

# BRITAIN'S NOTE FRIENDLY IN TONE, BUT SHE WILL STILL SEARCH WHEN NECESSARY

## Concedes Many Principles Set Forth by United States, But Finds Them Impracticable

### Foreign Secretary Refers to Fact Manifests Have Been Kept Secret and Quotes Statistics to Show That United States Trade With Neutral Countries Has Not Been Injured by Britain's Policy—Explains, However, That No Searches Will Be Made That Are Not Necessary.

Washington, Jan. 10.—Great Britain's preliminary reply to the note from the United States government requesting an improvement in the treatment of American commerce by the British fleet was made public here and in London today by mutual agreement between the State department and the British foreign office.

The British communication concurs in the view of the United States that commerce between neutral nations should be interfered with only when imperatively necessary, and officials of the Washington government construed it as conceding that many of the principles expressed by the American note were just, and upheld by the previously accepted usages of international law. The only formal comment made tonight was contained in a brief statement issued by Secretary Bryan, who said:

"This answer being preliminary and not being intended as a complete reply, we will postpone comment until the full answer is received."

Briefly, the British note, while conceding the principles of the American government's contention, points out difficulties in actual practice, refers to alleged fraudulent practices by shippers and cites statistics showing an increase, rather than a decrease, in certain commerce, in support of Great Britain's suspicions that Germany and Austria have been indirectly obtaining contraband through neutral countries. The note promises, however, that "Great Britain will make redress," whenever the action of the British fleet may unintentionally exceed the limits of international law.

The full text of the note follows: "The British Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to the American Ambassador."

Foreign Office, Jan. 7, 1915.

Your Excellency—I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your note of the 28th of December.

It is being carefully examined, and the points raised in it are receiving consideration, as the result of which a reply shall be addressed to your excellency, dealing in detail with the issues raised and the points to which the United States government have drawn attention. This consideration and the preparation of the reply will necessarily require some time, and I therefore desire to send, without further delay, some preliminary observations which will, I trust, help to clear the ground and remove some misconceptions that seem to exist.

Let me say, at once, that we entirely recognize the most friendly spirit referred to by your excellency, and that we desire to reply in the same spirit and in the belief that, as your excellency states, frankness will best serve the continuance of cordial relations between the two countries.

His majesty's government cordially concurs in the principle enunciated by the government of the United States that a belligerent, in dealing with trade between neutrals, should not interfere, unless such interference is necessary to protect the belligerent's national safety, and then only to the extent to which this is necessary. We shall endeavor to keep our action within the limits of this principle, on the understanding that it admits our right to interfere when such interference is not with bona fide trade between the United States and another neutral country, but with trade in contraband destined for the enemy's country, and we are ready, whenever our action may unintentionally exceed this principle, to make redress.

### RATHER STRIKING EXPORT FIGURES.

We think that much misconception exists as to the extent to which we have, in practice, interfered with trade. Your excellency's note seems to hold his majesty's government responsible for the present condition of trade with neutral countries, and it is stated that, through the action of his majesty's government, the products of the great industries of the United States have been denied long established markets in European countries which, though neutral, are contiguous to the seat of war. Such a result is far from being the intention of his majesty's government, and they would exceedingly regret that it should be due to their action. I have been unable to obtain complete or conclusive figures showing what the state of trade with these neutral countries has been recently, and I can therefore only say that some further consideration should be given to the question whether United States trade with these neutral countries has been so seriously affected. The only figures as to the total volume of trade that I have seen are those for the exports from New York for the month of November, 1914, and they are as follows, compared with the month of November, 1913:

Exports from New York for November, 1913, and November, 1914, respectively: Denmark, \$558,000; Sweden, \$377,000; Norway, \$477,000; Italy, \$2,971,000; Holland, \$4,389,000; \$3,960,000.

It is true that there may have been a falling off in cotton exports, as to which New York figures would be no guide, but his majesty's government has been most careful not to interfere with cotton, and its place on the free list has been scrupulously maintained.

### BRITISH GOVERNMENT HELPED OUT COTTON SITUATION.

That the existence of a state of war on such a scale has had a very adverse effect upon certain great industries, such as cotton, is obvious; but it is submitted that this is due to the general cause of diminished purchasing power of such countries as France, Germany, and the United Kingdom, rather than to interference with trade with neutral countries. In the matter of cotton, it may be recalled that the British government gave special assistance, through the Liverpool Cotton Exchange, to the renewal of transactions in the cotton trade of not only the United Kingdom but of many neutral countries.

