

TO-DAY'S MESSAGES.

THE ATTEMPT TO FORM AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN CONSERVATIVES AND LIBERALS FAILS.

LONDON Jan. 4. Lord Hunsdon's attempt to arrange a working agreement between the Conservative and Liberal to prevent labor from forming a Government is today regarded as a dead issue having failed to gain Premier Baldwin's support. It is understood that Premier Baldwin replied to Lord Hunsdon, who as President of the City of London Unionist Association addressed a letter to Baldwin urging serious effort against labor government control. That Mr. Asquith's attitude prevented the suggestion from being considered. Many of the ministers are out of town, but the Premier gathered all available colleagues in consultation at Downing street to-day and had a long discussion on the framing of the speech from the throne for the re-opening of Parliament, and on other matters of policy. There will be another cabinet meeting for final discussions.

LOCKOUT OF METAL WORKERS IN BERLIN.

BERLIN Jan. 4. Owing to the refusal of the metal workers here to agree to the proposed reduction in wages, employers to-day locked out 130,000 men in the industry and one hundred Berlin plants are idle in consequence.

DIXMUE LOCATED.

MARSEILLES, Jan. 4. A wireless message has been intercepted reporting that searchers by means of captive balloon sent from Toulon have located the position of the French Dirigible Dixmue, which met destruction with all hands on board in the latter part of December. The wreck according to these messages lies in about twenty fathoms of water within a circle of half a mile in radius, three miles south of Cape San Marco, Italy. A British despatch reports finding two bodies off the coast, believed to be victims of the Dixmue disaster.

NINE MEN SWEEPED TO THEIR DEATHS.

BABYLON, N.Y., Jan. 4. A monster wave swept nine men from the deck of the power boat Sid and to their death in the waters of Great South Bay here to-night. Seven were members of a rescue party who had gone out on the Sid to succor three men in the speed boat Electra which had grounded in the storm in Fire Island Inlet. The other two had been taken off the Electra. Others were rescued with difficulty when the helpless Sid, after losing her propeller and rudder was taken in tow by the second rescue boat and brought to safety.

GOVERNOR PARR A MENACE TO SHIPPING.

BOSTON, Jan. 4. The United States naval authorities to-night broadcasted a warning to all Transatlantic liners of a lumber laden derelict drifting in the main ocean highways off the Nova Scotia Coast. The position of the derelict, which is the British schooner Governor Parr wrecked months ago and abandoned at sea was given as 45.48 North and 42.48 West. The Governor Parr has been reported at various times since she was abandoned. Ten days ago the United States Coast-guard cutter Taupa was sent out to find and destroy the menacing hulk, and succeeded in taking the wreck in tow on New Year's Day but the towing hawser parted yesterday during a gale and shortage of fuel forced the Taupa to make for Halifax.

REBELS SEVERE DEFEAT.

MEXICO CITY, Jan. 4. The War Department has received advice of the defeat inflicted upon Romula Plauerca, rebel, by General Caraveo in Saculhan village, in the State of Mexico, 55 miles southwest of the capital. It is reported that the rebels suffered 500 killed, wounded and prisoners.

VENIZELOS IN GREECE.

ATHENS, Jan. 4. Former Premier Venizelos arrived here at 4:15 this morning.

NEWLY ELECTED M.P.'S OPINION.

LONDON, Jan. 4. Frank Hodges, the newly elected member of the House of Commons for Leitchfield, Staffordshire, speaking at Tamworth said, "Mr. Asquith had hinted that the King could refuse to grant Ramsay MacDonald authority to dissolve Parliament after summoning him to form a Government must be admitted." Hodges said it would be incongruous for a parliamentary minority to be in power, but, once the Government had done so, then the position was such that the Government must be accepted by the other parties.

TWO STEAMERS IN DISTRESS IN MID-PACIFIC.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 4. Each with broken steering gear, the Japanese steel freighter Kyosel Maru, 3728 net tons, and Harold Dollar, 2325 of the Dollar Steamship Line are drifting in a storm raging in Mid-Pacific, according to radio messages to the Federal Telegraph Co., early today, from the steamship President

Grant, Nether carried passengers. The liner Empress of Russia is rushing to their assistance. The Kyosel Maru and the Harold Dollar are in the same vicinity.

