POOR DOCUMENT

MC 2035

The Evening Times ★ Star

VOL. XVI., No. 65. PAGES ONE TO EIGHT ST. JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1919 SIXTEEN PAGES—ONE CENT.

WHITE OUT OF PUBLIC LIFE

Will Not Return, Says Sir Thomas in Toronto.

CABINET SITUATION

Others Beside Sir Robert Borden Likely to Give Up Positions, is Expectation in Ottawa— General Election Is Unlikely.

(Special to Times.)

Ottawa, Dec. 16—Sir Thomas White last night announced in Toronto that he would under no circumstances go back into public life.

Others to Retire?

Ottawa, Dec. 16—(Canadian Press)—Sir Robert Borden's successor will be appointed and the new government installed within a month. Arrangements to this end, at any rate, are now being made. The actual date when Unionist supporters will meet lies with Sir Robert, and he still declines to make any comment on the situation. Several members of the present administration will no doubt take the opportunity to retire from public life, but probably not between now and the gathering of the unionist supporters.

Just who will be the new premier remains uncertain, but speculation here has narrowed down to half a dozen names, including Sir Thomas White, Hon. Arthur Meighen and Hon. J. A. Calder. Sir Henry Drayton is also mentioned in some quarters, together with Hon. N. W. Rowell. Hon. J. D. Reid and Hon. C. C. Ballantyne returned to the city last evening after spending the week-end at their homes.

A general feeling of regret was voiced yesterday at the announcement that Sir Robert's health was so poor that his retirement seemed inevitable and all day messages of regret from various parts of the dominion were being received.

Hon. Mackenzie King, leader of the liberal party, was among those voicing regret to hear of Sir Robert's illness. "I should be very sorry indeed," he said, "to know that Sir Robert's health was such that he was compelled to give up the leadership of his party, and I am sure that the Liberal members all over the dominion will join with me in expressing regret that illness has compelled Sir Robert even to consider such a step."

For Meighen.

Kingston, Dec. 16—The Daily Standard, which on Thursday, in an editorial foreshadowing the retirement of Sir Robert Borden as prime minister, strongly advocated Hon. A. Meighen as his successor, renews its suggestion in favor of Mr. Meighen. In the Standard's opinion he would make a "safe and sane" leader.

The Standard suggests that in the reconstruction of the cabinet serious consideration be given the claims of Dr. Edwards and General Ross.

Election Unlikely.

Ottawa, Dec. 16—The possibilty of the present situation leading to dissolution of parliament and a general election before another session of parliament is also being canvassed. The chief difficulty in the way lies in the fact that without the passage of a dominion elections act, the necessary machinery for the holding of a general election does not exist, although special provision has been made for the holding of by-elections. The general election of 1917 was fought under the provisions of the war times election act, under which special arrangements were made for the taking of the soldiers' votes and the votes of women relatives of the fighting men. Without a new dominion elections act, women in provinces where they are not on the provincial lists would not be able to vote. All things considered, dissolution this side of the meeting of parliament and the passage of a new dominion elections act would appear to be practically impossible.

Ottawa, Dec. 16—The proposal to nominate a leader of the Unionist forces who will succeed Sir Robert Borden as prime minister of Canada either at a caucus made up of the ministerial following in the commons and the senate or at a party convention is causing considerable speculation. It is pointed out that the procedure is unusual in that, according to precedent, more particularly as established by practice in Great Britain, a retiring prime minister usually faces the resignation of himself and the members of his government in the hands of the representative of his majesty and takes a recommendation as to the man who in his opinion should be called upon to form a government. In other words, a retiring prime minister usually chooses his own successor, whereas a new leader of an opposition party is chosen either by a party caucus or convention, the latter course being followed in the case of the choice of Hon. W. Mackenzie King by the national Liberal convention in August last.

If the plan to have a Unionist gathering is proceeded with, Sir Robert Borden will still be the prime minister and unionist leader when the caucus is held and must continue to be leader until he has placed his resignation in the hands of his excellency the governor-general.

