

Miss Helen M. Carter, of Lancaster
N.S., led the dominion in the recent
competitive examinations for stenograph-
ers and typewriters. Miss Carter, who
at eighteen years old, repeated the
success of her sister, Miss Mary C. Car-
ter, who won similar honors in the civil
service examinations three years ago.
Young ladies are graduates of the
John High school.

The Canada Gazette of Dec. 11 gives
following results of the examinations:
St. John and other towns in New
Brunswick:

- Stenographers and typewriters, in or-
der of merit:
Carter, Helen M., St. John (West);
Gray, Isabella R., Ottawa, equal;
Tighe, Frederick J., Ottawa;
Howe, Rena A., Ottawa.

- Draper, Percy G., Ottawa;
Jones, William, Winnipeg;
Cosley, Harry V., Ottawa;
Drouin, Gilberte, Ottawa;
Nelson, Marion O., Ottawa;
O. McQuarrie, Clifton Howard, Ont.

Qualifying, Outside Service:
Frederick—Crosby, Frank A.,
St. John; Bohm, Wilfred R.,
Yarmouth—Chisholm, Finlay,
Preliminary, Outside Service:
Frederick—Schofield, Prudence

- St. John—Atkinson, Orrin B.; Bo-
w, Wilfrid R.; Driscoll, Wm. An-
drew; Dunmer, Ronald A.; Handem-
ph, W.; Hogan, Francis Herbert;
ches, John A.; Kee, Edith Mary;
dry, Annie Elzear; McCowan, An-
Malcolm.

- Moncton—Cooke, Harold R.,
res, Thomas Albert.

B. SMALLEY HAS DISAPPEARED

Well-Known Business Man Not Seen
Since He Left Store for Home Last
Friday—Fatal Accident Feared.

B. Smalley, the well known jeweler
of Prince William street, has been
missing since early Friday evening, and
family and friends are greatly wor-
ried by his unexplained absence.

Mr. Smalley, who is 75 years old and
has been in failing health, was at
place of business on Friday, and left
store at a quarter to seven that eve-
ing to go home.

He had not reached his home an hour
later, and fearing that he had become
lost on the way, his relatives at 9 o'clock
communicated with the police who began
systematic inquiry under direction of
commissioner of public safety.

Up to last night no trace of the mis-
sioner had been found, and his relatives
feared that he must have met with some
accident.

Mr. Smalley is a well-known figure,
and would be recognized by thousands
of his fellow-citizens. It is requested
that anyone who saw him after he left
store on Friday evening will commu-
nicate immediately with the police.

Schooner Lavengro a Total Loss.
Halifax, N. S., Dec. 18.—Word was re-
ceived here today from the captain of
schooner Lavengro, stating that she
is a total loss at Burn Point (Sage
Island), being driven ashore during the
storm. Crew saved. Schooner insured.

order to deal in them, he added, and
merely that they would be used as col-
lateral securities.

Frederick H. Booth hoped when the
government was in possession of "this
promissory roll of American securities,"
would come to the aid of private
holders. If not, there would be a con-
siderable holding back in Lancashire,
as the cotton manufacturers knew how
they were to meet their American li-
abilities.

pected in New York.

New York, Dec. 18.—The decision of
British government to make out-
right purchases of American securities
has not surprised any one, but plan has
been reached as one of the many civil-
ian treasury officials are known to
be under consideration.

international bankers regarded the
position as in the nature of a tender
bid that is being made wholly in the
interest of strengthening and maintaining
change between this country and Lon-
don. The "middle" price, referred to in
ables, probably means a quotation mid-
way between bid and asked prices in
a market, and the elimination of com-
mission or commission implies that
government intends to deal directly
with the seller.

The recent revival of liquidation of
securities by British owners has
reduced the amount of American
stocks and bonds owned in Great Brit-
ain, but conservative estimates place the
total of such holdings at this time as
\$2,000,000,000.

London, Dec. 14.—The Times, in an
editorial today, considers the terms of
the offer of the Exchequer McKenna's
securities mobilization scheme as "emphat-
ic" to holders of securities, and says it
ought to result in a very large respon-
se. A newspaper, however, urges the ad-
visability of bringing the plan under the
control of private holders of securities
in the country, and especially cities in
the west of it.

