

NEED EXPERTS WHO DID DAMAGE

Before France Can Rescue the Lens Mines.

Must Locate and Plug Holes in Cement.

Lens, Cable—Solution of the difficulties in opening up the big coal mines of North-eastern France must await the coming of German military engineers who wrought the destruction. This was pointed out to the correspondent of the Associated Press here to-day in the course of a visit to the Lens region, made as part of a trip under Government auspices to permit observation of reconstruction accomplishments.

In Lens, where 17 main shafts and 13 air shafts are flooded, the task of reclaiming the mines is said to be much more difficult than in other districts.

Under ordinary circumstances the work of pumping out the water would be simple. In this case however, corrective operations must be deferred until the arrival of the German engineers who superintended the blowing of holes in the cement shaft linings of the mine. These holes, the mining engineers say, will have to be discovered and plugged before pumping begins, because the ground in this section is extremely moist and no pump could make headway against the seepage. Even under normal conditions, they explain, when shafts are being sunk, here it is necessary to use refrigerating machinery to freeze the water which makes its appearance while the cement lining is being put in.

Actual damage to mine property the officials declare, cannot be determined until the water is removed, but they agree that normal production cannot be attained for years. The Government, which has agreed to reimburse owners for losses, has described the mines as "literally annihilated." The extent of the damage is generally placed at 80 per cent.

M. S. A. DESERTERS NUMBER 15,000

That Total, Still at Large, Come Under Amnesty.

12,308 in the East—13,143 Apprehended.

Ottawa, Report—The number of deserters under the M.S.A. who are still at large and who will be set at liberty by the proclamation of amnesty for military offenders is believed to be 15,000. The figures for the eastern military districts, which were the only ones available to-day, are 12,308.

The number of unapprehended deserters in the various eastern districts follows:

No. 1 (London), 10; No. 2 (Toronto), 1,387; No. 3 (Ottawa-Kingston), 1,578; No. 4 (Montreal), 3,381; No. 5 (Quebec), 3,342; No. 6 (Nova Scotia), 1,845; No. 7 (New Brunswick), 167; total 12,308.

The total number of apprehended deserters (men who have been imprisoned or fined) in the same districts, is 13,143. No figures are immediately available showing the number of deserters in prison at the present time.

It is the desire of the authorities here that offenders under the Military Service Act, at present in confinement, who have been pardoned by virtue of a Royal Proclamation issued to-day, should be released before Christmas. An official of the State Department to-day expressed some doubt as to whether it would be possible to send specific instructions broadcast over the country in time to reach all officers of the law who would have authority to release prisoners pardoned by the proclamation. He expressed the hope that if this should not be done, sheriffs and other officers with the power to carry out the proclamation would do so.

The proclamation, which was issued to-day, provides that offenders undergoing imprisonment for offences against the Military Service Act, against the orders-in-council respecting military service or for offences committed in Canada punishable by courts martial, as described in sections four to forty of the Army Act, may be discharged, that pending prosecutions for such offences may be stayed and that all offences heretofore committed shall be generally pardoned.

NOT TO BE CAUGHT.
Jones—Do you remember the leading you \$5 or \$10 some six or eight months ago?
Brown—Great Scott, man! Do you expect to raise money on such ambiguous statements of fact as that?

TROUBLE NOT CHRONIC.
The Bride—You know Jack is such a flirt.
Married Friend—I know, my dear, but that is a fault that marriage usually cures.

RAINBOWS

Are There Two Sides to the Rainbow?

No, there is only one side to the rainbow. The rainbow is made by reflection of the rays of sunlight through drops of water in the air, but you can never see a rainbow unless you are between it and the sun. You could never see a rainbow if you were looking at the sun, and so if you are looking at a rainbow you can be certain that anyone on the other side of it could not see it, because they would have to be looking right at the sun. The rainbow is always opposite to the sun and there can never be two sides to it.

Do the Ends of the Rainbow Rest on Land?

