CLOSEST BOND OF FRIENDSHIP NEEDED TO PRESERVE PEACE

Times in Editorial Deals With Britain's Friendship in Middle East Countries—Position is Clarified—Informal Conversations Between Britain and U. S. Have Cleared Freedom of Seas Clause.

course of an editorial on President Wilson's visit to Europe, says:

"This war is not completely won for our common cause, unless it ends with the establishment of closer relations of friendship between us and America. Conversely, it is not wholly lost for Germany if by any means discord could be sown between the two great English-speaking peoples.

"We speak plainly, but plain-speaking is safest. Mischief makers are always busy and one form that their evil work takes is the insinuation that this country is out, not for disinterested motives, but for what it can get.

"If we were an island two thousand miles out in the Atlantic, without responsibilities in Asia and elsewhere, there is not an Englishman who would not like to divest himself completely of all territorial responsibilities.

"For their settlement, the United States are in this happy position. We are not. The few miles of water that separate us from the European political system are shrinking every day. Whether we will or no, we must interest ourselves in the territorial details of the settlement. If they are wrong, there will be trouble later, and when the next door catches fire, our own house is in danger. That is one reason why we, who are so near to the European continent, have to be so much more careful in our weaving of our principles into the stuff of politics than the Americans need be at a distance of 4,000 miles.

Monroe Doctrine of Asia.

"There is another reason. In Asia we are a great continental power, and we owe it to our trusteeship in India to preserve her people from the perils of militarism that have cursed Europe. That is why, in Asia, we have something comparable to the Monroe Doctrine of America. Just as America sents the appearance of a new power in her continent, so in the continent of Asia it has been the key to our policy not to have land frontiers coterminous with those of the great military powers, but to preserve the natural and buffer states between India and possible enemies.

"Our policy in the Middle East is exactly the same as that of the United States in Southern America. America's policy there is often libeled and so is ours in Asia for expressly the same reasons. There is only one test to apply. Are we attempting to serve our own selfish interests merely, or is our object to serve the same ideal ends as in the west? Our conscience is perfectly clear. We do not wish fresh territorial responsibilities, and, in so far as we undertake them, we should wish to do so as mandatory of the civilized world.

"The charge of selfishness is sufficiently disproven by the fact that in Asia, as in Europe, our object is to bring into existence new nations that will love and insure liberty and peace better than the nations that they replace. If that be selfishness, we plead guilty to it.

"It is, indeed, the proudest boast of England that she is not only free herself but supports the cause of freedom in others. Not only is she a free nation, but the mother of free nations. The same considerations apply to the freedom of the seas, a question most hopefully cherished by mischief-makers as likely to divide the United States and ourselves.

"This war could not have been won for civilization, but for British sea power. There can, therefore, be no question, so far as this nation is concerned, of diminishing the sharpness of this weapon that has given us victory in this war, and without which America herself could have done nothing effectual. To do so would be to blunt the edge not of our sword only, but of every sword raised on behalf of liberty.

Must Bind U. S. and Britain.

"For that, among other reasons, we are delighted that President Wilson should come to Europe, so that we can share our ideas on this subject. It may be that his hope is to make the league of nations discharge for liberty some of the functions hitherto performed by the British navy. It may be, again, that the American idea of free seas, when it is pronounced, will be found not to diminish sea power, but merely to regulate new developments which have emerged during this war, and, if so, we shall not quarrel about forms and phrases, so long as the substance is secure.

"All of us recognize that the future happiness of the world depends on drawing closer bonds between us and the United States, and to that end we shall work with all the strength that is in us, and they, on their part, will remember that this question of the seas is one that affects the people of this country more closely than any other. There is no subject on which our sentiment is so tender, our suspicions so near the surface, and our hearts so easily moved."

The Daily Express understands that when President Wilson's proposals on the subject of the freedom of the seas are definitely laid before the Allied peace delegates, it will be found that they are in no way antagonistic to British interests as has been generally supposed.

Position is Clarified.

"Informal conversations," says the paper, "have been in progress some time, with the result that the British government is in possession of concrete suggestions which are more understandable than the rather hazy wording of the famous clause 2 of the fourteen points. Wilson, on the other hand, is in possession of information showing him definitely that Britain cannot give up the right of search at sea, the law of contraband and the enforcement of blockade. We understand Wilson's proposals do not include abandonment of any of those rights.

