

BRITISH PUBLIC IS TAKEN ABACK

President's Note Urging Peace Negotiations Causes Great Astonishment.

PAPERS DO NOT LIKE IT

London, Dec. 22.—The general public had its first news of President Wilson's note from the morning papers and the matter was the one topic of conversation on incoming suburban trains and throughout the country. The people, like the press, were rather taken aback, as they had about arrived at the conclusion that Premier Lloyd George's speech had put an end to all peace talk unless the

central powers, in their reply to the premier, were prepared to define their terms. That the president or any other neutral ruler would take any action was farthest from their mind. The evening papers, which do not print editorials, came out with big headlines which expressed their views. The Evening News, which is the afternoon edition of the Daily Mail, heads a reprint of the comment of the morning papers, with the one word "No" in large, black type, under it. "Our Answer to President Wilson," and again, "No, no, no; that is the answer Great Britain gives today without a moment's hesitation to the surprising note from President Wilson."

Calls It Amazing Note.
President Wilson's note is given the honor of the biggest display in the morning papers, relegating the war news to a minor place. Headlines, such as "President Wilson's strange peace essay," "President Wil-

son's peace feeler," "Amazing note," indicate in slight measure the astonishment caused by the communication. Much speculation is indulged in as to the motive or causes which inspired the president to send such a note after his assumption of the attitude that he would not mediate unless invited by both groups of belligerents.

One section of the press, utterly rejecting any idea of the possibility of peace negotiations as the outcome of the recent German note, attributes the president's action to the success of propaganda conducted by Count von Bernstorff in America and what they describe as the masterly inactivity of the late British government. The more general impression is that the agitation in America for an embargo on food exports had much to do with Mr. Wilson's action. It is also suggested that the president may have received special information from the German government and is aware to

the extent of which Germany is willing to go toward "reparation, restitution and guarantees."

This is the view expressed by the Daily Chronicle. Some discussion is also devoted to the charges of congress passing food export measures and possibly an embargo on cotton and war materials.

Will Do as Lincoln Did.

The Times credits President Wilson with complete sincerity, but fears his suggestion will be misunderstood and has no doubt whatever regarding the reception of the note will have at the hands of every allied nation. According to the Times, the entente will unquestionably treat it as Lincoln and Seward treated all suggestions of European interference in the civil war.

"The premiers of England, France, Italy and Russia," says the Times, "have all plainly and vigorously declared the course desired by Germany to be utterly inadmissible, and any

variation of this view out of deference to President Wilson's views is altogether unthinkable. The surprise at the president's step will be intensified by the contrast between the state of mind reflected in his note and the chorus of approbation with which the chief organs of American opinion were hailing Mr. Lloyd George's rejection of the German peace proposals. The difference between them cannot but suggest that in supporting the German scheme President Wilson may have failed to gauge the trend of the best American opinion.

"We should have supposed that by this time the irreconcilable conflict between the objects of the allies and the objects of the central powers was plain to all. We share to the full President Wilson's humanitarian feelings; we are even fighting for them, but we see no hope of a just and lasting peace until Prussian militarism has been laid low on the field of battle. The enemy are posing as victorious aggressors in the very docu-

ment in which they condescendingly summon the allies to negotiation. "Under such conditions it would be a crime against our dead and against the future generations to acknowledge the triumph of militarism and confess the failure of democracy. For these reasons we cannot listen to President Wilson's pleading. We trust it will be treated by all the allies with the civility it deserves, but we are confident it will not stay the hand of any of them in vindicating the liberty of nations."

Welfare Board Has Six Persons to Choose From

Bess Monsky, Ila Bridges, Mrs. Zaida J. Diamond, Earl G. Jones and Mrs. Rose Chaus have been proposed to the city council as new employees of the Board of Public Welfare for next year. Two will succeed investigators who have resigned.

Woman Dies at the Age of Ninety Years

Mrs. Mary Du Bois, mother of Mrs. Frank Colpetzer, died Thursday at the home of her grandson, Moser C. Colpetzer, 402 South Thirty-eighth street, at the age of 90 years. The funeral will be held Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock from the Colpetzer residence.

File Cured in 6 to 14 Days.
Druggists refund money if PAZO OINTMENT fails to cure Itching, Blind, Bleeding or Protruding Piles. First Application gives relief. 10c.—Advertisement.

