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FINE AND WARMER

THREE CENTS

PROPOSE ESTABLISHING SELF GOV'T OVER IRELAND AND CREATE TWO PARLIAMENTS

Premier Lloyd George Outlines in House of Commons the Plan of Gov't Believed to be Most Feasible for Ireland.

DETERMINED TO FIGHT SECESSION

Every Opportunity Will be Given Ireland to Establish Unity and a Council Will Form Connecting Link.

London, Dec. 22.—Premier Lloyd George addressed the House of Commons this evening on the Irish question. The Premier last week announced his purpose of presenting to the Commons on this occasion the details of the government's Irish Home Rule bill.

In opening his address Mr. Lloyd George remarked upon the extreme difficulty of his task, "difficult indeed," he said, "after such a discreditable outrage as has just been perpetrated." The Premier said that parliament must get the fact right into its mind that, in the existing circumstances, no possible scheme for Irish Home Rule was universally acceptable. Parliament must assume the responsibility and propose what it thinks fair and just. A settlement would be found, not in the enactment of a Home Rule scheme, but in its working.

Ireland, said the Premier, is the only country in Europe except Russia, where the classes who elsewhere were on the side of law and order, were out of control. Every opportunity would be given Ireland to establish unity, if she desired it, and a council would be established at the outset, selected by the two legislatures, to form a connecting link between the two parts of the country.

The Premier said it was proposed to establish self-government over the whole of Ireland, and to create two parliaments, one in the North and one in the South. Every opportunity would be given Ireland to establish unity, if she desired it, and a council would be established at the outset, selected by the two legislatures, to form a connecting link between the two parts of the country.

The Premier said that the Irish contribution to the Imperial services was estimated at £18,000,000 annually. A joint exchequer board would settle the rate of contribution for the future, and the question of taxable capacity. It was proposed to place £1,000,000 at the disposal of each of the two parliaments to cover the initial expenditure.

The representation of Ireland at Westminster, Lloyd George announced, would be reduced under the proposed measure to forty members, as in the Act of 1914.

Each of the two parliaments would have the taxation paid equivalent to those of the State Legislature of the U. S. The income tax and the excess profits and super-taxes would be levied imperially. The postal service would control all local matters and all machinery for the maintenance of law and order except the higher Judiciary and the Army and Navy.

The Premier said the bill would contain clauses protecting the rights of minorities. The postal service would not be transferred, he added, until there was a single Parliament in Ireland.

The Government proposed to give the Irish Government the advantage of all duties and taxes raised in excess of a fair contribution to the Imperial services, and a free gift, in addition, to finance the development of the Irish Parliament, the Premier declared.

It would rest with the Irish people themselves, said Lloyd George, whether they desired union. The consent of the British Parliament would not be required, and in order to offer a greater inducement to union, the Government proposed that certain additional taxing powers should be entrusted to the Irish Parliament when the union was accomplished.

All these proposals, added the Premier, would be embodied in the bill for the consideration of the Parliament, and he appealed to all to give the measure fair consideration. The present, he said, was not the time for recrimination.

The Government proposed to give

The Number of Unapprehended Deserters in Eastern Dist. Total 12,308

Ottawa, Dec. 22.—The number of deserters under the Military Service Act 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 today are 12,308.

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

1. (London) 10; 2. (Toronto) 1,387; 3. (Ottawa-Kingston) 1,578; 4. (Montreal) 3,981; 5. (Quebec) 3,342; 6. (Nova Scotia) 1,845; 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.

Expect Food Prices To Decline Between January and March

Attorney General Palmer Issues Statement Declaring That Indications Point to Drop in All Prices.

Washington, Dec. 22.—Expectation of a decline in retail food prices beginning between January 1 and March 1, was expressed tonight by Attorney General Palmer in a statement submitted to the editors of the Government to date in putting down the cost of living.

"The cost of living, already under control," said Attorney General Palmer, "can be reduced if every one who produces will produce his utmost. If those who buy and consume will save and eliminate extravagance, and if all honest people will join with the Department of Justice in stamping out profiteering and hoarding."

