Norwich Bulletin

VOL. LXII—NO. 314 | POPULATION 29,685 | NORWICH, CONN., WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1920 | 10 PAGES—74 COLUMNS | PRICE TWO CENTS.

LEAGUE ASSEMBLY VOTES LIMITATION OF ARMAMENTS

Disarmament Committee Report Was Adopted in the Form of a Recommendation—Calls For Limitation by the Powers For the Next Two Years by Agreement Among Them—France, Brazil, Chile, Poland, Rumania and Uruguay Voted Against the Clause—Tripartite Agreement With Great Britain and Japan Discussed in the Senate.

Geneva, Dec. 14.—(By the A. P.)—The assembly of the league of nations this afternoon went on record as favoring the limitation of armaments by the powers for the next two years by agreement among them. The limitations clause of the disarmament committee's report was adopted after it had been modified so as to take the form of a recommendation.

France, Brazil, Chile, Greece, Poland, Rumania and Uruguay voted against the clause.

The first step for disarmament of the nations must be cautious and deliberate, the assembly of the league of nations decided today, despite sharp criticisms by George Nicoll Barnes, the British labor leader, and Christian Lange of Norway. Mr. Barnes said there was "too much quibble and not enough pluck in the decisions to go slowly."

The policy of the United States on this question was, by more or less veiled allusions, invoked as one reason why general disarmament cannot be boldly grappled with at this time, Mr. Barnes said H. A. L. Fisher of the British delegation referred to "nations with powerful arms and munition making facilities that still are outside the league." The absence from the league of former enemy countries also was referred to by Mr. Fisher. This brought from Mr. Barnes the retort: "They now are practically disarmed and cannot constitute a menace for years to come."

A curious manifestation of the session was the general applause of the delegates for the pleas made by Messrs. Barnes and Lange, for an immediate minimum effort, while at the same time accepting the conclusions of the disarmament committee. These are, briefly, an effort to prevent the future increase of armaments, and propaganda in favor of a decrease as a steady means of bringing about eventual, but remote, general disarmament.

France and Belgium accepted the committee's conclusions upon limitations of armament expenditures during the next ten years on the basis of appropriations for last year. They added, however, that they could not consider the restoration of armaments destroyed during the war as increased expenditure, but pointed out that measures were being taken to reduce the period of military service. M. Pollet of Belgium said: "Belgium has received no reparations. She cannot spike her guns while the league of nations still is in the process of formation."

TRIPARTITE AGREEMENT DISCUSSED IN THE SENATE

Washington, Dec. 14.—Rumored intentions of Great Britain and Japan to seek a tripartite agreement with the United States for limitation of warship building programs came up today in congress.

In the senate, a resolution was offered by Senator Bora, republican, Idaho, requesting the president to seek an agreement with those powers for a five-year naval building truce with construction programs cut in half during that period. It would, he said, "develop whether Great Britain and Japan are sincere in the talk of reducing armaments."

Before the house naval committee, Secretary Daniels presented his recommendations for naval construction with this comment:

"I profoundly believe that the United States cannot afford to take a five-year 'naval holiday' as it has been rumored England and Japan will suggest to this country.

"It would be a blunder, almost a crime, for the United States to enter into an alliance with any two or three nations either to suspend or curtail naval building or for any other purpose. It would certainly make for suspicion among the other nations."

Senator Borah's resolution went to the foreign relations committee without debate. The Idaho senator said he would urge prompt action.

The house naval committee prepared to inquire into the relative strength of the navies of the three powers. It was informed by Admiral Coontz, chief of naval operations who accompanied Secretary Daniels, that if all building were suspended today, the comparative capital ships tonnage figures would be: Great Britain, 864,600; United States, 465,000; Japan, 326,000. The officer was instructed to be ready tomorrow to discuss in detail at an executive session, the question of relative strength, existing and projected.

Secretary Daniels told the committee he agreed entirely with Senator Harding's recent statement at Norfolk that the navy should be commensurate with the nation's interests, reiterating his opinion that it should be "equal to any in the world."

"I wish we could have a world agreement to settle disputes, without recourse to arms," he added, "but until that time comes and comes surely, we ought to carry out our naval building program."

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON MARRIAGE LAWS WANTED

Geneva, Dec. 14.—The council and assembly of the league of nations have been asked to invade the realm of domesticity and try to solve the complicated matter of international marriages. The women's international league for peace and freedom has presented a request that an international commission on marriage laws be appointed by the assembly to consider the complexities of marriages between persons of different nationalities and make a report at the next assembly.

The members of the secretariat filed the request, the feeling being suggested that such an investigation would add to the league's difficulties rather than increase its prestige.

SHRINKAGE IN VALUES OF COUNTRY'S FARM CROPS

Washington, Dec. 14.—(By the A. P.)—Shrinkage of values of the country's farm crops has placed their total worth this year at almost $5,000,000,000 less than last year, although the 1920 harvest was one of the most abundant in the nation's history, with a half a dozen crops breaking records.

