

THOMPSON, BELDEN & CO.

We will keep open evenings four days before Christmas beginning next week--Monday.

T., B. & Co.

Men's Bath and Lounging Robes

ALL WOOL ROBES, made coat style, finished with silk braid and cord, at \$7.50 and \$12.50. MIXED WOOL BATH ROBES, boxed pleat front and back; well made, finished with cord, \$3, \$4 and \$5. MEN'S SECTION - A step to the left of the main entrance.

Give the Babies Hosiery for Christmas

Cashmere Silk Heel and Toe, 25¢. Silk and Wool, 35¢, 3 pairs for \$1.00. Silk Hose made of Japanese Tram Silk, colors pink, sky, tan and white.

The Fur Shop

Every piece new this season, in the most fashionable styles - soft, luxurious. They are necessary to complete the wardrobe of every well dressed woman.

We sell only true to name furs and hose at moderate prices.

Popular Priced Christmas Gloves

One-clasp PIQUE, Lambskin, Mocha and Cape Street Gloves.

Two-clasp OVER-SEAM for dress, in colors and black and white-\$1.00 a pair.

Thursday Special Sale Basement Only

Beautiful Paradise, \$5.00 value for \$1.95. Rich Black and Natural (also an exquisite yellow.)

Three Hundred Beautiful Plumes, black and all new shades, \$2.95 value, for \$1.39.

Basement-Millinery Department.

Embroidered Pillow Slips

eyelet, figured and scroll designs, scalloped and hemstitched edge, sizes 45x36, a pair, at-\$1.25, \$1.50, \$2.50 and \$3.50 Basement.

New Plaid and Striped Silks

For waists nothing prettier, many of them just received. They are in the soft satin weaves in Roman stripes of dark rich colorings or beautiful plaids in all the new color combinations.

MEXICANS BATTLE NEAR TORREON CITY

Villa in Charge of Troops Engaged in Conflict with Forces of Carranza.

SCOTT IS ORDERED TO NACO

If Warning to Cease Firing Across the Border is Not Heeded It Will Be Returned by the Americans.

EL PASO, Tex., Dec. 16.-A battle between Carranza and Villa troops was in progress yesterday southeast of Torreon. Each army numbered about 5,000 men. General Villa is in personal command of his troops. The Carranza forces are commanded by Colonel I. Vazquez.

U. S. Battery Placed

NACO, Ariz., Dec. 16.-An American battery was placed on the Blaine road today, nearly three miles southeast of Torreon, two miles from the border in a straight line and directly north of Governor Maytorena's headquarters. This battery faces the front of the Villista force besieging General Hill's Carranza soldiers in Naco, Sonora. It also faces Hill's east trenches. The guns are trained directly south and the gunners are stationed beside their artillery.

Two more American batteries are in the same relative positions as the one installed today except that they are further west.

No firing was carried on today by the Mexican factions, except an occasional shot from Hill's trenches.

Scott Ordered to Naco

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.-Brigadier General Hugh L. Scott, chief of staff of the army, was today ordered by the War department to proceed to Naco, Ariz., to use his personal influence with Mexican leaders to cease hostilities.

Secretary Garrison Explained General Scott's Mission in This Statement:

"My reason for personal acquaintance acquired with the different factions while he was stationed on the border. General Scott has been sent to Naco to induce the warring factions on the Mexican side of the line to desist from impeding persons and property on our side of the line. General Bliss has pointed out to us the possibility of utilizing General Scott's knowledge and experience in this way." General Scott will leave Washington

ARMIES OF FRANCE TAKE OFFENSIVE

Forces of Republic Appear to Be Advancing from Belfort Clear to Sainte Marie Aux Mines.

SWISS CITY HEARS REPORT

Heavy Artillery Firing Causes the Houses of Basel to Shake by Night and by Day, It is Asserted.

BASEL, Switzerland, Dec. 16.-The French armies appear to have taken the offensive along the entire front from Belfort to Sainte Marie Aux Mines. Heavy artillery firing causes the windows to shake in houses here by night and day. The French have converted Thann into a stronghold.

The movement reported from Basel apparently is in the nature of a general attack by French forces in Alsace. The front along which hostilities are said to have been undertaken is more than fifty miles long. It extends north and south, roughly paralleling the border of Alsace.

