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INFANTS' BONNETS—

FEATHERS and MILLI-

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may mean disappointment.

Owing to the difficulty in getting goods to St John's at the present time, we find ourselves running short in several numbers featured in our Premium Catalogue. Right now we have many articles that will make ideal Christmas Gifts for old and young, and for little children; we have dolls, toys and games. We suggest you come early and secure your Xmas Gifts, don't wait until the last moment—delay may mean disappointment. Do it now. Our Premium Store will remain open until 9.30 o'clock, from the 17th to Christmas Eve.

Imperial Tobacco Co.
Newfoundland Ltd.

Official News.

(Official Admiralty Press News, by Courtesy of Major Abraham, General Staff Officer.)

BRITISH OFFICIAL.

A raid attempted by the enemy last night southwest of La Bassee was driven off before reaching our lines. Another hostile party which attacked one of our posts near Klein-Zillebeke was repulsed with loss to the enemy.

It was announced in the House of Commons this afternoon that Jerusalem has been captured. Mr. Bonar Law said General Allenby proposed to make official entry into Jerusalem to-morrow. General Allenby reported that on the 8th he attacked the enemy positions south and west of Jerusalem. Welsh and Home Counties troops advanced from Bethlehem. They drove the enemy back, and passing Jerusalem in the east established themselves on the Jerusalem-Jericho road. Infantry and unmounted Yeomanry attacked strong enemy positions west and northwest; they established themselves astride the Jerusalem-Shechem road. The Holy City being thus isolated, was surrendered.

ITALIAN OFFICIAL.

At dawn yesterday east of Caposile, the enemy by a surprise action in force succeeded in reaching some observation trenches held by us on the left of the Pieve at Vecchia and Agenzia, and in taking possession of these after a hand-to-hand struggle with a small, but gallant garrison. Early last night we retook in a counter attack the entire position. Numerous enemy supports, who promptly came up, were violently attacked and put to flight, suffering heavy losses. Along the remainder of the front the usual artillery action took place. Our batteries shelled enemy masses and movements here and there. A battery of the Royal Navy having range of a bridge thrown by the enemy between Vianello Cauca, obtained a direct hit on it, interrupting it whilst a dense traffic of troops and transports was going on.

BRITISH OFFICIAL.

A successful local operation was carried out early this morning on the Cambrai front against a post held by the enemy east of Bourisies. The hostile detachment defending the post was driven out by Scottish troops with loss of several Germans killed or taken prisoners. The enemy's artillery has been active west and southwest of Cambrai. There has been increased hostile artillery activity also east and northeast of Ypres, particularly in the neighborhood of Polygon Wood and Passchendaele.

Washington, Monday.—Mr. Baker, Secretary of War, in his weekly resume, gives warning that Germany with reinforcements from the Russian front may be expected to launch a general offensive in France. This means, he said, that we must speed up our military efforts, and a united nation must stand squarely behind our troops. It is not sufficient to prepare to fight; we must prepare to win. The Cambrai attack, he said, was the most powerful and most successful blow that the British have dealt in the last two and a half years. It would appear that in his counter attack the enemy expected to make a thorough break on a broad front, but it was unsuccessful and won back only a third of the recent gains.

(By Courtesy of the Commercial Cable Co.)

ANGLO-FRENCH FORCES AID ITALIANS.

NEW YORK, Dec. 10 (delayed.) The Associated Press reports that Allied reinforcements have now definitely taken their place on the actual Italian front and are occupying the trenches in the battered positions held by the Italian troops now relieved for needed respite.

CIVIL WAR IN RUSSIA.

NEW YORK, Dec. 10. The Russian Government has issued the following proclamation to the Russian nation: "Kaledines and Korniloff, assisted by Imperialists and Constitutional Democrats have raised a revolt and declared war in the Don region against the people and the revolution." The proclamation adds that Constitutional Democrats and Bourgeoisie are supplying the revolting generals with scores of millions (of roubles?) The Workmen's and Soldiers' delegates have ordered the necessary movements of troops against the counter revolution and issued a decree authorizing the local revolutionary garrisons to attack the enemies of the people without awaiting orders from the supreme authorities and forbidding any attempts at mediation.

