

BRITAIN DESIRES TO MAINTAIN ENTENTE BUT MUST SAVE EUROPEAN CIVILIZATION

Premier Baldwin Gives France Notice That Britain Cannot Longer Remain Passive Spectator of Policy in the Ruhr—Announcements in Commons and Lords.

A despatch from London says:—The British Prime Minister, Rt. Hon. Stanley Baldwin, made his expected statement of Government policy in regard to the Ruhr and German reparations on Thursday afternoon in a crowded House. An identical statement was read in the Lords by Marquis Curzon, but whereas, according to prearrangement, there was no discussion of the statement in the Commons, speeches were made in the Lords by Viscount Grey and Earl Bickenhead, which were in the words of Lord Curzon, "a little irregular."

It is assumed that the French and Belgian assent had already been obtained to the general outline of the British proposals. If and when the French and Belgian assent is obtained to the text of the note which Britain will draft in reply to the German offer, the British, or, as it will then be, the allied note, will be presented to Berlin. The next stage will be the appointment of an international expert commission to determine what amount of indemnity Germany can pay.

In contrast to such statements by his predecessors, Mr. Lloyd George and Mr. Bonar Law, which were very lengthy, Premier Baldwin's pronouncements were particularly brief, taking about 16 minutes for delivery.

The question on everybody's lips—how far the British Government's open disapproval of the French Ruhr policy and its holding aloof therefrom were to be converted into an active policy separate from France—to a great extent unanswered. Premier Baldwin certainly moved quite perceptibly away from Mr. Bonar Law's attitude of passivism, inasmuch as he announced the Government's decision to submit to the allies a separate reply to Germany's latest offer. But he did not give the slightest indication of the nature of the proposed reply.

This was the only important point in the pronouncement, which, for the remainder, was a warning couched in the most friendly language, but plainly telling France that the British Government could not much longer remain a passive spectator to a policy which threatened the economic collapse of Germany and with it disaster to the whole of Europe.

Taken as a whole, the pronouncement seemed to be a new appeal to France to retrace her steps and come into line with all the allies in a new effort to settle the reparations problem by negotiation, instead of by military penalties. The Premier was most careful to avoid any shutting of the doors on renewed negotiations.

Notable points were the complete absence of any reference to the United States in connection with the negotiations and emphasis that Italy was with Great Britain, rather than with France.

The real meaning of Premier Baldwin's speech might be roughly paraphrased thus:

"The French are destroying Germany and the result must be chaos and war. French methods are already devastating our industry as the Germans devastated France, and the French should withdraw from the Ruhr, permit Germany to recover and pay."

"Germany has made an offer containing the germ of a settlement. We insist upon accepting their proposal to carry out the award of an impartial commission as to what they can pay. We want France to agree with us, but if she does not, we with Italy, will act notwithstanding."

"We desire most earnestly to maintain the Entente, but we cannot let European civilization fall to pieces for its sake."



HOOVER TO COMPETE IN TORONTO

It is expected that Walter Hoover, the Duluth oarsman, will compete with Hilton Belyea, the famous Canadian oarsman, at a regatta to be held in Toronto during the Canadian National Exhibition.

CANADA'S THREAT OF PULPWOOD EMBARGO ALARMS WASHINGTON GOVERNMENT

A despatch from Washington says:—Administration officials are much disturbed over the action of the Canadian Parliament in passing a law authorizing the Governor-General to place an embargo on the exportation of pulpwood.

The State Department disclosed that the United States is taking up the matter with Canada to point out the serious consequences to the paper and publishing industries in this country if the Governor-General should exercise the discretion placed in his hands and proclaim such an embargo.

In some quarters here it is believed the Canadian Parliament passed this legislation primarily for the purpose of arming the Governor-General with a retaliatory weapon to be used in the event that the United States should use the flexible provisions of

the Fordney-McCumber Tariff law to Canada's serious disadvantage. Even without these provisions Canada is hard hit by the tariff, and several provisions of the law are working an even greater hardship upon Americans than Canadians. For example, Canadian cattle, which used to be shipped to this country and fattened on American grain when the price was low, are now shut out by the tariff, and are being diverted to England. The Pacific Coast lumbermen have petitioned for a reduction of the \$1 rate on logs, which was aimed solely at Canada.