The ends of the rainbow do not rest on anything. You see, the rainbow is only the reflection of the sun's rays thrown back to us by the inside of the back of the raindrops, which are still in the sky after the rain. Of course, if any of the drops of water touched the ground they would cease to be raindrops and, therefore, could not reflect the rays of the sunlight. So, what we think of as the ends of the rainbow do not really exist at all. The rainbow is only a reflection of the rays of sunlight from countless drops of water in the air, which the sun's rays must strike at a certain angle in order to reflect back the light so we can see it. Where the sun's rays do not strike the drops of water at the right angle no light is reflected, and there is the end of the rainbow.

What Causes the Different Colors of the Rainbow?

The colors of the rainbow, which are always the same, and are shown in this order—red, orange, yellow, green, blue and violet—are sunlight broken up into its original colors. It takes all of these colors in the proportions in which they are mixed in the rainbow to make the pure sunlight. These are known as the prismatic colors. As shown in another answer to one of your puzzling questions, the rainbow is caused by the rays of the sun passing into drops of water in the air and reflected back to us with one part of the drop of water acting on it in such a way as to break up the pure sunlight into these prismatic colors. When a rainbow appears at a time when there is a great deal of sunlight you will generally see two rainbows. The inner rainbow is formed by the rays of the sun under part of the raindrops. In the inner or primary bow, as it is called, the colors beginning at the outside ring of color are red, orange, yellow, green, blue and violet, and being exactly reversed in the outer or secondary bow. The secondary bow is also fainter. You may sometimes see smaller rainbows, even if it has not been raining, when looking at a fountain or waterfall. These are caused in exactly the same way.

The "Daily Mail" declares it to be a better scheme than any previous Government has produced, and an honest endeavor conceived with a single aim of ministering to the good of Ireland while maintaining the unity of the British Empire.

In commenting on the bill, the "Morning Telegraph" describes it as a "proposal which will commend itself to freedom-loving minds everywhere as a just and fair tender of self-government."

Representing the extreme Unionist position, the "Morning Post" says: "It is a bad settlement—bad for Ireland because it does not settle the Irish question, and bad for Great Britain because it weakens the United Kingdom. It is merely the climax of the long betrayal. We have chosen, as a rooted policy, to be friends to our enemies, and enemies to our friends."

While it is realized everywhere that no support of the measure may be expected from Ireland, hope is expressed that when English law men will be ultimately found in Ireland to give it effect and evolve gradually a peaceful settlement.

DETAILS OF THE PLAN.
London, Dec. 23.—It was an intensely interested House that listened last night as Premier Lloyd George outlined the Government's proposals for a new attempt to settle the Irish question, which, he said, would be embodied in a bill and presented at the next session of Parliament.

Briefly, the Government's project is to set up two Parliaments in Ireland—one for the Catholics in the south, and the other for the Protestants of the north and east, with a council selected from both, which is hoped eventually will bring about a union of the whole country under a single Parliament.

The proposed Legislatures are promised very extensive powers and ample concessions, while the financial proposals are regarded as generous. Moreover, there are inducements to still further concessions and to a united Parliament for the whole country.

The Premier explained that the council representing the two Parliaments would be given the powers of private bill legislation from the first. Otherwise it was proposed to leave to the two Parliaments complete discretion to confer upon any matter within the range of their authority.

The powers reserved to the Imperial Parliament, Mr. Lloyd George said, would include the crown, peace and war, foreign affairs, army and navy, defence, treason, trade outside of Ireland, navigation, including merchant shipping, wireless and cables, coinage, trade marks, lighthouses and the higher judiciary, until there is an agreement by the two Legislatures regarding how judges should be appointed.

The Irish Legislatures, he said, would have full control of education, local government, land, agriculture, roads, bridges, transportation, includ-

PRAISE IRISH MEASURE--BUT SEE A FAILURE

London Press Finds Little Hope That Home Rule Bill Will Succeed.

THE DETAILS

Lloyd George's Plan for Ireland Outlined in Commons.

London, Despatch—(By the Associated Press)—Aside from one or two irreconcilable anti-home rule journals, London newspapers this morning give, on the whole, a favorable reception to the Government's new scheme for Irish self-government. None, however, expresses genuine expectation of the success of the plan.