CLAIM 16,000 PRISONERS.

BERLIN, Dec. 9. (Official.) Western Theatre—In some sectors of the Flanders front, south of the Scarpe, and between Moeuvres and Banteux, lively artillery battles developed in the afternoon. On the remainder of the front fighting actively continued of a minor nature. Italian Front—On the Asiago lively artillery firing continues. The positions captured on Mount Sisonoi have been cleared of the remnants of the Italian garrison. Prisoners taken by the army group of Feld Marshal Hotzendorf, sixteen thousand.

AUSTRIANS REPORT SUCCESS.

VIENNA, Dec. 9. (Official.) On the Asiago yesterday our troops stormed strong vantage points on Stenfa and maintained them against violent attacks. Our aviators yesterday fought numerous aerial battles and shot down six Italian airplanes.

HINDENBURG AT CAMBRAI.

GENEVA, Dec. 9. Hindenburg and Ludendorff have gone to the Cambrai front, according to news from Strassburg. The railway traffic through the Rhine town has been congested for several days owing to the flow of troops and artillery being rushed through to that front. No civilians are permitted to travel along the line and the German frontier remains closed.

FRENCH OFFICIAL.

PARIS, Dec. 9. Artillery activity in the regions north of Chavignon, on the right bank of the Aisne, and near Apremont Wood. An enemy attempt to advance toward Bezenvaux led to lively fighting. The enemy was repulsed with appreciable losses. The artillery duel was lively in this region also at several sectors on the left bank of the Meuse. The night officials says an enemy raid north of Anizy-le-Chateau was repulsed. Lively artillery actions around Sapiigneul de Champagne and on the right bank of the Meuse.

ITALIAN OFFICIAL.

ROME, Dec. 9. In Lagarina Valley our patrols captured enemy soldiers. On the Asiago plateau our batteries repeatedly heavily shelled hostile forces in movement between the Brenta and Piave Rivers. Artillery fire which was very violent during the afternoon became normal again early in the evening. On Piave Plain and in Sadona Valley there was artillery ac-

tivity by both sides and numerous enemy patrols were repulsed. Our Gaponi machines effectively bombarded the lines of communication on the Asiago Plateau, afterward firing with machine guns on the troops leaving the bombed places. Last night our airships repeated their daring raids, dropping more than four tons of bombs on the enemy's encampments near Quero, Motta di Livonza and Petrograre. Two enemy airplanes were brought down and a captive balloon, on fire fell near Grisoleira.

The New Fuel for Steamships is Oil.

With Higher Coal Costs Oil Has Also Become More Economical Than the Old Fuel—Particularly on the Pacific Has the Oil Supplanted Coal for Steamers' Use.

New York, Dec. 1.—An important change which has been comparatively lost sight of owing to the stress of war conditions is the increasing use of crude oil as fuel for steamships. Without a great deal of publicity having been given to the fact, a not unimportant portion of the American merchant marine has been turned into oil burners. The navies of the world, of course, have been using oil as fuel much longer than the merchant services. In this connection it may be noted that at a recent conference held at Washington between representatives of the American and British governments, Standard Oil officials and the shipping board, an ample supply of oil for the British navy was assured.

The chief advantages claimed for oil as fuel are a saving of bunker space in the ship and a saving of dead-weight. Up to comparatively recent years the drawback has been the price of oil, but with the unprecedented enhancement in the price of coal which war conditions have brought about, the economic opportunity to use oil has presented itself. Speaking generally the increase in the Texan, Mexican and California oil supply which has taken place during recent years has made possible a greater use of oil for generation of steam on ships. Hitherto oil was usually too valuable to be used in ships' furnaces.

