

"SHOPPING" AT SEA

British officers and sailors in the grand fleet were able to "go shopping" at sea without even stepping off their respective boats. A floating department store, fitted up by a big London store under special permit from the British admiralty, made regular trips around the sea area where the grand fleet hung out, displaying its stocks on deck and handling purchases up over the sides of the big British sea fighters.

Mostly the store sold things to eat—canned meats, pickles, jam and cakes—to vary the monotonous diet of the fleet. But there were all the usual departments if you eliminate the women's goods. A millinery counter would have starved to death in the neighborhood.

There was a barber shop aboard the department store boat, and the waiting list of patients for the barber's chair usually had about 30 names.
