

CHRISTMAS SPIRIT WILL RULE IN THE TRENCHES

Men on Western Front Expected to Make Truce of Their Own.

NATIONS SENDING GIFTS TO SOLDIERS

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun. LONDON, Dec. 23.—It is likely that the Christmas spirit will soften for a few hours the bitterness of conflict on the long battle front between the Belgian coast and Alsace and that habit and thoughts of home will accomplish what diplomacy and the Church failed to do—produce a brief truce.

There is a very definite belief here that either Germans or Allies will on Christmas Day actively pursue their business of killing each other, and that choruses of old songs will supplant momentarily the thundering guns and popping coras the fanfares of rifle fire.

Much will depend, however, on the mutuality of feeling. If Christmas Day begins with a lull in the fighting and neither side attempts to take advantage from the inactivity of the other there may be a wonderful story to tell on Saturday of how 1,000,000 fighting men closed their eyes to savagery and miseries of war and made a pretence at least at happiness and gaiety and good feeling.

The Germans, it is known, are making great preparations to celebrate Christmas in the trenches with many of the events which German feels somehow as if Christmas was peculiarly a Teutonic institution, and it may be that German commanders and German soldiers will be eager enough to lay aside their rifles, their bayonets and their rifles, and let the bells be passed through Cologne with their staff yesterday—and the reports from Berlin are that his commanders will provide a fine celebration in his honor. It is possible that the celebration will not take the form of a furious onslaught against the allied lines. All Germany is sending Christmas gifts to the army, and special effort has been made to provide the soldiers with many of the comforts and luxuries of a home Christmas.

Paris rather feels that there will be little bloodshed on Christmas Day, and as usual takes the lead in the French effort to make the soldiers of the republic happy. So many boxes of Christmas gifts have been forwarded that the army transport is fairly overloaded. The gifts are useful—woolens, clothing, blankets, all sorts, boots, knitted things, which cigars, cigarettes, sweets, etc. In Paris the gaiety is a little forced, but the Government is permitting the celebration of Christmas in the trenches.

What has been done her best to give her soldiers a cheerful Christmas. Tons of presents have been shipped to Belgium and France. The royal family have sent cigars, stockings, and other gifts to the healthy soldiers have each contributed some important item.

The fact that Gen. Joffre and Gen. Foch have furnished many British officers with Christmas presents has been published in the London press. The London press has also published on Christmas Day, the official Press Bureau will be closed from 11 P. M. to-morrow until 9 P. M. Christmas. The King of the Belgians will do his part toward making Christmas a happy day for his valiant little army. Every Belgian soldier will receive from King Albert a box of excellent Dutch cigars, twenty-five in the box. The hand of every cigar will bear the inscription "The King of the Belgians, 1914." Many persons in this city have contributed to a fund to buy presents for the Belgian soldiers.

"SANTA CLAUS PARIS."

Capital Plaza St. Nick for the Men at the Front.

Paris, Dec. 23.—While Paris goes about its Christmas preparations, the forced gaiety, one question and only one bestirs the hearts of those whose blood brothers are lying in the trenches, somewhere along the ribbon of excavations stretching from the North Sea to the Alps. "How will our men pass Christmas? Sea? Through wives and mothers continue to prepare baskets of provisions and warm clothing and though fathers and brothers continue to speak and newspapers show the military officials report show the correspondence at all parts of the front continues to send accounts of general attacks in the English and French.

Life in the trenches continues as though the Parisians really believed that Christmas in the trenches is going to be a frosty but peaceful picnic. Most of the shop windows contain articles for the soldiers. The chief part of these displays is warm clothing.

A favorite way of sending gifts is in boxes of clothing, special articles, cakes, fruit and above all provisions. The soldiers have been complaining particularly of the lack of sweets. For those who are not content with a gift of a few sweets, the kind used by subscribers, but smaller, which will enable the men in the trenches to examine the enemy without getting shot.

Bold glasses, pocket flashlights and small flasks are greatly prized. There is some difficulty about obtaining the flasks as they were previously imported from Switzerland, which has recently closed aluminum in the list of war contraband, forcing the French themselves to manufacture the flasks.

PRESENTS FOR GERMANS.

Many Reach Trenches—Sentries Sing Christmas Carols.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun. BRUSSELS, Dec. 23.—Many Christmas presents are arriving from the front. The German troops in the trenches. The sentries on the Dutch frontier have been singing Christmas carols all the week.

