The London Evening Free Press

WESTERN ONTARIO'S FOREMOST NEWSPAPER.

THE WEATHER: Probabilities —Snow. LONDON, ONTARIO TUESDAY, JANUARY 2, 1923—16 PAGES THREE CENTS

MISSING CHILD ON WAY TO FLORIDA

POINCARE CUTS SUM GERMANY MUST PAY

French Plan Reduces Reparations Amount, Offers Moratorium and Exacts Guarantees.

PREMIERS' PARLEY OPENS AT PARIS

Pressure of U. S. Opinion Has Effect On Deliberations of Powers.

PARIS, Jan. 2. — (By Canadian Press.) — Premier Poincare, of France, offered at to-day's conference of allied leaders a reduction of German reparations to 50,000,000,000 gold marks. The French plan offers a two-year moratorium, but it exacts productive guarantees to insure the resumption of payments later by the Germans. Under the French plan the class "C" bonds would be used to extinguish the inter-allied debts.

The diplomatic barometer seemed inclined to take an upward spurt to-day as statesmen of Great Britain, France, Italy and Belgium gathered for the anxiously-awaited "conference of premiers" which will grapple once more with its reparations problem. The atmosphere was much less pessimestic than after the abrupt termination of the London conversation last month.

Premier Poincare held an important preliminary conversation with Prime Minister Bonar Law at the Grillon Hotel this morning. The two premiers discussed the Far East situation and the reparations question. Although the visit was characterized as a courtesy call, M. Poincare was at the hotel for 35 minutes. Lord Curzon joined the ministers, spending 25 minutes with them. He left later to take the 11.40 train for Lausanne. It is understood that the premiers agreed that France and Great Britain should maintain a united front at the Near East conference in the face of the Turkish attitude.

PRESSURE OF U. S. OPINION.

Although there is a wide divergence of viewpoint, particularly between the French and British, as to how and when Germany shall meet her obligations, the first signs of a movement to bring them into harmony appear to be a result of what Le Matin calls "the invisible pressure of American opinion." The nature of the proposals which Karl Bergmann, the German financial expert, is bringing for the premiers' consideration, has been kept a carefully guarded secret in Berlin, but it is regarded as likely that Chancellor Cuno has named a maximum amount which it would be possible for Germany to pay. Herr Bergmann is desirous of reading the proposals to the delegates, but it is not regarded as likely that the conference will admit such a procedure on the ground that the German communication should be held sufficiently clear to make oral explanations or amplifications necessary. French circles regard such a move as an attempt on Germany's part to give her representative a place in the debates.

It is planned to call members of the reparations commission in consultation only when a question arises of fixing penalties for defaults in payments in kind.

CABINET APPROVES

The French Cabinet in a two-hour session this morning, under the chairmanship of Premier Millerand, heard and approved the reparations plan which Premier Poincare will submit to the premiers' conference.

The Germans made formal request today that Karl Bergmann be permitted to make an oral statement before the premiers on the new German propositions. Premier Poincare was expected

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Celebrates 65th Anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Lilley, who, at their home, 390 Adelaide street, yesterday, surrounded by members of their family, marked 65 years of married life. The couple were married in the old St. Paul's Cathedal on January 1, 1857, two years after London became a city. Mr. Lilley came to London by stage from Hamilton before the completion of the Great Western Railway. He has been a reader of The London Free Press for some 70 years.

Renew Fight For Possession Of Consulate At New York; Republican Forces Losers

Charge Is Made That Mrs. MacSwiney Was Roughly Handled By Detective.

NEW YORK, Jan. 2—Forces of the Irish Free State and of the Irish Republic clashed in Lower Nassau street to-day in a renewed struggle shortly before noon for possession of the consulate surrendered by Daniel J. McGrath after his life had been threatened by an anonymous letter writer using the name of the Irish republican army.

Victory perched on the banners of the Free Staters who gained possession of the consulate and locked about 60 men and women adherents of the republican cause out in the hall.

The indignant losers charged foul play, declaring at last one of their number—Mrs. Muriel MacSwiney, widow of the late lord mayor of Cork, who died on a hunger strike in a British prison—had been roughly handled by a city detective aiding the Free State representatives. A delegation of women immediately headed for Mayor Hylan's office to lay against the police a complaint of partisanship.

