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### In Every Issue —OF— THE NEWS

You Will Find the Advertisements of Charlotte's  
Leading Stores Telling of  
**Special Holiday Offerings**

That You Should Profit By



The Stores in Charlotte are The Largest in the State.

#### Stocks of Holiday Goods

are larger than ever before, and healthy competition insures low prices.



#### The Variety

of Merchandise shown in Charlotte makes satisfactory choosing easy.

#### A Free Rest Room

is provided where Christmas shoppers may rest, meet their friends, write letters, etc.

**The Christmas Spirit Is Here** Our Stores now wear their Holiday Attire and are filled with the season's choicest offerings. Every day brings new attractions and those who would shop wisely and well should spend as many days as possible among our stores.

# NEWS OF FOREIGN CAPITALS

## Sir Edward Gray's Speech Has Cleared Political Skies

No Reason Why Relations Between England and Germany Should not Undergo Marked Improvement — Largely Depends on German Newspapers

(By PHILLIP EVERETT.)

London, Dec. 16.—In spite of the rather unfavorable comments of a large part of the German press on the now famous speech of Sir Edward Gray in the house of commons three weeks ago there is a general feeling here that the speech has served to convince the large majority of the German people that many of the opinions they have formerly cherished in regard to this country have no foundation in fact. It is hoped here that when the speech is no longer distorted for election purposes by the German jingoes and conservatives and when the German people, after the end of the election campaign, calmly survey the history of last summer they will realize how mistaken was the idea that England ever desired to prevent an agreement, or hamper German aims in a spirit of jealousy and hostility.

Lord Lansdowne, with whom I had a talk the other night in the Constitutional Club, said that for one did not see the slightest reason why the relations between England and Germany should not undergo a very marked improvement. It is useless, however, he said, to expect any relief of the tensions in the international atmosphere if the German papers, after election, should decide to continue to stir up the passions and prejudices of their readers against England, and to impute to this country anti-German designs of which neither her government nor her people have any cognizance.

Many Dreadnaughts Launched.—The most notable feature of the year 1911, from a strictly naval standpoint, will be the fact that the number of ships of the Dreadnaught type launched will be equal, save one, to the combined total for the three preceding years. A total of 28 battleships and cruisers, armed on the single calibre gun principle, have been put into the water this year, eight of these, including the two colonial ships, being British.

This proportion to the world's Dreadnaughts is not so good as it was in 1910, when, out of a total of nine

launched Britain's share was four, but, on the other hand, the number of naval vessels possessing ships of this type has been added to this year by France, Russia, Turkey, Austria, Spain, and the Argentine Republic, so that a proportion of slightly over three to one cannot be regarded as otherwise than satisfactory.

Great Britain's position in Dreadnaughts exemplifies the business adage, "We lead, others follow," as out of 64 afloat she owns 24. Germany follows with 14, the United States comes next with eight, Italy and Russia each has a quartette, France, Japan, Spain, Brazil and the Argentine two each, and Austria and Turkey one each. The proportionate figures will necessarily fluctuate from time to time, but a substantial lead by Great Britain is assured if the new First Lord acts up to his profession of faith that "we must have a navy so strong as to make it beyond reach of challenge.

Designs of a New Torpedo, which will have a wider range of action and a much greater speed than any hitherto employed, have been approved by the authorities here. During the past 12 or 18 months the naval departments of several of the Powers have been experimenting in this direction, but the greatest difficulties have been encountered in connection with the motive power. In the weapon referred to this will be compressed air, the same by which it will be discharged, and the torpedo will be of much smaller diameter, thus affecting a considerable economy in the cost, as well as giving much higher efficiency.

It is believed that several of the new weapons will be ready for trial early in February.

Getting Poorer as Bishop.—Dr. Ingram says he is \$10,000 poorer than when he was made Bishop of London. Yet, he is economical.

Having taken a cab one evening from the house of lords to Fulham palace, he tendered the fare, 2s. 6d. The cabman gazed upon the coin, and said: "If St. Peter had been Bishop of London, do you think he would have given me only half a crown?" And the bishop replied: "If St. Peter had been here he would have been Archbishop of Canterbury, and the fare to Lambeth palace is one shilling."

Curious Story of Childhood.—In a recent interview Mr. Israel Zangwill told a curious story of his childhood.

