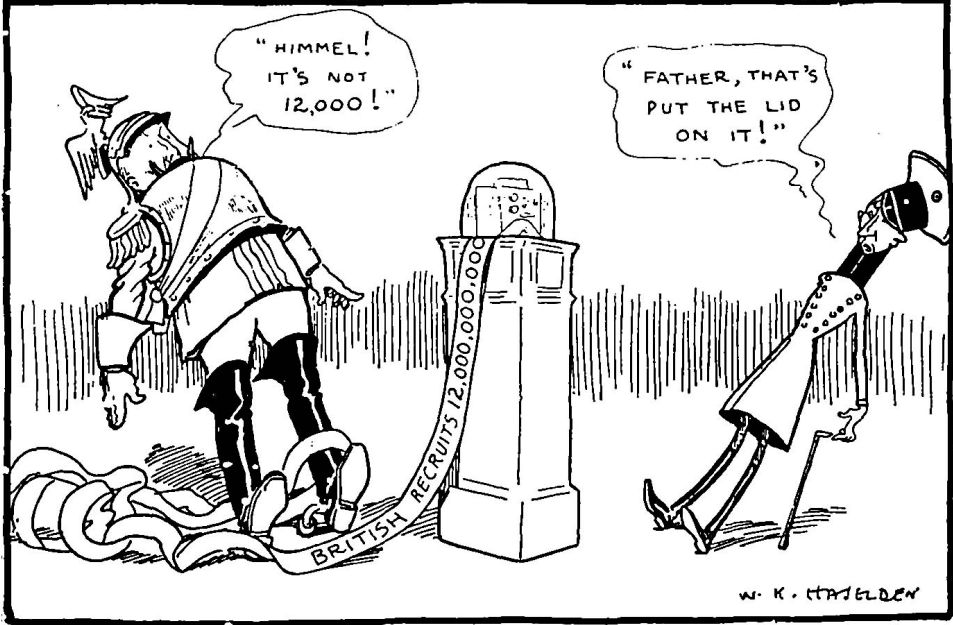
WHEN the Willies attacked the British Lion they forgot that he had several litters of cubs not only in England but over the seas. Many of these soon gave the Willies nasty knocks, and Big Willie was thankful that the whole family had not joined in. When the old lion heard this he called upon all his cubs to enlist, for he is sure that if they will only follow their brothers' lead they will soon wipe out the Willies.



[Copyright—The Daily Mirror.

SEPTEMBER—THE WILLIES' REINFORCEMENTS.

AFTER certain events in Flanders and France, of which the Willies never speak, they decided that they must be thinking of reinforcements. "Father, I will scourge the youngsters if you will get the Veterans," said Little Willie. "Certainly," said Big Willie, "and I will lead them to victory." Both have been busy teaching them the goose-step.

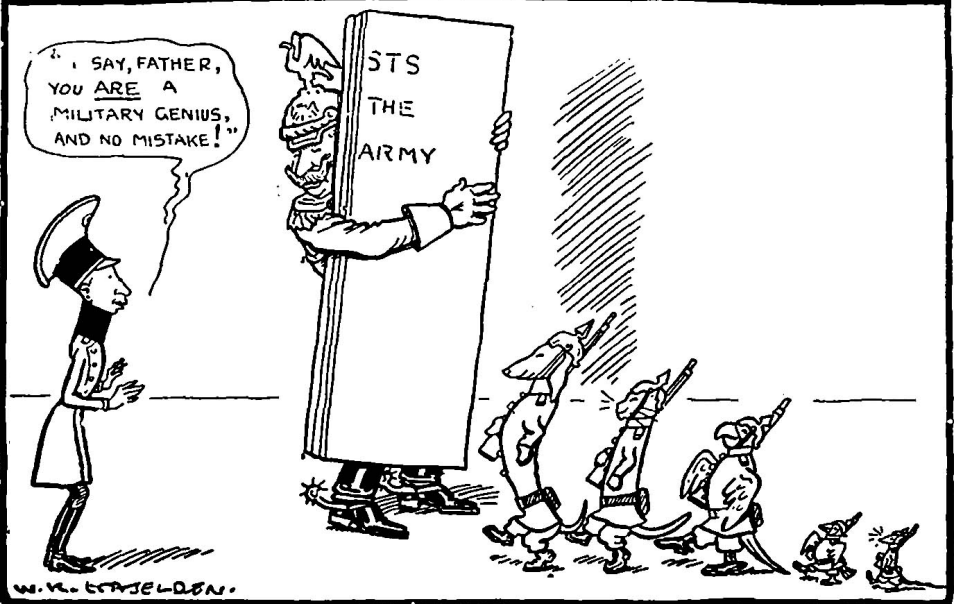


W. K. CHASELDEN

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SEPTEMBER—THE WILLIES LEARN THE TRUTH.

WHEN the Willies had raised their new armies of old men and babies they felt a great deal happier. They obfuscated to think what a shock the news of these sturdy reinforcements would cause, and they went off to laugh over the tape-news of British recruiting and so much fuss being made about Kitchener's new little army. But the porrid tape went on and on, until they voted that it was stupid work watching such a senseless machine.



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OCTOBER—IF OUR ARMY GOT WIPED OUT?

THAT horrid tone machine gave Little Willie much cause to think, and one day he asked his father the question, "What would happen IF our Army got wiped out?" "I have provided even for that impossibility," replied Big Willie; "I would then arm every cat and dog." Little Willie thinks Father is so resourceful.

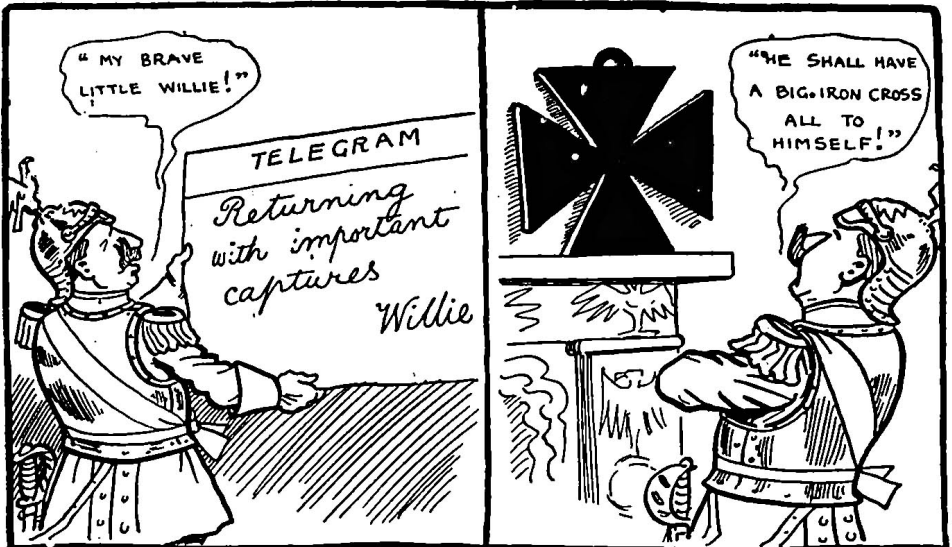
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OCTOBER OUR PRESENCE!

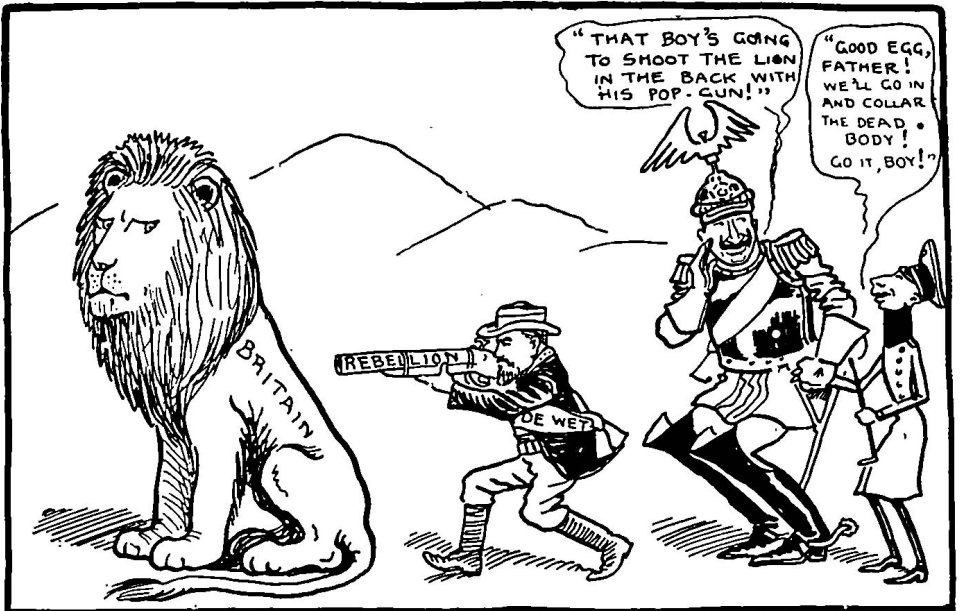
THE "Contemptible Little Army" turned out a nasty thing for the Willies' troops to play with, so Big Willie thought His and Little Willie's presence might inspire them with greater "dash" and "go." They tried it, to start with, at Nancy and Verdun—but unfortunately the troops didn't interpret the orders to "DASH" and "GO" quite as was intended. The Willies were almost disappointed.



