The British, who are little given to de-

GERMANS REACH HAGUE

'FOR PEACE CONFERENCE'

LONDON. Dec. 27. German delegates have arrived at The Hague to make preliminary arrangements for a peace conference if one can be brought about, mays a dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company today from the Dutch capital.

In view of the preparatory meeting of delegates to a peace conference sug-gested in the German reply to Presi-dent Wilson Gorman agents have ar-rived at The Hague and are making

inquiries for hotel accommodations for German peace representatives.

strength.





# LA CLASSE DEL 1898 E' CHIAMATA ALLE ARMI

25,000 Officine Meccaniche Lavorano Giorno e Notte in Italia Per Produrre Munizioni

AVANZATA SUL CARSO

Le Truppe di Cadorna Avanzano Per 300 Metri a Sud di Monte Faiti e di Gorizia

# ROMA, 17 Dicembre.

Tutto il parlare che si fa da un pezzo di pace e di prospettive di pace, con le proposte della Germania e dei presidente degli Stati Uniti, non ha scosso affatto il giverno Italiano che pensa solo alla continu-azione della guerri ed alla sua intensificasione a piu' o meno breve distanza. L'attivita militare dell'Italia infatti non e' dimi-nulta per nulla. Ieri li governo pubblicava un decreto col quale sono chiamati alle armi i giovani della classe del 1895, che si armi i giovani della classe del 1895, che si debbono presentare al rispettivi diatretti per essere arruolati li primo del mese di gennalo 1917. cloc' lunedi' della settimana entrante. Questo nuovo contingente di truppe giovani e fresche aumentera' di ol-tre 300,000 le forze combattenti dell'italia. Nel tempo medesimo vi sono in Italia 2500 stabilimenti industriali ed officine meccani-

che invorano giorno e notte per la fabbri-cazione di armi e di munizioni.

Sulla fronte dallo Steivio all'Adriatico il Natale e' passato in una vigile atteza, che in alcuni punti e' stata interrotta da im-provviai attacchi nonostante le condizioni atmosferiche veramente terribili. Nelle zone di montagna la neve e' alta fino a quindici piedi

leri sera il Ministero della Guerra pub blicava il seguente rapporto del generale Cadorna circa la situazione alla fronte italoaustriaca:

Si sono avute azioni isolate qua e la' sulla fronte di battaglia delle Alp del Carso, azioni cha pero' sono state ostacolate dal cattivo tempo.

Sull'altopiano del Carso, a sud di Monte Faiti, nel abbiamo riorganizzato la nostra linea avanzando per una distanza di 300 metri con un riuscito attanza di soo metri con un riuscito at-tacco di sorpresa. In uno dei fonsi crateriformi occupati da noi in questa sona appena conquistafa abbiamo tro-vato 150 casse di munisioni di arti-glieria che crano state abbandonate dei nemico

# JOFFRE MARESCIALLO

Telegrammi da Parigi dicono che il gov-arno francese ha deciso di elevare il gen-arale Joffre alla dignita' di maresciallo di Francia, come ricompensa per 1 segnalati servigi resi da lui alla patria. Il decreto di nomina sara' nottoposto al Parlamento per la necemaria ratificazione non appena

**BESSARABIA LINES** Russian Positions Across Danube Already Under

Fire of Germans

INVADERS PUSH ADVANCE

Violent Rear-Guard Actions Continue in Rimnik and Braila Region

BERLIN, Dec. 27. Russian positions in Ressarable are being mbarded from the Rumanian side of the Danube, says a displatch from the Ru-mania front today. All of the Danube River is now con-

trolled by the German allies, except a small strip between Braila and Jaakishi and the Killaarm, one of the three divisions of the stream where it empties into the Black

Sea, Field Marshal von Mackenseu's armies are pressing toward Moldavia through Great Wallachia, while the Russian de-fenders fall back. Violent rear guard as-fenders fall back. Violent rear guard astions have been taking place in the region of Rimnik and B alla.

# Cities Designated for Rural Banks

Continued from Page One

One hundred and forty contesting cities were disappointed. The announcement of the location of the tweive Federal farm loan banks marks the

longest step in preliminary organization to be taken by the board prior to the begin-ning of lending operations under the new

rural credits system. Actual lending is to begin, the beard says, in time to give the American farmer funds to finance als spring planting. The Johns to mance while provide the pro-visions of law, permitting U to issue bonds to raise money to give the farmers. In accordance with this prevision, from \$100,-000.000 to \$150.000.000 in farm loan bonds

shortly will be issued. The funds thus raised will be lent to the farmers at rates yet to be fixed, but thought to be about five per cent per annum. The

bonds will yield a fraction over what is charged the farmers in order to enable the farm loan banks to pay for organization and operating expenses. The salient features of the new rura redits system are:

Loans to farmers at low rates of interest.