Whatever the real motive behind Canada's action, the administration is exerting all proper pressure to see that the Governor-General does not invoke his authority and slap on an embargo that would cripple the paper industry of this country.

AGGREGATE OF DAMAGE TO PROPERTY IN IRELAND COMPUTED AT \$150,000,000

After All Claims Are Filed Begins the Task of Sifting the Just from the Fraudulent Demands Upon the Imperial and Free State Exchequers.

A despatch from London says:—Now that peace has been restored in the Irish Free State, an effort will be made to speed up negotiations to settle damages growing out of disturbances in Southern Ireland. The total of such claims will be enormous. The problem is a big one, and there are numerous complications which militate against haste in arriving at terms of settlement.

The aggregate of damage done to property in Ireland in the last four and one-half years is variously estimated, but the sum of \$150,000,000 seems to be a fair computation. Of course, all claims are not yet in, and when the last claim has been filed, the real task will begin—that of sifting just from fraudulent demands upon the Imperial and the Free State exchequers.

The Colonial Office, presided over by the Duke of Devonshire, which is, of course, concerned with claims arising before the truce, received deputations of Lords and members of Commons representing former Southern loyalists from time to time, but rather strict secrecy is maintained concerning the course which the conversations take at those conferences. But, as usually is the case in the award of damages, the claimants are up in arms because they do not think they are going to receive as much as they are entitled to.

The claims fall into two categories. First, there are those arising before the truce of July, 1921, which was a preliminary to the peace treaty and the subsequent erection of the Irish Free State. These claims must be met jointly by the Free State and the Imperial Government. All claims for damages arising after July, 1921, must be met by the Free State alone. That is, the Free State and the Imperial Government each assume responsibility for payment of valid com-

pensation in respect of injuries to its own supporters in the pre-truce period. Subsequent damage will be settled under a criminal injuries bill passed by Dail Eireann.

This latter bill provides for cash settlement of approved claims up to \$1,000. Claims above this amount will be settled partly in cash and partly in Free State securities. Acceptance of government securities is very distasteful to former Southern Irish loyalists, who would like to have their settlements in cold cash, and they are pressing the Imperial Government to guarantee payment of their losses. That the Government here has steadfastly refused to do.

Among those former Southern loyalists are many who, having done everything in their power to thwart Irish home rule, finally abandoned Ireland altogether upon the creation of the Free State. Their position is akin to that of the loyalists in the United States after the Revolutionary War. Though much of the property of the American loyalists was confiscated, there arose no end of Revolutionary War claims, which, to this day, are still in process of settlement by a special standing committee of the United States Senate.

The American precedent may well be cited as an indication of the time it will require to adjust all of the claims growing out of the wholesale destruction which has been carried on in Ireland in the last five years. Payment of those claims will, of course, be a drag on the Free State treasury—now nearly empty—for some years. Nevertheless claims aggregating nearly \$5,000,000 have already been paid, although that, of course, is not a drop in the bucket compared to what must be found when the Government settles down to the serious task of paying the fiddler for all that has been going on in Ireland, particularly in the last year.



John S. Martin
Minister of Agriculture in the New Ontario Cabinet.

Canada From Coast to Coast.

Dawson, Y.T.—The establishment of a daily newspaper in the Mayo silver camp district is announced by the publishers of the Dawson Daily and Weekly News, who have shipped complete newspaper and job printing apparatus to Mayo City. This is Mayo's first newspaper, made possible by the fact that the Federal Government has decided to install a radio station at the camp and establish direct communication with the outside world.

Vernon, B. C.—Copious rains throughout the interior have brought crops along in splendid shape and farmers of hay and grain predict best crops in years. Fruit growers have suffered some from rains, the showers having split some of the early varieties of cherries. Conditions generally are quite good.

Calgary, Alta.—Starting with a borrowed capital of \$10 in the Waskatenau district, Alberta, fifteen years ago, John E. Vance, now has a fine farm of 400 acres, well stocked with cattle. Last year, although drought prevailed, his wheat average was 24 bushels to the acre and in the year previous it was 47 bushels.

