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THE SIGNING OF PEACE.

Twelve months after the date of the original armistice with Germany (November 11th, 1918) the Peace Conference at Paris finished its long and arduous task. The final ratifications which brought peace with Germany were exchanged, thus setting into operation the complicated verbal machinery of the Treaty of Versailles, including the covenant of the League of Nations. On the great powers engaged in the United States alone was unprecedented at this historic ceremony, the failure or unwillingness of the United States to ratify the Treaty. The actual signing had long been delayed on the one part because the Allies felt that the United States might come in. On the other by the refusal of the German delegates to the protocol articles, demanding recognition for the scuttling of the surrendered battle fleet at Scapa Flow. Agreement on this much debated question was ultimately reached, however, and on January 10th, Allied and German representatives met in the Clock Room of the French Foreign Office at Paris and affixed their signatures to the protocol and process-verbal, thus placing the final seal of ratification upon the Peace Treaty. Subsequent ratification documents were deposited in the French Foreign Ministry Archives and the required formalities were completed. Five years of war were ended, and Germany was restored, in form at least, at peace with the world she had so scandalously outraged and officially, if not actually, became a friendly member of the family of nations.

The Treaty of Peace between Hun-
dred and the Allies, was, after long and numerous objections by the German envoys, signed at Versailles on the afternoon of June 28, 1920. The signing was preceded by violent agitation in Hungary, and the day of the actual signing was made a day of national mourning in Budapest.

German delegates with blackflags and banners, railways and street car service and stores and shops were closed. The Peace Treaty was announced in the National Assembly in the Churches and at public meetings. Speakers pointing out the provisions could not be full and contained the seed of new

Germany, the way to the north was closed by the League of Nations as well as by other obstacles. The Treaty of Versailles had provided explicitly for the establishment of a Council and President Wilson had accepted the duty of attending the first meeting together with the President. On January 16th he sent out the formal invitation to the principal nations concerned and the League's first meeting was convened in the Champs Elysées of the French Foreign Ministry. It was the same place which the signing of the momentous document of the Peace Conference had taken place). The text of President Wilson's call for this conference was addressed to the Governments of Great Britain, France, Italy, Japan, Belgium, Brazil, Portugal, Greece, and read as follows, that Great Britain being typical of all the others:

In compliance with Article V of the Covenant of the League of Nations, which went into effect as from the ratification of Versailles of June 28, 1919, and which it is a part, the President of the United States, acting on behalf of those nations which have ratified their instruments of ratification drawn up, as certified by a protocol in Paris, by the French Government, dated January 10, 1920, in honor to inform the Government of Great Britain that the first meeting of the Council of the League of Nations will be held in Paris at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on Friday, January 16, 1920, at 10.30 a.m.

The President ventures to hope that the Government of Great Britain will be in a position to send a representative to this first meeting. He feels that it is unnecessary for him to point out the deep significance attached to this meeting, or the importance of its outcome in the eyes of the world. It will mark the beginning of

THE LEGISLATURE.

On Wednesday, April 21st at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, the first session of the 24th General Assembly was opened by His Excellency the Governor with a flourish of trumpets and the playing of the national anthem. The Liberal-Reform-Coöperative Government entered upon the scene to receive the fruits of the victory won at the polls in November of the preceding year. It was unfortunate that the weather was not favorable for the occasion, consequently the outdoor speeches and ornamental ceremonies had to be abbreviated. Within the Upper chamber, however, all was life and animation. The loyal commonsense of W. F. Penney, Esq., M.H.A., speaker, their speaker, and clad in robes of office and sponsored by the leading members of the Government he was introduced to and welcomed by the representative of the King, who granted the customary privileges to the Speaker.

"WHEREAS the Prime Minister, the Leader of this House has been accused upon the oath of a former member of this House of criminal misconduct in relation to the election of a member thereof, and

"WHEREAS the Governor in Council has announced an intention to appoint a Commission under the Public Enquiries Act, to take evidence upon oath, and to report its findings thereon, in relation to the truth or otherwise of the said charge.

"AND WHEREAS it is the opinion of this House it should not proceed with the transaction of public business under the leadership of an accused person awaiting trial, and

RESOLVED THEREFORE, that this House should now adjourn for one week to give opportunity for the said enquiry and report."

