

A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL

M. H. WILLIAMS & CO., Realty Brokers, 36 King Street East.

The Toronto World

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With solemn thankfulness for the blessing of peace and animated, in spite of all war weariness, by the spirit which has hitherto maintained our purpose, let us face the new year with courage, with determination and with confidence. — Sir Robert Borden.

OPEN DIPLOMACY AS IT AFFECTS PEACE CONGRESS

Plenipotentiary Should Have Right to Make Public His Communications. MUST USE DISCRETION This Time It is Peace of Peoples, Not a Peace of Governments.

Paris, Dec. 31.—Etienne du Naleche, director of The Journal des Debats and vice-president of the Society of Paris Journalists, has given the associated Press the following concerning the practical application of open diplomacy to the peace congress.

"The war which is ending is a war of the peoples; the peace will, and it should, be a peace of peoples. The sessions must be public in the sense at least that the public ought to know on what bases they repose and to what combinations they are attached.

"There is no question of publishing reports of the sittings of the congress as is done in the case of legislative sittings, nor of divulging the conversations between the plenipotentiaries. But each plenipotentiary ought to have the right to make public what he has communicated in writing, or verbally, to the congress.

"If discretion prevents him from revealing what has been confided to him by his colleagues, his duty towards his country bids him enlighten the country on the manner in which he is carrying out his mission. Discretion is a condition necessary to every negotiation, but it should not bind a plenipotentiary to secrecy, as the confidant binds.

"The Perils of Secrecy. It is clearly subordinate to the obvious condition that the maintenance of secrecy will not do injury to the honor or interests of the country. Otherwise plenipotentiaries—those without scruples—being assured of absolute secrecy, could make most offensive suggestions and propositions without risk.

"As regards decisions they should be made public as soon as each is reached. Care should be taken to avoid placing the peoples brusquely some day before a complete collection of irrevocable decisions.

"Hitherto the governments have always taken precautions that nothing shall be divulged before the definite closing of diplomatic conferences. This has been so because previous conflicts were, above all, conflicts of governments. But the case is not the same for the present conflagration.

"The right of each delegation to make public its own declaration is the minimum. It would be preferable that a substantial summary of the work of each sitting or each group of sittings be communicated regularly to the press. The deliberations would thereby be rendered more serious, more fertile. It is the certainty of secrecy which has given advantages to babblers and intrigues."

Ninety-Three Per Cent. of Taxes Have Already Been Collected. Hamilton, Dec. 31.—That William Kerr is on the job when it comes to rounding up the taxes due is evident from the fact that over 93 per cent. of estimated taxes have been collected. The nearest to this record is in Ontario, where 84 per cent. of the general taxes have been secured. This year general taxes totaled \$2,457,137.06, an increase of \$372,455.32. Water rates for 1918 amounted to \$478,567.89, compared with \$473,301.01 in 1917. It is estimated that the water rates for 1918 would amount to \$484,800, compared with the receipts of \$478,567.89 in excess of the estimate. During the year \$1,749.09 of the 1913 outstanding taxes was paid. For 1914 85 per cent. or \$2,938.84 out of \$3,456.25 was paid. For 1915 54 per cent. or \$159,397.56. Statute labor collections totaled \$49,200.

NO MILK FOR NEW YORK. New York, Dec. 31.—Members of the Dairymen's League will ship no more milk to New York City until a satisfactory price for January is agreed upon, it was announced here tonight by E. R. Eastman, manager and organizer of the league. The strike will begin tomorrow morning at 11 o'clock in the districts. Mr. Eastman declared.

BIG FUR SALE STARTS TOMORROW. On Thursday, Jan. 2, the well-known furriers, W. & D. Dixon Co., Limited, start a Big Clearing Sale of High-Class Furs. The values which will be offered to the public will be unprecedented in this City of Toronto. Owing to careful sorting the stocks are very complete, and even the Xmas season was an exceptionally busy one, the furs that will be sold at reduced prices are not the left-overs of a mauled-up stock, but the best that the European market and our own factory can supply. Come in early and get the best selections. See display advertisement inside this paper.