"The whole position, of course, is dependent on the success of the President's basic proposition for a league of nations. If that proposal does not succeed the whole suggestion for any international control of naval and military power falls to the ground. It is only in the event of the league being formed, with definite, agreed principles to govern its actions in all conceivable emergencies, that questions on the exercise of sea power will arise for settlement.

"The President's proposal in that event amounts to a suggestion from the second strongest naval power, which the United States now is, to the strongest, to fix definite rates of naval construction, to which all will loyally adhere; and, further that in the event of it being necessary to bring naval pressure to bear on any recalcitrant nation, the task should jointly be undertaken by the two leading naval powers.

"Bringing pressure to bear by sea power can only mean the use of the blockade and the enforcement of contraband regulations, and both those weapons the United States would be prepared to use in an alliance with us in case they were necessary in order to preserve peace or to restore it.

"It seems as though the United States, in fact, were offering to spare us what the Germans termed the odium of being the world's naval bully."

SEAMAN DISAGREES WITH SIR W. LAURIER

Peter Wright Says Either Falsehood or Ignorance.

Toronto, Dec. 13.—Peter Wright, chairman of the Sailors' and Firemen's Union of Great Britain, delivered a stirring address before the Empire Club, here today, and he was repeatedly cheered by a large gathering of citizens.

"I have dined with the Kaiser," he said, "and I tell you I never came in contact with a beast that had such a dirty, deceitful face. He had iniquity written all over his dirty face. I have seen the text books of the German schools, and every little child has been brought up with the idea to conquer Great Britain, and to beat her to the dust.

"I have been reading the works of an eminent statesman. I refer to Sir Wilfrid Laurier. He stated that the German people were all right; it was only the military classes which were responsible for this war. I refute that statement. I am ready to prove to you that any man who utters that sentiment either utters a deliberate falsehood, or is in ignorance."

German Sailors' Attitude.

He told of appealing to the heads of the German sailors' union for fair play. "I said 'We don't give a damn if you torpedo our ships, but be sportsmen and don't fire sarapnel at the defenceless men when they are in the boats.'"

"They replied that they had held a conference of the labor leaders, and said: "We have decided that it is neither our policy nor our intention to interfere with the Government's naval or military policy.' "

He told of going to Berlin to wrestle for the international championship of the world, and out of the 20,000 people there, there was not one cheer because he was a Britisher. After wrestling for nine days he met the German favorite, and the Hun had tried to win by a foul. He was, however paid in his own coin. "The only logic which appeals to their psychology is force, and nothing but force," said Wright.

"We are not going to rest until we have got this dity Kaiser Bill, and until the whole dirty kin appear before the bar of an international tribunal to be tried for the guilty murders they have committed," he said.

Tells of Atrocities.

Mr. Wright told of going to France at the request of Lloyd George to personally investigate the atrocities there. He had gone to Rheims with Gen. Joffre, and later had visited a village immediately after the Germans had been driven out. He told of some of the horrors against the native French women, and said "I saw twenty to thirty boys with their right hands amputated at the wrists. This was not done by brutal soldiery, but was the work of skilled physicians."

Since the war he had met one of the German labor leaders at Stockholm. It was Herr Schiedmann. He had said, "Look here, Peter, I want you to understand the whole German nation is in support of the German army until a German peace is dictated."

Turned Tables on Spy.

Wright told of deliberately making the acquaintance of a German spy while in Stockholm and sleeping in the next room to him. In the morning coffee had been brought in and he had changed his with the German while the latter slept. Later the German was a corpse.

The club agreed to send the following message to the United States on Saturday, when Britain's Day is to be celebrated:

"That the Empire Club of Canada desires to send greetings to the committee in charge of Britain's Day in the United States, and to express the hope that out of our union in sacrifice may arise harmony in all the problems of peace."

NEW YORK HOAXED BY JOKER JONES

Even Had Machine Guns Out to Break up Announced Bolsheviki Campaign.

New York, Dec. 13.—Ellis O. Jones, purported author of a document spread broadcast here yesterday "proclaiming" that a reign of Bolshevism would begin in this country at noon today, was arrested this afternoon on the Mall at Central Park where he attempted to deliver an address.

Prior to Jones' arrival at Central Park 500 mounted patrolmen and motor-cycle officers and a detachment of the army provost guard had been stationed, prepared for a demonstration by radicals. In a police station twelve Browning machine guns were held in readiness.

A reign of Bolshevism did not begin at noon today in the United States insofar as the police authorities here could learn, the "proclamation" thus being ineffective. No person of Bolshevik tendencies had appeared up to one o'clock at Central Park to participate in the advertised "morning parade." The authorities were unable to say whether the rain interfered with what had been genuine plans, or whether the much-heralded demonstration was a hoax.