Extended periods, up to forty years, in which the farmer may repay the loan. Ironciad security for the Government and the farm ioan banks in that loans will be made only up to fifty per cent of the value of the forms uncentration as here.

of the farms upon which money is lent.

No money can be borrowed for specula-tive purposes-only for raising mortgages, purchasing farm machinery and operation and maintenace of farms.

To borrow, farmers must invest five per cent of the amount desired in national farm loan association stock, this to be refunded upon refirement of the loan.

# ALLIED FLEET COMES

# TO MEET U-BOAT RAIDS Warships, Disguised as Commerce Pro-

tectors, Ready to Prevent Repetition of Wholesale Sinkings

BOSTON, Dec. 27.-The presence on this side of the Atlantic of a formidable fleet of Allied warships was indicated definitely today. The vessels are known officially as commerce protectors. They are heavily armed and disguised. For obvious reasons their exact disposition is not revealed, but the arrival in American waters of this newest unit of the British and French Ad-miralties was made known from a source that hardly can be questioned.

that hardly can be questioned. For some days skippers of transatiantic and coastwise steamers have been bringing to New England ports reports of strange-appearing craft making their way west-ward. They made no reply to signals and could not be approached. The commerce protectors are described as large and powerful, but capable of fair speed. They were designed it is said to

is unid to

INDEPENDENCE HALL SUGGESTED AS PLACE FOR PEACE CONFERENCE

The news of Germany's reply to President Wilson's peace note and the proposition that delegates of the belligerent states meet at a neutral place to discuss all phases of the great European struggle prompted Mayor Smith to say he would urge President Wilson to name Philadelphia for such a meeting. "If it is true that such a proposition has been made by Germany," said the Mayor, "I will be the first one to urge upon the President the advisability of holding such a conference in Philadelphia in Independence Hall. A more suitable spot for a conference in Philadelphia in incependence risk. A more country. I am certain that Philadelphia would appeal to all concerned as an ideal place for such a conference. I will act immediately when convinced that there is a chance for the proposed conference or series of conferences."

# SWEDEN BACKS U.S. CALL FOR TERMS OF EUROPEAN PEACE

Continued from Page One intentions in his note, the Westminster Ga-zetts declared :

We should make our own position plain. It is to be hoped that our reply to the American note will be a full, careful and well-reasoned statement. The Dally Telegraph says:

We have not wished to have prema-ture peace and we do not mean to have ". Our enemies have willed such a R. Our enemies have willed such a peace and are making every possible effort to force one as the only alternative to final defeat. They have failed to disarm any of their intended victims by military means; certainly they will not do so by the exercise of diplomacy, tents Alles their terms of peace Germany rents Alles their terms of peace Germany rentably" will furnish to the President the Touton terms, it was stated at the German Emhassy today. Islomate of the central Empires said today they do not expect any move from

today they do not expect any move from President Wilson until England replies to his peace note Should President Wilson thereupon transmit the German reply to England and should England officially as or Germany's heave terms, through the resident, it is thought probable that Ger-any would reply favorably if a similar spossion were made by England.

In such an event, however, formany, it was said, would prefer both sets of peace terms to be held temporarily confidential between the beligerents and President Wilson and withheld from publication except by mutual agreement.

## WILSON TO PUSH PEACE PLANS DESPITE SETBACK

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27. Despite a general feeling of hopelessness mong Government heads over prospects for peace, in the light of Germany's latest communication, men closent to President Wilson believed today he will strive to the utmost to prevent the situation getting beyond his grasp. Two reasons, they said, will actuate him, namely

A desire to end the war. A desire, if possible, to avoid having put through his Sussex note threat

to break relations with Germany should she overstep her submarine pledges,

Officials made no secret of their pessi-mism over the Allies' rejection of the Ger-man proposal for a round-table conference. This was the more emphatic because Germany does not propose now to link the idea of a world peace guaranty with the round-table session, apparently The Allies want

capital. The text of the dispatch from the Hague follows: In view of the preparatory meeting auch a theme included. Howayer, men in touch with President Wilson said the "door is not closed," and that while the Allies may inrow down the German conference idea hard. Wilson still can move sgain, especially with the back-ing of other neutrals.

Wilson's friends hold he has placed him-self in the position of at least a potential mediator, and hence cannot quit now unless his proposals are flatly rejected.

While the idea of obtaining peace is uparmost in Administration minds, there i among the inner circle a fear that a break with Germany is inevitable if present peace proposals fail utterly.