Sir Robert Borden's New Year Message

SIR ROBERT BORDEN has addressed the following New Year's message to the Canadian people from London: We enter the new year upon the morrow of the most startling and significant events ever chronicled in the history of humanity. During the past two months great empires have been extinguished, governments founded in absolutism have crashed, nationalities long held in bondage have been emancipated, new nations and with them untried international relationships have sprung into existence.

The victory which has been won by the forces of liberty and justice makes possible a higher and enduring victory which will secure to a war-devastated world the solemn and certain assurance of lasting peace. Unless that assurance can be given and fulfilled, our present civilization rests upon unstable foundations. Centuries of slow and painful progress have culminated in a world-wide struggle rendered infinitely more terrible by the advancement of science and by increased control over the forces which nature has placed at the disposal of mankind.

The approaching peace conference must, in the first place, address itself to the establishment of a new world order of peace. That proposal is confronted by difficulties and complexities which it is almost impossible to over-estimate. So to control the material and territorial ambitions and jealousies of nations that their power and influence shall be held in trust for the common purpose of maintaining the world's peace, and of punishing lawlessness or aggression by any recalcitrant state is a task of almost incredible difficulty. Yet the sacrifice, the suffering and the sorrow thru which humanity has passed imperatively demand that this nobler victory shall be won.

Attendant upon the task are a score of questions not easy of solution, and involving economic, financial and territorial considerations, each of sufficient magnitude and intricacy to engage the full attention of the approaching council of nations. The deliberations of the peace conference will touch closely the present and future interests of Canada almost at every point. For that reason and because it was urged upon me by the highest authority that terms of peace were already under consideration, I arrived in England more than a month ago. Since then I have been closely occupied with my colleagues in deliberations respecting the conditions of peace and in preparation for the approaching peace conference.

Four years ago our country, absorbed, as it was, in internal problems of development, was inevitably brought into a conflict which vitally affected the destiny of the British states. The deliberations now in progress for assuring the world's peace are thus of infinite concern to us as to all the nations. I realize that my duty as prime minister demands my close attention to the affairs of the people who more than a year ago entrusted me with so high a mandate. But I am convinced that during these deliberations, or at least until definite conclusions shall have been reached, my first duty to my country demands my presence here. As Canada has worthily and unselfishly taken a proud part in the struggle now happily ended, so must she take a not less worthy and conspicuous part in achieving results without which her sacrifice and that of all the nations would be meaningless.

The burdens with which the future confronts us are heavy, but they are insignificant in comparison with the heritage which is ours. With solemn thankfulness for the blessing of peace and animated, in spite of all war weariness, by the spirit which has hitherto maintained our purpose, let us face the new year with courage, with determination and with confidence.

(Signed) R. L. BORDEN.

Sir John Eaton in First. Lloyd George, President Wilson, have been telling the world of the new day, the new era, the need of every one doing something for public welfare, that both their governments are for great social changes.

Sir John Eaton in his store announced that he is the first in performance in this direction; hereafter the Eaton factories and stores are to close at 1 o'clock on Saturdays for ten months in the year and for the whole day on the other two months of summer!

The people of Canada will wish Sir John a Happy New Year for this worthy example. The Eatons have introduced a humanizing note into business which is the finest thing that has been done in our modern world in a commercial way. Sir John's references to his father and mother bring the old world continuity of interest into his relations with the public, and lend a stability which is not unneeded in our day and generation.

RUMANIAN ELECTION IN MARCH. Paris, Dec. 31.—Elections to the Rumanian chamber of deputies and senate will take place during March. Parliament will assemble April 5.

The Municipal Elections. The results of the elections will, as usual, be thrown on a screen in front of The World Building, West Richmond street, the moment they are received. The polls close at five o'clock. The figures will commence to come in shortly afterwards and will continue to be shown until the results are known.

In addition to giving the results of the various polling subdivisions as they arrive, The World has also made arrangements to show moving pictures.

CLASHES FREQUENT BETWEEN TROOPS AND BOLSHEVIKI

Forty-Seven Persons Have Been Killed in the Streets of Warsaw.

VIRTUAL MARTIAL LAW Artillery Holding Target Practice With View to Awing the Revolutionists.

