

SERIOUS BLOW TO PRESTIGE OF IRISH GOVERNMENT

Dublin Independent Plant Smashed — Armed Men Held Up Staff

Dublin, Dec. 24.—Political observers see in the success of Sunday's raid upon the Independent, a Dublin newspaper, by radical elements, a serious blow to the prestige of the Irish Government. Coming immediately after the attack upon Lord French, they pointed out, it apparently showed the Sinn Fein and other radical elements were able to defy the authorities in the heart of the heaviest policed town in Ireland.

In both the French attacks and the newspaper raid, it was asserted practically all the law breakers were able to escape and elude detection. These observers saw in the two incidents a virtual reign of terror, with none able to resist the will of the extremists.

Damage to the plant of the Independent was estimated at more than \$100,000. The plant was captured by a group of armed men. Part of them held the editorial staff at the point of revolvers while others smashed the newspaper linotypes and presses.

No Raiders Captured

The raid was supposed to have been engineered by radical labor elements, possibly working in conjunction with Sinn Feiners. None of the raiders were captured, although hundreds of persons, including the police, were in the vicinity of the building. Apparently nobody outside the building knew what was going on until the attacking party had completed its work of destruction and scattered.

Many of the raiders were unmasked, newspapermen in the office said. How the party managed to gather, enter the building and hold it half an hour without attracting attention of outsiders was a mystery. Eighteen linotypes were destroyed and three big Goss presses smashed. No machine in the composing room was left undamaged. The plant will be out of commission for months, it is believed.

The entire raid was carried out with machine-like precision. The four floors and basement of the newspaper building were filled with armed men before employees knew what was happening. A dozen men were working in the editorial room when two masked men, carrying revolvers, ordered them "not to stir." Reporters thought it was a joke and laughed at the intruders. When a third man came in and started to draw the curtains a sub-editor angrily ordered him to stop.

"Shut up" one of the raiders ordered. "We're smashing your plant and are going to suspend your paper."

Held Editor Prisoner

Two men entered the editor's office and held him prisoner. One of them mumbled something about dissatisfaction over Friday's article, the story of the attack on Lord French. About forty men entered the editorial rooms, employees said. They guarded the telephones and showed no disposition to injure any of their prisoners.

The editor of the Independent said that he believed the raid was the result of an old grudge by extreme labor elements. He said he did not attribute it entirely to the Sinn Fein as his newspaper had been consistently fair toward that organization. Police have no clue as to the identity of the raiders.

LIBERTY LEAGUE MAY SECURE NEW COUNT OF BALLOTS

Toronto, Dec. 24.—A deputation of members of the Citizens' Liberty League who waited on Premier Drury, Attorney General Raney and Provincial Treasurer Smith, at the parliament buildings Tuesday afternoon was informed by the Premier that if the league would pick out two districts where it was thought a recount of the ballots cast in the Ontario Temperance Act referendum on October 20th last should be held, the Premier would favorably consider the question of holding a recount in these districts. Also the Premier said if any serious errors were disclosed in such a recount, the necessity for a general recount would receive his favorable consideration.

Claim Ballot Unfair
The Liberty Leaguers claimed that not only were large numbers of soldiers left off the voters' list, but that the ballot was unfair, as four persons might vote against prohibition on one question or another and only one man vote straight prohibition, yet the result would be four "No's" on each question against one "Yes."

Another reason urged for a recount of all the ballots cast throughout the province was that sixty-eight per cent of the return as published by the clerk of the crown in chancery do not tally.

CANTEEN PROFITS STORY BELIEVED DESPITE DENIAL

Definite Information May Not Be Available For Several Months

Ottawa, Dec. 24.—Inquiries with regard to the \$35,000,000 in "real money," alleged in recent news dispatches to have been brought to Ottawa, as Canada's share in the army canteens operated overseas are coming into the Militia Department, in spite of official denials of the story. Officials of both the Militia Department and the Department of Overseas Military Forces unite in denying the story, but evidently a certain number of people have taken it seriously and are desirous of investigating it further.

The military authorities here state that they do not know what Canada will receive as its share in the profits of the British Expeditionary force canteen system, and it may be several months before definite information is available. The view is expressed, however, that the amount will be but a small fraction of \$35,000,000, and one officer placed at in the neighborhood of \$3,000,000. This is, however, merely an estimate because the work of cleaning up the canteens which were operated in various parts of the world is a lengthy one, involving great detail and figures of the amounts which will be allotted to the various dominions are not yet available.

MEXICAN GENERAL IS PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE

San Antonio, Texas, Dec. 24.—President Carranza has accepted the resignation of General Gonzales, of the Mexican Federal army, in order that he may become a candidate for the presidency, according to newspaper dispatches from the capital.

General Obregon was named as lieutenant colonel by the President recently, a measure designed to keep him from entering the field.

