

War News.

Messages Received Previous to 9 A.M.

PARLIAMENTARY DISCUSSION.

LONDON, Feb. 17. Britain has not refused to allow food to reach Poland, according to a statement made by Sir Edward Grey, British Foreign Secretary, in reply to a question in the Commons to-day. The Foreign Secretary added that the Entente Allied Governments had been approached with a request to permit food to be sent to Poland under neutral control, but that the Allies had replied they could not consider the question until various methods of speculation employed by the Central Powers, expired; otherwise, he said, it would be merely to supply food to the Germans.

Laurence Ginnel, Nationalist member of Parliament for the North District of West Heath, made the allegation that pressure had been used by the Entente Allies to dissuade the Belgian Government from accepting from Germany an offer to re-establish the integrity of Belgium, restore her independence and fully compensate for damages sustained. This brought a blunt answer from the Foreign Secretary, who said the statement made is entirely untrue. Sir Edward added he believed the statement of an offer being made to Belgium was also untrue.

The debate on the address in reply to the speech from the throne was continued by Basil Edward Peto, member for East Wiltshire, who moved his shipping amendment. He declared the present shortage of shipping was due to inept handling of the problem, the ships requisitioned not being economically used. He declared that consequently vast numbers had been taken than would have been necessary under the management he suggested. He asserted that gigantic profits were being made by shippers, which was also the outcome of mismanagement by the Government. Two-thirds of the British shipping had been requisitioned, but the remaining third had been allowed to proceed on ordinary lines to supply the demand, thus securing prices which were absolutely absurd, he insisted.

Arthur S. Benn, member for Plymouth, seconded the amendment. Balfour, First Lord of the Admiralty, replying, thought that shipowners could not complain of hardships, as rates were not only high, but posterously, dangerously high. He denied that Britain was acting selfishly regarding tonnage, or making money out of her allies, arguing that the country which was prepared to deprive its people of certain imported goods in the interests of an efficient working merchant service could not be accused of acting selfishly. Rematters might be improved by giving a commercial training to admirals and generals, but that was a matter of a life time. It was not through any action of the transport department that there was a shortage in tonnage, he declared, and whatever might be said about the policy of a temporary governmental appropriation of the whole shipping strength of the country's mercantile marine, he hoped nothing would be said in criticism of the navy in this connection.

GERMANY FEARS BREAK WITH UNITED STATES.

LONDON, Feb. 17. An Amsterdam despatch says that the manager of one of the greatest German shipping companies, in an interview in the Bremen "Tagblatt" expresses the most pessimistic opinion concerning the effects of a possible breach in relations between Germany and the United States. This shipper, who, the despatch says, is believed to be Albert Ballin, Director General of the Hamburg-American Steamship Company is quoted as follows: A breach of Germany's relations with America would have a most serious effect. All America's money and munitions would be at the disposal of the Entente Allies. We should have to take over the feeding of the Belgians, and America's attitude probably would induce other neutrals to attack us. All our ships would finally be interned in American ports. This would represent the taking away of enormous wealth from us. Our plight would be most difficult. When the war is over Germany will have to replenish her stocks of raw materials. Do not let us entertain any illusions with regard to England. She will continue commercial war for long after military operations are over. She will take away all our trade with South Africa and Australia, and it will take years for our passenger service to reach a condition anything like that which existed before the war.

CAPTURE OF ERZERUM CAUSES SLUMP IN GERMAN MARKET.

NEW YORK, Feb. 17. A despatch from London says that the capture of Erzerum by the Russians has caused a record breaking slump in prices on the German market, according to despatches from Amsterdam to-day.

Cork mats are expensive things to buy, but it is quite a simple process to make one yourself. Save all the corks you can get hold of from bottles and so forth, and when you have a sufficient number buy a piece of fine wire netting the size of the mat required. The corks have got to be fitted into all the holes of the netting, so they must all be the same depth, so it may be necessary to cut them. Use a sharp penknife; do not make them too small, as each should fit the space fairly tightly. When every hole is filled the edges of the mat should have a binding of leather tacked on; brass-headed nails would answer best, one being put in to about every sixth cork.

PRUDENT Make February Month Deciding Time for SHOPPERS Purchasing All Kinds of Summer Wear!

