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TO-DAY'S Messages.

10.30 A.M.

BYRCE'S STRIKING WORDS.

LONDON, To-day.
Given the sympathy of all who strove for it, said Viscount Bryce, America is now rendering help of incalculable value to the cause of freedom. President Wilson in his lofty impressive address, worthy of the occasion which called it forth, has rightly dwelt on the fact that it is the German people rather than the German Government that is responsible for the series of crimes committed by land and sea during this war. The German people, hitherto led by their Government upon this, will now begin to realise the military caste which dominates them and that has by its ruthless savagery roused against Germany the horror and indignation of the new as well as the old world. We may now hope that they will shake off the yoke and bring themselves as the Russian people have done into a fellowship of free nations whose Governments would not dare to perpetrate such crimes. Never has a better blow been struck for domestic freedom than that which America is now dealing to the last despotisms that remain in Europe.

SEIZE SECRET RADIO OUTFIT.

SOUTH BERWICK MAIN, To-day.
J. M. Littman and M. Zeeley, Germans, were summoned to Portsmouth Navy Yard for hearing to-day as a result of the seizure last night by the Government Office of a radio outfit discovered upon their farm. Littman and Zeeley came to this section two years ago and have lived since upon a small farm located two miles from the centre of the town. The confiscated apparatus, it is said, had been strung from a barn to a tree.

VOLCANIC DISTURBANCE IN AUSTRALASIA.

LONDON, To-day.
Reuters Melbourne correspondent reports a local earthquake having been felt in the towns of northeastern Victoria. He says some uneasiness was felt. A despatch to Reuters from Auckland says a violent eruption of the volcano at Waimangu began on Sunday and still continues; two were killed.

PROHIBITION VICTORY IN MINNESOTA.

DULUTH, Minn., To-day.
Returns from 40 out of the 49 districts here give prohibition a majority of slightly more than 1,000 votes. The dry forces claim a victory by a 1300 majority.

AND IN WISCONSIN.

MADISON, Wis., To-day.
This city, capital of the State, went into the dry column as the result of an election to-day.

AND IN ILLINOIS.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., To-day.
Springfield to-day went into the dry column. Two hundred and fifteen aldermen will as a result go out of business on May 3rd. The drys won other wet towns to their ranks, while more than a dozen voted to re-

tain prohibition. Two towns re-entered the wet column.

HARDLY SURPRISING.

LONDON, To-day.
Frederick Peithyck Lawrence, joint editor of Votes for Women, well known as an ardent supporter of women suffrage, standing for election to the Commons on a peace-by-negotiations platform to-day polled only 323 votes, while his opponent, Sir Jno. Fleming, Coalition candidate, received 3,283. The balloting took place in a bye-election for the seat of South Aberdeen.

POST PRAISES WILSON.

LONDON, To-day.
The Post editorially says the President of the American people serves the world's highest interest by proving that there is such a thing as the solidarity of civilization. It compared the address in dignity and force with the last historic declaration of Lincoln, and says, "America can rest assured that never were friends in need more heartily welcomed." The Post singles out the President's point that the continued existence of the German military autocracy is totally incompatible with future peace.

PROVOKING SWITZERLAND NOW.

PARIS, To-day.
A despatch to the Havas Agency from Basel, Switzerland, says the Germans compelled Swiss citizens residing in St. Quentin, France, to leave the city beginning in March. The correspondent adds that, according to reliable information received from Karlsruhe, forty-five Swiss people have been retained in quarantine at Rastatt, Baden, receiving the same rations as German prisoners.

AMERICA'S GREAT PROGRAMME.

WASHINGTON, To-day.
Military, economic and financial plans for aggressive hostilities against Germany were pushed forward to-day by the administrative branch of the Government, which only awaits action by Congress on the war resolution to be put into execution. The enactment of the resolution not later than Thursday was confidently forecast at the Capitol after a delay of twenty-four hours. The purchase of supplies and equipment of all kinds for the army under the provisions of the law which allows the Secretary of War to fix a reasonable price and the division of the young men of the country into service classes (are expected?). Those needed more for industries than in the Army or Navy are to receive insignia showing they are performing a duty equivalent to fighting. Most of these plans will require the

authorization of Congress, but from opinions expressed at the Capitol it is believed that once the war resolution is adopted further legislation to empower the Executive Branch to go full speed ahead will follow quickly. There is every indication that the Nation through its representatives will follow out President Wilson's words to Congress and exert all its power and employ all its resources to bring the Government of the German Empire to terms and to end the war. President Wilson and his Cabinet went over the war plans at a session, and previously the National Defence Council with its civilian advisory commission and several subsidiary organizations developed policies and details of momentous consequence to the nation. Meanwhile the War and Navy Departments are going ahead with the most immediate preparations for defence. Already the Navy has taken steps to insure co-operation between the American fleet and those of the Entente Allies to become effective upon the formal entry of the United States into the war. The most important plans under preparation by the administration include the enlistment by selective conscription of young men for the National Army, in addition to the regular establishment, and National Guard increments of 500,000, until enough have been trained to make certain of the defeat of Germany. The organization of the nation's commercial interests for the economical and effective distribution of commodities among the civilian populations, the rapid provision of adequate means of combating the submarine menace and the raising of a very large sum of money, as much as possible to be obtained by taxation and the definite amount of the first budget not to be fixed until the exact needs of the army and navy and of the Entente Allies are ascertained.

