

PROGRESS MADE IN REPARATIONS

Germans Well Satisfied With Businesslike Methods Followed.

Brussels, Dec. 22.—The second financial conference here between the representatives of the allies and Germany to discuss German reparations adjourned at noon today until January 10. Before adjournment the allied experts told the German delegates there was a good prospect of reaching an agreement on the concessions asked by Germany, and indicated that with continued good-will on both sides during the January sessions a solution of the reparations problem would be in sight.

The German delegates said they could not make public statements, but it was learned from other quarters that Carl Nordmann, head of the German delegation, was in a good mood. He expressed to the conference the appreciation of the Germans for the businesslike methods followed, which had resulted in excellent progress. He said he was determined to return in January with the intention of continuing his efforts and with a hope of finally settling the reparations question.

CHRISTMAS REHEARSAL FATAL TO STUDENTS

Lyons, N. Y., Dec. 22.—Two students, members of a party rehearsing a Christmas entertainment, are believed to have lost their lives late today, when fire destroyed the Lyons high school, a \$200,000 structure.

A cigar stub, carelessly thrown into a waste basket, set fire to Yuletide decorations, and three the rehearsal into a panic.

PILES CURED IN 6 TO 14 DAYS

Druggists refund money if PAIN-O-RENT fails to cure. Bile, Blood, and Irritating Piles. Instantly relieves itching Piles and you can get restful sleep after first application.

MOTOR TRADE CLAIMS BIG REBATE ON TAXES

Ottawa, Dec. 22.—Claiming that the government owes them \$50,000 in luxury taxes paid on automobiles which will not be sold till next year, the members of the Automotive Trade Association of Ottawa met today to decide what steps should be taken to recover this amount. After a long discussion, however, no definite plan of action was decided upon. It being agreed to meet again when further data on the subject would be produced. A resolution will probably be framed and the claims of the automobile dealers set forth and forwarded to the government.

GIFTS FOR MEN AND BOYS

OAK HALL STORES

Cor. Yonge and Adelaide, 337 Danforth Ave., Open Evenings.

HAMILTON

G. SAPORITO

Consulting Optometrist and Optician, 28 ADELAIDE ST. WEST, Suite 23

COMMUNISTS DOLED UP FOR EXODUS TO RUSSIA

New York, Dec. 22.—Twenty-three communists surrendered themselves at Ellis Island today for deportation to Russia. They will depart on the steamer Imperator, scheduled to sail tomorrow. All were captured in raids last winter, but were released on bail because at that time no transportation line was open to Russia. The Latvian government's co-operation now permits routing them thru Lithuania and Riga.

LONDON BANK PRESIDENT 'ARRAIGNED IN COURT

London, Dec. 22.—Thomas Farrow, head of one of the biggest banks in the United Kingdom for people of small means, this morning was brought into police court on a charge connected with the failure of his institution Monday, which spelled ruin to thousands of poor people just before Christmas.

The man, who at one time was hailed as a national benefactor for his notable crusade against usurers, was charged with having been concerned with William Walter Croth, banker, and Frederick Harb, accountant, in issuing a false report and balance sheet last June, with the intent to induce people to advance money to Farrow's bank. He was remanded for three weeks, bail being fixed at \$15,000, with additional sureties of \$14,000.

ONTARIO AUTHORIZES PLEBISCITE ON RAILWAY

Ottawa, Dec. 22.—The Ottawa city council, in special session tonight, passed the bylaw authorizing the plebiscite on the question of the Ottawa Electric Railway Company by a vote of 15 to 5. The meeting was for the purpose of giving the bylaw a third reading. An amendment by Alderman Pinaro to strike out the phrase giving the city authority to borrow the purchase money without an additional vote of the ratepayers was defeated, 15 to 3.

