

WASHINGTON SURE OF UNDERSTANDING

American Government Officials Believe no Serious Trouble Will Arise with England.

NOTE NOT BRUSQUE AT ALL
Surprise Expressed in Administration Circles that Tone Should Be Considered Sharp by Britons.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—While the American note to Great Britain concerning interruptions of the commerce of this country continued today to absorb official Washington, there was manifest a tone of confidence that the numerous difficulties which had arisen in the last five months eventually would be amicably adjusted. Already the discussion had turned to measures which the United States could properly take in cooperation with Great Britain to reduce to a minimum the necessity for extended search on the high seas.

It became known that agents of the Treasury department, acting in co-operation with the State department, in one case already had inspected a cargo of cotton, which inspection has satisfied the British embassy and facilitated the progress of the shipment to its destination.

See Mutual Understanding.
The belief was held in official quarters that a mutual understanding might be reached whereby legitimate cargoes could be certified by their departure from this country and thereby made immune from detention.

High officials of the Washington government were somewhat surprised that the American note had been regarded as "brusque" in some London quarters. They said the British cabinet, which has it under consideration, after a single reading of the document, must be convinced that the United States had spoken in the most friendly spirit, though nonetheless earnestly and emphatically on points on which it considers itself thoroughly justified under the laws of nations.

Nothing Preemptory.
There is nothing preemptory in the note, nor is it phrased in tones of irritation, but those who are familiar with its contents say it is a matter-of-fact and frank statement of the difficulties experienced by American shippers and the failure of the British government to meet the various protests which have been made.

In all, it became known today, thirty American ships and cargoes, their value totalling millions, have been detained. The American note points out specifically, however, that reimbursements for previous damages alone cannot cure the situation, as the activity of the British fleet has restrained many exporters, whose business has become stagnant, for fear of the numerous technicalities and the risks involved in shipments.

Cause of Stalemate.
With respect to cotton shipments, the cases of one or two illegitimate cargoes, it is recognized that the British government to suspect all shipments. The United States government has no evidence that there has been contraband concealed in cotton cargoes, but England has made two specific complaints of it. Although not vouching for or confirming the charges, the American government has thought it advisable, nevertheless, to issue a warning that one fraudulent shipment must produce embarrassment to cargoes generally.

Secretary Bryan, discussing the note with callers today, declined to give any details. He described it as a general statement summarizing the American position in several specific cases. Those neutral diplomats who called to ask about the note were not given a copy of it, but were informed that the first newspaper report was accurate. They were told that the State department probably would not deliver the text of the communication to foreign governments generally, as it still regarded the note as confidential, the American government itself not having authorized its publication in part or in whole.

General Points.
The general points on which the note complains and which have been the basis of several specific protests hitherto are substantially as follows:

1. American cargoes have been searched on the high seas—a belligerent right that is not denied—but the ships have been diverted to ports for their examination, a circumstance held not justified under international law unless full proof of hostile destination is presented at the time. Serious loss, especially to perishable goods, has resulted from the delay in a ship's voyage.

2. Great Britain has regarded absolute and unconditional contraband as in the same class. The general understanding in international law has been that absolute contraband includes those articles which are intended for use by a belligerent force and directly destined to it. Conditional contraband, including foodstuffs, comprises the articles which are susceptible of use by a belligerent force, but it must be proven that instead of being intended for the civil population of a country, they are actually destined for use by its army and navy.

3. Irrespective of the controversy over the conditions on which the note is issued, it is a neutral and a belligerent country, the note sets forth that in respect to contraband there ought to be no question of contraband at all for the reasons are those of peace and not of war. Since the United States has upheld the doctrine of "continuous voyage" when permitted seizure of a cargo even in its journey between neutral ports provided eventually it was destined for a belligerent, the American note claims that the position that proof of such hostile destination must be shown at time of seizure.

The American government contends that a shipment sent to a specific consignee known as a "neutral" shipment is not of itself suspicious. It claims that this may be an important circumstance in proving a case, but is of no inherent value unless other facts are adduced, as at the time of detention or seizure.

