

having a big ship of his own and sailing to Egypt to shoot crocodiles for dinner, because of the submarine peril. Another idea was that he should go to South Africa as soon as he "gets seven" to kill lions and tigers, and incidentally to open a cake and sweet shop; but not a tea shop, "because you have to have such a lot of maids about in a tea shop, and we don't want a lot of maids about."

It is interesting to note that the girl's dreams of the future show the instinct of the conservation of life, while the boy talks joyfully of the destruction of life.

The war, of course, influences their games. A hospital is the greatest fun, and there is never any lack of suitably damaged dolls to provide "woundeds." Occasionally the doctor tries to practise on the nurse, as when Rowley was found trying to force a tablespoon into Margaret's mouth. When remonstrated with, he said: "I only wanted to look down her neck, like the doctor did to mummy."

They were much disappointed that they were not allowed to carry out a glorious plan of turning the attic into a Red Cross hospital, with real live soldiers in it. "But, of course," said Rowley, "Margaret would only be able to nurse a very little soldier; she's got such little knees."

Margaret took a very keen interest in Zeppelins when they used to visit us. She woke up during one raid, and with a sweet smile remarked: "I can hear a Zeppelin dropping bombs." Then promptly closed her eyes and slept again. She used to go into her mother's room in the morning with marvellous stories of the previous night's adventures.

"A Zep. came last night and dropped ever so many hot bombs in my room, and I picked

them all up and threw them back at the Zep. You come and look in my room; you won't see one bomb there!" Proof positive, of course, of the truth of her story.

Also on the subject of Zeppelins a fragment of conversation was heard—cross-examination of a long-suffering auntie.

"Why did God make Zeps.?"

"He didn't make them."

"Who did, then?"

"The Germans made them."

"Well, why did God make the Germans?"

[ESSIE HARVEY.]



MARGARET.

DERMATITIS FROM EXPLOSIVES.

Dr. W. J. Tyson, F.R.C.P. (Folkestone), describes in the *British Medical Journal* some cases of dermatitis from explosives used in air raids which have come under his care:—

"The men, all soldiers, were engaged in digging out bombs, and when so doing did not wear any protective coverings. The orange staining of the skin, of hands, feet, and face, came on the next day; the hands were principally affected, and these were very deeply stained; the vesicles appeared five or six days later.

"The main symptom complained of was the intense itching and irritation; the hands, as in the case of the staining, were most affected in this way.

The staining on the feet and face has now, five weeks after its first appearance, disappeared, but the hands, which were so deeply coloured, are now peeling; the flakes that are coming off are stained and thickened; the new skin underneath the flakes is tender and red. There have been no outstanding constitutional symptoms. All the men complained of nausea for a few days, and were until now unable to enjoy their food. No local treatment has been of any avail."

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