Crowds visit BAIRD'S, and for very excellent reasons. First of all, it is generally admitted that they undersell on all kinds of Merchandise needed by the great majority, and secondly, that quality is assured and values beyond compare every Friday, SATURDAY, Monday.



LOTS OF PRETTY Wash Goods.

Now's the Time to Decide!

INDIA "CRINKLE" CLOTH.

A new material, not unlike Seersucker, 27 ins. wide; used extensively for making up summer frocks; ideal for children's wear, being strong and washing perfectly; mostly stripe effects in Blue and White, Pink and White, Heli and White, Fawn and White, Black and White, etc. Per yard Mid-Winter Sale

14c

"DECHINE."

Another Pretty Wash Fabric.

27 inches wide, grounds of Navy, Sage, Tango, Fawn, Purple and White, showing tiny floral designs; a material you'll like for Summer Dresses. Special, per yard, Mid-Winter Sale Price

14c

New Galateas.

The ever popular and hard to beat for wear material, in a lot of new stripes and spots, also plain linen shade, 28 inches wide; a dress of this material will give you satisfying wear. Reg. 15c. per yard. Mid-Winter Sale Price

16c

CURTAIN SCRIMS.

These are fast becoming more popular than ever for summer curtains and light drapes, 36 inches wide, White and Cream grounds, with pretty art borders, good washing materials. Special Mid-Winter Sale Price, per yard.

Ginghams for Everyday Use.

Wash Ginghams in great profusion, large and small checks, in Pink, Blue, Grey, Black and Heli, etc., on White ground; Ginghams good value for 10c. per yard. Mid-Winter Sale Price

14c

Lace Crepe Cloths.

10 pieces of this, a new material for dainty summer dresses; all white grounds with openwork stripes and pretty floral spray in assorted colors; we have other fabrics but selected this knowing that it will please. Special for this Mid-Winter Sale

12c

SHEPHERD'S CHECK.

3 pieces of pretty Black and White Check in slight union finish, suitable for Winter Blouses, Children's Dresses and such like, new goods. Special Mid-Winter Sale Price, per yard.

24c

BOYS' TOP SHIRTS.

The Junior Shirt in all over Negligee, finished like father's, soft fronts and cuffs, sizes from 12 1/2 to 14; a sensible shirt for boys, no laundering necessary. Reg. 45c. Price

Mid-Winter Sale 39c

KHAKI SHIRTS.

These are particularly good, made from strong Drill, 2 pockets in each, pearl buttons, ample sizes. Regular 70c. Special for Mid-Winter Sale

60c

High Grade HOSIERY.

Fast black Cashmere in plain and assorted ribs, these offer you the very best value procurable, being purchased before the big advance in prices at Home. Regular values up to 75 cents. Mid-Winter Sale

65c

LADIES' HOSE.

Fast Black, plain finish, fleece lined; a desirable weight in low priced Hosiery for winter wear; others in assorted ribbed Cashmere. Today's 25c. values. Mid-Winter Sale Price

21c

LADIES' HOSE.

30 doz. of Fast Black Seamless Hosiery, plain finish, finely fleeced, and others in Ribbed Cashmere, two weights you'll like. Reg. 40c. value. Mid-Winter Sale Price

31c

Stirring Prices on Wanted Lines in the SHOW ROOM



CHILDREN'S SLEEPING SUITS.

The ideal sleeping garment, one-piece, fine Jersey ribbed, well fleeced, fitted with feet, snug fitting at neck, assorted sizes. Reg. 55c. Regular

Mid-Winter Sale Price

49c

LOTS OF PRETTY NECKWEAR.

Cases of fancy Collars all the leading shapes, new style knit with high frilled collar, others in turn-down in White Muslin and Embroidered, dainty Concha Silk and Crepe-de-Chene, etc. Regular 25c. values. Mid-Winter Sale Price

29c

EXQUISITE SHOWING of SUMMER DRESSES.

Yes, just dear Little Dresses that will surely gladden your heart and quicken your impulse to possess. White Muslin Dresses, striped fancy, White Embroidered Voiles and Net Dresses, the latest New York styles. Prices vary from

\$2.00 to \$7.00

COME EARLY.

