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22 SINN FEIN EXECUTIVE BOARDS FAVOR RATIFICATION

Manifestations in Favor of Acceptance of Anglo-Irish Treaty Are Pouring Into the Mansion House, Dublin—County Councils of Louth and Tyrone Have Voted Favorably—Considerable Shooting in Belfast—Several Persons Were Killed and Others Wounded.

Dublin, Jan. 2.—Resolutions in favor of ratification kept pouring into the Mansion House, here, and up to tonight only two bodies which had expressed themselves unfavorably on the ratification question had been heard from. In all sixteen county councils, forty-six urban and rural district councils, twenty-two Sinn Fein clubs, five labor bodies, twenty Sinn Fein clubs, [illegible] corporations, eight town commissioners, nine boards of guardians, thirty-two farmers' associations and 16 other public bodies have demanded ratification.

Among the latest manifestations for ratification of the treaty is the vote of the Louth county council, which favored ratification by a vote of 17 to 1, and the Tyrone county council, which passed a resolution favorable to ratification today. Other declarations for the agreement have been made by the Sinn Fein clubs of Bonnybrook, Donnycarney and Ballybough and the Sinn Fein executive of East Clare. The resolution of the East Clare body declared the treaty "the best road toward the goal of independence."

Large meetings of farmers at Fermoy and Waterford passed resolutions in favor of ratification, and the Sinn Fein executive of West Donegal voted 14 to 13 for the treaty.

John Mellugh, chairman of the Fermanagh county council, which was dissolved by the Ulster parliament for declaring allegiance to the Dail Eireann, announced that he was in favor of the treaty, inasmuch as the alternative was "taking our chance on war now with a united people."

DAIL EIREANN RESUMES SESSIONS IN DUBLIN TODAY

Dublin, Jan. 2 (By the A. P.)—Virtually all the members of the Dail Eireann had arrived in Dublin tonight for the resumption of the sessions of the Dail tomorrow to give further consideration to the peace treaty with Great Britain.

As far as could be gathered from conversations with the members tonight, the Christmas recess has not materially altered the lineup for and against the treaty.

An estimate made by one of the opposition leaders on the eve of the adjournment of the Dail gave 58 votes on each side, with four votes doubtful and "abstention-ists."

One of the leaders of the party favorable to the treaty said to The Associated Press today that he did not believe the votes of any of the men previously ranged against the treaty would be turned in its favor, and that the majority for the treaty, which is a vital great, must be small, must depend on abstentions from voting rather than on the transfer of votes.

Erskine Childers, one of the members of the delegation to the London conference, said today that the Dail Eireann contained fairly evenly divided on the question of acceptance and rejection of the treaty, and that no more than four or five members of the Dail who still were wavering would likely be influenced by the remainder of the debate.

Speaking for himself, Mr. Childers said that it would be impossible for him if the Dail approved the treaty, to enter the southern parliament. "It is not merely a question of taking the oath of allegiance provided for by the treaty," he declared. "But of the treaty in its entirety." He expressed the opinion that acceptance of the treaty would leave Ireland in a far worse plight than if it were rejected.

All the indications tonight point to the determination of the republican party, whether they win or lose in the Dail, to carry on their fight. Many of the members seemingly, if anything, tonight were stronger in their hostility to the treaty than when the Dail adjourned for Christmas holidays, caused by their utterances. The vigorous press campaign in favor of the treaty apparently has not upon their minds an effect opposite to that intended. They point out that there is nothing hostile to them which the daily newspapers are now publishing that is any different from the attitude of the same journals toward them since the inception of the whole Sinn Fein movement.

The main evidence of the fighting spirit on the part of the republicans is found in their prompt decision to establish an organ of their own, the republic of Ireland, the first issue of which will appear tomorrow. An advance copy of the journal seen by the correspondent indicates that it will gives its whole efforts toward aiding Mr. De Valera in his campaign. Virtually all of the protagonists of the republican party, except Mr. De Valera himself, are represented on its staff, or board of directors, which includes not only the old campaigners in the republican movement but some of the most brilliant of the younger men of the Sinn Fein.

SHOOTING CONTINUES IN THE CITY OF BELFAST

Belfast, Jan. 2.—Sporadic exchanges of shots that had been proceeding for 24 hours or more between members of the rival factions here without serious results became graver in character during the night. Early today two men were badly wounded. Another man was slightly wounded.

