

ALLIES REJECT NEW OFFER OF GERMAN GOV'T

French Declare Proposal is Really a Step Backward in Negotiations.

DEMAND DAMAGES FOR WAR CRUELITIES

Brussels Declares Latest Offer Differs Little from One Made at London.

Paris, April 27.—Jean Jules Jusserand, French ambassador to the United States, has been informed by the German Government that the German reparations proposals, as transmitted to the Washington Government, are absolutely unacceptable.

The French point of view is that these proposals, instead of making any advance toward a satisfactory settlement of the reparations questions, are rather a step backward.

What is Decided

The reparations commission has fixed 120,000,000,000 gold marks as the total damages for which reparation is due by Germany under Article 231, second paragraph, and under other parts of the treaty of Versailles.

Damages For Cruelty

Included in the various categories for which compensation is demanded under the treaty are damages suffered from cruelty, violence or maltreatment, all positions to the naval and military victims; the cost of assistance by the Allied Powers to prisoners of war and their families and dependents; allowances for similar purposes, and all losses, fines and other exactions imposed by Germany and her allies upon civilian populations.

Nothing to Approve

Brussels, April 27.—The German reparations proposals with regard to reparations were declared in political circles here today to be entirely unacceptable. It was pointed out the new proposals did not differ materially from those submitted by the Germans at the London conference.

Germans Are Vague

It is pointed out in official circles that the Germans in their proposals are precise in their demands and extremely vague in their offers, and that what they propose would yield to France only one-third of the French reparations claims, and that only conditionally.

The Germans, on the other hand, demand: First, release of all pledges held by the Allies in the way of occupation or claims upon German property abroad; second, that Upper Silesia shall remain German territory; third, release from all the cost of the military occupation of the Rhineland, as well as the evacuation of other German territory.

This amounts, according to the French view, to giving up all guarantees without any alternative security or definite assurance that the promised amount will be paid.

Indemnity Difference Small Says Berlin

One London Paper Declares German Proposals Are Worthy of Consideration.

Paris, April 27.—The German embassy here has issued a lengthy explanatory statement regarding Germany's reparations offer. It claims that the difference between the sum offered in Berlin's last proposal of two hundred billion gold marks and the 120,000,000,000 gold marks under the Paris terms "is but small."

Deserves Consideration

London, April 27.—The Daily Mail in an article printed this morning concluding the German note says the British Government's attitude is that it "deserves examination." Premier Lloyd George, it is understood says the Daily Mail has declared privately that if Germany arbitrarily makes her offer dependent upon having her own way in Upper Silesia and upon the immediate withdrawal of the Allied troops from the Rhine—measures which are generally read into paragraph twelve—it will be impossible to consider it at the Supreme Council tomorrow.

Two Killed, Score Injured in Fiume

City Votes for Autonomy and Will Form Soon a New Administration.

Fiume, April 27.—Final returns from the elections of Sunday show that the Anzichisti under the leadership of Benito Mussolini, were victorious by more than a thousand votes. The old provisional government has resigned, but is remaining in office until the new administration takes up its duties. In the riot following the balloting two persons were killed and a score wounded. Italian alpine troops now occupy the city and order has been restored.

Greek Ships Sunk By Soviet Submarine

Munition Craft Fall Victims in Western Mediterranean to Russian Boats.

Rome, April 27.—Turkish merchant ships arriving at Brindisi from Constantinople say Mustafa Kemal, Turkish Nationalist leader, has been getting money from Lenin to carry on the war with Greece. In addition they say, the Ankara Government has received from Russia several submarines which are already working in the western Mediterranean and the Black Sea, cutting off Greek supplies. It is said the Greeks have lost several ships, including the Arcadia, loaded with munitions, recently by these undersea craft.

GALLERY PACKED FOR DEBATES ON PREMIERS' MEET

Sir Robert Borden Says Britain Hesitant to Declare War Canada Opposed.

HON. MR. KING IS CRITICAL OF PLANS

Premier Declares Delegates Must Not be Sent With Hands Tied.

Ottawa, Ont., April 27.—Parliament passed today in the wider field of constitutional development and imperial relations. It was the day set aside for discussion of the coming London conference of Prime Ministers of the Empire—a conference preliminary to the Imperial Conference proper of which the date has not yet been fixed. It was a day of earnest, thoughtful speeches of discussion closely followed by a well attended house and well-filled galleries. Appropriately, the debate was opened by Sir Robert Borden. Sir Robert stressed imperial development from the days of the Georges when government was not responsible to parliament and parliament was not responsible to the people.

