Coming Reparations Conference May Settle Difficulty

Piracy in Chinese Waters---Parties Leading in German Elections Favourable to Dawes' Report --- Disabled Canadians Seed Increased Pensions.

THE GERMAN ELECTIONS.

BERLIN, May 5.

Election returns up to noon to-day showed the following standing of parties: Socialists 101; Communists 54; Democrats 23; Centrists 51; Populists 40; Nationalists 82; Ultra Nationalists 24; Hanoverians 5; Bavarian Populists 18; Members of Economic Union 5; Bavarian Peasants 4; other parties, 8.

A REAL SETTLEMENT IN SIGHT.

LONDON, May 5.

As a result of Prime Minister MacDonald's conference with Premier Theunis of Belgium, at Chequers Court over the week-end, a new Inter-Allied conference for making the Experts' reparation plan effective is closer at hand than has been previously anticipated, according to the view of a British official who has had the opportunity to learn something of the informal conversations held at the Premier's official country residence. The British view is that another milestone has been passed on the long road towards a reparation settlement and that two more are visible ahead. These are the French elections next Sunday and the Belgian conference with Mussolini at Milan, May 18. If these are passed successfully Premiers MacDonald and Poincare, Theunis and Mussolini, are likely to meet in London or Paris during June.

A CHINESE PROTEST TO JAPAN.

TOKIO, May 5.

A delegation representing the Chinese Association of Tokio called on Foreign Minister Matsui to-day and presented a memorial protesting against Japanese exclusion of Chinese, declaring that the Chinese expect the same consideration from Japan as Japan is seeking from the United States. The delegation emphasized that although all colored races are interested in legislation to bar Asiatics from the United States, it would be impossible for them to stand together while Japan maintained the present restriction on Chinese immigration.

NFLD. VETERAN DIES IN MONTREAL.

MONTREAL, May 5.

One who was on active service in the British navy during the occupation of Egypt in 1882, and was on Board H. M. C. Condor under the late Lord Charles Beresford when the little craft ran under the guns of the Egyptian forts in Alexandria Harbor and elicited from the British Admiral the message "Well done Condor," died yesterday at his home, 171 Manse St., in the person of Henry Cranford Freeman. Mr. Freeman was born in St. John's Nfld., 63 years ago and at sixteen came with his family to Montreal where he had resided ever since, except for the time he was in the Navy.

PIRACY IN CHINESE WATERS.

HONG KONG, May 5.

The passenger motor boat Operrto, sailing for Canton from Kongmoon, was seized to-day by pirates who killed the Portuguese skipper and an Indian guard, and kidnapped forty passengers.

A BOUNDARY EXPLOSION.

BELFAST, May 5.

An explosion which was heard for miles around, occurred on Saturday night in the grain market at Strabane on the Tyrone-Donegal border. No one was hurt. Despatches say the whole town was shaken, the market damaged, and telephone wires thrown down. Belief is that bombs were used.

2 DROWNED WHEN MOTOR CAR FALLS IN CANAL.

MONTREAL, May 5.

Oscar Bessner of the city and Arthur Bousquet of Coteaux Station, were drowned when their limousine skidded and tumbled over the embankment into the Soulanges Canal here. There were four in the party. The two in the back seat saved themselves by jumping. The body of Bessner was recovered.

SUGAR DROPS.

MONTREAL, May 5.

A reduction of fifteen cents per hundred pounds on all grades of sugar was announced to-day by the Canada Sugar Refining Company.

CANADA'S TRADE FITH GERMANY DOUBLED.

OTTAWA, May 5.

Canada's trade with Germany doubled in the last fiscal year. In the 12 months ending March. Imports from Germany were $5,379,377 and increase over the previous year of $2,811,326. Exports to Germany were $16,153,673, an increase of $6,202,769.

DISABLED VETERANS SEEK INCREASED PENSIONS.

TORONTO, Ont., May 5.

Representatives from various branches of the Amputation Associations of the Great War are converging upon Ottawa from all parts of Canada for the third convention of the Association, to be held here to-morrow, Wednesday, and Thursday. It promises to be the largest gathering of war disabled men ever brought to-gether. The purpose is to induce the Government to make permanent fifty per cent bonus on war pensions now existing.

Big Singing Programme at the Crescent

ARCHIE HARROD SINGERS GO OVER WITH BIG AUDIENCE.

