

LATIN-AMERICANS IN GENERAL CONFAB MAY FAVOR THE ENTENTE

Declaration of Benevolent
Neutrality Expected.

MEXICO MUCH INTERESTED

Sudden Departure of Mex
Finance Minister From
U. S. Explained.

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 20.—According to unofficial information today the sudden and unheralded departure from Washington of Luis G. Herrera, Mexican finance minister, while he was engaged in negotiations looking to free importation of foodstuffs and gold to Mexico from the United States, was due to the fact that he was under definite instructions to go to Buenos Aires for the conference of neutral Latin-American nations. He is president of the Mexican delegation to Buenos Aires, and before going to Washington was ordered to carry out negotiations there only in the event that they could be completed in time to enable him to attend the Latin-American conference.

The departure of Herrera shows the importance attached by the Mexican Government to the deliberations at Buenos Aires. Keen interest in the possible developments at the conference is shown in government circles, although no official statement has been given out here regarding the purposes of the meeting. It is understood semi-officially that the recent declarations of several Latin-American nations for the Entente Allies may result in a change from the original purpose, which was to align all Latin-America for neutrality. In view of the growing sympathy in favor of the Entente, it is believed possible the conference may issue a call to the nations represented to unite in a declaration of benevolent neutrality in favor of the Allies.

ALLIED BOARD FOR CONSERVING TONNAGE HAS BEEN APPOINTED

Will Divide Available Trans-
port According to Needs
of Each Country.

PARIS, Dec. 20.—Close co-operation in utilizing means of maritime transport has been realized by the Allies, says an official notice issued here today, supplementing the statement made at the time the Inter-Allied conference concluded its sessions here. It was announced at that time that the Allies had decided to create an organization for co-ordination of maritime activities, and today's statement says this council has been created and that the representatives of the United States, France, Great Britain and Italy. The council will draw up schedules for the division of tonnage in accordance with the needs of each country for food supplies and war purposes. A board will be created in each country to decide on utilization of the tonnage.

STATE OF HYSTERIA EXISTS IN HALIFAX, SAYS IMO COUNSEL

Suggest That Steps Be Taken
to Allay the People's
Fears.

HALIFAX, Dec. 20.—That a state of hysteria existed in this city as a result of the disaster of December 6 was stated this morning by J. J. Burchell, K. C., counsel for the owners of the steamship Ino, before the court of inquiry into the Mont Blanc-Ino collision. Mr. Burchell was discussing the case of Johan Johansson, helmsman of the Ino, who had been arrested by the military authorities and suspected of having been abroad, said Mr. Burchell, that there had been a German spy on the Ino, and other rumors of similar nature had been spread. Even today was named as the time for an expected second explosion. Counsel suggested to the court the desirability of steps being taken to allay the hysteria. Mr. Justice Drysdale replied that he felt such steps were not within the scope of the court.

That the court may adjourn for two or three weeks was intimated by Mr. Burchell, who said that Johansson, a material witness, would not be physically fit to go on the stand before that time. Antoine Legat, chief engineer of the Mont Blanc, testified that the last orders he received before the collision were "half ahead," "slow ahead," "stop," "full speed astern," and "stop." The full speed of the Mont Blanc, he said, was 7½ knots in calm weather. Legat told Mr. Mellis there was no sea-sickness on the Mont Blanc.

FURTHER ASSISTANCE.
HALIFAX, N. S., Dec. 20.—Lieutenant-Governor Grant has received a message from Governor Williams, Bermuda, stating that the Bermuda Legislature has voted £200 for Halifax relief and that private subscriptions there total £1,200.

The lieutenant-governor has also a message from Governor Manning, Jamaica, stating that the Jamaica Legislature has voted £1,000 for the Halifax relief.

Residents in Halifax of alien nationality who were taken in custody and interned immediately after the explosion on December 6, will have their cases investigated. An official of the department of justice has arrived from Ottawa to supervise the inquiry.

FINED FOR THEFT.
WINDSOR, Dec. 20.—Despite their plea that it was a shame to let corn be used for making liquor when the fowl and rabbits are so hungry, Magistrate Weirs in Walkerville police court today imposed fines of \$5 and \$10 each on seven citizens of Ford for thefts of corn from the farm of Hiram Walker & Sons. The protesting officers who worked up the cases against the men say more than \$800 worth of corn was taken.

