

SCANDINAVIANS FAVOR PEACE

Washington, Dec. 29.—The three Scandinavian nations, Norway, Sweden and Denmark, through identical notes, the Norwegian copy of which was handed to the state department today by Minister Bryn, have expressed their lively interest in President Wilson's proposals "looking toward the establishment of a durable peace," and their "deepest sympathy" with all efforts to shorten the war.

Unlike the Swiss government, which offered to help in any way, "no matter how modest," the Scandinavian countries make no direct offer of co-operation. This fact attracted particular interest because Norway particularly has been one of the greatest sufferers from the war among the neutrals.

The state department made public the Norwegian note without comment, and in line with the policy of silence adopted by President Wilson and Secretary Lansing no other official information concerning peace moves was forthcoming during the day.

The Norwegian note, with which those from Denmark and Sweden are identical, follows: "It is with the most lively interest that the Norwegian government has learned of the proposals which the president of the United States has just made with the purpose of facilitating measures looking toward the establishment of a durable peace, while at the same time seeking to avoid any interference which could cause pain to legitimate feelings."

PREMIER'S VISIT HERE HAS BEEN POSTPONED

A telegram to the effect that Premier Borden would be unable to come to St. John in the interest of national service during the first week of the new year was received by Major L. P. D. Tilley, director of national service, yesterday. Since the announcement that parliament would convene on January 15th, Premier Borden has found it necessary to postpone indefinitely his trip to the Maritime Provinces. It is thought, however, that arrangements might be made to have R. B. Bennett, director-general of national service, visit St. John and address a public meeting on the subject of national service.

It was the intention of the government to distribute among the postmasters throughout the Dominion national service cards for distribution among the male population between the ages of eighteen and sixty, the first week of the new year. Since this work is of such magnitude, and as there are millions of cards and envelopes to be addressed, it has been found necessary to postpone the delivery of the cards for a few days. Notwithstanding the fact that the plants printing the matter have been working night and day the cards will not be issued until the latter part of next week. In the meantime Major Tilley is making preparations for distributing the cards.

SOLDIERS' COMFORTS.

The Soldiers' Comfort Association acknowledges which hands the following cash donations received since November 15th. Mrs. J. Walter Holly, treasurer: Mrs. W. W. White, monthly, \$ 5.00 Mrs. H. E. Wardroper, monthly 1.00 Rev. L. R. Sherman, monthly 2.00 Mrs. S. Holly, monthly 2.00 Willing Workers, Germain street Baptist church 2.00 December— Mrs. H. Peck 2.00 Mrs. S. H. Barker, Loch Lomond 2.00 Mrs. S. Holly, monthly 1.00 Mr. J. Walter Holly 5.00 Rothesay Country Fair, per Miss A. L. Brock 33.97 Soldiers' Aid, Albert Co., per Mrs. Carnwath 10.00 Miss Payne, monthly 2.00 Alexandria Circle, per Mrs. Matheson 2.00 Mrs. J. Duddy, monthly 1.00 Nerepita, per Mrs. P. Nase 3.50 Miss Maud Fowler, Portland, U. S. 1.00 Gageton, per Miss N. M. Bulyea 7.00 Upper Gageton, Mrs. Jas. Coy 1.00 Upper Gageton, Mrs. Christie, 1.00 Upper Gageton, Mrs. Adams 1.00 Mrs. J. B. Cudlip, 2 months 4.00 Mrs. H. E. Wardroper, monthly 1.00 Mrs. Blinning 1.00 Rev. L. R. Sherman, monthly 2.00 Sussex S. C. A., per Miss Burgess 30.00 Miss Nora I. Stewart, monthly 1.00 Newfoundland Ladies' Auxiliary Monday Evening Club, per Mrs. John McConnell 5.00 Mrs. Hiene, New Jersey, per Mrs. George McAvity 2.00 Central Greenwich, per Mrs. Agnes Prince, Sect. Women's Institute 16.00

A Correction. Mr. James Ford is to conduct the Revue to be given by the Loyalist Chapter, I. O. O. F., not W. W. Swainsbourne, as was stated in yesterday's paper.