U. S. DISTILLERS MAY SHIP WET GOODS TO QUEBEC

Making Frantic Efforts To Unload Stocks By January 16th

Montreal, Dec. 24.—The latest "liquor rumor" here is that American brewers and distillers, if they are driven out of the United States will establish plants in Montreal, and that after the ban is lifted in Canada on January 1st, there will be large shipments from across the line to this country. In the meantime, distillers are making frantic efforts to ship their products out of the United States before January 16th, the date when the prohibition amendment will go into effect in that country. It is believed here that Montreal importers will take all that they will ship and Toronto and the rest of Ontario will find some of this stock in their orders after January 1st.

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TO PRESENT CROSSES TO FRENCH CITIES

Paris, Dec. 24.—President Poincare will present the Cross of the Legion of Honor and the War Cross, on December 28th, to the city of Lens, Bethune and Arras. On the next day he will present the War Cross to Bapaume.

CHRISTMAS MASS RHEIMS CATHEDRAL

Fire-swept, Shell Torn Structure To Be Scene of Religious Ceremonial

Rheims, Dec. 24.—Mass will be celebrated Christmas morning in Rheims Cathedral by Cardinal Lucon. Part of the fire-swept, shell-shattered transept has been arranged as a chapel, a wooden roof and glass windows have been placed in the great structure by the Committee of Historic Monuments and the Society of Friends of the Cathedral at Rheims at an expense of more than \$15,000.

Fifty children from the city, who are supported by the Red Cross, have been rehearsing Christmas carols for the service. Warm suits have been given them for Christmas presents, there being no means of warming the cathedral for the event.

FIVE PERSONS FIFTY HOURS AT MERCY OF WAVES

In Danger of Being Capsized By Heavy Seas and of Collision With Ice

ON LAKE ERIE

In a Sixteen Foot Boat Mount Pelee People Have Terrible Experience

Windsor, Ont., Dec. 24.—Out on Lake Erie, in a sixteen-foot sail boat since Sunday afternoon, when they left point Pelee for the mainland at Leamington, a party of five persons arrived at Leamington late yesterday afternoon after being out for more than fifty hours and many times in danger of being capsized by heavy seas and of collision with ice floes.

WARRANTS ISSUED FOR ARREST OF 67 MAKERS OF AND DEALERS IN FOODS

Madison, Wis., Dec. 24.—Warrants are being issued here for the arrest of sixty-seven food manufacturers and dealers in Western Wisconsin indicted by the Federal Grand Jury at La Crosse. Names of defendants will not be revealed until the warrants have been served, United States District Attorney A. C. Wolfe announced. Twelve of them are said to be Madison business men. All are charged with violation of the food laws.

NITTI TO INSIST ON SETTLEMENT ADRIATIC PROBLEM

Leaving Rome For Paris Thursday, To Take Back Answer

VOTE AT FIUME

Said To Show Great Majority For Solution Suggested By Italian Govt.

Rome, Dec. 24.—Premier Nitti informed the Council of Ministers yesterday that he would leave Thursday evening for Paris, and would return only after having obtained a definite settlement of the Fiume and Adriatic questions.

Another Vote Taken
Rome, Dec. 24.—In consequence of doubts regarding the first plebiscite at Fiume, another was taken Sunday, which resulted in seventy-five per cent of the votes being cast in favor of the Italian Government's proposals, relative to the future occupation of the city, according to the Giornale d'Italia. Major Giuriati, choice of Captain D'Annunzio's Cabinet, is reported to have resigned.

Newspapers state the basis of agreement was as follows: "Italian Government will keep in its possession the whole armistice line, reaffirming the right of Fiume to determine its own fate. Note is taken of the wishes of Fiume, as expressed on Oct. 30th, 1918, and re-affirmed Oct. 30th, 1919, and it is declared that Italy will never accept any other solution. Fiume will receive financial assistance, so that it may be able to re-establish its life and resume its activities under a regime as a free port."

JAP OBJECTS TO FORM OF MANDATE GERMAN COLONIES

Asks That Time Be Granted For Reference of Question To Government

Paris, Dec. 24.—Japan's representative in the Supreme Council has objected to the form of the mandates under which the former German colonies in the Pacific would be administered. Time has been asked to refer the question to the Tokyo Government. Meanwhile the Council holds adoption of the mandates in abeyance.

RIOT RESULTS FROM FESTIVAL IN NEW YORK

Fourteen Thousand Kiddies In Wild Scramble For Christmas Gifts

New York, Dec. 24.—Thousands of uninvited children for whom no gifts were provided, crowded their way into the 71st Regiment armories last night and threw New York's largest children's Christmas festival into a riot. During the height of the uproar, 14,000 youngsters were in a mad scramble for their share of presents, which were stacked upon tables for distribution to 7,000 needy "kiddies" who had been invited.