CAR WAS DERAILLED.
CEDAR SPRINGS, Dec. 20.—Traffic was blocked on the Pere Marquette here for some time tonight, when a C. W. and L. E. car went over the derail and came to rest across the P. M. tracks. The express from Sarnia was held up until the car was removed.

FRANCE'S PROVISION MINISTER SAYS FOOD MUST BE CONSERVED

Immense Deficit in Wheat,
While Candymakers Get
No Sugar.

COMMITTED FOR TRIAL

I. C. Neuber Comes Up in the
Spring for Seditious
Talk.

PARIS, Dec. 19.—The food needs and resources of France for the coming nine months were dealt with before the Senate today in a statement of Victor Boret, the minister of provisions, in which he pointed out there was a deficit of 26,000,000 hundred-weight in wheat.

LOSES BOTH LEGS BUT STILL LIVES, IS LATEST REPORT

Young Owen Sounder Was
Terribly Injured at
Passchendaele.

OWEN SOUND, Dec. 20.—Pte. W. T. Batcher, who was officially reported to have been killed in action on November 20th, is now known to be alive and in hospital at Gillingham, England. He had been the subject of six contradictory official messages received by his parents here. It is now ascertained that he has suffered the amputation of both legs above the knees, and of his left hand. He was wounded in the Passchendaele engagement. The last intimation concerning him have come through Red Cross channels and intimate that he is still in a serious condition.

CITIZENS WILL NOT BUY TURKEYS AT 35 CENTS A POUND

ST. THOMAS, Dec. 20.—From present indications, a great many people of this city will have something else than turkey for their Christmas dinner. The birds are as yet not very plentiful, and are bringing about 35 cents per pound.

CHARGE DISMISSED AGAINST J. HOOD

ST. THOMAS, Dec. 20.—The proceedings against John J. Hood of Dunwich, charged with a serious offence against his ward, Milly G. Williams, dismissed, for the reason that the girl, who at first claimed to be under 16 years of age, is 22 years old, and, according to the evidence, has been leading an immoral life.

FALLING UMBRELLA FRIGHTENED HORSE

ST. THOMAS, Dec. 20.—A horse driven by Albert Berdan became frightened at an umbrella, which fell from a woman's hand on Talbot street last night, and ran away. Mr. Berdan and his wife were thrown out and painfully injured. Mr. Berdan's shoulder was dislocated.

TURKEY RESIGNS. ST. THOMAS, Dec. 20.—A Williams, a returned soldier recently appointed a turnkey at the Elgin County jail, has resigned.

MOTORS OF TORONTO COLLECT A LARGE TOLL IN CHILDREN

Twenty-Eight Persons Killed
During the Past
Year.

TORONTO, Dec. 20.—During the past year two hundred and forty-seven persons died of motor violence in Toronto. Illuminating gas poisoning claimed thirty-four victims. Eleven people were killed in falling from ladders and buildings, and nineteen died from burns. Twenty-eight were killed by motor cars. The greater number of these were children.

COLLECTED \$1,600 IN FINES AT WINDSOR

WINDSOR, Dec. 20.—A record in Windsor police court annals was established today when fines aggregating \$1,600.75 were imposed by Police Magistrate Leggat upon half a dozen violators of the Canada temperance act and some fifteen alien enemies cordoned by police in a roundup of the foreign colony late last night. The latter were assessed \$25 each for failing to register as required by the Government order-in-council governing the movements of aliens in this country. It was on the liquor law violators that the hand of the law fell most heavily. Five Austrians, who conduct boardinghouses in the eastern section of the city, were found to be carrying a fine line of "wet goods" in their abodes when the police called. Each of these men contributed \$210 each. All the fines were paid immediately in cash.

GRAIN FREIGHTERS ARE OUT OF ICE

DETROIT, Dec. 20.—Mild weather and the softening of the ice enabled the fleet of 25 belated grain freighters which left Fort William a week ago to work its way into the river here early today. After a delay of several hours, the grain freighters began to make progress against the windrowed ice.

GET-TOGETHER MOVE AT KITCHENER WILL ESTABLISH HARMONY

Next Year's Council May Go
In by Acclamation.