The striking feature of the German lines is the presence of many little Christmas trees, which the soldiers compete in decorating with gifts from home.

ROYAL XMAS CARD FOR EVERY BRITON AT FRONT

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun. LONDON, Dec. 23.—The King and Queen have sent 700,000 Christmas cards, one for every British soldier and sailor at the front. The cards bear photographs of the King and Queen, with the words: "With best wishes for Christmas. May God protect you and bring you safe home." The wounded will receive a separate card which is inscribed: "May you soon be restored to health."

BRITISH MAKE SHIPS CONTRABAND OF WAR

Special License Necessary Before Transfer to Foreign Owner.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun. LONDON, Dec. 23.—A revised list of conditional contraband issued by the Government to-day includes ships or all kinds. It will be necessary to obtain a special license before a British ship can be transferred to a foreign owner.

NO WORD IN WASHINGTON.

Great Britain Has Right to Make Regulations, However.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—The revised British contraband list has not yet been received here officially. According to best opinion obtainable here to-night regulation requiring a special license for transfer of British ships to a foreign owner constitutes no discrimination against the United States unless the stipulations for sale to an American owner are different from those for sale to a Spaniard or an Italian, or person of other nationality.

RIGHT OF SEARCH CLEAR.

British Consulate Here Explains Procedure on Contraband.

The effort of the British Admiralty to expedite the transit of neutral shipping while maintaining England's right of search in English ports and on the high seas is exemplified by two recent visits as applied to ships leaving United States ports. These were explained yesterday at the British Consulate, 17 State street, and at the American Commission for Belgian Relief, in charge of the routing of relief ships, at 71 Broadway.

As to the question of the right of search, no definite arrangement yet exists between the United States and Great Britain whereby the latter waives this right. No documents can be obtained even from British consular officers in our ports, which will exempt ships from the possibility of examination for contraband goods. Clearance papers issued by United States port authorities will be accepted as evidence that the ship contains no contraband only when there is no reason to believe that the cargoes may have been augmented at sea.

The Foreign office, however, in order to expedite the transit of relief ships, has instructed its Consuls in this country to issue certificates of inspection. Port authorities at Plymouth and Falmouth at sight of these guarantees will often omit examination of the cargo.

RESINOUS GOODS TABOO.

British Declare Camphor and Turpentine Are Contraband.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—Great Britain has decided that resinous products, camphor and turpentine are to be placed on the list of absolute contraband. The British Embassy notified the State Department late to-day of a receipt of a telegram from London to that effect. No date was given as to when it would become effective.

WAR DEMONSTRATION IN TOKIO.

Newspapers Oppose Demand to Send Troops to Europe.

TOKIO, Dec. 23.—Demonstrations are being made in this city in favor of sending a Japanese expeditionary force to Europe. One reason assigned for the manifestations is a desire to distract the attention of those who oppose an increase in the army. The leading newspapers assert that it is not clear that Japan's allies in Europe wish the Japanese to take part in a European war and that in the part the empire already has played, the taking of Kiao-chow, Japan was acting in accordance with the terms of the Anglo-Japanese alliance.

BET ON WAR WITH NORWAY.

LLOYDS QUOTES RATES ON ITALY'S FUTURE ATTITUDE ALSO.

LONDON, Dec. 23.—The war risk rate at Lloyd's, insuring against war between Italy and Austria and her allies within a month, is quoted at 30 guineas per cent, and for the same risk within six months 50 guineas per cent. The rate of five guineas per cent is quoted for insurance against war between Great Britain and Norway within twelve months.

FRENCH GET U. S. GIFTS.

Christmas Presents Distributed in 12 Departments.

SCHWAB ADMITS GIVING UP BIG SUBMARINE ORDER



Mrs. Harry Payne Whitney.

She returned from Europe yesterday on the Lusitania. After the holidays she will return to France to look after the field hospital she has established there.

Says Bryan Told Him To, but He's Selling Ammunition—Dr. and Mrs. Derby and Mrs. Whitney Also on Lusitania.

The Lusitania finished yesterday afternoon one of the most tumultuous trips in her career, shipping the crews of many combats, smashing a port lifeboat and giving her passengers little chance to enjoy life afloat. Only seasoned voyagers reported for meals on the protracted passage of 6 days and 17 hours, a day longer than usual even in wintry seas.