Mr. Jones, mentioned above, is an alleged humorist, whose efforts often appear in Life and other publications. —Ed. Standard.

Colds Cause Headaches and Pains

Feverish Headaches and Body Pains caused from a cold are soon relieved by taking LAXATIVE BROMO QUININE Tablets. There's only one "Bromo Quinine." E. W. GROVE'S signature on the box. 30c.

Make your headquarters for your Xmas and season's shopping at Bassen's, 14-16-18 Charlotte street. No branches.

WEAPONS THROWN AWAY.

New York, Dec. 13.—A collection of 2,525 dangerous weapons taken from criminals and others since January 1, and valued at $30,000 was thrown into the ocean off Scotland Lighthship yesterday by the police department. In it were some of the most dangerous and barbarous devices ever found by the police.

QUITE IMPOSSIBLE FOR FIGHTING TO BE RESUMED NOW

Boches Admit French Army Alone Could Crush Them Without Difficulty—Completely Defeated—When Operations Ceased German Armies Were at Mercy of Allies, Beaten to a Frazzle.

Paris, Dec. 14.—What has struck me most since my arrival in Paris on Saturday night last from occupied Germany, is the recurrence of the same question: "Well, is it really finished? Is there any chance of the Boche beginning again?" If I have heard it once I have heard it fifty times, frequently from Americans of British and on the lips of French people almost without exception. At first it seemed frankly ridiculous that such an idea could be entertained, but the constant repetition of it demanded attention.

Whatever may be the reasons from which the query may arise, I can answer it with certainty, based not only on an investigation of all shades of civil and military opinion in occupied Germany, but on nine months' close association with the French in the conduct of military operations; from the time of the spring disasters to the end of the victorious campaign.

There is no danger whatever of Germany re-opening hostilities.

To begin with, an attempt is utterly hopeless from a military standpoint. Even a Prussian captain of a shock division, with whom I talked, admitted readily that the French army alone could smash them without difficulty. It cannot be too widely or too thoroughly understood that the Germans asked for an armistice on any terms the Allies wanted because they were defeated in the war. There had not yet been a colossal debacle, but the German army leaders knew it was inevitable if hostilities continued.

Even before the armistice was signed the revolutionary movements had broken out and the bonds of discipline were breaking. An attempt to fight on would simply have meant for Germany on a vaster and more terrible scale what happened to Russia in the battle of July, 1917. No matter what the Germans or their friends and dupes may say now or later, the fact remains that they were completely at the mercy of the Allies—literally beaten to a frazzle.

Secondly, I have yet to meet any German who would countenance for a moment the mere idea of beginning the war again. The Junkers and militists might want it, but knew it to be impossible. Financial and commercial classes regard the suggestion with horror, and the mass of the population have only room at present for two notions in their heads—food and peace.

Out of the chaos of conflicting aims and opinions, toward which the German empire is drifting daily more swiftly, three facts emerge with clearness.

First, there is no authority or united combination of authorities that can control, lead or even speak for the whole country.

Secondly, their army as a fighting force is non-existent. A great many soldiers have returned home with or without leave, and the immensely complex machinery of transport and supply needed for modern war is shattered beyond repair. Although in some few units discipline remains good, in the majority of cases the officers retain their position on sufferance and the soldiers' committee really holds the upper hand.

Third, there is not enough food in Germany to feed the population for six weeks without importation from Allied sources.

The apparent contradiction remarked by myself in occupied territory and by Allied correspondents across the Rhine that food is comparatively abundant is due to the fact that all the stocks prepared for winter by the Kaiser's government or by private speculators for illicit profits have now been thrown on the market. The Boches have known that the Allies won't let them starve and food restrictions have gone by the board. Where local authorities tried to maintain them there was a flare-up of something resembling Bolshevism, which speedily brought them into line. Germany at present is consuming ravenously in six weeks what would have lasted painfully for six months.

From the Allied standpoint, this perhaps is one of the most favorable features of the troublesome problem presented by the German internal situation. If we insist on good behaviour as the price of food, disorder or undesirable extremism can easily be suppressed without expense or the difficulties of military interference.

AMERICANS ARE HAVING A GREAT TIME IN GERMANY

Efforts of Officers to Prevent Their Men Becoming Very Friendly With Inhabitants of Occupied Territory Are Meeting With Very Poor Success—Soldiers Are Entertained Everywhere.

