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The Toronto World

WEDNESDAY MORNING DECEMBER 31 1919

39TH YEAR—ISSUE NO. 14,294

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Raid on Jewelry Store Ends in Narrow Escape of Motor Bandits Date Fixed For Formal Ratification of Peace Treaty With Germany

GALLANT RESCUE OF THREE SURVIVORS OF WRECKED SHIP

All That Are Left of Complement of 29 Told Stories of Incredible Hardships.

St. John's, Nfld., Dec. 30.—The steamer Inghram has just returned to Trepassy port after rescuing three of the men of the Dutch steamer Anton Vandriel, which went ashore at St. John's Sunday night during a terrific gale. They are the second male and two female. The wrecked ship carried a complement of 29 men, most of whom lost their lives within a few minutes after their craft struck the reefs that make the coast line a nightmare to mariners. The survivors relate a tale of unimaginable hardships as they clung to the bridge of the steamer shelterless and foodless and pounded by the incessant breakers that swept in from the Atlantic on the on-shore gale.

The rescued men, although almost paralyzed by the horrors and the exposure of these terrible two days and two nights on the ship of death, told a tale of desperate struggling with the storm in their coal-laden ship culminating in the landing of the steamer on one of the most inhospitable sections of the coast of Newfoundland.

Shortly after the ship stranded, the lifeboats were launched in an effort to get to the shore, which was only a few yards away. The frail craft were speedily hammered to pieces against the hull of the ship or swamped by the mountainous waves, practically all their occupants meeting death in the icy waters.

One of the men who was rescued was actually in one of these boats, but was swept back to the deck of the steamer, caught hold of some projection and lived to be rescued by the men of the Inghram, which was despatched to the scene of the wreck.

Seemed All Were Lost. Shore observers at the village of St. John's were unable to see any life on the Anton Vandriel when daylight permitted a view of the exposed part of the ship and it was feared that all the five lifeboats which were yesterday during the storm clinging to the bridge, had perished in the constant wash of the icy seas.

There was just a chance that the men had taken refuge in the wheelhouse, and although the seas were still running so high that approach to the wreck was perilous the captain of the Inghram decided to launch a boat. The lifeboat crew that he sent to investigate succeeded in working their craft under the lee of the wreck. Their haul was answered feebly from the wheelhouse, and getting aboard they found the three men, all virtually helpless from the numbing cold.

The Inghram had a hard time battling the sea, and it was not until the rescue of the trio of survivors from a stranded hulk away in amongst the breakers, was accomplished after many attempts to launch a boat from the rescuers and despite the terrific odds of wind and sea and jagged reefs.

Shore Observers Were Powerless. The plight of the shipwrecked mariners was witnessed for hours by the watchers on the cliffs, who were powerless to effect or to attempt a rescue. It was impossible to launch a boat from the precipitous strand even could such a small craft have lived amongst the breakers.

There were no life-saving appliances available, and even had the contrary been the case, the howling gale would have made it impossible to fire a line to the wreck. So one of the fishermen hastened over the eight miles that separated St. John's from the nearest telegraph office, help was summoned from St. John's, and the rescue effected by the Inghram of the pitifully few men who survived the horrors of the shipwreck.

REFUSED POLITELY TO GIVE UP WILHELM

Dutch Reply to Entente When Ex-Crown Prince Was Reported Escaped.

Washington, Dec. 30.—Thru official information, not heretofore available, it has been learned that last summer when an apparently reliable report came from Holland that the former crown prince of Germany had escaped from his land internment at Weirgen the supreme council precipitately demanded that former Emperor Wilhelm be turned over to the entente powers. The demand was embodied in a note sent to the Dutch government.

The reply of the Dutch government was a polite statement that the report of the escape of the ex-crown prince was erroneous, and that every precaution was being taken to prevent such an issue. The official information available today, is that there was no attempt by the Dutch to answer the demand otherwise, so that the probable action of the Hague authorities in case such a demand is pressed can only be inferred.

THE EXCHANGE SITUATION.
 British pound (\$4.86) in New York, 52.75, a discount of 22.50 per cent.
 Canadian dollar in New York, 52c, a discount of 3 per cent.

