

## PARKS RE LIABLE TO SIZURE

It sent by mail and containing goods which it is forbidden to send to enemy countries.

London, Dec. 31.—Ailing to of the Associated Press the British government takes the stand that parcels sent by mail, no matter what the contents, are paid on them, and are liable to seizure if they contain goods which, under the orders-in-council, may not be shipped to or from Germany or her allies.

First class, actual postal correspondence, according to this statement, is inviolable on this subject. The British municipal authorities are on ships which carry call British ports.

## SOLDIERS' COMFORTS ASSOCIATION MAKE SPECIAL DEAL

Owing to the urgent constant appeals from our Overseas contingents now in the trenches, the above association has decided to hold a "Special Sock Sale" commencing January 3rd, 1916. It is hoped that every town and village throughout the Province will make a special effort to assist in raising socks or money to buy them. Our hearts are so much in sympathy with those who have gone to war on behalf of this country that a worthy and fitting way to aid the New Year. Please do your best, as by this special effort you will be able to have enough to provide a pair of socks to every one of the 100,000 men in the trenches.

Please address all parcels to: Soldiers' Comforts Association, C. P. R. Building, Corner Gorman and St. John, St. John, N. B.

**KNISER UNLOADS CARGO OF IRON POLISH SOLDIERS**

Several officers and men decorated by Emperor with Iron Cross for their bravery.

Berlin, Dec. 31.—(By wireless cable)—Emperor William has ordered the Iron Cross on a large number of officers and soldiers of the Polish Volunteers. General Kniser, commander of the Legion, issued an order of the day, in which he says the emperor's action is a recognition of the bravery of the volunteers.

The traditional fame of the warriors is the heirloom of our race. We shall carry our courage gloriously for the pride and glory of the Polish fatherland.

**In Tropical Countries Liver Chill Very Common**

In Northern latitudes also the liver is a very unruly organ and requires careful watching. The concentrated vegetable juice in Dr. Hamilton's Pills act directly upon the liver to stimulate its action to a normal basis. The blood is purified, the skin grows clear, headaches disappear and robust health is firmly established. No medicine for the stomach, liver or kidneys can compare with Dr. Hamilton's Pills. 25c. box at all dealers.

**HANDSOME CONTRIBUTION TO PATRIOTIC FUND**

The Canadian Patriotic Fund has just secured a very handsome New Year's gift of five thousand dollars from the Paint and White Lead manufacturing firm of Brampton-Henderson, Ltd.

A division of this contribution was made among the different branches of the organization as follows: Montreal, \$1,000; Halifax, \$1,000; St. John, \$1,000; Toronto, \$1,000; Winnipeg, \$1,000. This is the second contribution which has been made by Brampton-Henderson, Ltd., since the Patriotic Fund was started at the beginning of the war.

Robert Chestnut of Moncton spending the holidays at his home in King street east.

## EIGHT DIE IN EXPLOSION, SEVERAL HURT

Naptha tank at American Linseed Company's Plant blows up.

Chicago, Dec. 31.—Explosion of a naptha tank at the plant of the American Linseed Company in South Chicago today brought death and injury to a number of employees, jeopardized the lives of men and caused a fire which threatened the destruction of the plant of the company.

Two hours after the explosion the coroner was told by the police at the scene that eight men had been killed and as many more injured. Earlier reports placed the dead at from fifteen to twenty.

The inflammable nature of the products manufactured there made the blaze difficult to fight and time after time the firemen were forced from their stations by dense clouds of smoke.

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## BERNSTORFF CONFERS WITH SEC. LANING

Discussed Lusitania controversy — Westminster Gazette calls Austrian note cold blooded excuse for Commander's conduct

Washington, Dec. 31.—Count Bernstorff, the German ambassador, called at the State Department today and conferred with Secretary Lansing nearly half an hour. The ambassador said he believed the news summary of the note, saying Austria had punished the commander of the submarine which sank the Ancona, and that the Vienna government has offered indemnity for the loss of life and injury of American citizens, was correct. He declined to comment upon his visit.

Later, it was learned the German view is that Austria-Hungary had granted complete concessions to the American demands.

Secretary Lansing let it be known that he and the German ambassador had discussed the Lusitania controversy, but it was not indicated what had been the result. There have been assurances lately that the ambassador would be authorized by his government to present, at the beginning of the New Year, proposals of settlement which would be accepted by the United States.

London Press Comment.

