

## PREM. MEIGHEN TO BE IN PARLIAMENT AT THE OPENING

Parliamentary Seat Found for the Conservative Leader by the Appointment of A. C. Casselman, M. P. for Grenville to an "Office of Emolument Under the Crown"—No New Developments in King Cabinet Situation—Copp of Westmorland Probable New Brunswick Representative in Official Family.

Special to The Standard.  
Ottawa, Ont., Dec. 27.—A parliamentary seat for the Rt. Hon. Arthur Meighen is provided for in the appointment, this afternoon, to a position in the department of soldiers' civil re-establishment, of A. C. Casselman, M. P. for Grenville. Mr. Casselman could not resign until a Speaker is appointed, but his acceptance of an "office of emolument under the crown" vacates the seat automatically.

The "emolument" is not great. It is understood that the pay is \$50 a month and, of course, Mr. Casselman intends to hold the job, but nominally, so as to technically conform to the act. He will quit it in very short order and return to his more lucrative practice of law at Prescott.

Several seats were offered Mr. Meighen but Grenville was accepted because it is a rural riding, near the capital, and, moreover, one of unwelcome Conservative tradition. It is Mr. Meighen's old seat.

The writs for the by-election have been issued with nomination fixed for Jan. 13, and polling, if any, for the 18th. No opposition is looked for in points of fact, it is understood that the procedure was not followed without the full knowledge of Mackenzie King. Mr. Meighen, therefore, will be in Parliament at the opening, and, of course, will continue as leader.

There is no other in sight. Not one of his colleagues so much as wished to take over the job temporarily at the opening, hence the expeditionary process in opening a seat by the method above mentioned.

Gabinet Situation.  
In the cabinet situation, that is to say, the King cabinet, there was no development today. It is expected, however, that the state will be kept up tomorrow or Thursday as the case may be.

Mr. King had what was described as a "final conference" on the subject tonight with Flinders and LaPointe, the only two prospective ministers in the city. However, Gouin comes tomorrow and may take up things, as he apparently succeeded in doing at the week-end with the Premier's proposition. It now looks as though Motherwell will be the only minister from the province provinces, but Dr. King, of the Oliver cabinet of British Columbia, also loomed up tonight.

Gouin is mentioned as Minister of Justice, or President of the Council; Flinders for Finance, LaPointe for Marine and Copp for Secretary of State. Mr. G. Kennedy and George Graham come in, as they are from the same constituency. A Hamilton county delegation came here today and headed by T. A. Low. One of them said that a block of Low's chances was being engineered by Graham in Hamilton, but that, when defeated in Brockville, Low opened a seat for him. The Murphy-Kennedy vote may be adjusted by both being admitted to the happy family.

**Red And White Pine Are Disappearing From Ontario Forests**  
Experts Give Evidence Showing Necessity of Conserving Growth for a Time.  
Toronto, Dec. 27.—Pleas to show the value of the red and white pine were heard by the Ontario Forestry Commission in the hearing of the out of the Attorney-General against the Shovel-Charles Company, by Roland Craig, forestry expert, by N. W. Howarth, R. C., for the Attorney-General. Mr. Craig's estimate as to the total available pine timber in Ontario was as follows: White pine, eight billion feet; red pine, one billion eighty-eight million feet.

Mr. Craig said that this timber was annually becoming scarcer and that in 1919 the cut was about 250,000 feet, and the annual growth was not more than 200,000,000 feet a year.

## EMPLOYING SEVERE MEASURES TO PREVENT RIOTOUS CROWDS AT SUEZ

Suez, Dec. 27.—The authorities are taking severe measures to prevent the congregation of riotous crowds at Suez, and an official notice has been posted there that, if the military strength observe an assembly, they will drop smoke bombs and if the assembly does not disperse, they will drop shells and fire machine guns.

The Minister of Education has closed all the Government schools and the postal service is restricted to Cairo. The Low Courts are beginning to strike, and many of the Egyptian merchants have cancelled their orders with British firms.

## REPARATIONS COMMISSION TO HAVE MEETING

Special Session Thursday to Hear German Officials Discuss Their Country's Obligations.

GERMANS WANT FIRST HAND INFORMATION  
Belief Prevails That Germans Will Be Able to Meet Two Forthcoming Payments.

Paris, Dec. 27.—The reparations commission has decided to hold a special session on Thursday afternoon of this week to hear Dr. Fischer, chairman of the German War Debt Commission, and other German officials who have come from Berlin for oral discussions with the Commission concerning Germany's reparation obligations.

At this meeting, it was said in French official quarters today, the German representatives may offer to pay the January and February instalments under certain conditions which these officials are expected to name. It was considered possible today that M. Briand and other allied officials, may attend the meeting.