After a lull, caused by intervention of the crown forces, the sniping was resumed at midday with further serious consequences. One bullet penetrated the head of a 14 year old youth and struck a child in its mother's arms. Both children were mortally injured.

In the York street area this afternoon a man, Alexander Turtle, was shot dead by the military.

John Murphy and his brother Francis were targets for marksmen as the two brothers were at work in their butcher shop on York street. John Murphy was struck by a bullet and critically injured.

Another death occurred when the 14 year old youth who was struck in the head during the noon hour died early this evening.

Considerable disorder, in which there was much shooting, and in which several persons were killed and others wounded, took place here during the day and this evening. Two men and a 14 year old boy died as a result of wounds. One of the dead men was Private Harnes, who was shot and instantly killed while on duty in Sussex street. There was considerable sniping as darkness set in tonight, particularly in North Queens street.

VIEWS ON PEACE TREATY BY DUBLIN NEWSPAPERS

Dublin, Jan. 2 (By the A. P.).—The question of outstanding interest in the situation discussed by the Dublin newspapers today is the effect the expressions of public sentiment in favor of ratification of the Anglo-Irish treaty will have on its opponents in the Dail Eireann.

The Freeman's Journal and the Irish Independent declare the will of the people must prevail, the Freeman's Journal saying:

"No sophistry, however fine spun, can disguise the fact that to thwart this will would be to betray a sacred trust. That sort of treachery makes no appeal to Irishmen."

The Independent expresses confidence that the provisions of the treaty in the Dail will hear the popular voice, but a writer in the Times says there is no ground for the belief that when the Dail meets tomorrow it will be any better disposed toward ratification. The Times writer remarks that the opponents of the agreement are continuing their inscrutable silence and declares the Dail leaders themselves do not know what the outcome will be.

At the week end meetings of public organizations and Sinn Fein clubs strong appeals were made for the preservation of national unity. Limerick county council, Councilman Michael Ryan declared negotiations were taking place in Dublin that would lead to a unanimous decision. No confirmation of his statement was available here.

The newspapers welcome the New Year message of Sir James Craig, the Ulster premier, the Freeman's Journal saying that if his appeal meets with the response it deserves, peace will not be long delayed.

"The tiniest spark of good feeling shown by the six counties," it adds, "would kindle bonfires throughout Ireland."

Display advertisements in today's Dublin newspapers announce details regarding the appearance tomorrow of the newspaper to be called the Republic of Ireland, which stands for the "Absolute Independence of Ireland." It will be published by a committee of direction comprising Charles Burgess, the Dail minister of defense, Austin Stack, minister of home affairs, J. J. O'Kelly, Erskine Childers, Robert Brennan and three women members of the Dail, Countess Markievicz, Miss Mary MacSwiney and Mrs. Kate O'Callaghan.

The name of Eamonn De Valera does not appear on the list. The editor of the new publication is Liam Mellows, member of the Dail for East Galway, who is widely known in the United States. He was deported from Ireland to England before the 1916 rebellion but returned just before the insurrection and led the revolt in Galway. After the uprising he escaped of America. He is one of the youngest members of the Dail.

The newspaper, it was stated, will be published daily during the remaining sessions of the Dail to state the cases of the treaty's opponents.

PLANNING FOR ECONOMIC REJUVENATION OF EUROPE

Cannes, Jan. 22 (By the A. P.).—The plan of David Lloyd George, the British prime minister, for an economic rejuvenation of Europe, and the results of the meetings in Paris by bankers and business men of the allied countries, were outlined to George Harvey, the American ambassador, today by Sir Laming Worthington-Evans, the British secretary for war.

The Associated Press is informed from a reliable source that Sir Laming made it clear that Great Britain regarded the participation by the United States as one of the essentials if the consortium proposed in Paris would succeed. Mr. Harvey is understood to have replied that the United States will not make known its position until the plan is formally brought up before the supreme council.

In British circles the expectation is that Mr. Harvey will actively participate in the economic discussion at the supreme council. Mr. Harvey and Myron T. Herrick, the American ambassador to France, had luncheon today, and afterwards were in lengthy conversation at which the economic conference and other questions coming up before the conference were considered. It is considered probable both the ambassadors are reporting on the situation to Washington, Mr. Harvey particularly referring to his interview with Sir Laming Worthington-Evans.