The reinforcements to be sent to Naco in response to the request of General Bliss as a precautionary measure. The troops are the Eleventh, Twelfth and Twenty-second infantry from Texas City and three batteries of artillery from Fort Hill, Okl. With these reinforcements the American forces at Naco would be brought up to approximately 5,000 men, including eleven troops of cavalry, three regiments of infantry and six batteries of artillery, with twenty-four guns.

Morgan Proposes to Sell Alaska Road

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.-J. P. Morgan conferred with Secretary Lane today and said that he soon would submit a proposal to sell the Alaskan Northern railroad to the government as part of the new federal Alaska railway system. The law authorizing an Alaskan system permits the purchase of existing lines.

Britons Waked by Thunder of German Guns

HARTLEPOOL, England, Dec. 16.-(Via London, 12 m.)-The residents of Hartlepool were awakened this morning by heavy gun firing.

A great crowd at once assembled on the beach to learn whence the sounds came. Shells from German ships soon began dropping into the city, whereupon the crowd rapidly sought shelter.

SCARBOROUGH, England, Dec. 16.-

(Via London, 12:13 p. m.)-Four German cruisers bombarded the town of Scarborough this morning.

LONDON, Dec. 16.-The official press bureau this afternoon made the following announcement with regard to the German attack on the North Sea coast of England:

"The fortress commander at West Hartlepool reports that German war vessels engaged that fortress between 8 o'clock and 9 o'clock this morning.

"The enemy was driven off.

"A small German war vessel also opened fire on Scarborough and Whitby.

NINE ARE KILLED AT HARTLEPOOL

Number Are Also Injured When the German Cruisers Bombard English Commercial Town.

SIX VESSELS ARE VISIBLE FORTS ON RIVER TEES RESPOND-PIECES OF SHELLS FOUND ALL OVER CITY, MAKING THE DAMAGE QUITE CONSIDERABLE.

BULLETIN.

LONDON, Dec. 16.- (2:30 p. m.)-The New Castle Evening Chronicle places the number of German cruisers which bombarded Hartlepool at three. It says that these cruisers were attacked almost immediately by four British destroyers. Several entire rows of houses at Hartlepool were destroyed and the gas works were seriously damaged, this newspaper says. It is believed several persons were killed or wounded.

HULL, Dec. 16.-Nine persons are reported to have been killed at Hartlepool, and a number injured in the bombardment of that port by German cruisers this morning.

The bombardment of Hartlepool lasted for twenty-five minutes at the first sound of firing and women and children were seen running through the streets in their nightclothes.

Pieces of shell have been found all over Hartlepool. The damage inflicted on the town is said to be considerable. One of the shells hit a gas tank and set it afire. Many business premises and private houses were wrecked by the shells.

Woman Killed at Scarborough. HULL (Via London), Dec. 16.-The arrival of the German raiders off Scarborough took place under cover of a thick veil of fog. Some people declared they saw a German cruiser lying off Castle Cliff.

The roof of St. Martin's church was struck, and one woman is known to have been killed.

Another church was damaged and the roofs of several houses were carried away by shells.

The people were greatly excited. They rushed from their houses at the first sound of firing and women and children were seen running through the streets in their nightclothes.

James Harvey Scott of Scarborough, who arrived here after the bombardment of the seaside resort by the Germans, said:

"I could not believe it was a real attack; I thought the battleships were practicing. Then I saw a shell fall on the roof of a house, which caught fire, and there was a cloud of smoke.

"I also noticed that the Balford hotel, right in the center of the town, was struck. As I walked to the station shells were burning overhead and at the station shells fell into the yard. A porter there picked up a fragment.

"A man, accompanied by his wife and children, came running into the station, saying that the roof of their house had been damaged by shells."

Another eye witness from Scarborough said that a large amount of debris was scattered about the square near the railway station by the shell fire. Roofs of houses were torn away, windows were broken and holes were bored entirely through some houses. The huge chimney at the brick works was knocked down.

Several shells were fired at the wireless station, with what result is unknown.

It is reported here that word had been received that an attack by the Germans was contemplated, and that consequently the authorities were in readiness to meet it. The coast defenses had been thoroughly prepared and all the units of infantry and artillery were at their stations and in the trenches.

Up to 3 o'clock this afternoon no reliable estimates of the casualties were available.