KNITTED SCARFS.

Stylish shades of Purple, Navy, Grey, Brown, V Rose, etc., other pretty effects in broad stripes, nice colour blends, long scarfs with silk fringed ends. Regular \$2.20. Mid-Winter Sale

\$1.95

Brassieres

A Job Line, embroidery trimmed and lace edging at neck, boned throughout; sizes from 36 to 44. Mid-Winter Sale Price

20c

Underwear.

Another splendid line of Ladies' White Underwear, fine Jersey ribbed, Vests with high-neck and long sleeves, Pants ankle length, open and closed. Reg. 45c. per garment. Mid-Winter Sale Price

39c

LADIES' BOUR CAPS—JOB E.

Fascinating make Crepe and fancy Muslin, prettily trimmed with fine ind net, elastic gathered; washable without one or two of this special price. Mid-Winter Sale Price

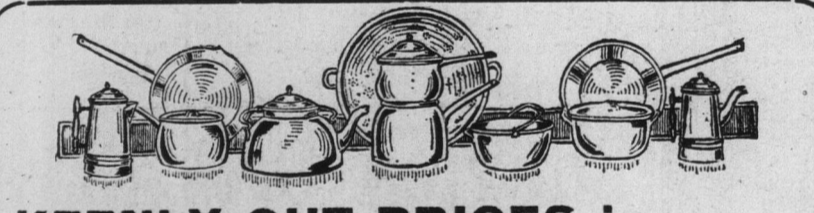
15c

Job Line of BLOUSES

A case lot of smart American Blouses, Plain White Muslin, Fancy Striped Muslin, others in pretty Spot Muslins. This is an opportunity to pick up a few Summer Blouses at a saving price; full sizes. Be on hand early for these. Values to \$1.00. Mid-Winter Sale Price

5c

Seasonable Lines Underpriced Here!



KEENLY CUT PRICES in New Enamelware & Tinware

Grey Enamelware.

Saucepans, 3 quart

Tinware.

Tin Buckets, per pair

Children's Robes.

IN STOCKINGETTE WEIGHT. For the children, they come in Pink and Sky with nursery figures in White on each; cord at neck and waist, tassels ends, cuff sleeves, some with hood; to fit from 1 to 3 years. Values to \$1.30. Mid-Winter Sale Price

95c

Men's and Boys' Underwear.

BOYS. Oddments in Vests and Pants, all wool, unshrinkable; the best quality you can buy for general wear. Values from \$1.00 to \$1.30. Mid-Winter Sale Price, 89c any garment

MEN'S. In light Grey, unshrinkable, a weight suitable for winter wear, heavy rib finish; sizes 36 to 44. Vests and Pants, Special Mid-Winter Sale Price, 85c

Ladies' Amer. Serge Dresses.

Just 20 of these handsome Little Dresses, in shades of Navy and Brown; becoming shades, too; dark plaid trimmings, facings and buttons, net yoke, overskirt. Smart little house Dresses a pleasure to own. Value for \$5.00. Mid-Winter Sale Price, \$2.75

Fronting Linens.

A few pieces of these left over from last year. You can buy them now at the old price reduced; 36 inches wide, extra fine quality, pure White. Mid-Winter Sale Price

Reg. 50c. for

Infants' Boots.

Small as they are they need Boots, particularly soft sole Boots like this lot. We offer plain colors of Crim-son, Black and White and others in Pink and White and Blue and Black; sizes 1 to 4. Special Mid-Winter Sale Price

37c

NOT BEFORE NEEDED

'Woolnap' Blankets.

50 pairs only, the Blanket that is to-day filling place of the all wool blanket; gives as much warmth, as in satisfaction in wear, and costs considerably less. Buy a now, the present cold spurt demands it. These have a finish like any other make; Blue or Pink Striped Borders, silk tied ends; size 64 x 76. Special for Mid-Winter Sale, \$2.29 pair

\$2.29 pair

Boys' Jersey Overshs.

These come in real heavy quality Jersey, heavily fleeced, turned down collar, shades of Navy and Brown. A desirable Skirt for cold weather wear; assorted sizes. 40c. value. Mid-Winter Sale Price

12c