After considerable debate the resolution was defeated by a straight party vote 23 to 12, every member of the House being in his place. This was the first time that so many members were present at a session, on record the protest of the opposition, and openly showed the utter disregard of the Premier and his following—including the Coaker wing—to the decencies of public life and conduct. In passing it may be remarked that the Commission of Enquiry held its sessions, examined witnesses, made its findings and reported the result of the Woodford Affidavit cause to the Governor, but so far the report itself has not been made public, strong evidence being given that the Affidavit was based on a former ground that was made to appear by the apologists of the Prime Minister and his alleged accessory in the case. The Session dragged its weary way until July 13, having been twelve weeks in session, the most important bills to be passed being those relating to the standardization of codfish and to regulate the export of same, details of which are incorporated in the article headed "The

On March 12 of this year, nine steamers only cleared for the seal-fishery. Of these eight were owned in St. John's and one in Halifax, N.S. Their names were: Seal, Sable Island, Neptune, Eagle, Thetis, Diana, Ranger, Terra Nova and Viking. Messrs. Bowring Bros. Ltd., outfitted four; Messrs. Job Bros., Ltd., two; Messrs. Baine, Johnston & Co., one; James Baird, Ltd., one, and Farquhar & Co., Halifax, one. The result of the voyage proved to be the lowest catch ever recorded. All the ships too prosecuted the fishery from the front, for the first time in many years, which was perhaps unfortunate, as with such a small fleet there was no possibility of being able to take the chance of doing something if the Gulf of St. Lawrence had been sailed over in quest of the patch which usually comes up through the Straits of Belle Isle to whelp on the young ice about the Magdalene Islands and Bird Rocks. But frequent failures had decided the owners and, putting all their eggs in one basket, orders were issued for a general attack on the

ment of the "Admiral" as it were, was less to scientific deduction and knowledge of the habitat of the real fish. Capt. Chate's report further says that on the 28th March, Capt. Winsor of the S. S. "Thetis", in company with S. S. "Siegler", Capt. Ed. Bishop, struck the "all catch" seventeen days after the spring port. Wireless was immediately brought into requisition and the "Admiral" was radioed to the rest of the fleet (sheer luck again) that Winsor and Bishop were in the seals about the N. E. of the Funks. Of course the "Admiral" should have been in the area, but the strike, but unfortunately there was not enough in the patch to load many and only about 25,000 were taken by those which were lucky enough to be alongside, having followed the wireless instructions. The balance of the Spring's catch, about 9,000, was taken viciously, and as each vessel came across small herds. The total number of pelts brought in the nine ships was made up of 23 young harps, 948 old harps, 11 belladoms, 40 young hoods and 100 belladoms. Altogether 33,395, having a value of \$159,000. The "Admiral", 2 pounds, and a value of \$159,000. S. S. "Thetis". Capt. Wm. Winsor, had the largest number and weight, 8,719 old and young, aggregating approximately 177 tons, 12 cwt., crew sharing the biggest wages for the Spring, viz.: \$62.38. S. S. Seal carried the smallest catch and bill-

cently versed in the lore of seals to define the course which experienced masters shall follow, when are left to their own devices, would the aeroplane scouting proportion become a **fait accompli** next morning, any man with the knowledge of an ordinary seaman may assume command of a sealer and stand as his chance of bringing in a load as good as those skippers who have spent their lives on the job.

1920 Local Events

CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER

NOV. 6.—A Memorial Service was held in the Anglican Cathedral on Sunday morning, Jan. 6th, in memory of the late Hon. John Harvey, who died at New York three days previous.

NOV. 8.—A Judgment was handed down in the Supreme Court in the matter of the application of Smith & Co. v. *Lid* versus Henry J. Lawrence, Minister of Finance and

JAN. 9.—Hon. George Skeleton, D. M.L.C., passed away at the ripe age of 38 years. Hon. George Skeleton was born in the late month of October, 1850, at Bonavista, was a graduate of Edinburgh University and practised his profession in the Northern outpost up to 40 years ago.

JAN. 14.—The Gulf of St. Lawrence Shipping Co.'s steamer Runa arrived in port covered with ice and snow. The Runa had a most unpleasant experience. She left New York on Dec. 7th loaded with Xmas goods for this port, when 4 days out struck a blizzard, which lasted 5 days. All the coal was used and the steamer made for the Akorea, the crew being compelled meanwhile to use up all the food and part of the vessel to keep them up. The deck cargo was washed away. The mails on arrival here were wet and most of the cargo damaged.