The important farm crops, which comprise about 90 per cent. of the value of all farm crops, were valued this year at $9,148,519,000 by the department of agriculture today in its final estimates. Last year these crops were valued at $14,087,995,000. Acreage devoted to the important crops also decreased, the total being $351,062,499 this year, as compared with $366,162,122 last year.

Increases in almost every crop were reported in the revised production figures, as compared with the preliminary estimates announced in November.

Corn, with a record crop, shows an increase of about 36,000,000 bushels; winter wheat an increase of almost 48,000,000 bushels; spring wheat a decrease of 9,000,000 bushels; oats an increase of almost 70,000,000 bushels; barley increased almost 11,000,000 bushels; potatoes increased 9,000,000 bushels, and tobacco increased 32,000,000 pounds.

The yield of corn per acre set a record with an average production of 30.9 bushels. While the corn crop is a record one, its value this year is $1,062,000,000 less than last year's crop, which was smaller by 3,74,000,000 bushels. The price being paid to farmers for corn on December 1 was announced by the department of agriculture as 67.7 cents a bushel as compared with 1.549 a year ago.

Production of the various crops are estimated in the following terms: Bushels—Corn, winter wheat, spring wheat, oats, barley, rye, buckwheat, flaxseed, rice, potatoes, sweet potatoes, peanuts, beans and peaches. Tons—Hay and cottonseed. Pounds—Tobacco, beet sugar and cane sugar. Gallons—Sorghum syrup. Bales—Cotton. Boxes—oranges and barrels, apples.

BONES OF SOME OF THE PILGRIM FATHERS EXPOSED

Plymouth, Mass., Dec. 14.—The bones of some of the Pilgrim Fathers were exposed for a time today when the box in which they have been kept was removed from the canopy over Plymouth Rock where they had rested since 1889. The records do not say whose remains they are but the two relatively well preserved skulls and other bones found in the casket are reputed to be those of members of the colony who died during the ordeal of the first winter.

The canopy is to be removed and the rock re-set under conditions that will bring it again to above level.

VALUE OF FARM CROPS THIS YEAR $9,148,519,000

Washington, Dec. 14.—The value of the country's important farm crops this year is $9,148,519,000, compared with $14,087,995,000, their value last year, the department of agriculture announced today. These values, based on prices paid to farmers on December 1, represent best 90 per cent. of the value of all farm crops.

$200,000,000 NECESSARY FOR THE RELIEF OF FARMERS

Washington, Dec. 14.—The bill of the senate agriculture committee, directing revival of the war finance corporation and favoring the extension of more liberal credits by the federal reserve system as a measure of relief for the farmers, was referred to the banking and currency committee upon its arrival in the house today after its passage yesterday by the senate.

The committee immediately began hearings at which representatives of wool growers appeared in support of the bill. At least $200,000,000, the committee was told, should be made available for the relief of farmers, livestock growers and business interests.

The senate also continued its consideration of the farmer relief problem in a discussion of the Capper-Hersman bill, which was passed by the house last May, to authorize co-operative marketing by agricultural associations under regulation of the federal trade commission.

MANUFACTURING PLANTS AT ELIZABETH, N. J., TO CLOSE

Elizabeth, N. J., Dec. 14.—Announcements were made today of the shutting down or curtailing of large industrial plants here that will affect several thousand persons.

The main plant of the Singer Sewing Machine company employing 8,000 announced it would close from December 22 to January 5 because of lack of orders.

The Dihel Manufacturing company beginning December 18, will make a flat wage reduction of ten per cent. in lieu of laying off employes.

At the Moor plantation the Bethlehem shipbuilding corporation it was stated that several hundred employes had been dismissed in the past three days, officials explaining that no further orders were in sight.

CONSTANTINE HAS REACHED SWISS-ITALIAN FRONTIER

On Board Constantine's Train, Chiasso, Switzerland, Dec. 14.—(By The A. P.)—Running on time, winding its way through the spiral tunnels crossing the Alps, the train bearing Former King Constantine to Venice, whence he is to proceed to Athens to resume the throne of Greece, reached Chiasso, on the Swiss-Italian frontier, at eight o'clock this evening. The journey thus far has been without incident.

Constantine and his family remained today in the seclusion of their private cars.

The cars belonging to the Greek royal party will be transferred to the regular train for Venice on reaching Milan some time tonight.

MASKED BANDITS GOT $30,000 AT BAYONNE, N. J.

Bayonne, N. J., Dec. 14.—Seven masked bandits led by an unmasked leader obtained $30,000, it was estimated, when more than 200 racing devotees were held up in a cafe here this afternoon.

The robbers entered the place as the last report of the New Orleans races were being received and forced the crowd against the walls at the point of their guns. While the search was proceeding, a crash of glass followed by a pistol shot threw the place into confusion, and during the pandemonium the bandits escaped in a waiting automobile.

