

SUPREME COUNCIL SENDS FINAL ULTIMATUM TO GERMANY

Alternative of Accepting Allied Terms or Being Subject to Invasion — Thought That Germany Will Accept Plan When New Government is Formed.

A despatch from London says:—The final meeting of the Supreme Council was held at 9.45 o'clock Thursday morning at 10 Downing street, when the members affixed their signatures to the ultimatum to Germany and the protocol of the reparations plan. Each document was written in English and French, Lloyd George signing first and Briand second and the English text, and M. Jaspar, the Belgian member, first, Briand second and Lloyd George third the French text. Immediately the signing was over the French delegation took the train for Paris.

Lloyd George then summoned Dr. Sthamer, the German Ambassador in London, by telephone, and at 11 a.m. formally handed him both documents. Both of the documents follow closely the outlines already cabled from day to day. The ultimatum expires on May 12, on which date, failing German compliance, the French will occupy the Ruhr and the British navy will demonstrate at German ports. The outstanding points of the reparations demand, which was signed by the Reparations Commission, are: (1) Bonds—Series (a), for twelve billion gold marks, must be delivered by July 1. (2) Series (b), thirty-eight billions, must be delivered by November 1. (3) Series (c), eighty-two billions,

by November 1, but will be issued only as the Reparations Commission decides Germany's capacity to furnish funds for service.

All the bonds shall be free from all German taxes and charges. Germany must also pay within 25 days one billion marks gold for the first two quarterly installments of interest and sinking fund.

It is thought certain Germany will accept the plan, and the new Government, as soon as it is constitutional, will take immediate steps to prevent the occupation of the Ruhr.

Dr. Sthamer declined to discuss the situation until his Government has acted. The correspondent is informed that the Supreme Council has invited the United States immediately to send a representative to the Supreme Council, the Ambassadors' Conference and the Reparations Commission, but this was not announced officially.

It is reported here that the United States has officially signified its willingness to participate on these bodies, provided its view of the mandates is accepted and the whole question opened for revision.

The British are quite willing to follow this course and the French will be glad to get rid of some of their, but the Japs are holding out. It is likely, however, that they will yield to "persuasion" by their allies.



CANADIAN WHEAT BOARD
Appointed by the Government to consider all questions relative to the handling of wheat. Left to right—Lincoln Goldie, Guelph, Ont.; W. G. Staples, Winnipeg; Judge Hyndman, Calgary; J. H. Haslem, Regina.

Mesopotamia a Series of Arab States

A despatch from London says:—The Daily Sketch on Friday morning says that Winston Churchill, the Colonial Minister, has decided to make Mesopotamia into a series of Arab states. This will secure new overland and aerial routes to India under British protection. Mesopotamia is also to become a great depot and training ground for the military and aviation service of the British Empire.

UPPER SILESIA IN HANDS OF POLES

Insurrection on Large Scale and Well Organized, Says Col. Cockrell.

A despatch from Oppeln, Silesia, says:—Eastern Upper Silesia is in the hands of the Polish insurgents, according to Col. Peppys Cockrell, the British commander from Beuthen, who has arrived here to take command of reinforcements that the inter-allied plebiscite commission is expected to furnish. Col. Cockrell informed the correspondent that the forces now at his command are entirely inadequate to handle the situation. "The insurrection is on a large scale," he said, "and is well organized. It is not merely a peasant uprising. Many of the insurgents are evidently soldiers in civilian dress. They are well supplied with machine guns and military rifles." Here in Oppeln, where the population is distinctly German, there has been no disturbance, all the trouble occurring in the district eastward where the uprising is beyond the control of the allied troops. The inter-allied commission knows only by hearsay of conditions in the eastern and southern districts, as many of the towns in those districts are surrounded by insurgents and means of communication are cut off. Railroad communication was maintained after a fashion until Wednesday night, when the main line was cut between this place and Beuthen. In order to reach Beuthen now one must go afoot part of the way, as the bridge at the west of the town has been blown up.

An Oppeln despatch from a German source says that the inter-allied commission has decided to incorporate three thousand Germans, preferably Upper Silesians, in the plebiscite police. The commission has sent a message to the German plebiscite commissioner at Ratibor for five hundred men for that purpose.

Disastrous Fire at St. Boniface

A despatch from St. Boniface, Que., says:—The picturesque little village of St. Boniface, St. Maurice County, is a scene of desolation as a result of a conflagration on Thursday afternoon, which all but wiped out the entire settlement. The parish church, the Gerbaud Hotel, the Dugre Bakery, the Boucher store and four private residences were destroyed by the flames. The lighting and telephone systems were put out of commission, and the hamlet is in darkness, except for the smouldering ruins. The loss will exceed \$100,000. The presumption is that the fire, which originated in the church, was caused by one of the lighted tapers igniting the draperies at the altar.



Thomas Adamson
Town Planning Adviser to the Commission of Conservation, states that last year there were about 100,000 marriages in Canada, and only about 11,000 new houses built. In addition there were immigrants to be housed.

COAL STRIKE HOURLY ADDS TO BUSINESS PARALYSIS

A despatch from London says:—Great Britain's great coal strike is hourly adding to the general paralysis of business throughout the country. Besides increasing the army of British unemployed to more than four million, it has led to conditions that have necessitated measures tantamount to the emergency regulations of war times to conserve the fast shrinking supply of coal. Only two rays of hope can be seen in the deadlocked situation. One is a move on the part of certain members of Parliament to secure the re-opening of negotiations and the other is a

prophecy of J. H. Thomas, Secretary of the National Union of Railwaymen, that within a week the strike would be settled. Meanwhile the country is faced with a cutting of its railway service to skeleton proportions, entailing additional handicaps for all kinds of business and spelling disastrous loss to the seaside resorts because of the inability of the roads to handle the crowds. Another week of the strike and the railway service will be cut to practically half of the normal and the large cities will be as dimly lighted as they were during the air raids of the war.