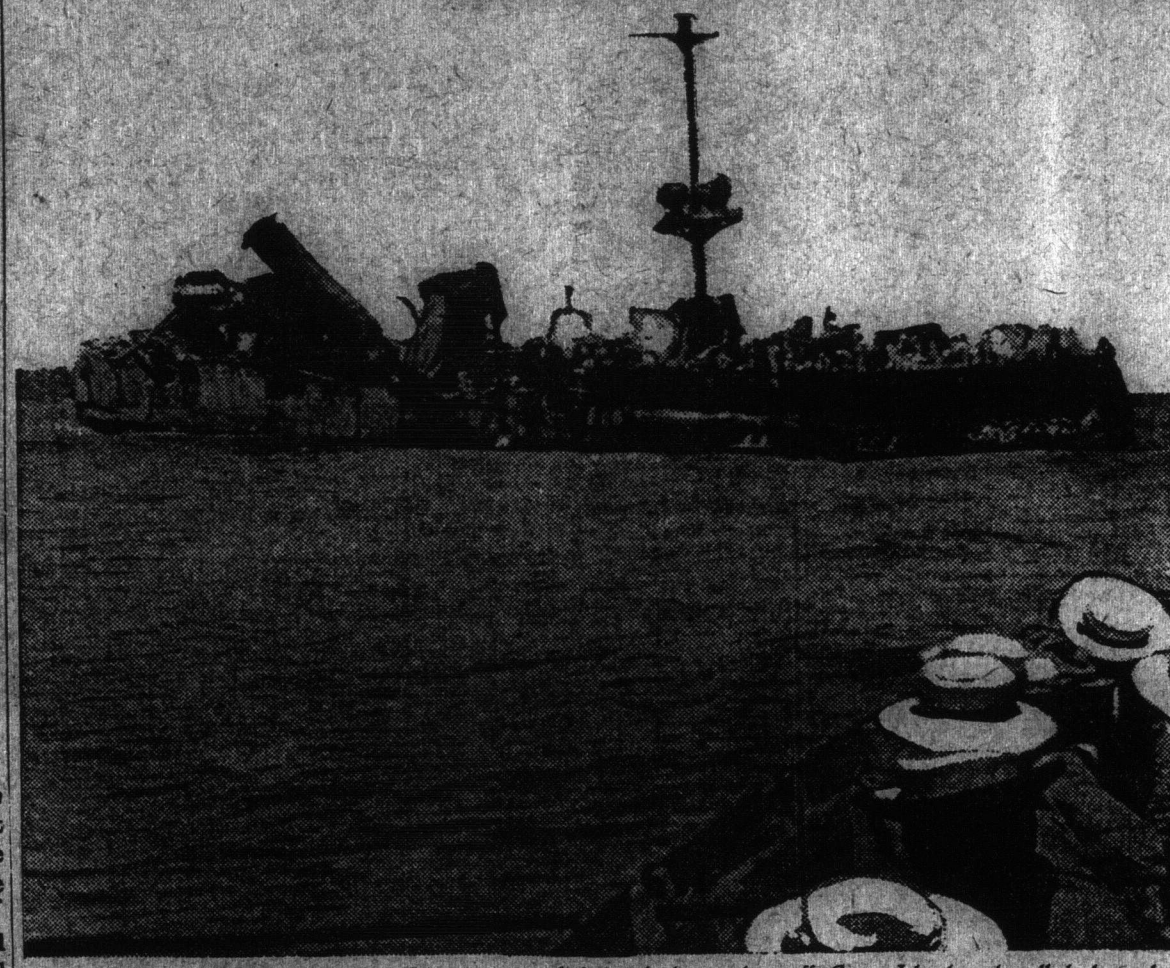
Your excellency's note refers in particular to the detention of copper. The figures taken from official returns for the export of copper from the United States for Italy for the months during which the war has been in progress up to the end of the first week of December are as follows: 1913, 15,202,000 pounds; 1914, 36,285,000 pounds. Norway, Sweden, Denmark and Switzerland are not shown separately for the whole period in the United States returns, but are included in the heading "Other Europe," (that is, Europe other than the United Kingdom, Russia, France, Belgium, Austria, Germany, Holland and Italy). The corresponding figures under this heading are as follows: 1913, 7,271,000 pounds; 1914, 35,347,000 pounds.