An authority on public affairs in discussing this situation today expressed the view that the caucus or convention under the circumstances could get around this seeming complication by indicating its preference in the matter of leadership and the first choice of the caucus would be the man recommended by Sir Robert to his excellency as the person who should be entrusted with the task of forming a new government.

The impression is strong that the January gathering will of necessity take the form of a party caucus for the reason that there is insufficient time in which to organize a convention. It is suggested, however, that a convention might be called for a later date to confirm the decision of the caucus. The organization

(Continued on page 9, seventh column.)

Thirteen Hundred British Troops Killed In Persia, Says Report

London, Dec. 16—Thirteen hundred British troops in Persia have been wiped out by the hostile population, it is said in a Moscow wireless message reaching here today. The troops, the despatch says, comprised the garrison of the town of Meshked (Possibly Meshed, in Northeastern Persia, northwest of Herat, Afghanistan.)

SAYS LIQUOR MEN STILL WILL FIGHT

Statement of Counsel in Middle West of U.S.—Chicago Saloons ot Quit.

Chicago, Dec. 16—Four thousand of Chicago's 5,000 saloons will close their doors or go into other business on Jan 1, according to an estimate today by M. J. McCarthy, secretary of the Illinois Liquor Dealers' Protective Association.

"We really expected to see the saloons open up after the supreme court action," he said, "and the decision upholding war time prohibition took the pep out of the owners."

A statement by Levy Mayer, chief counsel for the liquor interests of the middle west that the "real fight has not begun," brought some cheer to the saloon owners and distiller heads.

"This decision is just a scratch on the surface," he said. "The constitutionality of the eighteenth amendment will be attacked in a few days. None of the questions involved in the case just decided has any relation to or any bearing upon the momentous fight that will be made on the amendment.

"That fight will involve fundamental, controlling and far-reaching questions that go to the very structure and formation of our government."

PROTEST AGAINST ACTION IN IRELAND

Dublin, Dec. 16—The Dublin corporation adjourned yesterday without transacting any business in protest against the arrest and deportation of Alderman Kelly, who was described by the lord mayor as "the soul of honor and truth." The lord mayor characterized the recent raid on the Mansion House and the suppression of the Christmas fair as maddening.

Attacks on policemen in Dublin have necessitated constables patrolling beats in twos and threes, thereby under-policing some districts. As a consequence there has been an increase in robbery. As a remedy for this the government is inviting the civil servants to become special constables. If this means fails to restore order and keep down crime, it is expected that troops will be called to police the streets.

CLIMBING UP TO NORMAL IN COAL OUTPUT

Chicago, Dec. 16—Production of bituminous coal today rapidly approached normal. Throughout the country reports indicated from 90 to 95 per cent. of the miners are there at work or ready to enter the mines as soon as they are put in shape for operation. Of the large producing fields, Indiana appeared to be closest to normal in the matter of coal mined, although reports from Illinois, Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia showed that production was rapidly on the increase.

NEW OFFER BY LLOYD GEORGE TO THE RAILWAYMEN

London, Dec. 16—J. H. Thomas, general secretary of the National Union of Railwaymen, announced yesterday that the government had made a new wage standardization offer to the railwaymen. He said he was unable to pledge acceptance of the proposition but declared he believed it contained a germ which would result in the settlement of the wage question. The offer is to be discussed with the government on Wednesday.

Mr. Thomas repudiated rumors that there would be a suddenly called railway strike before Christmas.

BUBONIC PLAGUE OF GRAVE PROPORTIONS

Buenos Aires, Dec. 15—The bubonic plague is reported to have attained grave proportions at Las Rosas, Santa Fe province, where the business houses have been ordered closed for forty-eight hours owing to the bad hygienic conditions. Several deaths without medical care are said to have occurred at Las Rosas.

The sanitary committee has asked for help and the national department of hygiene has begun a war on the rats infesting grain warehouses.

Stetcher Wins Match.

Springfield, Mass., Dec. 16—Joe Stecher, of Dodge City, Nebr., defeated John Olin of New York at wrestling last night in two hours, two minutes and thirty seconds with an arm scissors, the only fall of the match. Olin was unable to continue because of a wrenched muscle in his left shoulder.