THE COLLIER AND THE KING

By EDWARD MARKHAM.

Sweet to the heart the stories ring They tell of Charlemagne the King; And one I hasten to believe— That one that tells of a Christmas Eve When the King was lost in a hunt at night. When lightnings scribbled the heavens with light, And a sudden tempest, riding the gale, Lashed his face with a sleety fall.

Plunging through darkness and stormy roar, He came at last to a but's low door Where Peter, the charcoal burner, stood. Lifting his latch at the edge of the wood, Peter, with nine of his sooty men, Breathless from homing over the fen, Holding a burning brand in air. He saw the tired king standing there, "Shelter," he cried to the king's request. "O! his blood, my man, I'd take for guest, A wolf, if the forest had lost his den On a night like this, Go in with the men."

Obituary.

MR. GEORGE SMYTH.

We regret to have to chronicle the death of Mr. George Smyth, master cooper, which took place at his residence, Bond Street, this morning following a somewhat protracted illness. A kind and loving father he grieved over the death last year of his son Thomas, and to this sorrow was added that the demise three months ago of a darling little girl, Mr. Smyth was born in 1873—and on the death of his father the late Thomas Smyth succeeded to a well-established cooperage business which he conducted with success, in spite of the most trying difficulties with which the trade has been beset during recent years. He leaves to mourn a wife, one son, Thomas, (a Blue Puttee) and five daughters, beside a brother, Mr. Thomas Smyth, merchant, Water Street, two sisters of Charity, Mother Joseph, Wilfess Bay, and Sister Ignatius at Belvidere Convent, and three married sisters, Mrs. Long and Mrs. P. Fortune of the city, and Mrs. P. Smitin of Wilfess Bay. The Telegram extends sympathy to the family and relations in their hour of bereavement.

Shipping.

S. S. Skinstone has cleared, in ballast for Sydney on the 1st inst. S. S. Silvia sails for Halifax and New York at 10 a.m. to-morrow. Schr. Gordon T. Tibbo has arrived at Grand Bank from Oporto salt laden to S. Tibbo & Sons. Schr. Esther Hankinson sailed this morning for Bahia with a cargo fish cleared by the Nfd. Produce Co. S. S. Skuda has sailed from Harbor Buffet for Oporto taking 9000 qts. codfish shipped by Alberto Wareham and W. Wareham. Schr. Inspiration, 53 days from Pernambuco, arrived in port this morning in ballast. The vessel has been harbored at Trepassay and was towed in by the tug Hugh D. S. S. Good Hope is awaiting opportunity to get away to Labrador. The ship was fitted out by Bouttie Bros., Halifax, to engage in halibut catching. It is understood she will proceed to the newly discovered McDonald Bank, situated about 140 miles S. E. of Bell Isle. The ship carries no foreign net which are termed flying sets will be used. The hooks are gauged on wire lines.

Train Notes.

The Carbonar train arrived on time. A north west gale prevails over the West Coast as far as Fort aux Basques to-day, consequently the Kyle is delayed in her sailing for Port aux Basques. Yesterday's west bound express left Benton 1 hour and 40 minutes late. This was due to the snow plow of an east bound freight train leaving the rails near Union Sliding. The incoming express with the Kyle's mails and passengers left Port aux Basques 1 p.m. yesterday. She left Deer Lake 10.30 this morning and is due to reach the city to-morrow forenoon.

Portia Storm Bound at Halifax.

The Shipping Department received a wire from Capt. Connors of the S. S. Portia, at Halifax, this morning stating that a severe storm was raging there, and it would be impossible for the ship to leave. The Portia in all probability will be able to get away to-morrow. While enroute she will call at North Sydney to have her bunkers replenished. From Sydney she will proceed to curling to load another herring cargo.

Here and There.