COMMITTED FOR TRIAL

I. C. Neuber Comes Up in the
Spring for Seditious
Talk.

KITCHENER, Dec. 20.—Efforts are being made to establish harmony between the two factions that have been at odds ever since the name-changing campaign by the inauguration of a movement to do away with an election, in selecting the council for 1918. The opinion prevails that the council of 1917 was not sufficiently representative, and the hope is expressed that a plan may be hit upon which will give the city a council composed of men who have not been in any way identified with either of the factions that have disrupted the city since the spring of 1916.

The proposal of Henry Dumart that Mayor Gross be elected by acclamation, and that a representative committee be chosen to select five men satisfactory to the local manufacturers, five men satisfactory to the local merchants and businessmen, and five men satisfactory to the local labor element, is meeting with popular approval.

May Get Together.
Last night at a meeting of the Citizens' League speeches were made urging a get-together movement, and a committee was appointed to gather information regarding available candidates for the city council. One of the results of Monday's election in this city has been the clearing of the air, and both sides are now willing to agree that the money that would be spent in a municipal election might better be spent in behalf of patriotic work. It is hoped an election by acclamation will restore harmony.

Sent For Trial.
I. C. Neuber of this city was today sent for trial by Magistrate Weir for the spring assizes on a charge of making seditious utterances at the Kitchener auditorium on the night Premier Borden was hauled down. Neuber pleaded not guilty but admitted that as a handback to a woman who declared that he was one of the Kaiser crowd he said that he would just as soon be under the Kaiser as Borden. Mr. Neuber was formerly a British League sympathizer on the name changing issue. Those who knew Mr. Neuber well are of the opinion that his utterance was made in political heat rather than in a spirit of sedition.

The County Council.
The December session of the county council opened today. The principal business was the report of the juvenile court committee that the Government appoint a judge in Galt, and that the juvenile court judge for Galt, and \$50 for the court clerk. The salary of the Kitchener juvenile judge was recommended to be \$300 and \$130 for the court clerk.

The report was unanimously adopted.

BURGLAR MORIELLO DISCHARGED FROM OXFORD BATTALION

Never Went Overseas Owing
to His Bad Conduct.

Major Osborne, the provost marshal, has investigated the claim of Joseph Stanton, arrested Wednesday night with stolen watches in his possession, to the effect that he was a returned soldier. "I find," stated the major, "that the man's right name is Joseph Moriello, who was discharged from the 16th Oxford Battalion for bad conduct prior to the departure of the unit for overseas."

Moriello, alias Stanton, had his discharge papers in his possession when arrested. He said that they belonged to another man, thus explaining the discrepancy in the names. He also had a returned soldier's button in his possession when taken into custody. Major Osborne says the accused was never overseas.

EMBRO SOLDIER HAS BLOOD-POISONING

EMBRO, Dec. 20.—Word has been received that Pte. Arthur Toom has been badly hurt by his hand. He went overseas with a draft of the 34th Battalion.

A dance is to be held in the town hall on Friday evening, December 28. Music by St. Mary's Orchestra.

Mrs. A. F. Garry of Yorkton, Sask., is here to spend a couple of months at her home, 1215 Main street. She is coming to Christmas and New Year's coming on Tuesday, the regular social meetings of the Red Cross Society will be held at 8 o'clock on Thursday at 2 o'clock for the next two weeks.

On Tuesday there was a wood bee at the manse, and about eight cords of apple wood were cut up by the young men of the congregation.

A meeting of the electors of Embro will be held in the council chamber on Wednesday at 12 o'clock p.m. for the purpose of nominating persons to act as reeve, councillors and public school trustees for 1918.

The Ladies' Guild of the Methodist Church are indebted to Mr. Thomas Conke for a cheque of \$25, with which to help carry on their Red Cross work.

Next Sunday evening the Christmas services and services will be in order at Knox Church, also the Congregational Church.

NEW CONDITIONS FOR ONTARIO FISHERMEN

Local Consumers May Benefit by the Change.

TORONTO, Dec. 20.—Although no definite plans have been worked out it is understood that next year in the granting of fishing licenses the Ontario Government will take steps to secure to the consumers of Ontario an adequate supply of fish caught in home waters at prices that will materially assist the housewives. At the end of the year all fishing licenses in Ontario automatically expire, and the Government, in issuing new licenses, will be able to exact as a condition that, should it be required, a certain proportion of the fishermen's catch must be sold to "Ontario fisheries."