### NOT INTENDED FOR NEUTRALS.

With such figures the presumption is very strong that the bulk of copper consigned to these countries has recently been intended, not for their own use, but for that of a belligerent who cannot import it direct. It is therefore an imperative necessity for the safety of this country, while it is at war, that his majesty's government should do all in their power to stop such part of this import of copper as is not genuinely destined for neutral countries.

Your excellency does not quote any particular shipment of copper to Sweden, which has been detained. There are, however, four consignments to Sweden, at the present time of copper and aluminum, which, though definitely co-

# First Picture of the Emden Battered and on the Rocks



Photograph taken just after the German terror of the sea had run ashore off Cocos Island and pulled down her flag. Boats from the Australian victor, the Sydney, are shown taking off the survivors. Captain Von Muller, commander of the German cruiser Emden, has arrived in England, and is a prisoner in one of the officers' detention camps in Wales. The place of his internment is being kept secret. After the destruction of the Emden by the Sydney, Von Muller was taken to Colombo, thence he was brought to England, by way of Port Said. He was quietly landed at Tilbury, near London, and taken immediately to Wales.

signed to Sweden, are, according to positive evidence in the possession of his majesty's government, definitely destined for Germany.

I cannot believe that, with such figures before them and in such cases as those just mentioned, the government of the United States would question the propriety of the action of his majesty's government in taking suspected cargoes to a prize court, and we are convinced that it cannot be in accord with the wish either of the government or of the people of the United States to strain the international code in favor of private interests so as to prevent Great Britain from taking such legitimate means for this purpose as are in her power.

With regard to the seizure of foodstuffs to which your excellency refers, his majesty's government is prepared to admit that foodstuffs should not be detained and put into a prize court without presumption that they are intended for the armed forces of the enemy, or the enemy government. We believe that this rule has been adhered to in practice hitherto, but if the United States government have instances to the contrary, we are prepared to examine them and it is our present intention to adhere to the rule, though we cannot give an unlimited and unconditional undertaking in view of the departure of those against whom we are fighting from hitherto accepted rules of civilization and humanity and the uncertainty as to the extent to which such rules may be violated by them in future.

From the fourth of August last to the third of January the number of steamships proceeding from the United States for Holland, Denmark, Norway, Sweden and Italy has been 773. Of these there are forty-five which have had consignments or cargoes placed in the prize court, while of the ships themselves only eight have been placed in the prize court, and one of these has since been released. It is, however, essential under modern conditions that, where there is real ground for suspecting the presence of contraband, the vessels should be brought into port for examination; in no other way can the right of search be exercised, and but for this practice it would have to be completely abandoned. Information was received by us that special instructions had been given to ship rubber from the United States under another designation to escape notice, and such cases have occurred in several instances. Only by search in a port can such cases, when suspected, be discovered and proved. The necessity for examination in a port may also be illustrated by a hypothetical instance, connected with cotton, which has not yet occurred.

Cotton is not specifically mentioned in your excellency's note, but I have seen public statements made in the United States that the attitude of his majesty's government with regard to cotton has been ambiguous, and thereby responsible for depression in the cotton trade. There has never been any foundation for this allegation. His majesty's government have never put cotton on the list of contraband; they have throughout the war kept it on the free list; and on every occasion when questioned on the point, they have stated their intention of adhering to this practice. But information has reached us that, precisely because we have declared our intention of not interfering with cotton, ships carrying cotton will be specially selected to carry concealed contraband; and we have been warned that copper will be concealed in bales of cotton. Whatever suspicions we have entertained, we have not, so far, made these a ground for detaining any ship carrying cotton; but, should we have information giving us real reason to believe in the case of a particular ship that the bales of cotton concealed copper or other contraband, the only way to prove our case would be to examine and weigh the bales; a process that could be carried out only by bringing the vessel into a port. In such a case, or if examination justifies the action of his majesty's government, the case shall be brought before a prize court and dealt with in the ordinary way.

### THE FAIRNESS OF BRITISH PRIZE COURTS.

That the decision of British prize courts hitherto has not been unfavorable to neutrals, is evidenced by the decision in the *Mitsunichi* case. This case, which was decided against the crown, laid down that the American shipper was to be paid even when he had sold a cargo of c. i. f., and when the risk of loss after the cargo had been shipped did not apply to him at all.