By WILBUR FORREST.
(Special Cable to the N. Y. Tribune and the St. John Standard)
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Treves, Germany, Dec. 13.—High officers of the American army of occupation are facing today a puzzling problem in forcing the doughboys to cease fraternization with German civilians. Although it is contrary to the strictest kind of orders the soldiers, touched by the docility and receptive spirit of the natives in villages and towns in occupied territory, have begun to abandon their regular billets in barns, barracks and pup tents, and surreptitiously accept regular beds in various German spare rooms wherever offered.

The attendance at company mess is beginning to dwindle, also, the fastidious doughboys preferring to eat private German cooking off red table cloths with their feet under family tables. One American mess sergeant, at Bitburg, told me today that fifty per cent. of his company were absent at dinner and supper last Tuesday. On Wednesday he ordered the cook to prepare only half the usual amount of rations until the absentees returned. Other mess sergeants report a startlingly large number of diners out. One said:

"You can't blame 'em much. They've been eating army rations three times a day for a long time, and when some German hausfrau invites 'em in for meals you bet they go."

They usually carry about half a loaf of white army bread along after the first meal, and that gets them an invitation to be a regular guest for both meals and lodging.

The troops profiting most through this sort of hospitality are those belonging to units attached to corps, division or army headquarters, which settle down in various villages, while the infantry units are on the march, where ordinary billeting fare is mandatory.

T. G. Borden, of 1315 Newton Street, Washington, and Mark C. Feinman, of 60 Tompkins Avenue, Brooklyn, both belonging to the signal battalion of Army Headquarters, made American flap jacks this morning much to the delight of their German hostess. Both occupied the best bedroom last night and will remain as her guests until army headquarters move again to a point nearer the Rhine.

Borden, from June, 1917, to December, was a familiar figure in front of the army recruiting office at Forty-third and Broadway. Then he came to France. His father is registrar of the Catholic University at Washington.

One woman of Bitburg is who is housing two doughboys lost her husband in the war three months ago. His picture with an Iron Cross of the first class pinned to the frame, hangs in her parlor.

The Colonel in charge of civil affairs of the army at Bitburg told me today that the attitude of the civilians in the occupied region was amazing considering what had been expected. As near as he is able to tell by investigation it is due to their pleasure in finding the American soldiers mild mannered and well behaved, whereas they had been led to believe by the attitude of their own men that all soldiers were ruffians.

Then, too, he added, there is a general effort everywhere here to treat the Americans nicely despite inner feelings, because the Americans have not expressed bitterness towards the Germans and the Germans are anxious for a continuance of this attitude.

Since the entry into Germany the American army has found it unnecessary to impose certain restrictions which had been promulgated in case conditions forced the application of restrictive measures. Contrarily the occupied territory has an unique status, enjoying more freedom today than possibly any similiar area in the whole history of warfare. Uniquely, also, the American military authorities are not interrupting the functions of established civic institutions and pursuits but are urging their continuance so long as they don't interfere with the functions of the army.

In several cases schools which had been evacuated on account of the needs of the German army for billeting during the retreat, have been reformed at the behest of the American authorities. In one case American officers who had taken a school for quarters, moved out so the teachers and children could move in. I am informed no rigorous rules are to be imposed in our area of occupation unless the inhabitants made it necessary.

The unexpectedly friendly attitude of the inhabitants is partially explained by the mayor of the village of Kashenbach, who said:

"From the time of the signing of the armistice until the entry of your troops, we didn't know what to say or do. Our returning troops told us your troops were rough, and that we were facing hard times. Our own troops looted here, forcing their way into buildings. Twenty-four hours after your troops arrived we had no fear. There is a great contrast between the domineering attitude of our soldiers and that of your troops.

"Since your troops have come not one of them has spoken a single disagreeable word to anyone, and when we offered them wood for cooking and heating they accepted with what seemed like shyness. They sit in our living rooms with us, and smoke, and we try to make ourselves understood. This is a great relief when it is considered how the Saxons treated us when they came through."

WANT FOUR YEAR TERM IN QUEBEC

Quebec, Dec. 13.—Among the powers which the City of Quebec will seek from the Quebec legislature at its next session apart from authorization to borrow a sum of $376,000 will be an extension of the present term of office for the mayor and aldermen. The council at present is elected for two years and the desire is that this term be extended to four years to take effect after the next municipal elections.

