POOR DOCUMENT

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VOL. XX., No. 67 PAGES ONE TO EIGHT ST. JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1923 SIXTEEN PAGES—ONE CENT

Conservatives and Labor Make Bid For Liberal Support

DOUBLE BATTLE RAGES IN MEXICO

ASQUITH WILL NOT AID TORIES

At Caucus Rejects Alliance Designed to Keep Labor Out.

CLAIMS CONTROL

This Parliament May Yet Serve Under Three Successive Ministries.

BY LLOYD ALLEN
(British United Press.)

London, Dec. 18.—Holding the balance of power in parliament, leaders of the Liberal party held a caucus at the National Liberal Club today to decide upon party policy. Both Labor and the Conservatives are making strong, indirect bids for Liberal support.

Former Premiers H. H. Asquith and David Lloyd George were among the speakers at the caucus, and the former stood for definite rejection of any alliance, informal or otherwise, with the Conservatives for the purpose of keeping Labor out.

Not Fair Play.

The view taken by that veteran politician is that it would not be fair play and would be unconstitutional for the Liberals to do such a thing. Asquith also is convinced that the Liberals can turn out Labor or Conservatives either whenever necessary.

The Rothermere press is conducting an active campaign urging Asquith to support the Conservatives and prevent a Labor Government.

(By Canadian Press.)

Leaning Towards Labor?

London, Dec. 18—The Liberal newspapers, are insisting on the important position held by the Liberals as arbiters of the situation and as holders of the key to the future Government through their ability to support which ever of the other parties may please. They also insist upon the great amount of common ground between the Liberals and Labor programmes and imply their belief that the Liberal leaders are leaning decidedly towards Labor.

The political correspondent of the Westminster Gazette writes that today's meeting "should serve finally to silence rumors of some deep scheme to spoil the Labor party's expectation of office," and predicts that Mr. Asquith "will dispose finally and conclusively of the nonsensical suggestion that the Liberals should lend an ear to the silly talk of fusion with the Conservatives."

Some Guesses.

Political writers are speculating on the possibility that the parliament just elected may serve under three successive ministries of different politics. Mr. Baldwin's administration, of course, will carry on unless or until it is defeated, in which case it is assumed Ramsay MacDonald will follow. It is contended, however, that a Labor ministry would necessarily be of short life and would soon be outvoted unless it virtually nullified its professions.

Mr. MacDonald's next step, it is argued, would be to ask the King to dissolve parliament, but it is doubtful whether His Majesty would consent in view of the popular opposition to another election and instead would invite Mr. Asquith to try his hand. All this, of course, is mere guess work.

ENGINEER IS KILLED

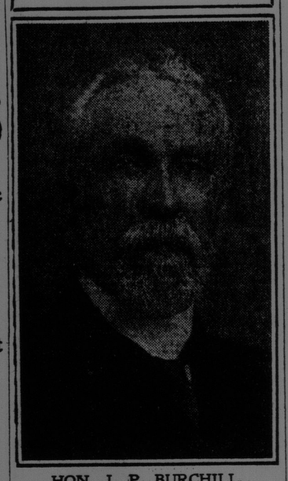
Fireman is Dying of Injuries Following Head-on Collision Near Winnipeg.

Winnipeg, Dec. 18.—Archie Campbell of Transcona, locomotive engineer of the C. N. R., was instantly killed; his fireman, J. A. McDonald, received injuries possibly of fatal nature, while the brakeman on the train, J. R. Hodgson, received scalding injuries to the hands and face in a head-on collision in the vicinity of Redditt, Ont., yesterday afternoon.

The freight train on which the men worked was proceeding west through a rock cut when the impact with another freight train occurred. The hands on the eastbound train escaped serious injuries.

Both engines were badly smashed and about twenty cars, more or less damaged, were derailed.

Dies In Hospital



HON. J. P. BURCHILL.

