

# SERIAL WAVES

BEING SMOKE AND SEA SPRAY  
FROM

?

Vol 2 No 2

Saturday 21st September 1940

Price 1d

## IDLE TALK COSTS LIVES

We recommend readers to consult Ship's Routine Order 22 (20 Sep 40) A perusal of it will make us realize that it's slippery ground we're treading. We would like to congratulate Ship on such a pithy statement, and we admire the succinct paragraphs which bring home to us the seriousness of the present position. Death is so permanent!

\*\*\*\*\*

## LITTLE DROPS

With many apologies to the Y M C A personnel, and also to our Padres, who have long extolled the virtues of water as a drink, it is the unhappy lot of "SERIAL WAVES" to bid them tarry a while - at least until the ship's tanks are replenished.

Water is precious - alcohol is cheap.

Don't go without a bath - use gin.

Don't go without a drink, but remember, beer is best.

Watch your water - remember the ancient mariner and the albatross - or was it a Tui? In conclusion, be particularly careful not to drink sea water - except Waitemata.

.....

We're "banded" together as one to protest,  
Seeing "red" - I don't think -  
But we do want the best;  
We'll drink Allsop's or Bass -  
Even Speight's for that matter -  
Timaru is true blue  
And likewise Waitemata;  
But there's one so called brew  
That we loathe and abhor  
We've had more than enough  
And are we feeling sore -  
Good beer is good beer, be it ocean or land  
But there's one brand that ought to be "banned".

.....

## WATER RITUAL REVIVES.

Which English Major tried to bring the enemy to its knees - but missed?  
The second round of the contest is eagerly awaited.

Who was the Staff Nurse who thought Gunga Din was a bush-ranger? - Replies to  
"R S M - 13th."

We were warned about the flies in -----, Somebody must have warned them.

What were the new mugs before they joined the Army?

=====  
=====

If you're fond of athletics, turn back the mattress and watch the bed spring.

=====  
=====

## - - - M A S S A G E N E - - -

Have you seen our new English consignment?

(Advt)

(To be read aloud with an American intonation)

Land ho ! Last night it was a beaming lighthouse on the starboard beam, and this morning eager eyes find revealed a landfall - a new country - Australia, which approaches very slowly. Gradually, as the convoy creeps silently inward, coast line features clarify and broad sandy shores, white in the southern sun, sweep gracefully around an even green fringe of grassy slopes. Ship after ship draws in toward the growing picture of chimney stacks, expansive woolstores, & habitations.

Then the port itself grows higher & more distinct, as a cheeky, butting pilot boat guides the great liners into haven. ~~XXXXXXXX~~, busy western port, welcomes the troopships, and curious soldiers line decks to take in fresh sights. There on the wharf are some Aussie soldiers. Anzacs meet again ! How long will we have to wait until allowed ashore, where are the familiar signs that disclose the positions of welcome hotels ?

Wait, wait, wait - impatient, expectant, until a quick march that continues onto the quay, & then out into the street itself. We're on terra firma again. Even after only a few days afloat it is grand, too. "BREAK OFF" School is out (or is a war on ?) by the look of it, as flying figures gallop excitedly in all directions, and it is only a matter of time before thousands of embryo Enzed soldiers have made their devious ways to the city of ? ? ?

No wild aborigines having boomeranged our car, or Kelly Gang ambushed the party of explorers, we drive into a glorious leafy picturesque boulevard of eucalyptus trees. Flanking this avenue are many types of beautiful native trees, including a chameleon gum tree, changing the colour of its bark with the seasons. Brilliant red waratahs, ( ? - Editor) golden wattles in pretty bloom, & leafy shrubs, passed by. We crest the rise, & behold, a treasure city - ~~XXX~~ - a magic carpet below. The panorama stretches towards the misty blue peaks of the ~~....~~ ranges. "There's gold in them thar hills."

Below us winds the bridge-spanned ~~....~~ river, the haunt of that queenlike bird, from which the State takes its emblem. What changes this untroubled river has witnessed within the past two centuries. She has seen hardy pioneers encamped on her banks seeking a home & existence on the vast territories that made, by their very vastness, the settlement of the new south continent so perilous a venture. She saw white prospectors come, who found precious gold nearby; the rush of men lured to the yellow metal as if by a magnet; the growth of this city of the plains, conceived & built & fostered by wealth of gold - wrested from the good earth. Opulence is reflected throughout the fair city in the columned facades of business & public structures, massive examples of Victorian & classic architecture; the beautiful theatres; the well kept parks & gardens that delight the eye as we pass by.