Warsaw, Dec. 31.—Forty-seven persons have been killed in the streets of Warsaw in consequence of numerous clashes which occurred between troops and revolutionists. The city is in high tension over the shooting today, and yesterday by troops of red revolutionists, who were holding demonstrations in favor of the liberation of several "interned Bolsheviki."

In one instance, soldiers who refused to salute the red flag, when jostled by the crowd opened fire, but the rioters were unperturbed, merely waiting for the crowd to disperse. Intermittent outbreaks of this nature are going on and the theatres are well patronized.

The new law providing for a fine of \$300 or three years in jail, or both, as the minimum for the second conviction.

Sympathizers of the Bolsheviki marched to the Hotel Buhl in Warsaw Monday and demanded the release of six Bolsheviki agents. Polish troops fired the crowd into the crowd.

Leaders of the crowd demanded the release of the Bolsheviki agents and when this was refused, revolver shots were fired from the crowd into the hotel. The soldiers answered with three volleys into the crowd.

DRUNKS IN FLORIDA WILL NEED FORTUNES. Tampa, Dec. 31.—The entire State of Florida became "dry" at midnight tonight with the taking effect of the recently adopted amendment to the state constitution making sale, manufacture or transportation of liquors, wines or beer illegal, and providing heavy penalties for intoxication.

The new law provides for a fine of \$500 or six months' imprisonment, or both, as the minimum penalty for intoxication on the first offence, and a fine of \$300 or three years in jail, or both, as the minimum for the second conviction.

STEAMER ARRIVALS. Steamer At From Helligoav... Christianstadt, New York; Finland... St. Nazaire, Norfolk; Aslanus... Liverpool, New York.

You Can't Fool All the Boys, All the Time. Montreal, Dec. 31.—Expect troop trains late, then no one will be disappointed.

BRITISH MAILS. British and foreign mail will close at the general postoffice as follows: Regular mail will be closed at 8:00 a.m. Friday, Jan. 2, for despatch by T. H. and B. train 701 at 8:20 a.m. same day.

Supplementary mail will close at 12:00 noon Friday, Jan. 2, for despatch by G.T.R. train 83 at 1:25 p.m. same day.

PRIORITY IN CLAIMS IS FRANCE'S RIGHT

Former Premier Says if Germany is to Pay She Must Not Be Deprived of Markets and Raw Materials.

Paris, Dec. 31.—Former Premier and Minister of Finance Alexandre Ribot said to the Associated Press today that the financial situation of all the nations associated against the Germanic coalition must, at the end of their effort, be adjusted with due regard for the efforts and sacrifices made by each taking into account their respective resources and their ability to pay.

"It ought to be limited, however," he said, "to a sum that may be wiped out, principal and interest, in a limited number of years."

France's right to priority in war claims upon Germany, M. Ribot contended, rests upon the fact that while this war was not her war alone, her sacrifices were the greatest in proportion to her population and to her resources.

TORONTO-BOUND TROOPS ARE IN A TRAIN WRECK

Quebec, Dec. 31.—Train No. 1176 on the National Transcontinental Railway, westbound, from Halifax, returned soldiers, destined for Toronto and district, was wrecked this afternoon, at mile 44, west of Edmundston, two miles east of Glendene, in the Baker Division.

One car was completely overturned, and nine cars were badly derailed. The casualties reported in the derailment of the troop train on the National Transcontinental are placed as follows:

ARRANGE CREATION OF LABOR BUREAUS OF OTTAWA PERMITS WINE SHIPMENTS. Ottawa, Ont., Dec. 31.—The labor department is arranging for the immediate creation of ten or twelve federal employment bureaus in the maritime provinces. These provinces have not followed the lead of the other provinces in the Dominion in establishing their own local labor bureaus to co-operate with the federal department in the new nationwide scheme securing proper adjustment of the labor supply and demand.

OTTAWA PERMITS WINE SHIPMENTS. Ottawa, Dec. 31.—The government has passed an order-in-council amending the existing order-in-council so as to permit the wine manufacturers in Ontario to continue shipment, within Ontario, of their wine until April 30, next, if the sale is not prohibited by the Ontario legislature in the meantime.

TROOP TRAINS LATE, IS OTTAWA'S CAUTION. Montreal, Dec. 31.—Expect troop trains late, then no one will be disappointed.