BATTLE OF THE SOMME SWEEPING TRIUMPH FOR ARMS OF THE ALLIES

(Continued from page 1) The suspension of active operations has fully established the effect of our offensive in keeping the enemy's main forces tied to the western front. In November the strength of the enemy in the western theatre was greater than in July, notwithstanding the abandonment of the offensive at Verdun. It is therefore justifiable to conclude that the Somme offensive not only relieved Verdun but held large forces which otherwise have been employed against our allies in the east.

Wearing Enemy. "The third great object of the Allied operations on the Somme was the wearing down of the enemy's powers of resistance. Any statement as to the extent to which this has been attained must depend, in some degree, on estimates. There is nevertheless sufficient evidence to place beyond doubt that the enemy's losses in men and material were very considerably higher than those of the Allies, while morale on our side is still greater. During the period under review a steady deterioration took place in the morale of large numbers of the enemy's troops. Many of them, it is true, fought with the greatest determination, even in the latest encounters, but the resistance of even larger numbers became latterly decidedly more feeble than in the early stages of the battle. Aided by the great death of his defenses, and by frequent reliefs, which his resources of men enabled him to effect, discipline and training held the machine together sufficiently to enable the enemy to rally and reorganize his troops after each fresh defeat. But toward the end of the operations, when the weather unfortunately broke, there is no doubt that his power of resistance very seriously diminished."

Weather Great Handicap. In the course of his detailed study of the operations Gen. Haig frequently touches upon the handicap of the weather. In mid-October came the Allies' great chance to really break through the German lines. "We had, at last," writes Gen. Haig, "reached the stage at which a successful attack might reasonably be expected to yield much greater results than anything we had as yet attained. The resistance of the troops opposed to us had seriously weakened. In the course of recent operations, and there is no reason to suppose that the effort required was not within our powers." Unfortunately at this juncture very unfavorable weather set in and continued with scarcely a break during the remainder of October and the early part of November. Poor visibility seriously interfered with the work of artillery, and constant rain turned the mass of hastily-dug trenches into channels of deep mud. The country roads, broken by countless shell craters, rapidly became impassable, making the supply of food stores and ammunition a serious

The Army's Co-operators. "The army owes thanks to the chemists, physiologists and physicists of the highest rank, who devoted their energies to enable us to surpass the enemy in the use of means of warfare which took the civilized world by surprise. Our own experience of the numerous experiments and trials necessary before gas and flame could be used, of the great preparations which had to be made for their use, and of the special training required, shows that the employment of such methods by the Germans was not the result of desperation, but had been prepared deliberately. Since we have been compelled, in self-defense, to use similar methods, it is satisfactory to be able to record, on the evidence of prisoners, documents captured and our own observations, that the enemy had suffered heavy casualties from our gas attacks, while the means of protection adopted by us proved thoroughly effective."

EXTRAVAGANCE AS IT HAS BEEN PRACTISED AT LONDON HOTELS

(By a Londoner.) The question of hotel extravagance has two sides. A man may spend a great deal at dinner without consuming more food than is his right. Restaurant and hotel extravagance is largely a matter of cocktails, wine, liqueurs, cigars and coffee. So long as these luxuries are there to tempt people extravagance will continue. There are restaurants in London where the cost for the meal does not pay for the food, but the cost for other things has no such limitation. One of the smartest restaurant charges 2s. 6d. for a very excellent lunch, but the wine list includes no cheap wines, and any sort of liquor costs at least a shilling, while there are extras such as a slice of melon to begin with or a dozen oysters. A considerable number of the lunchers pay ten shillings a head. On the other hand, almost all at a fashionable restaurant eat more food than is good for them. The object of the cook is to keep the appetite uncluttered to the end of the meal. The waste is partly in employing people to produce small quantities of expensive food instead of doing other work of more national value, as well as in the consumption of more food than people require. In the Mid-Victorian days the common luncheon of nearly every city man, however successful, was a chop or steak, potatoes, and cheese. Today a great many City men come west and lunch in the big hotels either in the grill-room, where everything lies in wait to mount up on a la carte bill, or in the restaurant, where the lunch varies from 3s. 6d. to 5s. The easiest way to simplify the hotel menu would be to make the lunch the dinner, and to devise a luncheon of these courses. It is a common complaint that one cannot get at night the same size of meal as is available through the day. Hors d'oeuvres, which are mainly of "sugared material," might be done away with altogether, and the dinner given the course of meat and fowl, but not both. A very great saving in food and service could be evolved if the a la

