

When the British planes are fitted with insulation they will be able to fly with their engines proof against such radio impulses as the Germans have devised.

London, Jan. 1st.—The Prince of Wales, as patron of the British Legion, has written New Year messages in the Legion's Monthly Journal, wherein he expresses the most earnest hope that before another year the Legion may be relieved of its heaviest burden, namely, that of struggling to get employment for ex-officers, so that those who fought for their King and country may live in peace and happiness.

Chicago, Ill., Jan. 1st.—Damage estimated at close to \$1,000,000 was done by fire at the Whiting, Indiana Plant of the Standard Oil Company of Indiana, this afternoon. The machine shop and boiler works, including several buildings and most of the machinery in them, were practically destroyed and 30 storage tanks containing about 900,000 gallons of gasoline were threatened by the flames.

Winnipeg, Man., Jan. 1st.—Battling in weather 10 degrees below Zero, firemen are fighting one of the most disastrous fires in recent years in this City, which started early this evening in the Teese and Persse wholesale grocery warehouse, a five story structure on William Avenue. Early estimates of the damage place the loss at \$500,000. The origin is unknown. No casualties have been reported.

London, Jan. 1st.—Increased activity in British trade is noted in the American Chamber of Commerce (London) December report. This is especially true of the coal industry which is heavily sold in advance at increasing prices. More than 17,000 tons were sent to the United States in December and contracts have been placed by French and Swedish state railways. The iron and steel industries are also occupied with substantial orders from the railways and shipyards. The galvanized sheet iron and tin trades are booked months ahead, according to this report. The British Empire is assured of a continuous supply of zinc in the relasing of deposits at Burma and in Australia, with a production plant in England and the formation of a National Smelting Company. The report also emphasizes the great American demand for linens and finer pottery. Activity is noted in the pharmaceutical and chemical trades, due to heavy Japanese orders to replace stores destroyed in the earthquake.

Franklin, Pa., Jan. 1st.—Six persons, including a woman, were killed today in a premature explosion of nitro glycerine at the "shooting" of an oil well on a farm five miles from here. Two other men near the scene escaped injury.

London, Jan. 2nd.—Old dissatisfaction at awards of honours has been revived by the omission from the New Years list of a statement of services for which the

honours are given. The scandal of giving honours for contributions to party fund resulted in recommendations by a Royal Commission and resolutions by Parliament that reasons for honours should be specifically stated in each individual case. The failure of the Premier to act according to Parliament's resolutions prompts accusations that there is a furtive attempt to revert to the old regime. (Using honours to replenish the party war chests).

New York, Jan. 2nd.—An easier trend prevailed in the raw sugar market today, as a result of increased offerings due to the fact that 81 centrals are now grinding in Cuba, against 71 this time last year. Cuba's were offered at 5½¢ cost and freight, for prompt and early January shipment, equal to 6.91 duty paid, without finding a buying interest. The first shipment of new crop Cuba's arrived in New York today. Aside from January contracts, which were relatively easy as a result of increasing spot supplies, raw sugar futures were steadier, opening five to seven points higher on covering prices, but eased off under trade and Cuban selling. The market quickly rallied and was firm in the afternoon on commission house demand, closing seven points lower on January and five to seven points higher on later deliveries. January closed 5.63, May 4.32 and July 4.67. Refined sugar was unchanged to 20 points lower but demand continued light. Fine granulated is quoted at 8.70 to 8.90. Refined futures were nominal.

London, Jan. 2nd.—The Prince of Wales, who will leave on May 2nd on a trip to South Africa, will be absent for about four months. He will travel on one of the regular liners, instead of the cruiser Renown. The Renown is being reconditioned for further services with the fleet.

Capetown, S.A., Jan. 2nd.—The visit of British Special Service Squadron, which began here December 22nd, ended this morning when the battle cruisers Hood and Repulse and the accompanying five light cruisers left for Mossel Bay, Cape of Good Hope, and other ports along the coast, in continuance of the Empire cruise. A vast holiday crowd gathered to bid farewell to the representatives of the British Navy. Col. Sir Pierre Van-rynveld, Director of the South African Air Force, flew around the squadron in an airplane and tugs and motorboats and other craft, with many representative citizens of Cape Town and the South African Union on board, escorted the departing ships as far as they could, but this was not very far, owing to the speed at which the cruisers were steaming. The spectacle of the huge grey cruisers, as they bore out to sea in line formation, was most impressive. Numerous wireless messages conveying wishes for a prosperous voyage and good luck were sent from wireless stations on Robben Is-

land, Cape of Good Hope and also from other stations and to these the warships cordially replied. It is estimated that considerable over 100,000 South Africans, British and Dutch, representing all sections of the Union, visited the ships during their stay here and the whole of South Africa today has a realization of what the British Navy means, which would have been impossible if the visit had not taken place.

Paris, Jan. 2nd.—Paris and its suburbs, recovering from the effects of the New Year's frolic woke this morning to realize that something serious was going on in the river Seine. The heavy rainfall of the past fortnight had brought down the waters into the river to such an extent that this morning the aspect was one of seriousness. The officials at the Foreign Office arriving at their desks today, after the New Year's vacation, found the water was sweeping into the basement of the building, where important archives were stored. The Fire Department was immediately called upon and brought pumps to the building in the hope of clearing the basement of water and saving the valuable papers stored below. Fear was expressed that the rise in the river might bring about such a situation as prevailed in 1910, when the diplomatic staff of the Foreign Office had to go to their posts in boats. The suburbs immediately east and west of Paris are largely under water. They bear the aspect of a muddy Venice. Boats have been brought in use at Auteuil to move the inhabitants from houses which have been surrounded by water. In other buildings in various parts of the inundated area boats are being used to carry food to people who have declined to move. The great Truck Garden area lying along the river resembles a vast lake. Only here and there is there any vegetation showing above the murky waters. Army engineers are rushing footbridge materials to numerous suburban towns in order to permit the people to circulate in the water covered streets.

London, Jan. 2nd.—The Daily Mail each day becomes more excited over Mr. Asquith's refusal to support the present Government. It tells Mr. Asquith today that if he finally refuses to do so his party will be faced with destruction. "We do not hesitate to say that putting the Socialists in office will be the most important change this country has seen since the Norman Conquest", says the newspaper. "From John O'Groats to Land's-end the country would be out for the blood of the Liberals. It can be predicted with absolute confidence that if they put the Socialists in power the Liberals would not return from the next election more than a dozen strong."

London, Jan. 3rd.—Sir Colon Rees-Davies, Chief Justice of the Bermudas, has been appointed first puisne judge of Trinidad and Tobago.