In fact, one of the highest officials said oday that present plans call for no more note writing to Germany on the submarine question And, he added, if the Marina, Arabia and

other cases develop clear-cut violation of German pledges in the Sussex case, or if Germany starts a new submarine campaign in case peace proposals fail, then a break in German-American relations can be the only

answer, He declared that President Wilson's sub-

#### **NEW GERMAN U-BOATS U.S. SEEN IN CLUTCH** TQ BE TERRORS OF SEA **OF GERMAN PUBLICITY** Six-Inch Guns Will Give Greater Ambulance Corps Veteran Fears Radius of Attack on Mer-Peace Pressure on Basis of chantmen **German Victory**

plated.

here shows

inimized.

LONDON, Dec. 27, --- Major Eric Fisher Wood of the French Ambulance Corps. writing as an American to the press here. urges the need of more effective British sublicity in the United States. Among ther things, he says:

"Whatever may be the outcome of Mr. Wilson's peace proposals, a time will ventually arrive when tremendous pressure eventually arrive when tremendom pressure will be brought to bear by America in favor of peace on the basis of German victory unless a vicorous system of British mulicity is organized to combat the ex-tensive and shrewly managed German propaganda into whose clutch the United States is failing.

favorable to Germany would all have been impossible had America appreciated Great Britain's ideals and actions in the present \$6.24.1

It is no exaggeration to say that ninety The he no exaggeration to say that minety per cant of our American citizens have no adequate conception of what Great Britain is fighting for, nor any appreciation of the splendid part she is playing both on Sea and land. From the Atlantic to the Pacific Americans ask the German-taught question, What is England doing, besides making France fight for her, and what business of ours is it apprears. garded urs is it, anyway?"

axpect from her policy of discouraging American correspondents and limiting their publicity to official communiques? Far-from encouraging American authors, the British authorities met them with hin-draness and suspicions, and although offering no substitute, deny them the op-portunity for pro-British publicity.

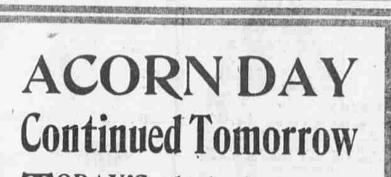
"Germany began by categorically telling the American people what they were to believe. Ready-made news was crammed down their throats and Doctor Dernberg was sent to America to superintend the cramming. His failure was 'kelossal,' but him to believe this was an opportune mo-ment to act. Such action was regarded as smoothing (Jermany's road and enabling her to take the second step in her "peace not." lermany learned from his mistakes and she not only recalled and repudiated him, but thenceforth under the guidance of that ex-pert in American psychology, Count von Sentiment at the front is unconditionally against peace now. Every indication points to much worse conditions in Germany than the world even suspects: on the other hand, the Allies are daily better situated to wage successful offensive. The British webs Bernstorff, she has used highly effective indirect methods."

Major Wood suggests that Great Britain should follow the lead of France, whose publicity has been written to a great extent nonstrativeness, are unanimous in their ex-pression of absolute confidence of the com-paratively early defeat of the Central Powers under pressure of the Allies' growing strength. by American soldiers in the French army and he says, in consequence of France's threwdly managed publicity. America is cholcheartedly pro-French. He concludes:

"It is the testimony of the participant and, above all, the American participant, which is most effective. If we Americans are to begin to appreciate that Great Brit-an's battle is our battle, we must be al-lowed to know that 50,000 of our young men are fighting in the English and Cana-dian armies and sharing the almost dealer men are maning in the English and Cana-dian armies and sharing the alms and ideals, sufferings and privations of these armies. They are so many American inforsements of Great Britain, yet their presence is un-known in this United States. I myself learned of it only two months ago on a chance visit to Canada."

# Civil War Veteran Dies

POTTSVILLE, Pt., Dec. 27.-Edward Madenford, ninety-two years old, the old-est resident of this city, is dead. He was the head of five generations. He was a Civil War veteran.