The Semi-Weekly Telegram

The News

Allied Position in Balkans Stronger With Landing of Italian Army on Albanian Coast

ITALIANS LAND FORCE ON ALBANIAN COAST; ALLIES WIN IN WEST

London, Dec. 16.—There is a more hopeful feeling in London with regard to the Balkan operations, now that it is definitely announced that the Italians have effected a landing on the Albanian coast, and that the Anglo-French forces, which has fallen back towards Saloniki, has been strongly reinforced with men and guns, including some heavy naval weapons.

It is not stated how large a force the Italians will send to the assistance of the Serbians and Montenegrins, but from the fact that the official account intimates that landings have been made at more than one point, it is taken for granted that an army of considerable proportions is to be sent across the Adriatic.

This, with the Montenegrins and Serbians who escaped into Albania, will be a serious threat to the Central Powers right flank, while they can never look on in idleness to the concentration of an army at Saloniki, which, at a chosen moment, would undertake an offensive, and to the gathering of Russians in Bessarabia.

It is anticipated, therefore, that the Germans will strike at Saloniki before the Anglo-French forces grow too strong, and it is believed with that end in view they are now negotiating with the Greek government. If their plans include the participation of the Bulgarians in the attack, they are likely to meet with opposition from Greece, as Greece is strongly adverse to any Bulgarians crossing her frontier. This applies, also, to some extent, to the Austrians, whose ambitions always have been for a port on the Aegean preferably Saloniki.

On the whole, therefore, it is thought here that the Greeks might prefer to see the Entente remain there until the end of the war. In fact, Lord Robert Cecil, under secretary for foreign affairs, said in the house of commons today that the Anglo-French plan was to keep the Central Powers from that city, in accordance with the wishes of Greece.

Reports that the Germans are preparing for an offensive in the west persist, but thus far there has been little but artillery engagements and aerial fights and raids.

General Townsend, commanding the British forces in Mesopotamia, reports he expects another attack at Kut-el-Amara, since which the Turks have been quiet.

German Trenches Entered.
London, Dec. 16.—The following official communication was issued this evening:

"Last night two small enterprises were successfully carried out near Arras. Hostile trenches were entered and their occupants disposed of. The enemy losses are estimated at twenty men killed. Our losses were trifling.

"Today there has been an artillery bombardment by both sides about Ypres. The report in the German wireless of the 16th that we lost four aeroplanes is untrue."

Turkish Losses Heavy.
London, Dec. 16.—A British official statement issued tonight says:

"General Townsend reports from Kut-el-Amara that, according to Arab reports, the Turks lost 2,000 men in their attack on the evening of Dec. 2. General Townsend cannot affirm this, but he himself estimates that the Turks lost fully 1,000. They have not resumed their attacks since."

No Change on Eastern Front.
Petograd, via London, Dec. 16.—The following statement was issued from general headquarters tonight:

"There has been no change on either the western or Caucasian front."

German Depot Blown Up.
Paris, Dec. 16, 2:28 p.m.—The war office made public the following report this afternoon:

"The activity of the enemy's artillery was less pronounced last night. Our batteries everywhere responded effectively, particularly between the Oise and the Aisne where our trench guns blew up a German ammunition depot near Quennewiers."

The following official communication was issued by the war office tonight:

"There has been cannonading on both sides in several sectors in Belgium, in Artois and between the Somme and the Oise."

"In the valley of the Aisne, to the southeast of Vailly, we successfully carried out an sudden attack yesterday against a group of houses held by the enemy, and took about fifteen prisoners, without suffering any loss."

"On the left bank of the Aisne, at Villeau Bois, our heavy artillery destroyed several walls, which concealed enemy bomb throwers and sharpshooters."

"In the Argonne mine fighting proceeded in the region of Vaquois, where the explosion of two of our mines shattered German trenches."

"On the heights of the Meuse, at the Bois Des Chevaliers, a well regulated fire from our batteries severely damaged the works and shelters of the enemy, and caused several fires."

"The Belgian official communication reads:

"The day was calm on the Belgian front, particularly between Nieupoort and Dixmude. To the south of the latter town our artillery took effective action against the opposing batteries. Near Steenstraete, our heavy guns silenced mine throwers which bombarded the French trenches."

"Army of the east: Quiet prevails along the whole of our front."