CHILE WILL SETTLE ON HER OWN TERMS

Santiago, Chile, Dec. 13.—President Wilson's note to the Chilean government expressing the desire that questions at issue between Peru and Chile be amicably arranged, and the government's answer to the preliminary messages were read in the chamber to-day. The reply declares the government's desire and unshakable determination to preserve peace and to carry out the condition of treaty of Ancon, which, it says, the government believes must solve the controversy between Chile and Peru, without the necessity of war.

The chancellor of the chamber declares that Chile has never refused to proceed to the consummation of the treaty of Ancon, and that the government would now make the greatest efforts to accomplish this end. The chancellor's declaration is unanimously approved by the newspapers here.

PRINCE ALBERT PRESENTED SHIELD

London, Thursday, Dec. 12.—When he presented the shield to the winning team in the boxing bout on behalf of his father, Prince Albert praised the sporting spirit which had prevailed among the winners and losers in the contest.

"Especially do we welcome the officers and men of the United States navy and army," said Prince Albert, "who with perfect co-operation and good will have adopted our rules for boxing, to which they are not accustomed. They have given us a fine performance tonight in winning five finals and being runners up in two other contests."

NEW FREIGHTERS READY.

New York, Dec. 13.—The cargo carrier Agawam, the world's first ship of fabricated steel, has completed a successful full load, deep-sea test, and the Quisteconck, first product of the Hog Island yards, has been approved, after a trial trip for the reception of cargo, it was learned here today.

SEED FAIR AT SUMMERSIDE.

Charlottetown, P. E. I., Dec. 13.—The Maritime winter seed fair closed today at Summerside. The exhibits represented a large amount of saleable seed on the Island and especially banner oats. The annual meeting of the maritime members of the Canadian Seed Growers' Association was held yesterday afternoon.

U. S. SHIPPING AT QUEBEC.

Quebec, Dec. 13.—The United States Shipping Board has a staff of 200 men here at the present time engaged in completing and fitting up a number of vessels for ocean service. The board has leased quarters from the Quebec harbor commission and installed machinery for the work.

AEROPLANE IN TROUBLE.

Norfolk, Va., Dec. 13—A mail aeroplane from Washington to the Hampton Roads Naval base crashed into the roof of a hotel at Willoughby Spit late today, killing two of the five men aboard and injuring the other three.

Human Hitching Post.

Arriving at his office the other morning, a suburban Elk found the following verse carefully pasted on the front of his rolltop desk:—

I stood on the curb at midnight,
When I could hardly see,
And a man stepped from his wagon
And tied his horse to me.

There was no signature, but the young man was not dense. He knew the rhyme had reference to an incident in which he involuntarily played a prominent part when he was trying to get home after a long evening at his favorite club.

'Tis more to be good than be great,
To be happy is better than wise;
You'll find if you'll smile at the world
The world will smile back in your eyes.
—Selected.

HER Present to HIM

She will find this is an easy place to shop and the most convenient place to find many presents that HE will appreciate.

Our business is to carry the right merchandise that will appeal to HIM, and in our special holiday line of furnishings for men, the very newest ideas in color, pattern, fabric and weave are here.

A hand-picked assortment of Neckties, Neck-wraps, Dress Vests, Suspender and Garter Sets, Overcoats, Dress Suits, etc.

Gilmour's, 68 King St.

THE WEATHER.

Maritime—Increasing east to southeast winds, mild with rain in west portion extending to eastern districts.

Washington, Dec. 13—Northern New England, Rain or snow in interior, rain near coast Saturday and Sunday. Moderate southeast and south winds.

Lower Lakes and Georgian Bay—Strong winds, shifting to northwest at night, occasional rain but partly fair and colder by Sunday.

Toronto, Dec. 13—Pressure is low over the Mississippi valley and the Great Lakes, and high over the eastern and western portions of the continent. Rain has fallen today over the greater portion of Ontario, and snow and rain are extending tonight into Quebec. In the west the weather has been fair with moderate temperature.

	Min.	Max.
Victoria	44	50
Calgary	8	20
Edmonton	2	14
Battleford	6	20
Prince Albert	10	16
Moose Jaw	15	28
Winnipeg	22	26
Port Arthur	12	36
Parry Sound	26	34
London	33	47
Toronto	30	40
Montreal	20	36
Quebec	24	30
St. John	28	36

ESPECIALLY GOOD AT THIS TIME

Hood's Sarsaparilla—Best Medicine to Build Up the System.