THREE ARE DRIVEN AGROUND IN GALE

U. S. Shipping Board Freight Steamers Break Away from Tow.

Harmon, N. Y., Dec. 18—Three shipping board freight steamers intended for ocean service ran aground on Croton Point in a gale yesterday. Fear was expressed that the Marymount, one of the three, constructed during the war at a cost of about one million dollars, might be a total loss.

The ships, lashed together, were being towed to Jones' Point on the Hudson river opposite Peekskill, where about 125 shipping board vessels are tied up. Caught in a gale in Haverstraw Bay, the ships which were unmanned, broke away from their tow and ran on to the point which juts one mile into the river. Three tugs were unable to float the Marymount. Names of the other two ships which went ashore further down stream, were not learned.

BOSTON THEATRE IS GRIPPED BY FLAMES

Eggleston Square Blaze Causes Traffic Tie-up on Part of "L" Line.

Boston, Dec. 18.—Fire that wrecked the Eggleston Square Theatre threatened nearby tenement districts, endangered the superstructure of the elevated and held up traffic on the all-night surface electric lines to Forest Hills for hours last night, and early today was brought under control.

Firemen, battling to check what threatened to be a serious fire owing to the strong wind, extinguished the flames in time to prevent the roof of the theatre from falling it. The damage was estimated at $30,000.

London, Dec. 18.—A Central News despatch from Athens says:—

"The King is leaving for Bucharest tonight. It is stated on good authority that he has telegraphed Venizelos appealing to him to take over the reins of the government. Admiral Koundourods has assumed the regency until the future regime of the country is decided."

Wire Briefs

Vera Cruz, Dec. 18—The Federal troops have captured San Marcos.

Mexico City, Dec. 18.—The revolutionaries evacuated Puebla last night the war department announces. Federal forces occupied Almaza and Lucas Gonzalez.

Ottawa, Dec. 18—Hon. W. S. Fielding, Minister of Finance, is much brighter today according to his physicians. The improvement noted yesterday has been maintained.

Fort Worth, Texas, Dec. 18.—Fifteen oil promotoers were indicted by the federal grand jury here yesterday on charges of fraud in connection with promotion of oil companies.

Quebec, Dec. 18—In order to promote colonization, the department of colonization has expended a sum of $2,452,697.69 in the course of the year 1922-23, according to a report issued by Hon. J. E. Perrault, minister of colonization, mines and fisheries.

K—Wire Briefs

Dortmund, Dec. 18.—A verdict has been rendered in favor of the German former Emperor William in a libel suit instituted against the editor-in-chief of the General Anzeiger, Herr Von Der Haydt, for having published a story that the Kaiser in 1895 caused the suicide of Lieut. Von Hahnke.

THE HON. J. P. BURCHILL PASSES AWAY

Well-Known New Brunswick Resident Succumbs in Hospital.

INJURED IN FALL

Took a Prominent Part in Provincial Politics—Was Once Speaker.

(Special to The Times-Star)

Newcastle, Dec. 18.—The death occurred at the Miramichi Hospital about eight o'clock this morning of Hon. J. P. Burchill, of South Nelson, one of the best known and highly esteemed residents of this province. Mr. Burchill was head of the lumber concern of George Burchill and Sons with headquarters at Nelson and well known in politics as the Liberal member for Northumberland for many years, as well as Speaker of the local Legislature.

He sustained a fracture of his hip last fall, and had not been in good health since. He underwent an operation for internal trouble on Monday, from which he never rallied.

Hon. Mr. Burchill was born at Beaubears Island, opposite Newcastle, Feb. 1, 1855, a son of the late George Burchill and Elizabeth Percival and educated at Chatham Grammar school. His wife, who was formerly Miss Eliza Wilkinson, daughter of late Judge Wilkinson, of Bushville, predeceased him by about two years. He is survived by three children, Alice, (Mrs. J. A. Haviland,) Vancouver, Edith and George Percival, of Nelson.