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OCTOBER—LITTLE WILLIE'S IMPORTANT CAPTURES.

LITTLE WILLIE had a lovely time whilst he was commanding an army in Eastern France. He found a house full of the nicest things which would look so well in his Palace in Germany. "Father will be pleased," thought he, so he sent him a telegram that he had made "important captures." Big Willie, thinking this must mean at least two contemptible little armies, had a special "big Iron Cross made for his son. But when Little Willie arrived with his loot here was a butter in the Eagle-coat.

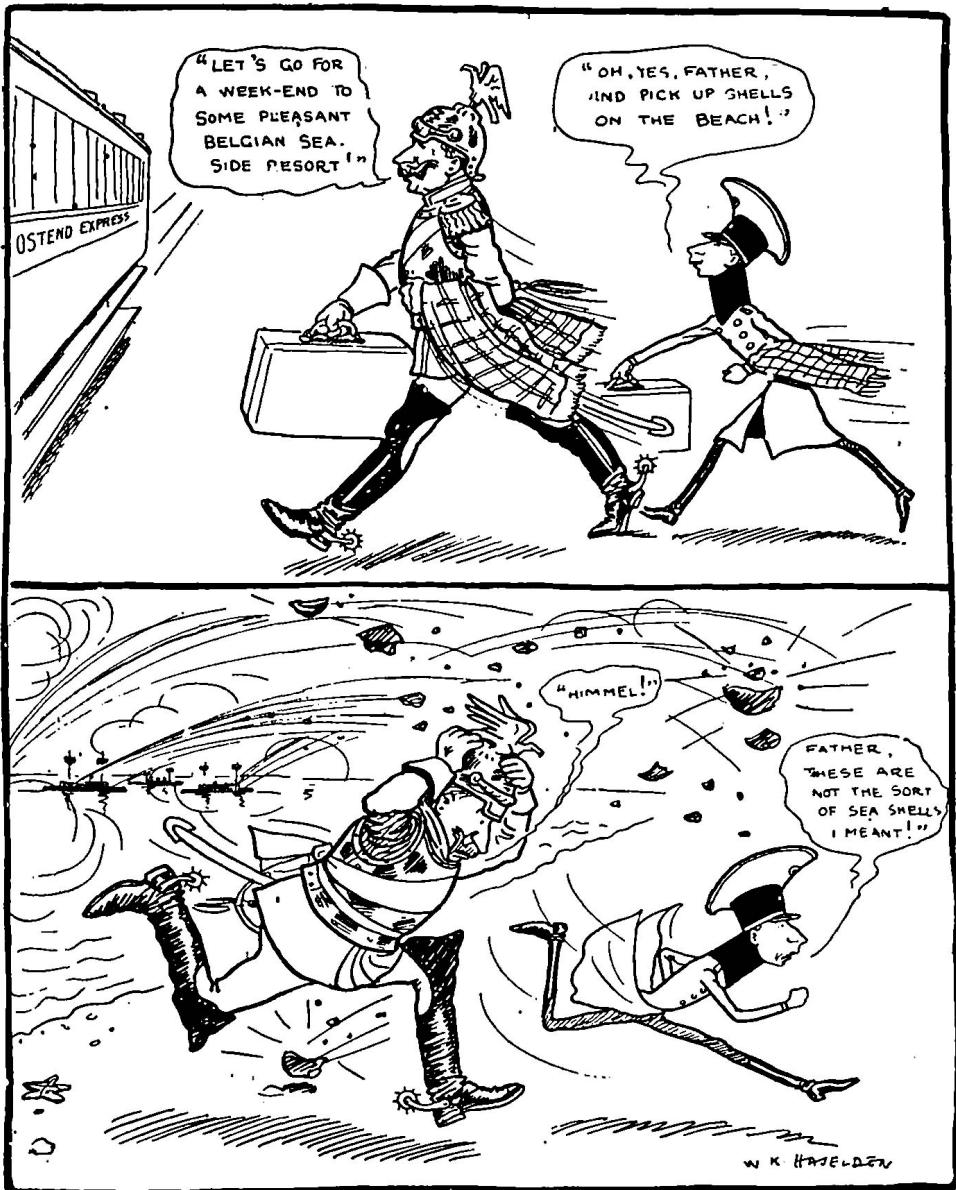


W. K. HASE-DEK.

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OCTOBER—ANOTHER DISAPPOINTMENT FOR THE WILLIES.

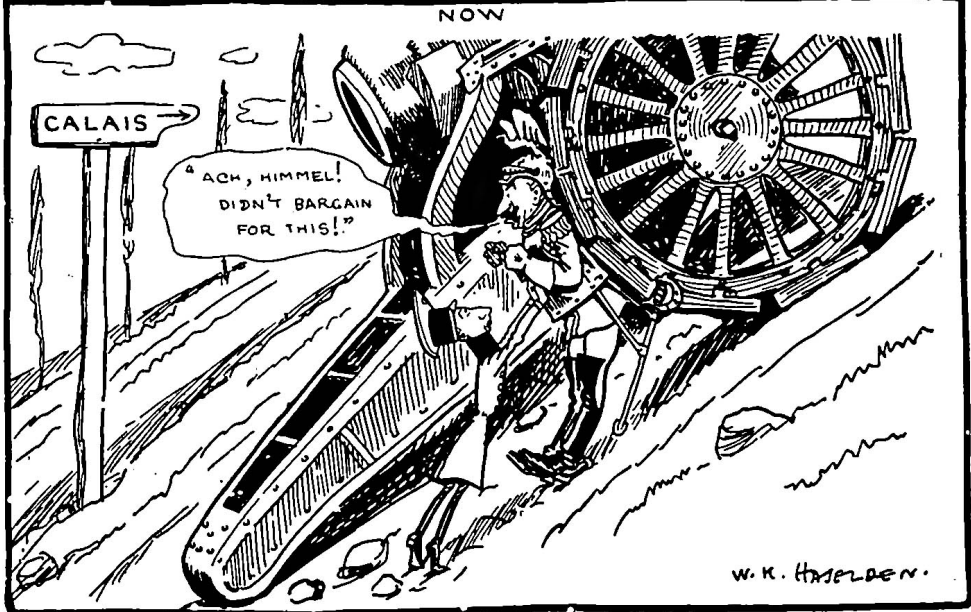
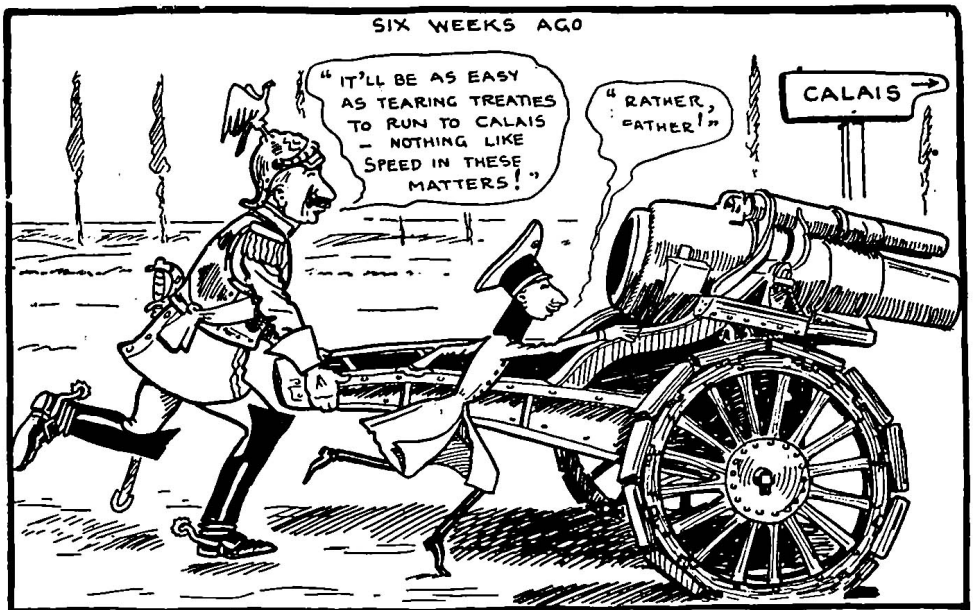
THE Willies never could understand that horrid Lion. It was such a sleepy old animal until one went to do something to it, and then it behaved so nastily. For instance, Big Willie had arranged for a little African rebel to go up behind the Lion's back and shoot him. "At last the old beast will be done for," said Big Willie, and Little Willie simply obukled with delight. But just then the Lion turned round and the Willies agreed that Lions are uncultured animals.



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OCTOBER—THE WILLIES' WEEK-END AT THE SEASIDE.