ONTARIO SAILOR BOYS HOME FOR CHRISTMAS

Following the efforts of the Navy League members in Toronto, the following telegram was received last night from Captain Adam, of the battleship, Aurora, which recently arrived in Halifax as a gift to Canada from the British government:

Dutch Government Will Permit Trading With Soviet Russia

The Hague, Dec. 22.—The Dutch government is ready to permit trade with Russia, under certain conditions. Speaking in the second chamber today, H. A. Van Karnebeek, the foreign minister, said:

BALLOON STILL MISSING

Ottawa, Dec. 22.—Lieutenant Albert W. Evans, of the United States naval air service, has so far received no word of the naval balloon missing from the Rockaway air station. Lieutenant Evans is directing the search with Ottawa.

TOLEDO'S BOLD BANDITS

Toledo, Ohio, Dec. 22.—An automobile stolen two weeks ago and parked for 26 hours on a downtown street after the robbery, was used by six bandits, who held up ten guards of the American Railway Express Company, on Monday night and escaped with a safe containing \$16,500, police learned today.

MICHIGAN BANK ROBBED

Flint, Mich., Dec. 22.—Four men, shortly after noon today, held up the cashier of the Clio State bank at Clio, north of here, beat him into insensibility and escaped with currency estimated at \$12,000.

HAMILTON

Hamilton, Dec. 22.—Miss L. Coxhead, 3 South East avenue, was tonight presented with a purse of gold by members of the local police force as a reward for her heroic efforts when she went to the assistance of Constable Bert Merritt, who was shot by Frank Carroll, a young bandit, who is now serving a 15-month term in Kingston penitentiary.

Miss Coxhead heard the shots fired and went out. Merritt was badly wounded and Carroll was possibly stunned from a blow from Merritt, struck soon after she was shot.

The fact that it was the final meeting, in no way interfered with the quick work of the fire police and jail committal officers, and in 15 minutes the members had passed their last business of the year.

Nominations will be held in the city hall tomorrow, and the council chamber has been prepared for the annual election. The nominations for the mayors and members of the board of control will take place at the hall, but the nominations for school trustees and aldermen will be held in the evening.

MANITOBA FARMERS NOT JOINING NORRIS

Officially Announce Decision—Latter Must Carry On With Obstacles.

Winnipeg, Dec. 22.—A committee of the Independent Farmers' party in the provincial legislature finally met Premier Norris this morning with regard to their course of action in the coming session of Manitoba legislature. It had been anticipated that a working arrangement would be made, by a sort of fusion of the government with the Farmers' party, but the leader of the Farmers, William Robson, presented to the premier the following resolution, which was passed at a meeting this afternoon:

OLLEYS OF ABUSE OF BLACK AND TANS

Witnesses Tell Commission at Washington What It Wants to Hear.

Washington, Dec. 22.—Daniel J. Broderick, Chicago, a former member of the United States navy, and who also served in the army, bitterly attacked the "black and tans" in Ireland in testimony today before the commission of the chamber of deputies. The witnesses, who returned recently from a visit to Ireland, said the "black and tans" were "holly without discipline and not responsible to anybody." He called to have witnessed the pillaging of homes by drunken members of his body, the shooting of cattle by British soldiers, and the wounding of a little girl by a bullet from a "black and tan" and R.I.C. used soft noised bullets for ammunition.

DECIDE PARISHIONERS' DEBT RESPONSIBILITY

Drummondville Congregation May Have to Meet Big Debt Contracted by Priest.

Quebec, Dec. 22.—The superior court will be called upon to hear the evidence in an interesting test case taken to decide the responsibility of parishioners for debts contracted by a priest on a church when the case of Duchaine vs. the Fabrique of Drummondville, in which the only claim of \$9,000 is first involved, other claims for over \$300,000 will likely follow.

IRISH RAILWAYMEN AGREE TO REINSTATE

Dublin, Dec. 22.—The imperial government, as an outcome of the negotiations instituted by the general secretary of the national union of railwaymen, has agreed to the reinstatement of the railroad workers who were expelled in a strike over the question of carrying munitions. The government has accepted the pledge that there will be no further trouble and it is expected that normal service will be restored promptly.

KEEN CIVIC FIGHT IN LONDON, ONT.

