northeast winds.
Idaho—Sunday generally fair.

VOL. XI. NO. 39.

CITY EDITION

PORTLAND, OREGON, SUNDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 20, 1914.

Twelve-Inch Guns Put Out of Commission by Fleet, Which British Say Escaped From Battle Undamaged.

IMPORTANT CHANGES IN WEST ARE DEVELOPING

Germans Falling Back There While Russians Retire in the East.

By Ed L. Keen.

United Press Staff Correspondent. London, Dec. 19 .- The most import ant developments in the western the atre of war since the battle of the Aisne are tonight believed to be imminent. While the Germans on the eastern front are striving to continue their advance upon Warsaw, the kaiser's forces in France and Belgium are being vigorously assailed, Advances have been made all along the ine from Dixmude to Arras and in the region of Albert. Several army corps were withdrawn by the Germans from this district to reinforce the army of Field Marshal von Hindenberg in Poland, making his rush to ward Warsaw possible.

The Germans are believed to be se riously threatened in the west. German official statements declare that attacks upon their lines have been reoulsed, but there are strong indications that the allies are rushing for

British warships off the Belgian coast were engaged with the German and batteries of 12-inch guns for five hours early Saturday. Reports reaching here tonight from the front state that the German guns were eventually silenced or destroyed.

Land Battery Silenced. The British ships shelled the German positions at Nieuport and Middle-The bombardment was opened at midnight, and lasted until 7 o'clock Saturday morning. The German 12-inch guns replied with a heavy fire. but the British vessels are declared to have escaped undamaged. The war-ships quickly found the range of the land batteries. Their fire was esedingly effective, and at the Their fire was exor five hours the Germans ceased

In the meantime the ailied land forces directed a determined sortic

of Nieuport.
The French official statements account for advances of more than two miles in the vicinity of Arras, with lesser advances at other points. The outcome of the fighting along the coast is still in doubt, but outside of this district Berlin statements men-

tion French attacks and not German German Losses Heavy. Four new casualty lists published in Berlin account for 22,601 dead,

sounded and missing, Amsterdam advices received here today declare. One Wurtemberg regiment alone is mentioned as having lost 1600 and another 1500. A Saxon regiment is said to have lost 2000 men near Becleare. Belgium. One infantry regiment lost 1500 men and another 1200 in engagements along the Yser and it was estimated that the German losses in the Yser campaign to date total

With the formal denial from Petrograd of the German claims of a great victory in Poland and the failure of Berlin to follow up its original announcement with details, it appears certain that no decided gain has been made by either side toward complete supremacy.

In the vicinity of Cracow and throughout western Gasticia toward Przemysl, it is evident that the Rus-(Concluded on Page Six, Column Two)

Gives Up \$20,000

Divorced Wife of Robert Goelet Bethe Artist, Also Divorced.

(By the International News Service.) Whalen Goelet, whose divorce from Robert Goelet gave society a decid-Clews Jr., the artist son of Henry Clews, the banker. Only a few friends ing, however, because the ice is thickwere present at the ceremony, which was performed at the home of the bride in Washington Square, Mr. Clews has come over from Paris for

The ceremony was performed by on the grounds of excessive cruelty, and after the filing of the bill the bance probably will extend no further case dropped from sight and the hear- south, however, than the Columbia case dropped from sight and the hear-ing was quietly conducted at New-Goelet making no contest. It is said that a settlement was arranged by which Goelet was to pay Prince Kimal Now his wife \$40,000 a year for the sup-port of herself and her two sons, Og-den and Peter, and that this was to be cut in half if Mrs. Goelet married

again. Mr. Clews also has been married and divorced. His first wife was the divorced wife of Freddie Gebhardt. They were married in 1901, just month after Mrs. Gebhardt had been granted a divorce in Dakota. Mr. an., Mrs. Clews were divorced of Egypt today with elaborate cere-in Paris in 1910. They had two chil-dren, Henry Clews III, and a daugh-through the streets by British patty. as to the plans of the newly married

NEWS INDEX

SECOND ONE-16 PAGES

Page. 1. Crisis Imminent in Western Theatre of War. Soldiers Remembered at Christmas Time. Railroads Place Equipment Orders.
Early Shopping Done This Year.

