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**Fishermen's Union Trading Co.,**  
Provision Department.

## Serious Potato Shortage in Canada and U.S.

Prices Are Steadily Advancing on Both Sides of the Line—Importations From Ireland Talked of in Boston, Where Tubers Sell at \$4.12 Wholesale.

ST. JOHN, Jan. 17.—A number of the large cities in Canada and the United States fear a potato famine during the next two months, and there is a pronounced bull market in consequence. In St. John the supply is only fair, with some wholesalers asking as high as \$3 a barrel. Up the river and in Aroostook county the producers are getting \$3 a barrel and at some points the farmers have declined even that price and have succeeded in getting \$3.10.

The rise in the price of potatoes was predicted recently by B. F. Smith, M.L.A. of East Florenceville, who was at the Victoria yesterday. Mr. Smith after visiting a number of the leading markets and examining conditions had no hesitation in telling his constituents that prices were bound to go higher.

In Montreal potatoes are quoted on the cars at \$1.70 and \$1.80 per two bushel bag, or about \$2.70 a barrel.

Boston is probably harder hit by the potato scarcity than any other city. There, dealers predict that the tubers will sell shortly at 50 cents a peck, retail, or at the rate of from \$5 to \$6 a barrel—almost unprecedented prices. That city has found it cannot be fully supplied by New Brunswick, Maine or Vermont, and is considering the possibility of obtaining shipments from abroad. The wholesale price on the cars at Boston is \$4.12 1-2 per barrel.

The Maine crop last fall was 11,000,000 bushels smaller than the crop of 1914. So many tubers have been sold in that state that a shortage of seed potatoes in the spring is feared.

In the way of relief through importations, the bar against sending in Canadian potatoes which was set up to prevent the spread of potato diseases, has been recently taken down by the Department of Agriculture, but Canada has no potatoes to spare. The Irish potato crop is reported good this year, and it is understood some have been offered for shipment at prices of \$2.50 and \$2.75 a barrel. But before potatoes can be imported into the United States from Ireland, the Department would have to rescind a ruling barring them out on the ground that they were affected with infectious potato diseases.

Even if potatoes were allowed entry the chances are that inspection would be established. Shippers would hardly take a chance of sending them over on commission and stand the loss in the event that the inspection proved unfavorable and the potatoes were ordered back or condemned. There seem to be too many obstacles in the way of imported supplies from Europe and with the domestic supply seemingly insufficient, it looks like high prices for some time to come.

## Teuton Invasion of Greece is Near

LONDON, Jan. 15.—Invasion of Greece by armies of the central empires is near, according to dispatches from several widely scattered sources to-day.

A United Press dispatch from Salonika reported the Bulgarians had resumed their concentration along the Greek border in the last forty-eight hours and it is believed the campaign to drive the allies from Greece will open within a few days. Anglo-French aerial scouts are most active along the Bulgarian front. Ammunition is moving forward from Salonika and the allies are making every preparation to meet the expected attack.

Order Mackensen to Attack. Field Marshal von Mackensen has been ordered to move immediately against Salonika, the "Frankfurter Zeitung" declared. The railways leading southward through Serbia have been repaired and artillery and munitions sent forward to the front.

Similar reports came from Athens and Rome to-day. Athens reported the continuous arrival of Bulgarian troops at the border, and added that a squadron of Austrian aviators has arrived at Monstir. Some Bulgarian forces reaching the border were fresh from the Albanian campaign against the Serbs. It was reported.

Rome newspapers printed dispatches from several sources today declaring the first battle on Greek soil imminent.

READ THE MAIL & ADVOCATE

## THE NICKEL--PROGRAMME FOR THE MID-WEEK--THE NICKEL.

PEARL WHITE, ARNOLD DALY, SHELDON LEWIS, presented in

### "THE EXPLOITS OF ELAINE."

The tenth episode of this absolute greatest of all serial pictures.

"THE OPEN DOOR."—A thrilling melo-drama.

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"FATTY AND MABEL'S TRIP TO THE FAIR."—A unique and interesting picture, showing the great Panama Fair.

You are Always Sure of a Good Show at the Nickel--The Best Always.

## Grey Gives Austria Scathing Rebuke

LONDON, Jan. 14.—Sir Edward Grey Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, finds opportunity for some plain speaking regarding the Austro-German submarine warfare in a letter to the American Ambassador, Walter H. Page, replying to a request from the Austro-Hungarian Government that special pains are taken to insure the safety of certain Austro-Hungarian subjects who are being repatriated from India on the steamship Golconda.

The request is embodied in a petition from Austro-Hungarian subjects, which the Austro-Hungarian Government indorses. Sir Edward Grey replies:

"Some of the requests of the petition have already been conceded as a matter of course. With regard to that portion of the petition which asks that special precautions be taken to prevent danger to the lives of the Golconda passengers by submarine attack, I feel bound to express my astonishment that the Austro-Hungarian Government, themselves one of the authors of the danger, should have thought it seemly to indorse this request.

"Not content, however, with doing this, the Austro-Hungarian Government further state that they will hold his Majesty's Government responsible for the lives and well-being of those passengers, a majority of whom are better class people.