First Hand Information  
A letter received by the commission this afternoon from Germany requested a hearing so that the German officials might obtain first hand information which would enable them to give a complete answer to the Commission's note of December 15. Commission officials, it was said, have been unofficially informed that Germany might be able to meet the two forthcoming payments, provided the Allies would agree to certain conditions, chief among which he believed to be definite delays in the payment of subsequent instalments.

It was further indicated, today, a formal hearing may be given to Germany by the Commission, at which the whole reparations problem will be thrashed out but this it was said, was contingent upon developments at Thursday's meeting.

The Commission is meeting every day this week in an effort to dispense, one way or the other, of the question of the January and February payments.

## Debs Given The Lighted Lantern As "An Honest Man"

Presentation Made by Ledoux Who Once Sold Labor on Auction Block.

Washington, Dec. 27.—Eugene V. Debs, the Socialist leader, was given the lighted lantern here today as "an honest man."

Urban Ledoux, who once sold labor on an auction block on Boston Common and later picked the "conscience" of the arms conference delegates here, made the presentation.

Ledoux called upon Debs at the latter's hotel carrying a lighted lantern and a copy of the sermon on the Mount. He presented the copy of the sermon to Debs and made a speech in which he likened the force of the Socialist leader to the torch which moved mountains.

Like Diogenes, he said, he had been carrying the lantern in search of an honest man. "But since you have not yet found one, I have no further use for it."

Debs accepted the lantern with thanks but declared himself unworthy of it.

## THIS "HOT DOG" REALLY NO JOKE

Washington, Dec. 27.—"Hot dogs" are not a figure of speech in fashionable Russia.

Former Governor Goodrich, of Indiana, went into one of the Volga valley communes and noting the strange absence of dogs, which usually overrun every Russian community, he asked where they were.

One of the commune leaders, with a perfectly straight face, replied: "We butchered them all last week, and ground them into sausage."

## CREDIT DUE MEIGHEN FOR CONFERENCE

Editor Steed Says It Was Canada That Changed British Opinion on Jap Alliance.

BRITISH EMPIRE ALWAYS FOR PEACE  
Stands Ready to Throw Its Influence Against Any Military Party.

Montreal, Dec. 27.—J. Wickham Steed, editor of the London Times, whose reports of the disarmament conference at Washington have received much attention, addressed the members of the Canadian Club at their luncheon in the Windsor Hotel today.

Mr. Steed dealt largely with the proposed Anglo-Japanese alliance, concerning which he said in part: "Canada is the fulcrum of the lever which brought about the change now to be noted in the attitude of the British Empire towards the question of the Japanese alliance."

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Results Lasting.  
The work of the arms conference, said Mr. Steed, although informal, was of the greatest importance to all the nations of the world, and he believed that its results would be lasting.

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Addressing the Canadian Women's Club this afternoon, Mr. Steed emphasized the power and readiness to respond to a call on a moral issue as a factor in the characteristics of the English-speaking races.

In regard to Canada and Canadians he said: "I believe even more strongly that the people of the United States, as well as they are in English-speaking lands, are the best hope of the world for the maintenance of peace and justice."

He pictured the unity between French-speaking and English-speaking Canadians as furthering the unity between the British and French in Europe and thereby contributing to the protection that safety for which so much had been spent.

## FRENCH SENATE DETERMINED TO HAVE BIG FLEET

Objections to Limitation Efforts of Washington Conference Vigorously Voiced in Debate.

NAVY'S CONDITION HARSHLY CRITICIZED  
Naval Commission Urge Increase in Submarines to Adequately Defend Coast Line.

Paris, Dec. 27.—France's determination to have a powerful fleet, and objections to the limitation efforts of the Washington conference were vigorously voiced in the Senate today during a discussion of the marine section of the Government's budget.

Senator Henry Bergery, who reported the marine budget, said France was at a decisive turning point.

"If France still independent in her navy as in her army," he was asked, "has the old principle of sovereignty been sacrificed somewhat in these conferences wherein we have been required to accept a sort of international happiness?"

Senator De Kermeuse defended the submarine as an essential weapon of defense, but wished it to be confined to military uses instead of being applied to torpedoing commerce.

Navy Criticized  
Senator Bergery severely criticized the condition of the navy, and other Senators joined with him in urging speedy reforms.

Senator Bergery described the central naval administration as being "in a state of what I term arriéré-pensée."

President the debate over the naval budget, the naval commission had published a resolution urging the minister of marine to increase the number of submarines as an adequate defense of the coastlines, in view of the present weakness of the navy, which was stressed during the discussion in the Senate.

The concluding paragraph of the Naval Commission's resolution was as follows: "One cannot conceive, therefore, that France's efforts in this direction should be obstructed or limited, it is a question of national independence and of the right of legitimate defense that is at stake."

The resolution was adopted in connection with the Naval Commission's report on its programme based on two principles; that the French navy must always be superior to the German navy, and sufficiently supreme in the Mediterranean to safeguard French interests in North Africa and the Near East.