2. Money Available for Oregon Reclams

tion.

Expert Review of the War,
Europe in State of Siege.

Complications in Mexican Situation.

Clark Champions States' Rights.

Political Dictatorship Rebuffed.

Historical Society Elects Officers.

Business Concerns to Remember Employee.

ployes. U. S. Army Officers go to Germany. Improvement in Milk Supply Reported.

How to Prevent Christmas Fires.

Oregon Conservation Commission Re-

ports.
Perils of the Policeman.
California Expositions Nearly Ready.
Eventful Week in Wall Street.
Winter Relief Bures; a Fund Grows,
Muts' Christmas Tra, to Be Heavily
Laden.

Appeal for Belgians Redoubled. Retail Merchants to Meet Here in

February.
Annual Fire Loss Due , Carelessness.
Washington Dairymen Meet.
Industrial Accidents for Week.
Permission to Seek Treasure Asked.
Making Railroad Ties Thriving Industry, U. S. S. Oregon Withstands Inspec-

Northwest News Briefs,
Mad Coyotes in Eastern Oregon.
Recent Deaths in the Northwest.
Witness Rocalls Whitman Massacre.
Molalia Awaits Railroad Service.
Pioneer Tells of Ashlahd of the

Molalia Awaits Railroad Service.
Pioneer Tells of Ashland of the
Fifties.

12. Boys Write of Experiences at State
Fair.
Mrs. Grier Leaves Albany.
State Sugar Contract Awarded.
Seattle Clubs Plan Consolidation.
Gov. West Pardons Jack Michael.
John Spain Awarded Damages.

13. Clateop County Criticized.
Discovering the Unfit—Dr. Woods
Hutchinson.
Cold Weather General Throughout
Northwest.

14. County Officials Vexed at Accounting

Oregon Stone for Federal Buildings
Urged.
Rate Increase Victory for Railroads.
American Sleighs for War Zone.
15. Aid in Clearing Land Urged.
Suburban News.
16. Catholics Frame Protest. SECTION TWO-8 PAGES

Business Prospects Bright for 1915, Illustrated News Review.
News from Foreign Capitals.
Editorial.
City News in Brief. •
Real Estate and Building News.
Markets and Finance.
University and College News.
Development of Rural Districts Aim. Aim. Cause of Allies Championed.

SECTION THREE-10 PAGES Part 1-Sport News. Part 2-Marine News; Want Ads.

SECTION FOUR-8 PAGES

Service by Public Utilities Discussed Dramatic News.
In the Photo Playhouses.
Popular Science Developments.
Automobile and Good Roads News.
Career of Late E. Henry Wemme Reviewed. viewed.

A Monument to Thomas Jefferson.

War Letters from Many Lands,
Statesmen, Real and Near.

Journal's Trade and Circulation C

SECTION FIVE-10 PAGES

Gregonians in New York.
San Francisco Society Letter.
In the Realm of Music.
Parent-Teacher News.
Social Service Activities.
Fraternal Notes.
What Labor Is Doing.
What Well Dressed Women Will
Wear Wear.
What Every Woman Wants to Know.
Women's Club Affairs.
Art and Artista.

SECTION SIX-8 PAGES (Magazine and Pictorial.)

France and England as Seen in War Time-F. Hopkinson Smith. "This War Is a Glorious Thing-Ellen

"This War Is a Glorious Thing—Ellen Terry.

2. Mexican War Ends Carear of Ambrose Bierce—Bailey Millard.

3. "War Must Be Fought to Bitter End".—Andrew Carnegie.