Troubled Fiume

Fiume, that city made lately famous by D'Annunzio, having tried various other forms of disorder, has gone Red. A few plain hangings seem indicated in that ancient seaport.

Losing in a recent election, the Communists followed good Red precedent. They set off a few bombs, broke a few heads, smashed the ballot-boxes and burned the registration list of voters. As soon as the followers of D'Annunzio and the Italian Nationalists could rally, a counter-revolution was under way, with more rioting and head-breaking.

Although Fiume is designated under the terms of peace as a free city, the principal use so far made of its freedom is to turn the town into a whirlpool of propaganda and a battleground for clashing national interests. It is wedged between Italy and Czechoslovakia, with Hungary and Austria not far away. All the world of the new Balkans of the north comes down to Fiume to plot and gesticulate in its streets.

Fiume is the smoldering spark that lies very close to the Balkan powder-bin. It is the strategic point of the trouble-maker, whether he comes from Italy, the Balkans or the broken pieces of the old Austrian Empire.

Free city or not, it is somebody's job to keep the peace therein, as Fiume is evidently unable to keep it. Italy of the great Powers signatory to the Treaty is nearest, and interested partly or not, it would seem to be the Italian's job to keep law and order in that troubled town. The hanging of something like equal numbers of Italy's own extreme Nationalists and Communists would make an excellent beginning toward quieting things down.

Lady Rhondda Seeks House of Lords Seat

The efforts of Margaret Haig, Viscountess Rhondda, to obtain a seat in the House of Lords as a peeress in her own right have now reached the stage where her petition praying his Majesty to issue to her a writ of summons to sit in the House of Lords has been referred by the King to that body, together with the Attorney-General's report.

It is now being considered by the Committee on Privileges, which is expected to make a report on the matter soon. Should Lady Rhondda's petition be granted some twenty-five other peeresses in their own right would be entitled to the same privilege.

TREE-PLANTING TO THRIVE IN ONTARIO

Provincial Forestry Department Hopes to Make Progress This Summer.

A despatch from Toronto says:—Active efforts along Provincial forestry lines are to be carried on this summer by the Ontario Government department of which Dr. E. J. Zavitz is the head. During war years comparatively small advantage had been taken by Ontario municipalities of Government encouragement along that line, but this year it is hoped that real progress will be made.

Seven million seedlings, mostly pine and spruce, with some hard woods, will be set out in the Forestry Department's Norfolk county reservation from which it is expected to get a 50 per cent. yield. Counties and municipalities will again have brought to their attention legislation of the last two sessions, by which the Government will assist in putting to good use waste lands. It is also contemplated to open two new nursery centres in Eastern Ontario.

Simcoe county, with its many miles of waste land, is said to be one of the sections of the Province upon which the department has forestry designs. Simcoe is already among those counties which have taken up the Government's forestry proposition.

Two Prominent Sinn Feiners Shot

A despatch from Dublin says:—Patrick Moloney, alleged to have been a prominent official in the "Republican Army," and Sean Duffy, a leading Sinn Feiner in Dublin, are reported officially to have been shot and killed in an affray with the police, nineteen of whom were sent to surround a suspected farm at Guthrum, Tipperary.

When approaching the farm the police were fired upon. They returned the fire and then pursued the fugitives half a mile, killing two of them. The police suffered no casualties.

German Government Resigns Fall of Berlin Cabinet

A despatch from London says:—The German Cabinet resigned on Wednesday evening, according to a long-distance telephone message from Berlin received late on Wednesday night.

Chancellor Fehrenbach decided to quit office, on the recommendation of Dr. Simons, following the United States' refusal to intervene on Germany's behalf in the reparations.

HOW GIFT OF RADIUM WILL BE CONVEYED

Mme. Curie on Way to United States to Receive Gift.

A despatch from Paris says:—Mme. Curie left Paris Wednesday morning for America, where she will receive a gramme of radium from her admirers. The famous scientist is accompanied by her daughters Eve and Irene, and Mrs. William Brown Meloney, editor of the Delicater. At Cherbourg Mme. Curie will take the Olympic for New York.

Owing to the danger of the radium losing its power, great care will be taken in getting the gramme given to Mme. Curie to Europe. The radium will be dissolved in a solution of bromide and water. The solution will be placed in twelve glass tubes, in turn placed in a box of platinum and lead, while this box will be deposited in a special room, into which no one will be allowed to penetrate.

Mrs. Meloney, who accompanies Mme. Curie to America, is head of the committee of women which organized the movement to present the scientist with the precious substance.

Adult Education.

Never in the history of this country has there been, on the part of adults, so great a desire for general education as at the present time, and this desire manifests itself in a very marked way among industrial workers. Of these there are, of course, many who seek technical and utilitarian training; but there are others who prefer education of the cultural type.

In England those workers whose preference is for education in the "humanities" organized themselves some years ago into the Workers' Educational Association and, with the co-operation of the Universities, have conducted evening classes in many varied subjects. In Toronto a similar W.E.A. has been in operation for three years in conjunction with the University of Toronto and seven classes (of which the largest was that in English literature) have been carried on during the past winter. Last November a W.E.A. was organized in Hamilton under the auspices of the Provincial University and another is in process of organization under the same auspices in Ottawa. So far as its finances and the size of its staff will permit, the Provincial University is anxious to promote this important and democratic branch of service.

The University of Toronto is the greatest asset the people of Ontario possess. It is reaching out to serve all classes of the community who may desire to make use of the advantage it offers.

REGLAR FELLERS—By Gene Byrnes

