

## LLOYD GEORGE AND DE VALERA IN CONFERENCE

## Landover Castle Survivors Are Not Witnesses At Trial At Leipsic, Germany

Sergt. Arthur Knight Cannot Understand Why Actual Participants in Greatest Tragedy of Great War Are Not Called To Give Evidence—Re-Tells Story of Hospital Ship's Sinking by Germans.

Just why certain officials in Ottawa recommended by the Canadian Government should be called at Leipsic, Germany, to give evidence in the investigation of the sinking of Landover Castle, the Canadian hospital ship which was destroyed by a submarine off the coast of Ireland on June 27, 1918, when these officials can know nothing about it except by hearsay, is a mystery which Sergt. Arthur Knight of 22 Wyatt street, city, is seeking to solve.

## "NICE SOFT JOB."

Although he was one of the six Canadian survivors of the 110 who were aboard the boat, and although he was called to relate the story to the King and later was the chief witness before the court of inquiry in England, Sergt. Knight was not among those who were recommended for the trip. Furthermore, Sergt. Knight knows of no other survivor who was sent on what he termed a "soft job."

## Guests of Government.

In the latter part of April or in the early days of May, several witnesses recommended by the Canadian Government went to Leipsic, Germany, as witnesses in the investigation. Since that time they have remained in England presumably as the guests of the Canadian Government. Just what weight their evidence will bear is hard to say, for as far as it is known none of them were on the boat when it went down.

## Only 24 People Saved

Sergt. Wyatt, Major T. Lyons and four privates were the only members of the C. A. M. C. who escaped death at the hands of the German butchers. The other survivors were 18 members of the crew, making a total of only 24 out of 238 souls who were aboard the ill-fated boat. Among those drowned were 14 nursing sisters, who had served in France.

## Without Warning.

The ship of mercy was on her way to England from Canada to bring home wounded soldiers. She was traveling without escort, depending entirely on the huge illuminated red crosses on her funnels and sides to warn her of the hands of any Hun submarine which might be prowling about the seas. On the night of June 27 she was skirting

## ATLANTIC HERO KILLED



HARRY G. HAWKER, who became famous for being the first aviator to cross the Atlantic in an airplane, was killed while flying over Hendon Field, England.

## WARNED GIRLS AGAINST GOING INTO THE RIVER

Director Mel Brock Resents Reflection Thrown On Supervisor At Birkett's Flats.

## BATHING CAMP CLOSED

No Bathing Suits Issued As a Precautionary Measure.

Major G. Mel Brock, director of city playgrounds, greatly resents the report published Wednesday, criticizing the supervisor at Birkett's flats because he was not on the job to render assistance to three small girls who narrowly escaped drowning Monday afternoon. He declares that these children should not have been in bathing at the time, as the public was warned to stay out of the water following Sunday's flood, and that the bathing camp was closed at the time.

"The children were told that they must not go into the river while it was high, following the Sunday storm," he informed The Advertiser this morning. "The supervisor did all he could to keep them out, but she failed in the lake at Port Stanley on July 1, and was almost drowned."

"Children Warned." "It would take 100 policemen to keep the children out of the river, although they were warned not to go in. When the left children were in danger the supervisor was in one of the shacks, but when he heard their shouts, he rushed out only to find that they had already been pulled ashore."

"The bathing camp was not open on Monday, and no bathing suits were handed out. As for doubt concerning the supervisor's swimming ability, I may say that he is an expert swimmer and diver. Regarding the near drowning at the North Branch bathing camp on Wednesday, this little girl should not have been in the water, as her mother admitted that she faintly in the lake at Port Stanley on July 1, and was almost drowned."

"These things will happen in the best regulated families," commented General Manager E. V. Buchanan of the public utilities commission, while discussing the reports of the bathing mishaps.

## THE WEATHER

LOCAL TEMPERATURES. Following is the highest and lowest temperatures recorded in London during the 24 hours previous to 8 o'clock last night: Highest, 71; lowest, 54. The official temperatures for the 12 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were: Highest, 62; lowest, 48.

WEDNESDAY—29.34 inches at 8 a.m. Today—29.16 inches at 8 a.m.

The local weather office states that the drop shown by the barometer from Wednesday's reading is a decided evidence of the near approach of rain.