4.5. New Photographs from the War Zone.

6. Germany's Bernard Shaw—Maximilian Harden.

7. The Sick-s-Bed Lady (Short story)—Eleanor Hallowell Abbot.

8. How Foreign Cartoonists View the War.

The Passing Show.

SECTION SEVEN-4 PAGES

Cold Spell Still Has Lease of Life Their Ch January.

(Comic.)

Summer Costume Not Likely to Be in Vogue for Some Time Yet, According to Weather Man.

No chance yet for the palm leaf. Another defeat for the moth ball. Muffs and mittens, flannel and felt

Yesterday, when the barometer fell and, with it, a whole flock of snow- the bulk of the gifts from every A Year to Marry flakes, old respectful at the country sky and prophesied rain and warm weather. But next time Acting Forecaster Theodore F. Drake looked at the comes Bride of Henry Clews Jr., air machine, it had aviated again and There will be some merriment of Engthe sky began clearing and the cold began tightening once more.

New York, Dec. 19.-Mrs. Elsie planning how best to haul his net Christmas concert, In the meantime, the wood man is operating revenue to the bank. householder stares goggleed shock last spring, was married to eyed at the few splinters of fuel, sole tration camps. There is to be a day, virtually in secret, to Henry pile such a little while ago, Skaters, fugees in England. Scattered as they who pay no wood bills, are not worry- now are throughout the country, they

ening all the time. The cold weather continues all along Christmas day. the coast, Storm warnings were dis-played by the weather bureau last night. Small craft warnings have been the Rev. Dr. Patton of Wayne, Penn. on indications of a storm sweeping Mrs. Goelet's divorce was obtained down from British Columbia, the fall out for three days but late yesterday. warning was sent out. The distur-

Sultan of Egypt

Elaborate Ceremonies Mark Installation of Pormer Khedive's Mephew as Ruler of Nile Country.

Cairo, Dec. 19 .- Prince Hussein Kemal was formally installed as sultan No announcement has been made of the plans of the newly married reading of the proclamation deposing Clews, but it is supposed they will go Abbas Hilmi, the former khedive. Cai- France. ** Paris to live. Mrs. Geolet. who ro made a holiday of it. Great crowds filled the streets. The installation wished to be an artist.

Abbas Hilm, the former khedive. Calling the firm of paris to live. Mrs. Geolet. who ro made a holiday of it. Great crowds filled the streets. The installation Austrian, Servian, or Russian trenches, wished to be an artist.

(Concluded by Page Two, Commit Six)

CHRISTMAS NO

Mails of Every Country in Europe Filled With Gifts Bound for the Men at the Front, Far and Near.

EVEN PRISONERS ARE PLANNING CELEBRATION

Yet There Are 30,000,000 Broken Homes in Europe Because of the War.

Europe Is Grateful London, Dec. 19.—The Times announces that an influential

British committee is preparing to cable a message which will be sent to the people of the United States at Christmas thanking them for the aid they have given the British wounded and other sufferers during the war. This announcement is made in reply to a letter from Maud Pauncefote, daughter of the late Lord Pauncefote, former British minister to Washington. As indicating the extent of this help Miss Pauncefote mentions the American hospital and the Santa Claus ship, the several splendid base hospitals and ambulances, the tons of dressings and clothes of

By William G. Shepherd. United Press staff correspondent.

million broken homes in Europe, from of Italy has been striving and which which the men have departed and are fighting at the front. This means so many sorrowing women and one hundred million children who will spend Christmas day without their daddies. While the clocks tick off the first minute of Christmas the nations of Europe will spend \$50,000 in the kill-ing of men. Every hour in the day of the "Man of Peace" will see \$3. 000,000 spent on war. The admonition "Thou shalt not

kill," has been forgotten, but nevertheless, the spirit of Christmas will stride to the most remote corners of the grimmest battle fields and fill the trenches and forts just as it will lay hands on the men of war and the ministries and the great capitals of the warring nations.