"DIXIE FLIER" IN DITCH; MANY HURT

Fast Train Jumps Tracks Near Macon Early To-Day.

MACON, Ga., Jan. 2. — Two persons are reported seriously injured and eight painfully hurt as the result of the Dixie Flyer, a northbound tourist train, en route from Jacksonville to Chicago, jumping the tracks six miles from here early to-day. The injured have been taken to a local hospital. Two baggage cars, one mail car, a day coach and a dining-car turned over. Ten Pullmans left the track but remained upright. The engine left the rails but did not turn over. There were approximately 150 passengers on board the train. Those in the Pullmans are said to have been severely jostled but were not in need of hospital attention. Those injured were riding in the day coaches.

Minister Taken At His Word

(Special Cable to London Free Press by Dominion News Service.)

LONDON, Jan. 2.—There was a crowded congregation to hear a musical service at one of the Newcastle churches.

The clergyman told the people that he believed they had come to hear the music and not to listen to his discourse. He preferred them not to come under such circumstances, he added.

Several persons promptly got up and left the church.

AIR MAIL LINES MAY BE STOPPED

Germany Can Refuse To Allow British Craft Over Border.

AGREEMENT POSSIBLE

One Aircraft Line Has Already Received Permission.

Special Cable to London Free Press By Dominion News Service.

LONDON, Jan. 2.—The British air mail service to Cologne will have to close down unless some eleventh-hour agreement is made between the Air Ministry and the German Government.

Germany can refuse to allow British commercial aircraft above a certain size to fly over her borders, and she has already intimated her intention of doing so.

The daily service of Napier-Instone air liners maintained between London and Cologne since October 1 has been extremely successful.

The Daimler Airway have solved this difficulty by arriving at an agreement with a German air transport firm and have received permission to run their 10-seater machines right through from

GERMAN PLANE LANDS.

CROYDON, Eng., Jan. 2—The first German airplane piloted by a German airman to land voluntarily in England since the war arrived at the airdrome here yesterday. The machine, built by the Zeppelin Company, was the first all-metal plane to cross the channel. It carried three passengers, but is built to accommodate six besides the pilot, although it has an engine of only 185 horsepower.

Owing to the interallied control of German aircraft, the Germans have been compelled to experiment with low-powered engines and, as a result, have developed planes with 185 horsepower, able to carry the same number of passengers at the same speed as British machines with 400 horsepower. The German plane was forced to light yesterday near the Lympne airdrome, in Kent, and completed its journey today. The passengers were directors of the big German air combine which is planning to complete the details of the proposed air service between London and Berlin.

RADIAL BY-LAW BEATEN IN BARTON TOWNSHIP

HAMILTON, Jan. 2.—Barton Township defeated the hydro radial by-law by 276, the vote being: For 343, against 619. It carried a by-law to spend $6,500 on fire apparatus.

Suggestion That West Indies Be Ceded To U. S. In Payment of War Debt Flatly Rejected

British Official Says Plan Was More To Curb Rum-Runners Than To Help Great Britain Financially.

NEW YORK, Jan. 2.—(By Canadian Press).—According to a special from Washington to the New York Tribune, the British Government has flatly rejected a proposal from United States prohibition leaders that she should surrender her island possessions in the West Indies to the United States in payment for the war debt.

According to The Tribune correspondent, the cancellation of the war debt was a secondary consideration, and the "prohibition leaders" really were looking toward the cutting off of the "way stations" by which imported liquor is being smuggled into the United States. According to The Tribune correspondent, information has just reached Washington of the reception given in British official circles to the proposition. The Tribune correspondent, basing his information on Washington reports, describes how a "high British official" received the plan.

The official is reported to have said: "We will never sell our citizens and subjects into slavery by prohibition. We are not in the real estate business."

A COUNTER PROPOSAL.

"If America is really anxious to discuss territorial adjustments I am sure that the Dominion of Canada would be interested in obtaining a part of the State of Maine, with the object of using and developing certain ports there. That would give Canada all winter shipping facilities, which would be desirable from many standpoints and would not be injurious to the United States in any way that I can see. So that if the United States seriously wants to discuss obtaining some of our territory in the Caribbean in exchange for the northeastern corner of New England, I have no doubt that a satisfactory deal could be arranged. The correspondent says that "naturally prohibition leaders in Washington threw up their hands at the idea of this counter proposal. They thought they could help Britain solve her debt and budget problem, and at the same time cripple the rum runners. They certainly do not want the Canadian border brought any nearer."