Mr. Herrick put Mr. Harvey in touch with the problems which have been before the council of ambassadors, after Mr. Herrick returned to Beaulieu, where he is spending his holiday.

Sir Laming had just previously reported the results of the Paris economic meeting to Mr. Lloyd George, who was greatly pleased over the outcome. He is reported to be eager to whip the consortium plan into shape and this probably will be one of the first things to be discussed at the preliminary meeting between him and M. Briand.

Mr. Lloyd George hopes to convince M. Briand of the necessity for making the scheme operative as soon as possible, and if M. Briand and Mr. Lloyd George agree on definite proposals it is probable the United States will be asked to participate in the plan, making possible Mr. Harvey being included in the discussions at the council.

It was learned from an authoritative source toda that the entire submarine question may be threshed out between Premier Lloyd George and Premier Briand at their initial talk when the French premier arrives here, and that the discussion of this subject at Washington may mark time while the two premiers try to iron out the difficulties. Mr. Lloyd George is said to be anxious for the complete success of the Washington conference, because he believes on it depends the success of the economic conference.

The coming here of Marquis Curzon, the British foreign secretary, makes it increasingly clear, according to the British, that the meeting of the allied foreign ministers on the question of the Near Eastern settlement will be held at Paris, immediately after the supreme council, which is expected to move.

6,500 Attend White House Reception

President Harding Threw Doors Open to the Public on New Year's Day

Washington, Jan. 2.—President Harding threw the White House doors open to the public today for the first New Year's reception in there for nine years. The number responding to the general invitation was officially estimated at 6,500, many of whom stood for hours in a biting wind in a slowly moving column of fours which extended for blocks from the Pennsylvania avenue portico.

The president and Mrs. Harding met and shook hands with all, a physical feat of no mean magnitude and one from which they showed more than a few signs of strain at 4 o'clock when the last person in the line had passed.

The official section was received from 11 until one o'clock, and there were approximately 2,000 participating in it, headed by the cabinet, the diplomatic corps, members of congress, army and navy officers, and the higher officials of the government establishments. The brilliant uniforms and gala dress kept the big state rooms of the White House full of color while the curving driveways were jammed with automobiles. The numbers were swelled by the delegates and attendants upon the arms conference, all resplendent in orders and decorations.

The gates of the White House enclosure were swung back at 2 o'clock for the public to enter and, led by the inevitable small boy, the head of a long column which had dared the January breeze, swept forward to the pillared entrance. A red coated marine orchestra, divided in two sections so that by alternating continuous music could be maintained, began its programme as the procession moved up. The big doors were propped back and for two hours the moving mass moved through the massive entrance, its individual units jigging under the combined stimulus of the music and the cold.

Secret service men, ushers and gold corded military aides cut the quadruple line down to single file, once it was within the entrance. Under the insistent instructions of "keep your hands in sight," many developed a tendency to put both hands out in front of the waist line and hold them there. Uniformed police meanwhile combed the column outside for cameras, relentlessly relieving their bearers or taking the boxes away for deposit.

The presidential party stood in the oval blue room just out of hearing of the orchestra and the visitors passed at the rate of 30 or 40 a minute. This speed was attained through the insistent pressure of aides and attaches, and the president and Mrs. Harding rose to the occasion, meeting the physical test practically without flagging. The crowd was thoroughly cosmopolitan, representative of many races and nationalities. The children, of whom there were many, were given special attention.

"Hello, deadie," the president said to one tot who was passing on a paternal shoulder.

The next moment the flickering line disclosed four small negroes marshalled ahead of their mother.

"Why, look who's here," the president exclaimed as he bent over and smiled into the flashing teeth and rolling eyeballs that were sweeping by. "How are you, youngsters?"

Mrs. Harding smiled and added a pleasant word here and there while she quickly developed and efficient swing of her right arm an shoulder which stood the strain as well as the president's golf developed muscles.

Only occasionally did the president discover a personal acquaintance in the throng, one being Urbain Ledoux, whose activities in connection with unemployment and other activities have been frequently noted. To him the president gave a cheery greeting.

As the line ran out to extinction Mrs. Harding beckoned forward the newspaper correspondents, greeting them cheerfully but announcing that she was "ready to go home."