CHARGE DISCRIMINATION AGAINST ONTARIO WHEAT

Alleging discrimination against Ontario wheat, Hon. Manning Doherty, minister of agriculture, acting on behalf of the government, has sent the following telegram to James Stewart, chairman of the Canadian Wheat Board, Winnipeg: "I desire to protest strongly regarding discrimination against Ontario wheat, made by the latest order of your board, as announced in the press here. The former regulation fixed the price of Ontario wheat at Montreal the same as western wheat at Fort William. This operated as a discrimination of 67 cents a bushel against Ontario wheat and was attributed to difference in milling qualities. We always felt that this difference was too great, but the present regulation increasing western wheat about 50 cents a bushel, and leaving the Ontario price as before means a discrimination of 17 cents a bushel against Ontario wheat. We feel that this is not in accord with the relative value of the wheat as shown by previous quotations, both in fixed prices and in the open market. We strongly urge that this point be reconsidered in justice to the farmers of Ontario."

WINNIPEG ZIONISTS TURN TO PALESTINE

One Hundred and Fifty People Arrange to Go to Holy Land.

Winnipeg, Dec. 30.—A back-to-the-Holy-Land movement has started in Winnipeg. The tide which will follow the redemption of Palestine from the slothful Turk and will sweep Zionists of every land to its shores, will take with it at least 150 men, women and children of Winnipeg. This many have already pledged themselves to go within a short time following the opening of the country for immigration. The Tribune asserts today.

The end of 1920 will find fifty or more back in the old-new land. The co-operative society "Oekra," meaning farmer, recently formed, now comprises 30 families. Among its members are farmers, business men, craftsmen and professional men. The idea of organization was not to induce people to return to their old homes—but to prepare for the making of their homes in Palestine.

The society's members will live together in Palestine as co-workers and co-beneficiaries in a co-operative colony. Beginning with mixed fruit and grain farming, the colony will launch into business or manufacture as opportunity offers.

**DIFFICULT TO FIX
 TRIO OF MINISTERS**
 No Seats in View for Three Homeless Members of Cabinet.

"No finality has yet been reached in securing seats for myself and the two other cabinet ministers, and it is not likely that any decision will be reached until towards the end of the week," said Premier Drury last night when asked how the project had progressed.

At the Farmer-Labor caucus held at parliament buildings last Friday week, it was reported that no fewer than twelve members had offered to sacrifice their seats in order to make way for Premier Drury, Hon. Manning Doherty, minister of agriculture, and Hon. W. E. Roney, attorney-general. A committee consisting of Hon. Walter Koller, minister of labor and health, and Hon. R. H. Grant, minister of education, was appointed to fix upon the most likely seats for the politically homeless trio. Mr. Grant was out of the city yesterday, and Mr. Rollo was not in a position to make any report.

Calculations All Upset.
 Premier Drury, of course, originally intended taking the Centre Simcoe seat offered by Mr. Murdoch, but an election position against the latter upset the well-laid plan. There is some talk of a saw-off with Grenville where the U.F.O. protested Hon. G. Howard Ferguson's seat, but whether anything will materialize it is difficult to say at present.

Mr. Ranby and Mr. Doherty have been mentioned for most of the U.F.O. seats and even for a Conservative constituency, but nothing approaching an opening has yet been found—at least, so it is reported in well-informed circles.

Will Meet Opposition.
 Whenever the attorney-general and the minister of agriculture do see anything like an opening they will be met by a party strongly barred with opposition. They will require to fight hard before they are allowed to make their bow to Mr. Speaker. There appears to be a particularly dead set against Mr. Roney, and there is talk even already of Mr. Drury having to look elsewhere for an attorney-general.

The Farmers also, it is said, are not quite so keen on relinquishing their seats, which, incidentally, means a few weeks spent in the city at a season when they can best spare the time, to say nothing of the \$1,400 seasonal allowance, which looks good even to a farmer in these days. Friday next will tell its own tale.

HARTLEY DEWART ON TRACKS OF ONTARIO LICENSE AUTHORITY

Asks if Personnel of Board Satisfactory to New Government.