WILL NOT TAX BUS OFF CITY STREETS

Committee of Bus Men Will Be Asked To Meet the Police Commission.

PROPOSE AMENDMENT TO INSURANCE CLAUSE

Busses Are Now Operating Under License Fee of $5 Per Seat.

In order to settle the question of bus licenses and liability insurance permanently and satisfactorily, a meeting of the police commission will be called by Mayor-elect Wenige early next week. Immediately after the inaugural meeting of the Council, which takes place on Monday, January 8, steps will be taken by the mayor, as chairman of the commission, to call a meeting to discuss the question.

"The greatest good to the largest number of people is what must be considered," said Mayor Wenige. "The busses are filling a real need in the city's transportation problem, and nothing should be done that would tend to drive them off the streets. On the other hand the citizens must be protected.

"A committee of the bus men will be asked to meet the commission," Mr. Wenige continued. "The whole situation will be discussed from every angle and an amicable settlement will be effected. The owners do not want anything for nothing. They are quite willing to pay for operating the busses as they are satisfied to carry any reasonable amount of liability insurance to protect their patrons. But they do ask for fair play, and that is what the police commission is most anxious to give. There need be no fear that the commission will impose any restrictions that will be detrimental to the city. I am positive each member of this commission is anxious to give both the city and the bus owners a square deal."

BLANKET POLICY.

Mr. Wenige has previously stated that there is no necessity for demanding that the bus owners each carry $16,000 insurance policy. A blanket policy, which would cover all the busses operating to the amount of $16,000, would be ample protection.

Ald. Watt is of the same opinion. He points out that the London Street Railway company does not carry a large insurance policy for each car operated, and it is a useless waste to demand a policy from each one of the bus owners. A blanket policy will be sufficient for all purposes. But he also insists that the license fees should be placed at $200 at least. This is not too much to ask the bus owners to pay for the use of the streets, Ald. Watt thinks.

However, the question will be thoroughly threshed out by the commission when it meets next week. In the meantime the busses are now operating under the new license fees of $5 per seat per year, pending a settlement of the other phases of the situation.

THIEF MILKS ALD. BILL'S GAS GOAT

Ald. Wilson's Garage Visited On Two Occasions.

DRAIN TANK OF CAR

Says Another Visit Will Be Fatal To Marauder.

Who is the hard-hearted individual who on two occasions has entered the garage of Ald. Wm. Wilson and bled every drop of gasoline from the tank of the alderman's car? This is the question that has caused a flurry in police circles and has caused more anxiety in the heart of the alderman than the recent election.

Twenty-five gallons of high-priced fluid has been extracted from the tank of the alderman's conveyance, he claims, and an hour's immersion in boiling oil would be none too drastic a punishment for the daring individual who had the nerve to break into the garage at dead of night.

That the thief is quite liable to pay his garage another visit is the opinion of the alderman-elect, who has taken to midnight vigils.

"I'll get him yet," he declared to several friends this morning. "I'll make that fellow sorry he ever thought of my garage. Twice now he has taken every drop of gas in the machine, but he won't do it a third time. I've got a scheme for catching him, and if he comes again I'll get him sure. He must appreciate the quality of gas I buy when he has emptied the tank twice.

SCOTTISH CURLERS ARRIVE.

HALIFAX, N. S., Jan. 2.—The Canadian Pacific steamship Marloch, bearing the Scottish curlers, who will play a series of games throughout Canada, entered the harbor at 11.30 and tenders went alongside at once to land the players, their baggage and "stanes."

1,200 TONS COAL ARRIVE IN CITY IN THREE DAYS

Shortage of Anthracite Relieved By Heavy Shipments From Mines Recently.

EXPECT LARGER SUPPLY DURING NEXT FEW WEEKS

Cars Are Being Returned To Source of Supply As Soon As Possible.

London's coal shortage has been relieved somewhat. During the last three days 1,200 tons of anthracite arrived in London, and indications are that additional consignments will be received in this city during the next few days.