Robert Moore Takes Day Off to Join the Ranks of Benedictines
Robert C. Moore, solicitor for the classified department of The Bee, stepped timidly, but gingerly, up to L. R. Crawford, manager of the department, yesterday afternoon and asked, "May I have the afternoon off? I have some very important business."

Upon receiving assent, he departed in a staid manner, hid himself in the "court house," procured a marriage license and proceeded to become a benedictine. He married Miss Maude Olmstead, daughter of A. H. Olmstead, 1384 Lothrop street. Rev. William Jones of the United Brethren church read the marriage vows.

As the marriage was a surprise, Mr. Moore's co-workers in the classified department are planning to greet the benedictine with proper ceremony and escort upon his return.

Phantom Photography is Not in Herman Schoenfeld's Line

"Herman Schoenfeld—Spiritualist Photographer."

Somebody has been having a little winter sport at the expense of The Bee's amiable staff photographer.

A pretty, well-dressed woman brushed in to ask Mr. Schoenfeld to take her photograph.

"Very well, madam, just be seated. I am not in the habit of doing this kind of work, but I suppose I can do it for you."

"I want our photographs taken together," she said.

"Er—uh—beg pardon," said Schoenfeld. "Are you to have anyone else in the picture with you?"

"Only my husband here."

Schoenfeld looked, but saw nothing resembling a husband. He invited the woman to a chair, then stepped into his dark room, emerging in a moment when the woman remarked:

"Beg pardon, but we are rather in a hurry today. We have an errand or two before catching our train."

"Very well, madam, I'm ready when you are," said Schoenfeld.

"All right, then," said the woman, leaning herself with one hand raised to an angle of about forty-five degrees, as if to rest upon a shoulder. "Go ahead and take us."

But Schoenfeld continued to wait, a little bewildered by now.

"Why are you waiting?" demanded the woman in an animated tone. "I said we were in a hurry."

"Madam"—Schoenfeld stepped closer to his strange visitor this time—"Madam," he said, gently, "did I understand you to say that your husband was to be here and have his picture taken with you?"

"Yes"—this real sharp and quick-look—"Then, madam, I'm waiting for your husband."

"My husband is here—here he stands at my side. True, we have not lived together for five years; have not morally seen each other for that long, but here is my husband at my side. I see him as plainly as I see you. Can't you see him?"

Herman Schoenfeld has two fine eyes, those lustre, large, expressive eyes, and now they were larger and more expressive than usual. The look they gave the woman was worth the money, but they saw not.

"I didn't know but maybe I had gone blind," said Schoenfeld, relating his experience in the news room. "I finally could see anybody standing beside her or anywhere near her and that until I could see her husband I couldn't photograph him."

"Then," said she, in great disgust, "why did they tell me you were the spiritualist photographer?"

PARIS WAR OFFICE REVIEWS FIGHTS

Operations of Last Nine Days Put Germans on Defensive Everywhere.

LIQUID MUD GETS INTO GUNS
Soldiers Unable to Fire Them Use Them as Clubs—Eight Hundred Yards Gained in One Day.

PARIS, Dec. 31.—There has been given out in Paris the following official recital of the principal events of the war between December 16 and December 25:

"This period of nine days resulted in consolidating the successes won by us during the ten days preceding. Our aggressive attitude has been continued with ever increased energy; everywhere the enemy has been reduced to a defensive attitude. The violence of counter attacks has been evidence that he accepted this attitude reluctantly. The checking of every movement made by him in his endeavor to recapture ground lost to us made our advantage the greater.

"It is proper to say that at various points along the front, particularly near Arras, on the western boundary of the Argonne district, and near Verdun, we have made ourselves the masters of important points of support.

"The operations to the north of the Lys have been attended by great hardship because of the bad weather; the cold, liquid mud, in which the men have had to move, has gotten in the breeches of their rifles. This made it impossible to shoot. The fighting consequently has been with the butt end of muskets and even with fists.

"According to an expression used by one of their leaders, our soldiers are literally hots of mud. There has been organized for them a system by which they can now bathe and change clothes upon leaving the trenches."