HEAR ARGUMENT FOR INCREASED TELEGRAPH TOLLS

Railway Commissioners in Session Here Today.

No Definite Objection Raised to 20 to 30 Per Cent. Increase — Prince Edward Island Claims Discrimination in Cable Charges.

The matter of a proposed increase in telegraph tolls was discussed this morning in city hall before the members of the Canadian Railway Commission. No definite objection was presented to the board, the session being taken up almost exclusively with a technical explanation of the reason for the increase, given by representatives of companies, and replies giving information asked for by members of the common council and board of trade. A delegation from the Prince Edward Island government was heard in connection with the cable charges between the island and the mainland. The proposed increase is said to be between twenty and thirty per cent over present rates.

F. B. Carvell, K. C., presided and there were also present S. J. Mabee, assistant chief commissioner; A. S. Goodeve, C. C. Boyce, K. C., and J. G. Rutherford, C. M. G., commissioners, and A. D. Cartwright, secretary of the board. R. E. Armstrong, secretary of the board of trade, was present on behalf of that body, and Commissioners Jones, Fisher, Bullock and Thornton represented the city. John McMillan, general manager of C. P. R. telegraphs, presented the case for the C. P. R.; he was accompanied by the company's solicitor, E. P. Flintoft; the general traffic superintendent, J. B. Mitchell, and the local superintendent for the maritime provinces, A. C. Fraser. Geo. Perry, general manager, and R. H. M. Temple, solicitor for the C. N. R., spoke on behalf of the Great Northwestern Telegraph Co.

Companies' Case.

Mr. Carvell explained first the purpose for which the board was sitting and called upon Mr. McMillan, who gave statistics showing the increase in the cost of labor and material upon which the telegraph companies were basing their application for increases in rates. He also explained the zone system which they proposed to adopt, which would be used in the control of charges. He said that the C. P. R. telegraph plant was valued at about $10,000,000, and the depreciation was figured at 5.85 per cent.

Mr. Perry, for the Great Northwestern, said that his case was practically the same as the C. P. R., except that his company's plant was valued at $7,500,000, and their depreciation was put at 6 per cent, the difference being made up by a smaller mileage of copper wire than was the case with the C. P. R.

R. E. Armstrong presented a resolution from the board of trade stating that the board was not averse to the increase of tolls if a careful examination of accounts showed that an increase was necessary to maintain efficiency of service, and asked that an examination be made before a decision was reached.

P. E. I. Men Heard.

Donald Nicholson, M. P., and J. J. Johnston, K. C., of Charlottetown, presented the matter of charges on messages between Prince Edward Island and the mainland. Mr. Nicholson said that the cable across the straits was subsidized by the federal government for nearly $7,000, and in spite of this, charges on messages sent from the island to points in middle and western Canada were twenty per cent greater than from any point in the lower provinces.

Mr. Johnston said to the chairman that the people of the island would not object to the proposed increase, provided this discrimination was removed. As a matter of fact, he added, the charges would really be lower under those circumstances than they are at present.

Mr. Carvell said the telegraph companies had been criticized for their working arrangements with railway companies and asked Mr. McMillan to explain these arrangements. Mr. McMillan said the two systems were so co-related in the case of the C. P. R. that about 24 per cent of the total service was railway business. In return the railway gave a right of way to the telegraph company and accommodation to their employes. The sectionmen also assisted in the maintenance of lines. In the case of storms etc., the railway put practically its complete force to assist in repairing damage done. The value contributed by the railway was in excess of the 24 per cent service rendered.

In reply to R. E. Armstrong Mr. McMillan said 17.5 per cent of business on the whole C. P. R. system was railway business and the railway was paying the cost of handling this business. Since 1918 labor cost had increased about 66 per cen cent and material about 80 per cent and the railway company was already bearing its share of the increased cost of maintenance. He said that the public would not be asked to bear the extra cost of carrying the railway's business over the wires.