Mr. Burchill was president of the Miramichi River Service Ltd., and Northwest Boom Company, director of Southwest Boom and Miramichi Agricultural Exhibition Association and member of Miramichi Pilotage Commission. His political career extended over many years.

He was member of Northumberland County Council for six years and warden for two. He was first elected to local legislature in 1882, defeated in 1886, re-elected in 1887-90-92-95 and 1899, defeated in 1903 and re-elected again in 1908 and 1917 and defeated in the last election. He was Speaker of legislature 1892 to 1899. He was a member of the Church of England and prominent in the provincial synod as well as officer of St. Paul's church, Bushville for many years. He was Past Master of Northumberland Lodge A. E. and A. M. and active member of that order.

Funeral arrangements will be announced later.

DISEASE SPREADING

Cattle Malady Spreads With Appalling Rapidity, In Districts in England.

(British United Press.)

London, Dec. 16—Cattle disease continues to spread throughout England with appalling rapidity in spite of the most strenuous steps taken by the board of agriculture to check it.

Eighty-four new outbreaks were reported Sunday and yesterday bring the total number of herds affected and reported up to 1,291 and the total number of animals slaughtered to 93,356 There are many who hold the belief strongly that this attempt to check the disease by slaughter is worse than the disease itself in its resultant effect and that it offers poor hope of successfully coping with the scourge, while the cost to the taxpayer is enormous and the farmer is far from satisfied with the compensation he receives for his animal.

As a matter of fact the disease is rarely fatal, the chief result being the loss of milk, while the recovery of the stricken animal is rapid.

2 Workmen Drown In Foot of Water

Washington, Dec. 18—Two men were drowned in a foot of water at the Dahlgren, Va., naval torpedo station, after being overcome by gasoline fumes. Norman P. Vreeland, of Belleville, N. J., became unconscious while working in a pit, and Frank Leonard Crain, of Galva, Ill., went to his assistance.

Will Start Largest Hydro Unit Today

Niagara Falls, Ont., Dec. 18—The largest hydro generating unit in the world, the first of three, will be placed in operation at the plant of the Niagara Falls Power Company this afternoon. Men prominent in hydro-electric affairs of western New York and Ontario will be present. Each unit is to be 70,000 horse power.

Brings Shower of Proposals to Girl

Yonkers, N. Y., Dec. 18.—A week ago, Miss Vera Spykowski, servant girl, who owns a large apartment at 106 Clinton place, Yonkers, blushingly admitted during her action in Yonkers city court to dispossess a tenant, that she wanted the apartment for herself when she married. She hadn't the man "lined up," but said she had planned to marry as soon as she found the right type.

The landlord-servant returned to court to ask Judge Charles W. Boote to do something to stop the flood of proposals she has received since she admitted her matrimonial inclinations. Judge Boote said he could do nothing to give the ardent would-be owners of an apartment building writer's cramp, and he advised Miss Spykowsky to try to bear up bravely under the deluge of doubtful sentiments.

LEVIATHAN IS TO GO INTO DOCK

Great Ocean Steamship to Be Laid Up at Hoboken Till Spring.

New York, Dec. 18.—The Leviathan will dock at the south side of Pier 4, Hoboken, next Friday, according to announcement by Shipping Board officials. The ship, which has not docked at Hoboken since taken over by the Shipping Board after the war, will be laid up until March or April, the officials said, because winter ocean traffic would not justify keeping the great ship in service.

The Leviathan will get a general overhauling by experts from the New York Navy Yard who will reblade the lower pressure backing turbine while the ship is in dock at Hoboken. There are 500,000 blades in the turbine, and the job is delicate, requiring much accuracy. It will take at least two months, it was said at the yard. The work will be under the supervision of Rear Admiral Plunkett, commandant, and Capt. H. V. Butler, manager of the yard.