Today, Great Britain would hesitate to engage in any war if public opinion in Canada and Australia were against her, he said, and here Sir Robert emphasized that any important constitutional change must have behind it the weight of public opinion.

Hon. Mr. King's Amendment

Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King, leader of the opposition, who followed, raised an issue which brought protest from the government side of the House. In amendment to the supply motion, which gave opportunity for the discussion, Mr. King moved that no step should be taken at the conference in any way involving any change in the relations of Canada to other portions of the empire, and that, "in view of the present financial position of Canada, no action should be taken implying any obligation on the part of Canada to undertake new expenditures for naval or military purposes."

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Seven Thousand Men Laid Off For Week

Grand Trunk and Canadian Pacific Shut Down Shops in Montreal.

Montreal, April 27.—The Grand Trunk and Canadian Pacific Railway shops here closed today for a week. Seven thousand men are affected. The men, who are temporarily laid off, had long indignation meetings, claiming that they were being laid off under a contract which was based on the idea that they would be given steady employment.

Hudson Bay Ry. Cost Already \$20,000,000

Original Estimate Was \$8,410,000—Now Said Much More Will be Required.

Ottawa, April 27.—That a total of \$20,000,000 had been expended on the Hudson Bay Railway, and that \$24,254,862.62 of this amount was expended on the railway, and \$5,745,861.71 on the Port Nelson terminals, was stated in the House of Commons this afternoon in answer to a question by Thomas McQuest, Saltcoats. An estimate, based on the original estimates, placed the cost of completing the railway at \$2,410,000, but the previous was added that under present conditions the cost of completing the railway would probably be twice the amount.

MONTEAL POPULATION, 758,045

Montreal, April 27.—The population of Montreal last year, according to estimates made by the city assessor, was 758,045 people, of whom 478,803 were French-Canadian; 161,371 English; 55,779 Irish; 31,724 Scotch, and 34,968 of other nationalities.

FARMERS OF WEST REDUCE CROP AREAS

Advised to Sow Only What They Can Harvest Without Assistance.

APPEAL TO RAIL BOARD FOR HELP

Prairie Governments Say Situation is Most Critical for Entire Dominion.

Winnipeg, April 27.—Emergency relief at the earliest possible date in order to prevent production from falling to so low a level that it may constitute a most dangerous situation not only for the country at large but also for the railways interested, was requested by H. J. Symington, K. C., on behalf of the governments of Manitoba and Saskatchewan at the afternoon and concluding session of the railway commission today. Mr. Symington declared that never before had similar conditions existed in the West and that farmers' organizations were instructing the farmers to produce only what they could harvest themselves. The farmers, he said, were becoming dependent and urged that something be done to save the situation.

Palmer Message to Ottawa.

Hon. F. B. Carvell, chairman of the board, promised that as soon as the board got back to Ottawa he would convey Mr. Symington's request to the heads of the various railways and to his colleagues, and that it would be given very serious consideration at once. If anything could be done, always remembering that they must remain within the restrictions and obligations imposed upon them by the railway law, he for one would only be too glad to do all he could to assist, Mr. Carvell said.

Prince Edward Island Wants Lower Freights

Legislature Will Appeal to Minister of Railways to Give Assistance to Potato Growers

Charlottetown, P.E.I., April 27.—The Provincial Legislature prorogued today after a seven weeks' session. Thirty-six bills were assented to, including amendments to the school and tax act, and a number of other measures, the most important being an act, incorporating the Prince Edward Island Light, Heat and Power Co. with a capitalization of two million dollars, the company proposing to operate throughout the island from one central coal-burning plant. Another bill renewed the franchise with the telephone company for five years, under certain conditions.

Last night a resolution was passed asking the minister of railways to reduce the freight rates on potatoes, one-third until June 15, to enable farmers to dispose of their large surplus stock.

No Word From Allies At Washington Yet

But America is Not Expected to Delay Forwarding German Terms to London.

Washington, April 27.—The United States Government tonight was still without any official information as to the attitude of the Allied Powers with respect to Germany's counter proposals on reparations. Consequently a reply to the communication received from Berlin yesterday has not been prepared.

Only three days remain before the date set by the French Government for the beginning of its move into additional German territory it is expected that a reply to the German communication will not be long delayed.

German Labor Heads Leave For London

London, April 27.—The German labor leader, Peter Grassman, Wilhelm Dittmann, Otto Hue and Herr Silberschmidt, have left Berlin for London for the purpose of discussing questions regarding reparations and reconstruction of the devastated areas of France with British labor leaders, says the Central News' Amsterdam correspondent today.