WAS NO DIFFICULTY. They state that this view prevailed for some time after the order-in-council was passed and they shipped their goods without difficulty. In June, however, the question of the right to ship was raised by one of the transportation companies, and on June 10 an order-in-council was passed expressly providing that the regulation prohibiting shipment should not apply to wine made from grapes grown in Ontario until December 31, 1918.

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"HOPE TO SEE YOU IN AMERICA SOON."

WILSON'S GOOD-BYE. Farewell Words to King George on His Departure From London.

A MEMORABLE VISIT. Streets Along Route to the Station Were Lined With Cheering Crowds.

(Special Cable to Toronto World and New York Tribune.) BY F. W. RAY. London, Dec. 31.—"I hope to see you in America shortly," were the president's farewell words to King George, who, with the Queen, went to the Victoria station today to wish good-speed to the departing guests. "A most memorable and delightful visit," were the last words in which Mr. Wilson summed up his visit. Although it was cold and raining, the streets on the route to the railroad station were filled with people, who cheered as the party, carried in the royal equipage, drove to the station. The scene was pleasant and homely, despite the weather. Many thousands of workers arrived at their offices late because they stayed to watch Mr. Wilson's, the presidential, train pull out toward Dover and Paris. The King wore a sable coat and a small black toque trimmed in mauve, with an osprey. Mrs. Wilson wore a black fur coat and a toque trimmed with a violet wing. Both ladies were holding umbrellas, but seemed in the highest spirits, while the president, although appearing slightly fatigued as a result of his Manchester exertions, smiled heartily.

Before the Duke of Connaught, Premier Lloyd George, Andrew Bonar Law and Lord Reading were present. The latter's wife presented Mrs. Wilson with a beautiful bouquet of white and mauve orchids. Lord Robert Cecil, Sir William Robertson, Ambassador Davis and Sir Rosslyn Wemyss were on hand to say farewell.

While the president spoke parting words the statesmen carried on a brisk conversation that only terminated when Mr. Wilson cast attention to the fact that the train was being kept waiting.

Cordiality Unmistakable. The president, behind the King's hand two or three minutes, saying good-bye. The cordiality displayed was unmistakable. He and Mrs. Wilson then paid a courteously farewell to the Queen and Princess Mary, the president being the last to enter the train, when he again turned and shook the hand of the King, who was standing on the footboard. The royal party waved their hands as the train moved, the president and Mrs. Wilson waving their handkerchiefs until out of sight, while the crowd gave final cheers.

Breakfast was served immediately after the train left London. On the train with the president and Mrs. Wilson were the Ambassador, Davis, Major-General Biddle, Vice-Admiral Sims, Herbert C. Hoover, Rear-Admiral Grayson, Col. W. W. Harris, Lord Hershell, Sir Charles Cust and Miss Edith Benham, secretary to Mrs. Wilson.

From one of the president's suite I learn that the president departed filled with delight over the cordiality of the reception extended to him here, frequently expressing his appreciation and declaring that his experience was most overwhelming. His conversations with statesmen and other notables have given him the greatest satisfaction, especially as enabling him to gauge the trend of public opinion and see momentous questions with a different perspective from which he had viewed them previously. His visit with Lloyd George, Mr. Balfour, Lord Curzon and others have had the effect of "establishing a firm understanding and unity of purpose which will smooth out the delicate problems of the peace conference."

Visit Gave Much Pleasure. On the other hand the President's visit has given real pleasure to his royal hosts who have taken delight in the presence of their guests. Nothing but praise has been heard everywhere regarding the personalities of the President and Mrs. Wilson. The latter practically seeming to evoke the appreciation of all with whom she came in contact from the Queen downward. Mr. Wilson's good fellowship, geniality and happy use of the golden word—all of which came as a surprise—brought him a genuine and unrestrained liking. Nobody before ever had such an opportunity because to him personally at the very outset was given a rapturous and unprecedented reception which really signified the thanks and appreciation of the British people for America's part in the war. Having received it, Mr. Wilson showed himself, from Great Britain's point of view, to be entirely deserving of it. He won a place in British friendship and esteem which it is impossible to over-estimate.