Coroner's Jury Finds Volley Killing U. S. Hunter Accidental

BUFFALO, Dec. 31.—A coroner's jury at Fort Erie, Ont., empaneled to investigate the death of Walter Smith, the Buffalo man shot by Canadian soldiers Monday, returned its verdict this evening after hearing the testimony of the soldiers. Thomas Delaney, a provincial police officer, and several eyewitnesses.

The verdict was: "We find that the deceased, Walter Smith, met his death Monday forenoon, December 28, while evading arrest for unlawfully shooting ducks out of season in Canadian waters, by a volley delivered accidentally from the rifles of three militiamen who were called upon by Provincial Officer Thomas Delaney to assist him."

Officer Delaney, who occupied the stand for more than an hour, took the responsibility for the whole affair on his own shoulders. He called upon the soldiers to help him make the arrest, he said, under the law that permits an officer of the law to call upon any citizen for help in an emergency, and ordered the firing.

Nearly Half Million Spent in Election of Federal Senators

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—Nearly half a million dollars was spent by candidates of all parties last November in the first popular election of United States senators in the history of the government. To be exact, \$499,772.25 represents the total of sworn statements of campaign expenditures filed with the secretary of the senate.

Democrats led in the expenditure with \$242,586.90. Republican candidates spent \$196,843.35; progressives, \$65,153.94; prohibitionists, \$4,443.23; socialists, \$364.74; and independents, \$1,960.06. The average per capita expenditure was: Democrats, \$2,674.32; republicans, \$2,322.44.

The largest expenditures were in Georgia, where the senators were elected. The amount sworn to by all candidates there totalling \$41,622.63.

Several candidates reported that they spent no money whatever, but the lowest expenditure on record was 8 cents, reported by E. L. Hitchens, socialist, candidate in Ohio.

Austrian Warship Torpedoed by French

LONDON, Dec. 31.—A dispatch to the Daily Mail from Venice contains a report that a French torpedo boat has torpedoed the Austrian dreadnought Viribus Unite at Pola.

It is said the hull of the dreadnought was pierced, but that it succeeded in reaching its dock.

ALLIES CONTINUE STEADY POUNDING

They Are Still Attacking and Pushing Lines Forward When Opportunity Offers.

EAST LOSSES ARE ENORMOUS
Casualties Must Be Largely Increased by Disease for Men Fight Under Dreadful Climatic Conditions.

LONDON, Dec. 31.—Since the Russian defeat of the Austrians in Galicia, which, while not irreparable, is likely to have a marked effect on the whole Austro-German campaign in the east, there has been no important development on either front.

The allies, although making no dramatic attacks on the German lines, are steadily hammering away with their artillery and when opportunity offers push their lines a few yards forward. A French eye-witness in a description of the battles

from December 14 to 24, gives a good idea of the kind of fighting in progress and records gains, which, while each is marked only in yards, amount in the aggregate to a considerable advance at many points.

Use Guns as Clubs.
A few hundred yards in Flanders were taken by primitive methods, the breeches of their rifles choked with mud, the allies used them as clubs and in many cases fought the Germans with their fists.

In one little French village within sound of the guns, Princess Patricia's light infantry, the first of the Canadian contingent to go to the front is billeted, waiting its turn to go into the trenches. The men were accorded a splendid reception by their comrades in arms and the French villagers.

See Turning Point.
With the defeat of the Austrians in Galicia, and South Poland, and the retirement of the Germans across the Sura, Petrograd believes the turning point has been reached in the battle of the Polish rivers. The chief fighting is now taking place on the Pilica where the Germans are still on the offensive and have brought up big guns.

The losses in these battles have reached enormous figures in dead, wounded and prisoners, and must have been largely increased by disease for the men fought under dreadful climatic conditions and in mud for which Poland is notorious.

CARPENTER SALESMEN MOSTLY "FARMER BOYS"

Of the fifty salesmen employed by the Carpenter Paper company, in convention at the Paxton hotel, forty-eight were once farmer boys, according to a vote taken at last night's meeting. The two "city fellows" are E. R. Jones of Kansas City and E. H. Hoel of Omaha.

Messrs. Jones and Hoel expressed appropriate sorrow because they were not also "farmers," but explained that they were not responsible.