It has further been represented to his majesty's government, though this subject is not dealt with in your excellency's note, that our embargoes on the export of some articles, more especially rubber, have interfered with commercial interests in the United States. It is, of course, difficult for his majesty's government to permit the export of rubber from British dominions to the United States at a time when rubber is essential to belligerent countries for carrying on the war, and when a new trade in exporting rubber from the United States in suspiciously large quantities to neutral countries has actually sprung up since the war. It would be impossible to permit the export of rubber from Great Britain, unless the right of his majesty's government were admitted to submit to a prize court cargoes of rubber exported from the United States, which they believed to be destined for an enemy country, and reasonable latitude of action for this purpose was conceded. But his majesty's government have now provisionally come to an agreement with the rubber exporters in Great Britain which will permit of licenses being given, under proper guarantees, for the export of rubber to the United States.

We are confronted with the growing danger that neutral countries contiguous to the enemy will become, on a scale hitherto unprecedented, a base of supplies for the armed holders of our enemies and for materials for manufacturing armaments. The trade figures of imports show how strong this tendency is, but we have no complaint to make of the attitude of the governments of these countries which, so far as we are aware, have not departed from proper rules of neutrality, and have prohibited the publication of manifestos, to prevent this danger by intercepting goods really destined for the enemy, without interfering with those which are bona fide neutral.

Since the outbreak of the war, the government of the United States have changed their previous practice, and have prohibited the publication of manifestos, to prevent this danger by intercepting goods really destined for the enemy, without interfering with those which are bona fide neutral.

Pending a more detailed reply, I would conclude by saying that his majesty's government do not desire to contest the general principles of law, or which they understand the note of the United States to be based, and desire to restrict their action solely to interfere with contraband destined for the enemy. His majesty's government are prepared, whenever a cargo coming from the United States is detained, to explain the case on which such detention has taken place, and would gladly enter into any arrangements by which mistakes can be avoided, and reparation is secured promptly when an injury to the neutral owners of a ship or cargo has been improperly caused, for they are most desirous, in the interest of both the United States and of other neutral countries, that British action should not interfere with the normal importation and export of the neutral countries of goods from the United States.

I have the honor to be, with the highest consideration, your excellency's most obedient humble servant.

(Signed) "E. GREY."

# FIGHTING FOR NOTHING LESS THAN NATION'S LIFE, LORD HALDANE DECLARES

## Duty of Every Man to Put Everything He Values Into Scale For Success

### Task Enormous One, Especially Burden of Keeping Command of the Sea—Points Out That No Victory Can be Sufficient That Does Not Preclude the Recurrence of the Situation in Which Nation is Now.

London, Jan. 8, 9:07 p. m.—After a two days' session during which its members heard statements from Earl Kitchener, secretary for war; Viscount Haldane, first lord high chancellor; the Marquis of Crewe, government leader in the house, and Baron Lucas, on behalf of the government, on the progress of the war and Great Britain's preparations to carry it on, the House of Lords this evening adjourned until Feb. 2, when parliament will re-assemble.

The opposition was not very successful in securing from the government information on the growth of the army, or on the operations of the navy, regarding which its members persistently questioned the ministers; but, generally speaking, the government expressed satisfaction at the rate at which recruiting was proceeding, and Viscount Haldane declared that the necessity for compulsory service had not arisen. The lord chancellor also announced that experts in England were producing a gun, which at least was the equal of the German 42-centimetre gun.

The Unionist peers who criticized Ireland's reply to the call to arms were told that Ireland was doing her full share in the war.

A lighter vote was introduced into the discussion by some of the Scottish members, who complained of the kits supplied to the Scottish regiments. Baron Moncreiff described these kits as "abbreviated ladies' hobble skirts." Baron Lucas replied that the war office had been unable to get a sufficient stock of the usual material used in the making of kits.

"We have every reason to be satisfied with the rate at which men are coming into the army, but nothing will draw from me the numbers recruited for the reason that the value of such figures to the enemy would be enormous," said Baron Lucas, under secretary of state for war, speaking for the government in the House of Lords this afternoon.

"We know that Germany is raising large numbers of new troops outside the usual military organization from a part of the population not usually trained to arms," Baron Lucas continued. "No information could be of greater value to us than to have details concerning the progress of that work and how many men they are getting and training. The number they have or wish to have would be information of the very highest military importance to the Allies."

