

## IN SPITE OF GLOOMY PROSPECTS

*Gaiety Reigns in the British  
Metropolis.*

*Thousands Will Invade London to  
Welcome Home Lord Roberts—The  
Nicaragua Canal Question.*

[Special Cable Letter.]  
London, Dec. 15.—The dread prospect of interminable war in South Africa and increased taxation at home is no deterrent to Christmas gaiety. The shops and markets are brighter than ever, gay throngs fill the streets, business is at top notch and the theaters are crowded.

**WELCOME ROBERTS.**  
Thousands of people are preparing to invade London to welcome Lord Roberts home. The number of spectators of "Boys" march to St. Paul's, accompanied by the Prince of Wales, Jan. 3, is likely to break all records. The officials are already besieged for tickets for the thanksgiving service and window owners are anxiously awaiting the announcement of the line of march.

**SUB-MARINE WARFARE.**  
The British admiralty has thoroughly wakened up to the importance of submarine and similar methods of warfare. It has arranged to test Varley's invention for steering torpedo and submarine boats by means of the wireless telegraphy operated by Mr. A. C. Higgs, the United States consul at Plymouth. The inventor now expresses the belief that the danger of interference, or "jamming" as it is technically called, has been eliminated. As recent Marconi experiments prove, instruments not exactly named to the same note can have no influence over others, regardless of the power of the batteries. Mr. Higgs provides each torpedo with a different note and directs it from a ship or the land, on or under water, towards the object it is desired to destroy, by means of the same current whereby wireless messages are transmitted.

**A RAP AT "AMERICANS."**  
The United States have many able men, but no one of conspicuous merit. This statement appears in the Daily Mail Year Book, just issued to compete with Whitaker's Almanac, under the section devoted to the world's chief statesmen. While it is not an inspired or a particularly erudite publication, it represents the bulk of press and public opinion in England. Nothing so well explains the attitude of the English press towards American activities in Nicaragua, China and other quarters of the globe, as this crude revelation of its estimate of American public men. It is this underlying, though seldom expressed, belief which permeates the editorials now so frequently devoted to the policy of the Washington government. How utterly this is at variance with the opinion of the foreign office and the highest government officials here is apparent from the fact that in almost every recent case where the English papers have attempted to advise or to forecast the attitude of their government towards propositions suggested by the United States, they have taken exactly the opposite line from the course eventually pursued by Lord Salisbury and the Marquis of Lansdowne. This lack of sympathy between the administrative leaders and the administration papers seems to broaden daily. Hence, while the mass of English comments on the Nicaragua Canal question undoubtedly represents the views of a large section of the public, it must not be considered in any way official, or even semi-official.

**THE BIG DITCH.**  
A special cable dispatch from Washington complains that the London dispatches dealing with the Nicaragua Canal do not give any indication of the views of Lord Lansdowne, the Marquis of Salisbury or any authoritative person. It may be said that Lord Lansdowne has been given every opportunity to communicate his views on the matter, but he has definitely refused, remarking that he did not wish to attempt to interfere, covertly or otherwise, in the formation of American public or legislative opinion. He has not even discussed the canal in his frequent conferences this week with the United States ambassador, Mr. Joseph H. Choate. Great Britain's decision, doubtless, will be arrived at only after a cabinet conference. If Lord Lansdowne follows the ideas of foreign office officials, he will fall back on the Clayton-Bulwer treaty and reject any modifications of the Hay-Pauncefote treaty.

**HOW HIS MILLIONS WERE MADE.**  
Mr. Robert Arthington, the eccentric gentleman of Leeds, who lived in a miserly manner in order to be able to devote his wealth to foreign missions, left over \$5,000,000 to charities of all kinds, made his fortune out of a brewery, and lived in one filthy room, containing about as much furniture as a pauper's hovel. Disappointment in love is said to have been responsible for his extraordinary life. This tall, spare man wore a slouch hat and dressed in frayed garments, made in the style of the sixties, and never was

known to give away a penny in his life time.