The White House reception was not the only one held in Washington today. When the president received the public, the Vice President and Mrs. Coolidge were at home to several hundred guests, while cabinet officials were at home to their official associates and friends. Secretary and Mrs. Hughes gave a breakfast to the diplomatic corps at the Pan-American Union building at 12.30 p. m., while Secretaries Weeks, Denby, Wallace and Hoover received at their homes.

EMMA GOLDMAN AGAIN STARTS FOR STOCKHOLM

Riga, Jan. 2.—(By The A. P.)—After a week's imprisonment, during which time they were not permitted to communicate with outsiders, Emma Goldman, Alexander Berkman and Alexander Shapiro, the deportees from America who recently came out of Soviet Russia, started a second time today for Revel, Estlonia, on their way to Stockholm. Not until the correspondent accidentally encountered the trio at the station here was it known that after they had started for Stockholm the other day the British authorities boarded the train on the outskirts of the city and held up the party.

"They thought we were dangerous bolshevik agents and searched us for jewels, gold and papers, but finding none they released us," said Berkman. "We hope to get to Stockholm this time," he added, but Emma Goldman supplemented this with a remark prompted by the experiences of the trio so far.

"You never can tell," she said.

CASUALTIES IN NEW YORK FROM POISONOUS LIQUOR

New York, Jan. 2.—The New Year's toll of casualties from poisonous liquor tonight mounted to four dead and six dangerously ill in city hospitals, with uncounted scores of cases of acute alcoholism and accidents attributed to holiday liquor.

James Cassidy, the latest fatality, died in Bellevue hospital this afternoon after being ill since Sunday. A fractured skull received in a fall at his home on West Eighteenth street was said to have contributed to his death.

One case of alcoholic paralysis was reported today.

TOBACCO VALUED AT $10,000 DESTROYED BY FIRE

Windsor Locks, Conn., Jan. 2.—A tobacco barn owned by Frank Martinelli was destroyed by fire here today. A large quantity of broadleaf tobacco was burned. The loss was placed at $10,000.

A real estate company of Birmingham, Ala., gives to every purchaser of a lot 20,000 feet of lumber with which to begin the construction of a home.

BRIEF TELEGRAMS

For the first time in twenty-two years Albany, N. Y., was under a democratic administration yesterday.

John Kendrick Bangs, author and lecturer, is seriously ill in a hospital in Atlantic City.

H. E. Seaver, who was injured in an automobile accident in Rocky Hill Sunday, is still in a very critical condition.

For the first time in the history of New Haven county a woman took the office of county commissioner.

Francis P. Guilfoile was sworn in yesterday as Waterbury's mayor for the next two years.

The Derby Drivers' Association of Derby has incorporated with a capital of $25,000.

The Saugatuck Real Estate and Construction company has incorporated on a capital of $15,000.

Fire destroyed a two-family house in West Hartford early yesterday, driving the inmates out into zero weather and providing a hard fight for the firemen.

Wolf Lindenfel[illegible], alleged Wall Street bomb confessor, has eluded United States government agents in Warsaw and fled into the hinterlands of Russia.

The 70-ton British steamer Harbinger and her crew of ten men were detained at Eastport, Me., by customs officers pending investigation.

Drafting of the new 1921 income tax return from incomes of $5,000 or under has been completed by the tax simplification board.

Seventeen bodies have been removed from the San Francisco del Oro mine, near Parral, Chihuahua, where a cave-in occurred, Dec. 28, during a change of workmen.

Hartford's municipal exhibit, depicting "Hartford—Yesterda yand Today," in picture, chart and otherwise, was formally opened yesterday afternoon at the old state house.

The appearance of two fires yesterday, after four others in the past fortnight, all within a stone's throw of Washington square, Newport, R. I., caused the police to search for an incendiary.

Winsted milk dealers, who recently organized an association, boosted the price of milk on New Year's day from 12 to 15 cents a quart.

Alice Lorraine, formerly an American soprano will be married to Richard Northcott at St. George's church, Hanover square, London, Thursday.

Twenty-seven thousand Canadian exsoldiers have been settled on farms by the Canadian government and $85,000,000 has been lent to these men by their government.

Preliminary action towards entering suits for alleged damages growing out of deaths and injuries in the recent Rialto theatre fire was taken in New Haven.

Miss Mabel Zweer, aged 19, of Bristol, was killed in Southbury when she was thrown from an automobile driven by John A. Boyes; also of Bristol, which had skidded and collided with a tree.