Cabled Paragraphs

Pope Received Cardinal Mercier.

Rome, Dec. 13.—Cardinal Mercier, prelate of Belgium, was received by Pope Benedict today. After the cardinal had kissed the Pope's hand, the pontiff praised him and embraced him. During their talk they recalled the vicissitudes through which they had gone during the last six years and exchanged expressions of hope for the regeneration of the world.

INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS CONFERENCE TO CONTINUE

Washington, Dec. 14.—Sessions of the international communications conference, threatened by disruption several days ago over failure to agree on disposition of the former German cables, will continue under a modus vivendi adopted today at a plenary session.

Representatives of France, Great Britain and Japan, in the meantime, will return home to confer with their governments relative to the primary questions at issue, none of which had been settled at the sessions which began here October 8. The ambassadors of the three nations will continue the negotiations as substitutes for the specially appointed delegates.

The modus vivendi, as drawn up at today's session and made public by the state department tonight, further provides:

That after January 1 the German cables seized by Great Britain, France and Japan during the war, "shall be operated as at present, but for the financial account of the five powers (Great Britain, France, Japan, Italy and the United States,) provided, however, that in accounting for such operation, the income after deducting operating expenses shall be apportioned in accordance with the final disposition to be made of such cables."

Should a final agreement as to disposition of the cables not be reached by next February 7, "the conference shall immediately arrange for a new modus vivendi to become effective on or before next March 15."

Concessions making possible today's provisional agreement were understood to have resulted in large part from pressure brought to bear in the conference by Acting Secretary of State Davis who last week obtained from the senate foreign relations committee assurances of support for the American delegates' contentions. The American and Italian delegations were understood to have objected to any adjournment of the conference without some sort of an agreement. Basing their objections, it is stated, on the possibility that the other three powers already in possession of the disputed cables might protract indefinitely the reconvening of the negotiations.

Disposition of the Island of Yap, Center of cable communication in the Pacific, for which it has been suggested Japan be given the mandate, as well as the settlement of the principle insisted upon by the United States of equal landing rights upon the island for the cables of all countries, were questions which were left unsettled by the conference. It was stated today that the eventual disposition of Yap might be arrived at only by a settlement entirely independent of the communications conference and after an examination of the status of Japan's title.

The principal other bone of contention which prevented a settlement at this time of the disposition of the former German cables was the refusal of the French delegates to admit the claims of Italy or the United States to the German transatlantic cable held by France connecting New York with Brest. This the United States and Italy desire to employ as a direct means of communication between the United States and Italy by the diversion of its eastern end to Genoa.

SEIZED LIQUOR IN RUG AND LEATHER SHIPMENTS

Boston, Dec. 14.—A seizure of high grade liquors valued in Canada at between $15,000 and $20,000 that was being run into the country under cover of leather and rug shipments was announced by treasury agents today when they arrested Louis Weintraub of Montreal as a fugitive from justice in Vermont. The seizure which said to be the largest of high grade liquors made at a New England border point was accomplished at Richford, Vt. Special Treasury Agent William A. Barner in the formal complaint said Weintraub was wanted there to answer to a charge of making a false declaration to customs officials in connection with the shipments in two carloads which were supposedly of leather and rugs.

BOSTON PAWNBROKER WOUNDED WOULD-BE ROBBER

Boston, Dec. 14.—A foreigner who held up Joseph Maddestan an East Boston pawn broker in his shop today was put to flight with a bullet in his neck when Maddestan answered a demand for money with a shot from a revolver. The robber fired twice at the pawn broker. A police cordon was thrown around ferries and bridges while search for the man was made made on Noddle Island.

The robber a young man entered the shop and asked to see a raincoat but in a moment had drawn an automatic pistol and demanded the contents of the cash drawer. Maddestan stopped as if to open the drawer but picked up a revolver instead. He said he thought the bullet struck the robber in the neck. The man fired two shots before he ran away.

HIGH SEAS CUT INTO CLAY CLIFFS AT HIGHLAND LIGHT

North TTruro, Mass., Dec. 14.—Recent gales have made serious inroads on the clay cliffs at Highland Light. The foot of the cliffs have been cut away so deeply that a considerable overhang has been produced and there is every prospect that in the near future twenty-five feet of the top surface will slide into the sea. The building containing the fog horn which is equipped with much heavy machinery was formerly well back from the 140 foot cliff and was presumed to be beyond the reach of any invasion of the sea but so much of the clay buttress has been worn away by winter storms that the building is now only 100 feet from the cliff edge.

FALL RIVER PATROLMAN SUICIDES IN STATION

Fall River, Mass., Dec. 14.—The body of Patrolman John H. Boyd, who had been a member of the local police department for more than 20 years was found in a park in the rear of the Northern police station today with a bullet hole through the right temple. He had been ill for several weeks and had been off duty for four days and it was believed by his superiors that he had killed himself during a fit of depression. He leaves a wife and six children.