As soon as all the information asked for had been given, the chairman declared the meeting adjourned. All the matters taken up will be considered by the board, when the application for increase is to be decided.

As Hiram Sees It

"Hiram," said the Times reporter to Mr. Hiram Hornbeam, "are the boys and girls in the Settlement coasting these winter evenings?"

"They be so," said Hiram. "An' we got the best hill in the country. I was jist thinkin' the other night when the frost was sharp an' the moon shinin', an' I heerd the boys an' gals hollerin' an' laughin' as they scooted down the hill, what a story the old pine tree at the top could tell if it hed a tongue. Mister, if all the boys an' gals that's coasted down that hill sence the fust settlers went in there could come back it 'ud be a sight wuth lookin' at. They'd hev to come from the ends o' the airth, an' most o' 'em 'ud hev to come back to life. They was once as full o' life as the youngsters I watched the other night, but we couldn't keep 'em. A lot of 'em that went away didn't do as well as if they'd staid to home—but you can't make 'em believe that when the fever gits in their blood."

"I remember," said the reporter, "a sled I made of hardwood barrel staves, to ride down hill when there was a heavy crust of snow. It didn't steer well, but my! how it travelled. I was lucky if it didn't turn round three or four times and finally send me rolling one way while it went another—but I would give much to feel again the care-free exhilaration of such an hour on such a night."

"I been there," said Hiram, "but all the coastin' I git now is when the sled slews on a side hill in the woods an' throws me into a snowbank. An' that aint half as funny as it used to be."

"I went out of town the other night," said the reporter, "just to get away from the glare of the lights, and to make friends with the stars again. The stars and the silence—the shining stars and the silence of the white, open road. I hated to come back."

"I know," said Hiram. "You kin think out there. An' it helps you when you come back. The greatest consoler in all this world, if we kin understand her is old Mother Nature—the mother of us all."

"I'm coming out," said the reporter, "for one long ride on the Settlement hill. Perhaps it will give me a new inspiration."

"If it don't," said Hiram, "it'll give you an appetite for Hanner's pancakes an' pork—so come right along."

FITZSIMMONS' SON IN BOUT

Young Bob Wins First Professional Contest — Other Ring Battles.

Newark, N. J., Dec. 16—Young Bob Fitzsimmons, son of the former world's heavyweight boxing champion, in his first professional contest outboxed Ed Kinley of Newark in an eight round bout here last night. Fitzsimmons weighed 170 pounds and Kinley 168. Fitzsimmons put up a clever exhibition of boxing, but appeared to lack an effective punch.

Philadelphia, Penna., Dec. 16—Johnny Dundee of New York outboxed Pal Moran of New Orleans in a six round bout here last night. Up to the last round, when Dundee landed several hard blows, the fight was slow.

Pittsburg, Penn., Dec. 16—Harry Greb of Pittsburgh won the newspaper decision here last night in a ten round bout with Billy Cramer of Philadelphia. Both men are middleweights.

Montreal, Dec. 16—A meeting between Battling Johnson of New York and Jack Thomas, a local welterweight, here last night developed into a burlesque bout. Johnson never showed any inclination to fight, standing in the ring in a crouched position, throughout the ten rounds, so that Thomas could never get in a hit. The crowd booed and hissed him throughout the fight.

In By Acclamation.

Fort William(Ont., Dec. 16—There was no opposition to the re-election of Hon. Mr. Mills, Ontario's minister of mines here yesterday.

Phelix and Pherdinand

WEATHER REPORT

Issued by authority of the Department of Marine and Fisheries. R. F. Stupart, director of meterological service

Synopsis—The temperature has risen over British Columbia owing to the advent of a depression from the Pacific ocean. Elsewhere in Canada very cold weather prevails generally with the crest of the cold wave again centered in Manitoba. A few places report light snowfalls.

Decidedly Cold.

Maritime—Fresh northwest to west winds, fair and decidedly cold today and on Wednesday.

Ottawa and St. Lawrence Valleys, Gulf and North Shore—Local snow flurries, but generally fair and very cold today and on Wednesday.

New England—Fair and continued cold weather tonight and Wednesday, fresh west winds.

