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The ROYAL STORES, Ltd.

TO-DAY'S Messages.

11.30 A.M.

SENATE STILL DEMOCRATIC.

NEW YORK, To-day. The Senate will remain under Democratic control by a reduced majority of 10 or 12, dependent on the outcome in New Mexico, where Jones, Democrat, is maintaining a slight lead over Hubbell, nominated by the Republicans to succeed Catron. At this hour the Senate stands Democrats, 53; Republicans, 41; 1 undecided.

THE FORTUNES OF THE BATTLE.

NEW YORK, To-day. At midnight 24 hours after every important newspaper in the United States had heralded the election to the Presidency of Chas. E. Hughes, the result of the election is still in doubt. In striking contrast with the virtual certainty of Republican success at an early hour this morning is the tenacity of the situation that exists to-night. As early as 8 o'clock last night the leading papers in New York, Philadelphia, Chicago, Boston and other cities in various sections of the country definitely announced the election of Hughes. As the night wore on whatever certainty as to the election of the Republican candidate existed was gradually dissipated. The country retired to rest without any doubt that the fourth of March would witness the inauguration of a new incumbent, but at 3 o'clock this morning the tide began to turn in the West. In the States where the early returns showed a strong trend toward Hughes began to develop Wilson's strength. Gradually Hughes' majorities shrunk until the States that were conceded to him first drifted into the doubtful column then into the group claimed by the President. This sudden change of the fortunes of the two great parties aroused in the people a degree of interest that even on election day was noticeably lacking. Great crowds began to gather in front of the newspaper offices where editions were issued at short intervals recording the varying changes in the battle of the ballots. All day and all night tireless vigils were kept by anxious watchers at various headquarters where the returns from the doubtful or Pivotal States—California, North Dakota, Washington, West Virginia, Minnesota, Nebraska and New Mexico were closely and anxiously scanned as they filtered in. At midnight the returns,

such as were complete or so far complete as to be regarded as indicative, gave Wilson 232 votes, in the Electoral College, Hughes 239, and left sixty votes doubtful in eight States. It requires 266 votes to elect a President. Although California showed a lead for the President, his campaign-ers claiming it by at least 1,500, the President's majority there had dwindled to little more than 1,400 with about one-fifth of the districts missing. In Minnesota, too, the Wilson lead which was as high as 10,000 early in the day steadily dropped as the vote from the rural districts came in. During the evening Hughes took the lead on a small margin; then Wilson shot again ahead but by less than 1,000 votes. The Republican Managers claimed the State on the final returns. Idaho was estimated for the Wilson column with a majority of 10,000. Kansas was still incomplete,

with little more than two-thirds of the districts reported and showed President Wilson leading by more than 27,000. Washington, little more than half reported, has given the President a lead of 7,000; West Virginia, two-thirds reported, showing Hughes' majority nearly 2,000; North Dakota was very close with two-thirds complete, and Hughes' majority less than 1,000. Wilson was leading in New Mexico with only a small proportion of the precincts were reported. Delaware and New Hampshire counted among the Hughes States, but incomplete during the day definitely turned into the Republican column.

BELIEVES IN HUGHES.

NEW YORK, To-day. Chairman Wilcox of the Republican National Committee issued the following statement at midnight: "Returns

from the States in which the vote is closed are coming slowly. The delay appears to be caused by the time required to get reports from the rural communities. The latest returns clearly indicate that Minnesota, North Dakota, New Mexico, Oregon and probably California has gone for Hughes. Those added to the States already certain give him 280 Electoral votes. Even if all or some of the electoral votes of California should go to Wilson, there are still enough left to assure the election of Hughes. Every precaution must be taken to secure an honest count of the ballots in every closed State. Anybody who intimates that Charles E. Hughes would permit any man or group of men to attempt to steal the Presidency from him is a contemptible scoundrel and knows it. I say further with full sense of the responsibility of the American people that any man or group of men who attempts to steal the Presidency from Hughes will do it at their peril."

FRANCE OSTRACISES HEARST.

NEW YORK, To-day. The New York Tribune this morning publishes the following: Paris, 8th. Following the precedent set by the British Government, the French Government has deprived Wm. Randolph Hearst and the International News Service the use of the cable services between Paris and America. The order applies to all news channels under Hearst's control and was issued yesterday, and to-day all the Hearst employees at Paris received notice like other positions.

1.30 P. M.

IMPORTANT GAINS BY ITALIANS.

LONDON, To-day. The special correspondent of the Times at the Italian army headquarters telegraphs as follows: "Friday's operations in the drive on Trieste, though less spectacular than those of the previous two days, were of tactical importance because of the occupation of the Lower Hills, between the Wipbach and the northern rampart of the Carso plateau. The advance of the eleventh corps was extended to cover a front of more than three miles and the position of Faltiehyb was strengthened against counter-attacks. In losing Faltiehyb an Austrian Colonel, taken prisoner in the September offensive, said nothing mattered so long as Faltiehyb was held. Its loss was certainly serious. The point dominates Castelnievezza on the Carso and its network of roads, and the main road from Basanin to the Carso positions. Possibilities—more important than the actual achievements suggest

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flavor combined with fragrant aroma
and coolness is enjoyed there is no other
plug that can please like

BRITISH COLONEL The "Utmost" In Plug Smoking.