**A DOG TRUST.**  
The latest form of trust is that of Polar dogs. According to Sir Clements Markham, president of the Royal Geographical Society, Americans are responsible for forming such a corner in these animals, and the pending British and other Arctic expeditions are confronted with a difficulty almost as great as that of the ice fields. It appears that Mr. E. B. Baldwin, the American explorer, has bought up such a large supply of dogs that their price has risen from \$15 to \$30, and they are hard to procure even at that price. Capt. Bernier, the Canadian explorer, hopes to get out of the dilemma by having young dogs and training them on the voyage. What the two British Antarctic expeditions will do Sir Clements Markham does not yet know. Mr. Baldwin says he has no more dogs than he needs. He foresees the scarcity, and bought early.

**REVIVAL OF "PATIENCE."**  
The death of Sir Arthur Sullivan has had a curious effect on the audiences of "Patience" at the Savoy. It has so stimulated interest in the dead composer's work that the audiences are exceeding the records of the first production of the opera a score of years ago.

## DISMISSED FOR TWO MONTHS

*British Parliament Adjourned With  
the Shortest of Queen's  
Speeches.*

*Ministry Heckled, Chamberlain At-  
tacked, But the War Funds  
Were Voted.*

London, Dec. 15.—Parliament was dismissed today until the middle of February, with the reading of the shortest of the Queen's speeches. It was as follows:

"My Lords and Gentlemen, I thank you for the liberal provision you have made for the expenses incurred by the operations of my armies in South Africa and China."

The proceedings today in the House of Commons were a repetition in miniature of the debates of the brief session. The ministers were heckled, the war was denounced, and Mr. Joseph Chamberlain was further attacked, but the war funds were finally voted, after the secretary of state for war, Mr. William St. John Brodrick, had given an assurance that the government, during recess, would cordially co-operate with Gen. Kitchener in an endeavor to end the war.

Particularly stinging were the remarks of Mr. John Bryan-Roberts (Liberal). He declared that the British treatment of the women of South Africa was an outrage on civilization, and that it was blasphemous to hold Christian services in St. Paul's in connection with the return of Lord Roberts while there were such proceedings in South Africa.

Mr. Brodrick hotly denounced Mr. Bryan-Roberts' charges asserting that it was criminal to make allegations which could not be proved, but which, however, would be telegraphed to South Africa to increase the discontent existing there. He held up Mr. Bryan-Roberts to the censure and reprobation of nearly every member of the House of Commons.

These remarks were greeted with cheers.

Mr. Brodrick then repeated that the government did not desire to pursue a policy which would make it more difficult for the Boers to cease fighting, an idea the government abhorred in the declarations of Mr. Chamberlain.

The session was suspended until 2 o'clock in the afternoon, when both houses met and were prorogued.

**LIFE-SAVING FENDERS.**

Toronto, Dec. 15.—The attorney-general's department has given a decision upholding the validity of the provincial engineering order requiring the street railway company to adopt what is known as the Providence fender.

Under the street railway act of last session the engineer was instructed to designate a safe fender for use by the electric railways of the province. After several tests he recommended the Providence fender, and the railways protested on the ground that he should have named a class instead of a particular fender. The decision will give Ontario the best life-saving fender in use.

**PERHAPS.**

"Your friend Groome boasts that his wife is college bred. What's meant by college bred, anyway?"

"I suppose it's the stuff they learn to make at cookin' school."—Philadelphia Press.

**Before. After. Wood's Phosphorine.**

The Great English Remedy. Sold and recommended by all druggists in Canada. Only reliable medicine discovered. Six packages guaranteed to cure all forms of Sexual Weakness, all effects of abuse, excess, mental worry, excessive use of tobacco, Opium or Stimulants. Mailed on receipt of price, one package \$1, six \$5. One will place you in the best of health. Write to The Wood Company, Windsor, Ont.

Wood's Phosphorine is sold in London by all druggists.

## KITCHENER'S DISPATCHES

*Regarding the Disaster at  
Nooitgedacht.*

*Clements Lost Fourteen Killed  
and Fifty-One Wounded.*

*Some 573 Men Are Missing, Sup-  
posed to Have Been Captured  
by the Boers.*

London, Dec. 15.—Lord Kitchener reports that 18 officers and 655 men are missing from Gen. Clements' forces. They consist of four companies of the Northumberland Fusiliers. Judging from the message these were captured by the Boers. Clements' casualties Dec. 13 amounted to 5 officers and 9 men killed, and many apparently wounded.