New Delegation Of Huns In Paris

Come on Matter of Scapa Flow Ships.

Will Discuss Compensation —Meeting With Allied Experts Today — Plans for Peace Time Organization — Lloyd George's Statement on Recent Conferences.

Paris, Dec. 16—A new German delegation which has come to Paris to discuss compensation for the sinking of the German warships in Scapa Flow has arrived. The delegation, which is presided over by Councillor Seelinger, a member of the commercial department of the German foreign ministry, consists of Rudolph Brohm, representative of the Hamburg shipyards; Councillor Bich of the ministry of public works; Dr. Peizr, director of the Hamburg-American line; Dr. Petens, director of the Weser Shipyards at Bremen; a representative of the Hamburg government and Paul Muller, representing three groups of seamen.

The delegates arrived in a special car attached to the ordinary express train. There was no incident at the station, but the crowds regarded the Germans with interest.

The German note in reply to the Allied communication demanding the signing of the peace proctol was taken up by the supreme council this morning. It was decided that a meeting of Allied experts with the German shipping experts should be held this afternoon.

A portion of the German note was sent to legal experts for examination.

The council's consideration of the German communication was of a general nature. It was said that a reply would be made after further examination of the document.

Peace Time Armies.

Paris, Dec. 16—(Havas)—The French and British commands have discussed plans for peace time organization according to the Matin. The newspaper says the maintenance of Marshal Petain as French generalissimo at the disposition of the Inter-Allied council, over which Marshal Foch probably will preside, is probable. It says the discussions had nothing to do with the question of a military alliance with Belgium and Italy.

British Forces Withdrawn.

London, Dec. 16—Lebanon, Bierut, Tripoli and Alexandretta have been handed over to General M. J. Gouraud, French High Commissioner in Syria, according to advices from Cairo under date of December 10. The British military posts in the Marash, Aintab, Urfah and Jebablus areas, which have been under Turkish administration, have also been relieved by the French.

Damascus, Hugas, Hamah and Aleppo have been handed over to the administration of the Arabs under Prince Feisal, son of the King of the Hedjaz. All British troops have been withdrawn from Syria. The withdrawal and relief of the British forces were carried out in accordance with arrangements concluded by the governments concerned.

The Recent Conferences.

London, Dec. 16—Discussions with reference to the conclusion of peace with Turkey and Hungary and the Adriatic question took place during the recent conferences in Downing street, said Premier Lloyd George in the House of Commons yesterday. Future sittings of the peace conference and ratification of the treaties already concluded and execution of their clauses also were discussed.

The economic and financial situation was examined in detail and in order to remedy the fall in exchange, which was prejudicial to the two nations, he said Great Britain has agreed to permit the issue of a French loan in England. The Russian situation was given full consideration. Upon all questions the allies were in complete agreement the premier asserted, and the conferences would be resumed at an early date.

BOSTON DEALERS HAVE BIG LOT OF WHISKEY READY

Still Hoping for Chance to Sell Their $7,000,000 Stock

New England Now Assured of Good Coal Supply — Mayor Before Grand Jury in "Red" Investigation — Jewish People in Notable Protest.

(Special to Times.)

Boston, Dec. 16—Stocks of whiskey in Boston valued at $7,000,000, held ready for distribution in anticipation of a "wet" period, were affected by the supreme court's decision yesterday. Liquor men, however, still expressed hope for an easing of prohibition before Jan. 16.

Three possibilities are still open, they said. One of these is a favorable supreme court decision on the 2.75 per cent. beer case, which was argued this week. The second is the establishment of peace by treaty ratification, which would nullify wartime prohibition at once. The third possibility is that congress may pass a bill for the repeal of war time prohibition.

Getting Coal.

Two thousand empty cars left New England today for the Pocahontas and Alleghany coal fields to load bituminous coal for immediate return to this district, according to arrangements completed last night. Restrictions on loading New England coal have been removed with the opening up of many mines during the day, relieving the demand on fields that usually supply this territory.

