

THE PEACE OF EUROPE DEPENDS ON BALKANS

If Present Negotiations Fail and Struggle is Renewed No One Can See the End—Even Britain Preparing.

(Special cable to The Standard. Registered in accordance with the Copyright Act.)

London, Dec. 20.—The clouds which hang heavily on the European horizon at the beginning of the week are lifting at last, so far as the Austro-Serbian difficulty is concerned, but while the path of the ambassadors in Downing Street is thus smoothed, many pitfalls surround the delegates in St. James' Palace. It is thankless work trying to sound the depths of Turkish obstinacy, and still more so when the political position at Constantinople is so obscure and restless. The powers of the Turkish delegates are obviously narrow, and when they ask instructions from home, it is uncertain from day to day which party will give them.

Those who looked for a conclusion of peace by New Year are probably doomed to disappointment. It is perhaps only a shade of odds on peace at all any renewal of hostilities would inevitably make the whole international situation highly inflammable, so that the nations talk peace and prepare for war. Even Great Britain makes ready, she is withdrawing troops from South Africa, and is making an enumeration of all her forces for military purposes. The headquarters of territorial regiments are busily occupied in enhancing equipment and making everything ready for a sudden mobilization.

THE EMPRESS IN ACCIDENT IN HALIFAX

Quarantine Steamer Struck Big Liner's Stern and Almost Capsized—Empress Brings Out Record Mail.

Special to The Standard.

Halifax, Dec. 20.—It took three special trains with a total of 21 cars, to accommodate the 3,000 packages of Christmas postal matter which were landed by the C. P. R. liner Empress of Ireland arriving at Halifax this afternoon, belated a full day, after a stormy passage from Liverpool. This constitutes by a margin of over 2,000 packages, a record in the quantity of English mail ever discharged at a Canadian port and is a striking criterion of the increasing close relationship between Canada and the Mother Land. The trains, which were completed at 6:12, are all bound for Montreal and the west.

The Empress brought out a full cargo of Christmas goods and a complement of 672 passengers. The majority of them remained on board to disembark at St. John tomorrow.

The government quarantine steamer Minerva, which proceeded in mid-stream round the Empress of Ireland, for the doctor to board her, collided with the liner's stern and capsized, being almost at right angles, being righted again by a miracle only. The smaller craft was thrown on her beam ends and shipped a quantity of water, but all on board were thrown on their backs, one man being narrowly rescued by his mates from going overboard. The Minerva had just been repaired from a collision and sustained a smashed-in wheelhouse but would have been chopped to pieces had the Empress's propellers been functioning. The matter has been reported to the authorities, at Ottawa, and an investigation will be held here, but will probably only affect the members of the government's boat's crew.

YARMOUTH BABY BURNED TO DEATH

Special to The Standard. Halifax, Dec. 20.—Seymour, the two and a half year old son of Wentworth Porter was so badly burned at Yarmouth today that he cannot recover. His mother left the house to be absent a few minutes, when the child who was left alone, obtained matches. He lighted them and the unfortunate six-year-old's body was so burned that he cannot recover.

WINSTON CHURCHILL IS IN DIFFICULT POSITION

(Special cable to The Standard. Registered in accordance with the Copyright Act.) London, Dec. 20.—Winston Churchill's administration at the admiralty has been so excellent in many respects that much disappointment and regret is felt at the revelations respecting his relations with his colleagues. His admission that Admiral Bridgeman's retirement was practically compulsory, instead of being a voluntary resignation on the ground of ill health, is followed by allegations that other naval lords have been compelled to resign owing to a disagreement with Mr. Churchill over purely technical matters. Those favorably disposed to Mr. Churchill fear he is doing himself an injustice by having these admissions wrung from him instead of making a full, frank statement. Others, less charitable, hint that he dare not disclose the full facts. On all sides it is thought he allows his masterful disposition and consciousness of great ability to lead him into interference in a subject where even experts tread with caution. It is also feared that there is a renewal of the system of cliques in the navy which notoriously existed under Lord Fisher's regime, and which, it was hoped, had disappeared. The whole business has left a nasty taste in the national mouth.

IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENTS AT THE PEACE CONFERENCE

Serbian Demand For Adriatic Port Is Granted

PROSPECT OF PEACE IS MORE REMOTE

Turkey Inflexible in Resolve to Keep Adriatic—Conflicting Reports Regarding Feeling at Constantinople.

A SENSATIONAL REPORT.

Naples, Dec. 21.—The correspondent at Vienna of the Corriere del Mattino says Turkey and Austria have concluded a formal agreement under which Turkey undertakes to ensure the failure of the peace negotiations, and on the resumption of hostilities, Austria will march two armies across Servia and Macedonia on Saloniki.

FAKE MINE PAID WELL

Promoters Sold \$360,000 of Stock in Proposition on Which they Expected \$16,400 in Year's Time.

NEW YORK, DEC. 20.—God mine stock on which \$360,000 is alleged to have been realized after the promoters had spent scarcely \$16,400 upon the mine itself during the previous year, was sold today in testimony of George W. Stork, a federal accountant in the trial of the government's action against Al Wiesner and John J. Meyers, the defendants are charged with fraudulent use of the mails in promoting the mining property of Al Wiesner and Company.

Stork testified concerning his examination of the books of the Manhattan Nevada Gold Mines Company, of which the defendants were fiscal agents. He said 2,468,482 shares of this stock were sold for cash; 10,000 shares were given away as Christmas presents; 22,000 shares were distributed aboard, and 1,000 exchanged for advertising. For each of the 10,000 shares sold to the defendant, the defendant received nearly \$360,000, testified Stork, and there was no way of computing how much more was received on installment sales in this country and cash sales abroad.

TORONTO'S NEW ARCHBISHOP

Archbishop McNeil Due to Arrive Tonight and Will Be Installed Sunday—Mgr. Stagni to Officiate.

Toronto, Dec. 20.—His Grace Archbishop McNeil, the new head of the See of Toronto, is expected to arrive in the city from Vancouver late tomorrow evening, and Sunday morning with all the impressive ceremonies of the Roman Catholic church he will be officially installed by Mgr. Stagni of Montreal, the official representative of His Holiness the Pope. The installation service will take place at St. Michael's Cathedral at 10:30 a.m. in the presence of the Bishop of London, the Bishop of Hamilton and other church dignitaries.

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ARE TURKS PLANNING TO GAIN TIME

Servia Papers Claim Delays at Peace Conference Are Deliberately Planned—Urge Allies to Immediate Action.

Belgrade, Dec. 20.—The newspapers here state that the Turks are making all sorts of excuses at the peace conference in London in order to gain time to complete the reorganization of their army and start the war anew. The papers demand that the allies force the Turks to immediately make peace or resume hostilities. David Pasha, commander of the Seventh Turkish Army Corps, who retreated towards Gorizia after his defeat at Monastir, has sent a special delegate to the Servian headquarters to state that his men are suffering from the plague and diphtheria. He made a request that 200 portions of serum be sent him, and the Servian chief of staff has ordered that the request be complied with.

MAY DIE AS RESULT OF INJURIES

Harry Archibald, I.C.R. Brakeman Sustained Fearful Hurt in Railroad Accident in Moncton.

Special to The Standard.

Moncton, Dec. 20.—I. C. R. Brakeman Harry Archibald is in the hospital and may not live more than a few hours as a result of being struck by a shunting engine in the Moncton yard. One shoulder was crushed and his face smashed in. Archibald had gone to Truro on duty and returned on the Maritime express tonight as a passenger. Just before reaching the station, Archibald jumped from the train and was struck by the shunter which was backing out of the yard with the sleeper from St. John which was to be attached to the express for Montreal. Archibald was dragged for some distance and frightfully injured. He is 35 years of age and came from Mulgrave, N. S.

CABLES WILL BE CHEAPER

G. N. W. Telegraph Company Will Make Cut in Rates for Deferred Cables Commencing With New Year.

Toronto, Dec. 20.—The Great Northwestern Telegraph Company announce that, commencing January 1, 1913, the rate on deferred cable messages between Canada and Great Britain and Ireland will be reduced to nine cents in place of 12-1/2 cents per word as at present. The conditions governing this service remain unchanged, messages being subject to delivery within 24 hours of the time filed. Effective the same date the Great Northwestern Telegraph Company will also reduce the rate for cable letters.