GERMANY AND BRAZIL HAVE RENEWED RELATIONS

Rio Janeiro, Dec. 13.—Diplomatic relations between Germany and Brazil, which were broken in April, 1917, were resumed today, when George Alfred Piehn, German minister to this country, arrived.

Sharp Conflicts Over Money For Army

Sec'y Baker Asks For Appropriation of $700,000,000—Predict Cut to $300,000,000

Washington, Dec. 14.—Sharp conflicts between congress and the war department over the amount of money to be appropriated this year for the military establishment developed today at the initial meeting of the house sub-committee to draft the 1921 army appropriation bill.

Representative Anthony of Kansas, chairman of the sub-committee, predicted that the army appropriation for the coming fiscal year would be cut approximately to $300,000,000. He advocated restriction of the size of the army to 175,000, abandonment of half of the camps maintained by the war department, and immediate sale of the army surplus supplies.

Secretary Baker and Major-General March, chief of staff, appearing before the committee, urged the appropriation this year of approximately $700,000,000 for army expenses. The war department was allowed $392,000,000 for the present year.

Secretary Baker estimated that the war department would incur a deficit of $60,000,000 during the present year; of this amount, he said, $38,000,000 will be needed for the pay of enlisted men. Chairman Anthony, however, said members of the committee were convinced the war department's deficiency would total at least $100,000,000.

The war secretary was asked to submit a report showing what camps were being maintained and for what purpose they were being used.

"We must close at least half our camps, particularly those located in more remote districts which cannot be kept up as cheaply as those closer to supplies," said Mr. Anthony. "It has been shown that it cost much more to maintain troops on the Mexican border than at centralized posts. The committee, for the sake of economy intends to provide for the withdrawal of many of the troops now on the border."

Another policy of the committee, Mr. Anthony said, would be to provide for the full strength maintenance on only two divisions instead of nine as the war department favors. The remaining divisions would be maintained in skeleton form and would be increased to full strength only in emergency, under Mr. Anthony's plan.

Immediate sale of between 30,000 and 40,000 motor trucks now held in reserve was said by Representative Anthony to be favored by the committee.

Secretary Baker was questioned particularly to be favored by the committee.

Secretary Baker was questioned particularly as to the present size of the army and in reply said it consisted of approximately 216,000 enlisted men and 14,000 officers.

Members of the house military committee have charged the war department with breaking faith with congress in recruiting more than 180,000 men for which provision was made in the army appropriation bill.

"This year," said Representative Anthony, "we will appropriate for an army of not more than 175,000 men and in addition will put a mandatory provision in the appropriation bill that the war department is not to exceed that number."

BRITISH TROOPS FIRED ON IN THE SUBURBS OF LONDON

Dublin, Dec. 14.—(By The A. P.)—A party of armed men attacked a military motor lorry carrying six "black and tans" at Ballsbridge on the outskirts of this city today. The "black and tans" took cover in the post office. Reinforcements were rushed up and relieved them. The casualties, if any, had not been reported up to this afternoon.

The raid was aimed to secure the government mail. The attacking party seized all except the registered letters which one cadet had in his pocket. The tramway service on the main line was suspended while the attack was in progress.

This was the fourth successful raid for official letters in Ballsbridge. In each case the raiders made their escape.

UNION JANITORS OF CHICAGO THREATEN STRIKE

Chicago, Dec. 14.—Chicago janitors issued their 'Happy New Year' message to apartment dwellers today. Unless demands for blanket increase of 25 per cent., in wages are granted, union janitors threaten to desert their fires and go on strike December 31, according to William Quesse, president of the union. The janitors number 4,837. The strike, union chiefs say, would tie up deliveries of milk and other supplies to apartment houses affected.

STOCK MARKET QUOTATIONS TRANSEMITTED BY WIRELESS

New York, Dec. 14.—Stock brokers transacted business between New York and Chicago by wireless today, when one New York firm exchanged orders with its Chicago correspondents by radio after their ground wires went out of commission. Market quotations were transmitted in both directions by the same system. The experiment was pronounced a success.

MASSACHUSETTS CITIES VOTE FOR SUNDAY SPORTS

Boston, Dec. 14.—Substantial majorities in favor of the four proposals on the ballot were returned by the voters of this city today. Sunday sports were supported more than two toone and the act establishing a state boxing commission was affirmed by nearly three votes to one. Liquor license and license for 2.75 per cent. beverages received smaller majorities.

COOLIDGE TO ENTERTAIN NEW ENGLAND GOVERNORS

Boston, Dec. 14.—The governors and governors-elect of the six New England states will be the guests at a dinner and reception to be tendered to Vice President-elect Calvin Coolidge in this city on December 29 by the joint New England commission on foreign and domestic commerce. Plans for the dinner were completed at a meeting of the executive committee of the commission today.

ALLIES DECIDE TO DISARM GENERAL WRANGEL'S TROOPS?