Men's Boys' and Youth's Garters at SMALLWOOD'S. dec24/23

Come again and learn those catchy tunes—your last chance. jan1/24

AWAITING NEWS.—There is no word of the S.S. Yankton since passing Cape Race 3.30 Wednesday afternoon. The ship must have encountered the full force of the Northwest gale, and her safe arrival at Halifax is expected hourly.

STAFFORD'S Phosphate will cure your cough. 35c. bottle. jan2/24

ORPHANS TO ATTEND MATINEE.—Invitation have been extended to the inmates of all the city Orphanages to attend the matinee of the opera Prince of Pilsen at the Casino to-morrow afternoon.

Reserve seats 50c. General admission 30c., for "Lighthouse Nave" St. Mary's Hall.—jan4/24

BARBER'S LINIMENT FOR BRUISING.

Acknowledgment

The following Christmas gifts received by the Church of England Orphanage are gratefully acknowledged:

- \$5.00—Mr. E. G. Cousins, 400 lbs. beef—The Government, 40 lbs. beef—Mr. Allan Williams, 55 lbs. beef—Mr. F. Connor, 1 qr. beef—Mr. M. P. Tobin, 1 qr. beef—Mr. P. J. Casey, 1 side mutton—Mr. M. Donovan, Hams—Mr. M. A. Bastow, Mr. J. P. Cash, Brl. of Apples—Mr. George Neal (2) Miss Peggy Powys-Keck, Fred Lukins, Messrs. Burt and Lawrence, Hon. D. A. Ryan, Miss Bride O'Reilly, Messrs. Ayre & Sons, Sir E. Bowring, Mrs. J. S. Hunn, David Courtney, J. R. Bennett, Hon. F. McNamara, 1 box apples—Mrs. Simms, 1 case oranges—Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Rendell; Royal Stores, Ltd., 1 box raisins—Mrs. Gordon Winter, Parcels of fruit—Mrs. Allan Long, Miss Ethel Dowden, Lady Whiteaway, Mrs. Lilla Parsons, Fruit and Candy—Miss Hilda LeM Long, Fruit and cake—Mrs. M. Maragh, Fruit and candy—Mrs. J. J. Coak, Mrs. Green, 2 boxes candy—F. B. Wood, Ltd. Miss E. Dawa, 1 box candy—Mr. and Mrs. R. G. Ash, Jimmie McLaughlin, Arthur T. Wood, Co. Ltd., Star Candy Co., Mr. Nikosey, 2 buckets candy—Mr. A. J. Harvey, Candy—Mrs. Angus Reid, Misses Marion and Joyce Furlong, Betty and Eric Benson, Miss Southcott, Mrs. A. Hancock, Mr. F. W. Hayward, Cakes—Mrs. James Halliday (2), Mrs. J. R. Johnson, Miss Taylor, Regie and Edwin Press, Mrs. Waugh, Grand Falls, Maxwell & Bertha Day (2), Mrs. Allan Williams, Mrs. Sidney Bursell, Mrs. M. J. Pearce (2) Mrs. Allan Dowden, Miss May Seymour, Sidney Wiseman, Charlie Parsons, Elizabeth Dicks, Miss G. Edwards, Miss Dowden, 2 cakes and 4 pots jam—Mrs. John Davey, Cake and 6 pots jam—Mrs. David Murray, Cake and Jam—Mrs. C. H. Seymour, Jam—Mrs. Wm. Christian, Custard—Miss Cicely Rendell, Cake and candy—Mrs. E. Sheppard, Grand Falls, 2 boxes ginger snaps—Misses Browning, 2 boxes biscuits—Mr. C. P. Eagan, 1 box biscuits—Mr. and Mrs. P. Crane, W. O'D. Kelly, A. M. Tooton, J. P. Cash, 2 bags bread—Messrs. G. Browning & Sand, 1 doz. loaves sweet bread—Mr. Edward Wills, 2 doz. loaves sweet bread—Central Bakery, 4 loaves sweet bread—Mrs. and Miss Day, 4 loaves sweet bread—Cecil and James Seymour, 3 doz. buns—Smithville, 10 lbs. tea—Messrs. Meehan & Co., 2 boxes soap—Standard Manufacturing Co., 6 doz. cakes Ivory soap—Mr. Gerald Doyle, 1 doz. small brooms and 1 doz. whisks—Mr. John Hooker, 2 doz. brooms—John Hooker & Co., 6 pairs skates—Mrs. P. H. Knowling, 6 Christmas stockings—Nfd. Wholesale Dry Goods, Ltd., 3 boxes handkerchiefs—Mrs. Bennett, Bell Island, Stockings, handkerchiefs and varied gifts—Misses Pamela and Norma Alderdice, 8 pairs mitts, 3 handkerchiefs—Mrs. James H. Gosse, Crabbes, St. George's, 1 doz. rubber balls—Eric and Arthur Dewling, 6 tennis balls—Lady Allardyce, Toys, games and books—Willsie Gordon and Phyllis Williams, Games and books—Nfd. Sales Company, Games, slates and books—Mrs. J. D. Andrews, Toys—Misses Gerlie and Liszie Lukins, C. E. Carter, Mrs. W. Long, Mrs. Simms, A. H. Pierpoint, 4 books—Miss Oltre Bursell, 12 books—Jack and Arthur Knowling.