London, Dec. 31.—The Austrian reply to the American note appears in this afternoon's newspapers under the heading: "Austria Gives Way," or similar words. The passages concerning punishment of the commander of the submarine who sank the Ancona, and the indemnification of Americans, are featured in the headlines, some of which characterize Austrian statements in regard to the conduct of the Ancona's crew as "impudent." The early afternoon editions contain no editorial comment, with the exception of the Westminster Gazette, which in an editorial appealing for national unity with regard to compulsory military service, utilizes the Austrian note as a reminder of the things it says the Allies are fighting for, which it characterizes as "real and grim." The Gazette speaks of the Austrian note as "a cold-blooded narrative, apparently assumed to be in palliation of the Austrian submarine commander's conduct."

**MISSIONARIES SAFE**

Peking, China, Dec. 31.—Chinese troops have reached the missionaries at the Scandinavian Alliance Mission at Palschong, Mongolia. Recent advice was that the mission had been surrounded by bandits.

**Business Better Than Usual.**

A telegram received from the Great West Life Assurance Co., head office, Winnipeg, states that their excellent Canadian Co. has just finished a banner year business.

**Dr. Pratt, Medical Officer for St. John**

Dr. Bishop and Curran appointed Special Medical Officers for Recruiting Purposes.

At the meeting of the recruiting committee yesterday Capt. Tilley reported that Dr. C. M. Pratt had been appointed as medical officer for St. John.

Dr. Bishop and Dr. Curran had been appointed as special medical officers for recruiting purposes in St. John.

The citizens' recruiting committee was asked to turn out in as large a number as possible in the parade to be held on Monday, at Memorial Park, St. John.

Mrs. Mary Coffey.

Mrs. Mary Coffey passed away on the morning of Christmas day, at the home of George Tait, in the West End.

The deceased who was in her 70th year of age, was preceded by her husband, the late John Coffey, 19 years ago. She was a very high regard by all who knew her and is survived by one son, George Coffey, of St. John, and one daughter, Mrs. Josephine Coffey, of St. John.

The late Mrs. Coffey was survived by four grandchildren, three great grandchildren. Interment took place on Monday, at Memorial Park, St. John.

The ceremony was conducted by Rev. W. G. Lane, of the Methodist church at St. John. The bride was a beautiful young woman, and the groom was a well-known man in the community.

The happy pair will be on their return to St. John.

**Exact Copy of Wrapper.**

**CASTORIA**

**For Infants and Children.**

The Kind You Have Always Bought Bears the Signature of

**CASTORIA**

**900 DROPS**

**CASTORIA**

**For Infants and Children.**

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## Some Silhouettes and Lantern Slides of War

As British Press Correspondent with the French armies, Mr. H. Warner Allen, presents some interesting silhouettes on the life of the soldiers on the 700 mile front between the Yser at Newport and the Rhine at Basle.

10,000 Miles of Trenches.

In the section of the French lines that I have just been visiting there are already on a front of just over ten miles, over 200 miles of trenches. Another 40 miles of trenches are being dug, so that by the end of the year there will be in that neighborhood 280 miles of trenches on ten miles of front.

Elsewhere one division has 250 miles of trenches to look after; one corps d'armees has 450 miles. If one estimates that there are twenty miles of trenches to every mile of front, then between Switzerland and the North Sea the British and French armies have at least ten thousand miles of trenches to guard.

**Chloroform: Cards in a Cave.**

The troops in one part of the world are particularly favored; in many cases they have quarries to shelter in—quarries cut in the solid rock, extending for hundreds of square yards beneath the surface and proof against the heaviest projectile.

Returned from the trenches, seated or squatted under them, flickering lamps, which mark like glow-worm rays the outlines of the cavern walls and pillars, the men will perhaps play cards. One catches glimpses of bearded men, smoking hard, with their faces bent intently upon their game; the play of light and shadow on their staid uniforms and their unsteady attitudes making a true Rembrandt picture.

The catacombs of old must have looked like these French quarries; and to make the illusion complete one came across a chapel, with an altar and its cross hewn in the solid rock.

**Cook Unklicked.**

The general was kind enough to guide me. As we went down towards the enemy, he had a word or two for every man we passed, from the non-com in charge of a section to the rawest recruit from Brittany or Savoy.

"Is the soup good?" asked the General of one at his morning meal.

"That's all right!" said the General; "then I suppose I shall not find you kicking the cook again today!"

**An Extra Course at Lunch.**

We reached a spot where, the word round that there must be no talking. We were near to the Germans.

"Now," said the General, "we will sit up the Germans a little. It is lunch time; they will be annoyed."

We went to a shelter which protected a new and simple appliance for throwing high explosives. A shell filled with a very comfortable quantity of melinite went out, and when it had reached its mark, there came a big explosion. It was followed by a second shell.