We do the rounds. Aussies drink good beer. You can tell that at the first sample. The lager goes down very well, too. You don't have to pay very much to be in "good spirits" either. An excellent place, alright, & the large quantities of ex-diggers that appear makes it seem that every citizen must be an ex-digger. Did all the town go to the last war? Well, a good part of it is apparently off to this one, for look at all these distinctive hats with their upturned brims. By now some have strangely passed onto N Z heads, while a corresponding number of peaked hats crown the pates of young Australia.

Of course we must have a look round the big stores. The merchandise itself doesn't have a chance, for the big attractions are walking round behind the counters. Well, well, the magazines & Cinesound newsreels weren't retouched, after all. Australia's best publicity, the beauty of pleasant girls, & sunny smiles so enchanting. Unfortunately, we cannot stay & admire all day. We purchase postcards & suitable trophies, & off we trot to the Post Office, surmounted by a tall Eiffel Tower pylon carrying the antennae of the big broadcasting station. Emerging triumphantly, having posted souvenirs to loved ones at home, we decide to visit the zoo. Having satisfied ourselves that the kangaroo is still existent (in the zoo, at least) & the happy kookaburra isn't extinct, away we go to look over, instead of through, bars, just for a change. Pubs stay open here until 9 P.M. Evening descends, the streets become livelier & livelier. Surely all the locals have turned out to celebrate; & aren't the boys making the best of their hospitality.

Pleasant memories of that eventful day were carried away by everyone. We do hope that we left a good impression on the cheerful people of the Western State, & that some day the opportunity will come again to visit this place on another day's shore leave

-- And so with these thoughts, we say farewell to Australia, to the memorial on the hill, to her gallant people, & sail away into the blue horizon .....

LATEST WAR NEWS

German planes are still smashing at London and other objectives in a series of daylight attacks. The Nazis are, however, finding it difficult to break through London's defences, and are resorting to "hit & run" attacks by a small number of planes. Night attacks on London continue, about 450 casualties, perhaps 100 of them deaths, having been caused last night. In the course of the raids, windows in the Japanese Embassy were shaken, & side walls caved in. An explosive-laden German Bomber crashed in Bermondsey, wrecking several buildings.

Italian Military H Q admit that British Warships in the Mediterranean opened fire on Italian troops invading Egypt between Port Bardia, Libya, & Side Karrani, Egypt. The Italians claim that their planes bombed & drove off the British ships. British bombers raided East Africa & Italian Somaliland.

German sources claim that 9 British planes have been brought down over Germany last night by A/A fire, & 2 by pursuit planes. These figures would indicate that very large numbers of our planes have been over Germany.

The 1500 ton British submarine "Narwhal", with a complement of 55, is overdue & considered lost. This is the 17th submarine announced as lost by the Admiralty.

Four German planes were shot down in today's daylight fighting over England. 7 R A F fighters being lost. Crews of 3 of these are safe.

Brighton has been bombed today, with some damage to houses & some casualties

In Thursday's actions 5 German bombers were shot down for no British loss.

Reports from Cairo indicate no change in the position in Egypt.

In an Italian raid on Aden there was slight damage, & no casualties. Fires started in Assab by R A F raids last Sunday & Monday burned 3 days.

All our night-raiding planes returned safely last night. The main objective was the aqueducts which carry Dortmund's canal - one of Germany's most vital internal communication links. The attacks were successful.

British raids were also made on Ostend & Flushing. One pilot saw 5 bursts among barges, followed by explosions & green flames. (Note - Wireless report is not clear as to whether the explosions were from barges or bargees - but had it been the latter, the flames would have been blue Ed.)

Dunkirk docks were attacked, also railway yards at Mannheim & main railway lines at Coblenz.

\*\*\*\*\*

NEW WAR RISK FOR DOMINION TROOPS

It is credibly reported that the enemy has developed a new technic for discovering the movements of Dominion troops by sea. While the new instrument is too technical for full description here, it is learned that in essence it consists of a device that is sensitive to glass on the sea bottom.

Once the trail of "empties" has been picked up, the convoy can be followed, and its fate is "sealed".

\*\*\*\*\*

MORE "MOTS" FROM 'MO No 7'

- At 8-40 a. m. 20 Sep we changed course for the following reasons :-
- 1 - The Nazi fleet was dead ahead.
- 2 - The O C Convoy had been inadvertently left behind.
- 3 - Ship's Adjutant had Rrs 2 left, & insisted on spending same before sending out any more details.
- 4 - The ship turned back to get the Magazine.

.....