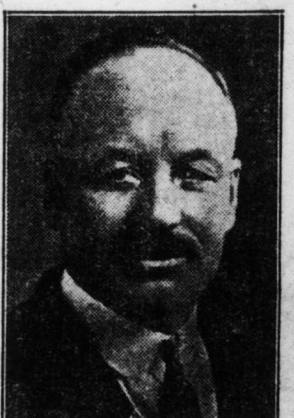
Regina, Sask.—The greatest elevator building program for Western Canada in years is contemplated this summer, according to milling and elevator companies. If the present program of the estimated building is carried out there will be 175 to 200 additional elevators erected in the Prairie Provinces, before this year's crop begins to move from the farms, at least this is the number now on the program as laid out by the different companies.

Winnipeg, Man.—Arrangements have been made for harvester excursions from the East and from British Columbia on practically the same lines as last year, according to J. W. Ward, secretary of the Canadian Council of Agriculture. It is expected that a larger number of harvesters will be required this year than last.

Ottawa, Ont.—According to a despatch from London, England, some Canadian store cattle have been bought for the King's farm at Sandringham. His Majesty's agent has also purchased a herd of cattle from the Canadian Government's experimental farms for Sandringham. This lot was gathered from Canadian experimental farms from as far west as Lethbridge, Alta., and as far east as Kentville, N.S.

Quebec, Que.—It is estimated that the value of the field crops in the Province of Quebec will be about \$225,000,000 this year. The value in 1922 was over \$219,000,000. Recent rains have caused a general feeling of optimism among farmers throughout the province, and the prospects now are particularly encouraging.

Halifax, N.S.—Crop reports from various sections of Nova Scotia indicate that seeding was somewhat retarded by the cold weather, but that from present indications there will be a heavy crop of hay. The apple crop promises to be a good one, and the strawberry crop in the Annapolis Valley in particular was heavy.



James W. Lyons
A new member of the Ontario House, who has been made Minister of Lands and Forests in the Ferguson Cabinet. His grandfather emigrated to Canada seventy years ago with four brothers. The ship in which they sailed met disaster on the voyage, and the sole survivor of the family to reach Canada.

Be warned against nursing revengeful thoughts; they are apt to develop sharp stings.



Allan R. Crawford
A Toronto boy who for more than two years has held Wrangell Island for Canada. A relief party is starting north to bring him off.

The first two of the amphibian flying boats, which the Government has ordered for use in forestry patrol, will, it is expected, be flown to Winnipeg shortly. The Government has ordered eight craft of this type for the forest surveys from the Canadian Vickers, Ltd., the remainder of the machines will be delivered during the summer and will be distributed three more to Manitoba, one to Vancouver, one to Halifax, and one to Ottawa.

A larger increase in the production of dairy products than in any previous year in Manitoba's history was recorded during the past year, according to the annual report of the Provincial Dairy Commission. The total value of dairy products in 1922, was approximately \$12,434,223. The production of creamery butter, as reported by 44 creameries, amounted to 10,559,601 lbs., which was 2,009,496 lbs. more than in 1921, and the selling price at the creameries was \$3,895,360.



To Try Eskimos
L. A. Rivet, of Montreal, who has been appointed a judge to try the case of three Eskimos charged with murdering a Newfoundland fisherman last fall. Mr. Rivet will sail on the "Arcic" with Capt. Berlier, the explorer, and the court will sit at Pond's Inlet, he jury to be composed of Eskimos.

WESTERN WHEAT CROP GIVES HUGE PROMISE

Dominion Department of Agriculture Receives Most Optimistic Reports.

A despatch from Ottawa says:—Reports to the Department of Agriculture from the West confirm the generally optimistic statements respecting Western crop prospects that have been issued by the railways, the banks and the various Governmental agencies in the Prairie Provinces. Of course no one will officially hazard the opinion that there will be a 500,000,000 bushel wheat crop or anything like it, for this would mean 100,000,000 more than even last year, when the largest wheat crop in the history of the country was harvested. But the uniformly excellent conditions, together with an acreage only a little over one per cent. below that of 1922, warrant expectations of a new record yield.