Halifax Gets New Steamship Line

Halifax, N. S., Dec. 18.—With the arrival of the Swedish steamer Stockholm, from Gothenburg, a new steamship line will be inaugurated at Halifax. This line will be the first regular direct passenger service between Scandinavia and Canada, and is expected to open service early in January.

Gives $50,000 For Wages For Workless

London, Dec. 18.—A. B. H. Spiers of Elderslie, near Glasgow, has offered to the Renfrewshire Paris Council $50,000 to be spent in wages for workmen who have been unemployed since October last year.

GREECE MAY BE REPUBLIC THIS WEEK

King George is Asked to Leave the Country by Committee.

TO GO TOMORROW

Monarch is Said to be Defiant, But Yields to Pressure.

(British United Press).

Athens, Dec. 18—Greece may become a Republic this week. King George has been asked to leave the country by a committee representing the army and navy. From the summer palace at Tatoiou twenty miles away, the King defied them. "I won't leave," he stated. "Whoever dares, let him come here and try to remove me."

But later it was learned that Colonel Plastiras, virtual head of the military government, had accepted an arrangement whereby King George leaves Wednesday at the latest and goes to Constanza aboard the yacht Narcissus.

(By Canadian Press).

Athens, Dec. 18—The government last night informed King George in writing that it considered it advisable for him to leave Greece until the national assembly had decided on the regime best befitting the country. The King reserved his reply until today.

The offical communication issued after the cabinet meeting read:

"As the constituted assembly, based on the elections, is about to meet to

(Continued on page 2, fifth column.)

Not to Negotiate With The Soviets

Washington, Dec. 18 — Secretary Hughes informed Russian Soviet officials today in a statement transmitted through the American consul at Reval, that "there would seem to be at this time no reason for negotiations" with the Soviet government such as suggested in the message from the Soviet foreign minister received yesterday in the White House.

The secretary's statement said that the American government "is not proposing to barter away its principles."

Hotel Man Killed Defending Porter

Marlow, Okla., Dec. 18—A. W. Birch, 45, proprietor of Marlow's largest hotel, was shot and instantly killed here last night when he attempted to defend a negro porter from a band of fifteen men who called at the hotel in an attempt to lynch him. Robert Jernigen, the negro, was also shot and is thought to be fatally wounded.

Many Poor Children To Miss Santa Claus Unless Funds Come In Quickly

Letters Continue to Pour Into Times Office Asking For Christmas Stocking.

Folks, you will have to speed up if you want all the little poor children in St. John to have a visit from Santa Claus on Christmas eve.

Of course there is a lot of money pouring into The Times-Star Empty Stocking Fund, but it is far short of what is needed to make the fund the real big success which was hoped for.

One dollar, two dollars, and even five dollars is not much when you consider how much Christmas joy it will bring. This is going to be a very hard Christmas for many poor children in this city.

Read some of these letters and be convinced:—

"I see where you are going to help give Christmas cheer to the poor. I hope you will help me give the children a Christmas dinner. My husband is ill and I have a daughter who is blind and has been ill for four years. I work hard but I cannot afford any extras for Christmas."

"Please send to my little brothers and sisters some of your good Christmas stockings. I need a pair of shoes and cannot go to school until I get them. Please send your stockings to my brothers and sisters to keep their feet warm. We are very poor and my mother is sick."

"Please help me and my brother and sister this Christmas. My father has just got work—he had none all summer—but he will not be able to give us anything for Christmas as we are much behind in our rent and owe for coal."

"I have four little sisters. Will you kindly send them a Christmas stocking to keep their feet warm and make them happy on Christmas Day. It is all we expect to get."

"I would like to ask you to kindly remember my children. Could you send them your Christmas stockings? This has been a hard year for me. Their father is out of work and I am not able to go out and work. Please give this your best attention."