Police reserves from six precincts aided by the armory detail of soldiers were unable to check the wild onrush. Several women fainted and scores of children, some of them on crutches, were bowled over as the youngsters rushed about the floor.

No semblance of order was obtained until thousands of youngsters had been rushed into the streets, where, separated from their chaperons and mothers, many of them hungry and without gifts, tearfully clamored to be taken to their homes. Less than fifty per cent of them managed to get a gift package in the melee.

Police Swept Off Their Feet

The trouble started when clowns made their appearance on the armory floor. Children who had been assigned to places in the building rushed out on the floor in mass formation and crowded about the merry-makers, to take advantage of the disorder to help themselves from the gift table, and in a minute the rush was on. The policemen present were literally swept off their feet. Additional reserves were called, and a bugler sounded the assembly call, bringing to the rescue the uniformed armory detail. Children fought and scratched each other for the possession of dolls and other toys in the packages of presents. One freckled, red faced youth, wearing an abbreviated army coat, was seen to carry away eight packages under his arm. Order was not restored until thousands of children had been driven into the street by main force.

The juvenile festival was staged by the People's Liberty Chorus and the Police Department to provide Christmas entertainment and gifts for needy children.

SMALL FIRE AT OTTAWA

Ottawa, Dec. 24.—A small fire took place in the Geological Survey building Tuesday night. The damage amounted to \$750. Admiral and Lady Jellicoe, who were passing at the time, witnessed the fire. Admiral Jellicoe was not generally recognized, and was refused, when he asked permission, to enter the building on an investigation.

FRAME INDICTMENT AGAINST EX-KAISER

London, Dec. 24.—Law officers of the crown held a consultation with French and Belgian law officers with regard to the former German Emperor. It is reported that the conferees made out a case against the former German ruler and framed an indictment.

LEG TORN FROM BODY

Saskatoon, Sask., Dec. 23.—Charles A. Smith was thrown from a sleigh on the traffic bridge here, caught under a tram and dragged nearly 50 feet. His leg was almost torn from his body and was amputated. Smith's 12-year-old daughter was also thrown from the sleigh in the collision, but escaped unhurt.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT HELD AT KEMNAY

Kemnay Church was packed to the doors Tuesday night on the occasion of the Christmas concert given by the School pupils and the Community Club. Much of the credit for the splendid program of songs, recitations and drills, goes to Miss I. Allan and Mr. W. Evans who worked untiringly to make the affair a success. Mr. Dixon, President of the Community Club acted as chairman and at the conclusion of the program a treat of candy was distributed among the children.

APPROVE PROPOSAL TO SUBSIDIZE CHILDREN

Sydney, N.S.W., Dec. 24.—The New South Wales state Nationalist party has approved the government's proposal to subsidize children, exceeding the number of two in any family.

NEW YORK EAST SIDE SELLS WHALE MEAT

New York, Dec. 26.—A consignment of 5,000 pounds of whale meat from Alaska is offered in the markets on the East Side as substitutes for expensive holiday fowl. Whale steaks brought from 20 to 25 cents a pound.

INDIA TO HAVE LARGE DEGREE OF SELF GOVERNMENT

London, Dec. 24.—King George issued a proclamation announcing the new measures giving India a larger degree of self-government. The proclamation characterizes the government bill as a historic act, giving representation long desired by the natives. It calls for the determination of the people and the officials to work together for the common purpose of making the new plan of the government a success.

TWO FINE STRINGS IMPORTED HORSES TO BE SOLD HERE

Ben Finlayson Brings Thirteen Clydesdales and Devine Twelve Percherons

That Brandon is the recognized centre for the distribution of live stock all over Western Canada is shown by the two large shipments of horses which have arrived in the city lately. Twenty-five of the best horses that two importers, Ben Finlayson and W. H. Devine, could procure have reached the city and are now quartered here waiting distribution through the Western provinces.

Ben Finlayson, who is well known through Canada as an importer of high class stock, has arrived in Brandon with thirteen Clydesdale horses from Scotland. The animals are in great shape and stood the rough passage across the Atlantic in splendid style. He now has his string located in the old Hogate stable on Thirteenth street and Van Horne avenue which will be his headquarters while in the city. Finlayson made a great name for himself several years back when he arrived from Scotland on the day the Winter Fair opened here, bringing with him "Edward Garnet," a horse which swept every honor at the Fair and was champion of his class everywhere he was shown.

Twelve champion Percherons which have all been exhibited at the International Stock Show in Chicago recently, is the recent importation of W. H. Devine. This is Mr. Devine's third importation this year, he having sold \$40,000 worth of stock already this Fall and Winter. Mr. Devine has his string of Percherons stationed in the Club Stables on Twelfth street and expects to have his horses placed before very long in the Western provinces.