carte system was done away with. People who eat mostly in restaurants were one another against the a la carte meal, saying that it always works out disadvantageously in the end. A man who wishes to do a friend, or customer moderately well will usually mount up a bill for the two at a fashionable grill-room something like this—Cocktails, 2s., 1 1/2 dozen oysters, 5s. 3d., soup 1s. 6d., entree 4s. 6d., sweet or savory 2s., claret, 6s., liqueurs 2s. 6d., cigars, 2s. 6d., tip 1s., chocolate-room tip 6d., total 28s. 6d. It will be seen that less than half is spent on food, but the result does not compare very well with the half-crown table d'hote lunch. Then dinner at the expensive a la carte places, where people do themselves well, means or has meant champagne usually at 17s. a bottle, and the same two men, if they had dined instead of lunched, would probably have spent over £2 10s. The amount of competitive luncheon and dining where the one man wants to go a shade further in a return dinner is enormous. The only way that would bring economy into hotel menus would be to have a standard meal which must not cost more than, say, 5s. That would abolish all the more expensive foods and the high price for oysters. The biggest change in hotel life in recent years has been the coming of the hotel tea. It became very fashionable and one by one the hotels began to cater for it and develop it apart from the hotel business. A very small proportion of the people who are taking tea at the fashionable hotels are residents there. When the mode began it had the advantage to most men of permitting them to smoke without going to a smoking room. The smart tea-shops soon gave the same privilege, but could not offer the same space and expensive vistas and corridors. The price for tea in the big hotels is half-a-crown—one hotel goes as far as three shillings. For that sum you have the privilege of sitting in an immense lounge or hall, and in some cases even getting a view over the river or Hyde Park. You see a good many well-dressed people, chiefly women, and smart, different clothes, coolly worn, and there is also a band. The meal consists of toasted buns, bread and butter, tiny sandwiches of many kinds, and French pastry. It is not economical for the visitor, but if it counts as a meal it may be an economy the consumption of food is considered. Presumably food to the value of sevenpence is on an average consumed by each tea-guest. Other hotels less fashionable but excellent used to have a round charge of a shilling, but three-pence has since been added. Besides the food and the luxurious place and the band, there will be dancing down the centre passage, usually by a Spanish or South American lady and her partner. Sometimes there are child dancers. The hotel tea at present is very popular.

As to supper, Mr. Ritz is said to be mainly responsible for teaching smart London how to sup. Before Mr. Ritz came it is said to have gone to bed supperless or with sandwiches legions of people at home. Since then it struggles to eat five-shillings-worth of food, smoke a cigarette, and drink a cup of coffee within half an hour. The war, however, has affected the supper more than any other meal. It would almost seem as though people took food because they wanted to drink. Supper-time is now no longer a brilliant and crowded time in hotels, and several of them find it hardly worth while continuing the meal. Possibly dark streets and the shortage of conveyances have had a good deal to do with it.

LOCAL BOWLING. In the City League on Black's alleys last night the Whips captured the four points from the Amateurs. The scores follow: Amateurs. Emery 95 77 94 276 92 Armstrong 79 77 84 81 Alley 75 85 76 236 78 2-3 Lemson 77 83 83 243 81 Smith 92 71 87 250 83 1-3 418 400 420 1248 Whips. Walsh 103 111 87 307 102 1-3 Kerr 86 77 76 239 79 2-3 Thurston 102 82 105 289 96 1-3 Williams 96 87 84 267 89 McCaw 91 107 92 290 96 2-3 484 464 444 1392

The next match will be rolled on Tuesday night when the Specials and Ramblers will battle against each other.

THE BANKERS' CHOICE. Why? Remington typewriters can be had to add and subtract as well as write. A. Milne Fraser, Jas. A. Little, Mgr., 37 Dock street, St. John, N. B.

CANADIAN PATRIOTIC FUND. Monthly—D. McShand, \$4; Dr. G. G. Melvin, \$5; I. deAngelis, \$1; Geo. M. Ross, \$1; T. G. Garratt, \$1; G. C. M. Parren, \$1; D. McArthur (2 mos.), \$4; A. Gilmour, \$5; J. R. Haycock, \$4; D. Magee & Sons, \$10; C. A. Conlon, \$1; R. M. Steele, \$2; W. Allan, \$1; H. J. Huestis, \$1; J. Wright, \$5; H. E. Wardroper (3 mos.), \$30; E. R. Fenwick (7 mos.), \$35; W. S. Allison (2 mos.), \$30. Single—F. E. Sayre, \$1,000.00; City Cornet Band, part proceeds World's Fair, per James Connolly, \$2,702.94.

