

in one her old shoes the new ones being on her feet. And they

got away with this a well deserved but as one cannot be extravagant on both clothing and food we decided to cut down on the food for the day to make up the mornings and went to a near by good and cheap cafe which cost us about half a crown and for dinner we we went to a little foreign place in Leicester Square. Here we had omlet'e with chipped potatoes, fried mushrooms and toast and tea which cost 10/6d. but very good and satisfying.

The weather now began to warm up much to our pleasure which meant we discarded our coats.

Next day we went to a taylor in Oxford Street, Burton which I think was at one time known as the 50/- taylor and very good. Here Here, having chosen the material and patterns, we were measured, Lorna for a dress and costume and myself for suit and also, much against my will, and choosing the less expensive material, a suit, a sports coat and a raglin overcoat. Lorna was for the more expensive sports coat. However the taylor, though he made a good job of the overcoat made the sports coat to the same measurements and it looked, as you can imagine, like a sack, too big and uncomfortable. which I would not accept. The other items were not ready for us and to be later sent down to Southampton where we were to take delivery before embarking. The idea was to have them delivered on board which would save purchase tax which was rather high. However when we went to try the items on at Burtons Southampton depot. we found they were must unsatisfactory. The manager quite agreed and so phoned his London depot and our deposit money was returned. So all we got in the end was my raglin overcoat which I must say served me for some years before being sold second hand for a couple of pounds.

In London as you know there are a number of Livery Companies, Fishmongers, Grocers, Drapers, Silversmiths etc, and of one of these my friend Colonel Ellison Macartney was Secretary, or whatever the representative is called, and whome I had met before the war at the Queen Victoria Rifles Depot in London and again during the war as a prisoner of war. He had been taken in the defence of Calais early in the war. I used to correspond with him and knowing we were shortly to be in London he sent me an invitation to attend the annual dinner of the Drapers Company to be held in their wonderful hall. There must be well over a hundred of these companies and all have very fine property in London. It is from the members of these that the Aldermen of London are chosen and from each year one is chosen as Mayor of London and then as a rule Knighted.

When the day arrived I took a taxi and he knew where to go. I was met by John Macartney and as we walked in I handed in my invitation and a man called out your name and home country. You then walked forward to be received by three officials including the Mayor who gave me a warm welcome and hoped I was enjoying my visit, They seem interested and talked for a short while before the next guest was introduced. Their great building was larger than our East London City Hall. The Main Hall with a great dome ceiling with wonderful paintings was to be the setting for the dinner for about three hundred. It was a real spectacular show. When all had been seated four chaps, in low soft and musical voices, sang the grace and continued through the dinner. A very fine show at which the Lord Mayor and several others spoke and welcomed various guests from far and near. I was very much impressed by the pomp and splendour of the show. You should see their gold and silver plate. After the dinner I came down to travelling back to the Regent by bus after a most enjoyable evening and Lorna was quite surprised when I arrived back just before eleven. I was thrilled at the honour of being invited.

Lorna now tells of how she spent that evening. I was picked up by my cousin Edward at the Regent Palace and we went along to my Aunt's flat at Harstead Heath where we had a family gathering with