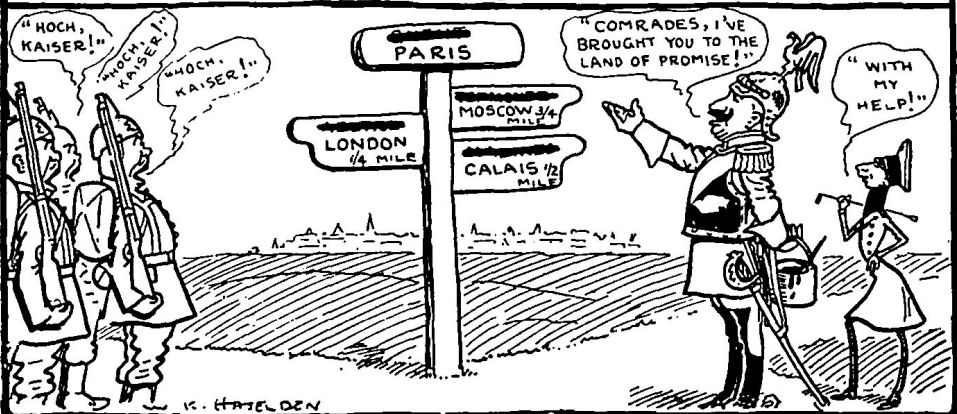
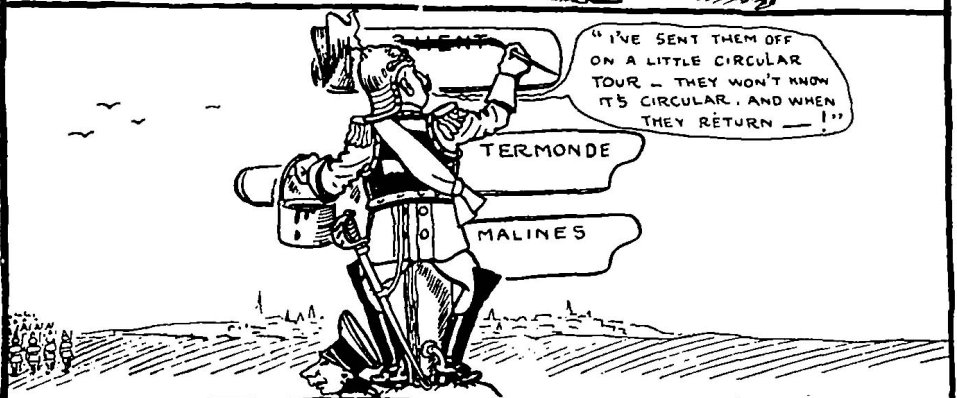
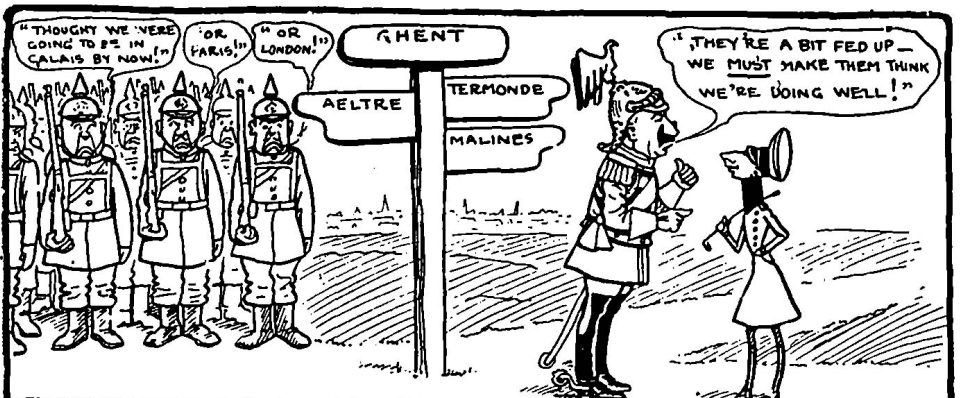
WHEN the news came that his Armies had captured Ostend it occurred to Big Willie that a week-end at a Belgian sea-side resort would re-invigorate his son. Little Willie jumped at the idea of again following his childhood's pursuits. But shell gathering was not as pleasant as he anticipated, and they didn't even stay over the Sunday, for the British Fleet covered the shore with quite nasty shells, not a bit like the ones Willie expected.



(Copyright—The Daily Mirror.)

OCTOBER—THE WILLIES' RUN TO CALAIS.

LITTLE WILLIE became so depressed over the postponement of his promised visit to Paris that, to cheer him up, Big Willie brought out a big new toy with which they would run to Calais. "It will be as easy as tearing up Treaties," said Big Willie. But they had forgotten: there would be a lot of high British entrenchments to get over, and they found so doing such uphill work that they had to give up what looked such an easy performance.



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NOVEMBER—BIG WILLIE'S GREAT IDEA FOR CURING DESPONDENCY.

AS months passed by and Big Willie's soldiers discovered they were not getting to any of the places they were promised, they too began to get despondent and wish they were home again. To stop this Big Willie evolved the very shrewd idea of sending his soldiers for a little circular tour whilst he altered the names on the sign-posts, making Ostend Calais and Aeltre London. Whether his army was deluded or not, it hailed his brilliant idea with loud "Hoohs."

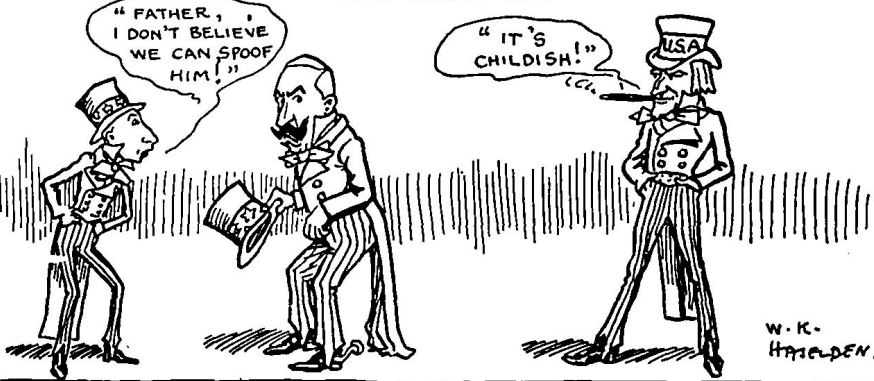
THE WILLIES PLAY THE GAME OF "I'M YOUR BROTHER" SUCCESSFULLY WITH TURKEY



BUT FIND IT A DIFFERENT MATTER WHEN IT COMES TO ITALY —



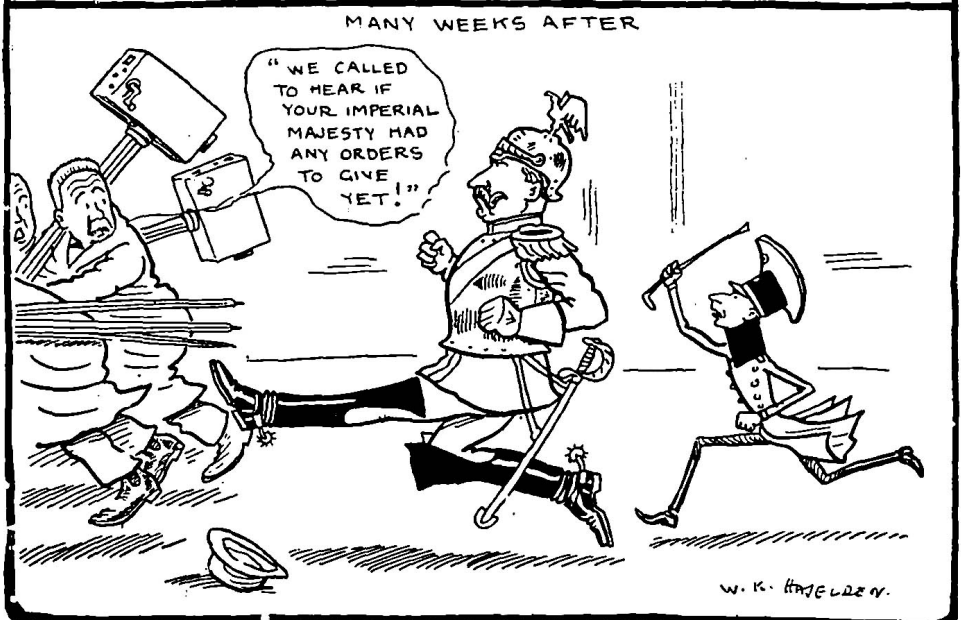
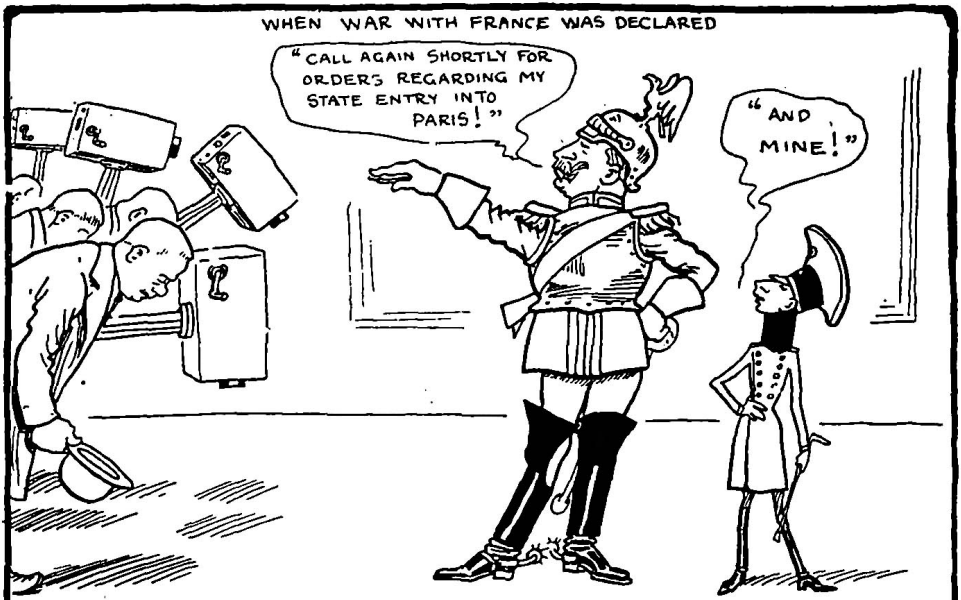
— AND UNCLE SAM