There are 2,000 chirloads of coal on the rails here as a reserve for New England industries. Fuel Administrator Storrow wired from Washington yesterday that he had been promised a full quota of bituminous for the industries of this district. Mr. Storrow said that for twenty-five days practically the entire supply that normally enters New England had been diverted to the west. He was satisfied that within the next few days, as a result of his representations, a sufficient amount of fuel would be received to tide over the shortage resulting from the strike.

Probing "Red" Question.

Mayor Peters will appear before the grand jury tomorrow to tell what he knows about Bolshevism as advocated in the homes of some wealthy Bostonians. He says he knows the names of certain persons in the city who are financing the "Reds." Others who have been asked to appear are Prof. Henry Wadsworth Longfellow Dana of Cambridge, Mary Rubin, Mrs. Eva Hoffman, Dr. Antoinette Konikow, George Powers of Watertown, Mrs. Anna M. Davis of Brookline who took an active part in the Lawrence strike, and Joseph Resnick.

An investigation into the scope and nature of the "Red" movement is being made by the grand jury. It hopes to place the responsibility for the distribution of inflammatory literature where it belongs, and to learn the names of persons who are financing the project. The commonwealth contends that it is a movement designed to overthrow the present form of government and introduce Soviet rule. Several persons have already been indicted and are awaiting trial.

Boston Jews Protest.

Several thousand Boston Jews yesterday voiced demand for an immediate cessation of atrocities perpetuated against the people of their race in the Ukraine at a meeting which crowded Mechanics' building. The meeting was preceded by a parade through the streets of the city. It was made up of men, women and children, including some Jewish ex-service men, some of whom were with General Allenby in Egypt and Palestine. The flag of Zion, draped in mourning, was carried between American flags.

Dr. M. M. Eichler, director of the Zionist bureau for New England, declared the outrages perpetuated against the Jews in Ukrainia "surpassed any atrocities committed in that land of pogroms" and that "it is not useless for the Jews of America to raise their voices."

"Not only Jews," he said, "but Christians as well should join in expressing horror at these atrocities as the Ukrainians are Christians and go to church on Sundays to listen to the word of God."

BOUT FOR WILDE

Cleveland, Dec. 16—Negotiations for a ten round bout between Jimy Wilde, flyweight champion of England and Carl Tremaine, of Cleveland, at Canton, Ohio, on New Year's day were concluded late last night. Tremaine is to weigh 116 pounds ringside.

T. L. Delahunty Dead.

New York, Dec. 16—Thomas Lawrence Delahunty, former president of the International Marine Workers' Affiliation, and a leader of the harbor strike here last fall, died on Sunday at his mother's home in Charleston, S. C. Heart disease was given as the cause. He had gone south for the Christmas holidays. Mr. Delahunty was born in Charleston fifty-two years ago.

MAKES APPEAL FOR PRESENTATION OF THE YPRES GRAVEYARD.

London, Dec. 16—(Canadian Associated Press)—The Prince of Wales was again in Canadian company today, presiding at a finely illustrated lecture in London by Colonel Beckels Willson, who told, with great effect, the story of the Ypres salient with which, as chief official at Ypres for some time, he was entirely familiar.

Colonel Willson made an earnest appeal for the preservation of Ypres graveyard for our heroic dead from disfigurement and desecration.

USE DIRIGIBLE IN THE QUEST OF SEALS.

St. John's, Nfld., Dec. 16—Sid Bennett, Newfoundland aviator, is now engaged in locating a site for a hangar to house a dirigible which probably will be used in connection with the future operations of the sealing fleet.

LONDON TO FEATURE AN EXHIBIT OF THE PRODUCTS OF CANADA.

London, Dec. 16—(Canadian Associated Press)—Announcement is now made that an exhibition of Canadian products will be a feature of the London season next year.

Judgment in Ferm Case.

St. John's, Nfld., Dec. 16—Judgment has been handed down in the case of the steamer Fern, which stranded on the Newfoundland coast while on a voyage across the Atlantic in last June. The marine court announced that the captain's certificate has been suspended for twelve months from date of judgment.