Shells Fired at Town Hall. Just before daylight a vessel of the cruiser type was observed off Scarborough. The warship came in close, and for half an hour threw shell after shell into the town, doing considerable damage.

A woman behind a counter in a shop was killed instantly and her husband wounded. The ruins of the shop tumbled down about them.

Forty or fifty shells were thrown, the objective of the German gunners apparently being the town hall, which was damaged slightly. Other property suffered much more severely and at places the streets are filled with wreckage.

During the bombardment the vessel steamed slowly past the town and finally disappeared in the haze. After it had been lost sight of, the sound of its guns was heard for some time.

Whitby Also Bombarded. WHITBY, York, England, Dec. 16.- (Via London.)-Two German cruisers bombarded this town between 9 and 10 o'clock this morning.

Whitby is in the North Riding of Yorkshire on the coast and about half way between Scarborough and Hartlepool. It is a town of about 12,000 people, and also is a seaside resort. It has a group of hotels along the cliffs and the town itself is situated on both banks of the Esk at its junction with the sea. The extensive ruins of the celebrated abbey of St. Hilda at Whitby upon the summit of the east cliff and the ancient church closely adjoining are the most notable buildings of the town and are prominent from the sea. Whitby harbor is protected at its entrance by stone piers running out for 300 yards. On one of these extensions is a handsome stone light tower elevated eighty-three feet above the sea. The trade of Whitby is still of considerable importance, though it has declined of recent years. Sixty years ago Whitby was an important whaling port.

The two German cruisers appeared to be about three miles off shore. In their bombardment several persons were injured and a number of buildings, including the historic abbey here, were damaged.

One person is reported to have been killed. The cruisers after the bombardment disappeared in a northeasterly direction.

Coughs and Colds. Weak, sore lungs quickly relieved by Dr. King's New Discovery. The first dose helps. Best remedy for coughs and colds and all lung troubles. 50c and \$1.00. For sale by all druggists.-Advertisement.

See Want Ads Produce Results.

KING PETER of Servia, although 70 years of age, is in the field at the head of his army.

CRISIS SEEMS NEAR IN DUAL MONARCHY

Crowd in Vienna Marches to the Foreign Office and Protests Against War Methods.

DEMONSTRATION IN PRAGUE

Bohemians Object to Having Sons Killed in War Fought for Anti-Slav Interests-Riot in Budapest.

ROME, Dec. 16.-According to reports from the Austria frontier, the situation in the dual monarchy is approaching what might be called a crisis.

These reports are worthy of credence. They set forth that following the news of the defeat inflicted on the Austrians by the Servians, the situation became grave and was rendered more acute by internal disorders, especially at Vienna, Budapest and Prague.

At Vienna large crowds gathered in the Ringstrasse and marched to the foreign office and the war office, the people calling loudly in protest against the way the war is being conducted. At Prague there were demonstrations which assumed a separatist character, in the sense that the Bohemians do not desire to see their sons killed for German or anti-Slav interests, and have not hesitated to express their views along this line.

At Budapest the demonstrations were more violent and almost assumed the character of a riot. The principal streets of the city had to be cleared by the police, and while attempting to make its way to the ministry of defense, the crowd cried "down with Potiorek." General Potiorek is one of the commanders.

NICARAGUA TREATY IS TAKEN FROM COMMITTEE

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.-After months of deliberation and repeated failure to get action, the foreign relations committee today ordered the Nicaraguan treaty reported to the senate for ratification. The United States would pay \$3,000,000 for a Nicaraguan canal route and naval bases on the Bay of Fonseca.

Hartlepool and Scarborough Are Rich in History

Hartlepool was the place where the Comte de Har landed from his fleet in 1171 to assist William the Lion in invading England. From that time the importance of the harbor seems to have been appreciated, and it was the only ancient port of the Palatinate. Here Bishop Pudsey prepared the galley, fitted with silver and containing a silver throne, on which he intended to accompany Richard I to the Crusades.

Hartlepool formerly was a very perfect specimen of a fortified town. It was circled by a wall, strengthened by bastions, a breast wall and parapet, and there were ten towers to defend it. In the reign of Queen Elizabeth the town fell into such decay that it was spoken of as "an ancient, decayed coast town, once a brave, stately and well fortified town, now only a sea land habitation for fishermen." It continued to go down until 1813, when a law was passed for improving the port. It then began to improve, until it now is an important port for the exportation of coal and the importation of lumber.