Attorney General Frank E. Healy said yesterday that he knew nothing about the injunction brought to restrain Frank S. Butterworth from drawing a salary for administering the soldiers' aid fund.

India has proclaimed a republic and the non-violence policy of Mahatma Ghandi, who was given dictatorial powers last week by the All-India National congress has been modified to permit violence "for defense."

The first of the new year in Chicago was marked by a score of crimes, including the shooting to death of one man, and the theft of jewelry valued at $10,000 from two couples who were kidnapped by automobile bandits.

It is "objectional" for an attorney to accept employment from a newspaper to answer inquiries concerning law and legal rights, the committee on professional ethics of the New York County Lawyers' Association decided.

Statements by the Hartford police court judges and prosecuting attorneys, yesterday, were indicative of a tightening of the judicial ropes as regards the punishment of liquor law offenders during the year just ushered in.

Edwin W. Fiske, whom the democrats elected mayor of Mount Vernon for the ninth time last fall, started in his term with a New Year's resolution to reduce the mayor's salary from $5,000 to $4,500. He carried out his resolution.

A merger of the East Boston Gas company, the Newton & Watertown Gas Light company and the Boston Consolidated Gas company, having aggregate capital stock of more than $16,000,000, and joint assets of $33,000,000 is indicated, according to reports.

Struck by an automobile driven by Charles W. Later, Sunday night, Lena Facchinette, 8 years old, of Hartford, sustained severe injuries and was taken to the Hartford hospital. Both legs are said to have been fractured in the accident.

Word was received at Newport, R. I., by relatives of Lieutenant Donald MacDonald, U. S. N., that the officer was swept overboard from the mine sweeper Quail and lost. The Quail was off Montauk Point at the time on her way to Philadelphia.

President Millerand, of France, at a reception of the diplomatic corps Sunday said in an address that two things marked the advent of the new year—a desire for peace and the effacement of the traces of the long and cruel war, and the hope of all peoples for a realization of this.

Proceedings for the disbarment of Albert A. Greenberg, former prosecuting attorney of the New Britain police court who was convicted of blackmail in connection with a New Britain rum running case, have been started in the superior court by the grievance committee of the bar of Hartford county.

The resignation of the Rev. Dr. Thurman A. Varnadore as pastor of the First Baptist church of West Hartford was offered at the morning service in the church, Sunday with the request that it become effective immediately, and at a meeting of the church the resignation was accepted by a vote of 25 to 15.

A naturalist in Venezuela has discovered a way to obtain aigrettes from the species of heron which produces them without injury to the birds.

Earthquake Along The Panama Canal

Caused a Heavy Flood in Gatun Lake—Lasted About a Minute—No Damage.

Panama, Jan. 2.—(By The A. P.)—An earthquake lasting about a minute occurred at one o'clock this morning, shaking up the city somewhat but doing no damage either here or along the Panama Canal. The center of the shock was about sixty miles distant.

A heavy flood was registered in Gatun Lake between 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon and 8.30 o'clock this morning. Ralph Z. Kirkpatrick, in charge of the Meteorological and Hydrographic Bureau of the canal reported today. This made it necessary to open seven of the spillway gates to let the water out, despite the fact that four gates had been kept open during the last 24 hours. Mr. Kirkpatrick added that this hase been the heavies pressure of water experienced since the opening of the canal.

The extraordinary volume of water is attributed to the disturbed weather conditions that have prevailed in the southern part of the western hemisphere in the last three weeks, Panama now feeling the effects of the floods and storms that have occurred to the north. There have been heavy, continuous rains all over the territory surrounding the canal, during the past five days, such conditions being unusual just as the dry season is about to begin.

ASSETS OF CHICAGO BANKS IMPAIRED BY BAD LOANS

Chicago, Jan. 2.—Two Chicago banks, with resources of more than $85,000,000, were sold tonight after the Chicago clearing house committee had conducted an examination and found their assets had been impaired by bad loans and investments.

After two days' negotiation the Fort Dearborn National bank and the Fort Dearborn Trust and Savings bank were purchased by the Continental and Commercial National bank and Continental and Commercial Trust and Savings bank. Members of the clearing house committee pooled guarantees totalling $2,500,000 to protect depositors against any loss.