TWO SEAMEN ARE FROZEN TO DEATH

Lunenburg Schooner Verna Adams a Total Wreck.

MORE DISASTERS

Reid Newfoundland Railway Company's Steamer Ethie Wrecked—Fire on Leyland Liner Extinguished—Sachem Reaches Port.

Lunenburg, N. S., Dec. 16—Word was received today by E. A. Adams, managing owner of the schooner Verna Adams, that this vessel was driven ashore at Burin, Nfld., and would be a total wreck. Two members of the crew, Raymond Conrad and Otto Howe, both belonging to Vogler's Cove, were frozen to death. Both were married men and leave families.

The schooner had taken a cargo of coal to Burin and there loaded codfish for the Oporto market, and was awaiting an opportunity to sail when she was driven ashore by a heavy storm of last Friday, which swept the Newfoundland coast. The vessel was in command of Captain R. B. Bowens, of Cherry Hill.

The Verna Adams was built and launched last year at Chester Basin. She was partly insured.

The Ethie Wrecked.

Curling, Nfld., Dec. 16—The Reid Newfoundland Railway Co.'s steamer Ethie, plying between this port and Labrador, has been wrecked at Martins Point, nineteen miles north of Bonne Bay. The crew and passengers have arrived at Bonne Bay.

The Ethie was bound south on Wednesday of last week. Running into a gale, she went aground, and will be a total loss. As telegraph wires in that part of Newfoundland were carried down by the storm, news of the wreck did not reach here until last night.

St. John's, Nfld., Dec. 16—The blaze on the Leyland liner Merican, which put into port last week with part of her cargo on fire, has been extinguished. Most of the damaged cargo has been landed.

St. John's, Nfld., Dec. 16—The Furness liner Sachem is in port after a stormy trip across the Atlantic, during which a slight shifting of the cargo occurred. The ship suffered virtually no damage.

CLOSE SECOND TO GREAT BRITAIN

Figures of World Trade of United States for First Year Following War.

New York, Dec. 15—The foreign trade of the United States for 1919, the first year following the war, will probably exceed $11,000,000,000, as compared with $4,259,000,000 for the fiscal year of 1914, all of which preceded the war, according to approximate figures compiled by the National City Bank. Despite this great gain, which is partly due to increased prices, Great Britain still retains the leadership in world trade according to the bank statistics, with a total for 1919 that probably exceeds that of the United States, possibly reaching the $12,000,000,000 mark.

Exports form two-thirds of the United States trade, while imports attain the same ratio in Great Britain's figures. American exports approximate more than $7,000,000,000 as against $2,365,000,000 for the 1914 fiscal year, and imports $3,800,000,000 against $1,894,000,000. The international trade of the world has advanced to $70,000,000,000, a gain of $30,000,000,000 over the year preceding the war and $10,000,000,000 over 1918. As these figures include exports and imports of all countries, thus counting all merchandise twice, the 1919 total represents $35,000,000,000 worth of merchandise.

MOTHER PLEADS FOR LIFE OF BOY

Carries Case to Prince of Wales Who Sends Letter to Minister of Justice.

Montreal, Dec. 16—A small deputation, headed by Robert Bickerdike, waited again on the minister of justice here yesterday to make an appeal for clemency in the case of Romeo Lacoste, one of a trio now under sentence of death for the St. Sulphice murder. The mother of Lacoste made a personal plea to the minister on behalf of her son, who, she said, was nineteen years old at the time of the crime.

It was mentioned that the mother had written to the Prince of Wales and that he had forwarded the letter to the minister of justice. Hon. Mr. Doherty promised to go carefully into the evidence.

LONDON TIMES ON THE GRAND TRUNK DEAL

London, Dec. 16—(Canadian Associated Press)—The Times anticipates that a meeting of the Grand Trunk Railway stockholders will be held in the middle of January to ratify the agreement with the Canadian government.

The Times says nobody will pretend that the government has been generous but the terms are better than at one time seemed probable. On the whole, it says, the arrangement must be regarded as satisfactory for it renders safe something like seventy to eighty millions of British capital invested in Canadian railways.