

STORM SEWERS FEARED INADEQUATE Veregin's Sister Likely To Be Chosen Doukhobor Leader

KU KLUX KLAN WARNS STUDENTS AT WESTERN

Will Recondition Old Battleships

Associated Press Despatch.
Washington, Dec. 10.—Reconditioning of old battleships to keep them in fighting trim and inauguration of a building program for auxiliary craft, based on similar construction under taken by the other naval powers, was the program outlined by Secretary Wilbur to the house subcommittee on naval appropriation as necessary to establish and maintain the navy at the 5-5-3 ratio provided for by the Washington naval limitation treaty.

JELICOE PLACED ON RETIRED LIST

Famous Naval Commander Is
Honored For Part in Battle
of Jutland.

Associated Press Despatch.
London, Dec. 10.—The admiralty announced today the retirement of Admiral Lord Jellicoe, effective Dec. 6 last.

Admiral Jellicoe, Viscount of Scapa, commanded the British grand fleet in the battle of Jutland May 31, 1916, and afterwards was first lord of the admiralty and chief of the naval staff.

In 1920 he was appointed governor-general and commander-in-chief of the dominion of New Zealand, serving as such until last August. The retirement of the admiral, who was 65, was announced as he was born Dec. 5, 1859.

STACK DEATH DEMANDS CALLED PRE-CONCEIVED

Egyptian Prince Charges British
Requests Are
Extortionate.

Associated Press Despatch.
Cairo, Dec. 10.—Prince Omar Toussein, a relative of King Faisal, in an interview yesterday, declared that he deplored the recent murder of Sir Leo Stack, the Egyptian consul, and regarded the British demand on Egypt as extortionate and as indicating that the British had seized this opportunity to carry out pre-conceived plans.

The prince regretted that Egyptian ministers were willing to accept of the terms of the Egyptian ultimatum, but said that it would have been better to have allowed Great Britain to carry on with her forces. He supported the Egyptian ultimatum, but said that the government's request to treat foreign officials of the municipality similarly to those in the government's ultimatum, but the prince asserted that "only between all political parties was required before the calling of a national conference to consider the situation."

JUDGE URGES TOLERANCE WITH YOUTH OF TODAY

Canadian Press Despatch.
Kingston, Dec. 10.—In the county court this afternoon, Judge Lavell, in referring to criminal cases which all related to offenders against youth, said: "One hesitates to draw a hasty deduction from this, but I think it fair to say that in any kind of a general condition of this kind, the cause is deeper than appears on the surface. We should not be too harsh in criticizing youth, but I think all are agreed that the manners of young people have greatly changed during the last years, and it is just a question whether this has not something to do with the cases now before the court."

True bills were returned by the grand jury against Fred Shepherd, J. Berry and Arthur Byron, charged with offences against girls.

TRIPLE ENTENTE STRESSED BY FRENCH PRESIDENT

Associated Press Despatch.
Brussels, Dec. 10.—Former President Millemans of France, in the course of a lecture here last evening declared that a close entente of Great Britain, Belgium and France was necessary to preserve the peace of Europe, as Germany's attitude showed she was impatient. The speaker was loudly applauded by a large audience, which included many ministers, former ministers and diplomats.

THREE ARE INJURED.

Associated Press Despatch.
Ottawa, Dec. 10.—Three persons were injured here yesterday afternoon when a street car split a switch and the rear trucks swinging on the curb and the rear of the car striking and knocking down several pedestrians. The injured, T. L. Browne, 45; Miss J. Reid, 25, and Edward Deroin, aged 4, are in hospital, but their condition is reported as favorable.

Threatening Letter Sent to the Gazette Editor Following Notice of Meeting.

LONDON CORPS

Points to Formation of Branch
of Organization in
City.

Warning the students and the members of the faculties of the University of Western Ontario against holding any meetings where a discussion of the Ku Klux Klan is to be taken up, a letter has been received by Robert Shaw-Wood, editor of the Western U. Gazette.

In the last issue of the university paper the members of the History and Political Science club announced a meeting for Thursday night, when the subject for general discussion would be "The Ku Klux Klan."

The letter was received at the university today. It is carefully typed on plain paper. In the center, done in red ink, is the K. K. cross. At the top of the paper are the letters K. K. K., London Corps. It is dated Dec. 6.

Text of Letter.