"Defensive force of the Dardanelles: The Turkish artillery displayed less activity on Dec. 15. An enemy aeroplane, which attempted to make a flight over our lines, was pursued by our machines and compelled to flee. Our heavy artillery continued to bombard the batteries on the coast of Asia."

Romans Destroying Countryside.
Austria, via London, Dec. 16.—The following official communication was issued today:

"The Austro-Hungarian army has been isolated from there have been isolated artillery encounters. In the Filitsch region our troops, by a surprise attack, captured an enemy advanced position."

"Southeastern front: Yesterday, south-east of Glibci, our troops repulsed the greater part of the front. Near Vailly, two small posts on the southern bank of the Aisne were unexpectedly attacked by the French during the night. Lieut. Immelmann yesterday caused a British monoplane to fall over Valenciennes after an aerial battle."

"The aim of the aeroplane attack on Muelheim, Baden, was, according to the French, the railway establishment in that town. None of the bombs which the French dropped fell in the neighborhood of these buildings. One civilian was killed and another injured in the town. The purely military damage was limited to the destruction of one window pane in a hospital."

"Eastern theatre of war: Army group of Field Marshal Von Hindenburg's Russian divisions which penetrated into our position north of Lake Drislawitz were thrown out again by a counter-attack."

"The neighborhood of the mouth of the Beredina an enemy advance broke down under the fire of our infantry."

"Army group of Prince Leopold of Bavaria: The situation is unchanged. There were minor patrol engagements during the night."

"A group of Gen. Von Linsing's. An enemy attack near Bereslynia failed. A Russian aeroplane was forced to descend east of Lutsk within easy reach of the Austro-Hungarians."

In northern Montenegro continued with success. Austro-Hungarian troops are now in the neighborhood of Bjelopaja.

ONE CHANCE IF AUSTRIANS REPLY IS AS INDICATED

Note from Vienna Entirely Unsatisfactory and Unacceptable

BUT THERE'S HOPE
OF SETTLEMENT

Common Ground for Further Exchange
Said to Be Provided for in Note on Way—On Other Hand, Unofficial Reports Say Recall of U.S. Ministers is Likely

Washington, Dec. 16.—The United States will regard Austria-Hungary's reply to the American note regarding the Ancon case as being entirely unsatisfactory and unacceptable should the official text, which tonight was unanimously expected, be identical with the unofficial version received in press despatches from Amsterdam and London.

Persistence by Austria-Hungary in the course she apparently has determined to pursue would result in the severance of diplomatic relations between the United States and the Vienna government. This step would not be taken by the United States, however, it was authoritatively stated tonight, without one more communication being dispatched to Austria-Hungary being dispatched to Austria-Hungary.

The United States, it is described as being prepared to insist that Austria-Hungary promptly comply with the demands for disavowal, punishment of the submarine commander, and reparation by payment of indemnity for the Americans killed or injured in the destruction of the Italian liner, making it clear that failure will mean immediate break-off of relations.

A second note, it is said, would renew the original demands and without dealing in a discussion or exchange of views, would be of even a more insistent nature, as to the expectations of compliance without further delay.

The state department tonight had no official information from its own sources that Ambassador Penfield at Vienna had been handed the reply. From Baron Rich Ziwidetz, charge of the Austro-Hungarian embassy here, came the information that the reply had been delivered.

Vienna, Wednesday, Dec. 14, via London, Dec. 16.—The Austro-Hungarian government's reply to the American note on the Ancon case was transmitted at noon today to the American ambassador, Frederick C. Penfield.

The American note, as published in the Vienna morning papers, resulted in a high state of public indignation, and while the text of the Austrian reply has not been made public, it is understood that common ground is indicated on which the United States and Austria might come to an understanding.

Those who are conversant with the contents of the reply express the conviction that the American government cannot fail to realize the justice and moderation of the Austrian government's attitude, and they are confident that the reply is a fair and open-minded document, showing the imperial government's willingness to do whatever is right.

London, Dec. 16.—A message to the Exchange Telegraph Company from Amsterdam quotes a telegram received from Vienna saying the feeling there is that the United States will ask for the recall of the American embassy, as the Austrian note on the Ancon case is couched in such terms that such a step is considered unavoidable.

"It is said that the note was submitted to the German ambassador before its presentation to Ambassador Penfield," says the news agency despatch, "and that Dr. Dumba, the recalled ambassador to the United States, took a hand in drafting the document."