The Naval Commission's report credits France with having forty large submarines, of which fifteen, it is declared, will be obsolete by 1928. These are to be replaced by twelve, provided in the present programme, although twenty-four others are scheduled for the indefinite future.

The Commission suggests two groups of modern craft, one to be composed of short range and the other of long range submarines, the latter group being for "pirate" or enemy commerce, pursuit of pirates and of light enemy cruisers.

Officer Reprimands Debs For Speaking Without Permit  
Delivered Speech at Union Station, Washington, to Crowd of Admiring Friends  
Washington, Dec. 27.—Fred by President Harding from Atlanta Federal Penitentiary, where he was serving a term for violation of the war laws, Eugene V. Debs, Socialist leader, was reprimanded tonight by Union Station police here for making a speech without a permit before leaving for his home in Terra Haute, Ind.

## SUBMARINE TANGLE APPARENTLY FAR FROM SETTLEMENT

Controversy Has Revealed So Wide a Divergence of Views Among Powers Delegates Are Seriously Considering Plan to Leave Question to Later International Conference.

Washington, Dec. 27.—The submarine controversy has revealed so wide a difference of opinion among the powers that the arms delegates are seriously discussing a plan to leave the whole question of auxiliary warship tonnage to a later international conference.

So far consideration of the project has been entirely informal, with conference leaders outwardly reflecting a hope that the present negotiations may yet bring the submarine problem to a solution. In many quarters, however, there are growing signs of discouragement over the prospect and an accompanying tendency to examine carefully the possibilities of the postponement of the plan.

In highest United States official circles, it was said today that a concrete proposal for a future conference might be laid before the arms delegates within a few days. President Harding was said to feel that such a Conference would be a logical development of his policy of international consultation, and it was indicated that he had communicated his desires to the United States delegation.

Tonight the submarine tangle apparently was as far as ever from a settlement, despite conferences between the other delegates and the plenipotentiaries of Japan and France as two powers who are holding out against the compromise proposal.

The naval committee, which has not met since Saturday, will resume its discussions tomorrow, but neither French nor the Japanese expect to be in a position to modify their objections to the plan.

## MAN LIQUOR FORCES HAVE FIGHT AHEAD

Winnipeg, Dec. 27.—Calling upon the Provincial Legislature to continue present liquor legislation in force for a period of at least three years, in order to give it an effective test before the people of the Province are to be asked to vote on any alternative measure, a petition is being circulated through out Manitoba by several religious bodies opposing proposals of the Moderation League for Government liquor dispensaries.

## Japan Would Make Colony Of China

Submitted Demands at Dairen Which If Accepted Would Have Ruined Republic.  
Washington, Dec. 27.—The Japanese Government, at the conference of Dairen with the Far Eastern republic of China, has submitted demands which, if accepted, would mean that the republic would become a Japanese colony, the trade delegation of that republic now in Washington, was informed today in a cablegram from its new agency at Peking.

The demands, according to the message, are: "1.—That Japanese subjects be given equal rights and privileges with citizens of the Far Eastern republic." "2.—Abolition of all laws limiting the rights of Japanese subjects." "3.—Destruction of fortifications in Vladivostok and in the maritime provinces." "4.—The right of Japan to maintain military guards in the Far Eastern republic."

Another suggestion, involving interesting political considerations, came during the day from French circles. It was a hint, advanced informally while the delegation waited for news of the decisions of the Cabinet in Paris, that France might be willing to agree to a "status quo" limitation of submarine strength, if other powers would join with her in a treaty designed to preserve peace in European waters.

A tentatively outlined, such a treaty would be similar to the one in the Pacific, and would have, as its signatories, France, Great Britain, Italy and Germany. Should they desire to do so, it was said, the United States and Japan might also participate in the agreement, although the inclusion of Germany expressly would be considered inadvisable.

Alleged Whiskey Killed One And Blinded Another  
New York, Dec. 27.—A pint of alleged whiskey today killed Frank T. Tully and blinded his brother John, both shipping clerks. They bought the liquor yesterday when planning a holiday visit to relatives in New Jersey, and became ill while sampling it.

Killed When Auto Crashed Into Pole  
Manassas, Va., Dec. 27.—William McAllister, of South Washington, was instantly killed yesterday, when a motor car, in which he was returning from a turkey shoot with William McHenry, crashed into a telephone pole in the Clear Creek neighborhood.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA DELUGED UNDER TEN DAYS' RAINFALL  
San Francisco, Cal., Dec. 27.—Heavy rain fell in Southern California for ten days and continued today with no prospect from the weather bureau as to when it will cease. San Diego was isolated, except by ocean-going vessels, as the highways and railroads have received many washouts. No loss of life has been reported at any point in Southern California, but the property damage has been heavy. Nearly ten inches of rain has fallen in Los Angeles in ten days. At Anaheim two feet of water ran through the streets last night. In San Francisco the rainfall in the last twenty-four hours was 1.50 inches with a forecast of more rain today.