HOTEL ARRIVALS. Victoria. R. A. Fraser, Halifax; C. W. Milten, J. C. Sanster, Moncton; J. H. Richards, Fredericton; Wm. S. Carr, Niagara Falls; C. A. MacLaren, Moncton; John Hickey, Boston; S. H. White, Sussex; C. Nason, McAdam; H. A. Blackador, Weymouth, N. S.; A. G. Berry, Sussex; W. J. R. Carlen, Fredericton; Dr. P. L. Linley, Govan, Sask.; Res. Linley, Annapolis; H. C. Berry, Moncton; P. D. Swin, Tracadie, N. B.; J. B. MacLaren, M. S. Fort, W. C. Archibald, Moncton;

A National Call for Information

THIS CARD MUST BE FILLED IN AND PROMPTLY RETURNED BY ALL MALES BETWEEN THE AGES OF 18 AND 65 RESIDING IN CANADA.

NATIONAL SERVICE.

1. What is your full name? 2. How old are you? 3. Where do you live? Province. 4. Name of city, town, village or Post Office. Street. Number. 5. In what country were you born? 6. In what country was your father born? 7. In what country was your mother born? 8. Were you born a British subject? 9. If not, are you naturalized? 10. How much time have you had in last 12 months from overseas? 11. Have you full use of your arms? 12. Of your legs? 13. Of your eyes? 14. Of your hearing? 15. What are you working at for a living? 16. When do you work? 17. Are you a single or professional? 18. Are you working now? 19. Would you be willing to change your present work for other necessary work at the same pay during the war? 20. Are you willing, if your railway fare is paid, to leave where you now live, and go to some other place in Canada to do such work? 21. If not, why? 22. If not, why? 23. Which are you—married, single or a widower? 24. How many persons besides yourself do you support?

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FILLING IN THIS CARD ARE ON THE OTHER SIDE. IT ASKS 24 QUESTIONS. COMPLY WITH YOUR ANSWERS.

Write your Answers on the Card which you will shortly receive and Return Promptly. It is Obligatory!

H. W. Woods, Welsford; Geo. O. Stratton, A. F. Horton, Moncton; O. L. Smith and wife, L. C. Wetmore, T. R. Bishop, Sussex; Miss C. Spurr, Annapolis; Herman Peacock, Port Elgin; J. C. Gillespie, Truro; D. W. Mersereau, Fredericton; J. J. Noble, Woodstock; B. F. McDermott, Fredericton; H. J. Flemming, Woodstock; W. J. McCarthy, Montreal; D. T. Lister, McAdam; Mrs. W. B. Taylor, Miss Taylor, Havelock, N. B.; D. A. Taylor, Lethbridge, Alta.; J. F. Bourgeois and wife, Halifax; J. S. Nickerson, Moncton; J. E. McAuley, Lower Millstream; Jas. W. Day, Halifax; J. S. Underhill, Moncton.

PERSONALS. Hugh J. Flemming, son of the Hon. J. K. Flemming of Woodstock, is in the city, a guest at the Victoria Hotel. Mr. Flemming has enlisted with No. 8 Field Ambulance in this city. Not Seriously Hurt. Harold Hodgins of West St. John, who was injured on one of the steam-

ers on the West Side yesterday morning, was resting comfortably at the General Public Hospital last night. An X-ray examination failed to disclose any broken bones and it will probably be around in a few days.

Mr. G. M. Crawford, manager of the Fox Film Corporation Exchange in St. John, left last evening for Boston and New York, where he will visit the head office of the William Fox Corporation.

Dollars and Sense

Has it ever occurred to you that one of the easiest ways imaginable of making a dollar is by saving one? This process causes no effort and involves no risk. The opportunity and your ability to grasp it are the only requisites.

We will not waste words here showing how necessary it is for every family to receive a daily paper. That fact is recognized everywhere.