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NOVEMBER—THE WILLIES' FANCY DRESS FAILURES.

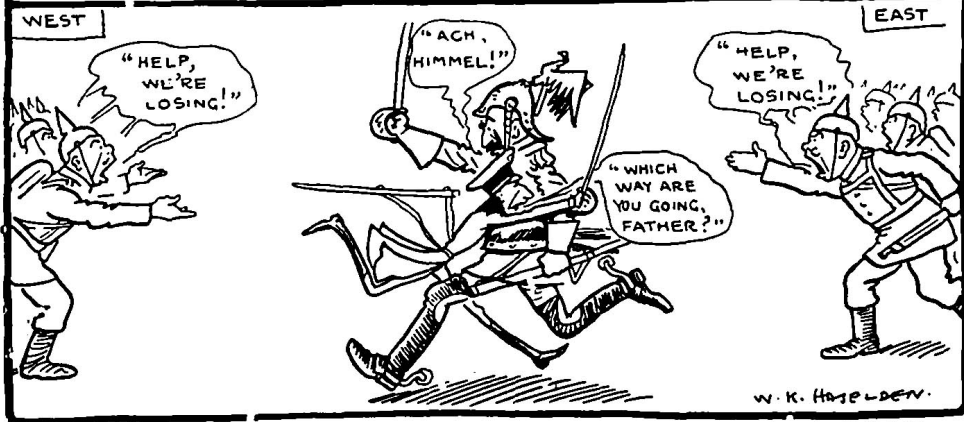
THE Willies were full of overflowing with clever ideas for spoiling the Entente and getting other rulers to shed their people's blood, but the only one they spoofed was the decrepit old Turk, and he is now wondering whether the money and ships he got are worth the cost of his expeditions to the Caucasus and Egypt.



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NOVEMBER—THE WILLIES' WAR ARTISTS.

BIG WILLIE had always been an Art Patron, he had even painted pictures himself, so directly the War began he sent an Army Corps of Artists into the field to make pictures of his victories. For his triumphant entry into Paris he added a Division of Cinema Operators. They were as short-sighted as others in believing their services would be needed at once, so when they ventured to call for orders!!!



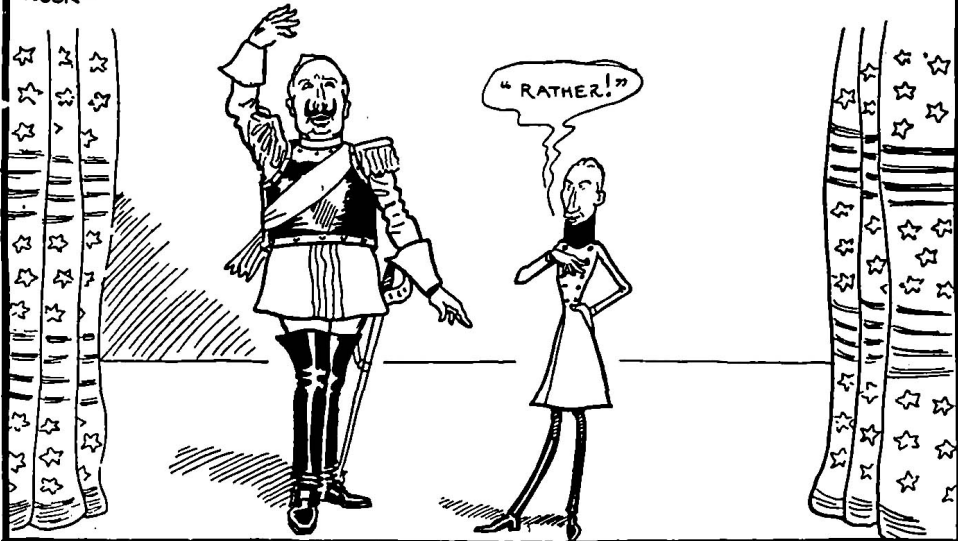
W. K. HAGEDORN.

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NOVEMBER—THE WILLIES TO THE RESCUE.

THE Willies had plenty of exercise in the last months of the year. They just ran from East to West and West to East (taking a few hundred thousand men with them) to help their armies wherever they were being beaten. But latterly this has had to be done so frequently that they have not only got quite giddy over it, but have had some nasty collisions with one another midway.

THE FOUNDATION STONE OF FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN GERMANY AND THE UNITED STATES WAS LAID BY FREDERICK THE GREAT, AND THAT FRIENDSHIP IS NOW AS STRONG AND UNSHAKEABLE AS A GRANITE ROCK."



"HOW DOES SHE (GERMANY) PROPOSE TO DEAL WITH THE VAST BODY OF HATRED SHE IS BUILDING UP FOR HERSELF ?" (FROM THE "NEW YORK WORLD")

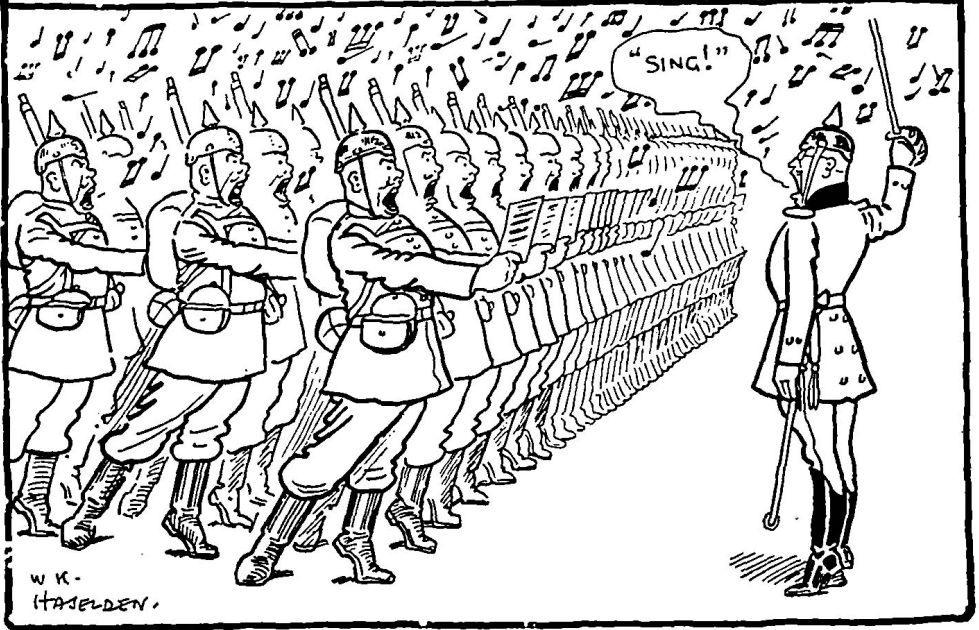
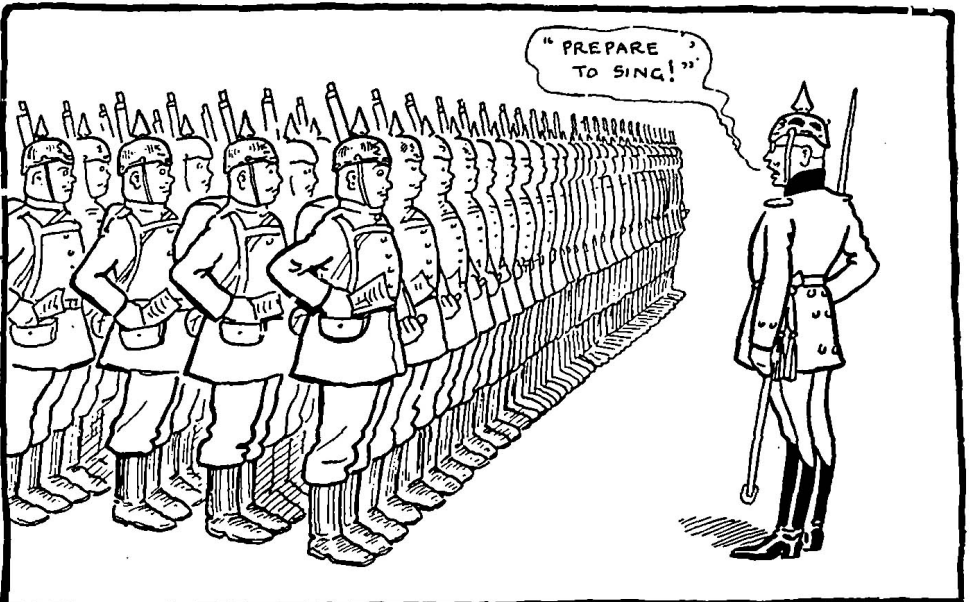


W. K. HAJELDEN.

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NOVEMBER—BIG WILLIE'S STRONG AND UNSHAKEABLE FRIENDSHIP.