HARVESTER COMPANY MAY BE DISSOLVED

Chicago, Ill., Dec. 20.—The last of the scheduled hearings in the government suit to dissolve the International Harvester Company as a combination in restraint of trade, was held here today. At its conclusion, the government attorneys went into conference to check up the results of the hearings in various cities, and to decide upon further action. It is possible that an additional hearing may be held here in New York. Hearings on behalf of the International Harvester Company may be demanded by barvester attorneys, it is said.

U. S. SHOULD SUBMIT TO THE HAGUE

Opinion Expressed by Speakers at Annual Meeting of American Society for Judicial Settlement of Disputes.

Washington, Dec. 20.—That the United States should submit to arbitration the Panama Canal controversy between Great Britain and this country, was the declaration made tonight by Everett P. Wheeler of New York at the opening sessions here of the American Society for the Judicial Settlement of International Disputes. "It is inconceivable," he asserted, "that after the United States has settled by arbitration far more important controversies between itself and Great Britain than any that can possibly arise with reference to the Panama Canal, it should refuse to submit to an impartial tribunal, formed in pursuance of a treaty which the United States itself proposed, this pure question of law as to what the Hay-Pauncefote Treaty means." The speaker scouted the idea that it would be impossible to procure unbiased and impartial arbitrators. He said this was "doing great injustice to the judges of high character, learning and ability."

World wide public opinion would support the judgment of a wise and capable international court in the majority of cases which might be brought to it for settlement, declared Joseph E. Davies, of Madison, Wisconsin. "There is nothing formidable or impossible in the conception of a world-wide rule of law. We have enthroned the nations of our faith, as well as one of the guarantees of our future, that we seek conscientiously to work out our social, political and economic developments through legal means and with respect for law. Our experience has shown that where there is a will to let law govern, there will be a way to develop and maintain rules of procedure by which the greatest differences may be settled satisfactorily."

The commonwealths that compose our union are organizations far superior in extent, in real power and influence to many of the states that are formally in possession of complete sovereignty, and yet our states have been accustomed to submit to the jurisdiction and judgment of the supreme court of the United States without question."

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WYOMING DEFENCE FUND NO INDICATION OF GUILTY KNOWLEDGE

Lawyer for Union Officials in Argument Before Jury Claims Enormity of Crimes Prove Prisoners Innocence.

Indianapolis, Dec. 20.—The fact that the labor union officials, now on trial, helped to raise a defence fund for the McNamara's, it was argued before the jury of the "body-snatcher" conspiracy trial today, did not indicate guilty knowledge on the part of forty defendants.

"The very enormity of the crime at Los Angeles, the very boldness and extent to which explosions had been carried on for years made it unthinkable that the secretary of the Iron Workers' International Union committee them or caused them to be committed," said M. C. Tiffin in his argument for the defence. "United States Senator John W. Kern will argue for the defence next Monday. He will be followed by the closing statements of the government. The arguments to be concluded next Thursday."

A GENERAL ELECTION DUE IN SOUTH AFRICA

Botha's Resignation Marks First Important Epoch in South African Politics—Opposition Expect Gains.

Special cable to The Standard. Registered in accordance with the Copyright Act.

London, Dec. 20.—When cabling an analysis of the South African political situation last week, I did not expect such prompt confirmation, although it was evident that Botha's position was rapidly becoming impossible. His resignation and jettisoning of Hertzog marks an important epoch in South African politics for the first time. The Boer leader breaks away from doppel influence, abandons the narrow parochial exclusiveness of the Krugerian policy, and directs the vision of his people to a broader horizon and higher ideals.

What is equally important, (perhaps for South Africa more important), he substitutes a new line of party cleavage for the fatal division of racialism, with its bitter memories, jealousies and suspicions. How far he will succeed in this depends on the extent of the reconstruction of his ministry, which is unknown at the time of cabling. In not having boldly invited the Unionist leaders to form a coalition, Botha has probably missed his grand opportunity, for it now appears certain he will not travel outside his own followers in search of ministers.

By so doing, he invites difficulties, and will probably be soon compelled to appeal to the country. A general election will certainly result in gains to the opposition, for Natal is sure to return strong supporters of Imperialism, and the Unionists will probably gain seats in Cape Colony and Johannesburg. But whatever be the result to Botha, he deserves the gratitude of South Africans, irrespective of party.