Patrons of the Crescent Theatre were treated to a feast of song and music last night, by the appearance of The Archie Harrod Jubilee Concert Party of Washington. This combination of talented colored artistes are individually gifted with a beautiful voice and in the choruses there is a remarkable blending that readily becomes noticeable. Archie Harrod himself, is an all round performer, being a singer, musician and elocutionist. He is possessed of a pleasing disposition and has a gift of humor which he puts into his selections. Mr. John Woodland, Basso, has a powerful voice and his rendition last night brought forth rounds of applause. The female personnel of the troupe is particularly well balanced and pleased last night's audience immensely. The film entitled "The Son of Kissing Cup" was even beyond expectations. Whilst we admit that pictures cannot be made in England as good as in Hollywood, Calif., nevertheless this one is a splendid photoplay which will disappoint nobody. Steve Donoghue, who rode Papyrus in the great English Derby, and who also rode him in the International match, for the world's championship, is seen piloting this horse home in the lead in this film. Don't fail to see this show at the Crescent Theatre to-night.

A Popular Traveller Transfers

Mr. Chas. C. Stranger, who had been employed by the firm of John Anderson for the past 28½ years, in the general wholesale drygoods business—twenty years of that period he represented the above named firm as their Commercial Traveller—travelling throughout Newfoundland, where he had always been well received by all the wholesale buyers in all the principal places in this Dominion. Mr. Stranger has left the firm of John Anderson and has accepted a position with the renowned and well established firm, The Robinson Export Co., and he will act in the capacity of Commercial Traveller and Salesman for them. Mr. Stranger looks forward in the near future to visiting and meeting all his friends at their business places throughout Newfoundland, and he would respectfully ask each to look forward to his visit and reserve a share of their patronage for him, and he assures his usual careful attention to all orders entrusted to his care in the interest of the firm of The Robinson Export Co., Duckworth Street, St. John's, Nfld.
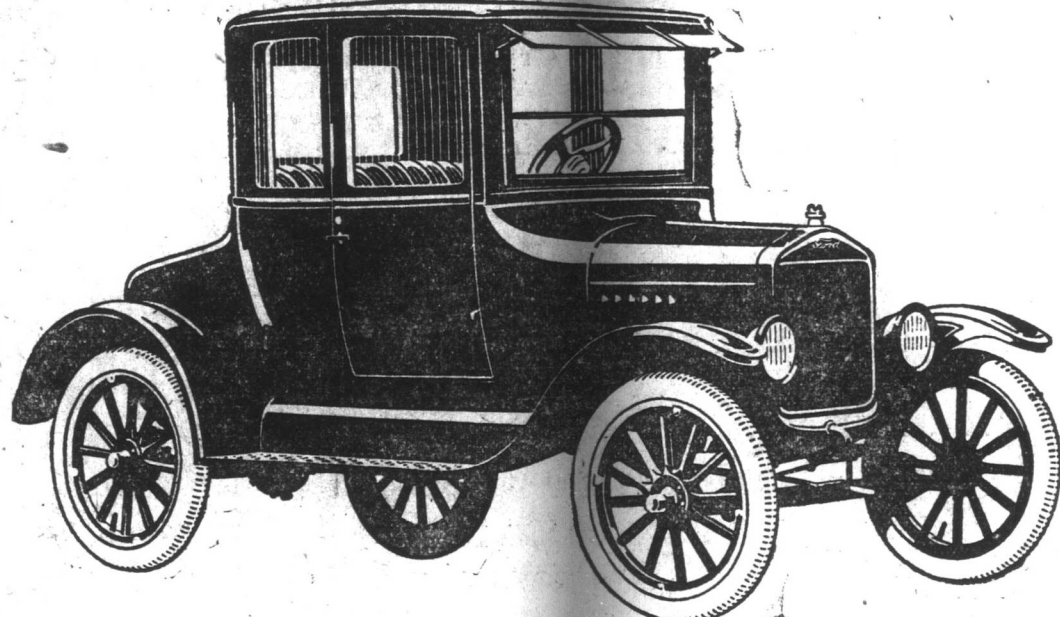
Woman to Emulate Crusoe

Brancaster, England, April 24 (A.P)—Miss E. L. Turner has accepted an assignment to act as bird watcher for the Norfolk and Norwich Naturalists' Society on a small island near here called Scott Head.

She will spend six months alone on the island, occupying its only hut. Food and other necessities will be brought occasionally from the mainland by boat.

Soviet Fears Espionage

TOKIO, April 24—(Canadian Press) —Oppressive measures adopted recently by the Russian Soviet authorities are driving many Japanese residents from Vladivostok, according to reports from that district. The Russian officials at Vladivostok are said to be determined to drive out all Japanese living there, and so intolerable has been their attitude that the Japanese government has filed a protest.

The direct cause of the protest was the action of the Russian authorities in arresting several Japanese on a charge of seeking information concerning the Soviet army and fleet.