BIG Willie was nothing if not a Diplomat, so he always professed the warmest friendship for a certain great nation beyond the Atlantic and looked forward to obtaining its assistance some day in twisting the British Lion's tail. It was unthinkable that such a friendship, dating back to his great forerunner Frederick, could be strained by such a trifle as the slaughter and burnings that accompanied his triumphal progress through a despicable little State.

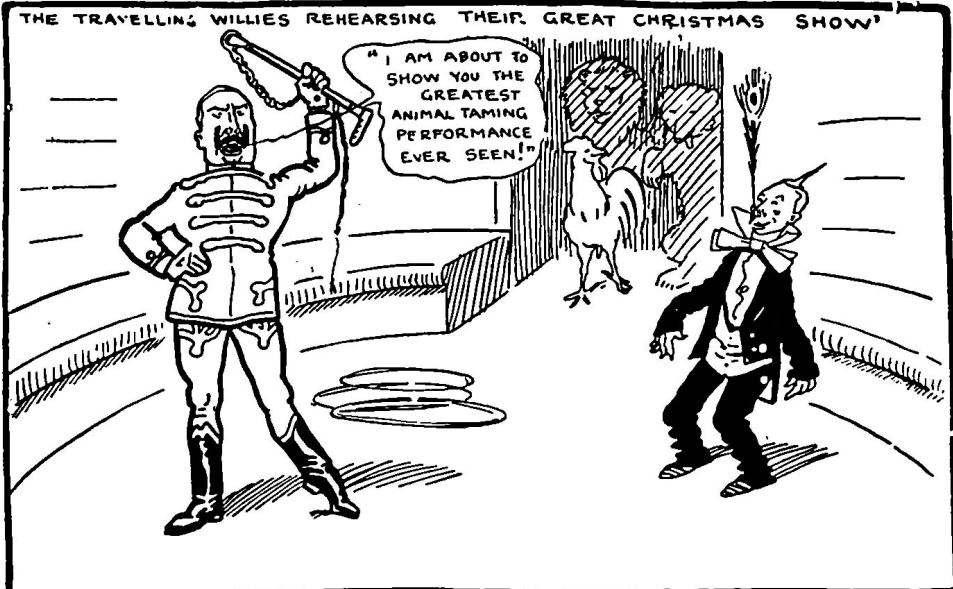


NOVEMBER—ALL SING!

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Chief Army Administration.
 Order of the Great War Lord.
 "All Sing"—

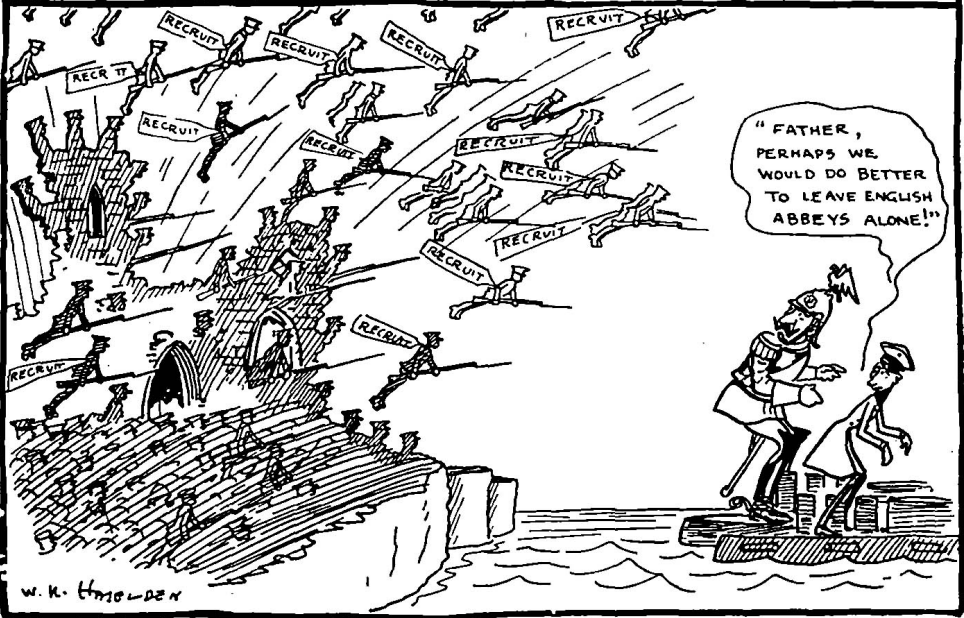
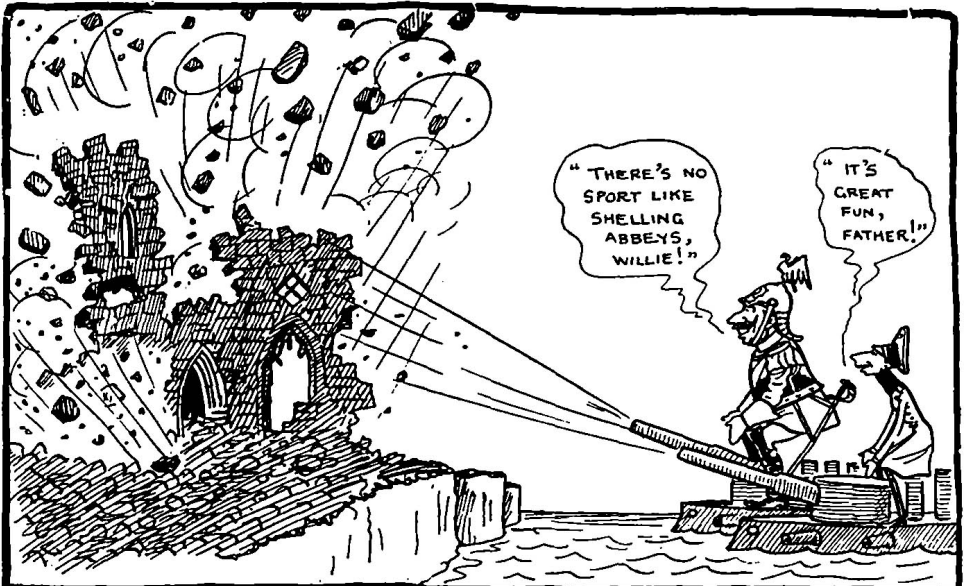
"It's a long long way to Piccadillee.
 It's a long long way to Gay Paree."



[Copyright—The Daily Mirror.

DECEMBER—THE CIRCUS REHEARSAL.

IN spite of their failure in conjuring with the Lion, the Willies decided to run a Great Christmas Circus Performance, and join in with him the Gallic Cock and the Russian Bear for an "Entente Cordiale" hoop turn. But not one of the stupid beasts would do it properly, but tried quite another trick. This was very annoying, for the bills of the performance were already printed, and it made the Willies look so foolish.