JAN. 24.—To-day began one of the coldest spurts experienced in the city for over 36 years. On Signal Hill, the thermometer registered below and on the following morning Sunday, the church attendance was the smallest on record. The harbor was frozen solid and shipping was unable to move in it. At Bishop Falls it was so cold that the train men could not stand the few minutes necessary for oiling their engines.

FEB. 1.—Bringing 153 passengers and 29 of whom left for Bonavista on the S.S. Eagle. Others having boarded on route, as others which left Bonavista on the S.S. Eagle. The S.S. Eagle has Basques three weeks before, arrived in town on this night.

FEB. 5.—S.S. Viking, Capt. A. Kes prepared to sail this morning with supplies for the three steamers, Eagle, Diana and Prospero, jammed for some time off Pogo. The Prospero had 66 people on board, who enroute from the Northward to St. John's, being out over one month. The Viking did not go, however, preparatory to leaving a steel hauler became entangled round her propeller.

FEB. 11.—S.S. Terra Nova, which had been sent out with supplies for the steamers jammed in the ice, arrived in port this morning. She met with the S.S. Eagle and was loaded with the S.S. Eagle 60 tons of coal, provisions, and water. She could not get near the Prospero or any of the other ships, and was forced to return to St. John's. The S.S. Prospero which is jammed in heavy sheet ice has 18 passengers on board.

FEB. 15.—To-day, Hon. A. F. G. Goad

tion in the Methodist Village by supporters of Prohibition. The Hall was filled to overflowing. Addresses were made by Rev. D. Curtis, Rev. Dr. Jones, the latter moving a resolution emphatically protesting against any modification of the Prohibition Act. The resolution was seconded by Rev. Gordon Dickson and was carried unanimously. Rev. Dr. Bond and Rev. A. Stirling also moved similar resolutions, which were seconded by Revs. Hemmison and Forbes respectively, and a Vigilance Committee appointed.

MARCH 17.—A great deal of surprise was felt to-day at the resignation of Mr. Wm. Woodford, M.H., of the Harbour Main, and defendant in the Harbour Main Election Petition case.

MARCH 17.—At 2 a.m. the British steamer Tewkesbury crashed into the rocks at Gull Island in St. Mary's Bay. Four hours after she struck Captain Pridoux decided to launch the boats, and about eight hours afterwards the passengers and crew landed at Peter's River, a few miles from

the racing season.

MARCH 13.—A record audience attended a public meeting in the Casino Theatre for the purpose of considering certain amendments to the Prohibition Act, and resolutions favoring amendments to the Prohibition Law were passed.

MARCH 24.—In connection with an election trial Kelly vs. Woodford and in accordance with the Supreme Court ruling, Mr. William Woodford through his solicitor, Mr. W. R. Howley, filed an affidavit, asserting that he was offered a job worth \$2,500 to resign his seat, the agreement being entered into with the Hon. R. A. Squires, and Hon. M. P. Gibbs, a solicitor at their request.

APRIL 3.—The "Evening Telegram" celebrates its 41st birthday. It was established by its present proprietor, Mr. W. J. Herder, on April 3rd, 1870.

APRIL 10.—Mr. Percie Johnson was found unconscious in his bed at the Cochrane Hotel, being nearly asphyxiated with escaping gas.

APRIL 26.—Mr. W. F. Penney, M.H. A. for Carleton was elected speaker of the House of Assembly.

APRIL 31.—The opening of the first session of the twenty fourth General Assembly of Newfoundland took place to-day with the usual ceremonies.

APRIL 29.—The massed choirs of the city churches gave a grand Sacred Concert in the Roman Catholic Cathedral which was attended by thousands of people.

MAY 13.—The Longshoremens knocked off work promptly at 1 o'clock and at 3 o'clock they held a mass meeting in their Hall. A secret ballot was taken on the question of "Strike or no strike," and it was decided by a majority of 200 that there would be no strike.

MAY 14.—The members of the L. S. P. U. who were on strike returned to work to-day, their compromise having been accepted by the employers.