VIEWS OF CHAIRMAN

H. Hartley Dewart, K.C., is again on the tracks of the Ontario liquor license department. In the course of a letter to Hon. H. C. Nixon, provincial secretary, the Liberal leader quotes the following extract from The Lindsay Warrier: "Chairman J. D. Finlay of the Ontario license board is in town for the week-end. In conversation with The Warrier he stated that he did not expect that any change would be made in the personnel of the board by the new government. The relations between the board and the new government are satisfactory. The evidence in all changes that have been made against the board is in the hands of Mr. Drury and his cabinet, and the board have asked for a full investigation."

Personnel of Board.
 "I shall take it as a great favor," Mr. Dewart adds, "if you could advise me whether the personnel of the present license board has been accepted by the new government and is satisfactory to you as minister having charge of that department."

The World asked Mr. Nixon yesterday if he had anything to say regarding the foregoing.
 "I would rather not express an opinion," Mr. Nixon said, "it is a matter upon which a statement must be made by the premier. Mr. Drury could not be soon on the question, but it may be recalled that soon after he assumed office he stated that there would be a full investigation of the provincial secretary replied, 'but, of course, we do not know yet just what legislation will be introduced.'"

"And the army of people who now rush for prescriptions will probably import their own liquor for use in case of sickness or for any other cause," Mr. Nixon was asked.
 "It does look that way," the provincial secretary replied, "but, of course, we do not know yet just what legislation will be introduced."

**CALLS NEUTRAL NATIONS
 ON PAR WITH VANQUISHED**

Geneva, Dec. 30.—Federal Councillor Scheurer, speaking before a large audience at Bern today, said that the general political and economic situation of the neutral nations was difficult. "They must consider themselves as among the vanquished and on the same basis as the adversaries of the allies," he declared.

JANUARY SIXTH DATE FIXED FOR RATIFICATION OF PEACE RELATIONS WILL BE RESUMED

Germans Will Sign Protocol and Allies Reduce Tonnage Demands—Diplomatic Relations With Germany to Be Resumed at Once.

Paris, Dec. 30.—Exchange of ratifications of the treaty of Versailles will take place January 6 at the Quai d'Orsay. Baron von Lersner, head of the German delegation, and Paul Ducloux, secretary of the peace conference, tonight settled all points in connection with the signature, except that relating to naval material, which it is expected will be solved shortly.

The Germans will sign the protocol, and at the same time the allies will hand a letter to them agreeing to reduce their demands to 400,000 tons if the total available tonnage has been overestimated, or Germany is gravely menaced economically. Because of the signature, the allies will get 24,000 tons of material, and the balance based on the report of experts who are now checking up Danzig, Hamburg and Bremen.

The British prime minister, David Lloyd George, will be present at the ceremony, which will be carried out without any display. Diplomatic relations with Germany will be resumed the following day, when the French charge d'affaires will go to Berlin and French consuls will resign their posts.

Allied troops will be ordered on January 12 to the territories which must be evacuated by the Germans or where the plebiscites are to be held. It is held that 100 trains will be needed for this purpose.

**TREATY COMPROMISE
 NOW MORE DEFINITE**
 Democratic Leader Hitchcock Confers With Head of Milder Reservationists.

Washington, Dec. 30.—Peace treaty compromise talk reached a more formal stage today when Senator McNary, today, and Senator Hitchcock, discussed various compromise suggestions with Senator Hitchcock of Nebraska, the acting Democratic majority leader.

MODIFICATIONS PROBABLE
 It was said that a definite agreement can come out of the conference, the conversation took a hopeful turn. Afterward both senators seemed confident that middle ground could be found that would insure ratification early in the year.

Modification of the reservations approved by the senate majority at the last session, so that affirmative acceptance by the other powers would not be required is understood to have been the principal subject considered. A new preamble which would declare the reservations effective unless other nations objected within a limited time was said to have been outlined, with both senators indicating that they might accept it.

The reservations in the majority program dealing with article ten, Shantung and voting power in the League of Nations, it was said, also came in for discussion.

During the day Senator Hitchcock saw a number of other senators and Senator Swanson of Virginia, a Democrat of the foreign relations committee, was present during a part of the talk with McNary. Later Mr. McNary conferred with several on the Republican side.

The compromise negotiations are expected to become more and more active as senators return here next week for the reconvening of congress next Monday. In some quarters, however, it is believed that definite action may be postponed until after the Democratic senate caucus of Jan. 15, which will decide the contest between Senator Hitchcock and Senator Underwood of Alabama, for the Democratic leadership.