It was position out, an its submarine is choose its position in respect to the well is to the surface. When lying on the easier with how or stern bearing directly of the vessel it is halling, the target directly of the underness craft is virtually nothing only pared with the target presented by his merchantiman, ordnance officers said. The would mean that if a merchantman carries and accuracy, attempted to sink the situation ine ordering it to hall, the merchant used and accuracy, attempted with ease before the requestry range-finding shots could be first from it at the small, low target. WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.-Submarines of altherto undreamed-of offensive power and



after an unheralded transatiantic voyagewill be dwarfed in ablitty and power by the For This Kind of Weather new type of submersible, the information, While possessing greater speed and cruis-ing radius than presents types, the most striking feature of the new vessels is the

fact that six-inch guns ars mounted fors and aft. This may result in doing away with the feature of underses warfars, to which the Administration has objected so FLECK HEATING SYSTEM strongly since the beginning of the war-the destruction of enemy shipping without warning. Naval officers here who are reurprisingly small allowance of fast. La is prove that it will pay you to recase our ordinary arytem with a Fleck Realer. Write to ay for participars. as international law authorities pointed out today that the new submarines will be able to lie so far away from vessels, and signal them to stop by firing a shot adross their bows, that the danger of defen-

FINCK BROS.Co. Visit Our Early Icoched Shourcoms 44-48-48 AND 50 NORTH SIXTH ST.

Even guns of similar range mounted on perchantmen would not be a great menace,

live guns on merchantmen harming the unbrechibles is gone, or at least, greatly

radius of action are under construction by

Germany. The Navy Department here has been informed, it was learned today, that

these great undersea units are being rushed

to completion in German shipyards and will

The only example of German submarine

warcraft to reach American shores-the

U-55, which put into Newport unexpectedly

be put into service as fast as they are com-



An increase in the price of all BUICK Valve-in-Head Cars is therefore imperative. On and after January 15th, 1917, prices of the various BUICK Models will be as follows:

D-4-34, 4-Cyl. Runabout ..... \$660.00 D-4-35, 4-Cyl. Touring ..... 675.00 D-6-44, 6-Cyl. Runabout ...... 1040.00 D-6-45, 6-Cyl. Touring ..... 1070.00 D-6-46, 6-Cyl. Cabriolet ..... 1440.00 D-6-47, 6-Cyl Sedan ..... 1835.00 F. O. B. FLINT, MICH. Orders Placed Immediately (for delivery prior Jan. 15th) Will Be Booked at Old Prices **Buick Motor Co.** Factory Branch Broad and Poplar Sts. We accept all makes of used automobiles as part payment of the purchase price of **New Buick** Wilkie Motor Supply Corporation Edw. Wilkie, Pres., Bell Phane, Paptar 5036 677 N. Broad St. Only authorized dealers in Philadelphia County for the exchange of used autos in the purchase of new Buick Valve-in-Head Cars Buy now and save the increase in price. We will store your car free of charge until wanted. The management announces the usual celebration of New Year's Eve December 31st SPECIAL SUPPER will be served from 10 o'clock. Special features and attractive souvenirs. Please Make Reservations Early. Phone Walnut 4790. IDENER BUILDING

enter a peace conference with their exact conditions unknown. Neutral diplomats declare it is evident that Germany wants to parley upon the basis of the present war map and that it is equally evident that the Allies will not "America's failure to indorae Great Brit-sin's course, the political defeat of pro-Ally Colonel Roosevelt, the anti-British campaign of the Hearst newspapers, the Warburg outburst, the Schiff-Speyer in-frigues and a moore of almilar occurrences is equally evident that the Allies will not listen to any such proposition—at least for the time being. The developments of the last few days strengthen the belief hold here that the war will continue indefinitely. BRITISH ARMY EAGER

FOR FIGHT TO FINISH FRANCE, Dec. 27. "Never has the British army been so pre-

wared to fight; why should we talk peace? "You can safely give that as the British trmy's abswer to all peace talk." declared staff general today in response to questions of what he and his men thought of President Wilson's note. "What other result did Great Britain To say that the American note fell like

a bombshell here is putting it mildly. Homb-shells are always more or less expected hereabouts: whereas such a step as that hereabouts: whereas such a step as that taken by the American President was most remotely removed from all thoughts. The move was variously commented upon by the fighting men. No one doubted for in lustant the President's good intentions in the suggestions, but the feeling was that strong influences had succeeded in inducing tim to bulaye this was an ouroritume mo-

cio' sara' possibile.

Il titolo di maresciallo di Francia, che nel steva tuttora sil'espoca del secondo im-però, era caduto in disuso durante la ternza republica. Pero' una legge votata nel 1873 per la riorganizzazione dell'esercito riteneva il grado ma specificava che le condizioni per il conferimento zarebbero state fizzate piu' tardi con una nuova legge. Questa per non u mai presentata.

#### LA RUSSIA E LA PACE

Telegrammi da Petrograd dicono che il ministro degli Affari Esteri russo, M. Pok-rovski, ha invitato nel suo ufficio i rappre-sentanti della stampa ed ha fatto loro una espesizione del suo programma per quanto riguarda la situazione internazionale. In sottanza il ministro ha dichiarato:

Che non vi e' stato alcun mutamento nelle relazioni tra la Russia ed i suoi alleati.

