



## Quality

is ever the first consideration of the Tea noted for its delicious flavour and exquisite aroma,

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## War News.

### Messages Received Previous to 9 A. M.

#### PARLIAMENT PROROGUED—THE KING'S SPEECH.

LONDON, Dec. 22. Parliament has been prorogued. The text of the King's Speech follows: "My Lords and Gentlemen,—Throughout the months that have elapsed since I last addressed you, the Navy and Army in conjunction with those of our gallant and faithful Allies, have, by their unceasing vigilance and indomitable valor, justified the high trust I placed in them. I am confident that however long the struggle, their efforts, supported by the inflexible determination of all my subjects throughout the Empire, will finally achieve a victorious consummation of those aims for which I entered into war. My Government has been reconstructed with the sole object of furthering those aims, unaltered and unimpaired. I thank you for the unstinted liberality with which you continue to provide for the burdens of the war. The vigorous prosecution of the war must be our single endeavour until we have vindicated the rights so ruthlessly violated by our enemies and established the security of Europe on a sure foundation. In this sacred cause I am assured of the united support of all my peoples. I pray that Almighty God may give us His blessing."

King George was not present in person at the prorogation, which was effected by the Lord High Chancellor in the Lords and by the Speaker in the Commons reading the King's Speech. Assent also was given by a Royal Commission to a number of Acts of Parliament. Parliament was prorogued until Feb. 7.

#### PRaises U.S.A.

LONDON, Dec. 22. Noel B. Burton, Liberal member for North Norfolk, expressed in the Commons the hope that the Government will welcome the aid of America in negotiating terms of peace. Burton paid a tribute to the generosity of the United States towards Belgium and to the help it had given the Entente in the war, and said: "There are thirty thousand Americans fighting for us. America is with us in the war because of the invasion of Belgium and the German campaign of frightfulness."

#### ACTIVITY ON THE WEST FRONT.

LONDON, Dec. 22. An official communication on the campaign in France given out by the war office at midnight reads: "Last night a strong hostile raiding party approached our lines opposite Lens. Only a few of the enemy succeeded in

reaching our trenches; they were promptly ejected, and the enemy was repulsed. Our casualties were very slight. Southwest of Arras, a party of our troops successfully entered the enemy's trenches. We took over fifty prisoners in the course of the raid. To-day artillery activity continued especially marked along our front between the Somme and the Ancre and in the neighborhood of Ypres. The improvement in the weather yesterday led to considerable aerial activity. In the course of our raids a box of explosives were dropped on points of military importance behind the enemy's lines. Much fighting occurred in the air. One enemy machine was destroyed and six others were driven down damaged; four of our machines are missing."

#### WILSON'S NOTE CRITICIZED.

LONDON, Dec. 22. In its comments on President Wilson's note the Pall Mall Gazette sharply criticizes the President for reviving terms once familiar to American politics. It says he assumes the attitude of know-nothing. He does not realize he makes the blood of every honorable man of Europe boil when he proposes his inability to distinguish between the objects of the two sides. The President is as unlucky as he is high-minded. His zeal for humanity has evoked a step that will create the bitterest resentment among all who are fighting, working and dying for the very principles he has at heart. The Evening News says: The answer to President Wilson's note is in the negative. After a review of the note this newspaper says, we confess we have some difficulty in following President Wilson when he speaks of all belligerents fighting to defend the smaller people against aggression. We are fighting the cause of Belgium and Serbia, victims of the Hun. For whose rights is Germany fighting other than her own? President Wilson's views of this point are so amazing that most people will find it difficult to regard them with patience. The Evening Standard says: Any communication from the head of a great friendly power is assured of a courteous respect and full consideration. But it would be only misleading to the President to leave him under the impression that any move on his part toward peace at this stage of the war would be welcomed by Britain or her Allies. It is singular indeed that a statesman of Wilson's perspicacity can labour under any such illusion. The whole facts of the situation should warn him that his intervention is not desired.