"I am at a loss to know why better class people should be thought more entitled to protection from submarine attack than other noncombatants. But, however, that may be, the only danger of the character indicated which threatens any passengers on the Golconda is one for which the Austro-Hungarian and German Governments alone are responsible. It is they only who carry on the novel and inhuman form of warfare which disregards all hitherto accepted principles of international law and necessarily endangers the lives of noncombatants.

"By asking for special precautions to protect one of their own subjects on board a British merchant vessel, the Austro-Hungarian Government recognizes what is the inevitable consequence of their submarine policy, and admit that the outrages whereby the Lusitania, the Persia, and numbers of other ships have been sunk without warning were not the result of casual brutalities of the officers of the enemy submarines, but part of a settled and premeditated policy of the Governments they serve.

"It is needless to add that His Majesty's Government do not propose to take any precautions on behalf of their own, and that if they suffer any injury from submarine attack on the part of His Majesty's enemies, the responsibility must rest solely with those who have made such attacks part of their ordinary methods of warfare.

"The proper and sufficient protection from this danger is that Austro-Hungary and Germany should observe the ordinary rules of humanity in their methods of warfare."

## Said Persia Was To Be Convoyed

WILMINGTON, N.C., Jan. 14.—Robert Ney McNelly, who was lost with the British liner Persia while on his way across the Mediterranean to become American Consul at Aden, wrote to his mother just before he left London that he would proceed "on the Persia, a very good steamer convoyed by cruisers all the way, so it is said passage on the steamer is entirely safe."

The letter, just received by Mrs. McNelly at Waxhaw, N.C., was mailed at Essex, England, on Dec. 18. Mr. McNelly said he would mail another letter at Gibraltar.

It takes a woman to lead a fool man around, even when he imagines he is driving her.

## Von Papen Cheque Stubs Show Some Large Payments

LONDON, Jan. 14.—Copies of correspondence seized at from Captain Franz Von Papen, recalled German military attache at Washington, when he reached Falmouth on his way to Germany, have been turned over to the American embassy for transmission to the state department.

They show that Von Papen made frequent payments to persons charged with the responsibility for blowing up munitions, works and bridges in the United States.

Von Papen's cheque stubs, bank books and letters from his bank, the Riggs National Bank of Washington, show about 500 items, many of which had to do with routine expenditures. Others, however, revealed payments to various persons who have figured prominently in the activities of German agents in America, and to at least one spy, who committed suicide in a cell in an English prison.

Several large payments were made to Capt. Von Papen by Count Von Bernstorff, German ambassador at Washington. Most of these were for salaries or bonuses. A number of entries showed payments made by the ambassador to the military attache for "war intelligence office," one of the payments made in October, 1914, was for \$2,300.

One entry shows that Capt. Von Papen gave \$700 to Von Horn, arrested in connection with the blowing up of a Canadian Pacific railway bridge at St. Croix. The day before this cheque was issued the German embassy paid \$2,000 into Capt. Von Papen's account.

Another cheque stub shows that about two weeks before the explosion in Seattle on May 30, 1915, Capt. Von Papen sent \$500 to the German consulate at Seattle. In February of 1915, he sent \$1,300 to the German consulate in the city.

## Dutch Coast Strewn With Mines

LONDON, Jan. 13.—The Downs, that portion of the North Sea off the coast of Kent, between Ramsgate and South Foreland is filled with ships bound for Rotterdam which have not been permitted to proceed on their voyages. British ships are forbidden to continue their voyage to Holland and neutral vessels are not being given the course by the admiralty.

In official circles it is said that the stoppage is due to the danger of German mines which they allege have been sown along the Dutch coast, and that the vessels will not be allowed to proceed until the mines have been swept up.

Among the detained ships are several belonging to the commission for the relief of Belgium, and it is feared if they are delayed much longer there will be a shortage of the Belgian relief fund.

## Insured the Weather

The Lloyd's Insurance Co. of London, England insured the weather in California and agreed to pay to the Jess L. Lasky Moving Picture Co. the sum of \$2.00 per minute for every minute it rained while that Company were making the Carmen Opera production. The reason was that the Lasky Picture Co. paid Miss Geraldine Farrar \$2.00 per minute, for every minute she was in California, and when it rained they were unable to make pictures. Is there anything in the universe that cannot be insured at the present time.

We have undertaken our part in this war not primarily to crush the Kaiser—though I confess I should like to see him bottled up—but to crush Kaiserism. Not to kill men, but to kill militarism.—Rev. Dr. Starford.

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An Edison feature, a dog's devotion saves life and honour.

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A Lubin Western Drama with Velma Whitten.

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A Comedy by the Essanay Company.

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F. Fitzpatrick—Gower Street (top of Nunnery Hill).  
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ANNOUNCES the removal of his LAW OFFICES to the New BANK OF NOVA SCOTIA Building at the corner of Beck's Cove and Water Street, and the formation of a PARTNERSHIP for general practice as Barristers, Solicitors and Notaries, with MR. J. A. WINTER, eldest son of the late Sir James S. Winter, K.C., under the firm name of Squires & Winter.

Address: Bank of Nova Scotia Building,  
January 3rd, 1916. St. John's.

Hon. R. A. Squires, K.C., LL.B.

Mr. J. A. Winter

## Squires & Winter,

Barristers, Solicitors  
and Notaries.

New Bank of Nova Scotia Building,  
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