London, Dec. 14.—A wireless despatch from Moscow today asserts that England and France have decided to disarm the troops of General Wrangel, recently driven from the Crimea by the Russian soviet forces. General Wrangel, the message reports, has applied to the Brazilian government requesting permission for a part of his soldiers, "who desire to return to peaceful labor," to settle in Brazil.

More Than Billion Uncollected Taxes

Work of Auditing Returns of Corporations For the Year 1917 Not Yet Completed.

Washington, Dec. 14.—Methods of raising sufficient revenues to offset losses through prospective repeal of the excess profits tax were considered today by the house ways and means committee as the second step toward tax revision. The committee at previous sessions has considered changes in the taxes on incomes.

The day's hearings brought from the treasury an estimate that "more than a billion dollars" were outstanding in uncollected taxes, most of which, the treasury spokesman, Dr. Thomas S. Adams, said, was traceable to inability to audit thousands of corporation returns. Dr. Adams declared that the revenue bureau had not yet completed the work of auditing returns for the year 1917 because of the gigantic administrative burden of tax collection.

Majority members of the committee revealed at today's hearings a virtual agreement with respect to repeal of the excess profits tax. Their immediate work, it was said, lay in finding a substitute levy which would produce an equal amount of revenue.

Although the committee will take up its regular schedule of hearings tomorrow and probably will not reach tax questions during the day, members said tonight they expected to continue to delve into the intricacies of corporation taxation until some tangible policy is developed.

HARDING FEELS GREATLY ENCOURAGED BY ADVICE

Marion, O., Dec. 14.—With his conferences here on an association of nations only fairly begun, President-elect Harding let it be known today that he already had gathered information and advice which greatly encouraged him.

Making his first comment on the progress of the consultations, he said they han been "very interesting and gratifying."

"It apparently will not be so difficult as some people had supposed," he added, "to find a common ground for agreement."

The president-elect would not discuss specific conferences or detailed suggestions of an association plan. He indicated that he had given considerable thought to the proposal for a world agreement not to declare offensive war except in response to a popular referendum, but he said he could express no opinion on the subject.

It is understood that Mr. Harding has felt particularly pleased with the information regarding conditions and opinions abroad as described to him by Herbert Hoover, Elihu Root and others who have seen him here. Still more detailed surveys are to be given him in conferences yet to come, it being taken for granted that among others Senator McCormick of Illinois, who now is in Europe, will see him within a few weeks.

Mr. Harding tonight denied directly, however, published reports that Senator McCormick was acting as a representative in conferences with European statesmen. The president-elect said he had "no agents in Europe, in the United States, or in any other part of the world."

Today Mr. Harding saw few callers and held no conferences on the association plan. Governor Sproul of Pennsylvania and W. W. Atterbury, vice president of the Pennsylvania railroad, were on his engagement list but requested that their appointments be put over until a later date. Tomorrow he will see Raymond Robins, a former leader of the progressive party and a member of the republican executive campaign committee in the 1920 campaign.

How long the president-elect will remain in Marion still is undetermined, and published reports of a definite plan to move to some southern resort in the near future all were denied today at Harding headquarters. The general understanding has been that a southern trip probably will be taken some time in January.

DROP IN PRICE OF FRESH EGGS IN NEW YORK MARKET

New York, Dec. 14.—Prices of fresh egs were reduced by amounts varying from 5 to 12 cents a dozen in the New York market today due to warmer weather throughout the egg producing areas of the country which had materially increased the early December production.

White California eggs, which last week were offered at $1 to $1.08 wholesale, today were bringing between [illegible] and 93 cents per dozen. Fresh western eggs sold at 83 to 87 cents an average reduction of five cents from Saturday. Storage egs, the supply of which is lower than in previous years at this season were little affected by price changes.

Reports to wholesalers here indicated an even greater influx of fresh egs from the west and southwest during the next few days.

MOVIES TO RAISE $2,500,000 FOR STARVING CHILDREN

New York, Dec. 14.—The motion picture industry in America today pledged itself to Herbert Hoover, to raise $2,500,000 to succor starving children in Central Europe.

Mr. Hoover, addressing a conference of film magnates meeting to discuss plans for combatting proposed Sunday "blue laws," asked that they arrange to rescue 250,000 of the 3,500,000 children reported in imminent peril of starvation, saying relief societies would be forced to suspend operations unless aid came within 60 days.

William A. Brady, president of the National Association of Motion Picture Industry and Sidney R. Cohen, president of the Motion Picture Owners of the United States, then pledged the industry to raise $2,500,000.

KILLED HIS WIFE BECAUSE SHE "DOUBLE CROSSED" HIM

Springfield, Mass., Dec. 14.—A confession alleged to have been made to the police shortly after his arrest was read in court today at the hearing of Charles Miller, 40 Allis street, Worcester, on the charge of murdering his wife in this city Thanksgiving day. Miller said, according to the confession, that he killed his wife because she had "double crossed" him. The Millers were visiting here in the home of Miss Grace Dickinson who also was shot and died of her injuries. Miller's confession includes the shooting of Miss Dickinson, but he has not yet been formally charged with her murder.