"The text is as follows:
"Sir: The last issue of the Gazette has come to our hand and note that the History and Political Science club propose to hold a discussion of the Ku Klux Klan at their next meeting. As the president of the club is unknown to us we are unable to warn him directly to the interest of parties and the students in general."
The second paragraph is in capitals, as follows: "Western students, you are warned that the Ku Klux Klan will not be tolerated at this meeting or if you go keep your mouth shut and beware lest you say anything derogatory to the Klan."
"Vengeance will be swift and sure. No mercy will be shown. This includes professors as well as students. Officers of the club cancel this meeting now or suffer the fate your temerity has drawn upon you. This is no bluff or joke. Stay away from this meeting or keep your mouth shut."

K's In Corner.

In the right hand corner of the letter are three K's underlined in red. The warning sentences are underlined in red ink. The cross in the center bears the letters K. K. K. and they have been carefully done. The meeting of the members of the History and Political Science club will be held as usual.

Speaking for Robert Shaw-Wood, editor of the Gazette, William P. Parsons, news editor, said this morning that it was not known whether the letter actually came from the Ku Klux Klan or whether it is the work of some practical joker. He said that if it were a joke those responsible for it had taken pains to make a thorough job of it, for the letter is well executed.

Dean Fox, when asked his opinion of the letter this afternoon, stated that he believed it was a joke played on some of the students, and not worth serious consideration.

SPANISH MAIL STEAMER COLLIDES WITH TANKER

New York, Dec. 10.—The Spanish royal mail steamer Montevideo, carrying 55 passengers, collided with the Standard Oil tanker Charles P. Spratt late Monday off Ambrose Light, it was learned yesterday when the steamer put back into port and discharged her passengers. Three seamen on the tanker were injured when the steamer and seamen's quarters were crushed. The Montevideo had her bow plates badly crushed. The tanker reached its pier, but settled there under the weight of water taken in through a great rent in its side.

EARLY FEDERAL ELECTION RUMOR DENIED BY LOW

Associated Press Despatch.
Toronto, Dec. 10.—Hon. Thomas A. Low, minister of trade and commerce, who is in the city today, when asked during a conference with leading Liberals of the city if his visit had any connection with local rumors that there was prospect of an early federal election, stated that it had not. "The government is interested just now," he said, "in preparing for the coming session."

Kitten Goes With the Laundry, Owner Has Sleepless Night

There was great consternation and considerable grief in the home of a well-known Londoner last night when it was discovered that the family kitten had vanished as if by magic. The entire neighborhood was canvassed and a minute search made of the house from cellar to garret, when the kitten was found.

GEDDES SAYS FOOD PRICES ARE UNFAIR

Former Ambassador to U. S.
Presides Over Commission
to Investigate Conditions.

Associated Press Despatch.
London, Dec. 10.—The royal commission on food prices, composed of 16 members under the chairmanship of Sir Auckland Geddes, former ambassador at Washington, held its first sitting at the board of trade this morning. Sir Auckland, in opening the session said the question why the price of food was so high as compared with the pre-war prices, why the food in shops cost 70 per cent more than in July, 1914, demanded an answer which must be found.

It was big business, and could not be rushed, he explained, and some time would be in a position to make its report. Therefore the public must bear patiently with it.

The first meeting will be devoted to taking evidence from statistical experts dealing with food prices. Later the ministry of agriculture will furnish the committee with evidence. Next week information will be gathered from the wheat, flour and bread trade.

YEATES FIRE GIVING SQUAD STIFF FIGHT

Building Occupied by J. Harris
and Son Is Still
Burning.

Firemen continued to fight a blaze at the old Yeates' munition building at 603 Bathurst street today, 24 hours after the first alarm was turned into the central fire hall yesterday.

The building was being used by J. Harris & Son, junk dealers, for the storage of munitions and fire arms. Although firemen managed to hold the blaze in check yesterday, throughout the night, large quantities of junk were still burning among the ruins of the building and streams of water were being steadily played upon the smoldering mass.

The cause is unknown. Chief Aitken stated today, but the loss is estimated at about \$17,000.

Surrounding buildings were threatened when the fire was at its height, owing to a strong wind which blew sparks on to nearby roof tops.

BLACKMAIL IS MORALLY AS BAD AS MURDER

Associated Press Despatch.
London, Dec. 10.—"Blackmail is morally quite as bad as murder," declared the judge of the London sessions yesterday, adding that "there was quite a crop of these moral assassins until a few months back, when they were drastically dealt with." Motor stealing, said the judge, was again raising its head in the metropolis.