Scarborough was the landing place of the Norseman, Harold Hardrada, in 1065, when he began his invasion of North Britain.

WATCH! A WONDERFUL CHRISTMAS GIFT SATURDAY TO THE PEOPLE OF OMAHA AND VICINITY

See Friday Night Papers For Full Particulars

Important Notice!

Anyone who wants to buy Wines and Liquors for the Holidays should go to a reliable house which sells all goods at one price.

As a means of bringing ourselves before the public, we offer the following special offer:

With each \$1.00 purchase we will give a very fine Imported Calendar.

With each \$2.00 purchase we will give a large bottle of Wine and a very fine Imported Calendar.

With each \$3.00 purchase we will give a bottle of Choice Wine, Calendar and very fine Fruit Dish.

C. SCHLANK & CO. 1307 Douglas Street.

Fruit-Vigor has Cured Worse Cases of Constipation than yours-after physics have totally failed.

Pleasant to take and really corrects disordered conditions. This is what physics, pills and mineral waters cannot do. Only \$1 per jar from your druggist-or by mail from us. Information on request.

STEWART FOOD COMPANY 447 Security Building Chicago

GREAT REMOVAL SALE Here is Your Opportunity To Save From 50 To 80 Per Cent on ALL FINE JEWELRY

Building to be torn down. We must vacate. Xmas Shopping look over our display before buying. Gifts that last a Lifetime.

REESE JEWELRY CO. 307 SOUTH SIXTEENTH ST.

DENNIS "CLINCHER" FELT WEATHER STRIP

Brr, Brr, Brr Weather Strip

NOTE-MAIL PASSES THROUGH BOTH HOULDING AND FELT. New Style DENNIS Clincher

James Morton & Son Co., 1511-13 Dodge Street "THE HARDWARE PEOPLE."

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BOOST FOR OMAHA by buying your Calendars of us. Write or phone for our salesman to call.

N. B.-High-class salesmen wanted

F. M. SHAFER & CO. 12th and Farnam Sts.

Quality Cigars

Are the only kind that please the recipient. We have them in boxes of 10 to 100, domestic or Havana, at prices to fit your purse.

Ladies You will be accorded every courtesy if you come here to select a box of cigars for your husband, brother or sweetheart.

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We have the finest equipment for making enlargements from negatives or prints. Size up to 30 x 40. Cost depends on sizes and finish desired.

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AMUSEMENTS.

BRANDEIS Tonight at 8, and All Week. Matinee Saturday. The Theater's F. JOSEPH AND HIS BROTHERS. Prices: 50c, 75c, \$1.00, \$1.50 and \$2.00.

Three Days Beginning Sunday, Dec. 20. Matinee 1:15 P. M. JEFF and Tuesday IN MEXICO.

Opheum Phone Douglas 424. ADVANCED VAUDEVILLE. Daily Matinee, 2:15; Night, 8:15.

Other and the week-Charlie Adams, Mlle. Marjorie, Valde, Alexander & Scott; Ida Dinsell; Laughlin's Comedy Dogs; Fells & Co.; Opheum Travel Weekly; Irving M. Miller, the best (except Sat. & Sun.); Joe. Night, 8c, 25c, 50c, 75c.

"OMAHA'S FUN CENTER" gayety Daily Mat., 12-25-30c. Wed., 12-25-30-75c. The Boyd Theater Stock Co. HER OWN MAT. 7:15. Nights-8c and 20c. Mat., 25c. Next Week-The Woman in the Case.

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Many good things our competitors say about Petroleum Coke are true. But it is unnecessary to burden your furnace with anything but the coke. We are headquarters for this Petroleum Coke. After 4 years' experience with this coke we can truthfully say it is the best fuel on the market for all purposes--free from smoke, soot or ashes.

Save \$1.00 a Ton on Your Winter's Fuel by Putting in Your Supply Now of

Petroleum Carbon Coke Was \$10.50 per Ton, NOW \$9.50 A TON

NO SOOT--NO SMOKE--NO ASHES. THIS COKE IS THOROUGHLY SCREENED.

AITCHISON-COOK-CORNEER UNION FUEL CO. 266 South 18th Street. Phone Douglas 266. Distributors for Petroleum Coke.