Explaining that a downward trend in retail food prices ordinarily was shown during the first two months of the year, Mr. Palmer said it was the hope of the Government that this trend will be accelerated this year by the campaign instituted by the Government which is just now getting under way.

Although statistics compiled annually by the Government show that in previous years retail food prices increased during the fall months, Mr. Palmer said, that since August this year such prices had been maintained practically stationary.

Only since October 22, when necessary amendments to the Lever Food Control Act were passed, the Attorney General's statement said, has it been possible to deal effectively with cases of profiteering and hoarding.

From October 22 to date 179 prosecutions have been instituted and prosecutions and seizures have covered eighteen states it was added.

Due to co-operation between the Government and various retail merchants' associations, the statement said, the price of clothing had been reduced from five to fifty per cent.

Paris, Dec. 22.—(Havas.)—Gabriele D'Annunzio is reported to have abandoned command at Fiume, according to a dispatch received here from Rome. The dispatch adds that the post-soldier is on the high seas.

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GERMANS MUST MAKE GOOD IN THE LENS MINE

Solution of the Difficulties in Opening up the Coal Mines of Northeastern France Depends on German Engineers.

THEY WROUGHT THE DESTRUCTION

The Task of Reclaiming the Lens Mines Much More Difficult Than in Outlying Districts.

Lens, Dec. 22.—Solution of the difficulties in opening up the big coal mines of northeastern France must await the coming of German military engineers who wrought the destruction. This was pointed out to the correspondents of the Associated Press here, today, in the course of a visit to the Lens region, made as part of a trip under Government auspices to permit observation of reconstruction work.

In Lens, where seventeen main shafts and thirteen air shafts are flooded, the task of reclaiming the mines is said to be much more difficult than in the outlying districts, where the damage is reported to be largely on the surface and to equipment.

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 army engineers, who superintended the blowing of holes in the cement shaft-linings of the mines.

These mines, the mining engineers said, would 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 these. Even under normal conditions, they expect, 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.

Twenty-three companies controlling mines in Lens and several villages have organized a joint staff of engineers and experts to study the best methods of approach to the rehabilitation problem, and also for the purpose of filing claims for damages.

Actual damage to mine properties, the officials declare, cannot be determined until the water is removed, but they agree that normal production cannot be obtained 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 50 per cent.

CANADIAN SHIPS IN BAD PLIGHT

Recruit and Spinner Caught in Drifting Ice Down the Lower St. Lawrence.

Quebec, Dec. 22.—The Canadian Recruit and the Canadian Spinner, the two vessels that were caught in drifting ice down the lower St. Lawrence last week have been drifting helplessly since. The Recruit is now aground in a precarious position but her crew was all saved Saturday in rowboats that put out from the shore at Tadoussac to rescue them. The Spinner is still drifting slowly eastward and is some miles off farther point.

BRITAIN AND FRANCE NOT IN ACCORD ON CONSTANTINOPLE

The Former Believes in Taking City Entirely Out of the Hands of the Turks.

Paris, Dec. 22.—The visit to London of Philippe Berthelot, political director of the Foreign Office, is being made in able to counter with Lord Curzon and prepare for a discussion of the Eastern question when the Peace Conference meets again.

It was said today that France and Great Britain are not entirely in accord as to the fate of Constantinople. Great Britain desiring to take the city entirely out of the hands of the Turks, while France favors leaving the Turkish in possession under the control of the Allies.

FIRE DESTROYS GRAIN ELEVATORS IN EDMONTON

Edmonton, Alta., Dec. 22.—Two large grain elevators on the South side belonging to the Western Canada Flour Mills Company went up in smoke and flames this morning. The property is not a total loss. The loss may amount to \$150,000.

United States Denies Agreeing To Join In Assistance To Austrians

London, Dec. 22.—Replying to a question by Viscount Bryce in the House of Lords, today, concerning assistance to Austria, Earl Curzon, the Foreign Secretary, declared that no great scheme was possible without help of the United States. Great Britain and France had proposed, and the United States had agreed that they retain Austrian securities now held as a guarantee of payment for purchases of food for Austria, he said, and America was to have the great pictures now held in Austria as her security.

