

DOUBT CRERAR HAS MADE PACT WITH LIBERALS

Official Circles in Ottawa Believe Political Negotiations Are Off.

CABINET SLATE LOOMS

Premier-Elect King Expected To Announce 'Official Family' Within 24 Hours.

OTTAWA, Ont., Dec. 26.—It may be said with a fair degree of certainty tonight that the negotiations between Premier-elect W. L. Mackenzie King and Hon. T. A. Crerar are off and that the former will form his cabinet without the co-operation of the Progressive forces.

Messrs. Speakman, Forke and Johnston, who accompanied Mr. Crerar hither, left on the evening of the day they arrived. Mr. Crerar outstayed them, but left for Montreal last night, whence he will return home via Toronto. Hon. A. B. Hudson departed for the West last night and it is now taken for granted that not even he will enter the cabinet, for the present at least.

Complete alliance has been maintained by all the parties to the negotiations, and not even the conditions advanced have been divulged.

"I am unable to say anything," declared Mr. Crerar, prior to his departure.

Claim No Breake.
The negotiations, however, are said to have parted on amicable terms. The understanding here seems to be that Mr. King may expect the independent support of the Progressive group so long as its members conscientiously to carry out a really Liberal program.

tion, but that that position will be left to the Conservative group to fill. An effective coalition must be backed by a strong body of support from both the parties to its formation. In the present instance both Liberals and Progressives were well satisfied with the result of the election and neither group was over anxious for an amalgamation. In the Liberal ranks were many who were openly opposed to any coming-together excepting on the basis of straight and unconditional fusion. On the other hand, it is stated, that there was a very strong body of opinion among the members of the agrarian organizations utterly opposed to any "intangling alliance," and insistent, should a coalition take place, upon conditions which the premier-elect could not concede.

Hudson Reported Out.
As it is the Prairie Provinces will have to be content with a very limited representation indeed in the new cabinet. With Hudson said to be out of the running, Mr. King has but two members between the head of the lakes and the Rockies, namely Mr. Murray of North Winnipeg and Mr. McEwen of Regina. The name of the former has not been mentioned in connection with the cabinet, but may now be considered.

With the breaking off of negotiations Mr. King will now be in a position to proceed with the completion of his slate, and an announcement may be expected tomorrow.

While complete secrecy has been maintained with regard to the formation of this new ministry, it is understood that the eastern personnel has been pretty well decided upon for some days past.

In spite of the failure of the week-end negotiations Liberals are confident that they can carry on in Parliament without danger of dissolution or of defeat through a lack of confidence vote.

In the opinion of a prominent supporter of Mr. King, support can be enlisted through good legislation.

WILL BURY GYPSY KING BESIDE FATHER'S GRAVE

DETROIT, Mich., Dec. 26.—The body of Joseph Ell, gypsy king, has been shipped to Chicago for burial beside that of his father, whom he succeeded as ruler.

Ell died following an operation. Scores of tribesmen came here from distant parts of the continent to pay him homage during his illness and participated in the funeral ritual.

LABOR FAVORS PLAN OF C. OF C.

Local Organization Representatives To Explain Position On Immigration.

CLAIM MISCONCEPTION

"I would consider it very fine," was the opinion expressed on Tuesday by W. M. Stewart, secretary of the London Labor Party, commenting upon the proposal that a representative of the chamber of commerce appear before the labor men of the city and explain the latter's position with respect to immigration. Mr. Stewart was also of the belief that there should exist a closer co-operation between the two bodies.

At a recent meeting of the London Trades and Labor Council, the Chamber of Commerce was vigorously assailed by certain of the delegates by reason of the report current at that time that it favored the abolition of the government employment agencies with the re-establishment of private offices in their place. The chamber's alleged unfavorable stand with respect to immigration from Europe was also strenuously opposed.

The Chamber of Commerce members are emphatic in their contention, however, that the entire problem has been completely misunderstood by the bulk of the working people, and contemplate an arrangement whereby one or more of their representatives may attend a general meeting of the union men and extend to them their viewpoint.

CANADIAN EMPLOYMENT FIGURES DECLINE AGAIN

Employment in the building trades as indicated by the building permits issued for the month of November in 56 cities throughout Canada showed increased activity over the previous month. The value rose from \$2,484,469 in the latter month to \$10,958,066 in November. This gain was, however, largely due to a rise in the value of permits for the construction of hotels and several other large buildings in Montreal. All the provinces outside of Quebec showed declines, as also the cities of Toronto, Winnipeg and Vancouver.