TWO YEAR SENTENCE FOR PASSING RAISED BILLS

Providence, R. I., Dec. 14.—A sentence of two years in the federal penitentiary in Atlanta was imposed by Federal Judge Brown today on Tony Korol, claiming to be from Hartford, Conn., and Central Falls, R. I., for passing two $2 bills raised to $20 in Central Falls three months.

Brief Telegrams

Diplomatic relations between Holland and Jugoslavia have been broken.

Military control of Danzig by Poland has been recommended to the council of the league of nations.

The first general reduction in retail bread prices became effective in Springfield, Mass., Monday.

The "assigned car" order of the Interstate commerce commission was upheld by the supreme court.

President Wilson announced he would "adopt 20 starving children of Central Europe as "temporary wards."

Captain J. Robinson, U. S. A., of Oakland, California, died in the American hospital at Constantinople.

Trinity college commons will close Dec. 22. Competition of fraternity eating clubs was given as the reason.

The Greek destroyer Navkratousa foundered in the Mediterranean near the island of Melos. The crew was saved.

Temporary injunction against Brooklyn Edison Co., raising electric rates was continued until Dec. 20, by Justice Benedict.

The Milburn Wagon Co.'s plant at Toledo began work on a $12,000,000 order for bodies for General Motors Oldsmobile division.

Subpoenas were issued to witnesses in the case of the United States against John J. McGraw for alleged violations of the Volstead act.

Secretary Daniels declared he was not in favor of a triple agreement between this country, England and Japan to limit naval armaments.

Concentrations of soviet troops are occurring in the direction of Vilna, consequent on the arrival of allied and neutral troops in Vilna.

Freshmen of the College of the City of New York, cut the electric light wire at the South View hotel, plunging the sophomore smoker into darkness.

Sir Hamar Greenwood, chief secretary for Ireland, protested in Commons against the assumption that Crown forces had started the Cork conflagration.

The French government's revenue for November according to a statement by the ministry of finance was 1,087,985,000 francs which is 92,196,190 above the estimates.

Bandits broke into the Manchen Post Office (New Jersey) and made their escape with $10,000. The American Express Co.'s office and several box cars also were looted.

The Yale corporation has voted to accept a gift of railroad bonds of a par value of $150,000, offered by an anonymous "friend of Yale," to be used by the department of university health.

Mayor Peter F. Sullivan, democrat, was re-elected at the municipal election at Worcester, Mass., yesterday, defeating Former Mayor George M. Wright, republican, who had served four terms.

The state department was petitioned to protest to the Mexican government against alleged vice conditions in Tia Juana, Mexico, across the border from San Diego, Calif.

President Irigoyen personally directed the course of the Argentine delegation at Geneva which resulted in its withdrawal from the assembly of the League of Nations.

Ninety American, English and Irish newspaper correspondents in Dublin declared they were intimidated by the military and police in their efforts to report events in Ireland.

A collision between a heavy motor driven fire truck and a small touring car in Springfield, Mass., resulted in the death of John Gustafson, who was riding in the touring car.

Customs inspectors seized $3,000 worth of goods not included in Mongolia's manifest. As no actual attempt was made at smuggling the goods ashore, there have been no arrests yet.

King Christian and Queen Alexandria of Denmark arrived in Rome from Paris. They were received by King Emmanuel and Queene Helene at the railway station and taken to the royal hotel.

The disappearance two weeks ago of Miss Maud M. Daniels who was secretary to Edward A. Merritt, one of the directors of the Christian Science church was formally reported to the police of Boston.

With the announcement of price reductions in refined sugar by three large refining companies to the 8 3-4c level of the Federal Sugar Refining Co., the latter imediately reduced it prices 1-2c to 8 -14c.

Allen Forbes, a Boston banker who was treasurer of the Fund for the Fatherless Children of France has been awarded the Cross of the Chevalier of the Legion of Honor for service rendered France.

It is understood that the budget committee of the league of nations has decided to refer the question of salaries of league officials to a committee which will report at the next convocation of the assembly.

Hearing on the refusal of the railway commissions of seven states to permit railroads to increase intra-state freight and passenger rates to the same level as intrastate rates were begun by the interstate commerce commission.

At the request of the shipping board the interstate commerce commission again suspended until further order the section of the merchant mare act authorizing preferential rail rates on goods consiged for foreign shipment.

Fourteen members of the crew of the Freighter Hegre, plying between New York, Cuba and Colombia were detained as material witnesses as soon as the vessel arrived at New York in connection with the looting of 52 U. S. mail sacks.

Feeling between Germans and Poles in the mining region of upper Silesia is running high. Weapons are being secretly carried by both sides in warfare to prevent the opposition from voting on the question whether the territory belong to Germany or Poland.