NO NEW LIGHT SHED ON PHOENIX PARK AFFRAY

Dublin, Dec. 30.—There is no new light on the Phoenix Park affair. There will be an ordinary military inquiry, but as far as is known, no public investigation of the recent shooting, which resulted in the death of an officer of the army, Lieut. Bost, and a civilian.

John Dillon, chairman of the National party, in the course of an interview, said he was convinced that whatever on the political situation, he pointed out that the evidence at the inquest was so contradictory that it was impossible to form any opinion.

BIRTHRATE IN FRANCE DOUBLED THIS MONTH

Paris, Dec. 30.—A large increase in the birthrate is shown by statistics for the month of December, the rate in Paris having doubled since the beginning of the year. Last January the birthrate was 9.5 per thousand, while for the present month the rate exceeds 18 per thousand.

MOTOR BANDITS NARROWLY ESCAPE BEING CAPTURED

Rob Jeweler's Store of Many Rings and Fire at Proprietor.

CHASED FOR BLOCKS

Motor bandits last night changed their mood, operating. At 7.40 in the evening two foreigners entered the jewelry store of N. J. Watson, 1605 West Queen street, and after firing a revolver at Watson stole 35 rings valued at from \$6 to \$12 each, and fled from the premises. Mr. Watson was suspicious of the actions of the men, and refused to show them any of his expensive jewelry. Observing that one of the two men pulled two revolvers, and pointing them at Watson, threatened to shoot. Watson ran for a side entrance leading to Queen street, and just as he turned a bullet shot by his head and lodged in the wall. The two men then ran for the store, evidently to board a waiting stolen motor car, but a policeman spoiled their plans and they dropped the jewelry and ran for the side streets.

There were five men in the hold-up party last night, and at 7 o'clock they drove a high-powered motor car belonging to Capt. Lloyd, 254 Lee avenue, from the rear of the King Edward Hotel, and drove to the west end of the city. The robbers were driving as they were seen to drive west along King street in the stolen car. Pulling the auto up alongside of the south curbstone, within 25 yards of the jewelry store, the five men got out and left the engine running. One of the gang walked into the store and asked Watson to show him some rings. The storekeeper showed him several trays holding signed and colored sapphire rings. The supposed purchaser said he would rather look over more expensive rings.

In the meantime a second man entered the shop and asked to be shown "some good rings." The proprietor said he had what he had shown, but the best he had in stock was not among the looks of the two men moved back from the counter. The second man to enter the store then said: "Just wait a minute, I have some better rings." The jeweler made an attempt to run out the side door when two guns were pulled on him and a shot fired. Watson got out the side door but the door leading to the street was locked and he had to unlock it. By the time he got to Queen street the two men had stolen the rings from the counter and had run out the front door to Queen street. Maurice Fisher, New Toronto, an employee of Watson, was standing talking to a man just east of the store. When he heard cries from Watson to stop the thieves, he crossed the street after the two

**OPPOSE PERSONNEL
 OF TARIFF INQUIRY**
 Canadian Press Despatch.

Montreal, Dec. 30.—Opposition to the proposed government tariff commission so far as it is to be composed of cabinet ministers, expressed by the Canadian Manufacturers' Association in a communication to local associations, boards of trade and other commercial bodies. The letter, after pointing out that the association at its annual meeting passed a resolution asking the government to create a permanent tariff board, stated in conclusion that the tariff investigation by means of a committee of cabinet ministers "seems especially inadvisable, because such investigation cannot possibly take cognizance of such important factors" as:

Important Factors.
 Differences in labor and other cost of production in competing with foreign countries.
 Origin and cost of raw material.
 Specific and ad valorem duties.
 Preferential tariff within the empire.

Bargaining features of tariffs of all great trading nations which are used to open new markets which would remain otherwise closed.
 The letter suggests arrangements of deputations by all branches of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association to proceed to Ottawa to urge the government to abandon its present intention to hold cabinet committee hearings and instead to appoint a permanent tariff board.