Fifteen cents a cut.

Imperial Tobacco Co.,
Newfoundland Ltd.

themselves at this intensely interesting movement. Meanwhile however, weather has broken and rain is falling heavily.

CALIFORNIAN RETURNS.

SAN FRANCISCO, To-day. Wilson was leading Hughes early by a margin of approximately 4,400 with all but 570 of the State's precincts accounted for. Of the missing precincts 143 are in southern California, where the Republicans have shown greatest strength, and the remainder are scattered throughout the northern section of the State, where the Democratic vote has been heaviest. In the city of Los Angeles the returns from 113 precincts were held under guard of the United States Marshal and his Deputies last night, and to-day they are to be tabulated.

Coudert Marvels at British Efficiency

Says English Have 1,500,000 Soldiers
in France and 3,000,000 at Home.

The Holland-American liner Noordam arrived yesterday from Rotterdam, Falmouth and Kirkwall, with 863 passengers.

Frederic R. Coudert returned from a nine weeks' visit to the front in France, where he was the guest of General Sir Douglas Haig and General Foch. He said that the wonderful organization of the British Army impressed him more than anything else on his French tour.

"Never before in the history of the world," Mr. Coudert said, "has there been such speedy preparation. The aviation, artillery, ammunition and commissary supplies of the British forces in France are miraculous when it is considered how they started with nothing when hostilities began. England will reach the acme of her preparation for war next spring, when she will have five guns for every one she has in the field now. There are 1,500,000 troops in France now and 3,000,000 more training in England.

"The United States could learn a great lesson on preparedness by sending army officers to study the organization of the large base camps at Calais, Etaples, Boulogne and Rouen, which I visited. As the troops arrive from England they are sent to the finishing camps at Calais and Etaples for two or three weeks to get a touch of war experience to qualify them for active service. They are initiated into trench life, wearing gas masks against gas clouds and throwing and dodging hand bombs, which has become an essential feature of modern warfare. I put on a mask and entered a trench full of gas which was almost unendurable for any length of time.

"The Commissary Department of the British Army is the best equipped in the world for feeding the soldiers in the field. The men get chocolate, bacon, jams, pies, mutton, beef, vegetables, bread, tea, coffee, fruit and all kinds of little luxuries, and the Canadian troops even have chewing gum served out to them.

"The British have bases for making aeroplanes in France and turn out hundreds of machines there in addition to instructing pilots. In one place near Etaples that I visited I saw more than one hundred aeroplanes of all descriptions. It was a wonderful sight to see the aviators arriving and departing continuously to make scout flights over the German lines.

"The German prisoners I saw looked happy, and are well fed. I spoke to some of them who had been at Contalmaison, and they described the fire of the British artillery as irresistibly hellish." The battle was over just as I arrived on the scene, but I was in time to see the attack at Thiépval.

"It was wonderful to go through the German lines after they had been evacuated and see how the British gunners had destroyed what was considered the strongest fortifications in Europe. The Cure of Contalmaison told me with tears in his eyes that he had been unable to find any traces of his old parish church on account of the deadly effect of the gunfire.

"When the war began the Germans were afraid to surrender to the British because they believed they would be slaughtered; but now that letters have been written home by prisoners telling how well they are treated and fed, are surrendering in hundreds daily, for the German soldiers are tired of the war.

"I was amused to read in The New York Times that von Hindenburg had said that France was dying. Verdun has been won by the French forces, and deserters are coming over from the enemy in swarms daily. The French Army has reached its acme of efficiency and is organized to take full advantage of its victories and to minimize the effect of its losses. Germany is not beaten yet, and, if her defeat has to be effected by military force, officials of the Allies predict that the war may last another two years yet. No matter whether it is two, three or five years longer, the British Army will go on in the steady, slow, sure way to the end which is so characteristic of the race."

RECRUITING PARADE.—This evening, beginning at 7.30, the recruiting parade will be continued. The T. A. band will accompany the parade and the speakers will be Lieut. H. Ross and Mr. W. R. Howley, K.C.

G. KNOWLING'S SHOWROOMS.

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Smart Fall and Winter

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Our Showroom can now exhibit some of
the smartest and most exclusive styles in

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HATS,

in Black and Coloured Felts, Velours, Wool, Velvets,
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approved models. Prices range from \$1.00 to \$10.00.
All the leading colours. The variety is large, but only
one of a kind. No duplicates in our exclusive models.

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Owing to excessively heavy demand and to
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By the Florizel from New York to-day we
have a new shipment of the

Choicest Quality

and are now prepared to fill orders promptly
and at

Lowest Prices.

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The Roosevelt "Punch"

Neutrality is never moral.
Peace does not necessarily bring
righteousness.

It is a wicked thing to be neutral
between right and wrong.

If a nation cannot take its own
part, the fact that it fears God will

be of no practical consequence to any
one.

Submission to an initial wrong
means that all protests against sub-
sequent and lesser wrongs are hypo-
critical and ineffective.

The man who loves other nations as
he does his own stands on a par with
the man who loves other women as
much as he does his own wife.