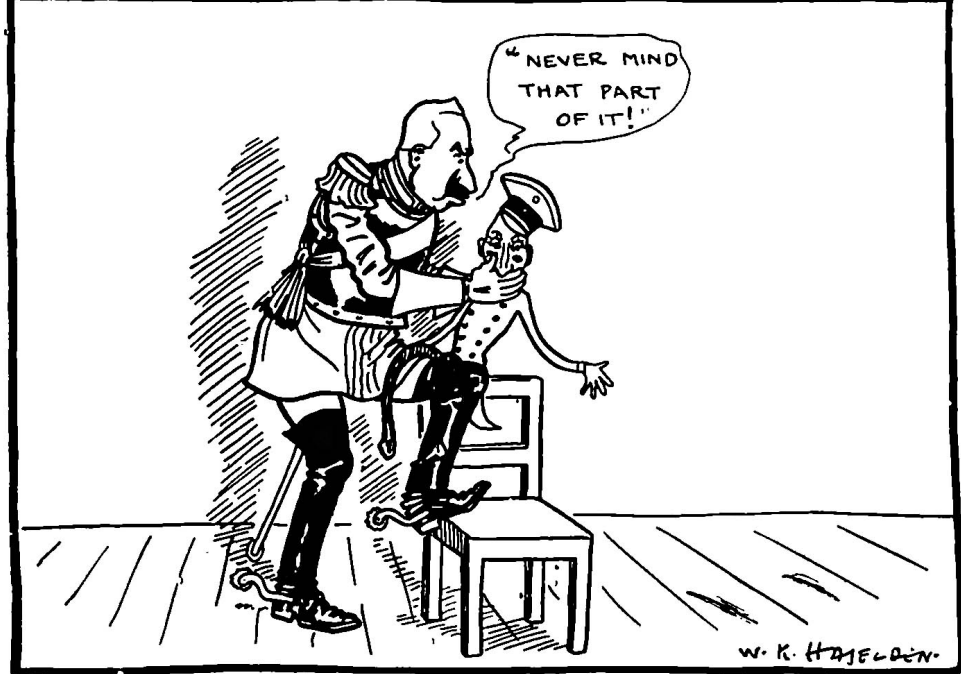
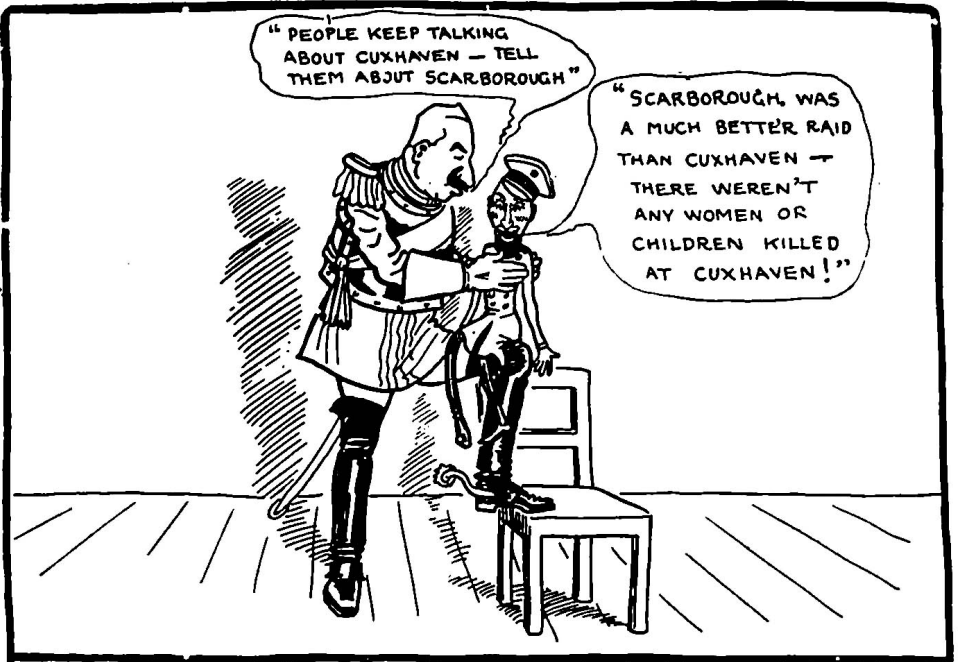


W. K. HAMILTON

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DECEMBER—HOW THE WILLIES ADDED TO THE SLAUGHTER.

IN December the weather got quite misty and the Willies felt that Providence was really at last coming round to their side and would enable their big fleet to do worthy work. So across the North Sea it went one night, and killed a lot of women and children and knocked down an old Abbey. The Willies were so proud, but, unfortunately, it had quite a contrary effect to what they anticipated. They cannot understand why.

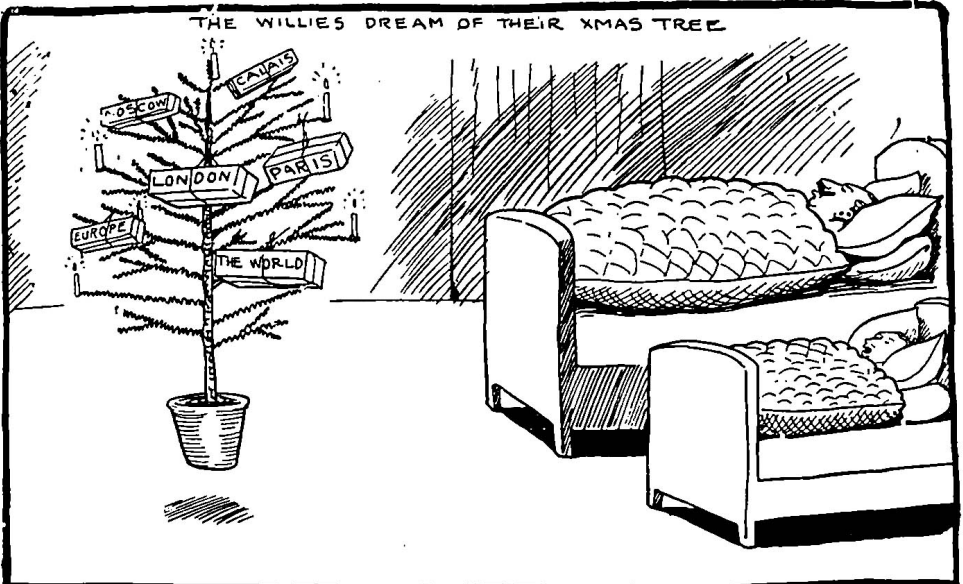


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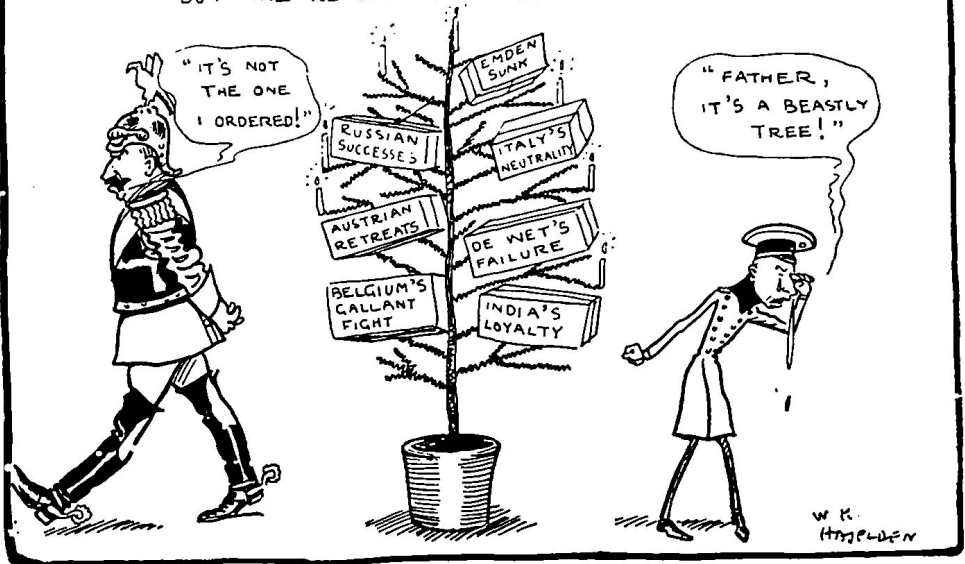
DECEMBER—BIG WILLIE AS A VENTRILOQUIST.

AS circus and conjuring tricks didn't pay, Big Willie determined to turn Ventriloquist, so that he could then tell the world what a clever person he was. But as he wasn't really a ventriloquist he had to get Little Willie to help. Alas! when he asked him to tell the audience of the great Scarborough feat, stupid Little Willie could only think of the women and children that had been killed, and that spoilt the whole show.

THE WILLIES DREAM OF THEIR XMAS TREE



BUT THE REALITY IS NOT LIKE THE DREAM



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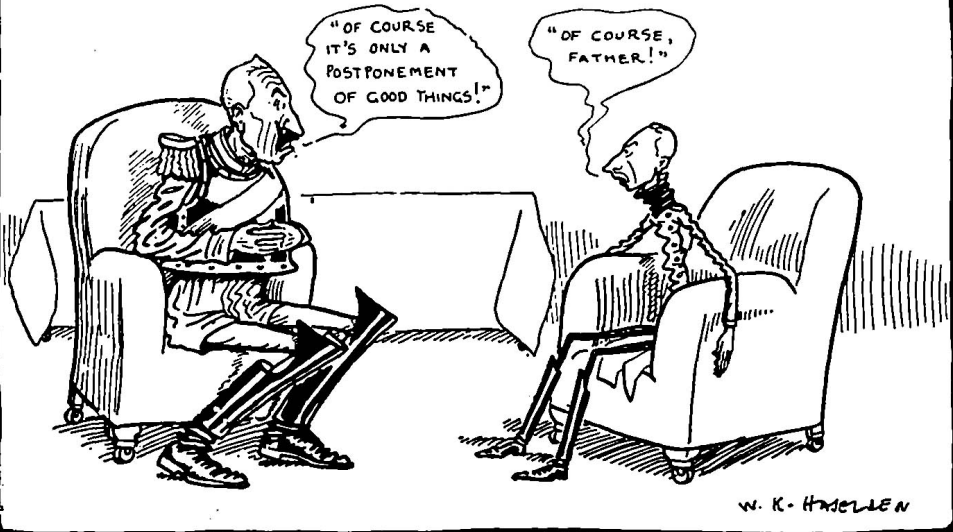
DECEMBER—THE WILLIES' CHRISTMAS DREAM.