Washington, Dec. 22.—The American Government has received no proposal that the United States join with Great Britain and France in furnishing assistance to Austria, obtaining valuable paintings now held in Austria as security, as asserted today by Earl Curzon, the British Foreign Secretary, in the House of Lords.

Officials at the State Department say the suggestion may have been broached to Ambassador Wallace at Paris, the United States representative on the Supreme Council, who was referring it to Washington.

Patriotic Fund Quite Worthy Montreal Somewhat Perturbed

Sir Robert of Opinion They Are Properly Organized to Handle Relief for Needy Soldiers.

Ottawa, Dec. 22.—"It would be impossible for the government to build up an organization equal to yours within the very limited period that will elapse before demands are made for assistance," says Sir Robert Borden in a letter to W. F. Nickle, K. C., honorary secretary of the Patriotic Fund, relative to the handling over to that organization of the Federal Emergency Fund for the relief of unemployed ex-members of the forces.

"We are assured that in asking you to undertake the responsibility of administering this appropriation, the government is placing the matter in safe hands, and I have no doubt whatever that the members of the Canadian Patriotic Fund will understand the situation and will add still further to the debt which the citizens of Canada owe to their country in the past. Will you please convey to them from all colleagues, and especially from myself, our warm appreciation of their willingness to undertake this important duty in co-operation with the government."

NEW BRUNSWICK TO RECEIVE \$7,517 FOR HEALTH WORK

Order in Council Issued Provides for Distribution of Funds to Combat Venereal Diseases.

Ottawa, Dec. 22.—The Federal Department of Health announced that an order-in-council has just been passed providing for the distribution of the Federal grant of \$200,000, which was placed at the disposal of the Federal department of health for combat venereal diseases in co-operation with the provinces. Of this sum \$180,000 will now be distributed to the provinces of the Dominion on a pro rata basis with the population, namely:

Quebec	47,388.80
Ontario	47,388.80
Manitoba	12,611.20
Nova Scotia	10,573.86
New Brunswick	7,517.82
Saskatchewan	15,561.63
Alberta	11,979.82
British Columbia	14,628.19
Prince Edward Island	1,915.11

It is further provided in the order-in-council that payments to the provinces be made in two equal amounts.

ADULTERATED COAL SOLD IN SYDNEY

Citizens Accuse Dom. Coal Company of Selling Slate Instead of Black Diamonds

Sydney, N. S., Dec. 22.—There is a movement on foot in Sydney to protest against adulterated coal supplied in this city by the Dominion Coal Company. A prominent citizen claims ten per cent of the product sold in Sydney is pure slate instead of coal. Your correspondent swears two large pieces, aggregating seventy-three pounds, out of one load were not coal, and probably analysis would describe it as pure white stone or common rock. Local operators is much exercised over the high price and the injustice by the local coal dealers.

Hullfax, N. S., Dec. 22.—Arrived—Steamers: Lucania, Shields; Impresso, France; Eastern Chief, Shields; Orduna, Liverpool; Heron, Galveston.

Sailed—Steamer Orduna, New York, Yague, New York.

New York, Dec. 22.—Arr. str. Fred. erick VIII. Copenhagen.

SHIP THERIAULT HAD THRILLING EXPERIENCES

Returning on Maiden Voyage from Mayo to Yarmouth Was Beset by Many Difficulties.

OFFICERS SUFFER BROKEN BONES

Was Reported Bottom up at Mouth of Bay of Fundy But Finally Arrives at Yarmouth.

Halifax, Dec. 22.—A thrilling story of the sea was told at Yarmouth when the Nova Scotia schooner St. Clair Theriault arrived at that port today. The schooner, a new one, was returning from her maiden voyage to the Canary Islands and the West Coast of Africa with a cargo of salt, which was on the edge of the Gulf Stream a terrific gale broke which lasted for several days during which a slight leak because of much greater volume. The pumps were manned and the water did not gain.

