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WASHINGTON TAKES BRITAIN BY SURPRISE

PANIC ON STOCK EXCHANGE — AUSTRIA AND HUNGARY ARE FACING FAMINE

PRESIDENT WILSON'S NOTE TOOK BRITAIN BY SURPRISE

MEMBERS OF GOVERNMENT THOUGHT WILSON HAD NO INTENTION OF INTERFERING — WASHINGTON BELIEVES PEACE MEASURABLY NEARER — A PANIC ON STOCK EXCHANGE

(Special to The Daily News)

London, Dec. 22.—President Wilson's note urging a peace conference was received with startled surprise by Great Britain. The government frankly admits that they believed the president had no intention of taking steps toward peace or the making of any move in European affairs. Members of both Houses of Parliament expressed absolute surprise and the public were equally surprised on reading of it in the morning papers.

When President Wilson transmitted Germany's note to Britain without comment, it was assumed that the action represented his general attitude towards the whole situation.

Washington Views.

Washington, Dec. 22.—The danger of the United States being drawn into the war by reason of its increasingly difficult position as a neutral was one of the moving considerations in President Wilson's note to the belligerents.

The Kaiser has summoned Ambassador Gerard to discuss the peace conference, and mediation by the United States is expected to be the chief topic of conversation at the interview. The general opinion here is that peace has been brought measurably nearer as the result of Wilson's note. It is believed here that the success of the peace movement now rests with Britain.

The text of President Wilson's note has not been made public in London or Paris until the cabinets have discussed it. France and Russia are expected to resent it.

It was reported here that Secretary Lansing had issued a statement on the note which is construed as a threat to Germany. The White House hastened to make a denial of any such intention.

Panic on Wall Street.

New York, Dec. 22.—The stock market went through the most exciting day in its history yesterday, with one exception, when news was issued regarding Wilson's note to the belligerents.

Secretary Lansing's first explanatory statement regarding America's intentions caused forced selling on a scale and of a volume which fairly dwarfed all the operations which followed the announcement of the German peace proposals. Prices were slaughtered to the extent of from five to ten and fifteen points, and in one case to 33.

Buxton's Views.

London, Dec. 22.—Sydney Buxton, Liberal member for North Norfolk, said in the House of Commons last night that he hoped that the British government would welcome the aid of the United States in negotiating for terms. He paid a generous tribute to the generosity of the United States towards Belgium and to the help which had been given to the Entente Powers by America. He said that there are 30,000 Americans fighting for the Allies and that America was with us in the war because of the invasion of Belgium and the German campaign of "frightfulness."

Separate Replies.

The Allies will make separate replies to the German peace proposals. The reason for this is not that the Entente Powers are not agreed on general principles, but because each came into the war under different conditions, calling for somewhat different statements.

SPLENDID RECITAL OF "CHRISTMAS CAROL"

The finest entertainment and literary treat ever given in the city—such was the unanimous verdict of all those who were privileged to attend Principal Brady's recital of Dickens' "Christmas Carol" in the Methodist Church last evening.

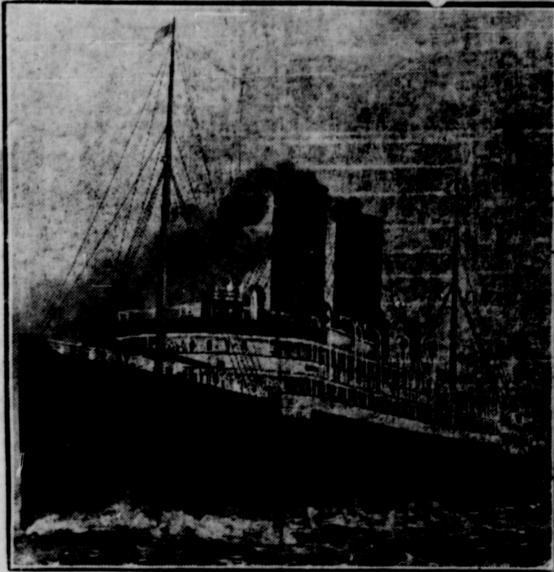
All over the world, in crowded cities and humble hamlets this—perhaps the most attractive and effective of the writings of Charles Dickens—never fails at this season of the year to command the attention and homage of its numerous admirers.