"I am writing to you for Christmas stockings for my children. My husband is out of work and there is no chance for the children to get Christmas cheer unless you help me. I am sorry to write this letter but I do so want the children to be happy on Christmas like last year when I could do something for them."

"I would like to have a Christmas stocking. I have no daddy this year like I had last and mama cries when I ask her about Santa Claus. I hope everybody in St. John will be happy this Christmas."

"I am the mother of six children. I would like a pair of stockings for each one of them. My husband is out of work and there is no chance of the children having a happy Christmas this year. It means so much to them. We have a few potatoes and a little bread in the house. This is what we have been trying to live on the last few weeks."

And then, folks, think of the hundreds of people who are not writing to this fund for help—who feel they cannot write.

Could any appeal be more powerful?

Let us all give SOMETHING and give QUICKLY.

Christmas Day is just one week from today.

Minnesota's Prettiest

You are badly disillusioned if you think all comely maidens live in big cities. The small towns have flocks of them, too. Take Rochester, Minn., for instance. One of its fair young damsels, Mavorette I. Rubert, shown herewith, is considered the most beautiful girl in all her state.

Risks Life To Become Bride; She Leaves Altar For Operating Table

Boston, Dec. 18.—Though doctors warned her last Saturday that an immediate operation for appendicitis was necessary, Miss Lillian A. Land of Lynn decided to risk her life in order that there might be no postponement of her wedding to Wilfred DeLoury, which the couple had announced to all their friends would take place Sunday night.

So at 7.30 on Sunday night, after 75 guests had gathered at the home of the bride's parents, 292 Chestnut street, and the music of an orchestra had drowned the sounds of an ambulance which drew up beside the residence, Miss Land, propped up in a rocking chair, became the bride of Mr. DeLoury.

Immediately after the ceremony the bride was carried out to the ambulance, still dressed in all her wedding finery. The bridegroom, best man and bridesmaid hurried to an automobile and trailed the ambulance to the Union Hospital, where, a half-hour after the arrival of the wedding party, the bride underwent a successful operation.

CLEAR CUT FIGHT IN SOUTH DAKOTA

Johnson to Battle Coolidge for Nomination as Independent Republican.

Pierre, S. D., Dec. 18.—A clear cut fight between President Coolidge and Senator Hiram Johnson for the U. S. Republican presidential endorsement at the South Dakota primary in March became certain yesterday with the decision of the State Supreme Court prohibiting the filing of Johnson's name in the minority column and the subsequent announcement that the senator would enter the contest as an independent candidate.

Yesterday's hearing before the State Supreme Court was caused by the action of Howard G. Fuller of this city, who filed a minority report. The Republican candidate for Congress from the second district is asking for a writ of prohibition against the inserting of Johnson's name as a minority candidate.

The granting of the writ asked for by Fuller was characterized by John Sutherland of this city, Johnson's Soouth Dakota campaign manager, to be purely technical and does not mean that he will be handicapped in any way.

Several Are Trapped In Fire In Texas

Houston, Texas, Dec. 18—Several persons, it is feared by firemen, were trapped by flames that early today destroyed the Capital Hotel in the heart of the Houston business district.

The fire broke out in the hotel, a four-story brick structure in the heart of the downtown shopping district, at 6.30 this morning and was brought under control within an hour.

A number of guests fled from the hotel in their night clothes.

20 Dogs Are Found In Spinster's Home

London, Dec. 18.—It was stated at an inquest at Greenwich on Mary Charlotte Jenner, 50, a spinster, of independent means, that 20 dogs, two parrots and 14 chickens were found in her house, where she was burnt to death through an oil-lamp overturning.

She slept in a basement room, the only furniture in which was a small camp bed and a chair. The rest of the room was occupied by boxes and barrels containing dog food and chicken food, and kennels in which were seven dogs.

Weather Report

Toronto, Dec. 18.—Pressure continues high over the Great Lakes and the southern portion of the continent, and low over Newfoundland and British Columbia. Light snow has fallen in the Maritime Provinces, while in other parts of the Dominion the weather has been fair.