"Christmas Spirit" Lives. I have visited all of the countries involved in the war, except Russia, since Christmastide approached, throwing its light as brightly as ever in early December. I saw devout Austrians in Galicia wearing sprigs of Christmas trees and mistletoe in their hats, I say the mail for Germans, composed almost entirely of Christ-mas cards and packages. As long as a fortnight age in France and Flanders, military transport autos groaned past bearing burdens of gifts which had been accumulating for 10 days for the English, French and Belgian

This outburst of giving is so overwhelming that even the French-Mohammedan and English-Hindu soldiers will receive tons of presents. The Russians alone so far have not shared in the general flood of presents will sweep the trenches and battlefields of Europe next Friday Their Christmas does not come until

Not a "Spug" Christmas.

It is not a "spug" Christmas in Europe this year. Gifts of every description are being sent to the men in the trenches. London papers have pubished special instructions stating just how packages should be addressed and mailed to reach the soldiers. But warm clothes, cigars, tobacco, cigar-ettes and food of every description, from puddings and daintles to the more substantial varieties, comprise

Realization that its men are suffering, fighting and dying, has resulted in a different, a stronger Christmas spirit than Europe has ever known. lishmen even in Berlin, For a fortnight the English prisoners of war

In England, German prisoners will In England, German processing ive concerts in the various concerts. There is to be a will consume tons of goodies furnished by the English people on Toys Given Out in Vienna.

In Vienna, United States Ambassa dor Penfield will distribute a shipload of toys sent from America and tons of hospital cotton which left America on

the steamship Sommelsbyk. This will be distributed to the Austro-Hungar-Santa Claus will go to the trenches, but not between them. He wouldn't be safe in that territory where the bullets from each side criss cross. In some cases the trenches in northern France are less than a hundred feet apart. It was concerning these shots

"I don't believe in the Germans be ing so friendly with the enemy. They throw messages back and forth to each other in tin cans and use dogs as couriers. The quit shooting during meal time and even learn each other's for soldiers ! But it is wafe to say that many i

that the German general, von Emmich

said:

Christmas message of cheer will pass via the tin can route in Flanders and

CHRISTMAS SHOPPERS THRONG BUSINESS STREETS



These are busy days in the retail district with Christmas less than one

AND BUSINESS SHOWS GAIN IN MANY LINES

ing more.

value.

ing at all.

year in cultivating a new Christmas

industry. It is in the distribution of

sent also to some, who usually ex-

Increase Is Moted,

It is the purchase of necessities-

Would Prevent All

the means of carrying on the war."

Three Fires at One Time. Montgomery, Ala., Dec. 19.—Three fires, happening at practically the

Montgomery this afternoon. The Naf

(Concluded on Page Five, Column Ope.)

EARLY CHRISTMAS SHOPPING RULE THIS YEAR

Department Store Managers Report Satisfactory Holiday

Trade; Purchase of Practical Gifts Seems to Be the

Rule; Influence of "Spug" Movement Felt,

season. They have shopped often, they

have shopped well. Merchants in the

general lines declare the business at-

tributable to the holiday season ex-

clusively shows up fully equal to last

year, and some say it will be better,

taking into account the purchasing to

be expected during the so-called

Department store managers are the

ones who say their operations are most satisfactory. Men engaged in "specialty" lines, with limited classes

of stocks, find business less lively

than the general merchants, but most

of these say sales will be but little if

any, the less satisfactory than in 1913.

the toy department this year. The de-

mand is constant, running to the bet-

ter class of goods and less to the

flimsy ephemeral contraptions that go

to pieces after the first babyish grab.

Dolls will delight many a Portland

miss Christmas morning and some of

these lovely things are costing up into

Gifts Are Substantial.

According to general verdict of store-keepers, the day of the Christ-

mas flimsy in every line has passed.