CLAIMS HUSBAND 'UNWIGGED' SANTA

Chicago, Dec. 27.—A Christmas comedy at the home of John Magiera ended today in Evanston police court. John Magiera, 34, charged with charges of assault, was too full of moonshine to enact the customary role of Santa Claus for the children, his wife told the police, so he wore a red costume and a flowing white wig and whiskers. This so amused John, she said, that he playfully attacked her with a coal shovel, struck her on the head and the wig fell off, revealing to the children that Santa Nicholas was none other than their mother, and the Christmas celebration was ruined.

"Why didn't you have her locked up yesterday?" the police asked Mrs. Magiera last night when she swore out a warrant. "Well, it was Christmas," she said.

BAND OF ROBBERS CAUGHT AT ST. LOUIS

East St. Louis, Ill., Dec. 27.—Police of East St. Louis and neighboring towns expressed belief today that they have rounded up a band of robbers which has obtained \$140,000 in four recent bank and pay roll robberies in Central and Southern Illinois. Nine men are under arrest, and six of them identified in connection with the robberies.

The robberies included that of the Peabody Gold Mining Company of Kincaid, in which \$55,000 was stolen on Aug. 18; State Bank of Panama, in which \$19,000 was taken on Dec. 12; State Bank of Iuka, in which \$15,000 was taken on Dec. 20, and the DuPont State Bank, which was robbed of \$11,000 on Dec. 21.

HOLD INSPECTOR AND MANAGER RESPONSIBLE

New Haven, Conn., Dec. 27.—City Building Inspector Joseph E. Austin, Lawrence E. Carroll, manager of the theatre and Alfred S. Black, president of the Connecticut theatres corporation, which controlled the theatre are held criminally responsible for the deaths of nine persons in the Rialto Theatre fire of November 27, in a finding by Coroner Mix today.

The coroner's inquest was based on the death of Everett T. Case, which was taken as typical of all deaths as an outcome of the fire.

The coroner also criticizes other persons who were connected with the operation of the theatre and the presentation of a prologue to a moving picture film, which prologue he holds was the direct cause of the fire, finds them negligent but not criminally responsible. Burning incense to give "atmosphere" to the prologue ignited flimsy stage draperies.

The coroner finds that violations of the law in the theatre included absence of an asbestos curtain, lack of a water curtain, an automatic sprinkler, casks of water on the stage, hose connections, lack of fireproof scenery and woodwork.

GIRL ATE CHOCOLATES, THEN DISAPPEARED

Baltimore, Md., Dec. 27.—Mystery today enshrouds the sudden disappearance from the south branch of the Young Women's Christian Association of Miss Lila Dale Russell, a southern girl of refinement and beauty who came to this city several months ago from Albermarle, N. C., to study designing and costume.

Miss Russell, Saturday afternoon, was visited by Raymond Morris, from her home town. Morris brought Miss Russell a box of chocolates.

Miss Russell and her room-mate ate some of the chocolates soon after Morris left, and Miss Russell later in the evening complained that she was not feeling well. She disappeared Sunday night.

SOCIALISTS GATHER TO WELCOME EUGENE DEBS

Terre Haute, Ind., Dec. 27.—Terre Haute is a swarm with Socialists today, leaders of the organization from all parts of the United States assembling here as the advance guard of the thousands expected to welcome Eugene Debs on his arrival from Washington about 4 o'clock Wednesday afternoon.

Phil K. Reinhold, chairman of the local committee in charge of the plans, said today there would be 25,000 men and women in the parade Wednesday afternoon.

A mass meeting has been called for tonight as a tribute to Debs and to afford an opportunity for the gathering hosts to give vent to their feelings for their leader.

Expect Eight Queens To Attend Princess Mary's Wedding!



Foil Flight From Auburn Jail When Convict Breaks His Leg

AUBURN, N. Y., Dec. 26.—Five convicts, recently found guilty of rioting in the yard of the Auburn prison, failed in an attempt to escape Christmas night through their efforts to carry away one of their number who had broken his leg in flight.

This became known today when prison officials announced one criminal had been slain and the others recaptured.

Cutting their way out of the cells in the Auburn courthouse in which they had been confined during their trials and rioting, the convicts dropped into the outer yard, where one became crippled.

The alarm was spread while he was being taken in a wheelbarrow across the yard and some of his companions were searching for a ladder with which to scale the outer wall.

The cripple and two others were immediately caught, but the other two were not recaptured until they were discovered this morning hiding in a packing box in a private office. A bullet fired to frighten, killed one who was crouching in the bottom of the box.

The quintet, all of whom came from Buffalo, had been serving long terms for manslaughter and highway robbery. Clement Facyna was the convict slain, and those who had planned to escape with him were John Wydro, Alexander Y. Kallimowski, Walter Gahdik and Frank Lubicki.

FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL

REPORT LIGHT MARKET SALES

Only Small Quantities of Produce Offered Tuesday.