JUDGE ALLOWS \$3,950 IN \$50,000 AUTO SUIT

Canadian Press Despatch.
Hamilton, Dec. 10.—Miss Rena Henderson, stenographer of the workmen's compensation board, Toronto, was allowed \$3,950. Mrs. Mary Buttram, Hamilton, \$300, and her husband, Hugh, \$100, were awarded \$150, this afternoon by a county court jury which heard their claim against Mrs. Anna Udell for \$50,000 for personal injuries and damages to an automobile. The car in which the plaintiffs were riding, driven by Hugh Buttram, figured in a collision with a car driven by the defendant at Lowe and Main streets some time ago. Miss Henderson and Mrs. Buttram were injured.

FRENCH-CANADIAN UNIT WILL BE ORGANIZED

Canadian Press Despatch.
Ottawa, Dec. 10.—The minister of national defence is to be asked, within a short time, to authorize the formation of a French-Canadian regiment in Ottawa.

HEAVY RAIN DANGEROUS TO SEWERS

Storm Sewers in City Taxed
to Limit in Recent
Years.

MEASURE FALL

Condition Being Experienced
in Other Ontario Cities
at Present.

Because of an unexplained increased intensity in rainfall, storm sewers which were considered ample to carry the "peak-load" of rain from the streets of London 20 years ago are no longer adequate. London is experiencing the same difficulty other cities have found, that while there is little or no increase in the amount of rainfall, the intensity of storms is greater.

Storms that at one time occurred perhaps only once in 30 years in London now happen almost once in 10 years or better. In the old days sewers to take care of such a severe storm as occurred only once in a quarter-century were not needed. But the new storms come much oftener and storm sewer systems have to be increased accordingly.

Elements "Modern."

It would appear that the elements have been "jazzed up," just like many other modern conditions. Instead of being satisfied with striking the earth with a steady downpour of rain, a high explosiveness is injected into the storms of today, and there is a greater volume of rain in a shorter span of time than ever before.

This peculiar condition cannot be explained. It is proven, nevertheless, by a rain gauge which has been in use at the office of W. P. Near, city engineer.

By an electrical and clockwork device which has been in use since 1914, rainfall is produced and kept for reference purposes. It will show that a storm during the night, or at any other time, was markedly sharp at one particular period, though the aggregate rainfall may not have been exceptional.

Cause of Floods.

The frequency of this "peak-load" of rain has caused a serious water system and if pipes and outlets are not of sufficient diameter, floods are caused. This was particularly noticeable during the storm of last July. Even the storm of early hours on Monday morning of this week showed remarkable intensity which it had.

Other cities and the provincial government, too, are keeping similar records of rainfall. Conditions vary in different centers, and Hamilton's charts, for instance, would not be an efficient aid to London. Toronto has had to increase its storm sewer system enormously at a cost of hundreds of thousands of dollars, and London will be faced with the same difficulty in the future, though to a lesser extent.

TUGS TRY IN VAIN TO GET STRANDED SHIP FREE

Associated Press Despatch.
Hacker, Barbary N. Y., Dec. 10.—Under the keen observation of life guards from the Bing Sandy station, and crews of salvage boats, the steam tug, late yesterday when both boats, Isabella Reid remained fast around in Black River Bay early today, victims of the gale which has been sweeping Lake Ontario for some time past.

Efforts to disengage the craft from their rocky resting place proved fruitless late yesterday when both boats were abandoned, the crew of the Macfarlane coming ashore by means of breeches buoy shot to the ship by the life guards, and the crew of the Macfarlane being rescued by their boat since it became stranded for the first time, some distance south of here. The Macfarlane was a vessel of 1,000 tons, and was carrying a cargo of lumber.

The steel tug Salvage Prince of the Russell Salvage company, is standing by in the hope that the ships may be floated today.

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DOUGLAS GRAHAM,
Prominent merchant and former
mayor of Strathroy, who died at
Midland on Sunday.

HERRIOT IS LAID UP WITH GRIPPE

French Premier Will Be Com-
pelled to Take Few Days
Rest.

Associated Press Despatch.
Paris, Dec. 10.—Premier Herriot is confined to his room today with a serious attack of grippe. His physicians' bulletin says his malady is accompanied by a swelling of the leg.