Forecasts:—

Gulf and North Shore—Fresh northwest winds today; fair and cold tonight and Wednesday.

Fair and Cold.

Maritime — Fresh northwest winds; fair and cold tonight. Wednesday, moderate northwest winds; fair and cold.

New England — Fair tonight. Wednesday increasing cloudiness and warmer; diminishing northwest and north winds, becoming east and southeast Wednesday.

Toronto, Dec. 18.—Temperatures:

	8 a. m.	Highest yesterday.	Lowest during night.
Victoria	46	52	46
Kamloops ..	46	44	42
Calgary	40	48	20
Edmonton ..	56	32	16
Winnipeg ...	28	32	24
Montreal ...	8	22	8
St. John ...	16	34	16
Halifax	26	38	26
New York ..	30	42	30

DETAILS OF FIGHTING HELD BACK

Revolutionary and Loyalist Troops Battle for Two Big Towns.

RAILWAYS TORN UP

Eight Federal Guards and Soldiers are Reported Among Slain.

(By Canadian Press.)

Vera Cruz, Dec. 18.—A battle is raging for the possession of Apizaco between the revolutionary forces commanded by Generals Maycotte and Villareal and the troops of President Obregon, reinforced by men under the command of General Martinez, according to an announcement made by revolutionary headquarters here. There is also a fight at San Marcos.

Nothing is known here as yet as to the trend of the battle aside from the statement that extensive fighting is in progress.

Two Important Towns.

Apizaco and San Marcos are two important railway towns about 75 miles east of Mexico City. Reinforcements sent from Vera Cruz, yesterday, to the aid of the rebel generals at both places were not expected to come up for some time because of the fact that the railway lines have been torn up.

The battle at San Marcos, according to reports received here, is said to have been started by Obregon troops.

Guadalupe Reported Taken

A communication issued by the Huertistas reports that Guadalupe, in the State of Chihuahua, has fallen into rebel hands.

It is said that General Rosalio Hernandez has gone into revolt in Boquilla del Carmen, Coahuila, and is beginning to organize volunteer forces.

Juarez, Dec. 18.—Ten men have been killed in engagements in the vicinity of Guadalupe between insurrectionists and Federal troops, according to unconfirmed reports received here today.

Two irregulars were reported killed, including Lt. Pimental, of Guadalupe, through which fifty cavalrymen, under command of the lieutenant, passed Saturday night, en route to Jurrez from El Pasoir, where they had been stationed. The cavalrymen camped a short distance outside the village, according to the reports and rode into the town Sunday morning shouting "Viva Villa," "Viva De La Huerta." The men were slain in a brief engagement with federal gendarmes.

The insurrectionists split into three groups, some retreating toward Juarez, another party riding toward the hills and others moving toward San Ignacio. At the latter place a second battle was reported in which eight men, including federal guards and soldiers, were killed.

PUBLISH MAP OF CANADA'S ROADS

Auto Association Has Aim of Attracting Tourists from United States.

Toronto, Dec. 18—With the aim of attracting United States tourists to the highways of Canada, the Canadian Auto Association has just completed its compilation of the first trans-Canada highway map. Central and western sections of the map, which has been in process of development for some months, under the direction of Dr. Doolittle, president, were completed and their distribution through various automobile clubs will begin this week.

North Shore Man Dies on Visit Home

(Special to The Times).

Newcastle, N. B., Dec. 18—Yesterday at the home of his sister, Mrs. David Barron, Millerton, Robert Simpson passed away after an illness of a few weeks, aged 72 years. He was born at Cassilis, Northumberland county, but went West many years ago and for the last forty-four years had resided in California. He returned to this county about three weeks ago for a short visit and was stricken with the fatal illness. He was unmarried and is survived by one sister, Mrs. Barron. A brother, John Simpson, died about two months ago.