Baron Lucas added that Earl Kitchener, secretary for war, was satisfied with the rate at which recruiting was proceeding, because he was able to supply equipment at a rate commensurate therewith. No troops fit to go to the front were being kept back owing to lack of equipment.

Dealing with Viscount Middleton's charge concerning the inequality of the burden on different parts of the country resulting from the present system of recruiting, Baron Lucas said he thought this was inevitable. But he pointed out that under the voluntary system the country avoided the enormous displacement of industry which followed the mobilization of the great conscript armies of the continent.

The Earl of Selborne said he doubted if the government had sufficiently impressed the nation with the immensity of the task the country was facing. The first object of the British army was to turn the Germans out of Belgium, he said, and if the full significance of this task were realized, it would have a powerful effect on recruiting.

Viscount Haldane, lord high chancellor, replied on behalf of the government. He agreed with the Earl of Selborne's estimate of the gravity of the crisis. He said he was one of those who had hoped that the more peaceful party in Germany might prevail, but he also was aware of the danger to be expected from the military notions which had laid hold of the mind of the German people that, while at the war office, he had set himself during the years of peace to frame a military organization capable of the necessary expansion.

As to the suggestion of compulsory service, Lord Haldane said he thought this was a bad thing, although in the time of a grave national necessity, it might be necessary to resort thereto. That time, however, he said, had not yet come, and the government could not adopt such a system without the gravest considerations.

### THE ONLY COMPLETE VICTORY.

Referring to some of the technical problems of the war Lord Haldane remarked that the Allies at an early period in the fighting had been behind in respect to great guns. This condition has since been rectified, he declared.

"We are fighting for nothing less than the life of the nation," the lord chancellor said, "in circumstances which make it the duty of every man to put everything he possesses and values most into the scale for success. No victory can be sufficient which does not preclude the recurrence of the situation in which we are now. The task is an enormous one and it varies in the case of each of the Allies, but on us rests a burden which is larger than that of either France or Russia—the burden of keeping command of the sea."

"I am glad there has been an appreciation of the obligation the Allies are under to the navy for establishing that remarkable control of the sea which, with comparatively little loss to our commerce and supplies, has enabled us to use the navy to carry on operations which otherwise would have been impossible."

### WAR OFFICE SATISFIED.

The Marquis of Crewe, government leader in the house of lords, replying to the criticism with regard to the recruiting in Ireland, and a statement by Lord Middleton that desertions and discharges in Ireland were quite phenomenal, said recruiting there was going on to the satisfaction of the war office. In addition to this fact regular drafts had been supplied for the Irish regiment, and every Irish infantry regiment in the army was now at the front.

The division in political opinion in Ireland, the marquis said, admittedly had made the recruiting problem a difficult one. There were in Ireland, he added, a number of revolutionary Irishmen, who were vocal out of all proportion to their influence. The marquis declared that he had received no particular information concerning the movements of Sir Roger Casement, who was reported to have proposed an alliance between Germany, Ireland and America to the Berlin government, but if Sir Roger had done what he was reputed to have done the marquis said his conduct ought to be followed by severe penalties.

Dealing with the question of the Irish volunteers, the marquis said the veto which was placed on the Irish volunteers force by the home rule bill undoubtedly did not survive the changed state of things that would follow the war.

Asked whether Great Britain had promised the Allies to resort to universal service in case of necessity, the Marquis of Crewe said he could make no statement on the subject. It must be remembered, he added, that the end of the war might depend on economic factors, as well as military ones, and that it might be better therefore to keep certain industries fully occupied than to send a few thousand extra men into the field.

# MORE CANADIAN CASUALTIES

## Lieut. Col. Harry F. McLeod Among Those Reported Seriously Ill in First Contingent

Ottawa, Jan. 8.—The following casualties among the Canadian expeditionary forces at Salisbury Plain are announced by the militia department:

Jan. 7.—Private A. H. Comber, Fifteenth Battalion, at London, of pneumonia. Next of kin, Mrs. E. Comber, Holland Centre, Ontario. Seriously ill.

Private John Brisbois, Second Battalion, at No. 1 Canadian General Hospital, Netterovon, with otitis media. Next of kin, Mrs. Isaac Brisbois, 35 Wellington street, Sault Ste. Marie (Ont.).