Christmas Clothing Specials

R. H. & J. DOWLER, LIMITED

OVERCOATS That Will Make You Forget That You Ever Heard Even a Rumor of Rising Prices. . . SUITS

Extraordinary Trouser Values, Underwear, Sweaters and Sweater Coats, Heavy Wool and Cashmere Socks, Neckwear, Gloves, right in the beginning of the real winter, right in the face of reported rising prices, every department in this Big Busy Hustling Store is handing out merchandise at prices that are not heard of in Canada these days. Nerve for enormous purchasing contracts for woollens long before the big advance, this foresight combined with keen cash buying has placed us in the enviable position to be able to sell merchandise at such prices as we are featuring for the big tidal wave of trade during our BIG DECEMBER CAMPAIGN.

Fur, Fur-Lined and Fur Collar

Overcoat Bargains

\$15.00 Fur Collar Coats . . . \$10.80
\$20.00 English Melton Fur Collar . . . \$14.65

\$20.00 Black English Melton Fur Collar, full rubber interlined, curl lined . . . \$16.50

Canada's Best \$35.00 British Melton Fur Collar Overcoats; cloth equal to any fur lined coat at \$50.00. Sizes 34 to 46. Special . . . \$25.00

Arctic Beaver Overcoats. Very special . . . \$28.00

Black Dog Coats . . . \$22.50

\$75.00 Rat Lined Overcoats. Special . . . \$58.00

\$45.00 Morteback, black, full fur coats . . . \$38.00

98 Overcoats \$9.65

Big warm ulsters, two-way and shawl collar, greys, browns and mixtures. It will pay you well to buy these coats for next year. They are \$15.00 to \$18.00 values.

Black and Blue Suits

That have not the high cost of living tacked on. Pinch-backs for the young fellows, and suits to fit all figures. Long, short, stout and scores of styles for the man of regular build . . . \$13.65, \$15, \$16.50, \$18.00 to \$30. An extraordinary special at . . . \$22.50

British Melton Overcoats \$19.50

In handsome dressy Chesterfields, with or without velvet collar, standard \$24.00 values. They are in black, clerical and oxford greys, overlapped seams, raw or regular edge, very handsomely tailored.

Nobility Overcoats

20th Century bench tailored, with a national reputation for clothes of quality and good taste; cloths that you seldom get hold of in a tailor-shop, and at a saving of \$5.00 to \$10.00. Crombie's and Martin's of England. \$20, \$22, \$25, \$28 to \$75.



British Worsted Suits

at very special interesting prices, in pure wool, greys, blues, browns and fancies; in plain, quiet checks and stripes. Hand tailored . . . \$15.00, \$18.00, \$20.00, \$22.00, \$25.00

Oversize Men's Suits

We carry suits specially designed for stout men by Canada's master tailors. Sizes 42, 44, 46. Few, if any, tailors fit as well. Come and try them on.

Boys' Department Specials

Boys' belted overcoats in short skater styles . . . \$4.90
Boys' long coats at . . . \$5.50

Children's Overcoats \$3.50 to \$7.50

Boys' suits that do not bear the high cost of living prices. Mothers find that they get suited best at Dowler's for quality, make and price.

Our Fully-Fledged Furnish- ing Dept. is Overflowing With Christmas Gift Goods

House Coats . . . \$4.50, \$5.50, \$6.50, \$8, \$10, \$12, \$14
Robes . . . \$4.90, \$6.50, \$8, \$9, \$10 to \$15
Gloves—In Suede, Buck, Chamois, Cape Kid and Mocha; greys, tans and natural, silk lined, knitted, wool and fur lined at very special prices.

Neckwear—In very choice weaves and colorings, handsomely boxed, undoubtedly the handsomest range we have ever shown. Come early . . . \$2.50, \$2.00, \$1.00, 75c, 50c and 25c

Over 275 dozen very choice silks at . . . 50c
Mufflers—Oblongs, Scarfs and Squares, in a very handsome assortment of colorings . . . \$1.00, \$1.25, \$1.50, \$1.75, \$3.50 to \$4.75
Handkerchiefs—Pure Irish Linen, hemstitched, in very fine quality.