WHEN Christmas Eve arrived, the Willies went to their beds hoping to forget their sad experiences in the past and to dream of all the nice things that Big Willie said were sure to happen on the morrow, especially a lovely Christmas tree that had been ordered, hung with spoils from France, Russia, and England. But when morning came they found that the tree had on it only horrid presents that they didn't want one bit.

THE STATE OF HAPPY AND CONTENTED REPLETION IN WHICH THE WILLIES HAD EXPECTED TO BE AFTER XMAS



ALAS, FOR THEIR UNMATERIALIZED DREAMS OF FRENCH, RUSSIAN, AND BRITISH DELICACIES!



"OF COURSE IT'S ONLY A POSTPONEMENT OF GOOD THINGS!"

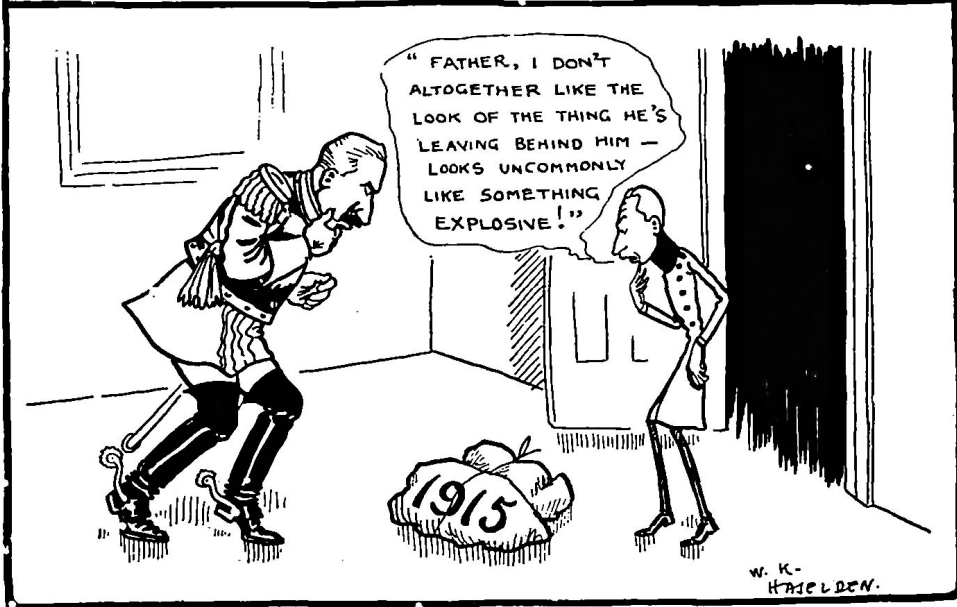
"OF COURSE, FATHER!"

W. K. HAYLLEN

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DECEMBER—THE WILLIES' CHRISTMAS DINNER.

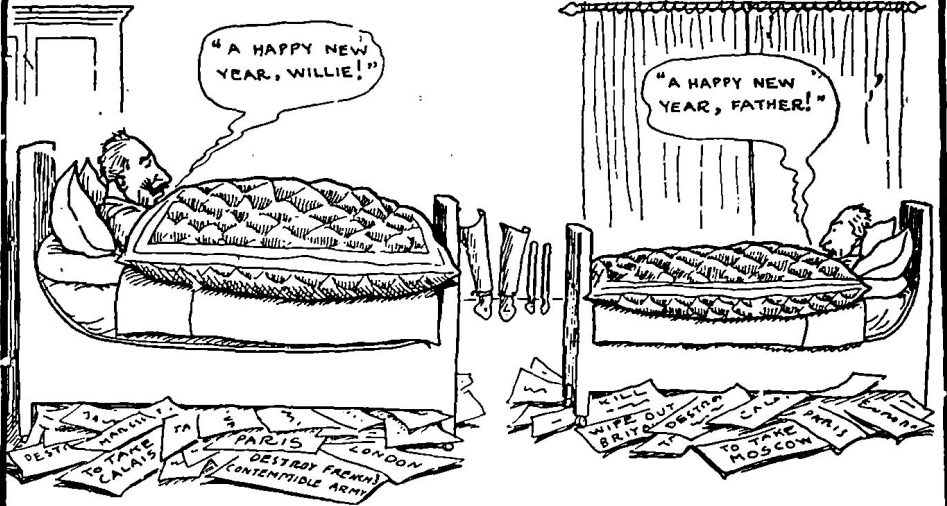
BUT worse was to follow. The Willies looked forward so much to a lovely Christmas dinner at which they were to consume all the Allied dishes and afterwards spend their time in a state of blissful repletion smoking huge cigars, lit at effigies of the Cathedrals they had burnt. But the dishes ordered were like the presents—for they never turned up. Big Willie explained that the dinner was only postponed, but Little Willie muttered something about "A Bird in the Hand."



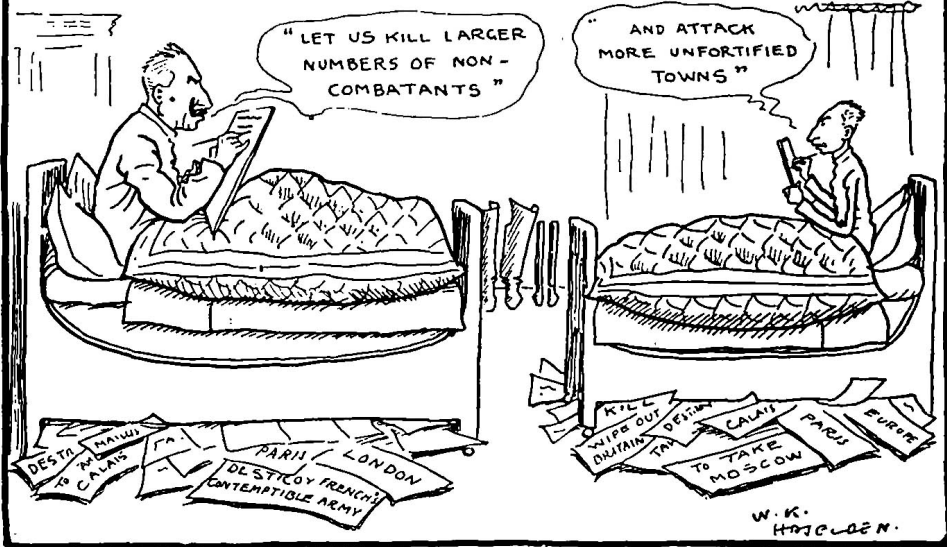
DECEMBER—THE OLD YEAR'S LEGACY.

THE Willies were not sorry to see the last of 1914, and they didn't hesitate to tell the old man so, to his great disgust, considering he had given them 150 days in which to get to Paris, after they had only asked for 30. So, as he departed, he left them a legacy wrapped up in a bundle. They hope it may contain all sorts of laurel wreaths, in lemonies, and "places in the sun" but after the way they had treated him they were loth to open it as they cannot bear many more disappointments.

THE WILLIES WAKE UP ON NEW YEAR'S MORNING —



— AND UNDETERRED, THOUGH SLIGHTLY DEPRESSED, BY THEIR UNFULFILLED GOOD RESOLUTIONS FOR 1914, PROCEEDED TO DRAW UP A FRESH SET FOR 1915



W. K. HOBSON.

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JANUARY—THE WILLIES' NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS.

ON New Year's morning the Willies woke up and determined to forget the horrid past and made lots of new resolutions really worthy of their never-to-be-equalled Kultur. "Let's be Herods, only more so," said Big Willie, "and kill all the women and children in Britain"—"and smash up all the unfortified towns," added Little Willie. And they were so busy making new resolutions they forgot the old ones lying on the floor.