Grand Trunk Railway alone has placed 30 cars of coal in the London yards for the local dealers, which are being unloaded to-day, and the orders which have been placed for coal during the past few weeks are being filled.

Freight trains, which arrived in London from the Niagara frontier over the week-end carried large shipments of coal for this city and the surrounding district, and freight reports show that large consignments were also distributed to other parts of the province.

The cars are being emptied as soon as possible, and will be returned to the mines promptly. The Grand Trunk Railway has been co-operating in every way with the mine owners, so that coal will be forwarded to the various parts of the Dominion without any delay.

A shortage of coal has been felt in London during the past few weeks, and three cars a day has been the maximum supply received by the G. T. R. for some time.

"We have arranged so that coal consignments will be rushed through, and the Grand Trunk Railway is doing all possible to prevent a serious coal shortage," said one of the officials to-day.

UTILITIES MEET AFTER ALDERMEN

Inaugural Session Postponed Till Council Organized.

MANY ISSUES FOR DECISION

Commissioners To Ask Debentures For Water Meters.

It is not likely that the Utilities Commission will hold its inaugural session until after the City Council has been formally organized and opened its year's activities. General Manager Buchanan stated to-day that there was some discussion about holding a meeting on Thursday of this week, which is the regular date for commission meetings. It had been decided, however, that it would be more appropriate to hold the inaugural on Thursday of next week. This would permit completion of all organization work before the regular meeting on Thursday, the 18th.

The new commission will be comprised of Messrs. Philip Pocock, T. W. McFarland, Jared Vining, R. J. Webster and the mayor.

There are a number of important matters for consideration at the next regular meeting, prominent on the list being the question of asking the City Council to permit an issue of debentures for the cost of some 10,000 water meters. It is proposed to equip the entire city with water meters and in this way not only insure a more even distribution, but also eliminate a great deal of waste being experienced at the present time.

THE WEATHER

"Zimmie"

SNOW.

PROBABILITIES

Fresh winds, mostly north and northeast, mostly fair and moderately cold to-day. Light snowfalls in some localities during the night and on Wednesday.

NOTES.

A cold wave is centered this morning to the northward of Lake Superior and pressure is low over the Gulf of St. Lawrence and in the Upper Mississippi Valley. Rain fell during yesterday in the Maritime Provinces and in Quebec and a few snow flurries occurred in Ontario and in Alberta and Saskatchewan.

TEMPERATURES.

Following are the highest and lowest temperatures for 24 hours, between 8 p. m. and 8 a. m.:

Stations.	Max.	Min.	
LONDON	29	22	Cloudy
Victoria	—	40	Rain
Winnipeg	*6	*22	Clear
Port Arthur	—	*14	Cloudy
S. S. Marie	22	10	Cloudy
Toronto	36	28	Cloudy
Kingston	38	28	Cloudy
Ottawa	38	16	Cloudy
Montreal	40	22	Cloudy
Quebec	40	16	Fair
Father Point	38	44	Cloudy
St. John	46	34	Fair
Halifax	46	38	Cloudy

New City Auditor

EX-ALD. H. B. ASHPLANT, who commenced his new duties at the city hall to-day.

OUTBREAK AT MOSUL AROUSES BRITAIN

Hangars of British Air Force Burned and People Demanding Annexation To Turkey.

OFFICIAL WORD IS RECEIVED AT ANGORA

Insurrection Comes Just As British Are Insisting On Oil Claim.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Jan. 2.—Official announcement that an insurrection had broken out at Mosul, in the Kingdom of Irak, was received here from Angora to-day. The telegram asserted that the inhabitants of the entire oil producing region were demanding annexation of the territory to Turkey.

Dispatches from London yesterday chronicling the revolt in Mosul, said that the hangars of the British Air Force had been burned.

The British Government, through its spokesman at the Lausanne conference, has insisted upon its right to the rich Mosul oil fields, jurisdiction over which is claimed by Turkey. During the past few weeks there have been several reports of threatened resurrections in the territory for which London has held the Turks partially responsible.

NNO CONFIRMATION.

LONDON, Jan. 2—It was stated in official circles this afternoon that no confirmation of the report that an uprising had taken place in Mosul had been received. It was pointed out that the source of the report—Angora through Constantinople—was sufficient to characterize it as one of the numerous rumors which might be expected to be forthcoming daily until a settlement of the Near East question was reached.