The message adds that in today's editorials in Vienna newspapers on the note extensive criticisms appear.

Vienna, Dec. 16, via courier to Berlin and via London, Dec. 17.—The foreign office informs the Associated Press that Alexander Nuber von Preeke, the Austro-Hungarian consul general at New York, has not yet been recalled. A representative of the press bureau said that no information had been received here as yet of a demand for his recall.

London, Dec. 17.—As in the case of the American note to Vienna, the London morning papers show little disposition to comment on the Ancon case. A majority of them carry no editorial on the subject, among the exceptions, however, is the Daily News, which considers that there can be but one issue, namely, a rupture of diplomatic relations.

The Daily News says:
"The extraordinary insistence of the (Continued on page 8.)"

BULGARIANS HALT AT GREEK FRONTIER

Allies Determined to Hold Saloniki and Are Threatened Only by German Armies

Greece Still on the Fence.
London, Dec. 16.—King Constantine, though slightly indisposed, received Premier Skoufopoulos yesterday in his bedroom, and conferred on the external situation, which, it is announced from official sources, is progressing normally.

The progress of negotiations between Greece and the Allies is regarded in military circles as quite satisfactory. At the same time the negotiations with the Central Powers, directed against the possibility of a Bulgarian incursion, are going on so well that the highest optimism prevails in authoritative circles, and the possibility that Bulgarians will cross the frontier is regarded as having been excluded.

Nothing More to Record.
Sofia, Dec. 16, via London.—The following official statement has been issued:

"The report of the general staff, which only be published hereafter if important operations occur."

Saloniki, Tuesday, Dec. 14, via Paris, Dec. 16.—"You make this as final: The Allies will not quit Saloniki until European peace is signed," said an officer of the Allies to The Associated Press correspondent today.

Outgoing ships are crowded with foreigners, particularly Germans and Austrians and the inhabitants of Saloniki are leaving the city in fear of a siege. The British consul is advising civilian British subjects, especially women, to take their departure.

Hundreds of Serbian refugees and Greeks living between Saloniki and the frontier on the contrary, are arriving hourly. The greatest misery exists among them. They are coming on foot because of the suspension of railway traffic between Saloniki and Gjevelj. A refugee camp is now well established at Volo, where the Allied naval base will be located.

Neutral Zone Along Border.
Sofia, Dec. 16, via London.—A neutral zone, extending two kilometers on each side of the frontier, has been agreed upon between Greece and Bulgaria, according to an official announcement made here today.

The official announcement says:
"Bulgarian armies, by the capture of Monastir and Resna, having approached the Greek frontiers, the Bulgarian government, wishing to avoid any possibility of accidents between advanced posts and Greek frontier guards, proposed to the Greek government that a neutral zone be formed by the retreat of the troops on each side two kilometers from the frontier."

"Greece replied, accepting, and the war minister ordered the Greek authorities to co-operate with Bulgarian officers for the formation of the neutral zone."

Serbian Disarmed by Mistake.
Paris, Dec. 16.—A despatch from Athens dated December 15, and received today by the Havas News Agency, says:
"Several groups of Serbian soldiers, after the retreat from Monastir, were disarmed by Greek troops that entered Serbia, and it is stated this was done through a misinterpretation of instructions given by the minister of war."

"After a complaint had been made by the ministers of the Entente Powers the Greek government ordered the arms returned to the Serbians, and gave instructions to the troops at the frontier to avoid a recurrence of the incident."

Some Time Before Battle.
Paris, Dec. 16.—The Havas correspondent at Athens quotes the Journal of Embros as saying that the British military authorities regard it as likely that military operations will be suspended for some time at the Greek frontier, the Germans not having sufficient forces to pursue the Entente Allied troops.

CHINESE MONARCHY
WILL AWAIT A
NEW CONSTITUTION

Peking, Dec. 16.—The Chinese foreign office has issued a semi-official statement concerning the latest representations of the Entente Powers, the statement declaring that Lu Cheng-Hsiang, the foreign minister, assured the Entente Powers ministers that "pronunciation of the monarchy could not be made, for the time being."

A mandate has been issued providing for the drafting of a new constitution, to include an agreement into the Ching dynasty had entered into to support Yuan Shi Kai, the newly chosen monarch.

Secretary of State Declares the Province Will Raise More Regiments Than Can Be Equipped.