The second day's session of the Carpenter Paper company' salesmen was attended by James A. Carpenter of Kansas City, who was chairman; George A. Carpenter of Des Moines, L. P. Sins, William Hute and W. A. Kline of Lincoln, and E. E. Leah of Wyoming, in addition to local and other outside managers and "head men."

Following a banquet, the evening was devoted to speeches by the salesmen, who told how they made steadfast customers and increased sales. The follow-

Blind Mrs. Batt Robbed by Visitor

Hopeless because of her age and sightless eyes, Mrs. Fannie Batt, 213 Hamilton street, stood by yesterday afternoon in her home while a burglar robbed the house. Mrs. Batt is past 90 years of age and was home alone when the robber knocked at the door.

Mrs. Batt, thinking it was a neighbor told him to come around the back way, which was open, and added that her blindness and inability to move prevented her from opening the door.

The thief took advantage of the information and came in. After helping himself to about \$20 worth of jewelry and a watch and chain, he took his leave. Mrs. Batt could give the police no clue to the thief.

See Want Ads Produce Results.

AFFAIRS AT SOUTH OMAHA

Interstate Commerce Board's Ruling Hits Shippers.

NEW BANK FOR PAPILLON
T. E. Shanahan of Magic City Will Be Cashier of Institution to Which Charter Recently Issued.

Unofficial word came yesterday that the order of suspension recently made by the Interstate Commerce commission on the loading of cattle between the original point of destination and the final destination had been vacated.

This means that where formerly a shipper could ship a part of a load from the original point and then stop and pick up other stuff en route, now the shipper will not be allowed to do this on interstate shipments.

New Bank for Papillon.
Word has come that after a long struggle a new bank is to open in Papillon February 1, with T. E. Shanahan of the "Packers' bank of South Omaha as cashier. It is understood that a charter for the new institution was issued a few days ago. T. J. Shanahan, who is assistant cashier at the Packers' bank in South Omaha, has been with that institution for several years.

Fraternity Dance.
The Alpha Dated fraternity entertained at an informal dancing party Tuesday evening at Jacobs' hall. The hall was beautifully decorated in black and orange, colors of the fraternity. Those present were:

- Messes: Freda Truitt, Bess Adler, Dora Sherman, Sophia Weinstein, Pearl Greenberg, Hannah Kukulofsky, Miriam Levy, Ida Wirtheafter, B. Newman, Minnie Arkin, Edith Castelman, Bess Levey, Esther Epstein, Rose Muskin, Gady Gumburg, Fannie Rosenbloom.
- Messes: Morris Robinson, Phil Rosenblatt, Samuel Coban, Jack Albert, Maxwell Frankin, Barney Kukulofsky, George Levey, Ed Wirtheafter, Harry Mallock, Abner Kanian, Arthur Marowitz, Simon Levey, Rosenbloom, Harry Stein, Dr. Abe Greenberg, David Chernias, D. Sherman.

Recently daring robberies have been committed in South Omaha, but it remained for one thief to outdo the others in boldness. The said light-fingered brother climbed onto a wagon belonging to the State Dry Cleaning works and lifted a number of suits of clothes, according to the police.

Magic City Gossip.
Mrs. F. O. Beck is ill at the South Omaha hospital.

The Redcross will give a ball at Redmen hall New Year's eve.

Today is the last day for bids on supplies for the difference city departments.

The local Eagles will give a mask ball at their hall on New Year's eve.

Miss Gertrude Sullivan is spending the holidays at Excelsior Springs, Mo.

Charcoal coal, unscreened, \$4.25; screened, \$4.75. South & Central.

The Welsh Grocers beat the Curo Mical Springs in a bowling game at the Bruswick alleys Tuesday night.

Charles F. Muhl has left on a business trip to Birmingham, Ala.

The usual New Year's dinner will be held at the Presbyterian church, Twenty-third and J streets, on January 2.

Office space for rent in the office, 218 N. street. Terms reasonable. Well known location. Tel. South 77.

There will be a short service from 9:20 a. m. until 10 a. m. in the southwest room of the lower assembly hall at the First Presbyterian church.

THE BUBBLE SONG from the opera "High Jinks" with Howard James & Co. will number tonight. Picture program on page eight. Bessie theater.