The premier has been ailing for more than a week. He saw his doctor about ten days ago and was told he had better take a rest. He insisted upon going on with his duties, however, and got through them until today, although his tired condition was remarked during his trip to Roubaix Sunday.

The premier's friends hoped his iron constitution would enable him to hold out through this particularly trying period, but he was taken ill during the early hours of this morning after last night's especially trying session of the chamber of deputies.

ACTORS IN PILL BOX HATS ADVISED TO GET HAIR CUT

Canadian Press Despatch.
Ottawa, Dec. 10.—"Get your man" is not the slogan of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, but an echo from Hollywood. "This and several other 'traditions' of the famous service have been invented outside of Canada, one gathers from the remarks of a high official of the mounted police yesterday.

"For one thing," said the official, "if movie actors who personate Canadian mounted policemen insist on wearing a pill box hat with service uniform, I wish they would get a haircut to begin with. A haircut goes so much better with a pill box than the unsightly locks now current on the stage."

Prisoner Is His Own Judge So He Chooses Freedom

Frank Neville Decides To Go
When Court Gives Him
Novel Power.

VAGRANCY CHARGE

Declares Illness Forced Him to
Sleep in Barn—Pride
Prevents Aid.

In police court today Frank Neville, charged with vagrancy, was allowed to act as his own judge, to decide whether or not he should go to jail, a privilege seldom accorded any prisoner.

Neville was arrested yesterday. He was out of work, penniless and sick. He told the court. He had friends in the city, but rather than seek their aid he availed himself of his right to a comfortable sleeping habit, a barn filled with soft straw, and slept.

Police men awakened him. He was brought to the police station and spent the remainder of the night in the cells.

He told his story to Magistrate Graydon in court this morning. He said he had been ill for some time, and that he had been sleeping in a barn for some time. He said he had been ill for some time, and that he had been sleeping in a barn for some time. He said he had been ill for some time, and that he had been sleeping in a barn for some time.

WIFE RETURNS TO HUSBAND, HIRED MAN PLACED IN JAIL

Mrs. Ferguson Declares She
Was Threatened and
Held Prisoner.

JAMIESON REMANDED

Other Charges Against Man
Are Now Being Investi-
gated.

Leaping from the car steps of the C. N. R. train at 11 o'clock this morning into the arms of her husband, Mrs. Ernest C. Ferguson of the 16th concession London township told him that she had left her home with the hired man, Frank Jamieson, on November 22 because he had threatened to kill her children and her husband if she did not accompany him.

Jamieson was arrested at 19 o'clock last night in a farm house 19 miles from Hamilton by High Constable Wharton, and appeared before County Magistrate Hawkshaw this morning on a charge of stealing a horse and rig the property of Mr. Ferguson. He was remanded to jail for a week at the request of Crown Attorney Albert M. Judd, who will look up Jamieson's record before he appears in court next Wednesday morning at 11 o'clock.

It is likely that other charges will be laid against the prisoner, officials state.

Mrs. Ferguson smiled when interviewed by reporters at the court house.

Terrible Experience.

"It was a terrible experience," she said. "Mr. Jamieson told me that he would shoot my husband, and burn the two children in the house if I did not go away with him. I was scared, and I went with him. I left the woman at the house near Hamilton, where he hired for a year, that he wasn't my husband, and I managed to get a letter away to Ernest Jamieson, who is now in jail. He gave me the letter to Mr. Wharton, and he came down to the place and arrested the man."

"I am going right straight home to my children, soon as this case is over today. You don't know how I missed them. It was a terrible experience," concluded Mrs. Ferguson. Jamieson, who is said to have come from Brownville originally, gave his age to jail officials as 30, but he looks much older, and anything but a savvy young Lochinvar. Wharton, her husband, is 22 years of age, and has two children, one 3 years old and the other five months. She was questioned by the court, and was immediately before the case was called in court, and will not be asked to give any evidence till next week.

The United States government notified the League of Nations last August that it would be disposed to consider favorably an invitation to the traffic in arms conference, and subsequent exchanges between the United States and the League have been devoted to details of the conference arrangements.

CHAMBERLAIN GIVEN AUDIENCE WITH POPE

League Council Postpones
Meeting Out of Courtesy to
British Secretary.

Associated Press Despatch.
Rome, Dec. 10.—No meeting of the League of Nations council was held this morning, out of courtesy to the British foreign minister, Austen Chamberlain, who was received in audience by Pope Pius.