Lord Kitchener's message to the war office is as follows:

"Pretoria, Dec. 15.—Clements brought in this force to Commando Nek unopposed. The casualties were, I regret to say, heavy."

"Killed, 5 officers and 9 of other ranks."

Missing—18 officers and 655 of other ranks, these latter were four companies of the Northumberland Fusiliers, who were stationed on the hill, and some Yeomanry and other details sent up to support them. Names and nature of wounds are being telegraphed from Cape Town.

"Barnwood's Brigade took no part in the engagement."

**BOERS LOST HEAVILY.**  
The Boers suffered severely. Knox drove Dewet north to the Tlabancho-Ladybrand line, which was held by our troops. Dewet's force, about 3,000 strong, made several attempts to get through during the day, assisted by a force of Boers operating from the north. These attacks were repulsed, though some of the Boers from the south were able to get through the lines."

Writing later, Lord Kitchener reports that while passing the lines in the neighborhood of Tlabancho, Dewet's force lost considerably.

The South African Light Horse and Thornycroft's Mounted Infantry captured a fifteen-pounder taken at Letwedor, a pom-pom, several wagons with ammunition, 22 prisoners, and some horses and mules. A portion of the enemy has not been able to pass north.

**FIFTY-ONE WOUNDED.**

Gen. Kitchener's supplementary dispatch referring to the disaster at Magaliesberg, confirms yesterday's most pessimistic fears, and demonstrates that the catastrophe is among the worst of the war. The matter was brought up in the House of Commons today, but the secretary for war, Mr. William St. John Brodrick, had no information to add, except that the wounded numbered 5 officers and 45 men.

## MILITARY BALL

*At Wolseley Barracks a Gratifying  
Success.*

*Decidedly Pleasurable Affair Enjoyed  
by Many Guests of the Non-  
Coms and Men.*

Predictions were set at naught by the unprecedented success of the military ball at Wolseley Barracks last night. It was expected that the evening would be one of rare pleasure, for the local Thomas Atkins has proven his abilities as an entertainer at many similar affairs in past years, but it may be truly said that at no other time of festivity has been shown in more agreeable manner that he is a host par excellence. The company danced in the large mess room, where there was profuse evidence of the care taken by all the committees to have every detail perfect. Many of the flags whose graceful folds draped the walls had historic associations. Other materials, also of military nature, were used to enhance the beauty of a scene, in which the red coats of the soldiers, the dark suits of their civilian friends, and the varied colors of feminine attire, combined with an effect that was picturesque indeed. Distinctions of rank were leveled, and from the highest officer to the youngest private, all vied with each other in assuring for the guests an evening so pleasurable that it will live long among cherished memories. Many of the men, whose buoyant spirits helped to make the evening pass all too quickly, had last danced in the halls of Dawson City; others had lately listened to the dissonant music of the South African pom-pom, and the reassembling added the zest and dash that is peculiarly characteristic of military hops. The members of committees who were delegated many times upon the successful outcome of their labors were: Sergt. Cockburn, chairman; Sergt. Cranston, treasurer; Sergt. Moore, secretary; Corp. G. Evans, Corp. F. Walsh, Lance-Corp. G. Taylor, Lance-Corp. J. L. Burnard, Lance-Corp. J. Strong, Pte. W. G. Foster, Pte. A. V. Glenn, Pte. F. Collins, Pte. J. Rogers.

**MASONIC "AT HOME."**

Henderson Lodge, A. F. and A. M., 118erton, intend celebrating their 20th anniversary on the evening of Friday, Dec. 21, by holding an "At Home" in the Oddfellows' Hall. A good programme will be given, and it is expected that Grand Master Hungerford and other G. L. officers will be present.

## CAUSE OF Kidney Disease is oftentimes enshrined in mystery.

**EFFECT** Of Kidney Disease is NOT mysterious but is known to all.

**CURE** For all forms of Kidney Disease is Warner's Safe Cure. A vegetable specific, and for the past 21 years favorably known in all parts of the civilized world.