There was little produce offered for sale on the city market Tuesday. There were a few bags of potatoes offered for sale at \$1.50 a bag, but the demand was slow. There was no hay or grain offered. It is predicted that next Saturday's market will be large. A big sale of fowl is anticipated.

The Christmas market was one of the largest in years. There were enormous quantities of fowl offered. The prices offered were somewhat similar to those of past years. Many citizens obtained live birds at a reasonable price, as the market was drawing to a close, the farmers not desiring to return with any unsold fowl.

LIVE STOCK

Toronto, Dec. 27.—Cattle—Receipts, 92; 100 active, steady; lambs, \$5.00; export from Kansas City. There are not many cattle offered to attract the buyers, and practically no trading is being done.

There are no hogs in the market, and only 52 sheep.

East Buffalo, N.Y., Dec. 27.—Cattle—Receipts (two days), 1,300; steady; shipping steers are quoted at \$7.20@8.50, and one head sold today at \$8.00; butchers, \$7.25@8.50; yearlings, \$6.00@11; heifers, \$4.50@7.50; cows, \$2.25@5.75; bulls, \$2.25@5.25; stockers and feeders, \$5.00@6.

Calves—Receipts (two days), 850; steady, \$6.75@11. Hogs—Receipts (two days), 6,720; steady to 25c higher; heavy, \$9; mixed, \$9@9.25; yorkers, \$9.25@9.50; light yorkers and pigs, \$9.75; roughs, \$6.50.

Sheep and Lambs—Receipts (two days), 2,000; active, steady; lambs, \$5.00; 12.25; yearlings, \$5.00@10; wethers, \$6.00@6.50; ewes, \$2.00@5.50; mixed sheep, \$2.25@5.

GRAIN

Winnipeg, Dec. 27.—Opening: Wheat—Dec., 35c to 36c higher at \$1.04@1.05; 110% May, 36c to 37c higher at \$1.14@1.15.

Oats—Dec., 34c higher at 42 1/2c; May, 34c higher at 45 1/2c.

Barley—May, 34c higher at 40c.

Flax—Dec., 34c higher at \$1.70; May, 34c higher at \$1.80.

Rye—Dec., unchanged at \$7c.

Chicago, Dec. 27.—Opening: Wheat—Dec., \$1.14; May, \$1.17 1/2.

Corn—Dec., 49 1/2c; May, 53 1/2c.

Oats—Dec., 34 1/2c; May, 39 1/2c.

Montreal, Dec. 27.—The local stock exchange was evidently suffering from an overdose of Christmas during the first half hour this morning, for only two of the leaders were traded in, and both of these were quiet. Brazilian rose 3/4 point to 28, and Riordon was quoted unchanged at 5.

GOLD AND SILVER

New York, Dec. 27.—Foreign bar silver, 64 1/2c per ounce.

Butter and Eggs
Chicago, Dec. 27.—Butter—Easy; creamery extras, 42 1/2c.

Eggs—Lower; receipts, 2,873 cases; firsts, 48@49c.

EXCHANGE RATES

New York, Dec. 27.—Sterling exchange firm; demand, Great Britain, \$4.20 1/2.

Canadian dollars, 6 1/2 per cent discount.

NEW YORK STOCKS

New York, Dec. 27.—Wall Street, 10:30 a.m.—Events of over the Christmas

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COAL PLENTIFUL IN NEW YORK CITY

Wall Street Journal Finds Stagnant Condition in Trade.

New York, Dec. 27.—Canadian Press.—There appears to be plenty of coal in sight for everybody this winter, according to reports printed this morning by the Wall Street Journal. The paper declares that such a stagnant condition in the coal trade has scarcely ever been paralleled at the beginning of the winter season, and reports that operators, wholesalers, and the majority of retailers are well stocked. The latest estimates of the supply of anthracite in the hands of the operators and ready for shipment place this at 5,000,000 tons, a remarkably high figure for this time of the year. An intimation is given that lower prices may be expected.

"Retail dealers' margins increased a few years ago," the paper says, "but the dullness in trade for a part of the year, when their organizations must be maintained, has made their operation cost heavy. With keen competition, in the north."

CANCER DEATH RATE INCREASED

Washington, Dec. 27.—Deaths from cancer in the death registration area of the United States in 1920 totaled approximately 73,000, according to a report today by the census bureau, which on a basis of proportional population estimated the total of deaths for the entire country at 89,000, or an increase of 5,000 from the estimate for 1919.

The upward trend of the cancer death rate, the report said, is accurately shown by the increase to 83.4 per cent per 100,000 population in the registration area in 1920 from a rate of 80.9 per 100,000 in 1919. Race comparisons for various sections under the adjusted rates, the report said, show the white and negro races to be equally susceptible to the disease, with both apparently less susceptible in the south than in the north.

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