CHEAP EGGS IN CHICAGO

Twenty-four Cents a Dozen Since Women Forced Dealers to Lower Price—Made a Small Profit.

Chicago, Dec. 20.—Women who started out today to break the price of fresh eggs here to 24 cents a dozen as a warning to dealers not to try to raise the price of the product above that figure were successful in selling to thirty thousand housekeepers and in causing grocers all over this city to advertise fresh eggs at that price or less, as an offset to the cheaper egg campaign.

More than 700,000 eggs were sold at the thirty 24 cent egg stations established by the women's committee. Incidentally the Chicago Clean Food Club, which engineered the egg campaign, made a profit of 2 1/2 cents a dozen on the eggs. The sum will be used in the club's further campaign for clean food and fair prices, it was announced.

FORTY BLUE FOXES FOR PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND RANCHES

Blue and Silver Gray Foxes are Being Imported from Aleutian Islands—U. S. Pelts Shipped to London.

Seattle, Wash., Dec. 20.—Among 40 live blue foxes from the Aleutian Islands which arrived on the steamer Yukon today bound for a breeding farm in Prince Edward Island are a number of silver greys which the owners value at more than \$100 each. The United States government issues special permits for the exportation of these foxes. Secretary Nagel of the department of commerce and labor, in his recent report, noted the sale in London of 391 blue fox skins shipped by the government from the Fribillor Islands.

BIG FRENCH LOAN FOR INDO-CHINA

Paris, Dec. 20.—The senate today with the concurrence of the chamber of deputies, adopted a bill authorizing a loan of \$18,000,000 to Indo-China, to be used in an extensive programme of development in that country.

WILL USE ENGLISH BRAINS

Constantinople, Dec. 20.—It is stated here that the Turkish government has decided to engage four Englishmen as advisers to the governors of the Armenian Vilayets.

OLD DODGE TRIMMED

MERCHANTS Bogus Cheque Artist Fools Moncton Business Men—Pay Scott Act Fines—Market Tolls Purchased.

Special to The Standard. Moncton, Dec. 20.—Two Scott Act offenders were fined \$50 each in the police court today. So far this month \$550 has been collected on Scott Act fines.

Another bogus cheque artist has been operating in Moncton this week. He purchased two dollars worth of goods at a gentlemen's furnishing store and tendered a cheque for \$12.35 purporting to be drawn by J. H. Stanley of the Stanley House, Truro, on the Bank of Commerce. He received the change and departed, and now the cheque turns out to be worthless. The man gave his name as William Howard, but this is possibly assumed, as he spoke with a French accent and stopped while here at LeBlanc's Hotel. He is described as 5 feet, 9 inches in height, and when here was dressed in dark clothes. The city market tolls for next year have been sold for \$1,850 to William Murray. The city has for some years been collecting the tolls through a market clerk whose services are now dispensed with.

NEW GET RICH QUICK DODGE IN NEW YORK

New York, Dec. 20.—On a federal indictment charging fraudulent use of mails in promoting stock for a mill where linen was supposed to be made in a day, six men were arrested in a raid conducted by post office inspectors at the offices of the Sterling Debenture Company here today. The authorities estimated that the yearly income of the promoters in this and other ventures had been more than \$1,000,000 and that nearly \$10,000,000 of the public's money had been paid over to them since they began doing business. Investors in many parts of the country are named in the indictment as complaining witnesses.

PREMIER ASQUITH AND THE BALLOT FOR WOMEN

(Special cable to The Standard. Registered in accordance with the Copyright Act.) London, Dec. 20.—The possibility of Premier Asquith's resignation is still the subject of general conversation. Leif Jones, a Radical member, recently asked the premier if it was true he intended to resign if female suffrage was granted on the franchise bill. Premier Asquith's reply was that he had nothing to add to his previous statement, which really amounted to nothing, since what he had said was that the government would accept female suffrage if adopted by the House. That might be without the premier himself acquiescing. The absence of a definite reply, added to the enigmatic words previously cabled, lends strength to the belief that Premier Asquith's resignation is within measurable distance. Having declared his opinion that female suffrage would be a national disaster, it is unlikely that he would consent to it being adopted without any expression of the popular will.