"K." Boots, Brogues and Pumps at SMALLWOOD'S. dec24/23

Suspending Operations

BRANCH TRAINS AND COASTAL BOATS.

The management of the Government railway have decided to suspend operations of the branch railways, viz. Trepassay, Bay de Verds, and Bonavista, which comes into effect after the 15th of January. The coastal boats have already been ordered to discontinue the service. The Glencoe Home and Malakoff are in port. Clyde is due from Notre Dame Bay, while the Sagons is on her way back from Humbermouth. The Meigle will continue the service along the South West Coast as long as conditions permit.

Coastal Boats.

GOVERNMENT. Argyle left Burin 4.30 p.m. yesterday, inward. Clyde at Twillingate yesterday. Home arrived in port at 7 a.m. Kyle at Port aux Basques. Meigle left Pushtuhook 7.30 a.m. on the 2nd, going west. Sagons—No report, since leaving Flower's Cove on the 28th ult., going north. Prospero not reported. Portia detained at Halifax owing to storm.

Personal

Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Wood are passengers to New York by S.S. Silvia. Rev. F. M. O'Kelly, of New York, leaves by the Silvia for Halifax, en route to Australia. Mr. J. W. Tenster, of the Valley Nurseries, leaves by the Silvia on a business and holiday trip to Canada. The numerous friends of Mr. W. J. Higgins, K.C., will be glad to learn that he has made a full recovery from his recent illness, and was able to get down to his office to-day for the first time. Hon. R. E. Finn, who arrived here by S.S. Silvia, returns to Halifax by the same ship to-morrow. Hon. Mr. Finn was elected to the Canadian Parliament in the bye-election last year, resulting from the death of Dr. Blackader, of Halifax. He is 44 years of age and a speaker of repute.

Health and Comfort in the Home.

Many a chill can be avoided by the wise use of heating with ever-ready gas stoves. An inset gas fire can easily be installed in any ordinary coal grate, and will provide the necessary warmth at any time. Gas fires make no work. There is no coal to carry up stairs, and no ashes to be cleared away. They are ideal for use in daintily appointed rooms. There is no smoke or dust. They also ventilate the room. Enquiries solicited. ST. JOHN'S GAS LIGHT COMPANY. PHONE 81.

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Basil King's penetrating study of a high society romance, the girl he married in his hour of desperation, the society beauty who begged him to come back

HELENE CHADWICK and JAMES RENNIE PATHE REVIEWS—PATHE NEWS—TRAVELOGUES AND COMEDY SUBJECTS SHOWN WITH THE BIG FEATURE PROGRAMMES.

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COMING.—"WHAT'S WRONG WITH THE WOMEN?" by Daniel Carson Goodman, a terrific drama of the Mad Age. Gone wild with excesses.

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C.L.B. Old Comrades Lottery—will those who have tickets for sale please return stubs to the Rooms, or to any of the Committees, in order that we may proceed with the drawing. jan2/24