Demos Whisper About Phil Hall and Walt Steele

Omaha democrats close to the throne state that Phil Hall, jr., will succeed himself as adjutant general and Walter E. Steele of this city will be appointed as assistant.

THOMPSON, BELDEN & COMPANY

Glove and Merchandise Certificates for Gifts

Issued for any amount, redeemable at any time in gloves, or other merchandise throughout the store, in the kind, color and size desired. One of the best last-moment gifts.

Handkerchiefs for Everybody

Inexhaustible seem the assortments in the face of the heaviest holiday buying ever:
Dainty embroidered linen handkerchiefs, 25c, 50c, 75c, \$1.00, \$1.25 upward.
Madeira embroidered handkerchiefs. Plain sheer hemstitched style, 10c, 15c to 50c.
Every one pure linen.
Appropriately packed for gift purposes.

The New Candy Section

Offers a complete assortment of fine candies.

SATURDAY SPECIAL
One pound of assorted chocolates, **39c**
A special package, 60c quality.
Basement Balcony.

Shop Early--- Morning Hours Are By Far the Best

A Substantial Gift A Wise Choice---

Blankets and Comfortables for the Home

Wool blankets, a fine quality, large size, in fancy plaids of pink, blue, tan, gray; also white with colored borders, \$5 and \$7 a pair.

Comfortables for full size beds, varied patterns in silkline, fancy stitching, filling of best sanitary cotton, winter weight, \$2.50.
BEDDING—BASEMENT

The Largest and Best Assortment of Silk Hose

Ever Shown for Christmas.

Prices, \$1.25, \$1.50, \$1.75, \$2, \$2.50, \$3, \$3.50 and \$5 a pair.

Packed in Holiday Boxes.

Appropriate Gifts

....For All....

From the Least Expensive to the most Elaborate Each Article Bears the Mark of Quality—

Thompson, Belden & Co.



The Last Day Before Christmas This Store Is One to Enjoy Thoroughly

It presents itself in gay Holiday mood and offers its manifold gift collections with the happy knowledge that they afford the choicest wares of many nations—the craft of the most skilled artisans, all assembled here for your convenient and expedient selection.

Chosen Thoughtfully With a Fine Sense of Fitness



The Men's Shop

With Varied Stocks of Desirables Will Be of Great Service Saturday



GLOVES OR GLOVE BONDS for men, mocha or glace, silk lined or unlined, \$1.50 to \$3.00.

SILK HANDKERCHIEFS, Jap silks, in white, 50c, 75c, \$1.00. Cheney Silk, fancy colors, 75c. Linen Handkerchiefs, 15c-**\$1.25** Initials in white or colors, 35c and 50c.

FANCY SUSPENDERS, 50c, 75c, \$1.00 and \$1.50. All in Xmas boxes.

BATH ROBES, bright, warm colors, made with cords or belts. A gift sure to please, \$5.00 to \$18.50.

SILK KNIT REEFERS, fringed ends, all colors, \$1.50 to \$2.50. Cheney Silk Reefers, fringed or hemmed ends, \$1.50 to \$5.

BEAUTIFUL NECKWEAR, large shapes, made with slip-easy bands, 50c to \$3.50. Buy your neckwear of us for good quality.

MEN'S HOSE, Wayne Knit or Interwoven, 25c to \$2.00 the pair. Good silk hose our specialty.

GIVE SHIRTS. Whether you prefer plain or pleated, soft or stiff cuffs, white or colors, you will find a great variety to pick from in such well known makes as Manhattan, Eagle and Arrow.

OUTING FLANNEL PAJAMAS or NIGHT SHIRTS; **SILK PAJAMAS**, packed one in a box, at \$4.00 and \$5.00.

The Mens Shop is only a step to the left as you enter the main entrance.

Silk Underwear Is Always Preferred

Silk Vests, \$1.75, \$2.50. Milanaise Silk, \$3.50. In pink and white. Silk Bloomers, \$3, \$3.50. Silk Combinations, \$4.75, \$5.

See the many beautiful things offered at reasonable prices.
Main Floor.

Choice Dress Silks Specially Priced

Suitable for waists and dresses, yard wide; a good range of wanted colors.
\$1.50 and \$1.75 qualities, for \$1.28.
\$2.00 qualities, for, \$1.69.