GET BIG CONTRACT.

The contract for the construction of the structure for an international bridge at Edmundston, N. B., has been awarded to D. Burpee & Sons, of South Doris, N. B. It was reported yesterday. The bridge is to be financed by Canada and the State of Maine, jointly. The cost of the structure is estimated, it is said, at \$25,000,000.

KILL EIGHT HORSE DAY.

Winnipeg, April 27.—The bill introduced by A. E. Smith, labor member for Brandon, giving executive recognition to the eight hour day and the 48 hour week, was defeated on second reading in the Legislature last night by 28 votes to 14.

World News Today

CANADA

Division in Ottawa gives Government a majority of 33 votes.

True bills for murder are found against Beekel Berry and O. Gains Steeves at Hopewell Cape, N. B.

Farmers of the West refuse to sow more grain than they can harvest themselves easily.

UNITED STATES

Emergency bill amendments all adopted and bill will go to Senate early next week.

United States has not been informed yet of possibility of view of the Allies on German offer.

THE BRITISH ISLES

Pug Irishmen are to be executed this morning for attacks on Crown forces.

Settlement of the coal miners strike is once more possible at early date.

EUROPE

France and Belgium definitely announce that German offer is not acceptable.

Berlin voters declare that to pay the indemnities will require a twelve hour working day for many years.

NEW BRUNSWICK LEADERS ATTEND BIBLE MEETING

Rev. H. A. Goodwin of St. John on Committee Advising Changes.

ST. STEPHEN RECTOR ELECTED TO OFFICE

Half Million Dollar Deficit Reported by British and Foreign Bible Society.

Ottawa, April 27.—In future the work of the Canadian Bible Society will be carried on by two sub-committees, one East and one West of the Great Lakes, under the direction of the parent body. This decision was reached at the meeting of the General Board of the Society, which was held here this afternoon. It was the result of a report made by Rev. S. J. Farmer, Ottawa, director of the parent body. This decision was reached at the meeting of the General Board of the Society, which was held here this afternoon. It was the result of a report made by Rev. S. J. Farmer, Ottawa, director of the parent body.

New Brunswick Officers

Dr. N. W. Noyles, of Toronto, who has been president since the founding of the Canadian Society was re-elected. H. C. Barrell, Windsor, N. S., was elected a vice-president, and Archdeacon Newnam, St. Stephen, N. B., and John McKee, St. John, members of the executive. The practice of the principles of the Gospel was a nation's hope of greatness and the world's best hope of peace was the testimony of Senator Gleason Robertson, Minister of Labor, and Mr. A. R. McMaster, M. P., representing the United Kingdom, speaking at a luncheon tendered by the general board.

Greeks Await More Troops For Battle

Turks Think They Will Get Reinforcements from Cilicia—Both Sides Marking Time.

Athens, April 27.—The much discussed removal of the Greek offensive against the Turkish Nationalists has again been postponed and the present activities on the front are being confined to sporadic encounters in the Southern sector, yielding no decisive results. Both sides are apparently marking time. The Greeks awaiting fresh troops and supplies in order to present an unbroken front to the enemy and the Turks anticipating further forces from Cilicia.

POLAND LAYS CLAIM TO OLDEST SPINSTER IN CENTRAL EUROPE

Warsaw, April 27.—Poland claims the oldest spinster in Central Europe. She is Miss Anna Dobek, living in Chocibuz, Poland, who recently celebrated her 123rd birthday. Miss Dobek is still quite active, physically and mentally, and does some housework each day.

KILLED BY LIVE WIRE

Montreal, April 27.—Picking up a charged wire which had fallen in the yards of the Dominion Glass Company, Limited, 800 Wellington Street, of which he is the night watchman, I. Chaput, 55, of 1179 Wellington Street, Verdun, was instantly killed this evening.

PROSPECTS FOR STRIKE ENDING MUCH BRIGHTER

Government Proposes a State Grant for a Period of Three or Four Months.

GUARANTEES STEADY BUT SMALLER WAGE

New Plans to be Considered at Meeting of All Parties Involved This Morning.

London, April 27.—A settlement of the coal strike tonight appeared more likely than at any time since the men laid down their tools. The government during the day made another concession, further narrowing the gulf between the miners and the mine owners by proposing a state grant for a transitional period of three or four months, under which the miners would be insured against their wages being reduced more than three shillings per day.

Owners Not Agreed.

The mine owners have not yet agreed to the plan, but both they and the government will consider the new situation further tomorrow, and the hope was expressed tonight that an agreeable basis will be arranged between them for presentation to the miners' conference Thursday evening.