Private Percy G. Palmer, Seventh Battalion, at No. 1 Canadian General Hospital, Netterovon, of cerebro spinal meningitis. Next of kin, Mrs. C. Norris, 2621 George street, Vancouver.

Private R. G. Carter, Seventh Battalion, at No. 1 Canadian General Hospital, Netterovon, of cerebro spinal meningitis. Next of kin, Alexander Carter, Elora (Ont.).

Ottawa, Jan. 9.—Casualties, the Canadian expeditionary force:

Jan. 8.—No. 21408, Private Charles Edward Jones, 11th battalion, at Military Hospital, Wrexham. Cause not reported. Next of kin, Edward Jones, Wrexham, New Wales.

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### AGENTS WANT

RELIABLE representatives meet the tremendous fruit trees throughout the world. We wish to see four good men to represent our general agents. The fruit-growth in New Brunswick offers an opportunity for men of energy to secure a permanent position. Pay to the right men. St. John, Toronto, Ont.

THERE is a room in the New Brunswick Bible Agency now in every district. Pay weekly. Pelham Nursery Co., Toronto.

### TEACHERS WANT

WANTED—A second teacher to take charge of district No. 8, Perth and Victoria county, for present to John Walker, South Victoria Co., N. B.

WANTED—A second school teacher for the Johnston, County of Queens, starting salary, \$1,000 per annum. Canaan Rapid, Cole's Island, Queens Co., 20405-1-11.

WANTED—A second female teacher for St. John, Parish of Albert, Victoria county, for present to John Walker, South Victoria Co., N. B.

WANTED—Female teacher for district No. 10, St. John's, Sunbury county, salary, to Hy. Mowatt, St. John's.

I wish to be a public for the generous patron to announce a new term will Monday, Janua

Sumner

### BIRTHS

MCGLOAN—On January 21st, 1915, at 281 Regent, avenue, Montreal, Mrs. Norman L. McGloan, a son, Norman L. McGloan.

### DEATHS

COTTER—In this city, Richard, son of the late Anne Cotter, leaving mourners.

GODFREY—Suddenly, in this city, Frederick Godfrey, son of his age, leaving four sons, Charles, William, Harry, four daughters, Hattie and Blanche; his Godfrey, four sisters, Mrs. J. J. Smith, of India and Mrs. J. E. Danforth (N. Y.).

SMITH—In this city, Mary K. Smith, eldest daughter of Mr. William F. Smith, at the residence of Mrs. M. L. 18 Rebecca street, of Long Island, Kings county, aged 80 years.

TROOP—In this city, at the residence of Mrs. J. J. 75 Main street, after a long illness, aged 80 years.

MCCLEOD—At West 7th inst., Edward W. forty-four years, leaving nine children to mourn.

SHANES—At Pleasant 7, 1914, David Shanies, his mother to mourn.

MCMAULEY—In this city, January, 1915, Hannah, late William J. McAuley, leaving children to mourn.

EMERSON—In this city, at the residence of German street, Emma S. of the late Rev. J. E. H. Emerson, widow of Rev. W. Black, 115 Queen street, Sunday, Jan. 10, 1915, widow of the late C. W. Wickham, N. B., in this city, leaving two sons, Golding, of this city, and ing. of Wickham; two J. B. Wilson, of Cambridge; Mrs. A. W. Black, of the sister, Mrs. B. Carpenter, Mass.

WHITE—At Fairville, Hampton, C. B. White, leaving his wife, mother, two brothers to mourn.

CASSIDY—At Harriet of Jan. 9, Mrs. Harriet 87 years.

DRISCOLL—At Millington, Mary, beloved wife of Dr. Driscol, leaving her husband and children to mourn. (Please copy.)

### IN MEMORIAM

In tender and loving George Call, who passed 1914. A devoted husband. Fresh in our hearts, but we still our grief is. Each passing year but The day we'll part no

### GARD OF THE

Mrs. Joseph E. Land Junction, wishes to thank friends for their kindness in her recent bereavement.

### Veteran Halifax

Halifax, Jan. 7.—Will fifty-one years, who had been known to his friends for fifty years, retiring three years ago. He was smart man for his age.

Ten dollars a pair of country is a possibility two years, according to reports. Oh well! The land got along very to generations with wood there are many good among us.—Manchester