The clearing house announced that after a special examination of the Drovers' National bank and the Drovers' Trust and Savings bank, owned by the same interests as the Fort Dearborn banks, both institutions had been found to be solvent. All directors representing the old Fort Dearborn interests in the Drovers' bank resigned and were replaced by new men.

William A. Tilden, president of the Fort Dearborn banks, called in the clearing house committee last Thursday and asked assistance in straightening out the tangled affairs of the two institutions. By tonight's merger, bankers said, the most serious financial crisis which has threatened La Salle street since the collapse of John R. Walsh's Chicago National bank omre than a decade ago was averted.

The Fort Dearborn National bank had nearly 7,000 depositors and deposits of $51,124,749.86 when it made its last public statement under the national bank call of Sept. 6, 1921. The Fort Dearborn Trust and Savings bank had 37,000 depositors with deposits of $9,001,096.76 at that time.

The national bank was founded in 1857 with a capital stock of $2,000,000. In 1917 this was raised to $3,000,000, and in 1919 the total was brought up to $5,000,000. The savings and trust institution was founded in 1911 with a capital stock of $500,000.

The difficulties of the Fort Dearborn banks are credited by the clearing house committee to bad investments made by Edward Tilden & Co.—the Tilden estate.

Following announcement of the merger tonight, James B. Forgan, chairman of the committee, issued a formal statement which said in part:

"Owing to the over-extended condition of Edward Tilden & Co., and some recently made loans and investments which proved to be bad, and entailed heavy losses, it was found on examination of the two Fort Dearborn banks by the Chicago clearing house committee that the capital of both banks had been impaired.

"The Chicago clearing house committee assures the depositors of both the Fort Dearborn National bank and the Fort Dearborn Trust and Savings bank that their interests have been fully protected and that owing to the arrangement entered into by the Chicago Clearing House association with the Continental and Commercial National bank and the Continental and Commercial Trust and Savings bank, they will suffer no loss.

"Inasmuch as Edward Tilden & Co. is interested as a minority stockholders in the Drovers' National bank and the Drovers' Trust and Savings bank, the clearing house committee has made a special examination of these institutions for the purpose of ascertaining their condition.

"The result of these examinations is such as to warrant the committee in saying that in its opinion these banks are absolutely solvent and entitled to the full confidence of their customers and the public in general.

"In this connection, the committee calls attention to the fact that all the directors of these institutions representing the Tilden interests have resigned from the banks' boards."

ITALIAN AND U. S. SAILORS CLASH IN SHANGHAI, CHINA

Shanghai, Jan. 3.—(By The A. P.)—Trouble between sailors from Italian and American warships here developed today. About forty Italian sailors surprised and attacked about twelve Americans in a cafe and then went from one cafe to another seeking and attacking isolated groups of Americans. Five Americans were stabbed, two of them being seriously wounded.

The attacks grew out of a brawl in a cafet, after which the Italians gathered the raiding party, which was armed with knives and several revolvers. The Americans were unarmed, it was said.

All shore liberty from the war craft has been suspended and the authorities are investigating the trouble.

One of the wounded American sailors, E. J. Reebbey, of the gunboat, Wilmington, died late today from his injuries.

HOUSE AND THREE BARNS BURNED AT SUFFIELD

Suffield, Conn., Jan. 2.—Fire late today destroyed a house and three barns here, owend by William J. Wright. The loss was estimated at $25,000, partly covered by insurance. Twelve cows and two horses were saved, but the flames destroyed a quantity of hay and grain, as well as wagons and tools and a large amount of cord wood. The fire started on the second floor of the house, from n undetermined origin.

BUSINESS IS GRADUALLY MOVING TOWARDS NORMALCY

Fact Indicated in Comparison of Reports in the Last Month With Those of December, 1920—Holiday Trade in Eastern Districts Was 10 Per Cent Greater Than Last Year—Manufacturing Conditions Are Backward Because of Labor Disturbances and the Continued Demand of Consumers For Lower Prices.

Washington, Jan. 3.—Continued upward movement of business and the gradual restoration of normal conditions are indicated in the comparison of reports in the last month with those of the corresponding month of 1920, according to the December review of the economic situation issued tonight by the federal reserve board.

Net improvement was found by the board despite the recession of business activity in December as compared with the same month last year.

"The holiday trade," the board said, "is a test of the soundness of the preceding business activity. Reports from the various federal reserve districts covering over half of the month show that this year's demand in the eastern districts has registered an increase running as high as 10 per cent. of that of 1920, while in other districts the situation is pronounced satisfactory."