MAY 18.—A poorly attended meeting was held in the Casino on this night, the purpose being the formation of a Consumers' League. Dr. V. F. Burt was moved to the chair and Mr. A. E. Earle was appointed Secretary.

MAY 29.—Judgment in the case of A. E. Hickman versus W. H. Cave was handed down in the Supreme Court and as a consequence Mr. Cave had to vacate his seat.

JUNE 14.—Newfoundland's Rhodes

porogued in this date.

JULY 24.—At noon on July 23, H. M.S. Victorian with the press delegates on board, picked up the Signal Hill Station. The Victorian was then 12000 miles off our coast, and was about to give a concert for the benefit of all ships with wireless telephonic receivers installed on board. At 4.30 this afternoon the members of the Government and Opposition were given an opportunity of speaking.

JULY 25.—Communication with R. M.S. Victorian was continued to-day.

AUGUST 4.—The annual Regatta of 1920 was held on this date, and was very successful.

AUGUST 9.—Col. Martin conducted a united service of welcome to the Delegates attending the S.A. Congress.

AUGUST 10.—At 3 p.m. His Excellency the Governor with Capt. Saltmarsh, drove to Meetingroom Road to witness the starting of the homes for workmen.

AUGUST 16.—The semi annual meeting of the Board of Trade was held at 4 p.m. to-day. After the half

AUGUST 27.—The committee appointed by the Lord Bishop of New South Wales in connection with the completion of the C. of E. Cathedral by the addition of a tower and spire was to-night and approved the plans submitted by Mr. G. Gilbert Scott, A.R.C.S.

SEPT. 15.—At 1 p.m. the Blandford re-union of the alumni of Queen's College took place. The alumni of the other colleges were amongst the invited guests.

OCTOBER 2.—News of the passing of John L. Slattery, Secretary Treasurer of the St. John's Municipal Council, which was received in the city on Saturday night and announced in the R. O. Cathedral at the Masses during the day.

OCTOBER 12.—A meeting of citizens was held in the Methodist College Hall for the purpose of establishing the Children's Hospital. A large amount of initial work was done.

OCTOBER 17.—The ceremony of laying the corner stone of the Knights of Columbus' Memorial School was witnessed by a large number of people. His Grace the Archbishop performed the ceremony of laying the stone.

OCTOBER 24.—In the presence of a very large gathering of citizens the ceremony of unveiling the Ethel Dickson Memorial at Cavendish Square took place. Mr. Justice Johnson Chairman of the Citizens Committee, through whose efforts the monument was erected presented the site and monument to his Excellency the Governor for unveiling and dedication.

The C.L.B. and C.C.E. Bands were present and played Chopin's Funeral March and the Dead March in Saul. Miss Harris performed the unveiling and the ladies of the Guild presented a bouquet with hard heads. The function was very impressive. The memorial granite cross stands at the junction of Military and King's Bridge Roads and is a perpetual reminder of a heroic nurse.

NOV. 14.—A fire occurred this morning in the house of Mr. John Callahan, Gower Street, Mrs. Callahan, his mother, lost her life.

NOV. 17.—A mass meeting of fishermen who were in port with Labrador fish to sell, was held in the C. of E. Hall, commencing at 7.30. The meeting lasted till nearly ten o'clock and was attended by the largest gathering ever held in the place. Hundreds could not gain admission. Most of the speakers were men from Greenspond and Westleyville.

NOV. 23.—The first Dominion Sports

Executive Council. After the ceremony luncheon was served, in the Presentation Convent and dinner was served at Littledale at 7 p.m.

DEC. 18.—This days issue of the TELEGRAM appeared with 8 columns instead of 7 as heretofore.

DEC. 23.—The Star of the Sea hall was razed to the ground in a fire which began at 4.40 in the morning. One reserve fireman, Wm. Harry, was killed when the walls of the burning building fell outwards to the street, four other firemen being caught in the falling timbers, Charles Adams having his leg broken and Andrew O'Neil receiving internal injuries. The Star of the Sea Hall was insured for about \$20,000 on the building alone. The Star Nickle, which occupied the main flat, lost its right leg, and the owners, Messrs. Conk and on Jackson, carrying \$5,000 worth of insurance on about \$20,000 worth of stock.

TO ALL OUR PATRONS
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