On November 18, while the vessel was rolling heavily in the terrific sea, seaman Charles C. Amore of Digby, while bending a storm sail, fell from aloft, a distance of fifteen feet, and struck the main deck. He received a fracture of the ankle by coming in contact with an iron bar. The following morning the mate, William Trahan went forward to get bolts to repair the pumps, and when returning, he was caught about midships by a huge sea which boarded the schooner, and for some minutes was hurled back and forth about the deck. While in that predicament he also received a fractured ankle. After the sea left the vessel he managed to reach the forward rigging and from there got into the galley. It was four o'clock the next afternoon before any one of the crew could go and offer him assistance, so terrific was the weather. Provisions began to get scarce and on November 26, in latitude 41.31, longitude 60.31, the schooner was reported and was given a stock of supplies. On December 4 another steamer was sighted in 42.19 and 64.20, and she signaled for mercy. The vessel was allowed. On December 9 the Theriault was reported off Cape Sable, and Captain Pothier endeavored to work her into Lobster Bay, but before he could become very thick, the weather had again become very thick. This was the last time the schooner was reported, owing to the terrific weather of the past week grave fears were entertained for her safety. A week ago a report was sent out by St. John to the effect that she had been passed but to top up at the mouth of the Bay of Fundy. During the past two weeks, Theriault experienced terrific weather which drove her far off shore into latitude 43.00. On Friday the weather becoming more favorable Captain Pothier once more endeavored to work the vessel into port, and early this morning made light. At daybreak he hoisted distress signals and was sighted by the crew of the Lurcher Lightship off Yarmouth. They reported to St. John and the D. G. S. Aberdeen was ordered to her assistance. The tug Wanda was also sent from Yarmouth and the schooner was brought into port this afternoon. The vessel on reaching port was again seriously short of provisions and days past the crew existed on dry bread and cold water, as there were no butter or other food aboard. They were down to about one half barrel of flour and four buckets of water when the Aberdeen picked her up. The schooner lost her outer and flying jib, foresail and the mainsail is torn. She is leaking also.

Ottawa, Dec. 22.—The Militia department has been advised that the Scandinavian carrying fourteen officers and thirty-five other ranks, will reach St. John on or about Christmas day. The Scotian with ten officers and fifty-two other ranks on board, will reach the same port about the end of the month.

AMERICAN STM. REACHES SYDNEY WITH COAL GONE

Sydney, N. S., Dec. 22.—With her last shovel of bunker coal in the furnace the American steamer Sahar limped into port this morning after a stormy voyage from Valencia, Spain. At times, owing to the necessity for conserving the dwindling coal supply, the vessel could make barely steersway. The Sahar is bunkering today and will sail tonight for New York.

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Soviet Gov't Trying To Stimulate Construction of Army Tanks

Washington, D. C., Dec. 22.—State department advices today reported that Bolshevik attacks in Estonia were increasing and that negotiations for the withdrawal into Latvia of General Yudenitch's Russian army were in progress.

With the capture of Taiga, at the junction of the branch line to Tomsk, Polish troops west of that point will have to fight their way eastward, the report said.

The soviet government is trying to stimulate construction of army tanks and has offered prizes ranging from 50,000 rubles up to 450,000 for plans, to be the property of the soviet government, according to an advertisement in a Petrograd paper of November 11.

Bolshevik Retreating Before The Advance of Caucassian Cavalry

London, Dec. 22.—A statement issued by the war office today on the situation in south Russia says that on December 19, north of Tsaritsyn, the Bolsheviks were retreating before Caucassian cavalry.

On the Don front Bolshevik cavalry raids have penetrated deeply into the left wing of the Don army and the latter has retired as far as Nigulinskia and on a broad front astride the Liksirovost railway. North of Konstantinograd, Terk Cossacks have captured a hostile battalion.

General Denikin's volunteers have advanced to the northwest of Kiev, although the Bolsheviks still hold that town.