While it is recognized that such a bill as Premier Lloyd George outlined yesterday—the fourth Home Rule measure to be presented to Parliament—will be absolutely rejected by a large section of the Irish people, and regarded with suspicion and distrust by others, it is considered and served to be fairly considered and tried. The Daily Mail, perhaps the most thorough champion of Home Rule of the London newspapers, and a severe critic of Premier Lloyd George and the coalition Government, says: "The Government bill gives Ireland a greater degree of autonomy, since it sets up an Irish Parliament, and it manifestly contemplates the probability of a United Irish Parliament. In the desperate situation in which Ireland now stands, this offer, so far as Englishmen can judge, should not be rejected out of hand, assuming it to be honestly put forward."

Belief that the bill offers the only possible way out of the Irish tangle is expressed by the Liberal Chronicle, which says, on the whole, the measure appears generous. It foresees the plan will be opposed nearly everywhere in Ireland, largely because "none of the contending factions is really willing to be fair to any of the others."

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The Irish Legislatures, he said, would have full control of education, local government, land, agriculture, roads, bridges, transportation, includ-

ing railways and canals, old age pensions, insurance, municipal affairs and licensing. It was not proposed, he declared, to retain control of the police in imperial hands beyond three years. The postal service would not be transferred until there was a single Parliament. The proceeds of land annuities in Ireland would be given as a free gift to the two Parliaments, said the Premier, who estimated the amount at £3,000,000 for the year.

DID SHE MEAN JUST THAT?

He—But I asked you, dearest, to keep our engagement a secret for the present.

She—I couldn't help it. That hateful Miss Oldun said the reason I wasn't married was because no fool had proposed to me, so I up and told her you had.

REPORT UPON WORLD'S CROP

Shows Wheat Production to Be Lower

But Big Increase in That of Corn.

Ottawa, Wespach—A cablegram received at Rome gives the following official crop reports:

The total production of wheat in 1919 in Denmark, Spain, France, Great Britain, Italy, Netherlands, Roumania, Switzerland, Canada, United States, India, Japan, Algeria and Tunisia is 2,074,753,000 bushels, against 2,238,100,000 in the same countries in 1918 and 2,150,000,000 their average annual production in the five years 1913-1917.

The production of rye in Denmark, Spain, France, Italy, Netherlands, Roumania, Switzerland, Canada and the United States is 189,104,000 bushels, against 189,500,000 in 1918, and a five years' average of 150,500,000.

The production of barley in Denmark, Spain, France, Great Britain, Italy, Netherlands, Roumania, Switzerland, Canada, United States, Japan, Algeria and Tunisia is 595,000,000 bushels, against 678,000,000 in 1918, and a five years' average of 602,000,000.

The production of oats in the same countries as for barley is 2,034,340,000 bushels, against 2,402,000,000 in 1918, and a five years' average of 2,223,000,000.

The production of corn in Spain, Italy, Roumania, Switzerland, Canada and the United States is 3,125,194,000 bushels, against 2,723,000,000 in 1918, and a five years' average of 2,995,000,000.

The production of potatoes in England, Italy, Switzerland, Canada and the United States is 792,638,000 bushels, against 900,800,000 in 1918, and a five years' average of 765,900,000.

The production of flaxseed in Italy, Roumania, Canada, United States, India and Japan is 26,240,000 bushels, against 42,700,000 in 1918, and a five years' average of 43,500,000.

D'ANNUNZIO IS OUT AT FIUME

Attitude of Arditi Has Caused Change of Feeling.

Nitti Sees Settlement of the Problem.

Paris, Cable—Gabriele D'Annunzio is reported to have abandoned command at Fiume, according to a despatch received here from Rome.

The despatch adds that the post-soldier is on the high seas.

Scores of D'Annunzio's followers have left the city. The high-handed attitude of the Arditi, who enter homes, demand food and threaten families, has caused a revolution on the part of the population against this branch of the occupational forces.

ITALIAN PREMIER'S ADDRESS.
Rome, Dec. 22.—Premier Nitti, in addressing the Chamber of Deputies to-day, made the announcement that Italy had the friendly consent, if not the complete adhesion of France and Great Britain, on the Fiume question, and asserted that the dominant point of view was favorable to the Italian Government.

The proposal made to the allies with regard to Fiume, the Premier added, was the minimum. He said the Government recently had asked the regular and irregular forces to retire from the town, and that during the last few days the national council at Fiume had associated itself with the Government's programme. The exact result of the plebiscite held in Fiume last week was not known, the Premier continued, but more than half of the persons who registered voted, of whom four-fifths favored the attitude of the national council.