TOMORROW—FAIR AND COOLER, Toronto, July 14—8 a.m.

Forecast: Today—Moderate to fresh southerly winds, gradually shifting to westerly and northerly winds; thunderstorms in many localities.

Friday—Northerly winds; generally fair and cooler.

Temperatures. The highest and lowest temperatures during the 24 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were:

Stations. High. Low. Weather. Victoria ..... 70 40 Clear. Calgary ..... 72 40 Clear. Winnipeg ..... 72 40 Clear. Port Arthur ..... 76 40 Fair. Parry Sound ..... 76 40 Fair. Buffalo ..... 86 70 Clear. Toronto ..... 72 40 Clear. Quebec ..... 72 40 Clear. Ottawa ..... 72 40 Clear. Montreal ..... 70 40 Clear. Father Point ..... 70 40 Cloudy. St. John ..... 66 54 Foggy. Halifax ..... 66 54 Foggy.

Pressure is now relatively low from the Great Lakes to the Maritime Provinces, and highest in the Western Provinces.

Thunderstorms have been quite general in the Lake Superior district, and they have also occurred very locally in Quebec.

The weather has remained very warm in Ontario and the greater portion of Quebec.

## CITY WATER IS AGAIN SAFE TO DRINK

London's drinking water received a clean bill from General Manager E. V. Buchanan of the public utilities commission this morning. He issued a warning Monday, following washing of surface water into reserve ponds at Springbank during Sunday's storm, to the effect that all drinking water should be boiled before using, and now states that further boiling is unnecessary.

Tests of water taken from the city's drinking supply Monday and analyzed by officials at the Institute of Public Health, show a trace of colon bacilli in ten cubic centimetres. However, this is not regarded as a serious condition, similar traces being occasionally discovered prior to the flooding of the ponds.

Tests of today's water supply samples are expected to be negative, showing the supply to be aqua pura in the full sense of the word. The water is still being chlorinated.

"I am drinking all the water I want without boiling it," declared Manager Buchanan today. "I think it is perfectly clear now." Following flooding of the reserve ponds Sunday, they were emptied into the river as a precautionary measure, 5,000,000 gallons being lost in this manner.

## JAPAN AND CHINA ACCEPT HARDING'S INVITATION TO DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE

Washington, D. C., July 14.—Japan's acceptance of President Harding's suggestion that a conference be held to discuss limitation of armaments was received at the state department today, but made no reference to the question of a discussion of the Far Eastern question.

Unqualified acceptance by the Chinese Government also was received. State department officials would make no comment on the form of the Japanese reply, which was not made public in text.

## \$275,000 WORTH OF ALCOHOL SEIZED

Boston, July 14.—Tackling a search warrant to the foremast of the bark Tiburon, in the absence of the captain to receive it, prohibition enforcement officers headed by Field Supervisor O'Donnell last night raided the vessel, whose mission has been a mystery since her arrival here two weeks ago, and seized her cargo, which consisted of twenty-five thousand gallons of alcohol, valued at \$275,000. The seizure is said to be the largest made in New England since the advent of prohibition. In raiding the vessel, prohibition officials asserted their belief that they had unearthed a widespread conspiracy to land spirits illegally.

## THEATRICAL BUSINESS SHOWS A BIG SLUMP

One Hundred Motion Picture Places To Close In New York.

New York, July 14.—Notice that more than one hundred motion picture theatres in Greater New York may close on August 1 for an indefinite period, has been received by the Motion Picture Theatre Attendants' Union.

Members of the union said the information came from the managers directly, and the tentative action was partly due to a slump in the theatrical business and partly due to the failure of managers to come to an agreement with the unions on wages and other matters prior to the expiration of the existing agreement. The union charged that admission prices had increased 200 per cent during the last few years, followed by a wage increase of only 100 per cent.

Action to cope with a similar condition of depression in the theatrical world was taken yesterday by the Touring Managers' Association of the United States and Canada, which passed a resolution creating an emergency relief fund, to be supplemented by a weekly assessment on road companies. The fund will be used to return actors to New York from road companies which become stranded.

The association estimated that only one-fourth of the usual number of road companies would set out for the provinces during the coming season.