"When I was seven weeks old and

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PROFESSOR EMANUEL CZUBER AND DAUGHTER

Professor Emanuel Czuber and his daughter, now the wife of Archduke Carl Ludwig, who for her sake gave up his rights to the throne of Austria. In an exclusive interview the Crown Prince gave his reasons for selecting this plebeian girl, at the sacrifice of his royal prospects, rather than one among the hundreds of selous of royalty to whom he was eligible in marriage. He says: "She has a very simple disposition; is inclined to extreme light heartedness; is always cheerful and often quite witty, but her chief attraction is that she never indulges in moods."

### Queen Sells Flowers To Fight Sickness

Brussels, Dec. 16.—The Queen of the Belgians has decided to devote a sum of \$50,000, the proceeds of the sale of Edelweiss flowers which have been worn in her honor throughout Belgium, to fighting the sleeping sickness. The scheme provides for the construction of a model sanatorium at Leopoldville, Congo.

### American Trusts And British Markets

Budapest, Dec. 16.—The spirit of American hustle has suddenly invaded Hungary, it seems, for a real fast train will shortly start running between Budapest and Presburg. The locomotive will have a normal power of 1,800 horsepower, and will head the new train of 300 tons at a speed of 34 1-2

### Germany's Voters Soberly Reflect On England's Policy

Paris, Dec. 16.—An extraordinary story of murder by a paralytic subject comes from Lille. Two of the most notable members of the colony of beggars, well known to all who have motored from Roubaix to Lille along the new five-mile boulevard, were a blind man and a paralytic subject, paralyzed in both his legs and in his left arm. They habitually went out together. The blind man pushed the cart in which the paralytic was seated, and the paralytic who gave guiding instructions, sold strips of paper which were supposed to tell the future of those who bought them.

They were thought to be the best friends in the world. But early this year the paralytic began to suspect that his companion was paying too marked attention to his wife. The suspicion remained unuttered until recently the paralytic one more got his companion to hoist him on to the cart. Turning round he said: "I have found out," and then fired two revolver rounds at his wife standing at the door. His wife fell desperately wounded. The man then coolly asked the blind man to push the cart along to take him to the police station, where he told his tale and gave himself up with the utmost sangfroid.

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### A MONTH'S IMPRISONMENT FOR A TWO-CENT IRREGULARITY.

Lemberg, December 16.—A business man named Max Trinzies, has been condemned to a month's imprisonment here on the charge of having defrauded the post-office of 2 cents.

In Austria one is allowed to return letters which one does not accept to the sender without paying any extra postage. Herr Trinzies had received four postcards from a firm announcing that they had sent goods ordered by him. As he had not ordered anything he wrote on the margins, "Return to the sender, nothing ordered," and threw into the letter box.

The postal authorities regarded the words, "nothing ordered" as a new communication, but instead of asking for the double postage they prosecuted him on a criminal charge. The first court regarded the offense as merely formal and inflicted the minimum sentence of 24 hours, but the public prosecutor appealed, and the higher court increased the penalty one month's hard labor.

### Feeling Gaining Ground That Reason Germany is Not Now Engaged in War is Due to England's Firm and Dignified Politics.

Berlin, Dec. 15.—With Christmas approaching the Morocco question practically settled, and the foreign policy of Great Britain clearly defined by Sir Edward Grey, the political sky now looks brighter than it has done for many months and diplomats are preparing to enjoy the holidays in peace. Not so, however, those who govern Germany, for with the election drawing nearer it becomes plainly evident that the statements made by Sir Edward Grey, in the English house of commons, some three weeks ago, have given the German voters much food for reflection.

The feeling is gaining ground even among the more conservative element that the fact that Germany is not now engaged in a war, which might easily be disastrous to her prestige, is due mainly to the firm and dignified politics of England.

The people of Germany have learned to see if they are to be allowed to continue their evolution in peace they must first of all put their own house in order. The danger of a great catastrophe, such as threatened Germany during the whole summer and fall, has aroused, in the people, an earnest determination to prevent a similar condition from occurring again.

No longer will the voters be satisfied with promises and minor reforms, they demand a thorough and widespread reform of the official press, and they realize that the greatest danger lies in the fact that ministers are chosen without the cooperation of the people, that they run the country without consulting the people or their representatives, and that they remain in office not as long as their politics please the kaiser.

The intimate relations between government and people, which is absolutely necessary to the healthy evolution of the German empire, are to be brought about only by a powerful and democratic reichstag and there is very indicative that the one now

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