"That will do," said the General; "we have stirred them up now. They will be puzzled, for two isolated bombs are uncommon. In three minutes we shall get their reply."

We started back towards the rear, but before we had gone fifty yards there was a tremendous report. A mine-thrower was exploding to the French that the Germans were much annoyed at having their lunch interrupted.

**Collapsible Devonshire Lanes.**

At one point along the lines the quarries yield a soft grey stone that is very easy to work. Here last summer they built miles of trench walls of large slabs of this stone. "Thus," said they, "at last we have found a way to prevent the continual crumbling of the parapets." Then it rained and rained and rained. The rain penetrated and weighed the earth till its lateral thrust pushed the two walls together and almost closed the trench. Now the men are pulling down the grey stone walls they built and reconstructing them in a different way, so that the thrust of the soil, such work might seem dispiriting, but every man engaged upon it is cheerful. Especially since they have learned that the German trenches over against them are far worse and more crumbling than their own—in fact, suffering from landslides.

**Rats!**

In the quarry quarters they have no rats. Elsewhere rats are the plague of the soldier's life. They swarm everywhere, and have multiplied immensely since the beginning of the war.

"I am going to send you a valuable reinforcement," said a staff major to a colonel at a farm where we had been resting—"four terriers to catch your rats."

"I shall be very thankful to have them," said the colonel, "but they will not be nearly enough. What I want is rat poison, and lots of it!" The rats have actually taken to attacking my men! They are enormous great beasts, and I suppose they are starving. When they are chased down the trenches they often turn and bite."

**Coppers Gone a Begging.**

One night an unhappy paymaster, full of zeal, set out with the pay for a regiment in the front trenches. He was anxious that the men should have their sous punctually to the day, even though they were posted in a place where, to put it mildly, money has not its customary value. Accompanied by his clerk he started off at 7 in the evening. He thought that he knew the trenches, but somewhere he took a wrong turning. He blundered on through the night, and was passed on from one section to another. In vain. He returned to his quarters in the rear at 4 in the morning, both himself and his clerk utterly worn out. And he still has the men's sous with him.

**Sheep-Shaped Sharpshooters.**

We met a man, a Breton, who was muffled up with coats and a heavy sheepskin until he looked more like a bundle than a man. It was a very warm day, but raining.

"What on earth are you wearing all these clothes for?" said the General. "What will you do when it is really cold?"

The man looked rather confused, and replied, "Well, mon general, as they served out all these fine warm things, I thought it was a pity not to wear them—and you will see I shall bear the cold as anyone else!"

"That is always the way with these Bretons!" said the General, laughing. "They always fancy it is cold, and put on every bit of covering they can find. Yet last year some of them refused their sheepskins because they were not smart."

## "SALADA"

The Cleanest & Best Tea Sold  
Sealed Packets Only. - Never Sold in Bulk.

The sheepskin is certainly not smart. It still preserves the shape of the animal. There is a hole for the head, and it is tied round the waist with a piece of string, the fleece, of course, being worn inside.

"This year," the General went on, "they are not worrying about smartness."

Vienna Denies.  
Vienna, via London, Dec. 31.—The following semi-official statement was issued today:

The Austrian government denies the story printed in England from Italy that two American bankers had been tried and executed in Gorizia as spies and their entire property confiscated. Inquiry at the south-

western army headquarters brought the answer that nothing whatever was known of the incident.

So far as is known, the story referred to in the above denial has not been printed in the United States.

**\$165,000 FIRE IN HAMPSHIRE, N. Y.**  
Hempstead, N. Y., Dec. 31.—Fire which swept part of block here today caused damage estimated at \$165,000. Five stores were burned down.

**TORONTO BANK CLEARINGS.**  
Toronto, Dec. 31.—Bank clearings for Dec. 1915, \$302,121,048; Dec. 1914, \$154,252,756. Clearings for 1915, \$1,885,556,287; for 1914, \$201,555,665; for 1913, \$2,181,281,507, and \$2,170,230,376 in 1912.

**ROYALTY OF GREECE AIDING THE POOR**



## Its a Treat

To chew King George Navy Plug.

Made from pure, rich tobacco, every ounce of which is carefully selected, then blended according to our process.

**King George's**

**NAVY PLUG**

Has a delicious, non-irritating sweet taste—and it is universally recognized that sweetened tobacco is much more healthful than the old fashion "strong", unsweetened plug.

It leaves a long, lingering flavor and guards the teeth from the ravages of "acid mouth", the cause of nearly all tooth decay.

**"Made in Canada by Expert Canadian Workmen"**

**10c A Plug Everywhere**  
**ROCK CITY TOBACCO CO., LIMITED**