As the miners already have agreed to a two shilling reduction, it is considered that there are good prospects the coming week will see a settlement of the dispute.

Unemployed Cost Already \$23,133,093

West Makes Biggest Drains Upon the Canadian Purse to Feed Hungry.

Ottawa, April 27.—That up to April 23, \$13,063,422 had been paid by the Dominion Government to municipalities throughout Canada under the emergency appropriation for relief of the unemployed, was stated in the House of Commons this afternoon. Winnipeg lead the list with \$21,003,440, and Vancouver next with \$49,457.

The municipalities and the amounts paid to them as the government's share of the relief plan, follows:—Amherst, N. S., \$380,541; Montreal, \$3,511,032; Winnipeg, \$51,003,440; Moose Jaw, \$7,506,120; Saskatoon, \$1,320,371; Regina, \$1,540,224; New Westminster, B. C., \$1,123,300; Vancouver, \$49,457; St. James, Man., \$347,477; West Kildonan, B. C., \$216,440; Burnaby, B. C., \$140; Nelson, B. C., \$186,551; Prince Rupert, B. C., \$1,653,449; the district of South Vancouver, B. C., \$5,519,230; Cumberland, B. C., \$2,321. Total \$133,093,422.

Three Bills Before House of Commons

One Would Make Armistice Day a Perpetual Memorial in Canada.

Ottawa, April 27.—Three bills were introduced at the opening of the House of Commons this afternoon. The first which was followed by Dr. H. S. Boland, Beauce, provided for the day of the word "maple" in connection with adulterated maple products, if the fact of adulteration is clearly indicated on the package.

The second was the government bill to amend the Bankruptcy Act which stands in the name of the Solicitor-General. No explanation of this bill was given.

The third which was introduced by H. M. Mowat, Parkdale, seeks to set aside Monday of the week in which armistice day occurs, as a day of general thanksgiving.

Fur Prices Much Higher At Winnipeg

Silver Fox Advances One Hundred Per Cent. and Lots Bring \$55,000.

Winnipeg, April 27.—Advances of 100 per cent. in silver fox featured the sale of furs held here today by the Winnipeg fur auction company. Two hundred and sixty-two lots were disposed of, totaling \$55,000. Lynx advanced 50 per cent., fisher 40, mink and beaver 30, and marten 20. Prairie wolf, skunk and weasel suffered ten per cent. decline. Spring, fall and winter muskrat, otter, cross and red fox, Wolverine and black bear were unchanged from the last sale.

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Four Rebels Will Be Executed Today

Irishmen Are Charged With Levying War Against the British Crown Forces.

Cork, April 27.—Four men are to be shot tomorrow morning at the military barracks here. They are Patrick O'Sullivan, Maurice Moore, Patrick Roosen and Thomas MacCarthy. The men were convicted of levying war against the British Crown forces. The corporation and harbor board of Cork have passed a resolution saying that as the British high court in Ireland and the British ministry recognize the state of war existing, the executions will contravene civilized warfare and the dictates of common humanity. Copies of the resolution have been sent to the United States President and Pope Benedict.

TWELVE HOUR DAY REQUIRED TO PAY ALLIES

Germans Wail They Cannot Pay Indemnities on a Shorter Period.

BERLIN WORRIED OVER THE FUTURE

Bankers Declare Entente Demands Will Ruin the Nation for Years to Come.

Berlin, April 27.—The German workman will have to become reconciled to a twelve-hour day if the economic obligations involved in the German proposals are to be redeemed, says the Red Flag, the communist organ today, which estimates that the working hours for fifteen million workers will be increased by one-third or more if the nation is to raise six billion gold marks annually.

Chancellor Pessimistic

While the political writers are optimistic in their appraisal of the prospective outcome of the appeal of the foreign minister, Dr. Brüning, to president Hindenburg, the financial writers, looking further ahead, take an extremely gloomy view of Germany's ability to carry the self-imposed burden.

The total present Bourse value of the shares of German industrial corporations is estimated by the Vossische Zeitung at eight billion marks, thus representing only a fraction of the amount named in the counter-proposal. The annual payments on the German offer, the newspaper states, exceeded the present total income tax revenue.

What Will Germans Do?

Just what will be the state of German finances in the event Germany's offer is accepted can only be conjectured, said a leading banker today. He called attention to the present state of the national exchequer which is struggling with a current deficit of eighty billion marks and an uncollected national debt of 150 billion marks to which must be added eight billion marks in unredeemed war loans and an equal amount of paper currency.