The council yesterday decided upon the postponement of its next meeting, an international conference for control of traffic in arms, munitions and implements of war. This decision was taken after receipt of the United States acceptance of the League's invitation for participation in such a conference.

The council also directed that the conference of coordination of the disarmament commission, should hold its first meeting in Geneva on Feb. 10, 1925. The council is then to decide whether the time is propitious for a conference for control of private arms manufacture and whether the moment has arrived to invite the United States to participate in the preliminary work of organizing the conference.

MOROCCAN SITUATION IS FULLY CONSIDERED

Associated Press Despatch.
Rome, Dec. 10.—The British foreign secretary, Austen Chamberlain, received Italian newspapermen at the British embassy last night, and during the course of the conversation, it transpired that the former, in previous talks with Premier Herriot of France and Premier Mussolini of Italy, had discussed not only the Moroccan problem, but the whole question of the north African coast.

Mr. Chamberlain said that the discussions of these subjects were inspired wholly by the desire to maintain peace, and that the basis of the British proxy was to effect collaboration between the nations interested. Britain, Italy, France and Spain, so as to find a friendly solution of the difficulties.

BARON VON MALTZAN WILL BE AMBASSADOR TO U. S.

Associated Press Despatch.
Berlin, Dec. 10.—Baron Hugo von Maltzan is reported to have been declared acceptable by the Washington government as German ambassador to the United States, to succeed Otto Wiedemann.



PROF. MANLEY D. HUDSON,
of Harvard university, who addressed
the Canadian club, Toronto, on the
subject of the League of Nations
in the protocol of the League of
Nations, in his address made an
earnest plea on behalf of British
acceptance of the arbitration clause
in the protocol of the League of
Nations as a means of convincing
people in the U. S. that the league
has turned its back on war.

U. S. TO TAKE PART IN GENEVA PARLEY

Assurance of American Part-
icipation Is Expressed in
Recent Reply.

Associated Press Despatch.
Geneva, Dec. 10.—Assurance that the United States would be represented at the proposed conference on the traffic in arms to be held in Geneva in April or May, 1925, was expressed in a reply to the League of Nations invitation received by the secretary yesterday from the United States department of state.

The United States government notified the League of Nations last August that it would be disposed to consider favorably an invitation to the traffic in arms conference, and subsequent exchanges between the United States and the League have been devoted to details of the conference arrangements.

BIBLE STUDY ADOPTED FOR SCHOOLS IN OSHAWA

Canadian Press Despatch.
Oshawa, Dec. 9.—Bible study will be placed on the curriculum of the public schools of Oshawa after Jan. 31, following a joint meeting of the public school principals of the city and the ministerial association today.

The fact that a large percentage of the school children attend no Sunday school or church service and are growing up with little or no knowledge of the Bible was stressed as a reason for the adoption of this plan.

BEAM STATION SITE CHOSEN IN ENGLAND

Associated Press Despatch.
London, Dec. 10.—The site of the first beam station in the British Empire has been chosen. It is near Dorchester, Dorsetshire county.

The Weather

FORECASTS.
Today—Moderate winds; fair. Tomorrow—Moderate to fresh west to south-west winds; fair with a little higher temperature.

Pressure is high from the Great Lakes southward, also over the Pacific states, and low off Newfoundland and over the northwestern portion of the continent. The weather has turned colder in Ontario and Quebec, and milder in the western provinces.

The highest and lowest temperatures previous to 8 a.m. today were:

Stations.	High	Low	Weather
Victoria	42	32	Rain
Calgary	42	29	Cloudy
Winnipeg	39	8	Fair
Port Arthur	32	4	Clear
Perry Sound	24	19	Fair
Toronto	40	29	Cloudy
Kingston	35	29	Fair
Ottawa	40	29	Cloudy
Montreal	40	29	Clear
Quebec	40	29	Clear
Fort Point	25	15	Fair
St. John	48	25	Fair
Halifax	41	25	Cloudy
Norwich	30	20	Clear

LOCAL TEMPERATURES.

The highest and lowest temperatures recorded in London during the 24 hours previous to 8 o'clock last night were: Highest, 52; lowest, 25.

The official temperatures for the 12 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were: Highest, 27; lowest, 25.

Barometric Readings.
Tuesday, 8 a.m.—29.55.
Today, 8 a.m.—29.59.