New All Wool Dress Goods

Poplins, Crepes, Serges, values to \$1.50 yard.
SATURDAY—95c a Yard



New Neckwear

Broadcloth Collars and Sets. Organdy Collars, Hand-embroidered Collars, Georgette and Embroidered Collars, Lace Collars, Vestees, Guimps and wide plaitings for fichus. Fresh, Desirable Neckwear, that is exclusive in most instances. Prices very sensible.

In the Hand Bag Section We Find

That, notwithstanding the vogue of the fanciful bag, the bag of leather is still the most welcome gift. Seal and Crepe Seal Leather Bags, lined with silk and leather, fitted with coin purse and mirror, \$2.50, \$3.75, \$4 up to \$9.50.
Main Aisle, First Floor.

Art Needlework

For those who, the last day, fear that the gift distinctive will elude them, this Section offers much of interest. Here are those delightful little things, just more than a card, and a host of exquisite articles for the home beautiful.
Third Floor.

Sale of Novelties at Reduced Prices

\$2 Hand-tinted Indian pictures, \$1.00. A few Model Pillows, Scarfs and Center Pieces for HALF PRICE. Art Calendars, ONE-HALF PRICE.
Third Floor.

APRONS

Don't forget a slip-on apron to completely cover your dress when you take one last look at the Christmas feast. Two very popular styles are priced at 85c and \$1.35. Practical Gifts at Popular Prices.
Basement.

THOMPSON, BELDEN & COMPANY

Helpful Suggestions

FURS: The gift of all gifts. choice, luxuriously warm and fashionable, reasonable in price—
Muffs, \$6.75 to \$50.
Scarfs, \$7.50 to \$50.
Hudson Seal Coats, \$140.25 to \$324.50

BLANKET ROBES: Made of Beacon Blankets, in mannish style, warm and comfortable; a complete variety of styles and sizes, \$5, \$8.75, \$10.50, \$12.50.

BLOUSES: To see is to enjoy, for these are new blouses of every description and color and fabric, plain blouses, beaded blouses, embroidered blouses, to suit every taste and purse. Saturday some very excellent Georgette Blouses, \$3.95 and \$5.95.

SILK PETTICOATS: Advanced styles for spring, very dainty and choice, plain shades and flowered effects, \$5, \$6.50, \$7.50 to \$12.50.

From the Gift Shop—Second Floor.

Christmas Gloves Easy to Choose the Last Day

No mistake when the gift is gloves, especially when they are Trefousse Gloves. Large stocks in all colors and sizes.

First quality, in white and delicate pastel shades, also navy, brown, gray and black, one or two clasps, heavy embroidery, \$2.75. Washable gloves, \$1.75.

Piques, in all colors, \$2.00 and \$2.25. Capes and Mochas, \$1.25, \$1.50, \$1.75. Children's Kid Mittens, 59c.

Greeting Cards, Seals, Labels, Booklets, Tissue Paper, Ribbons To Adorn All Parcels.

FINE LINENS Such As Ours Make the Loveliest Kind of Gifts.

New Camisoles Specially Priced Saturday for \$1

Every miss and matron will appreciate a camisole, and the one we mention is so reasonable in price. It is very dainty, being made of flesh colored wash silks, trimmed with wide filet lace and ribbon shoulder straps. The price, \$1.00, is for Saturday only.
Corsets—Third Floor.



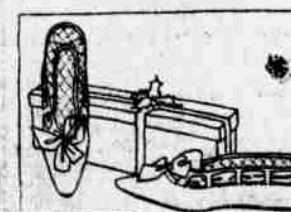
White Ivory Toilet Articles for Christmas

Powder Boxes, Hair Receivers, Perfume Bottles, Clothes Brushes, Jewel Boxes, Pin-cushions, Nail Buffers, 98c. White Ivory Nail Files, Button Hooks, Pin Cushions, Perfume Bottles, Powder Boxes with puffs, SPECIAL, 19c.

Infinite satisfaction attends your every purchase in the Thompson-Belden Store.

Shop Early--- Morning Hours are the best

A SOROSIS CERTIFICATE



The Slipper illustrated comes in red, bronze, blue and pink kid. Priced, \$3.

Solves a Problem
Redeemable for Sorosis Shoes in any city, at any time, in any part of the world.

Slippers for the Holidays
Complete lines of Felt and Kid Slippers for men, women and children.