

The Russian government has established wireless stations to notify vessels when the entrances to the Kara Sea are free from ice.

The F-rays, which are said to be capable of igniting explosives at a distance, may put an end to war as it is now conducted and take us back to the days of hand to hand fighting. The stores of ammunition upon which our fleets and armies now depend would be useless if they could be exploded by an enemy long before the hostile fleets or armies came within range. It is not strange that forms of radiant energy which we can neither see nor feel should have remained so long unknown. The waves of wireless telegraphy are many miles in length; those of light only about one-fifty-thousandth part of an inch long. Between these there must be many rays capable of producing effects hitherto unrecognized; and it is not incredible that we may yet discover and use other forms of radiation, the waves of which we can neither see nor hear nor feel.

The world's greatest living poet is a Hindu named Tanore, to whom the Nobel prize for the best literature of the year has been awarded. Some of his works have been translated into English.

A hundred and forty thousand Asiatics in Natal demand the removal of race distinction in the new immigration act which prohibits migration from one province to another. The situation is very grave, and there is strong feeling in India that the Imperial Government should intervene. Such intervention would in itself be a serious matter, as in South Africa the question is held to be of purely local concern.

On the twenty-fourth of November Californians celebrated the two-hundredth anniversary of the birth of Serra, the Franciscan missionary who founded many of the old missions for which California is famous. He and his followers brought the Indians under control, and introduced the cultivation of the olive and the grape. The beautiful buildings which they erected are still the pride of that country, and have given rise to a style of architecture now widely adopted throughout southern California and the adjacent states.

An aerial cableway seventy-five miles long will be built in northern India, where conditions make a railroad impracticable.

The British and German governments have sent war ships to Mexican waters to protect their national interests. The government of Japan is also sending a ship, which is important as an indication that Japan claims the right to be consulted in international affairs.

The President of the United States has declared in his last message to Congress that there is no government in Mexico, the rule of General Huerta being only a military despotism with the collapse not far away. What will happen then perhaps he knows. Many think that the Mexicans themselves will be unable to restore order and set up a stable government, and that the United States, if called upon to do so, would find it a long and difficult task. Meanwhile it is reported that seven generals of the Mexican government forces have surrendered themselves to the rebels, and that the latter are practically in full control of all the northern part of Mexico.

The course of events in Mexico has found a remarkable parallel in the recent occurrences in China. The Chinese parliament has been suspended by presidential decree, and replaced by an administrative conference more ready to carry

out the wishes of their ruler. And, though there are no revolutionists at present in the field in China, a wide-spread plot to overthrow the government has been discovered.

THE MAGAZINES.

With such names in the list of contributors as Archibald Lampman, Wilfred Campbell, Pauline Johnson, J. D. Logan, Jean Blewett, Arnold Haultain, Isabel Ecclestone Mackay, Madge Macbeth, Virna Sheard, Robert Barr, and Mrs. Arthur Murphy, THE CANADIAN MAGAZINE for December is a noteworthy number. Because of the eminence and long silence of the author, the ballad, "The Settler's Tale," by Archibald Lampman, is given first place. It is a sad tale of a pioneer who first digs a grave in the wood to bury the wife who had borne a child, and then, after a few years, he has to dig a grave for the child. The simple pathos of this ballad is very touching. Although Lampman has been dead more than ten years, this ballad never before has appeared in print. The whole number is one of unusual interest, with beautiful reproductions of paintings by J. W. Morrice, John Russell, Archibald Browne, Laura Muntz, Lawren Harris, Gertrude Des Clayes, J. E. H. Macdonald, R. E. Johnston, and a silver medal photograph by M. O. Hammond.

The "Christmas Stocking" number of "St. Nicholas" is a foretaste of the holidays' treats. There are some charming illustrations by Arthur Rackham, other funny pictures and verses, the usual short stories, one of a little girl who fell asleep over "Through the Looking Glass" and met "Alice" in dreamland. "Miss Santa Claus of the Pullman" is finished, and there is an interesting sketch of the author, who is a great favourite with "St. Nicholas" readers.

TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS.

Statements of accounts will be sent out to our subscribers, as usual, in December and January. To the individual the amounts are small, but they are large in the aggregate, and prompt remittances will be appreciated.

It is especially important that those who are in arrears should send in their dues, in order that the old management may be closed, and the new arrangements fairly started.

The "Review" is sent to an address until ordered to be stopped. Naturally we wish to keep our subscribers as long as possible, but if they wish us to discontinue the paper, it may easily be done by sending a request to that effect.

We thank those of our readers who have already sent in their subscriptions for the current year. We appreciate their continued interest in the "Review", and trust that they will find it as useful in the future as it has been in the past.