Whether because of utilitarianism or

not, nobody is buying the celluloid col-

lar boxes, the near-plush toilet sets,

Thirteen Members and Employes Ac-

Cash.

quitted of Making Palse Claims for

Indianapolis, Ind., Dec. 19.-All 13

state legislature, who were indicted

quitted by Judge Markey. The ac-quittal came in quick time, the court having the matter under advisement since Friday noon. The indictments

Decision was first announced as to

10 defendants who were in the court

were returned December 4.

nembers and employes of the Indiana a protest.

Indiana, were late this afternoon ac- about and furnish the belligerents with

room. Judge Markey later announced tel Nicrosi wholesale drygoods house, the same decisions in the cases of two with \$100,000 worth of stock, was a

beent defendants and the prosecutor total loss. Fire in the power plant of

Found Not Guilty

Indiana Legislators

Heavy inroads are being made upon

\$200,000,000 War Loan Thru King

Victor Emanuel's Decree Insures Fund Large Enough to Permit War.

Rome, Dec. 19,-King Victor Emanuel today issued a decree authorizing national loan of one billion france (approximately \$200,000,000).

Promulgation of this decree marks the culmination of the fight for funds to carry out the program of military London, Dec. 19 .- There are thirty preparation for which the "war party" resulted in the disruption of the cabi net and its subsequent re-organization with a personnel which eliminated the opponent of further expenditures for military purposes. It means that with floating of the loan Italy will be confronted by no financial obstacle if it elects to enter the war.

Bank Reserves Show Increase for Week

While Surplus Reserve Fattens by Eight Millions, Outstanding Loans Decrease by Four.

New York, Dec. 19 .- The week's ac ual bank statement showed the following changes: Surplus reserve, increased \$8,305,580 Loans, decreased \$4,372,000. Net demand deposits, increased

Circulation decreased \$3,230,000 Aggregate reserve \$465,687,000. Reserve in own vaults, increased

WON'T SEND A WARSHIP

Washington, Dec. 19 .- Following assurances from Ambassador Sir Cecil Spring-Rice that the British govern ment desires to conform to President Wilson's neutrality proclamation at Panama, Secretary of the Navy Dan-iels today announced that he had abandoned the plan of sending a warship to those waters as requested by Colonel Goethals,

Wreck Kills Two.

Cartersville, Ga., Dec. 19 .- Two trainmen were killed and 55 other persons injured, 15 of them seriously today when train No. 93, on the Nashville, Chattaneoga & St. Louis railway (the South Atlantic limited) southbound, was wrecked near here.

THE DEAREST LITTLE HOME AND SMALL **FRYS**

The name of the classification in which it appears today precedes each of these Journal Want Ads: POR SALE-MISCELLANEOUS 19

"21 jewel Hamilton railroad watch, 25 year Crescent case, excellent timer; want only \$20 for it." SWAP COLUMN

"Exchange organ for chickens or POULTRY AND PIGEONS 37

"28 large chickens and 14 small frys for sale for \$12.50; mostly White Leghorns; hens are laying."

FOR RENT-HOUSES "The dearest little home near Tigard, 1% acres, right at station; barn, chicken house, newly papered, \$10 month.

"\$500 buys 1/2 interest in good commercial business, paying \$150 a month; cash not necessary, if you can give security; man needed more than the money. 420 Lumber Exchange bldg."

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES 20

AUTOMOBILE ACCESSORIES 44 "Twenty-four passenger stage, in A-1 condition, with top full leather, upholstery, solid tires on rear, pneumatic tires in front; cost \$4400, A sacrifice. See."

Over 1900 other offers are published in the Want Ads today. Look

Is Observed by Foes in France French and Germans By Mu-

tual Consent Stop Firing Between 12 and 1 o'Clock.

By Karl H. Von Wiegand. United Press Staff Correspondent,

With the German army in the Argonne, France, Nov. 20 (by mail to New York)-A soldfer must have time to eat. Both French and Germans like food. Therefore, the men in the trenches who, day in and day out, are striving to kill each other have made mutual agreement and concession to hunger. There is no firing between noon and 1 o'clock. That's the luncheon hour.