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Gentlemen:—When my physician first told me that I had Bright's Disease, a cold chill went over me and I felt as if I were a doomed man. For three months I took his prescription and kept getting worse, when my druggist, who was a personal friend, told me that in his opinion, Warner's Safe Cure was the best medicine on earth for Bright's Disease. I took a bottle at once and gradually felt relieved. I kept taking it patiently and regularly for two months, and words cannot describe my feelings when I found that I was cured.

Bright's disease is a thing of the past, and I would like to say to everyone similarly affected, try Warner's Safe Cure.

Yours very respectfully, JOD ROSE.

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**THE MAXWELL CO., Department 597, TORONTO, Canada**

## Col. Lewis Dead.

Col. Lewis, ex-Mayor, died at his residence, Queen's avenue, this morning. He had been ailing for many weeks.

## Successful Londoners

Miss Gortshore, a graduate of the Western Ontario Shorthand and Business Academy, 76 Dundas street, has accepted a situation with the Morrow Scrap Company, of Ingersoll, and Mr. Gortshore with the health food and drug store. This academy is one of the foremost educational institutions in Ontario. It is a business institution, teaching business in a business way. Mr. Gortshore does not teach foot ball or prize fighting; he thinks these subjects are better taught by an athlete who has experience. He prefers to stick to what he knows, and teach it well. The new term will commence on Jan. 2, and there will be room for twenty more pupils. Every graduate of this institution is placed in a situation when qualified.

## Relief for the Afflicted.

Mr. C. H. Dorenwend, of Toronto, is at present at the Grigg House, and will remain until Sunday at 3 p.m. Mr. Dorenwend has been interested in manufacturing of Griggs for many years, and has an enviable reputation, securing testimonials from hundreds all over the province.

## LABOR OPPOSED TO SOCIALISM.

[Chicago Tribune.]

The delegates to the national convention of the American Federation of Labor have put themselves on record as opposed to the policy of allowing the organization to be drawn into politics as an adjunct to the Social Labor or any other party. When one of the radical members of the convention introduced resolutions pledging the federation to go into the next national campaign as a body, with a platform demanding only that the initiative and referendum be made part of the policy of the national government, he was met with a storm of protests and his resolution was defeated. When in advocacy of his plan he made a fiery speech, in which he referred to congress as the "robbers' roost," and to workmen as "wage slaves," the protest was even stronger. The conservative element, which apparently controls the convention, passed a resolution endorsing the principle of direct legislation, but declined to commit the organization to the support of any political party. The wisdom of this policy will hardly be questioned by anyone who has the practical good of organized labor at heart.

## Malt Breakfast Food

If you are not a user of Malt Breakfast Food you are not doing yourself justice. The malt used in this food is the health-giving element for old and young. No other grain food in use can give such magnificent results as Malt Breakfast Food. It bestows perfect digestion, increased energy and a fresh, buoyant vitality. No breakfast is complete without it. At all first class grocers.

**BOILER BURST—TWO KILLED.**  
Buffalo, N. Y., Dec. 15.—The boiler of a Lehigh Valley engine, which was hauling a string of freight cars at Cheekowaga, exploded last night, flying clear of the trucks and turning end over end. The engineer and fireman were instantly killed. The dead: Wm. Smyth, engineer, Buffalo; James Kelly, fireman, Buffalo.

**DOES IT NOT PAY TO**

*The Best*

Read the following letter received by the principal of the

**CANADA BUSINESS COLLEGE**  
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and learn how highly the graduates of this school are thought of by the business public.

"Gentlemen:—We have openings now for two or three good male stenographers who have had experience, and it occurred to us that a large number of stenographers and other office men, who have graduated from your school from time to time and are now holding positions, might desire to better themselves. If you can put us into communication with some of your old graduates, who have had two or three years' experience, we should be under obligations to you."

We might mention that the concern represented in the above letter has a capital stock of five million dollars.

When you read such evidence as the above, need you be surprised that during the period of thirteen and a half months ending in October, 312 positions were filled by our pupils.

It pays to attend Canada's Greatest School of Business or Shorthand, if you wish to thoroughly qualify yourself for office work and be selected to a position when graduated.

For handsome Catalogue issued by any business school in Canada write to

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I will send any woman information of a horrid monthly regulator that will relieve in two to five days. A simple home treatment.

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