It may seem like expecting too much to look this year for another crop as large as that of 1922. It, however, must be borne in mind that when Alberta has a big yield the country generally follows suit. In 1915, when the West raised 364,000,000 bushels of wheat from a little over 14,000,000 acres, Alberta had an average yield of slightly over 31 bushels to the acre, six more than had Saskatchewan and Manitoba. This year Alberta has about 6,000,000 acres under wheat, and if it can duplicate its performance of 1915 this would mean about 180,000,000 bushels, and Hon. Vernon W. Smith, one of the members of the Alberta Government, has ventured the opinion that the yield may go 175,000,000. So it is not surprising that big figures are being forecast.

The railways are preparing for the heaviest crop movement in their history. Last year they set up a remarkable record, but high as it was they are convinced that they must be prepared to do even better this year, and to this end their plans have been laid. The Canadian Pacific Railway is adding six new engines to its Prairie lines, these being of the largest type, and adding 2,000 box cars to the already huge number on its Prairie divisions. The Canadian National is also making important additions to its equipment.

Nightingales Rarer in English Woods

A despatch from London says:—To hear the nightingale a party of sixty men and women recently spent the night in the Surrey woods, and were rewarded for their labors by hearing some exceptionally fine singing.

Some members of the audience were disappointed in that they found Philomel a rarer bird than last year, only nineteen songsters being distinguished, as compared with fifty-two last year. One nightingale, whose mellifluous notes issued from an old quarry, was worth going all the way to hear, it was unanimously asserted by those who went there.

Arrangements are being concluded according to report by the Alberta Government for the financing of the extensions of railways in the Peace River and Grande Prairie districts, the farthest north railways in Canada.

FRENCH DEVICE TO MAKE PLANES "THINK"

New Device Eliminates the Necessity of Pilot and Takes Photographs.

A despatch from Paris says:—"Making airplanes think" is the latest diversion of French aviation experts at Villiers Coublay, according to the few details that have been allowed to leak out, but which indicate considerable success already attained. Hitherto, it has been thought necessary to have at least one passenger in machines controlled by wireless, his duty consisting in dropping bombs or taking photographs. With a new device, however, an electrically controlled roll of paper providing contacts whenever certain altitudes and distances are attained, is made to do the same work.

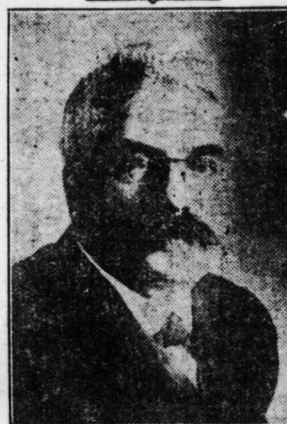
For instance, by inserting a properly perforated "music roll," an unoccupied plane has been started on a twenty-mile flight, risen to 2,500 metres at the end of the third mile, released a dummy bomb, circled the left for ten miles more, descended to less than 500 metres, opened its camera eye to snap the scenery below while the motor slowed down to prevent blurring the pictures, and resumed normal flight back to the starting point, landing safely.

Not the least advantage of the new system is that the oldest planes can be sent up in time of war without risking the life of a pilot or observer.

The population of Greater Vancouver is 266,524 persons, according to the annual publication of a local directory. This is an increase of 12,777 in population during the year.

Queen Wilhelmina Takes Vacation at English Lakes

A despatch from London says:—Queen Wilhelmina is doing some outdoor painting in oil during her stay in England's beautiful lake district. She is visiting England not as Queen of the Netherlands, but as the "Countess of Duren," and is preserving the strictest incognito. She is accompanied by the Prince Consort and the Princess Juliana, their daughter. En route to the north country they stopped a few moments at Victoria station, where the King and Queen of England were awaiting them.



President Millerand
The French President, has announced that France cannot recede from her position as regards her policy in the occupied areas. Events between France and Britain have approached a crisis over the subject of Germany.