Four men entered the Glenwood Inn on the outskirts of Newburgh, N. Y., covered Frank Garoff, the proprietor, with revolvers, plundered the hotel of cash and valuables worth $20,000, stabbed Garoff with a knife and then escaped in their victim's own automobile.

ARE BIG STEEL CORPORATIONS BLOCKING BUILDING IN N. Y.?

Charge is Made That They Are Attempting to Force Their "Open Shop" Policy Upon the Builders — Disclosure Made That National Association of Steel Fabricators Was Formed Mainly to "Deal With Labor Conditions."

New York, Dec. 14.—Testimony that the Bethlehem Steel Company, the United States Steel Corporation and manufacturers of fabricated steel are blocking operations in New York and other cities by attempting to force their 'open shop' policy upon builders who employ union men was heard today by the joint legislative committee investigating the alleged "building trust."

Enforcement of the "open shop" principle in steel construction in New York and Philadelphia, it was testified, is merely the "opening wedge" of the system which was to be extended throughout the country.

Despite personal appeals to Eugene Grace, president of the Bethlehem Steel Company, and Charles M. Schwab, chairman of the board, Paul Starrett, president of the George A. Fuller company, and Louis Horowitz, president of the Thompson-Starrett Company—two of the largest construction companies in the United States—testified that they were unable to purchase structural steel direct for erection under union shop conditions.

They declared they had been practically driven out of the steel erection business because of their employment of union men and had to have all their structural work done by members of the Iron League of New York or the National Erectors' Association, thus increasing the cost of construction work.

Besides probing into the alleged "open shop" domination of steel manufacturers, the committee also began an inquiry into the alleged combination of bridge builders and structural steel workers' organization—the Bridge Builders and Structural Society—which includes in its membership the American Bridge Company a subsidiary of the United States Steel Corporation and the Bethlehem Steel Bridge Company.

George E. Gifford, secretary of the society, admitted its twenty-nine members had a system of exchanging bids; that its "book of rules" contained provisions whereby estimates could be revised to meet outside competition.

The National Association of Steel Fabricators also was brought under the committee's fire while Mr. Gifford was on the stand, as he was acting secretary of the organization. Despite the denial of the witness that the organization was not formed to deal "mainly with labor conditions," Samuel Untermyer, the committee's counsel, read extracts from its minutes, showing it had been supporting the "open shop" movement.

Both Mr. Starrett and Mr. Horowitz testified that union structural steel workers were from 25 to 35 per cent. more efficient than non-union erectors, and declared that when they were forced to let the members of the Iron league or the National Erectors' association do the work it added from 5 to 10 per cent. to the cost of the job. Mr. Horowitz declared he could have saved from $225,000 to $500,000 on one job if he could have done the work himself.

ON ORGANIZATION OF EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS

Washington, Dec. 14.—A joint congressional committee on reorganization of the executive departments, to be composed of three members each of the house and senate, was approved today by the house. The resolution passed the senate last session and was endorsed by the house today without amendment or a dissenting vote. Speaker Gillett said he would announce the three house members when the president signs the measure. The proposed investigation is expected to extend for a period of two years.

Representative Reavis, republican, of Nebraska, in charge of the measure, said the government would reduce its operating expenses by at least $1,000,000 a day and would greatly increase the efficiency of its machinery through proper co-ordinated departments.

"It is a matter of common knowledge," he said, "that millions of dollars are wasted by the government by almost endless duplication of activities. The government today is not only the biggest business in the world, but the world's worst managed business."

LIGHTER FOUNDERS IN SOUND; FIVE OF CREW ARE MISSING

Bridgeport, Conn., Dec. 14.—Five members of the crew of the steamer lighter Calvin Tompkins of New York are missing and are believed by their companions to have been drowned when the vessel foundered two miles outside of Bridgeport harbor today.

According to the seven survivors of the crew of twelve, the lighter sprang a leak during the fierce storm which swept over Long Island sound early today and quickly sank. The crew of the vessel attempted to make shore in three life boats, but the heavy seas and high wind carried them off their course.

Two boats containing seven men were picked up this afternoon by Keeper William Hardwick of the Bridgeport lighthouse. No trace of the third boat containing the five missing men had been found at a late hour tonight.

The Calvin Tompkins was en route to Bridgeport with a cargo of iron castings.

PRIESTS ROUGHLY HANDLED BY POLICE IN CORK

Cork, Dec. 14.—Among the victims of Saturday night's terrorism preceding the fires here two priests, the Rev. Patrick MacSwiney, closely related to the lord mayor of Cork, and Father McCarthy, who are reported to have been severely handled by armed uniformed men. Father McCarthy's injuries were so severe that he was unconscious yesterday and is still unable to leave his bed, while Father MacSwiney is scarcely able to move owing to lameness and bruises.