Charles M. Schwab, head of the Bethlehem Steel Company, who has made fifty-two voyages in the last thirty-two years, admitted that the meals did not attract him most of the time. He had little to say of the ups and downs of the voyage, but he was willing to talk about his mission to England. The ship news men talked with him in his cabin coming up the bay. He said: "I went over to England to cancel my contracts for submarines because Secretary of State Bryan said the law would not permit me to make them. Mr. Bryan declared that it would be a violation of neutrality to ship from this country vessels of war, either in whole or in part, to any of the warring nations. I shall not sell you the value of the contract, but I will admit that it was more than \$15,000,000. I have, however, very large contracts for ammunition and my company has been shipping material for the other side right along."

Dr. and Mrs. Derby Here.

Dr. Richard Derby, who has been taking care of the wounded of the war at the American Ambulance Hospital in Neuilly, arrived with his wife, formerly Miss Ethel Roosevelt, who has been nursing the wounded. Mrs. Derby, who was east of Montreal, finally was somewhat improved on her arrival here, seasickness having upset her nerves. Dr. Derby said: "I return from France with the highest respect for the French people and the French soldiers. They have a splendid organization for the care of the wounded."

Dr. Derby said he would remain here, resuming his work at St. Louis's Hospital. Dr. Derby never lost a case in hospital or field. He and Mrs. Derby dined last night with Col. Roosevelt at Oyster Bay. Mrs. Harry Payne Whitney, who also arrived by the Lusitania with her sister-in-law, Mrs. Willard D. Straight, said she would return to France after the holidays to continue her work in her field hospital, which she endowed with \$250,000.

Henry C. Dodge, formerly attaché of the American Embassy at Paris, stopped in Berlin on personal business on his way to London and finally was seen here. He said in the several days he was in the German capital he was astonished at the superabundance of the Germans in ultimate victory. In England he found every one talking about the war lasting possibly two years. In Berlin physicians, artists, clergymen, mechanics and men on the street generally, smilingly declared that Germany was sure to defeat all the opposition and that she had provisions that would last her four years and material for making war that was practically inexhaustible.

The Lusitania brought 4,300 sacks of Christmas mail, which was taken from her by two mail boats, one on each side, as she came up the bay. Immigrants who were paid for their work, helped dump the mail into the crates and thus facilitate the docking of the ship.

GEN. SAM HUGHES TO BE KNIGHT, OTTAWA HEARS

Hon. G. H. Perley, Acting Dominion High Commissioner, Also May Get Title.

OTTAWA, Dec. 23.—It is rumored in semi-official and well-informed circles here that at least two well known Canadians are slated for knighthood when the New Year honors are announced.

The Hon. George H. Perley, acting Dominion High Commissioner in London, and Major-Gen. Sam Hughes are said almost certain to be rewarded with titles for their work in connection with the war.

IRISH-CANADIANS GO TO WAR. Purely Irish Regiment Being Formed in Montreal.

OTTAWA, Dec. 23.—Nearly 5,000 Irishmen, it is estimated, are to be the first contingent to go to Canada and the second will contain an almost equal proportion.

AMERICANS STUDY TO \$650,000 IN WHEAT ON TWO RELIEF SHIPS.

Two Members of the Foreign Legion at Instruction Camp. W. K. Vanderbilt Gives \$25,000 for American Hospital in Paris.

AVIATOR THAW SOON TO GO APPEAL BY GALSWORDTHY

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun. PARIS, Dec. 23.—The correspondent of THE SUN with the American section of the Foreign Legion writes from the front that Corporal Edward Morlaac of California and Corporal Charles Sweeney of Oregon, a former West Pointer, who are to take a course of instruction in French military science preparatory to promotion to sub-lieutenants, have left to begin their private work.

Mr. Thaw has entered for the round the world race for the Schneider cup with Curtiss. The Deperdussin company offered him 20,000 francs (\$4,000) to fly in one of their machines, but he refused the offer.

12,000 DESTITUTE IN BAGDAD. Morgenthau Appeals for Aid for Victims of Flood.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—Ambassador Morgenthau reported to-day that he was receiving many appeals for assistance for destitute people in Bagdad, 12,000 having been made homeless by the flood, he reports, as a result of the overflow of the Tigris River.

TURKS SURPRISE RUSSIANS. Constantinople Tells of Victory in the Caucasus.

CONSTANTINOPLE (via Berlin and Amsterdam), Dec. 23.—It is officially announced that the Turkish army despatched to Egypt began its forward march upon the Suez Canal on Monday. It is under the command of Mustafa Kemal.