As a recital, the "Christmas Carol" is new to Prince Rupert, and doubtless this accounts for the audience not being so large as desired, but it is safe to say that a repetition would ensure a packed house.

Principal Brady, in his own inimitable manner, caused the various characters in the story to live before his audience, and Tiny Tim, Scrooge, and the ghost of Marley each played their part in realistic fashion.

Other items contributed during the evening were an organ solo by Miss E. M. Eason; song, "Star of Bethlehem," by J. E. Davey, who responded to an encore with "The Holy City," and the solo, "Nazareth," by Meth Davies. These were rendered excellently and received most hearty appreciation. A delightful Christmas festival was brought to a close by the singing of the National Anthem.

Manufacturers of nugget jewelry. Designs made to order.—Blakely Jewelry Co. 299.



ANOTHER LINER GONE.—This is a picture of the Anchor liner Caledonia, which was recently sunk by a German submarine, and her commander, Captain Blaikie, taken prisoner by the enemy. Questions were asked in the British House of Commons the other day regarding the safety of Captain Blaikie, and the inference to be drawn from Mr. Bonar-Law's reply was that notable German prisoners would be considered as hostages.

CANADIAN NAVY
Ottawa, Dec. 22.—The Canadian government intends immediately to augment the Canadian fleet patrolling the North Atlantic and eastern Canadian shores on account of the German submarines which are operating on the Atlantic trade routes.

E. F. DUBY GONE SOUTH TO COMPLETE PLANS

E. F. Duby, who is in charge of the arrangements regarding the construction and operation of the Emerson sawmill here, has gone south to have the plans prepared. He expects to return here early in February, bringing Mrs. Duby with him.

Just as soon as the final arrangements are completed, the contract for clearing the site will be let and work should be well under way early in the spring.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

There will be a special Christmas service of praise in the Presbyterian Church on Sunday evening. Solos will be rendered by Mr. Stewart Langille, of Winnipeg, and the choir will sing Christmas carols. In the morning, a special children's Christmas service will be held. 300.

CASE DISMISSED

The case against Jim Calderone, charged with keeping liquor for sale, at his house on Eighth Ave., was dismissed this morning. There was no evidence to show that he had sold liquor.

For every two dollars cash purchase you have a chance for three prizes. See Tite's window display.

Umbrellas for Christmas gifts.—Wallace's.

LIBERALS RETURNED
Vancouver, Dec. 22.—Both of the Liberal ministers were returned in the by-elections yesterday. Hon. Ralph Smith got 7,296 votes; Hon. M. A. Macdonald, 5,012, and D. E. McTaggart, Independent Liberal, 3,872. The total vote polled was very small.

WELSHMEN WORE BIG SMILES THIS MORNING

The Welsh boys in town were wearing broad smiles this morning, and one wondered if Lloyd George had been doing something spectacular. It transpired, however, that what they were so tickled over was the victory of another "gallant little Welshman," Jimmy Wilde, flyweight champion of the world, over the "Zulu Kid," of New York, who went over there to wrest the championship from the Welshman. Lloyd George reigns supreme in the hearts of the Welsh, but little Jimmy Wilde and Freddy Welsh run him pretty close in the affections of the public of Wales. The Welsh are proud indeed of their three little champions, who are all fighters, though in different spheres.

T. A. HOPPER DEAD

(Special to The Daily News.)
Vancouver, Dec. 22.—T. A. Hopper formerly president of the Hopper, Phillips Trust Company, is dead.

Casseroles \$3.75, put bowls complete at \$3.00, tea sets for \$2.25, trays \$2.25, cut glass bowls \$4.00, nappies \$1.50, are a few of our specials. Blakely Co. 299.

NEW WELLINGTON COAL.
phone 116. We have just received a shipment of 500 tons Lump Coal. We are prepared to put in your winter's coal for you.

AUSTRIA AND HUNGARY ARE FACING FAMINE

Antagonism Growing Between the Two Countries—Peace Agitation Widespread—Greek Situation.

