

home, and the use of electricity has given abundant opportunities for numerous devices and conveniences. How much more comfortable it is on a cold and dark winter morning, to press a switch fixed near our pillow, and flood the room with light, than to stand shivering, like our forefathers did, and vainly try to obtain a spark from the tinder and flint? The position of the lights is a very important point. It is surely much better to consider where the dressing table will be placed, and then put the light over that position, than to place it in the centre of the room, where it is of little use to anyone, and only causes shadows to those using the looking glass. Our fireplaces have also undergone a change, from the early days of the Normans, with their hole in the roof, to our modern scientific slow-combustion well grates, not to mention the increasingly common hot water heating system, by which the whole house, passages and all, can be properly and economically warmed. I could go on "in ad infinitum" almost, recounting the various improvements, (including the all important cupboards) but I will let this suffice. Before concluding my paper however, I would like to add that I trust the lessons we learnt from the recent lectures on Town Planning, and Garden Suburbs, will bear fruit, and that the public will realise that it is quite as easy and cheap to build artistic, cosy and convenient, as ugly and inconvenient ones, and that judicious placing on the site, will help a great deal to improve the general appearance of the building, not to speak of the charming effects produced by well kept lawn and a few trees in the right place. I also trust this paper will have caused some here to realise, to some extent at least the interest, and the importance of "Domestic Architecture."

Germany from Within

Views of Distinguished Neutral

"A PATHETIC ADVENTURE"

We recognise that the economic pressure put upon Germany and Austria through the throttling of their commerce is a big factor making for the Allies success, and it is quite evident, from what the London "Times" correspondent in Copenhagen has gleaned in an interview with a high authority, that the Germans are already awakening to the hopelessness of their position. "From a distinguished citizen of a neutral country, whose name I am sending you privately, a banker by profession, whose long-standing business relations with the country required him to spend the past seven weeks in Germany. I have received a graphic account of the aspect which events present to a keen observer" writes the "Times" correspondent. "His views are not only those of a man of affairs, but of one who, through his professional connections with Germans of eminence in politics and commerce, enjoyed unusual opportunities for gauging the actual attitude of

mind with which this class views the war. It is, of course, at complete variance with the rosy tint in which the "inspired" German Press depicts the situation for the deception of the public both at home and abroad."

It would be a grave fallacy (said my informant) to judge German affairs by the German newspapers of to-day. They must not only suppress what the Government does not want printed, but are required to publish practically that, and that only, which the Government lays before them. I refer, of course, to news and views of all sorts bearing on the war. Everything, for instance, tending to suggest that the rigours of war are slowly but surely undermining the national economic fabric is strictly contraband. It is that feature of the situation, naturally, which makes the liveliest appeal to the imagination of a



THE EGYPTIAN MUMMY.

"Good Lord! I believe something is moving here!"

--*Kladderadatsch* (Berlin).

We can trust our New Zealand boys on the spot to "shake things up," though not exactly as the Berliners would wish.

business man. My every-day contact with Germans of my class, extending over a period of many weeks, leaves me firmly convinced that those of them who must know now realise that Germany has been plunged into a tragic and pathetic adventure. Even the great industrialists of Rhineland-Westphalia, though many of their works are occupied in the production of war materials to a wholly unprecedented extent, are depressed and melancholy over the awful struggle into which Germany has been precipitated.

These are men who cannot be deluded by official optimism and bluster. They are men accustomed to deal with facts. Nothing else impresses them. What are the facts? The General Staff told the