

# The BETTER 'OLE



Captain BRUCE BAIRNSFATHER'S "Alf," "Bert" and "Old Bill" in real life at the Cort Theatre

One of the most popular comedies of the season, "The Better 'Ole," is a delightful modern version of "The Three Musketeers," with plenty of music and humor. Captain Bruce Bairnsfather and Captain Arthur Eliot are the authors; both men have seen active service with the British

Army, which perhaps accounts for the real war spirit throughout the play. All the best moments in the famous Bairnsfather cartoons find their way into the lines and situations, which is one big reason for the remarkable success the comedy is having.



Lark Taylor, who sings "When You Look Into the Heart of a Rose."



Nona Desmond as Suzette, singing "Tommy, You're a Nice Boy," to the guests of the Cafe des Oiseaux.



Alf (Olin Campbell), Old Bill (Charles Coburn) and Bert (Charles MacNaughton) "Carrying On." There are some steen different verses, but the audience insists on them all. P. S.—Bert can't really read Italian.



Mr. and Mrs. Charles Coburn, producers of "The Better 'Ole." Mr. Coburn plays Old Bill, of the walrus whiskers; Mrs. Coburn makes a charming Victoire.



Bert, gay philanderer (Charles MacNaughton), gives advice to a whole group of pretty French girls in the song, "You'll Have a Little Regiment of Your Own."



With a regiment like this one of Captain Lillian Spencer's war workers to bring up the rear, as promised in their song, "When You Take That Trip Across the Rhine," any Tommy should be excused for lagging behind to wait for the reinforcements. Several of them seem to have done so.

They say the war showed up Life's real values. Old Bill's girl is no beauty; it's her character that makes him extol her in the number, "She's Venus de Milo to Me."