#### REPLY DELAYED.

LONDON, Dec. 22. In official and diplomatic circles in London it was generally predicted to-day that President Wilson's note to the belligerents would be met by an identical reply from the Entente powers. This method of answering the note will differ from the reply to be made by the Entente nations to the German peace note, which it is understood that while agreeing to principles, each member of the Entente will be free to express any individual views which they may feel desirable to utter. For the foregoing reason it is hardly likely there will be an early reply to President Wilson's note as it is expected full consultations between the diplomats of the Entente countries will take place before a formal reply is made. The attitude of both Russia and Italy with regard to the German peace note was received in official circles with the utmost pleasure, especially Italy

as expressed in a speech by the Italian Foreign Minister Baron Sonnino. While declining to make any official statement it is readily apparent that the British foreign office feels the solidarity of the Entente never was stronger than it is to-day.

#### BERLIN DELIGHTED OVER WILSON'S ATTITUDE.

BERLIN, Dec. 22. The announcement of President Wilson's peace endeavour received through the Associated Press was accorded a tremendous welcome in Berlin. The impression in official and newspaper circles appeared in noon editions under large display headlines as the all important news of the Christmas season reviving interest in German peace overtures which had sunk to low points under the influence of the preliminary declarations of statesmen of the Entente Powers.

#### GARDNER'S UTTERANCE.

CINCINNATI, Ohio, Dec. 22. "I hope to God that no act of this nation, born out of autocracy, will help to throttle democracy and civilization." These words were uttered by Representative Gardner, of Massachusetts, while discussing President Wilson's peace note to the European belligerents at a dinner in Cincinnati of the New England Society here last night.

#### KILLED AT BEAUMONT-HAMEL.

LONDON, Dec. 22. Baron Hubert De Reuter, only son of the late head of Reuter's Telegram Co., Ltd., was killed at Beaumont-Hamel on the Somme front, Nov. 13.

#### NO SUCH THING AS MISGUIDED EXPOSITION.

LONDON, Dec. 22. "There should be no such thing as misguiding expression of opinion with regard to the war," said Sir Joseph Ward, Finance Minister of New Zealand, speaking in London to-day. "We should not allow any suggestion emanating from a great outside country, any suggestion that we should knock down before this war is over."

#### RESOLUTION TO ENDORSE PEACE NOTE.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22. A resolution to have the House endorse President Wilson's peace note, was introduced to-day by Representative Bailey of Pennsylvania. Senator Hitchcock made a futile effort to get a consideration of a similar resolution in the Senate. He introduced the resolution similar to that referred to yesterday in the Foreign Relations Committee, but Senator Gallinger, the Republican leader, blocked its immediate consideration by asking it to go over for a day under rule. Senator Hitchcock then announced he would seek action on the resolution immediately after the holidays' adjournment.

#### BULGARIANS DEFEATED.

PETROGRAD, Dec. 22. A Russian regiment drove a force of Bulgarians into Lake Ibolata, and a great many Bulgarians were drowned, while 115 others were made prisoners.

#### LONDON PAPERS ON WILSON'S NOTE.

LONDON, Dec. 22. President Wilson's note is prominently displayed in the morning papers under headlines such as "President Wilson's Strange Peace Essay," "President Wilson's Peace Feeler," "Amazing Note," which indicate in a slight measure the astonishment caused by the communication. Much speculation is indulged in as to the motives or cause which inspired the President to send such a note after his assumption of the attitude that he would not mediate unless invited by both groups of belligerents. One section of the press, utterly rejecting any idea of the possibility of peace negotiations as an outcome of the recent German note, flatly attributes the President's action to the success of the propaganda conducted by Count Von Bernstorff in America and what they describe as the inactivity of the late British Government. The more general impression is that the agitation in America for an embargo on food exports had much to do with Wilson's action. It is also suggested that the President may have received special information from the German Government and is aware of the extent to which Germany is prepared to go toward reparation, restitution and guarantees. This is the view expressed by the Daily Chronicle. Some discussion is also devoted to chances of Congress passing food export measures and possibly an embargo on cotton and other materials.