1/2 dozen Irish Linen Initial Handkerchiefs. Very special . . . 25c each; Box, \$1.50

Nightgowns

Full Size English Flannelette Gowns, all size colors. Flannelette Nightgowns . . . \$1.50, \$1.25, 90c
Pyjamas and Pyjama Combinations

EXTRA STAFF OF SALESPeople, EXTRA TAILORS AND EXTRA PARCEL BOYS FOR PROMPT DELIVERIES.

R. H. & J. DOWLER, Limited

OTHER HOUSES HAVE THE SLOGANS--WE HAVE THE GOODS

Young Men's Overcoats

Special \$17.75

In Belters all round; in swagger full back Slip-Ons, in semi-fitted backs, in Chesterfields. Coats worth up to \$24.00. Special . . . \$17.75

Great Trouser Sale

1,284 Pairs of First-Class English Worsted and Worsted-Finished Tweeds, well tailored; every pair guaranteed wear, at less than present regular factory prices. It will pay well to buy two or three pairs.

\$2.50 Trousers for . . . \$1.75
\$2.75 Trousers, belt loops, side straps, hip pockets . . . \$1.95
\$3.50 Trousers . . . \$2.89
\$5.00 English Hairline Trousers . . . \$3.75
\$5.00 and \$5.50 English Worsted Trousers . . . \$4.50 and \$4.00
Blue Serge Trousers, Very Special.

CAPS CAPS

Knitted and fur bands, comfort and style, a very choice range; three more shipments have been placed in stock . . . \$2.50, \$2, \$1.50, \$1.25, \$1, 50c
Fur Caps for the cold drives.

Umbrellas

For Christmas gifts in gold and silver-mounted handles, silk and silk and wool tops, tape and stitch edge . . . \$1.50 to \$6.50

Pyjamas

To keep men in nights, make a very acceptable Christmas gift. We have a very choice assortment in silk, mercerized silk, fine Ceylon flannel and English flannelette. \$1.50 up to \$5.00

Boys' Sleepers, ages 10 to 16 years.

HEAPS OF SWEATERS AND SWEATER COATS

Special—\$5.00 quality, men's full size Sweater Coats, fine rib weave but good weight. Special \$3.50

Boys' Sweaters . . . \$1.48 to \$6.50

Over 420 Men's Sweater Coats for Christmas Gifts, plain and combination colors.

Other lines at . . . \$1.48 to \$6.50

CANADA'S BEST \$2.25 UNION-MADE OVER-ALLS FOR \$1.75.

Why do you pay \$2.25 for inferior makes elsewhere? \$1.75 Blue Stripe, Black and Plain Blue Overall . . . \$1.35
\$1.50 Blue Stripe Overall. Special . . . \$1.25

Socks by the Wagon Load

Penman's . . . 3 pairs 50c
Penman's Rib . . . 25c
Fine Cashmere . . . 50c, 60c, 75c to \$1.00
Dowler Footwarmer in heavy rib, pure wool, wear guaranteed . . . 75c, 60c and 50c
Boys' Stockings, rib . . . 29c, 35c, 50c, 60c to \$1.25
Boys' school and skater overcoats in heavy over-check mackinaw cloth; ages 10 to 16 years . . . \$4.90 and better ones to \$12.50

Warm Winter Underwear

Penman's Fine Plush Pleece, \$1.25 quality, for . . . \$1.00

Full range of Men's Combinations . . . \$1.75

Men's fine Trunkit, Penman's, Cee-Tee and Stanfield Combinations at old prices . . . \$1.50 to \$4.50

Stanfield's Heavy Rib, Red Label, wear guaranteed; your money back if it shrinks . . . \$2.00
Stanfield's Heavy Rib Shirts and Drawers in Blue Label, two and three seasons' satisfactory wear; a new garment if it shrinks; all sizes in stock \$2.25

Stanfield's Heavy Rib, Green Label, Special . . . \$1.25

Other Heavy Rib Underwear . . . 75c, \$1.00, \$1.50

50 Boys' Spring Needle Combination Suits; non-irritable; all sizes . . . \$1.00

Heaps of Sweaters and Sweater Coats

Special—\$5.00 quality, men's full size Sweater Coats, fine rib weave but good weight. Special \$3.50

Boys' Sweaters . . . \$1.48 to \$6.50

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