Toronto, Dec. 16.—Hon. Pierre Blondin, secretary of state for Canada, speaking before the Empire Club today on Quebec and the war, aroused great enthusiasm by the statement that before winter was over Quebec would have more regiments than the militia department could equip.

"We may have lacked organization," he said, "but we did not lack patriotism. If any native province could be charged with indifference in this world conflict, where the life of the civilized world is at stake, I would say—and I am voicing the feelings of the French-Canadian people—I would say: Wipe it out of the map of the dominion; let its name be buried in oblivion, for the sake of our young children."

More Straws to Show the Way Wind Blows in Germany

More Regulations to Control Prices and Distribution of Foodstuffs

STOPPING PARCELS FROM AMERICA

British Navy Effective in Checking Unduly Large Mails from U.S.—Secretary of Treasury Praised for Plain Statement of Embarrassed Finances.

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British Navy Effective in Checking Unduly Large Mails from U.S.—Secretary of Treasury Praised for Plain Statement of Embarrassed Finances.

London, Dec. 17.—A sensation was caused in the Hungarian parliament on Dec. 7 by the speech of Count Karolyi, leader of the Independent party, demanding that the government should make peace proposals to the enemy powers, according to a letter received by the Morning Post from Budapest.

The speech was heavily censured in the Hungarian papers, and all despatches to foreign papers dealing with the speech were stopped by the censor.

The correspondents give extracts from the original report, according to which Count Karolyi argued that Hungary had achieved everything she wanted by the war, had saved the country from invasion and had preserved the monarchy until the end of the war.

"The correspondents give extracts from the original report, according to which Count Karolyi argued that Hungary had achieved everything she wanted by the war, had saved the country from invasion and had preserved the monarchy until the end of the war."

"Owing to the fact that it was the Hungarian army that had brought the war to its present stage," said Count Karolyi, "we have a perfect right to come forward with our claims for compensation."

He further asserted that the Hungarians had a right to ask that the political unity of the Hungarian nation should be recognized, that all the attributes of a national state should be given her, that economic independence should be granted, and that, above all, peace should be renewed. He contended that the Teuton allies had punished Serbia and had beaten all their enemies, and were, therefore, in a position to offer peace terms to their enemies.

"We have given proof enough of our political courage," he continued, "now we have to show our moral courage. The government has committed so many sins of error during the war and has used the censorship to such an extent to hide faults that we are justified in demanding that it now act in accordance with the wishes of the nation or resign."

Geneva, Switzerland, Dec. 16, via Paris.—Germany is reported to be attempting to raise a loan in Switzerland in order to relieve the exchange at the mark has fallen to a franc, the lowest figure since the beginning of the war, while exchange with Austria is fixed at 100 francs for 140 crowns.

London, Dec. 16.—"Considerable quantities of food are being sent to Germany by parcel post from America, and we are in communication with our ambassador at Washington on the subject," said Lord Robert Cecil, parliamentary under-secretary for foreign affairs informed the house of commons today in reply to certain questions.

The under-secretary declared that other steps had been taken to deal with the matter effectively. Asked if special instructions in this connection had been given to the British navy, Lord Robert said he was of the opinion that it would be better to refer the matter to instruction had been given to the navy.

More Food Regulations.
Berlin, via London, Dec. 16.—The budget committee of the Reichstag has adopted various resolutions looking to the regulation and cheapening of food supplies. These resolutions include a reduction in the maximum price of sugar and by products, the fixing of maximum prices for rice and vegetables of all kinds, as well as foodstuffs for livestock, and providing for special allowances of grain to breeders of animals and poultry. The budget committee also has adopted a resolution recommending the reduction of the age limit for old age pensions from 70 years to 65 years.

Another resolution increasing the war allowances of the families of soldiers and the pay of privates was referred for further action.

The committee also discussed a proposal to reduce the war salaries of the higher officers in order to secure funds for increasing the privates' pay. The Socialists finally offered a resolution demanding a thorough revision of all military salaries.

The war minister opposed such changes, as did also Dr. Hefferich, the secretary of the imperial treasury, who remarked that savings thus made would be insignificant.

Frankfurt Is Approved.
Berlin, Dec. 16, by wireless to Tuckerton.—Berlin newspapers express satisfaction.

(Continued on page 8.)