(Special to The Daily News.)

Rome, Dec. 22.—From responsible sources information has reached the Vatican that the food scarcity in Austria and Hungary practically amounts to famine.

Internal conditions in Austria are decidedly serious and the antagonism between Austria and Hungary is growing more acute. Grave political complications are threatened and the anti-war agitation is widespread and growing to such an extent that the authorities cannot repress it.

Greek Situation.

London, Dec. 22.—The latest note of the Entente Allies to Greece is said to contain a demand for the control of all telegraphs, mails and railways; the release of all Venizelist prisoners; the prohibition of the meeting of reservists and an inquiry by a mixed commission into the disturbances of December 1st and 2nd.

Rumanian Front.

Amsterdam, Dec. 22.—The Dobrudja region is the scene of a fearful conflict between the Teutonic forces and the Russians and Rumanians. The Germans carried several heights in the region of Balabanica and Dachkoi but were driven from them by terrific counter attacks by the Allied armies.

On other portions of the Rumanian front, the enemy is advancing gradually, in spite of a desperate resistance by the Russians and Rumanians.

ORDINATION SERVICE AT ANYOX YESTERDAY

An ordination service was held in Christ Church, Anyox, on Thursday morning, when Rev. F. G. Shepherd was advanced to the priesthood by Bishop Du Vernet. Canon Rix joined in the impressive ceremony of the laying on of hands. The Bishop gave a brief address on St. Thomas, often called "Doubting Thomas," but it must be remembered that through honest doubt he quickly rose to the heights of faith and became "Believing Thomas."

ANOTHER GOAL

(Special to The Daily News.)
Berlin, Dec. 22.—Von Mackenzen's answer to the Kaiser's congratulations on the taking of Bucharest is that one goal has been taken, but not the final one.

Sterling silver manicure sets, walking canes for ladies and gents, good range of leather goods. Blakely Co. 299.

China-ware for Christmas gifts.—Wallace's.

BRITISH AIRMEN DROP BOMBS ON GERMAN LINES

Ton of High Explosives Dropped on Military Buildings—German Planes are Brought Down.

(Special to The Daily News.)

London, Dec. 22.—The enemy reached the British trenches near Lens but was promptly ejected, while south of Armentieres the British raided the German trenches and captured a number of prisoners.

British aviators dropped a ton of high explosives on the German military buildings and behind the enemy lines on the Ypres front. One German aeroplane was destroyed; another was driven down, and six others were damaged. Four British machines are missing.

The French destroyed a German gas machine near Rheims yesterday.

Macedonian Front.

Paris, Dec. 22. (Official). Snow and rain continue to fall heavily along the Macedonian front and operations are confined mostly to intermittent artillery fire. There has been heavy artillery fighting in the region of Majadaja, on the Struma section and some particularly violent exchanges in the region of Hill 1050. There has been a sharp engagement at the bend of the Cerna River.

Italian Steamer Sunk.

The sinking of an Italian steamer in collision with the French armored cruiser Ernest Renan is reported in a despatch from Marseilles. Several persons, most of them passengers, were drowned.

Rebels Released.

London, Dec. 22.—Acting on instructions from the Home Secretary, the Irish rebels, who were imprisoned after the disturbance in Dublin, have been released. According to a statement in the House of Commons last night, the interned men will be sent to their homes.

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Westholme management takes great pleasure in announcing that it is now able to give to Prince Rupert audiences the finest pictures of any individual theatre on the continent. In order to do this, it will give a new program each evening. Fox films will be shown on Mondays; Famous Players, Tuesdays; Variety, Wednesdays; Red Feather, Thursdays; Famous Players, Fridays, and Blue-Bird, Saturdays. 300.

97-piece dinner-ware. Special Xmas values. Geo. D. Tite's.

**LONDON CAFE
AND GRILL**
Third Avenue
Serves Nothing but the Best
STRICTLY UNION HOUSE
BOXES FOR LADIES

WESTHOLME
OPERA HOUSE
TONIGHT ONLY
HAZEL DAWN in
"ONE OF OUR GIRLS"
Comedy-drama in five acts.
CANADIAN DIVISION Leaving England for the Front