Signor Nitti said the Government sincerely desired to entertain friendly relations with the Jugo-Slavs. He contradicted a statement that the United States had economic aims in the Adriatic, and said the status of Italian exchange did not depend on the greediness of the United States, but on the proportion between sales and purchases.

SHORT ITEMS OF THE NEWS OF THE DAY

A Revolt Against the Bolsheviks is in Progress in Turkestan.

CHEAPER FOOD?

French Scientists Warn That Germany Still Seeks Domination.

Brantford is to enforce vaccination as regards school children.

The Orduna arrived at Halifax after a stormy voyage, bringing 1,300 passengers, 100 being members of the C. E. F.

Geo. Ormond, G. T. R. engineer, of Belleville, who had been in the service of that railroad forty-eight years, is dead.

An interrupted wireless message sent out by the Soviet authorities at Moscow says that a revolt against the Bolsheviks is in progress in Turkestan.

The French Academy of Sciences, which held its annual public meeting Monday warned the people that the Germans were still seeking to dominate Europe.

U. S. Exports and imports in November reached the second highest mark in the nation's history.

Arrangements have been made whereby supplies much needed by the inhabitants of the Magdalen Islands will be shipped to them.

James T. Gordon, president of Gordon, Ironsides and Fars Company, Limited, died at his home in Winnipeg.

Three divorce decrees Nisi were granted Monday by Chief Justice Mathers, in Winnipeg. Misconduct on the part of the respondent was the cause in each case.

Major George Clement Tryon, Unionist member of Parliament for Brighton, has been appointed to succeed Brigadier-General John E. B. Seely, as head of the Air Ministry.

Publishers of all newspapers in New York except two, who already have increased their rates, will advance the price of Sunday papers in the country districts to 10 cents on or before Jan. 4.

London will have a three-cornered Mayoralty contest, as a result of the last-minute entrance into the field of John M. Parsons, against Aid. E. Little and ex-Aid. S. B. Ashplant.

The first death from smallpox in Toronto or district occurred Monday morning, when Mrs. George Brubbe, wife of a farmer living near Weston, died at her home from the disease.

Lady Ramsay, formerly Princess Patricia of Connaught, gave birth to a son Sunday, Princess Patricia was married to Commander Alexander Robert Maule Ramsay of the Royal Navy in February of this year.

While clearing up a place of land outside of Alexandria Bay, Clarence Kavanagh has his left eye torn out by a small branch which fell from a tree he was chopping. The socket was also injured.

Philemon Gagne, a lad of fourteen, arrested at Theford Mines on a charge of murdering his employer, Alphonse Fecteau, some months ago, and who was to undergo trial at Artrabaska for murder in the first degree, was brought to the Beauport Asylum.

Expectation of a decline in retail food prices beginning between Jan. 1st and March 1st was expressed by U. S. Attorney-General Palmer in a statement summing up the efforts of the Government to date in forcing down the cost of living.

The Socialist Deputy, Signor Modigliani, introduced in the Italian Chamber a bill calling for the extension of the franchise in municipal elections to all women. Under the bill women would be permitted to vote by April of next year.

Mrs. Helen Tagg died at her late residence in London on Sunday, aged 100 years. She was for years familiarly known to Sunday school scholars and others, as Granny Tagg.

Daniel Pyburn, a one-legged returned soldier, wearing the Mons Medal, Military Medal, and Service Medal, was arrested by Policeman Howden, while cutting his way through the back door of a St. Catharines grocery store with a chisel.

The Militia Department has been advised that the Scandinavian carrying 14 officers and 37 other ranks, will reach St. John on or about Christmas day. The Scotian, with 10 officers and 52 other ranks on board, will reach the same port about the end of the month.

The annual convention of the Ontario Good Roads Association will be held in Toronto on March 3, 4 and 5. The annual conference of county road superintendents has been set by the Department of Highways for the first three days of March.

Wigwag—Well, the winter sports are here. I see skates advertised. Gutzler—What d'ye mean, winter sports? What god's a skate if a fellow can't get one on?