

"Mainly, the knowledge really essential to success, you'll acquire after school-days through meeting and mixing with people who have attained success.

"The health, if good to start with, is maintained by hard playing. Your day is only twenty-four hours long, a third of it at least goes in sleep, a whole lot more goes in dressing and eating (we don't seem to be able to do without either), and there is really little time left—comparatively—for work and play. You have your work time,—work with a zest. The short time remaining for play, put your whole heart and soul into that, too.

"Cut out being bored. No! I should not say that—as possibly none of you ever are or ever have been bored. Rather—avoid being bored. Be interested in everything. You'll be surprised later on what an interesting old world this is—what a marvellous earth we live on—what tremendous varieties of people and thought and—everything, there is on every hand—and all interesting.

"I'd just love to go on chatting to you fellows this evening—but I guess you'll get bored—although I've just told you not to do so.

"One thing more! You fellows have ideals—I know you have, because it's not so long since I was a boy—not so very long, anyway. You fellows have ideals, you have beliefs and faiths. This year—next year—perhaps later still, you will be getting out into a world which is exceedingly interesting, but which, unfortunately, has rather a horrible habit of crushing those ideals, smashing down on beautiful mental pictures and ideas, destroying one's beliefs. When you get out on your own, you will be "up against" this, as everyone else has been before you.

"You will squeeze through all right—your ideas will be changed, maybe—but not necessarily for the worse—on many subjects. On the whole, you will probably become more broad-minded—more generous-spirited to those of your race.

"By the way, I'd forgotten to tell you about the war. You know we have a war being carried on, don't you? Just now I am sitting not very many miles away from the Huns—on one of the most famous fields of France. I have been here several days, and will be here a few days more. In view, in all directions, are ruined, shell-

stricken orchards and homes—homes with hardly one brick stuck upon another. The two lines of trenches face one another at distances varying from 80 to 500 yards apart. We sling trench mortar shells—rifle grenades and bullets at the Hun—and kill and maim some of him; he replies in kind, and we have a few casualties. Sometimes the one side makes a combined rush—get through and nearly score; but either the referee gives a free kick to the defenders, or the latter "come back"—also with a rush, and the game returns to the centre of the field. Sometimes, too—instead of playing this "Shrovetide football" game—after dark, some on each side get out into the centre of the pitch—walking—crawling—sliding—with baited breath and nervous system taut—advancing towards the other net (their wire). If they bring back a piece of the wire, that side scores one point; if they throw a bomb at the others' trench, two points; if a shriek is heard after a bomb is thrown, the throwing side scores a goal.

"Of course, the final result will not be known until after the war, but mid-war contests are kept up by each side, and four or five or ten days' contests take place all the time.

"I have quite decided who is going to win this war. Of course, we and our Allies are; but when peace is declared, then the *real war* will start, and then *you fellows will get your chance*. That is not going to be a war of guns and battleships—it will be a war of commerce—industry—brains—organisation—social reconstruction—and the country whose people first get down to business—and work—organise—develop—to get its possibilities, its activities, its industries, its social conditions, to the highest degree of efficiency will win *that war*.

"That's the war that you fellows will fight. Cease to be an individual, disinterested unit—ally yourselves, make yourselves to be one of a highly developed whole—all working for the common good.

"Social conditions that existed in England prior to the war must never be allowed to exist after the war. And it's up to you fellows to see that they don't.

"If a country can organise for war, why not for peace?—Why not?

"Thanks again, you fellows. It's good of you to bother about us out here. Of course, we officers are very fortunate compared