MRS. STILLMAN HAS BUT FEW REMARKS TO MAKE ON CASE

Chicago, July 14.—Mrs. Anne U. Stillman of New York, who is resting at the Harold McCormick estate in Lake Forest, Ill., today made only the briefest comment over what her lawyers called her victory over her husband, James A. Stillman, in his suit for a divorce.

"I am very glad to receive the news," was all she would say.

Her lawyers' jubilation was caused by a statement by the banker's counsel that evidence in support of allegations of intimacy between the banker and Florence Leeds, a former show-girl, would not be disputed.

## RECEPTION AT SPRINGBANK FOR NEW ARRIVALS

Mr. and Mrs. H. Seal and Mr. and Mrs. B. Swan Reach Park.

There is great rejoicing at the Springbank zoo today, the entire population rising bright and early (betimes) to welcome Mr. and Mrs. Harbor Seal of Maine and Mr. and Mrs. Black Swan of Australia, who are taking up permanent residence there. The party arrived by express last night, and despite their long journeys were in excellent spirits.

Mr. and Mrs. Seal, who came to London through the generosity of Mayor E. S. Little, were "out of water" during the trip, arriving in separate crates. However, upon being released from his crate, Mr. Seal sidled over to his mate, gently kissed her, yawned and barked "So this is London."

Both members of the seal family then enjoyed a lengthy snooze, following the tiresome train ride. They will reside temporarily in the bungalow of Mr. and Mrs. Canadian Beaver, who have kindly removed into Mrs. Brown Bear's old quarters in order to make room for the new arrivals.

Mr. and Mrs. Swan, who came to London on funds provided by Mrs. Ronald Harris of this city, spent the night in the deer park, and later, when alterations required as a result of Sunday's storm are completed, will keep house in the war field inclosure adjacent with Mr. Heron, who rooms with the Wild Duck and Geese family. This home is furnished with an artificial swimming pond and running water.

Arrangements for permanent quarters for the new arrivals will be made in the future. Mr. and Mrs. Swan and the Seal couple, who are very interesting entertainers, will receive at the zoo daily for the remainder of the season.

FRENCH MISSION RETURNS. Havre, July 14.—The French mission which visited Canada to express to the Canadian Government France's appreciation of the services rendered by the Canadians in the war, arrived here today on the steamer France, and left immediately for Paris. There were no ceremonies connected with their return, because of the death during the voyage of Professor Gabriel Lippmann of the University of Paris, who was a member of the mission. The members of the mission declared themselves delighted with their visit to the Dominion.

Myron T. Herriek, the new United States ambassador to France, also arrived on the France.

CELEBRATING FETE DAY. Montreal, July 14.—The official celebration of the national fete day of the French republic opened in Montreal this morning in the hall of the Union Nationale Francaise.

The first event of the day was the investiture of three local officers with the cross of the Legion of Honor, conferred by the French Government in recognition of honorable service during the late war. The officers were Lieut. Col. J. P. Decarie, Lieut.-Col. J. H. Chabell and Major Oufi Asselin. The presentation of the crosses was made by Commandant Ruffe de Pontevies, of the French cruiser Ville d'Ys, now in port. A detachment of marines acted as a special guard of honor during the ceremonies.



FRANK WILDE, O.B.E., second in command of Sir Ernest Shackleton's next Antarctic expedition.

## DRURY WILL FIGHT BILL TO A FINISH

Ontario Premier Is Strongly Opposed to Proposed Legislation.

Kenora, July 14.—Accusing Premier Meighen of breach of faith in introducing the Lake of the Woods bill, Premier E. C. Drury last night expressed an uncompromising opposition to the measure. "I see no course open," he said, "but to fight with every means in my power, legislation which would rob Ontario of its right to waterpower control. On this there can be no compromise or yielding. Two methods are open. One is to resort to the law courts, which we intend to do (and I am sure we shall be successful), and the other is to take the opinion of the people on the question."

The meeting last night came as the climax to a varied program arranged in honor of the premier. The program included a visit to the Norman Dam and the power plant, and a spectacular motorboat parade, in which no less than 150 trim and speedy launches took part.