A glance through the columns of this paper must convince you that in The St. John Standard you have a newspaper admirably suited to every member of the family. See the General News, War News, Provincial Happenings, Finance, Shipping, Sports, Local and Provincial Society, Women's Page, Motion Picture Page, Cartoon Service, Uncle Dick's Children's Page with an active membership of over 5,000 New Brunswick school children, and other features all combining to make The Standard a first class newspaper for the home.

For a few days yet we will continue our Special Holiday Offer to new subscribers by which we agree to send The Daily Standard by mail to any address outside St. John City, as a trial subscription from now until Dec. 31st, 1917, for the sum of TWO DOLLARS, which is one-third less than the regular rate.

- (a) A daily paper is a necessity in your home.
 - (b) The St. John Standard is an ideal family newspaper.
 - (c) By accepting our offer now you can save money.
- DOLLARS and SENSE—Do you get the big idea? Then fill out the special coupon printed elsewhere in this issue and mail it before it is too late.

The St. John Standard

STOCK MARKET TAKES THREE DAYS HOLIDAY

Long Needed Rest by Brokers and Employes after Strained Sessions of Past Weeks.

New York, Dec. 29.—With a holiday in prospect the last day of the stock market was characterized by excessive dullness and price changes of importance. Dealers were altogether professional, and resented, to a greater degree than ordinarily, the winding up of speculative accounts.

Public interest was evidently ebb, even the bond division red little or no inquiry. For the most part trading was restricted to the usual favorites, marked pressure against the rail and their subsidiaries, as well as speculative, conspicuous in the case of the last few weeks. Unusually the gas shares, tobacco of the papers and leather, and shares of no specific description irregularly lower, while most shares of no specific description irregularly lower, with moderate news in rail. The only noteworthy feature was the Y. T. & N. E. division was the Y. T. & N. E. division, the new preferred "A" hardening on the declaration initial dividend of one per cent. Equipments and munitions somewhat rising, Bethlehem irregularly 20 points, with some of the distinctive war stocks in the market. United States Steel broke nearly at the outset, but more than held its loss, closing at a net one and one quarter points.

Oils were consistently strong considerable activity in Texas pay at an extreme gain of 15 Coppers and shipping ruled strong, the recent rise in the Gulf and West Indies finding explanation in the October statement showing an increase in net tonnage of 60 per cent. over the corresponding last year. Central Leather, Baldwin five, Pressed Steel Car and a few of the same class were much better, the entire list being at the close. Sales amounted 600 shares. Sterling exchange and market quotations were nominal. United States bonds were in the main, and Anglo-French covering almost a point from day's low record. Total sales, par value, aggregated \$3,270,000.

OBITUARY.

Mrs. Patrick Mills. The death occurred on the night of 28th December, at her residence, 258 Grand street, Catherine Mills, widow of Patrick Mills, at the great age of one year and six months. She was born in Ireland and came to this country in 1844. Through long residence in the city she had the respect of a large number of friends who will greatly miss her services. Mrs. Mills was the wife of Hugh Doherty, Mrs. W. J. Miss Trainor; also three Joseph of Boston, Henry of Philadelphia and Patrick of Fairville. Her funeral will take place tomorrow noon.

Mrs. H. H. MacFarlane. Yesterday morning Mrs. H. H. MacFarlane passed away at her residence, 258 Grand street, at the age of fifty-eight years, leaving her husband, one son and two daughters, Mrs. Charles H. MacFarlane and Mrs. Charles H. MacFarlane. Mrs. MacFarlane was the wife of W. C. Brass of Waasles.

Mrs. Daniel A. Gallagher. In Boston, on Tuesday, Dec. 26, died of a brief illness, Mr. Gallagher, one son and one daughter, Mrs. Gallagher, who was very kindly and cheerful. He will be sincerely mourned by a circle of friends. Many friends in St. John and vicinity.

Adam Akerley. The death occurred on the night of 28th December, at his residence, 258 Grand street, Mr. Adam Akerley, who was an elderly and highly respected citizen. He was in his 90th year and of usual health up to the time of his death, being sick only a couple of days. He was a life member of the Cove Baptist church and was a member of the St. John Baptist church. Mr. Akerley was throughout the country and friends in St. John who will hear of his death. He is survived by three sons, Charles of Beverley at home, and O. B. St. John.

DIED.

SHIVES—At Euston, near England, on September 15th, Robert Kilgour Shives, youngest son of the late four Shives and Mrs. Campbellton, N. B. Interment to take place at arrival of S. S. Ionia.