AT THE BEGINNING OF THE WAR



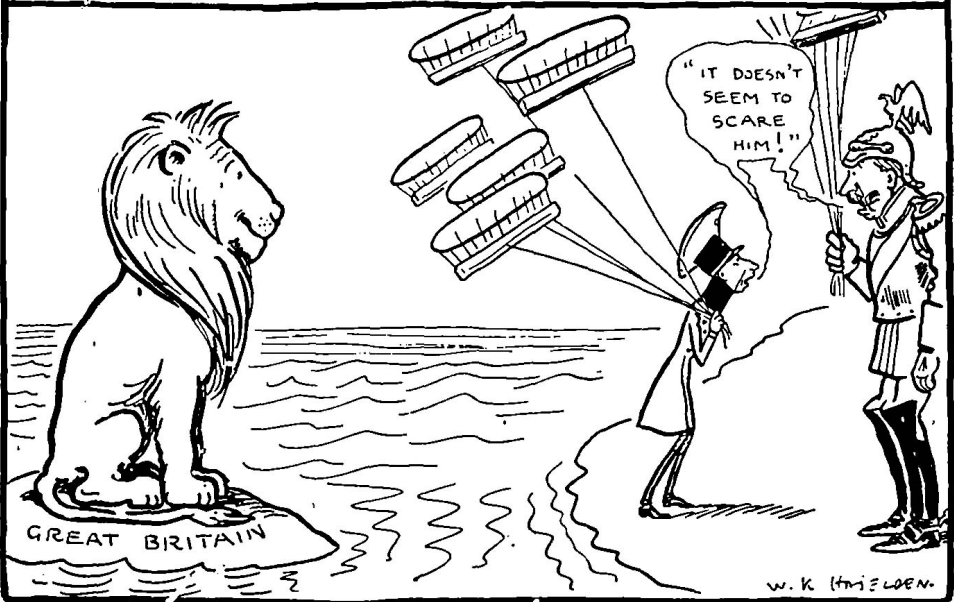
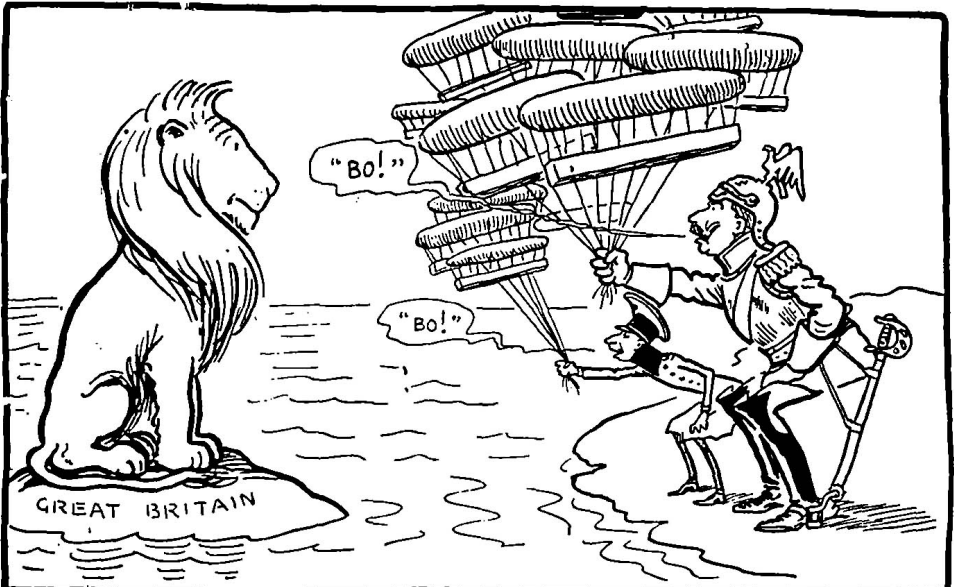
NOW



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JANUARY—THE WILLIES' SELF-RELIANCE.

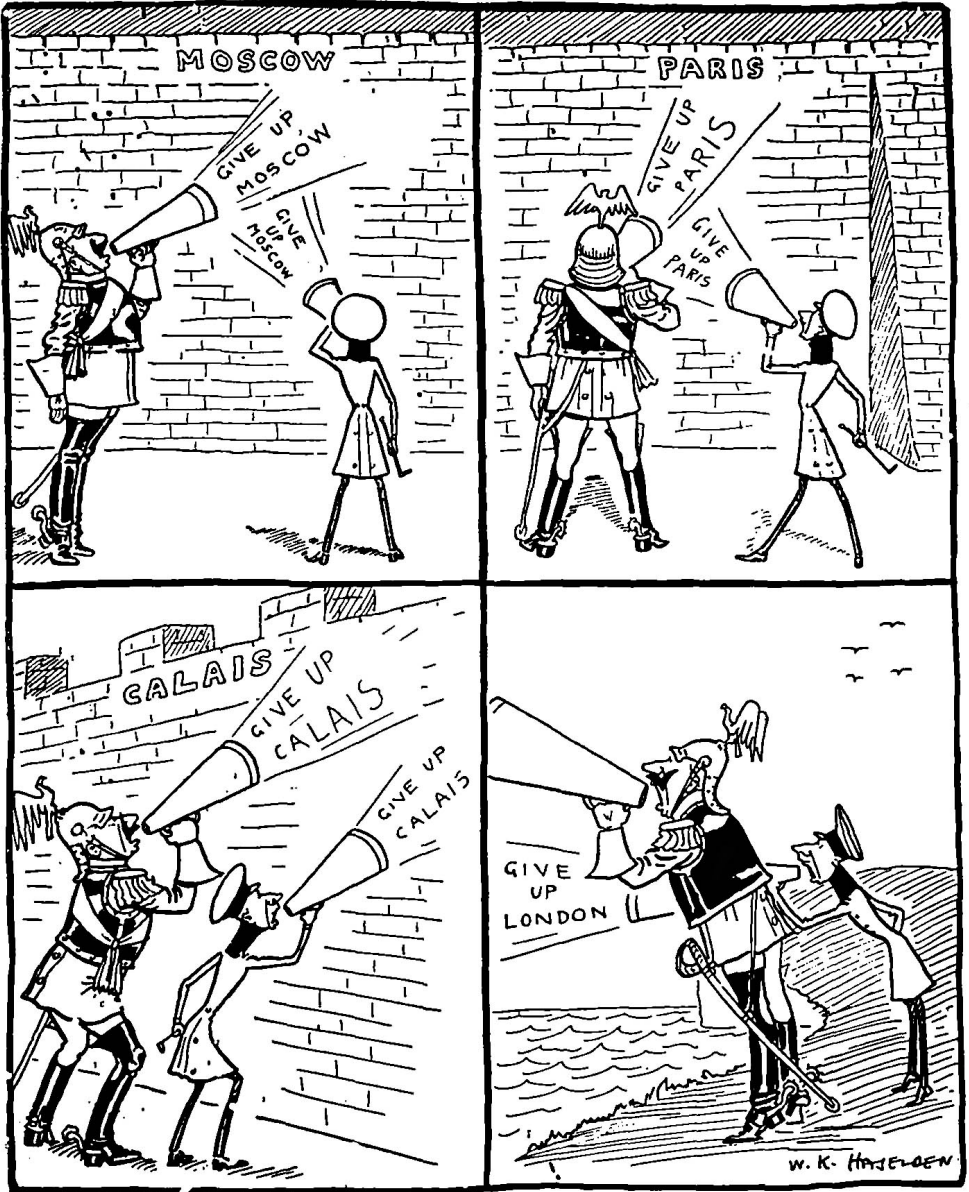
WHEN the War started it was o.k.: their shining armour and their own right arms with which they brandished the biggest of swords that the Willies confidently relied. But presently the winter of discontent came over them and they had to wrap themselves up in their warmest cloaks and call upon another War Lord to finish the business for them.



W. K. (H. J.) LOREN.
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JANUARY—THE GREAT PLOT TO SCARE THE LION.

THE Willies felt they must do something to scare the horrid British Lion, for people were saying very uncomplimentary things, such as, that it wasn't a bit afraid of them. So they devised a sure remedy for this, and after six months brought all their Zeppelins to the front and even sent a Taube to drop a bomb on a cabbage garden at Dover. But the Lion only grinned at all their boings and said: "Send some more, but please spare the women and children."



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JANUARY—THE MODERN JOSHUAS.

THE Willics naturally strove to emulate all the Great Captains of History from Napoleon and Alexander backwards, and in their researches they came across the deeds of Joshua, whose strategy before Jericho interested them greatly. "Let us be Joshua," said father to son, "and bring in the resources of modern science." So they obtained large megaphones and with these, called with jouncing energy upon the walls of Moscow, Paris, Calais, and London to fall down, They are now questioning the truth of Bible history.

WHEN THE U.S.A. NOTE ON NEUTRAL TRADING WAS PRESENTED



WHEN IT WAS RECEIVED AS IT WAS PRESENTED, WITHOUT ILL-FEELING



W. K. HAYES-GEN

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JANUARY—THE WILLIES' PREMATURE JUBILATION.

SO many of the Willies' folk had found a new "Vaterland" in America that when "Der Tag" arrived they thought that no matter how they tore up treaties it would be all right with Uncle Sam. So when he presented a little complaint to John Bull, they danced for joy as they felt sure of a quarrel. It was really playing very low down when Uncle Sam and John Bull sat down and discussed it over a pipe.



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THE RESULT OF TOO MUCH GOOSE-STEP?

THIS cartoon was invented by Mr. Haselden just prior to the "Little Willie" series. As one of his cleverest conceptions, and as an accurate forecast of the attitude of Germany, as represented by the Kaiser, during the course of the war, it is included here as a fitting finale to the Series.