The banker declared the Entente statement must proceed cautiously, when prescribing the manner in which the German counter-proposal should be carried out, if accepted, in order to prevent Germany from lapsing into the partial state of anarchy prevalent in Austria.

Industrial centres are inclined to view the proposal as a "political offer," whose authors did not take the trouble to inform themselves of its ultimate feasibility.

Lemieux Promises To Hasten Action

So Election Committee Decides to Take No Action Against Him.

Ottawa, Ont., April 27.—After listening to a statement by Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux to the effect that he had not colluded in any way with the petitioner or who is protesting his election in the constituency of Maisonneuve, and receiving from him an undertaking that he would do his utmost to have the hearing of the petition pressed, the committee on privileges and elections this morning decided that no action should be taken. The case of the member for Maisonneuve and Gagne was disposed of in about half an hour.

Extraditable Crime To Desert Children

Washington, D. C., April 27.—The treaty between the United States and Great Britain to make desertion of children an extraditable offense between the country and Canada was ratified today by the Senate.

STEEVES AND BERRY MUST STAND TRIALS

True Bills Found Against Prisoners Held on Murder Charge.

STEEVES' TRIAL IS SET FOR MAY 10TH

Sensational Nature of Cases Draws Big Crowd to Opening of the Court.

Moncton, N. B., April 27.—True bills were found against O. Gains Steeves and Beekel Berry, both charged with wife murder, by the grand jury at the opening of the April term of the Albert County Circuit court at Hopewell Cape this morning. Chief Justice McKewen presided.

There is much interest in the Steeves and Berry cases throughout the county and the result was that there was a very large attendance at the court.

There were two other criminal cases on the docket: The King vs Elmer Mellich, charged with striking and assaulting, and The King vs Charles M. Steeves charged with theft of a dead, at the registrar's office at Hopewell Cape. After finding true bills in the Steeves and Berry murder cases the grand jury adjourned until tomorrow morning to take up the other cases.

Grand Jurors.

The grand jury is composed of Samuel Wilbur, Spurgeon Lauder, Arthur Rogers, Joshua B. Joubert, A. W. Lutes, W. H. Martin, Clifford Price, Elsworth Porter, Scott Hoar, Simon Colwell, J. S. Hayward and Herbert Hatfield. A panel of fifty jurors had been warned to attend the session. The trial of Gains Steeves and his charged with the murder of his wife at Pine Glen, Parish of Coverdale, Albert County in February last is set down for May 10. Senator Geo. W. Fowler who will defend Steeves and was in attendance at court today left tonight on his return to Ottawa to attend to his Senatorial duties.

The Berry Case.

Beekel Berry, charged with the murder of his wife at Forest Hill, Albert County, on December 10 last, will be defended by James Friel, K. C. of Moncton. The Crown is represented by T. T. Goodwin and Ivan C. Rand of Moncton. When the trial of Beekel Berry will begin is not yet certain. It is stated that the other business of the court will be disposed of before the murder trials will be taken up.

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St. John Man Is Married in Montreal

Harold Parks Weds Miss Jean Wells—Mrs. Flewelling at the Marriage.

Montreal, April 27.—The marriage of Miss Jean McAdam Wells, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Wells, to Mr. Harold Parks, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Parks, of St. John, N. B., took place this evening at seven o'clock at the home of the bride's parents, 4096 Montrose Avenue. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. W. D. Reid, of Stanley Presbyterian church.

Mrs. Wells, the mother of the bride, and the bride's sister, Mrs. Flewelling, of St. John, N. B., were also present. Following the ceremony, a reception was held after which Mr. and Mrs. Parks left for New York, the bride wearing a travelling suit of navy blue tulle, a sand-colored hat, trimmed with French flowers, and mink fur. On their return, they will reside in Montreal.

DIVISION IN N. S. HOUSE

Halifax, April 27.—There was a spirited debate in the House of Assembly today when G. W. Allen, Farmer-Labor member for Cumberland, moved a resolution criticizing the Provincial Government for not appointing returned soldiers to the liquor commission.

The resolution was defeated on a straight party vote.

TODAY

IMPERIAL—Charles Chaplin in "The Kid."

OPERA HOUSE—Mabel Taliferro, and four other acts.

QUEEN SQUARE—First National Feature "The Unseen Forest"—Alfred East.

STAR—"Lady in Love"—Ethel Clayton.

PALACE—George Carpenter in "The Wonder Man."

EMPRESS—Norma Talma in "The Woman Giver."