## "IT WAS NO PICNIC"

During a lull in business at the meeting of the city council held Wednesday afternoon, Ald. P. J. Watt amused those present with the following: "Tuesday when I was down at Port Stanley my heart went out to a woman with a whole tribe of children clinging to her on the warm day, and I asked: 'Lady, is this a kindergarten picnic, or are they all your own?'"

"They are all my own, and it is no picnic!" she replied.

Needless to say, a number of No. 1 committee and the reporters present enjoyed a good laugh at the humor of Ald. Watt and the woman in the case.

## ALD. WATT'S QUESTION—ILL BRED, OFFENSIVE

Declares T. D. McCullough, in Reference to Comment Made at City Hall.

"I regard his statement as offensive and ill-bred, and I treat it with the contempt it deserves. My life and my record will stand investigation in comparison with that of Ald. P. J. Watt," replied T. D. McCullough, secretary of the social service council, today, in reply to the question put by Ald. Watt at Wednesday's meeting of No. 1 committee of the city council, as to "Where McCullough came from" and "how long was he here before he was 'dumped'."

Ald. Watt's remarks were made during the discussion following a charge by Inspector W. E. Kelly, of the Children's Aid Society, that London was becoming the "dumping" ground for charitable cases. The latter claims that an order-in-council makes a community liable for charges after they have been resident for three months in place of the usual twelve months.

"It is a queer thing," the secretary concluded, "that there should be councillors elected who give offence to reputable citizens."

LOSS BY EXEMPTION \$100,000. It was thought that the increased income exemption for married men from \$1,700 to \$2,000 would offset these increases, but new regulations whereby mercantile stock income may be assessed prevented this, and one official of the city hall estimated the loss by increased exemption to be about \$100,000, which otherwise would have been added to the increased taxes from income assessment.

DINING CAR PRICES REDUCED. Chicago, July 14.—Dining car prices in the United States have dropped 25 per cent since the war, and will be reduced further, according to T. A. Dempsey, president of the American Association of Dining Car Superintendents, in session here.

## DE VALERA IS CONFIDENT THAT A SATISFACTORY BASIS FOR PEACE IN IRELAND WILL BE FOUND

Irish Republican Leader Declares Conditions Were Never More Favorable in History Than At Present Time—Conference Between Sinn Fein Chief and British Premier Is Now in Progress.

London, July 14.—Eamonn de Valera, the Irish Republican leader, arrived at No. 10 Downing street at 4:30 o'clock this afternoon for his conference with Mr. Lloyd George, set for that hour, at which an effort will be made to find a basis for an Irish peace settlement.

The Republican leader's appearance at the prime minister's official residence was punctual to the minute, as it was exactly at the time appointed that he stepped through the door. Mr. Lloyd George was awaiting him, and their conversations over the peace question were begun immediately.

Despite a drizzling rain a great crowd which had gathered at the entrance to Downing street waited patiently for some announcement from the momentous meeting. Shortly after Mr. de Valera entered the prime minister's house the crowd hush was broken and began to recede to the Bosary.

The Irish Republican leader drove directly from the hotel in Buckingham Palace road used as headquarters by the Irish delegation to the residence of Mr. de Valera, no one else being present. Mr. de Valera, a member of the Irish delegation, a large crowd, mostly women, which had gathered about the hotel, swarmed around the automobile as it departed, cheering and waving Sinn Fein flags.

DE VALERA DECLARES PEACE PROSPECTS NEVER BRIGHTER

London, July 14.—The outlook for a lasting peace in Ireland is brighter than it has ever been in history, declared Eamonn de Valera, the Irish Republican leader, as he was about to enter into conference today with Mr. Lloyd George, the British prime minister, in an attempt to find a basis for an adjustment of the Irish problem.

Asked what he considered the prospect of a settled peace being brought about by the conference, Mr. de Valera replied: "The outlook is brighter than it ever was in history."

It was announced from de Valera's headquarters that this afternoon's conference would take the form of a personal interview between the British prime minister and Mr. de Valera, no one else being present. Mr. de Valera will be accompanied to No. 10 Downing street, the prime minister's official residence, for the interview at 4:30 p.m. by Art O'Brien, president of the Gaelic League in London, and Robert C. Barton, member of the Irish Republican Parliament, it was stated.