Mosul is in constant touch with Bagdad by wireless, it was commented, and any disturbances would be reported to London immediately.

BOOTLEGGERS ON HOLIDAYS NOW

Did Big Business Christmas and New Year's.

SNOWFALL WAS DETRIMENT

Fifth Concession Road Popular For Liquor Hauling.

Activities of bootleggers passing through Westminster Township have greatly decreased in the past two days. Farmers residing on the Belmont town line and on the fifth concession state that the steady stream of cars laden with booze, which was a common occurrence during Chirstmas and New Year's week, has ceased.

For a week before Christmas this was a route taken by rum-runners and they continued to speed over these roads until the day before New Year's. It is said that they skirted Ingersoll, passed through Nilestown and went south on the town line to the fifth concession and followed this road to the highway.

The snowfall of Christmas week was a blow to the bootlegger, and on two occasions farmers helped to extricate large cars from drifts. In each instance the machines carried several cases of whisky. It is the opinion of farmers that these cars were owned in Essex County and were working in connection with the gang that was operating on an extensive scale in Essex during the month of December.

FIRST ELECTION IN 20 YEARS FOR S. S. IN WARD 3

Warm Contest To-Morrow Between J. Loughlin and Dr. P. J. Sweeney.

ACCLAMATIONS HAVE BEEN CUSTOMARY FOR BOARD

Election Is Unique In the Annals of City and Western Ontario.

Separate School supporters will tomorrow go to the polls to select a representative to the school board from ward three for the first time in 20 years, after what is declared by the oldest old-timer to be the warmest election contest that has ever been held. The contest is between Jeremiah Loughlin, who has represented ward three on the board for a number of years ,and Dr. P. J. Sweeney, who has entered the field as his opponent for another two-year term.

The annals of Western Ontario's municipal educational elections contain some unique contests, but the 1923 contest of London's Separate School Board is declared to be unique in history. It was back in the year 1903 when the last election was held, at a time when automobiles were such a rarity as to attract a crowd even on London streets; when prohibition was absolutely unheard of and election contests were as a consequence a much bigger event in the history of a city than they are today.

FRANK FORRISTAL WON.

In that year during the first week in February Frank Forristal was a contestant and in the election that followed was elected. On each consecutive occasion since that time Mr. Forristal, along with his colleagues, have been returned to office. There was no desire on the part of anyone to avoid an election, members of the board state today that a lack of interest, or a complete satisfaction with conditions resulted in an acclamation.

When nominations were held a week ago at the Parish Hall, in Richmond street, even the candidates went to the hall with the expectation of another acclamation. At the close of the hour, however, it was found necessary once more to have the electors go to the polls to decide the matter.

There are about 400 elections in ward 3, where the contest of to-morrow centers. Voting will begin at 10 in the morning and continue until 5 in the afternoon.

Dr. Sweeney is being supported in the campaign by Hessian and ex-Ald. D. J. Tallant, while Mr. Loughlin is sponsored by Trustees Nolan and Frank Forristall.

A lively meeting was held last evening at St. Mary's Hall, when addresses were delivered by the candidates and their supporters and, according to reports, the separate school supporters of the district have not forgotten how to stage a real old-fashioned election meeting, inspite of the years that have elapsed without one. James Egan occupied the chair and the speakers included Mr. Loughlin, Frank Forristal and Joseph Nolan for the one candidate, and Mr. Hessian and Mr. Tallant for Dr. Sweeney.

Another meeting is to be held at St. Patrick's Hall to-night, when the final shots in the campaign will be fired.

Voting to-morrow will take place in St. Mary's School annex, and the candidates will be selected by open ballot.

STAGE WELFARE DRIVE EARLIER

Date of Local Campaign Will Be March Or April.

JUNE PROVES UNSUITABLE

Too Many People Are Out of Town, It Is Found.

Owing to the fact that the June campaign of the united welfare fund was found to be seriously handicapped by the Wednesday half-holiday during the month of June, and also the fact that during that month a great many people of the city commence their summer holidays or take spasmodic trips through the surrounding country in their automobile, it was decided at a meeting held in the Tecumseh House that the date would be changed either to March or April. The official date will be decided upon at a later meeting.