After influenza, grip, fevers, blood-poisoning and prostrating diseases, that leave poor appetite, weakness, that tired feeling and other ailments, Hood's Sarsaparilla has benefited thousands by purifying and enriching the blood, curing skin diseases, stomach, liver and kidney troubles.

Its record of cures of scrofula, salt rheum, psoriasis, pimples, eruptions, catarrh, dyspepsia and rheumatism proves its superlative merit.

In cases where a laxative is needed take Hood's Pills—They are gentle and thorough. Get these medicines today.

A Letter from Santa Claus

St. John, N.B., Dec. 14th, 1918.

Dear Little Girls, and Boys and Big Folks, too—

I suppose you thought I would not come this year on account of the war, but I came just the same with my brownies, and I had great fun travelling with my sleigh and reindeers. I am going to give you more useful presents this year than last, because I have found an up-to-date store, where I can buy real nice presents for little money. Be sure and come and see me as early as possible because I am going to be very busy this year as I have such a large assortment to choose from and so many little girls and boys and friends to buy for. I am now stopping at C. Magnusson & Son's Clothing Store, 54-56-58 Dock Street, and you will see me in one of their windows every afternoon at 3.30 and in the evening at 8 o'clock, and I will be very pleased to see you all.

I will be there every day from Monday next until early Christmas morning, when I will depart from there and call at your home while you are asleep.

Your dear old Friend,
SANTA.

CHAS. MAGNUSSON & SON,
SANTA CLAUS' HEADQUARTERS.

MONCTON NEWS.

Special to The Standard.

Moncton, Dec. 13.—A few days ago Chief Rideout, prohibition inspector, seized at the C. G. R. station a trunk containing twelve gallons of old rum and today succeeded in locating the party responsible for landing the booze in Moncton in violation of the prohibition law. It turned out that the liquor had been brought to Moncton by a C. G. R. employee for a party in Shediac. The man bringing the liquor in has been summoned to answer to a charge of violating the prohibition law in the police court tomorrow.

Pte. Nevijtra, the insane man lost off a C. G. R. hospital train last Sunday, and who was found on the streets of Moncton Wednesday night, is to be taken to the military hospital at Fredericton. An escort arrived here today from Coburg, Ont., and will leave with him for Fredericton tomorrow.

His Excellency the Governor General passed through the city by special train this evening to Newcastle, and will visit North Shore towns en route to Ottawa.

A STILL ALARM.

The firemen were given a run last evening about 10.20 o'clock to Lower Cove where a bon-fire had been set by some youngsters. Some of the residents of that section of the city called the firemen by still alarm. No damage resulted and the fire was soon extinguished.

Piles Cured in 6 to 14 Days

Druggists refund money if PAZO OINTMENT fails to cure Itching, Blind, Bleeding or Protruding Piles. Stops Irritation; Soothes and Heals. You can get restful sleep after the first application. Price 60c.

Eugene Comeau left on the Montreal express last evening, to spend a few days in the "Nine Island" City. On his return to the city he will visit his home in Digby for Christmas, after which he will resume his duties in St. John.

PUTTING SHIPS BACK ON TRADE ROUTES

A Million Tons to be Turned Over to the Owners Before Very Long.

New York, Dec. 13.—The statement made today in Washington that the war department is to turn back to the trade routes 800,000 deadweight capacity tons of ships was viewed in shipping circles here as one of the most important readjustments that has been made since the signing of the armistice.

The understanding here is that the ships designated for trade purposes will not be returned directly to the owners, but will be turned back by the war department to the United States shipping board and by that body allocated to various trades. It is also understood that the 800,000 tons now designated will soon be increased to over 1,000,000 tons. Among the ships believed to be under consideration for release are some of the Dutch steamers requisitioned last and now under war and navy department control.

LATE SHIPPING.

Halifax, N.S., Dec. 13.—Arrived, stmr Jason (American) Halifax from New Orleans, via Norfolk, Va.

Stmr Newport News (American) Halifax, New York.

Sailed—Stmr War Prophet, Halifax, Golon, France.

Sld stmr Arol, Halifax, New York.

Halifax, N.S., Dec. 13.—The U.S.S Newport News, on naval service, put in here to-day with engine trouble. The steamer is bound from New York to France.

Steamer arrivals—Passenger steamers—Tunisian, at Liverpool, from St. John, N.B.

Corsican, at London, from St. John, N.B.

Freighters—Hotham Newton, at Plymouth from New York.

Do all your Xmas shopping at Bassen's, 14-16-18 Charlotte street. No branches.