GIRL BANKER THWARTS ROBBERS

By Stepping On Button That Rang An Electric Burglar Alarm

Cincinnati, Ohio, Dec. 24.—Six automobile bandits made an unsuccessful attempt to rob the First National Bank at Lockland, a suburb, Tuesday afternoon. The men were frustrated through the presence of mind of a girl employee who pushed a button, thus ringing a warning bell on the outside of the building.

The men drove up to the bank in an automobile. Two of them remained in the machine, and the others went into the bank. The latter, at the point of revolvers, lined up the cashier, the three paying tellers and three girl employees, the only ones in the bank at the time. As one of the robbers was trying to open a gate leading to the money vault, one of the girls stepped on an electrical contrivance connected with a large gong on the outside of the bank. This rang, and when the robbers saw people running towards the bank from all directions they leaped into the car and sped away without obtaining any plunder.

DRURY CABINET FINDS LIQUOR QUESTION KNOTTY

Toronto, Dec. 24.—Again yesterday afternoon the Ontario Cabinet discussed the question of the importation of liquor into this province, without having decided on any definite policy, and today another session may be held in connection with this matter. It is understood that the Premier's intimation of yesterday still stands, that is, that the quantity of liquor a person is allowed to have will be limited by amendment to the Ontario Temperance Act.

CHRISTMAS "FAIRY" DIES FROM BURNS

St. Paul, Minn., Dec. 24.—The good fairy who danced before the Christmas tree on a local stage while hundreds of kiddies held their breaths for joy, is dead. Helen Mastinelli, 23, died at noon from burns received when an electric switch set her costume of chiffon and spangles afire.

ONE BALLOT LESS FOR DINDSLE THAN THE FIRST COUNT

Judge Cumberland's Recount Reduces Mayor-elect's Majority By One

COMPETENT OFFICIALS

In Charge of Voting—Dindsdale's Confidence Amply Justified

The recount of the Mayorality ballots cast in the recent election did not make any material change in the returns. Mayor-elect Dindsdale is still the popular choice as chief executive of the city for 1926, but his majority is reduced by one, being 72 instead of 73, as given out when the election returns were made. The recount took up the whole of Tuesday afternoon. His Honor Judge Cumberland making the count, while Mr. Harry Cater, the defeated candidate, N. W. Kerr, representing Mayor-elect Dindsdale and Returning Officer Harry Brown, were also present.

The judge in his finding shows 2062 votes were cast for Mayor of Brandon, of which 1,067 were for Dindsdale while 995 were for Cater. His Honor Judge Cumberland in his report states that four ballot papers wanted the signatures or initials of the Deputy Returning Officer, and these had been counted by the Deputy Returning Officer as good ballots on the original count. The judge also held them to be good and counted them. Four ballot papers were rejected because they had been marked for both candidates. One ballot paper was rejected for having a writing or mark by which the paper could be identified, while thirteen papers were rejected because they were unmarked or void because of uncertainty. His Honor's final count showed Mayor-elect Dindsdale's majority reduced by one vote, and is given as 72 instead of 73.

The recount verified the confidence which Mayor-elect Dindsdale had in the outcome and in the accuracy and efficiency of the election officials.

The costs of the recount will probably be chargeable to the applicant, Mr. Cater, the judge having full jurisdiction as to how the costs of a recount are to be made up. It is to be presumed that as no cause was shown by the recount, that Mr. Cater will forfeit the \$25 deposit which he had to put up.

BOLSHEVIKI CLAIM 1,000 COSSACKS KILLED

London, Dec. 24.—The Bolsheviks captured fifteen guns, 1,000 horses and 300 men after defeating the forces of General Mamontoff and Chelchokoff, in the region of Staronionsk, according to a dispatch received from Moscow today. The dispatch adds: "Over a thousand Cossacks were killed, including General Chelchokoff."

FARM LABORER ADMITS HE SHOT FARMER

Montreal, Dec. 24.—What is alleged to be a full confession by Ovide Lefebvre, a farm hand, throws light on an unsolved crime dating back to last April, when Oscar Lafond, a farmer, was shot while pitching hay from a wagon into a hay loft.

According to the police Lefebvre is stated to have made a confession that he shot the farmer because he wanted to get \$200 from him. He hid in the hay loft and shot Lafond, who subsequently recovered after several months in the hospital.

Lefebvre, who is 18 years old, is now awaiting trial for attempted murder, in the Joliette jail.

FIND TRACES OF LOST SPANISH STEAMER

New Orleans, La., Dec. 24.—Traces of the Spanish steamer Valbanert, which was believed to have sunk in quicksands off the Florida coast, during a gulf hurricane last September and carried down 400 passengers and crew, were found off Grand Isle by Lieut. J. J. Wilkinson, United States navy.

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