Such an agreement is in force here. It was noticeable today how strictly both sides observed this little resting time. The soldiers on both sides look upon it as all right to shoot one another and hold there is pleuty of time in which to do it, but making one another hungry at noon is considered un-

necessary, cruet and unethical. There are constant exchanges of tween the enemies in the trenches. The other day a big German went around bewailing his lack of smoke. A moment later a tin can rattled into the trenches. In it were two cigarettes from the enemy over in the French trenches, Somehow the German managed to dig up a cigarette central manufacturing district, where later in the day and he threw the can a concern began work on a \$100,000 with the "smoke" in it back to the French lines with the note: "To the good friend for his cigarettes. I hope he'll still be able to enjoy this."

There is every indication here that if the railroads' view of the decision if German and French soldiers in the is as satisfactory after analysis as it Argonne had their way they would is at "first blush" the reemployment probably meet half way between the of men, both by them and the great trenches, shake hands, embrace and industries dependent upon them, will declare themselves friends right there, run up into the thousands. declare themselves friends right there, But just now, they're fighting,

Frank Case Goes To Supreme Court

Pederal District Court Denies Mabeas Portland people have been doing the ornate but short-lived leatherette their Christmas shopping early this writing pad. The result is that the Corpus, But Allows Attorneys to stores have laid in no stocks of this Carry to Highest Tribunal. trash and, as another result, Christmas gifts this year probably are cost-

Atlanta, Go., Dec. 19,-The application of Leo M. Frank, convicted of Some dealers say the "Spug" move- the murder of Mary Phagan, in ment has had an indirect effect this federal district court for a writ of habeas corpus on the constitutional engraved greeting cards. These cards grounds that he was not present when serve as remembrances for distant the verdist was read, was denied this friends, who formerly were not remembered at all. They are being sent also to some who usually expected actual gifts of more or less ately presented a written petition asking permission to appeal from today's The distant friend, therefore, is get- decision to the supreme court of the ting the breath of Christmas in the United States. Judge Newman signed inexpensive card. One stationer said the petition, which throws the case an enormous business in these cards again into the highest court in the has been built up. The engraved name land, adds a personal and elegant touch that This procedure will probably have

disarms the man who looked for a the effect of necessitating the costly gift of any feeling of chagrin, ponement of the execution of Frank, and puts a thrill of pleasure into the which has been set for January 22. friend who expected to receive noth- Judge Newman in his decision stated that "no federal point is at issue."

Intermingled with the Christmas shopping is another variety of buying Appeal to Take Years, Washington, Dec. 19.-Unless which represents a considerable sum. plication is made and granted to advance for earlier hearing, the appeal to the supreme court of Leo M. Frank as granted by District Judge Newman at Atlanta today, court officials stated tonight that Frank's case probably would not be reached in the or-Auto Exportations dinary course of business on crowded docket, before the fall of

Washington, Dec. 19.-Attack on Mohammedans and American safe of armored motor cars to European belligerents will be made Hindus Are Agreed on the floor when the military bill comes up after Christmas recess. Rep-

resentative Kahn of California announced today he intends to register Berlin Press Bureau Gives Out Report of Plans for Great Rebellion in "I'm tired of having this nation pointed out as a lot of damned hypoby the Marion county grand jury on crites," he said. "The president asks India as Result of Understanding. the charge of making and presenting us to pray for peace and we do it Berlin, Dec. 19,-(Via wireless to Sayville)-Persian papers report that false claims against the state of fervently. But, hypocritically, we turn

an understanding has been arrived at between the Mohammedans and Hindus in India, and a great rebellion is imminent, a statement issued by the press bureau here today asserted.

GERMAN RESERVE GAINS | per cent.

then nolle prossed the pase against the Citizens' Light Co. caused \$50,000 at the close of the week was John J. Keesan, to have been tried damage. The Berry Soap factory was 1000,000 marks, an increase over later.