Che dopo la guerra l'alleanza militare tra Russia, Francia, Inghilterra ed Italia sara' consolidata in una stretta alleanza

Che la guerra sara' continuata fino a che gli alleati dell'Intesa non avranno ottenuto la vistoria decisiva.

di alleati dell'Intesa non avranno ottenuto la vittoria decisiva.
Il Ministra pario quindi della proposta di pace della Germania, della nota dei presi dente Wilson e della Grecia. Dopa ever ricordate e recenti dichiarazioni della Duma in relazione alla proposta tedesca, il mini-nitro diase che la Russia appressava il presidente Wilson, ma aggiungava che essa inon poteva in alcun modo alterare ia situ asicome politica creata dalla falsa moses riguarda la Grecia. Potrovski dichiaro' che essa inginado un atteggiamento da parte della Grecia che posa in alcun modo mettere in presidente alla un modo mettere in presidente alla un modo mettere in presidente alla situazione militare degli alleati. periodo la situazione militare degli alleati. Egli aggiunae che provvedimenti erano gia' siati presi in questo senso e che altri di carsittere militare sarebbero stati presi por mettere fine una volta per sempre all'inde-sisione della Gracia. FARMERS HOLD COUNCIL

Washington, D. C., 17 Dicembre,
Tartersnitz della Germania alla nota di fitato e anto portato di sitato e antop Washington, D. C., 27 Dicembre.

#### Event at Biennial Convention of Sigma Alpha Epsilon

Alpha Epsilon's Ministranda and alwards of the product of the second and the second and the product of the second and the product of the second and the second and the product of the second and the second and the product of the second and the sec

speed. They were designed, it is said, to meet the German U-boat danger and in anticipation of an attempted raid off the Canadian coast similar to that made by the U-53 off Nantucket on October 8. At that time shipping men figured that there was not an Allied warship within 500 miles of the spot that Captain Hans Rose de-Uberstein selected in which to specify liberately selected in which to operate.

WEE GIRL DIES KEEPING "DADDY'S" GIFT SECRET Four-Year-Old, in Mother's Confidence

Refuses to Disclose It Though at Death's Door

NORRISTOWN, Pa., Dec. 27. — Bertha Heminghaus, four years old, who was stricken with diphtheria at her home in a farmiouse on the grounds of the Norris-tows. Hospital for the Insane three weeks ago, died with a secret which she had kept from har father for weeks. Before Bertha became ill the mother had arranged to make

father is employed in the laundry at the Norristown Hospital for the Insane.

AGAINST COST OF LIVING Hundreds Gather at State College to

BOROUGH YIELDS DAMAGES

Stream by Paying \$3500 to Paper Mill

sequent "verge of war" statement were in a measure educational, so that the coun-try would not wonder what it was all about in event matters came to the breakofficials make no secret privately of the fact that the peace note and the Lansing explanation were aimed mainly at Germany-a warning to her not to cut loose with her submarines in event peace overtures fail.

# RUSSIAN PRESS BACKS **REJECTION OF OFFER**

PETROGRAD, Dec. 27. The Russian press is strongly backing up the Government in rejecting peace over-tures at this time. The Novos Vremya, which frequently reflects the attitude of the Russian Government, takes the view that the Wilson note was sent at the wrong ime, and deserves a courteous but nega-

While the Foreign Office has the peace assues under consideration, the War Office is going ahead with plans for a more vig-orous prosecution of the war on all the fronts.

## END OF WAR FAR OFF. **OPINION IN BERNE**

BERNE, Dec. 27. To make known her peace terms at this time would seriously weaken Germany's po-sition, according to a view expressed in diplomatic circles here today. German statesmen are said to feel that they can bargain for better terms if they

WITH THIS MONTH'S STATEMENTS ENCLOSE A New Year's **Greeting Card** It will increase your sustamore' good will towards you at little expense. Appropriate Designs-100, \$3.00; 200, \$5.00; 500, \$10.00; 1000, \$17.50, including your advertise-ment. Quick service, of course.

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resulting wells used constants with the provided of the second second second CORLING LACED STOCHING With makes you have a second second to make you have a second second to the second second second second to the second second second second second second second second second the second second second second second to the second second second second the second second second second second to the second second second second to the second second second second to the second second second second the second second second second second to the second sec

TODAY'S sleet storm prevented many of Oak Hall's customers from taking advantage of Acorn Day's special prices.

# Wanamaker & Brown

Therefore make an exception to their fixed rule and announce that all of Acorn Day's prices will hold good tomorrow.

Wanamaker & Brown Market at Sixth for 55 Years