MEXICO AN INTERNATIONAL NUISANCE.

NEW YORK, To-day.
Former President Taft, speaking at a dinner here to-night given in his honor, declared that if any nation is to attack us it will be through Mexico. He characterized the neighbouring Republic as an international nuisance and General (T) as not the most reliable individual. He expressed the hope that the war would be over in a year.

MAGNANIMOUS GERMANY!

BERLIN, To-day.
The press report of President Wilson's state of war message reached Berlin at 10 o'clock this morning. It was declared here that there would be no change in the German attitude, even if Congress adopted President Wilson's views. Germany will not declare war nor take any steps to wage war against the United States. The submarine war will be continued as it has been conducted since February 1st, but this, declare the officials, is not directed more against the United States than any other neutral. It is also declared that there will be no change in the treatment of American citizens in Germany who now have the same freedom as all other neutrals, but Germany expects the United States will continue the same treatment of Germans in that country.

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FRENCH SCORE BIG VICTORY.

PARIS, Official Midnight.

(via Anglo.)
East and West of the Somme, after fierce artillery preparation, our troops sprang to the attack against the German lines running North of Ligny, Castres, Essegny and Benay from Dallon Spur up to the Oise. In spite of fierce German resistance our troops captured everywhere the aims in view and captured on a 13 kilometre front a series of heavily organized German trenchworks, dugouts and blockhouses held by important German forces and the Dallon Spur Villages of Dallon, Giffecourt and Cerizy. Several heights south of Urvillers are in our possession. South of the Ailette we continued to advance in the Laffaux district. We hold now the southern and north western outskirts. Our troops also captured Vauxenoy and gained a footing on a hill north of this hamlet. Our batteries then opening up fire caught a German column marching in the direction of Laffaux Mill. The Germans have fiercely shelled Rheims, 2,000 shells were dropped on the town and several civilians were killed. There is intermittent cannonade elsewhere.

BRITISH ENTHUSIASM FOR WILSON.

LONDON, To-day.
President Wilson's message aligning the United States with the nations fighting against Germany was warmly welcomed and unanimously acclaimed by the British people. They recognize that no decision with weightier influence on the result of the world struggle has been given since Britain after a few days consideration resolved to march with France. No news the past year has so stirred the country, save only the Russian revolution. There have been no street demonstrations or exhibitions of excitement such as the first weeks of war saw in London, because the war has long since passed the stage of excitement and is regarded here as in America as a heavy and solemnly borne duty. The substance and tone of the President's message was an electrifying surprise. The directness of his indictment of the German method, his whole-hearted statement of America's duty to maintain her rights and her duty to civilization was more than the public have expected. The despatches from America in the past month had represented the President as reluctant to enter the war and that recommendations to Congress of limited offensive measures for the protection of American Commerce would have fulfilled general expectations. That the Russian revolution did much to pave the way for co-operation with Germany's opponents and made President Wilson's policy possible is one of the first features of the situation which newspapers seize upon. The only feature of President Wilson's message which evokes dissent is his acquittal of the German people from responsibility for the policies of the German Government. Liberal papers like the

Daily Chronicle contend that the German people have supported with apparent enthusiasm such proceedings as have been going on in Belgium and have demanded its annexation. That the British Press regards the entry of America as one of the most momentous events of war is shown by the importance attached to President Wilson's address. The Daily Chronicle says, "It is impossible to read President Wilson's speech without being struck by its statesmanlike breadth and elevation of tone. His long patience and caution and his determination to advance no further than the mass of opinion in his country only render more impressive his final crossing of the Rubicon. The moral effect of such a speech, made with a nation of ninety million behind it must be great throughout the world. It is a strange and impressive phenomenon, this tardy but weighty intervention of the United States in the death struggle of Europe." The Express says, "The President's speech will always be regarded as one of the most historic documents of the great war. The lofty dignity of his language adds impressiveness to his enunciation of international idealism. America is entering the war for the one specific purpose of destroying Potsdam. If the President's speech means anything it means that America will never treat with the Kaiser and will resolutely oppose any peace that leaves the Hohenzollerns on the German throne." The Daily Mail in an editorial under the caption of "No peace with the Hohenzollerns," says, "President Wilson's speech will stand beside Lincoln's greatest speech for its gravity and pathos. It is in effect an appeal to the American people to take up the task for which Lincoln laid down his life, for the issue is to-day as it was in 1861 and 1864, freedom, though it would be a sovereign injustice to compare the South, whose soldiers fought like gentlemen, with the Kaiser's murderous myrmidons. The President's speech is a plain warning that pirates shall be really handed to execution dock under condemnation of the whole world." The Mail argues that the destruction of Prussian militarism requires that the German people themselves must be set free, adding, "though to tell the truth they show no desire or attitude for freedom. Therefore the despots who incited the German people with a passion for slaughter and cruelty must be removed." The Mail credits the American people with complete disinterestedness in the course they