#### RUSSIAN TROOPS RETIRE.

PETROGRAD, Dec. 22. Per Wireless Press.—The Russian troops in the northern part of the Roumanian province of Dobruja, having been attacked yesterday along a whole front by superior numerical Teuton forces, says the Russian official statement issued to-day, have

begun a further retirement northwards.

#### RETREAT OF TURKS.

LONDON, Dec. 22. The text of the British official statement on the announcing of the capture of El Arish says: Yesterday the Egyptian town of El Arish which was occupied by our troops after being for two years in the hands of the enemy from the fact that the enemy had constructed a very strong entrenched position, covering El Arish and that the large amount of work which recently had been carried out there made it appear as if the enemy had every intention of offering a stubborn resistance. They abandoned the position on Tuesday night and retreated east and southeast. It is a serious blow to the Turks from a moral and military point of view.

#### CONDITIONS IN AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

ROME, Dec. 22. Alarming news about the scarcity of food in Austria-Hungary, practically amounting to famine, has reached the Vatican from diplomatic sources. This news greatly concerns the Pope, who fears the reign of the new Emperor Charles, begun under such unfavorable auspices, will end disastrously. Internal conditions in Austria are said to be very serious. The antagonism between Hungary and Austria is said to be acute, political complications are threatened and the anti-war agitation is now widespread and cannot be repressed by the authorities.

#### GREETINGS.

TOOTON'S Kodak Store wishes its customers and friends a Very Bright and Happy Xmas. dec23.11

### Transatlantic Flight Planned by Norwegian.

Kjell Nyegaard, a Norwegian naval lieutenant, and Hugo Sundstedt, a Swedish naval captain, will sail to New York soon to prepare for a transatlantic aeroplane flight, according to the Aerial Age Weekly. They will carry as passenger Lieutenant Nyegaard's wife. The Norwegian aviator expects to purchase a Curtiss machine of larger type than that built for Rodman Wanamaker. He intends it to be a triplane of 131 feet wing spread, equipped with six motors of 160 horsepower each, capable of lifting 5,000 kilograms (55 tons), carrying six persons, with a fuselage constructed like a motor boat, with a water propeller, so if forced to alight on the ocean they can chop away the planes, proceeding as a motor boat. It is understood that the start is to be made from Newfoundland in April or May, when favorable winds prevail, and reach Ireland in 20 hours, continuing to London without stopping, if all is well. The performance would win the Paris-Martin and London Daily Mail prizes of \$50,000 each, besides other cash awards.—Scientific American.

## T. J. Edens

By Rail to-day, Dec. 19, '16:  
XMAS TURKEYS,  
DUCKS,  
CHICKEN,  
GEESSE,  
Selected Dressed P. E. I. stock.  
Don't miss it.

### FRUIT, Etc.

ORANGES—Cal. Flor., Valencia  
TANGERINES.  
APPLES—Selected Table.  
LEMONS—California.  
GRAPE FRUIT.  
PEARS.  
GRAPES—Blue and Green.  
TOMATOES.  
OYSTERS.  
PINK HADDIES.  
KIPPERS.  
Wallace & Co's.  
"MOST EXCELLENT"  
CHOCOLATES,  
½ lb., 1 lb. and 2 lb. boxes.  
MOORE'S CHOCOLATES AND  
CAKES.

Salted Almonds.  
Strawberries & Raspberries,  
Preserved, in bbls.  
Sulfur Raisins, 1 lb. cartons.  
Fruit Syrup, 15c. & 30c. bottle.  
Figs, Washed and Stuffed, bbls.  
Poultry Dressing.

### HAVANA CIGARS

ROCK & CO. HY. CLAY,  
CABANAS, BUCKTROUTS,  
BORNEO CIGARS.

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Duckworth Street and  
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## Largest Stock of Xmas Goods

IN NEWFOUNDLAND.