Manufacturing conditions, however, the board reported, as far from uniform; there bein ga decrease of activity in the iron and steel industry while textiles showed little change from previous months and uncertainty exists as to the future of the clothing industry, due to labor disturbances and the continued demand of consumers for lower prices.

Freight rates," the board said, "continue as a disturbing factor due to the belief that reductions already announced as affecting some commodities may be much more widely extended in the near future.

Relatively lower prices for cereals and cotton, the board continued, had discouraged trade in the agricultural districts and also had resulted in regarding the process of liquidating frozen loans. Hardware and related lines were also said to be in an unsatisfactory conditions but wholesales prices "are showing increased stability." Unemployment conditions were reported by the board as but litle changed.

"A decided improvement in European exchanges," the board said, "has tended to some extent to help the foreign trade situation during the month of December, but the extreme caution in the extension of bank credits which was previously so notable a chase of our foreign trade still continues. Export figures indicate a still further decline of activity in staples, while imports show an advance.

"Disturbed conditions in various countries of Europe still render a maintenance of business relations with them uncertain and hazardous. Rates of interest which had already made a notable decline during the autumn, have tended, on the whole, still further downward, partly owing to the fact that there was no foreign outlet for our capital."

Reviewing the year in the shifting industry the board declared that the industry has been through a most difficult period, in which many of the weaker operators have been forced out of business, and in which, as a result of greatly reduced freight rates, smaller available cargoes and continued high costs of operation, very few companies have been able to make a satisfactory showing. This condition has been world wide, although American companies have felt in special degree the handcap of a higher scale of wages than their foreign competitors have been obliged to pay."

OPTIMISTIC FORECASTS FOR BUSINESS THIS YEAR

Washington, Jan. 2.—Indications that the turn of the year is being marked by a striking improvement n the business and economic outlook of the country and the world generally were discussed tonight by Comptroller of the Currency Crissinger in a forecast for 1922.

There can be no doubt, Mr. Crissinger said the birth the "political and economic index figures" are registering improvement at the time "when political and economic conditions so intimately interact."

"Taking this wider view," he added, "I feel that we may be justified in regarding the outlook as altogether reasuring, and that the new year is coming to us with guarantees that justify the most optimistic forecasts."

In the political domain, Mr. Crissinger described as predominating favorable factors the limitation of arms conference and "the apparently insured settlement of the age lang controversy involving the relations of Ireland to the United Kingdom."

"Abroad" he declared, "a betterment in the conditions of international exchange has taken place, adding that no better index of widespread business conditions exists.

"In view of these accomplishments," he continued, "we may aplicate confidently that the year 1922 will take its place in history as one of the landmarks in the record of human progress. Men have turned their faces definitely in the right direction; they have set their feet in the paths to restore security and prosperity; they have fixed their minds on the higher and better things.

Already we begin to find evidence of the far reaching importance of these accomplishments. Every indication of favorable outcome in these great underlying considerations has been practically simultaneous with a distinct turn for the better in the affairs of business and industry. The very promptness with which the commercial community has thus responded, is the most emphatic testimony to the readiness and the eagerness of the business world to shape its course toward restored prosperity and resumption of the great peaceful activies of civilization."

FIRE AT HISTORIC WEST CHESTER COUNTRY CLUB

New York, Jan. 2.—Society men and women hurriedly left the ballroom of the historic West Chester Country club this afternoon, formed a bucket brigade, and worked for nearly an hour in a temperature hovering around 10 above zero in an ineffectual attempt to save the structure, which was burned to the ground. Women guests managed to save tapestries, paintings and furniture valued at thousands of dollars. The loss by fire is estimated at $250,000. The clubhouse was a three-story frame building.

Several guests, in their eagerness to help put out the fire, forgot to save their overcoats and wraps, which were destroyed.

Fanned by a strong wind, the flames made great headway. The city firemen were handicapped because the nearest city hydrant was three-quarters of a mile away, and inaccessible, while the private water supply was totally inadequate. Lines of hose were stretched to Long Island sound, which the clubhouse overlooks, but it was low tide and the firemen were unable to pump out a good stream of water.