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Eyesight Specialist.
St. John's.

are about to adopt, and hails as one of the most glorious events in history the coming of America into line with other free peoples. The Times editorially views President Wilson's action as an event which is certain to influence the destinies of mankind on both sides of the Atlantic for generations to come, and adds, "None greater except the war itself has happened since the French revolution shattered the traditions of feudalism in Europe. The cause for which America draws the sword, and the grounds on which the President justifies the momentous step he has taken are arguments that the final outcome will be for the happiness and welfare of mankind. We doubt if in all history a great community has ever been summoned to war on grounds so largely ideal. With reference to the implied assumption that the German people were innocent dupes, and victims of an irresponsible Government, the Times says that in view of his attitude towards Austria it is probably politic, but it makes it necessary to ignore a mass of awkward evidence.

WAR REVIEW.

LONDON, To-day.
The Allied armies are closer upon St. Quentin and already close to the outskirts of the town. On the west and southwest the British and French fresh drives have captured additional villages and points of support. Attacking on a front of more than eight miles south and southwest of the harassed German stronghold, the French troops, despite stubborn resistance by the Germans, everywhere met with success taking strongly organized positions and villages. Notable among them is Dallon, about two miles southwest, and Giffecourt two miles south of the town. The British are already almost within a stone's throw of the western outskirts of St. Quentin and seemingly resting there, while to the northwest they are carrying out a manoeuvre, having as its object the flanking of St. Quentin from the north. In this operation they have partially succeeded according to British official communications. Driving eastward from the region of Vermandois they have captured the town of Maissemy, five miles southwest of St. Quentin. Further north at Romsesey field Marshal Haig's forces also were successful, taking the village of Heininsul-Coejel five miles southwest of Arras. After intense fighting on the Russian front the Germans delivered attacks against the Russians south of Hlouk which is in the Dvinsk sector, south of Vladimir, Volynski and in Volhynia. At each place the attackers succeeded in penetrating the Russian positions but later were expelled from them by counter attacks, according to the Russian War Office. Heavy snow-falls in the mountain regions of the Austro-Italian theatre are hampering operations, but there has been considerable activity in the Adige Valley where severe artillery duels are progressing on several sectors.

Our Volunteers.

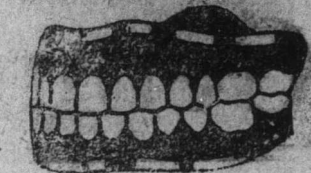
The following young men offered for King and Country yesterday:
For the Navy:
Chesley Hillier, Lamaline, Samuel King, Grand Falls, Samuel Green, Carbonear.
For the Army:
Cecil Bradbury, St. John's, Michael Ebbes, St. John's, L. Russell, Princeton, B.B. Josiah Prince, Princeton, B.B. Jno. Prince, Princeton, B.B. Herb. Chapman, Princeton, B.B. Claude Andrews, Twillingate.

Fads and Fashions.

A novel and pretty manner of holding a child's rattle in place is to run it through crocheted rings of a size suitable for the rattle. An entire garment of checked material is not at all fashionable, but plain material combined with a checked material is the height of fashion.

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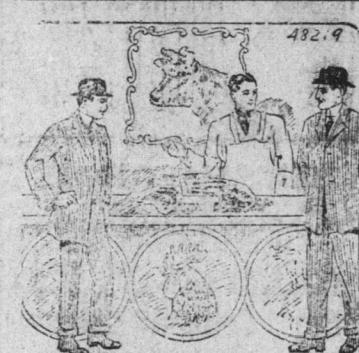
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War

Messages Received Previously

FRENCH
A series of points of support man forces about tent, have been French south of villages and held the hands of the from the war office latest successful that the town of lenly bombarded more than 2,000 thrown into it, casualties to the vil

BRITISH CAPTURE
Prolonged fighting of Henin-sur-Couper, ras, ended in the rap by the British, before to-night from hequid Mallesmy, northeast and Ronsay. Weid, have also been reads: In the course attack yesterday, so our troops, after carried the village of feul, in addition to ready reported evening a second attack was broken. The other villages in the official val, Noreuil, meim and Croisier we also took the and occupied Rans carried out a night opposite Air airplanes were brought yesterday our lines. In an man machines were damaged. Six of missing.

FURTHER BRITISH
Despite a heavy raged this morning further progress British forces, so pondent in a de headquarters in the Cofiel, five miles has been cleared the British posses ning almost ser to Amiens. On