It was explained that during the summer people are out a great deal more than in the winter months and difficulty was experienced in getting the personnel of the Welfare Association together.

The president's report for the year showed that payments had been maintained remarkably well, with little or no shrinkage. Over $60,000 had already been dispersed to the 14 participating organizations in the city, which included orphanages, children's homes, etc.

POISON LIQUOR FATAL.

WINNIPEG, Jan. 2—Two deaths, believed by the police to have resulted from drinking poisonous liquor, were reported last night. Wm. Drummond, age 56, and Alice Isherwood, age 55, were found dead in the former's room yesterday. An inquest will be held.

LOST GIRL TRACED TO DETROIT BY FATHER

Alleged That Lillian Irwin Was In Possession of Divorced Mother At Border City.

FLORIDA AUTHORITIES ARE ASKED TO BE ON LOOKOUT

Traced To Two Rooming Houses By Father and Trail Then Ended.

Lillian Irwin, little daughter of John Irwin, 495 Burbrook street, East London who on Saturday, December 23, was spirited away from her home has been traced to Detroit and it is now claimed that the child and those responsible for taking her from the city are on the way to Florida.

The father of the little girl stated to The Free Press to-day that he had wired authorities in Florida to be on the lookout for the child. He asked them to take possession of the girl and to hold those accompanying her until word was received from London authorities.

Whereabouts of the child was a mystery to the father until yesterday when he paid a visit to Detroit and discovered that she had arrived there the day following her disappearance from this city. It is said that she was in the possession of a Mr. and Mrs. Hugo Herman, Mrs. Herman, who was formerly Mrs. John Irwin, and mother of the child.

REMAINED FEW DAYS.

On Sunday afternoon, December 24, a Mr. and Mrs. Herman and the child secured rooms at 120 Sibley street, Detroit. The landlord at this number stated that the mother, father and daughter, as he presumed, kept their quarters and only went out when it was necessary to get something to eat. He pointed out that they only remained at this place for three or four days and later moved to 48 Montcalm street.

The landlord at the rooming house on Montcalm street stated that the pair acted mysteriously and left the building sometime on Saturday night, unknown to the landlord. He told Mr. Irwin that they had talked of going to Florida, and, in fact, he knew that this was their intentions.

When the little girl was taken from her home, while she was playing in the front yard with her cousin, she was scantily clad. She wore no coat or hat, but it was reported in Detroit that she was all fitted out in new attire.

IN COURT ON THURSDAY.

Following the disappearance of the child, who is 10 years old, Mrs. Melville Smith, 2 Adelaide street, was arrested and appeared in police court on December 28, charged with abduction. She was bailed to appear on Thursday of this week.

Whether or not the man and woman who spent several days in Detroit with the child took her from this city is unknown. The father is not sure whether the mother of the child would come to this city to get her, but he is confident that the Mrs. Hugo Herman, as she gave her name in Detroit, is the mother of the girl.

MAN OF LONG SERVICE GETS EMBRO REEVESHIP; CLERK BREAKS TIE

WOODSTOCK, Jan. 2—The municipal elections in Oxford County were featured by the tie vote for reeve in the Village of Embro. When the ballots were counted it was found that R. W. Hoggard and J. G. Lindsay each had 55 ballots to his credit. The tie was broken to-day when the village clerk, H. Sutherland, gave the deciding vote, casting it for R. W. Hoggard, the man with the longest period to his credit in the Council.

UNDERSTUDY TAKES BERNHARDT'S PART

PARIS, Jan. 2.—A dress rehearsal of Sacha Guitry's new play, in which Sarah Bernhardt was to have had a part, will take place to-morrow with Henrlette Roggers taking the role originally assigned to the great star, the Journal Comoedia announced today. Madame Bernhardt declared last week that she would surely appear to take her part on Wednesday, but the recent turn for the worse noted in her condition has made her appearance out of the question.

STEAMSHIP ARRIVALS

Steamer.	Arrived at.	From
Orduna	New York	Southampton
Adriatic	New York	Liverpool
Baltic	Liverpool	New York
Antonia	Plymouth	New York
Orbita	Southampton	New York
Montcalm	Liverpool	St. John