The rooms of Bert Waffles at Twenty-fourth and N streets were robbed Wednesday night.

The next meeting of the South Omaha division of the Child Conservation league will be postponed until January 7 because of lack of heat in the high school building during the holidays.

Friday, Jan. 1, 1915—Burgess-Nash Co.—STORE NEWS FOR MEN—Burgess-Nash Co.—Phone Doug. 137.

HERE YOU ARE MEN!

Here's the News About That Special Sale of Men's and Young Men's

OVERCOATS

Including Values of \$30.00, \$35.00, \$40.00 to \$60.00 at

\$1650

Which Starts Saturday Morning and for Which We Asked You to Wait

A very special purchase brings these remarkable values. The surplus stock of one of the foremost manufacturers of high class clothing for men—brand new styles, the very acme of merchant tailoring—HAND TAILORED THROUGHOUT and possessing that character and perfection of fit and finish that is found only in the product of the best merchant tailors.

The Styles:--
Are the season's most favored—smart, individual models that lend a pleasing appearance to the wearer. The kind that are appreciated by men "who know."

The Fabrics:--
The newest foreign and domestic overcoatings are included, such as: The finest Hockanun fabrics, Worumbo, Scotch overcoatings, Vicmas and the celebrated English Crombie overcoatings.

The Models:--
Are regular in build and the sizes range from 34 to 44 chest measure.

Colors Include:--
Blue, gray, tan and a variety of new mixtures, also black.

We believe this sale will establish the season's record for value giving in overcoats for men and young men. Sale starts Saturday morning at 8:30, Fourth Floor.

NOTE! The sale announced here is but a forerunner of what we are going to do for the men of Omaha in the matter of clothing, for within the next few weeks we will install a complete Men and Young Men's Clothing Department, representing several of the finest and best known lines in the country.

Burgess-Nash Co.—Fourth Floor.

Men's \$2.00 to \$2.50 FRENCH FLANNEL SHIRTS, Sat. \$1.50

THEY were bought for a special before-Christmas feature, but arrived too late—that's the reason for this sale. Fine quality French flannel with neat stripes, light colors with French cuffs, sizes 14 to 17. Worth and would have sold had they reached us in time, for \$2.00 to \$2.50; special, for..... **\$1.50**

Men's 50c Silk Hose, 20c
Accordian silk hose, black and red, black and white, blue and black; the regular 50c quality, sizes 10, 10 1/2 and 11; sale price, pair, 20c.

Outing Flannel Night Robes, 50c
Good patterns, cut full and long. "Faultless" make, originally to \$1.00; very special Saturday, 50c.

Burgess-Nash Co.—Main Floor.

Men's High Grade Shoes at \$5.00

THE SHOES we are offering to men at this price are positively the best shoes that can be built for the money. High-grade footwear in every particular, including both staple and ultra-fashionable models. Mahogany, Russia calf, patent colt, black vic kid and gun metal leather. \$5 pair

Burgess-Nash Co.—Main Floor.

We Have Not Forgotten the Boys' Specials for Saturday—Just Note

Boys OVERCOATS, \$3.45
Values up to \$6.00

HERE are without doubt the biggest overcoat values for boys, aged to 17 years, that have been offered for a long time. Made in a variety of good styles of chinchillas and fancy weaves, with shawl and convertible collars. Originally to \$6.00. **\$3.45**
Sale price Saturday.....

Boys' \$12.50 and \$15.00 Overcoats, \$8.50
Overcoats for ages to 20 years. Chinchillas and fancy weaves, with convertible and shawl collars. Brown, gray and blue. Formerly to \$15; sale price... **\$8.50**

Children's \$5.00 Overcoats, \$2.95
Overcoats for ages 5 to 10 years. Chinchillas and cassimeres. Formerly to \$5.00; sale price..... **\$2.95**

Boys' \$5.00 Suits, \$3.45
Boys' Suits in fancy weaves and corduroy fabrics, some with two pairs of trousers, originally to \$5.00; sale price... **\$3.45**

Burgess-Nash Co.—Fourth Floor.

BURGESS-NASH COMPANY

"EVERYBODY'S STORE"