

The Lexicographer's Easy Chair

(TITLE REGISTERED IN U. S. PATENT OFFICE)

To decide questions concerning the correct use of words for this column, the Funk & Wagnalls New Standard Dictionary is consulted as arbiter.

Readers who require immediate attention will receive it if they enclose a stamped return envelop. No notice will be taken of anonymous communications.

crummy; shindy.—"L. K. H.," Palmetto, Fla.—The present use of *crummy*, meaning "cheap," is a natural outcome of its original sense. The dictionary records that *crummy* means "full of crumbs or littered with crumbs." Hence, anything that is *crummy* shows an untidy or neglected appearance. The extension to "cheap," in the sense of "mean, poor, disreputable," is a logical step.

The old slang term *shindy*, meaning "a riotous conflict; a rumpus or a row," has been in use since 1821. *Shindig*, first recorded in 1892, is probably a modified form of *shindy*, and designates a party somewhat less riotous than a *shindy*.

ex-service man; veteran.—"H. C. H.," Omaha, Neb.—These terms are often loosely used interchangeably. An *ex-service man* is one who has formerly been a soldier or sailor; he may be young or old, and may have served a few months or have grown old in the service. Nothing in the term indicates age or length of service. Properly speaking, however, the term *veteran*, when applied to one who is or who was a soldier or sailor, denotes a man "long trained," or who "has grown old in service"; hence, it does not properly apply to a young man or to a man with a short record of service. It is from the Latin *veteranus*, meaning "old," or, when used in a military sense, "an old tried soldier."

plantation.—"E. T. T.," Honolulu, T. H.—The word *plantation* is derived from the Latin *plantatio*, meaning "a planting," and was early employed to designate the establishment of a church, the settling of people in a new location, the founding of a colony.

In the sense, "the settlement of persons in some locality; especially the planting of a colony; colonization," the word dates from 1586. With the meaning, "a settlement in a new or conquered country; a colony," the word dates from 1614. We have the term in this sense in the official name of the state, "Rhode Island and Providence Plantations." The meaning, "an estate or farm, especially in a tropical or subtropical country, on which cotton, tobacco, sugar-cane, coffee, or other crops are cultivated," dates back at least to 1706, for it is defined in the sixth edition of Phillips' Dictionary, "a Spot of Ground in America for the planting of Tobacco, Sugar-canes, etc."

subtile, subtle.—"B. M.," Miami, Fla.—These words have been constantly used as interchangeable terms by good writers, but there seems to be a present tendency to distinguish them by making *subtile* an attribute of things, and *subtle* a characteristic of mind. *Subtle* is the later form of the word. It is used preferably when the derogatory sense of crafty is to be expressed.



The finest Pineapples

IN THE WORLD COME FROM HAWAII

The finest Pineapple Juice

COMES FROM DOLE-GROWN HAWAIIAN PINEAPPLES

Every one knows that Hawaii grows the finest pineapples obtainable. And DOLE-grown Hawaiian pineapples are the very pick of all Hawaiian pineapples. That's why they produce the most delicious juice you've ever tasted. DOLE vacuum-packing retains the rare flavor, and the important nutritive elements. Buy a dozen cans of DOLE pure, unsweetened Pineapple Juice from your grocer today, and write for new recipe book "Morning, Noon and Night," sent free. Hawaiian Pineapple Company, Ltd., Honolulu, Hawaii. Sales Offices: 215 Market Street, San Francisco, California.



DOLE PINEAPPLE JUICE



"One Tropic-Aire has heated my 5 cars the last 8 years"

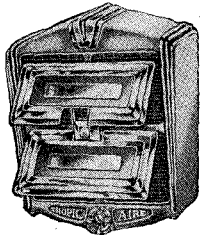
"My TROPIC-AIRE Heater was purchased in January, 1926," writes E. J. Erickson, Minneapolis. "It has been installed in five different automobiles . . . a 1925 Studebaker 6 Coach, a 1927 Studebaker 6, a Studebaker 8 Dictator, an Essex and lastly in a Chevrolet where it is still in use. During these 8 years, this TROPIC-AIRE Heater has provided comfortable warmth during cold weather in every one of these cars and is still giving satisfactory service."

This is just one of the many instances of long, faithful heating service given by TROPIC-AIRE Heaters. They *must* be good to stand up like that.

TROPIC-AIRE

THE ORIGINAL FAN-EQUIPPED HOT WATER MOTOR VEHICLE HEATER

The ADVANCED 1934 Models are not only every bit as good as the earlier models which are making such pleasing service records. . . the are even better as the result of numerous improvements and refinements which make them even more efficient, dependable and long-lived. Yet they are lower-priced than earlier models. Public acceptance of TROPIC-AIRE requires large volume production, which makes greater values possible.



Patent Nos.
1584900, 1830691,
1879152, 1746985,
1834141, 1891506.
Other patents pending.

A Model for Every Purse to fit ANY Car

Get the heater of *proved* efficiency . . . the heater developed and built by the *pioneers* in fan-equipped hot water motor-vehicle heating, the engineers who make the heater used as standard equipment on leading bus lines.

TROPIC-AIRE Heaters are sold by garages and car dealers everywhere. Insist on TROPIC-AIRE. Write for folder on new models.