ALL IS CALM IN PALESTINE. Few Persons Interned and Many Foreigners Allowed to Leave.

ROME, Dec. 23.—Father Azopardo, a Dominican, who has just returned from Jerusalem, says that the situation in Palestine is calm and that the care of persons of the neutral countries has been entrusted to neutral consuls.

TURKS SEIZE FRENCH CONSUL AND THREATEN MASSACRE. Christians in Arabia in Peril.

ROME, Dec. 23.—(Delayed).—The Christians at Hadolla, Arabia, are in grave peril, according to the officers of the Italian consulate. The Turkish army today from Red Sea ports. The Turks have seized the French Consul, but he was rescued and is now safe aboard the Italian transport ship.

26,768 ULSTERITES ENLIST. Recruiting in Belfast Far Exceeds That in Dublin.

BELFAST, Dec. 19.—The actual recruiting returns for the province of Ulster from August 4 to November 28 are now accessible. They show a total of 26,768 for the province, of which 14,288 are in the Ulster Division and were formerly in the old Ulster Volunteer Force. The city of Belfast has 15,425 of the total.

PRICE LIMIT ON POTATOES. Austria Fixes Maximum and Provides Penalty for Violators.

VIENNA, Dec. 23.—Maximum prices for which potatoes may be sold went into effect to-day in Austria. The wholesale price of 220 pounds of potatoes is fixed at from nine to twelve kroner (\$2.60 to \$4.00). The measure provides for compelling the sale of potatoes by those found hoarding them and the measure is enforceable by a fine not exceeding 5,000 kroner (\$1,250) or imprisonment.

CANADA IMPROVES ITS PORTS. Levels to Have Largest Dry Dock on Continent.

OTTAWA, Dec. 23.—Notwithstanding the fact that Canada is making no harbor improvements to keep pace with the country's growth as an export nation, the Halifax port facilities are under construction which will cost upward of \$10,000,000, while \$5,000,000 is being expended at St. John's.

TENNESSEE FAILS TO SAIL. U. S. Cruiser Remains at Alexandria—No Explanation of Delay.

Where to Dine Well—amid pleasant surroundings where service and well cooked food with moderate prices prevail—Is No Longer a Problem—Try Haan's Restaurant

MAY RAISE PRICE OF ALL RUBBER GOODS

British Embargo on Exportation Costs Industry \$250,000 Daily Here.

PROTEST TO WASHINGTON

The British embargo on the exportation of crude rubber is costing the rubber industry about \$250,000 a day, has sent the price up to 50 cents a pound, and threatens to deprive of employment 125,000 people engaged in the trade, according to the Rubber Club of America, which includes in its membership the leading rubber manufacturers and importers of the United States.

A situation of the utmost gravity confronts the American rubber manufacturing industry as a result of the absolute embargo placed by the British Government on the exportation of crude rubber from their dominions and her colonies, says a statement by the club.

Germany is willing to pay almost any price to obtain crude rubber, and it is only natural that Great Britain should take every precaution to prevent rubber from reaching her enemies. Nevertheless, it is felt by the American rubber industry that Great Britain is placing an embargo on this problem, and the State Department is thoroughly alive to the importance of the situation.

KILLED AND ROBBED OF \$2,000. Jewelry Salesman's Body Found and I. W. W. Leader Arrested.

BOSTON, Dec. 23.—Maurice A. Albertson, a Lawrence jewelry salesman, who left that city last Sunday to show \$2,000 worth of samples in Wakefield, was murdered and robbed of his property in that town. His mutilated body was discovered five feet below the surface in the cellar of a small shack in the Italian section of Wakefield today and evidence of an attempt to destroy the building by dynamite and fire to cover up trace of the crime were found.

THE KUTUKTU PALACE BURNS. Mongol Lama's Residence Destroyed, With Priceless Contents.

LONDON, Dec. 23.—The palace of the Kutuktu, the deified Lama of the Mongols, has been entirely destroyed by fire. Its contents, which were regarded as almost priceless, also were lost, according to a despatch from Urumchi, Mongolia.

MACHINE FELT FOR BELGIANS. German Bank Rate Reduced.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun. BRUSSELS, Dec. 23.—The Imperial Bank has reduced its discount rate to 4 per cent. The rate on loans and securities is 6 per cent.

SIMPLICITY marks the photograph by: PIRIE MAC DONALD Photographer of Men.

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