O'Brien and Barton, however, will not be parties to the interview.

Reports Are Denied. Reports published today that an

agreement was reached at the recent Dublin conference between Eamonn de Valera and the Southern Unionists regarding the terms which would be demanded from the British Government at the conferences in London, were categorically denied at de Valera's headquarters this morning by Secretary Childers, of the visiting Irish party.

"There was no discussion, direct or indirect, of any such terms," said Mr. Childers. "The conference confined itself exclusively to discussion of Mr. Lloyd George's invitation to a conference and of the arrangements regarding the peace."

The publication report to which Mr. Childers referred alleged that the terms of the provisional agreement included, besides the provisions of the present Government of Ireland Act the following: A Japanese student for Southern Ireland; Southern Ireland to be exempt from imperial taxation, and have full fiscal autonomy; Northern Ireland to remain as it is at present.

"I am sure," he added, "that the atmosphere in England and Ireland is right for peace. The only thing that is Continued On Page Three.

## JAPANESE PAPER IS OPPOSED TO RENEWING PACT

Approves Harding's Move in Calling Conference.

Tokyo, July 14.—The wisdom of a conference between the powers on the Pacific problems and limitation of armaments, is emphasized by the conservative Japanese weekly, The Herald of Asia, which at the same time disapproves of the renewal of the Anglo-Japanese alliance as calculated to complicate international relations by exciting harmful suspicions, especially in the United States.

The paper is of the opinion that the people of the United States will refuse to accept such a treaty, and that the declaration of British and Japanese statesmen that nothing exists at present or is contemplated in the treaty inimical to the interests of the United States. This skepticism, when neither London nor Tokyo has succeeded in showing why an alliance is needed.

## Increased Staff of the Assessment Department Saves City Much Money

Additional Clerk Enables Better Record of Persons Liable For Income Tax To Be Kept—So Far City Has Gained \$40,000 By the Change.

Due to an increase in the size of the staff of the assessment department at the city hall a \$40,000 increase in taxes has resulted this year, this additional revenue being derived from an increase in the assessment of income taxes. In ward 2 alone an increased income assessment of \$178,011 is noted this year, while ward 4 surpasses this figure with an increase in income assessment of \$255,785. This includes annexed districts in both wards.

In ward 3 the increase in this assessment per capita over 1920 is 35.73 per cent, with an increase of 17.2 per cent in the annexed district. Similarly the per capita increase in ward 4 income assessment is 47.6 per cent, with a 41.6 per cent increase in the annex to this ward.

The general increase in ward 4 proper is 40.9 per cent, with a 44.2 per cent increase in the annex. The general increase in ward 3 proper income assessment this year is 46.37 per cent, and a 26.57 per cent increase in the annexed districts. The approximate increase in these two wards is 29.49 per cent. As the ward 1 assessment has not been made up yet, and ward 2 income assessment is not completed, full returns for the city are not available, but it is stated on reliable authority that the assessment of these two downtown wards will show similar increases.

"We are getting a whole lot better results than before because of good work in the assessment department," City Treasurer James Bell informed The Advertiser in a formal statement today, now devoting her entire time to income assessment, is getting returns which are more than forty times her salary. However, we may go too far by getting small incomes and losing the \$5 poll tax.

"A man with a fairly low salary would pay the two or three dollars income tax and escape the \$5 statute labor tax, thus losing money to the city. Of course, stocks from industrial concerns are liable for taxation, but I understand that this has been offset by the increased income tax exemption.

"Our increased income tax assessment this year amounts to close to \$3,160,000 more than 1920, so that we could afford to pay a couple of extra cents in the assessment department, and devote their full time to this work, if such an increase resulted from the addition of one girl to the assessment staff. The addition of one stenographer results in a 40 per cent increase in the revenue from this source."

Mr. Bell declined to state whether he favored a separate income tax department, but came out strongly for an increased office staff to handle this "reducer of the general tax rate."

One official conversant with details declared to The Advertiser that in 1920 only about 25 per cent of the income tax available in this city was collected, because the full time of a clerk was not devoted to the task.

However, it is likely that in the near future, with the above interesting practical results, the organization of a civic income tax department separate from the assessment department will be recommended for London.