The two priests have told the correspondents how they, with other passengers, including women, were held up in a tram-car Saturday night by men wearing long coats over police uniforms. These men fired int othe car and roughly ejected all the passengers, lined them up in a side street at the point of the rifle and searched them.

FEDERAL REGULATION OF MEAT INDUSTRY ATTACKED

Washington, Dec. 14.—Federal regulation of the meat packing industry as proposed in a bill reported by the senate agriculture committee was attacked in the senate today by Senator Wadsworth of New York, and Senator Smoot of Utah, republicans. The bill was defended by Senator Kenyon, republican of Iowa, sponsor of original packer regulative proposals.

The bill would provide for voluntary registration and licensing of packers and for the creation of a livestock commission which would conduct hearings and enforce rules and regulations. A uniform accounting system would also be required. Senator Wadsworth declared that the bill would bring about general licensing in the industry and would mean "paternalism gone very far."

TO BROADEN VOCATIONAL TRAINING FOR SERVICE MEN

Washington, Dec. 41.—Bill to broaden vocational training for former service men, requested by the federal board, was introduced today by Senator Kenyon, republican, Iowa. It would permit training of men having ten per cent. vocational disability and extend the privileges to widows and orphans of war veterans.

NEGROES ARE TO FORM HARLEM STOCK EXCHANGE

New York, Dec. 14.—A group of negro business men, it was learned today, have obtained a charter for the Harlem stock exchange, which will be opened about Jan. 8, and will be owned and controlled exclusively by negroes. Trading will be limited to stocks of corporations owned and managed by negroes.

INTERNATIONAL CREDITS ORGANIZATION APPROVED

Geneva, Dec. 14.—(By The A. P.)—The league council has approved a plan for the international credits organization as recommended by the Brussels financial conference. While agreeing not to undertake forthwith the setting up of an expansive organization without the certainty that either borrowers or lenders will make use of it, the council authorized the economic committee to obtain the services of a competent business man of high standing to prepare the constitution of the international commission and establish in detail a plan of international credits in order to give the scheme as soon as possible a practical application.

The council adopted two proposals dealing with the plan. The first relates to the creation of a committee of three lawyers and three businessmen, whose duty will be to propose legislative measures with the object of facilitating in the various countries interested in the realization of "finishing credits."

These credits have to do with the shipment of raw materials and unfinished products from one country to another for finishing.

The second proposal provides for the institution under the auspices of the league of nations of an international commission charged with giving effect to the plan of international credits on the basis recommended by its originator, Dr. Termeulen, of Holland.

According to this plan the governments of the countries desiring to participate shall notify the commission as to what specific assets they have prepared as security for the commercial credits to be granted by the nationals of the exporting countries. The commission after a examination of these assets shall determine the gold value of the credits which they would approve against the security of these assets.

HELD FOR THE MURDER OF REPORTER DONAHUE

Bridgeport, Conn., Dec. 14.—True bills charging murder in the first degree were presented to Judge George E. Hinman in superior court late today by a grand jury called to consider the cases of Joseph Roche, of Danbury, and Max Kranz and Joseph Bednar of this city. The court accepted the indictments and issued bench warrants to hold the accused for trial. They were not put to plea.

Roche and Kranz are charged with the murder of Arthur V. Donahue, a New York newspaperman, who was shot on a lonely road in Newtown on the night of November 7. Bendnar is charged with having beaten to death with a hammer Andrew Prevous of this city on September 11th.

THIRD READING OF HOME RULE BILL IN HOUSE

London, Dec. 14.—The house of lords today passed the third reading of the home rule bill after a short debate, in the course of which Lord Dunraven reproached the government with having apparently created a sort of axiom in political science that minorities must rule.

Lord Birkenhead, lord high chancellor, in replying to various criticisms of the bill, insisted that under the existing conditions there was not the slightest chance of inducing the north to accept a single parliament, and as no acceptable alternative to the government bill had been suggested he thought the government plan deserved a trial.

SUMMONED TO APPEAR BEFORE RAILWAY BOARD

Roanoke, Va., Dec. 14.—W. C. Turner, vice president of the Order of Railway Conductors, and Val Fitzpatrick, vice president of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, have been summoned to appear before the railroad labor board in Chicago Dec. 16 to "show cause why they issued a strike referendum to members of their organizations on the Norfolk and Western railway in violation of the transportation act."

GOV.-ELECT LAKE TO ENFORCE PROHIBITION

Hartford, Conn., Dec. 14.—Governor-elect Everett J. Lake discussed the subject of prohibition law violations today with Thomas F. Egan, superintendent of the state police. After the conference the governor-elect said that no effort would be spared during his administration to aid the federal authorities in enforcing the prohibition laws.

FRUIT LINE STEAMER AGROUND OFF HAVANA

Havana, Dec. 14.—The steamer San Pablo of the United Fruit line, bound from Boston for this port with passengers and a cargo of print paper, is aground at the entrance to Havana harbor. Apparently she is in no immediate danger.