London, Ont., Dec. 22.—"Mob" and "rabble" were terms applied by Lieutenant C. M. R. Graham to the local municipal labor organization at a meeting of the citizens' committee tonight in support of Mayor E. S. Little, candidate for re-election.

WEST IMBODEN SAFE

London, Dec. 22.—Lloyds reports that the U. S. steamer West Imboden passed the Lizard this morning in tow of a tug bound for Falmouth. The West Imboden, which sailed Nov. 30 from Galveston, for Havre and Rotterdam, was reported broken down Dec. 20 on the Scilly Islands.

SHOOTSELF IN ROOM

Quebec, Dec. 21.—(Canadian Press).—Nelson Cantin, aged 25 years, a brakeman on the C.N.R., residing near the Quebec bridge in St. Foy Parish, was shot to death at his home this morning, while he was preparing to go to work.

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Juarez, Dec. 22.—Clara Barton Smith, wanted in Ardmore, Okla., in connection with the death of Jake L. Hamon, Oklahoma millionaire, arrived here tonight and immediately was taken into custody by Sheriff Buck Garrett of Ardmore, who had arrived on the border an hour before.

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PLANES FOR OIL FIELD HELD UP BY STORMS

Edmonton, Alta., Dec. 22.—The overhaul of the four Curtiss biplanes in the north which left Edmonton on Nov. 25 and passed Fort McMurray Dec. 21, one day late, is now said to be heading into the vicinity of Peace River. This was the last mail for the far north this winter. Two big airplanes, en route to Edmonton for the Imperial Oil Company for use to Fort Norman, are still at Cleveland, Ohio, according to advices received in this city. Stormy weather has prevented the aviators from continuing their flight, heavy snowfalls, with sleet and rain, having prevailed in that region for the past ten days.

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SOCIALISTS FIRE ON NATIONALISTS

Clash at Ferrara Results in the Death of Four and Injury to Many Others.

Bologna, Italy, Dec. 22.—A serious clash occurred yesterday at Ferrara, 27 miles north of Bologna, where the Socialists had organized a demonstration in protest against the recent attacks in Bologna upon Socialist deputies. Four persons were killed and more than thirty wounded before the police and troops, who were rushed to the spot, restored order. Fifteen soldiers, who were among a large number who had fired upon the Nationalists from the confines of the adjacent medieval castle, were arrested. The other red guards escaped.

PARIS CABBINETS HAD CLOSE CALL

Unprecedented Tie Vote on the First Part of Resolution.

Paris, Dec. 22.—The cabinet was sustained in the chamber of deputies this afternoon in the first serious assault made against it. It was the unprecedented tie vote on the first part of the resolution which was not agitated session the chamber held for a considerable time. Waves of approval and disapproval of the cabinet rolled back and forth from one side of the chamber to the other, the Conservatives and Socialists applauding M. Leygues, president of the council, in turn, then in turn, Nikolai Lenin, the Russian Soviet premier.

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BRIDEGROOMS TO PAY HIGHER TAX GLADLY

Because bridegrooms pay a fortune for joy and hope they would accept, Robert M. Switzer, county clerk, proposed to the finance committee today that the price of marriage licenses be raised to the same scale as dog licenses. A marriage permit costs \$1.50 and a dog license \$3.

"Don't see why the fee for a marriage license should not be raised to the dignity of that for a dog license," Mr. Switzer said. "A young man about to be married is so full of joy and hope that I am sure few, if any, would object."

RESERVE JUDGMENT IN THE CAHAN CASE

Action for Recovery of Big Sum Concludes—Alleges Son Speculated.

Montreal, Dec. 22.—Hearing of evidence was concluded this morning in the case of the Corporation Securities, Limited, to recover \$200,000 from the Home Bank of Canada, which C. A. Cahan, Sr., K.C., a director of the plaintiff company, contends his son, C. E. Cahan, Jr., K.C., obtained fraudulently on checks by using a power of attorney his father gave him. The money is supposed to have been lost by young Cahan in big deals in New York.

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