

Grand Hotel.—*St. Thomas Mail Notes*, Dec. 14th.

Four new bath houses have recently been erected at John Brewer's Bay for the use of the service colony.—*The St. Thomas Times*, Dec. 16.

The Tennis Club is preparing invitations to a social and masquerade to be held in club grounds on Monday night, 1 January.—*Ibid.*

It is understood that there will be a small reception and dance at the government house on Christmas Evening. Invitations have not been issued as yet.—*Ibid.*

The U. S. S. Grebe, which left the Portsmouth Navy Yard on Sunday, the 10th December, was compelled to put back to that yard on account of machinery troubles.—*Ibid.*

His Excellency the Governor and Mrs. Hough entertained at dinner on Monday, 11 December, for Commander and Mrs. Shiffert, Lieutenant Commander and Mrs. Gaffney and Lieutenant and Mrs. Steiner.—*Ibid.*

The resignation of August Burnet as a member of the Colonial Council has been accepted by the Governor. Elections will be held during the first week in January.—*Ibid.*

TELEGRAMS.

ST. CROIX STATION

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London, Dec. 14th.—The Duke of Devonshire in a speech at the luncheon given by the Nigerian dinner club yesterday, said his one desire at the moment, was to be able to pay legitimate attention to the legitimate affairs of the Colonial Office and not to those rather extraneous matters which the possibly somewhat voracious appetite of his predecessor (Mr. Winston Churchill) had succeeded in bringing into the Colonial Office. It was his desire that the Colonies should regard him, not merely as head of an office, but in the truest sense of the word, as their friend, and added, "if you had any anxiety in the past, you can now rest assured that I do not intend to interfere with the man on the spot, where I know he is doing admirable work. It will be my duty to watch, not merely as an onlooker, but with keen

and, I trust, not unintelligent interest in the work you are doing."

Lausanne, Dec. 14th.—The United States Ambassador's frank talk with Ismet Pasha yesterday on the subject of minorities residing in Turkey, made a good impression in Turkish circles and exercised a calming influence on the entire Lausanne conference, which nervously saw danger of a breakdown of all the negotiations, because of the threatened rupture over the treatment of the Greeks and Armenians by Turkey. The friendly intervention of the United States Ambassador at the right moment, has convinced the Turks of the immense strength of world opinion and the need for a settlement of the minority problem. The Ambassador urged Ismet Pasha to reconsider his position as to the Armenians and other dislodged populations, pointing out that United States contributors to relief work in the Near East, desired to know that their gifts would help the refugees in Asia Minor to settle in permanent homes.

London, Dec. 14th.—An attempt has been made to assassinate the Home Secretary by means of poisoned chocolates sent through the mail. The chocolates arrived at the Home Office yesterday and the police found they contained arsenic. It is understood the police attribute the act to the same person who recently poisoned Sir W. Horwood, head of Scotland Yard, in the same manner. Investigations, it was said, today have led the police to the conclusion that the work was probably that of an unbalanced woman who has some real or fancied grievance against Scotland Yard and the Home Office. All the other Ministers of the Govt. have been warned to be on guard against similar attempts.

Washington, Dec. 14th.—According to one of the foremost of the administration Senators today, the ship subsidy bill is dead. It would be impossible to force it to a vote before this session ends and that whenever agricultural credits legislation was brought up the subsidy would be laid aside. He said actual discussion of the bill would doubtless run on for weeks, but he says no hope of passing it is in sight.

Dublin, Dec. 14th.—With bands playing, banners flying and bayonets fixed, three British regiments marched out of Dublin and embarked at the Northwall for England. This marks the beginning of the final stage of the British evacuation of Free State territory, which will be completed by next week.

Thorpe, Wis., Dec. 14th.—One train man was killed and two others were badly injured and about fifteen passengers more or less seriously hurt early today when a Minneapolis St. Paul and Sault Ste Marie passenger train from Chicago, Minneapolis collided with a freight train near here.

London, Dec. 13th.—Cambridge defeated Oxford two goals to nil in the annual soccer football game at the Crystal Palace today.

London, Dec. 15th.—Parliament was prorogued today until February 13th. The programme for the adjournment went through without a hitch, despite the widely heralded efforts of a small body of the left wing Labour members to prevent the rising of the House of Commons until a remedy was found for the unemployment situation. The King in his speech for the prorogation stressed the need for the economic rehabilitation of Europe, asserting that the task of restoring conditions that would be favourable to economic stability was causing deep concern and could only be overcome by co-operation among the nations primarily affected. The question of unemployment which has given rise to so much heated debate, received special consideration in the speech, the King stated that the Govt. would do all in its power to alleviate the conditions against which the Labourites have protested. The King expressed the hope that the Lausanne conference would soon be able to solve the problems affecting peace in the Near East.

Maranhao, Brazil, Dec. 15th.—The sea plane Sampaio Correia 2nd arrived here yesterday from Braganca, thus completing another leg of the flight from New York to Rio Janeiro being attempted by Lieut. Walter Hinton and his companion.

Nome, Alaska, Dec. 15th.—Captain Raold Amundsen, head of the polar expedition that left Seattle in June, arrived here late yesterday by Bogteam. Captain Amundsen came from Wainwright, near Point Barrow, where he is wintering with the plane in which he hopes in the spring to fly over the North Pole.

Paris, Dec. 15th.—The Franco-Canadian commercial treaty was signed here today. The new treaty, to which were attached the signatures of M. Poincare, Lucien Dior, Minister of Commerce, Lord Harding, Ambassador to France, Mr. W. S. Fielding, and Mr. Ernest Lapoint, replaces the pre-war arrangement between France and Canada. It gives Canadian commerce new advantages in several hundred articles and places France on the most favoured nation basis with Canada.

Ottawa, Dec. 15th.—Canada's import and export trade for the month of November this year was \$6,108,781 greater in value than for November 1921.

Shanghai, Dec. 15th.—The Russian Refugee fleet of fourteen ships loaded with the destitute remnants of the white guard forces of Vladivostock, which arrived here a few days ago out of fuel and provisions, still is lying at anchor in the river, unable to proceed further and barred by the Chinese from landing its human freight. In the meantime different local organizations have contributed funds for the relief of the more immediate needs of the homeless wanderers, who are hoping something will turn up so that they may continue their voyage to Hongkong, Manila or some other warmer and more hospitable country.