RAILROADS PUT

PRICE FIVE CENTS

nterstate Commerce Commission's Decision Automatically Releases Large Number of Orders.

WINTER TRADE HEAVY. WEATHER SEASONABLE

Wholesalers Predict Rate Increase Will Have Important Result on Business.

(Special to The Journal.) Chicago, Dec. 19. All indications point to constantly improving business conditions throughout the United

The chief factor, of course, is the rate increase granted castern railways. This will turn loose a sarge amount of money which, in time, will filter down so that if will be widely distributed. It will do much more than a matter of dollars and cents because it will restore confidence in railway securiies and encourage investment, thus supplying the roads with badly needed funds for extensions and improve-

All sections of the country report inusually heavy Christmas buying, indicating that confidence has been restored and people who have been hoarding money are letting loose of it, feeling assured they will be able to get more. The opening of the stock exchanges and the lowering of discount rates have also had a strengthening and reassuring effect on the ening and reassuring effect on country at large.

Weather Is Seasonable. Seasonable weather has brought about heavy merchandizing and also gives promise of putting the land in condition to produce great crops next season.

Hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of railroad equipment and supplies were automatically ordered today by railroads in the eastern classification, and if several qualifications, in the interstate commerce commission's decision are construed favora-bly, the total will run up into the

millions.
This was the after effect of the 5 per cent freight rate increase granted to the eastern railroads. Numerous "holding orders" had been given, contingent upon a satisfactory decision. Without the stroke of a pen these became bonafide orders.

Railroad Orders Bright. In Chicago the first announcement of an automatic order came from the order for paints, car roofing and other necessities.

A number of concerns announced they would increase their forces, and

"It is the greatest single impetus to business which has been received in many months." W. J. Collin, in charge of the traffic department of the Central Manufacturing District. said: "It has met practically unani-mous indorsement. Work was started today in the manufacturing district on \$100,000 worth of orders. The paint order alone amounts to \$30,000. The best of it is that there are many other orders promised.

Will Be Tonic to Steel. "I doubt if the decision is going to turn the world up side down, but there is no denying that it is going to be mighty helpful," said F. T. Bentley, head of the traffic department of the Illinois Steel company. "It is one of the best things for the country at large that the interstate commerce large that the interstate commerce commission has ever done. The help-ful effect will be felt especially in the lines dependent upon the railroads for business. In the basic industry, steel, it is certain to prove a strong tonic." "We would never have had the present stagnation if this decision had been rendered a year ago," said J. C. McAuliff, head of the traffic department of Butler Brothers. "Many more persons would have, been spending Christmas money if the commission

had shown an inclination to do this thing earlier in the game." "It seems to be agreed by every-body that the decision is certain to start business with a bound," said F. B. Montgomery, head of the traffic bureau of the International Harvester company. "The mere psychology of the thing will help remove uncertainty and help bring about prosperity." "Prosperity Is Assured."

"Real prosperity has now been as-sured," said Howard Elting former president of the Chicago Association of Commerce. "The action means the employment of workers, upon whom the foundation of welfare rests." "Shippers today express satisfaction over the situation," said J. K. Wait of Hibbard, Spencer, Bartlett & Co. "We are well pleased with the effect already shown."

Returns for October of 50 repre-sentative railroad systems, operating approximately 157,000 miles in all sections of the country, show a de-crease in gross earnings of 9.02 per cent, while net earnings decreased \$.24 per cent. This compares with a de-crease in gross of 2:22 per cent and an increase in net of 2,61 per cent for September.

Operating ratio, exclusive of taxes but including results of outside opera-tions, was 66.89 per cent against 67.48 per cent in October, 1913; operating ratio for September, 1914, was 68,65

Badistor Company Prosperous. Berlin, Dec. 19.—(By wireless).—
The gold reserve in the Reichstag benk at the close of the week was 1 been right along the last 19 months

(Concluded on Page Bive, Column Box