The Sensation of the Season in Fur Selling.
 To the women folk in Toronto and district, it is hardly believable that the Dineen's, 140 Yonge street, are clearing every fur garment and fur piece for ladies at a great reduction in price. It's thrilling, and will surely crowd this popular store with eager buyers. Nothing so drastic has ever been known in the fur trade at the Dineen's. For the past year Dineen's are determined that they will carry absolutely no ladies' furs over, and are taking this vital step to ensure positive clearance regardless of the loss it incurs. If you are wise you will waste no time in getting down to this wonderful sale. Think of the enormous savings with the hardest months of winter still to come.

THE SITUATION AT OTTAWA AND THE PINAFORE LEGEND

is to be immediately created for holding a general election.

The Mail and Empire despatch also contains a significant announcement that "enquiry into the tariff, looking toward a general revision, will probably take place until after the session." Here, again, the house has jurisdiction, although the initiative is undoubtedly vested in the government. No private member can introduce a bill having for its object an increase of taxation. It is already proposed to reduce existing customs duties and he can, upon the address or upon going into supply, move a low tariff resolution.

The coming session some people think will be largely devoted to intrigue for the succession. It is still insisted by many that Sir Robert Borden is a very sick man, and that his successor will have to be chosen at no distant date by the Unionist members of parliament. Some of the ministers at Ottawa are open candidates for the premiership and eye each other askance when they meet at the council table. The effort to have Sir Robert Borden designate his own successor proved unavailing; indeed Sir Robert's choice of Hon. James A. Calder was not acceptable to the majority of the cabinet. Hon. Arthur Meighen, who will have a strong support in a parliamentary caucus, starts with a majority of his cabinet colleagues against him. All this makes more or less for disintegration, but no doubt all the candidates will cheerfully bow to the decision of the parliamentary caucus. The seven men who are likely to go to a ballot, although not all of them are avowed candidates, are: Hon. Arthur Meighen, Hon. J. A. Calder, Hon. N. W. Rowell, Hon. C. J. Doherty, Sir George Foster, Sir Henry Drayton and Sir Thomas White.

Considerable adverse criticism appears in the press respecting the vacillating policy of Sir Robert Borden in respect to his resignation. Some of the papers appear to think that Sir Robert's principal ailment is inability to make up his mind or keep it made up. The Calgary Alberta says:

It is the same thing over again. The premier becomes tired of office, and the report is widely circulated that he has decided to resign. He returns to Ottawa and decides not to resign. He goes abroad and becomes estranged from office for a time and the report is circulated that he intends to retire.

When he returns to Ottawa his old friends gather about him and insist that he remain on at the helm or the ship will break on the rocks, and he decides to remain. This sort of thing has been repeated time after time for the last five years.

On the other hand many people who have an opportunity of knowing, say the prime minister is a very sick man who ought to resign immediately. They feel that he is being kept in office against his better judgment to bridge over an ugly situation for his cabinet colleagues, and that in the end the last state of the government will be worse than the first. Even the Albertans say no real political benefit will be reaped from the premier's vacillation and his last change of mind, and in this connection say:

It matters little whether Sir Robert Borden goes or stays. His going may prevent a struggle for his mantle. His staying will bring him nominally in charge, but really not directing operations will create a situation which must end in disintegration. But whoever goes or whoever is in charge the days of the Union government are numbered.

The government, however, has a huge majority, albeit an ill-assorted combination, and it is fortunate in not having much of an opposition to contend with. It is already rumored that some deal has been made with Leader King for a short and uncontroversial session. The Liberals seem as reluctant as the government to risk an appeal to the people.

Meanwhile, there is a rumor that the Grand Trunk shareholders may not ratify the agreement made for them by Sir Alfred Smithers with the government. Should the acquisition of the Grand Trunk be held up, it would be a serious blow to the government, which, after all, deserves a great deal of credit for getting the Grand Trunk bill thru at the last session.

Otherwise the Ottawa situation borders on comic opera, and Sir Robert Borden sailing away with Admiral Jellicoe on his flagship recalls the music and laughter of H.M.S. Pinafore. Sir Robert Borden has not heretofore figured as a nautical hero, but his sailing round the world in the course of an empire navy, to verify the sound advice of Sir Joseph Porter, K.C.B., who said to the ambitious lawyer:

Stick to your desk, and never go to sea.
 And you may soon be the ruler of the Queen's Navy.

NEW LIGHT SHED ON PHOENIX PARK AFFRAY

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