The Christmas dinner is the event of the season and our stock of good things will help to make it a complete success.  
Turkeys, Geese, Ducks, Chicken, Sausages, Ox Tongue.  
Cal. Oranges, Grape Fruit, Pears, Apples, Bananas, Grapes, Lemons.  
Walnuts, Brazil Nuts, Hazel Nuts, Peanuts, Chestnuts.  
Figs, Dates, Crystallized Fruits, Table Raisins, Sultanias, Currants.  
Cherries in Marasquin, Figs in Marasquin, Cherries in Creme de Menthe.  
Non-Alcoholic Wines—Sherry, Port, Black Currant, Ginger, etc.  
McVitt & Price's Biscuits, Carr's, Huntley & Palmer's, Jacobs'.  
Christmas Bon-Bons and Stockings in great variety.  
Lovell & Covell's Chocolates and Caramels, ½, 1's, 2's, 3's, 4's and 5 lb boxes.  
These Chocolates are absolutely the best in town; a splendid assortment.  
Westminster Cigarettes, Turkish and Virginias, 10's, 25's, 50's and 100's.  
Jamaica Cigars (Narima), pronounced by cigar smokers to be the best Jamaica Cigar imported, 25 and 50 in each box.

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GROCERY DEPARTMENT.

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Packed & Shipped.  
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### TRAPNELL'S

Suggestions for Christmas.

Wrist Watches	Lorgnette Chains
Bracelet Watches	Neck Chains
Watch Chains	Charms
Watch Charms	Waldemar Chains
Gen Rings	Walking Sticks
Signet Rings	Footstall Pens
Pendants	Clear Boxes
Chains	Shaving Glasses
Cuff Links	Photo Frames
Tie Pins	Cigarette Cases
Lingerie Pins	Purses
Hatpins	Manicure Pieces
Earrings	Hand Mirrors
Bracelets	Hair Brushes
Buttons	Toilet Pieces
Locket	Tea Sets
Crosses	Coffee Sets
Rosaries	Cake Dishes
Tie Clips	Vases
Collar Buttons	Table Bells
Watch Fobs	Water Kettles
Watch Containers	Child's Cups
Eyeglass Chains	Rice Bowls

Numerous other things can be seen by a visit to

**R. H. TRAPNELL'S.**

## NEW GOODS

We have just opened a lot of Goods that was ordered specially for the Xmas Trade.

## TOYS in Large Variety,

Such as Dolls, Rabbits, Dogs, Cats, Siamolia, Rubber Dolls, Rattle Balls, Sad Irons, Rubber Balloons, Tops, Clowns, Paints, Merry Whirl Toys, Enamel Kitchen Toys, Aluminium Kitchen Toys, Shears, Pipes, Shovels, Padlocks, Saws, Spoons, Can Openers, Brushes, Fancy Canisters, Decorated Bureau Sets, and a large assortment of Fancy Glassware in Table Sets, Water Sets, Berry Sets, Cake Stands, Bon Bon Dishes, Vases, Butter and Sugar Dishes, and many other things too numerous to mention. Also a special lot of Enamelware so useful for the home. So we must invite one and all to call in and see same.

## THE FAIR,

C. L. MARCH Co., Ltd.  
Corner Water and Springdale Streets.

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## Annual

## ELLIS

FAMILY GROC

Manha

Fresh

Lobsters in

Ry

Fresh Salmon.

Luxu

Alouthe

Real Turtle

Lin

Par

Irish

Paysandu

Turkey

Fresh Saus

Ch

Plan

Gees

Sweet Potatoes.

En

Fresh Tom

Peele

Plum Pudding.

App

Mince Me

Bartlett

Cherrie

Grape Fruit

Fruit Salad in

Peaches

Pun

Dessert

Californi

Crystallized Asst.

Crystallized Chem

Canton Gine

French

Filled Turkish Figs

Blanched, So

Naples Walnuts

Stilton Chee

Englis

McLarren's Chees

Mocha and Java