The West Chester Country club, regarded as one of the most exclusive in the east, was established in 1876. George Towgsend, broker, is president of the club, which includes in its membership William K. Vanderbilt, Jr., Clarence Mackay, George S. Nichols and Thomas Potter, all prominent in New York society.

TWO SISTERS KILLED BY TRUCK IN WATERBURY

Waterbury, Jan. 2.—Miss Sarah McDonald and Miss Margaret McDonald, sisters, teachers in the local grammar schools, died here this afternoon as the result of an accident in which they figured at about 2 o'clock, when a one ton truck, running wild down Prospect street ran up on to the sidewalk and struck them, throwing them to the ground and pinning them underneath. Robert McDonald, aged six years, a nephew, who was also on the sidewalk with his aunts but who was several feet behind them, escaped being hit by the truck. Donato Dadone, an employe of the Goldsmith-Chatfield Company, who was the driver of the truck, was held under bonds of $5,000 pending an investigation into the accident by Coroner John T. Monzani.

Margaret died almost instantly after being entered at the Waterbury hospital, while Sarah died at 3 o'clock. Both were knocked unconscious as a result of being struck by the truck and did not regain consciousness up to the time they died.

OBITUARY.

Rennold Wolf.

New York, Jan. 2.—Rennold Wolf, playwright and dramatic critic, died of apoplexy at his home here today.

Born in Ithaca, N. Y., fifty years ago, Mr. Wolf was a graduate of Cornell university, where he was known as an all round athleticistar. After practicing law for a short time in Buffalo, he came to New York and joined the staff of the New York Morning Telegraph, of which he was dramatic editor until about a year ago. He was the author, or collaborating author, of fourteen plays, among them "The Rainbow Girl" and "The Red Widow," which he wrote in collaboration with Channing Pollock.

The body will be taken to Ithaca for burial.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR FUNERAL OF SENATOR BOIES PENROSE

Philadelphia, Jan. 2.—Final arrangements for the funeral of United States Senator Boies Penrose will not be announced until the arrival of his brother, Spencer Penrose, who is on his way here from Colorado. He is expected to arrive late tomorrow.

It is definitely has been decided, however, that the funeral shall be strictly private and devoid of any display of formalism, in keeping with the senator's wishes. A simple notic inserted by the family in today's Philadelphia newspapers said:

"Penrose—December 31, Boies Penrose. Funeral and interment strictly private."

The late republican leader's wish that his obsequies be attended only by his relatives and close personal friends, will be rigidly adhered to, Leighton C. Taylor, his secretary said. There is not even crepe or flowers on the door of his house where the body has rested since it was brought from Washington Sunday. The house was deserted today except for the senator's former housekeeper, who was kept busy by a steady stream of messenger boys bearing telegrams of condolence from all sections of the country. There were no callers.

Governer Sproul said tonight that he would not make any statement regarding Senator Penrose's successor for several days. He received numerous messages during the day offering advice as to the course to pursue. Some of them urged him to resign the governorship so that he could be appointed senator, while others suggested that he remain in office and become a candidate at the election in November. The governor said that he had not authorized any statement that he would resign.

FORMER REPRESENTATIVE FRED A. MOORE KILLED

Stafford Springs, Jan. 2.—Fred Alvin Moore of Union, was killed Saturday afternoon while at work in a woodlot not far from his home. When he did not return at night, members of his family went to search for him and found him dead. It was evident, they said, he had slipped and fallen and been killed by being run over by a heavily loaded sled.

Mr. Moore had been prominent in the affairs of his town, being a member of the board of selectmen, an assessor and member of the board of relief. He served in the legislature in 1914. He was the son of the late Lyman Moore. He leaves his wife, Ida Green Moore, four children, Lawrence, Esther, Ruth and Winifred, and his mother, Mrs. Emma Moore of Southbridge, Mass., three sisters, Mrs. Harry Royce of Wales, Mass., Mrs. D. B. Williams of Worcester and Miss Bessie Moore of Bridgeport.

The funeral will be held at the home in Union on Wednesday at 1 and burial will be in the Union cemetery.

BOMB INJURED 50 PERSONS AT DINKELSBUEHL, BAVARIA

Berlin, Jan. 2.—(By The A. P.)—A bomb was exploded among the crowd listening to a band in the market place of Dinkelsbuhl, Bavaria, on New Year's eve, injuring fifty persons, twenty of them seriously. The thrower of the bomb, a youth, and several other persons were arrested.

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