TROPIC-AIRE, Inc.

56 Eleventh Ave. N. E.

Minneapolis, Minn.

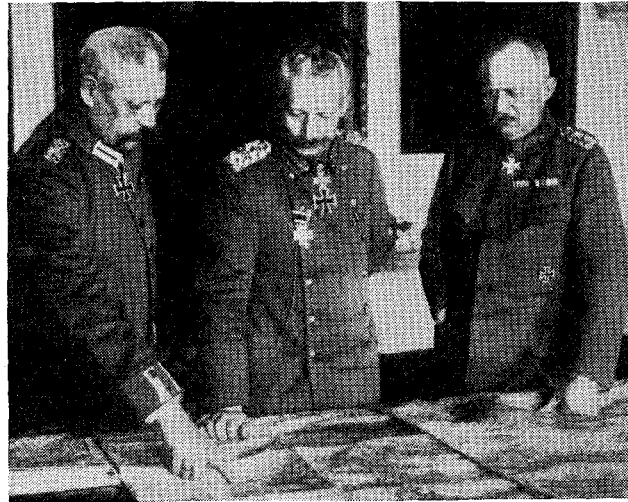
On the Current Screen

There have been so many compilations of wartime newsreels that apparently few battle-pictures remain unrevealed. To get something comparatively untouched for the film version of his magnificent book of photographs, "The First World War," Laurence Stallings has been forced back to the early camera accounts of the background of the international struggle. Even in this

The battle episodes, in particular the struggle between the British and German Fleets in the North Sea, the drowning of the crew of an Austrian cruiser in the Adriatic, and the terrible warfare in the Alpine snow between Austria and Italy, make for magnificent pictorial stuff, and, combined with such expert editing and careful use of an explanatory voice, they result in something enormously powerful.

* * * *

Kid Millions (AAA*)—Eddie Cantor in a lively, tuneful and innocently amusing extravaganza about a downtrodden orphan who falls heir to \$70,000,000 in Egyptian riches, left him by his archeologist father. It has a final sequence in technicolor, showing the hero giving an elaborate ice-cream party for the boys and girls of New York, which adds a note of childlike Broadway fantasy. The star is considerably aided by Ethel Merman, the exciting singer of many a successful Manhattan musical comedy, and by Warren



Fox Film

Hindenburg, the Kaiser, and Ludendorff in conference at Headquarters, Spa, Belgium, 1918; a scene from "The First World War"

field he has found only an ancient film—taken in 1895, and almost the first newsfilm ever made—of the ancient Bismarck addressing his troops. But, on the whole, Mr. Stallings has relied on pictures already used in the screen's War chronicles, yet his cinematic edition of **The First World War (AAAA)**, by dint of brilliant editing, is by far the most vivid, impressive, and tremendously exciting War record yet compiled.

There is horror, ruin, death, suffering, and a terrible hint of things to come, throughout the course of the Stallings film, and yet it certainly can not be said that it is bitter, antiwar propaganda. It is not that the editor has made any attempt to be jingoistic, or to shout forth the heroic glories of men in battle. It merely happens that Mr. Stallings has been a good enough camera journalist to set down the important and impressive things, no matter what their value may be as propaganda, and that the addition of screen movement and martial music as accompaniment turns even the most brutal scenes of carnage into such exciting, pulse-quickening stuff that "The First World War" becomes a chant of glory, rather than a cry of bitterness. As lamentable as is this failure of the screen as peace propaganda, there is no denying the magnificent excitement of the Stallings drama. It is the finest of camera records.

The most exciting part of the film is the pre-War background material. The scenes showing such famous royal figures as the Kaiser, Francis Joseph, Francis Ferdinand, Ferdinand of Bulgaria, Nicholas of Montenegro, Nicholas of Russia, and the rest of them are curiously exciting.

Hymer. There is a lot of music in the popular vein, some of it attractive.

* * * *

Evelyn Prentice (AAA)—Myrna Loy and William Powell, popular romantic pair of the inordinately successful "Thin Man," in a decidedly thinner melodrama about a successful criminal lawyer whose wife confessed to a murder charge against which he was defending some one else. The plot is pretty routine stuff, made suprisingly entertaining by fine playing.

* * * *

The White Parade (AA)—The romantic and sacrificial lives of the student nurses, done in a sentimental manner resembling a distaff version of the Pulitzer Prize play, "Men in White."

* * * *

Three Songs About Lenin (AA)—Three tributes to the Soviet leader, the first extolling his contribution to the emancipation of Oriental women, the second recording newsreel scenes of his life and death, the third celebrating the industrialization of Russia. ARGUS.

CURRENT FILM RATINGS

AAAA	AAA
*Cradle Song, Catherine the Great, *The House of Rothschild, *You're Telling Me, *Tarzan and His Mate, The Barretts of Wimpole Street, The Merry Widow, The First World War.	*Treasure Island, Our Daily Bread, *Judge Priest, *Man of Aran, *What Every Woman Knows, The Pursuit of Happiness, We Live Again, The St. Louis Kid, *Kid Millions, Evelyn Prentice.

AAAA—Outstanding films
AAA—Recommended films
*Films suitable for children