Particularly on the Pacific coast and in trade with the Orient has the war prompted the use of oil as fuel on ships, the source of supply in the Gulf region and California being relatively near at hand.

Five steamers now in course of construction for the New York-Valparaiso service are to be oil burners. Eighty per cent. of the Standard Oil steamers now afloat are equipped as oil burners. The Southern Pacific railway, which has oil fields of its own has been the leader in this country in the use of oil fuel for locomotive engines. In 1915 the company had 1,927 oil-burning locomotives out of a total of 2,046 engines. The Southern Pacific is also using oil as fuel for its steamers to a very considerable extent.

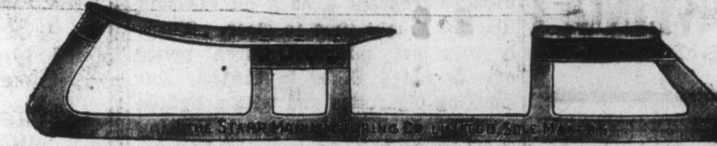
The Luckenbach Steamship company has a couple of oilburning steamers. There was launched last month at yards of the Fore River Shipbuilding Company, Quincy, Mass., a large oilburning freighter of 10,000 tons dead-weight, intended originally for the Luckenbach Steamship Co., but now taken over by the government. The fuel oil is carried in the double bottom and in the forward and after peak tanks.

The Atlantic, Gulf and West Indies Steamship lines have seven or eight oil-burners. Most of the newer ships have been equipped to use liquid fuel, the policy being to build all new ships with facilities for the use of either coal or oil. The Mun-

Sleds, Skates, Sleighs!



We are showing a nice assortment of the above goods, but as the demand is great and the supply limited, we would advise anyone who needs them to purchase now.



AYRE & SONS, Ltd., Hardware Dept.

Specially for Men

This week we are giving good value in the following:

- Men's Soft Felt Hats, \$1.80,
- Men's Tweed Caps, 80c. to \$1.20,
- Men's White Silk Hdks., 80c, 90c, \$1.
- Men's Hd kf. Mufflers, in Blk. Silk and Blk. & White Check
- Men's Wide End String Ties, 45c.

Also, a few boxes of Patriotic Xmas Cards, at 25c. and 45c. box.

A. & S. RODGER.

Man and Wife in Tragedy.

Neighbors Find Dead Woman in Pool of Blood—Man's Throat Cut.

Kitchener, Ont., Dec. 1.—What appears to have been a murder and an attempted suicide was discovered this morning at 18 Simeon street, shortly before noon to-day, when V. H. Knechtel broke into the home of Charles Gerbig and found Mrs. Gerbig lying in a pool of blood on the cellar stairs, and Mr. Gerbig lying in his bed with his throat partly cut, but still living. Mrs. Gerbig was apparently murdered, and from all indications the gruesome tragedy took place either Thursday night or Friday morning.

Steamer at St. John

Collided With Trawler and Crew of Latter Were Drowned.

St. John, Dec. 1.—Passengers of a steamer recently arrived in port tell of a thrilling experience soon after leaving England. It was night and

the fog was thick, and the steamer was travelling at full speed, when suddenly the watch saw directly in her path a trawler. A moment later the two vessels came together, cutting the smaller craft to the water's edge. She sank almost immediately, causing the death of some twenty members of the crew.

The impact of the blow started the big steamer's bow plates, and for a time there was anxiety on the steamer as to the possible fate of the several hundred passengers. They were assembled on deck and preparations made for any eventuality, and the officers say all behaved finely. Investigation disclosed that the injuries were not sufficiently serious to cause apprehension or to force the steamer back to port.

Make your Xmas Greeting a personal one. Your Photograph will add individuality to your message of thoughtfulness and good-will. J. C. PARSONS, Bank of Montreal Building.—nov17,17

RED ROSE TEA "is good tea"

ABSENT-MINDED ABNER—He Lost the Train, of Course, But it Was Some Idea!



BY WALT DOUGLASS