

# FIVE "CATEGORIES" FOR REPARATIONS

### Adopted in Tentative Scheme Put Forward By Great Britain and France—Question of Distribution of Indemnities Not Definitely Settled.

Paris, April 15.—(By the Associated Press)—The problem of reparation settlements still has troublesome times before it in connection with the question of the distribution of the indemnity to be paid by Germany. Smaller powers which suffered under German invasion and devastation are still to be heard relative to their shares of the reparation fund, particularly Belgium, the claims of which are entitled to first consideration under various pre-conference pledges.

No announcement has yet been made regarding this precise definition of the various "categories" of reparations. In other words, there is no definition of the classes of damages for which Germany is required to pay.

It can be stated, however, that the five "categories" adopted comprise:

- Reparation for actual damage to life and property.
- Pensions for cripples and the families of slain soldiers.
- Compensation for enforced labor exacted of inhabitants of occupied regions, including work done by deported Belgians.
- Remuneration for illegally exacted labor by prisoners of war and payments for German requisitions in occupied territories.

The tentative scheme of distribution which Great Britain and France have advanced apportions between 80 and 90 per cent, probably 85, of the total sum realized to these big powers, leaving, perhaps, 15 per cent to satisfy the demands of Belgium, Italy, Serbia, Rumania, Russia and others. This is a smaller proportion than the secondary powers expected and they are almost sure to be dissatisfied with it. It has been suggested among the experts on the reparations commission that Rumania, Serbia and other nations have received reparations through the acquisition of territory, but this reasoning will scarcely appeal to Belgium.

A share of the reparation fund will, according to the present understanding, be assigned to Russia for damage to invaded Russian territories, but will probably be turned over to Great Britain and France to apply on advances made to the old Russian government during the war.

Although the contributions payable by Germany are characterized as reparations, a very considerable portion of the first \$5,000,000,000 will not be available for reparation purposes, since it has been assigned to the payment of the expenses of the armies of occupation and such food supplies as must be furnished Germany. Since the occupation of the left bank of the Rhine will continue during the entire two years covered by this first payment, the expenses, particularly of the French occupational army, will eat deeply into the \$5,000,000,000.

It is understood that the offer has been allowed Germany for the main-

tenance of prisoners of war in Germany during the war, the associated governments holding that the prisoners were chiefly supported at their own expense through food parcels, by which alone the prisoners were able to maintain existence during captivity, and that the surplus has been covered by work the prisoners performed for Germany.

Although members of the commission regard the reparations question as settled, in the main, there are various details to be worked out, including a scheme for German contributions of labor, raw materials and manufactured articles for the restoration of devastated districts. Discussions at meetings of the commission have been marked by a shifting tendency from the principle initially advocated by the French of leaving the exact sums to be paid indefinite for future determination by an Inter-Allied commission, to a definite fixation of all initial contributions. The French change of attitude was undoubtedly inspired by pressure from parliament, which demanded definite knowledge of what was to be received from Germany.

Another financial question requiring settlement between the Allies is that of repayment of advances made by Great Britain and America to the associated powers. A sub-commission was appointed to consider this question, but the British and American representatives have thus far participated in its deliberations. This has been apparently in anticipation of discussions which might deal more with the negative aspect of delaying or mitigating payments than actual consideration of repayments.

## How New Haven Is Solving Problem Of 80 Cent Ice

### Mayor Fitzgerald Finds 50 Ton Ice Plant May Be Erected by June 1 at a Cost of \$25,000—Manufactured Ice Sold for 60 Cents a 100 Everywhere, He Says.

"I can have ice delivered to ice stations to be located in the more densely populated sections of the city to be sold for fifty cents a hundred pounds, or I can have a municipal ice plant built, and ready to deliver fifty tons of ice a day, by June 1," said Mayor David E. Fitzgerald, of New Haven, when asked what steps he was taking to combat the exorbitant prices which the ice barons had placed on their goods.

"The ice dealers tell us they have no ice because the winter was so mild that they could harvest none. That in order to supply the consumers they are obliged to buy ice and have it shipped to New Haven. That the freight charges are high and that there are so many bid-50ers for the ice that has been harvested farther north that the price cannot and will not be lower than 80 cents a hundred."

"It seems to me as a business proposition that the ice dealers are foolish. They are killing the goose that laid the golden egg. They are compelling the people to pay the price in which they can free themselves from extortion by building municipal ice plants."

"In the southern cities, which rely entirely on manufactured ice, the charge is nowhere more than 30 cents. The cities in this latitude will eventually have to build and operate their own plant."

Mayor Fitzgerald is a live wire and when he was informed of the purpose of the ice trust to raise the price to a cents a hundred pounds he immediately got busy and tried to have the dealers act reasonable in the matter, and at the same time started investigation as to the price in other localities; the prospect of getting a supply from some other source, the cost of freight, handling, overhead and shrinkage so that at the present time he has the data necessary to advise the city just what relief can be had.

When asked for a statement that would be of benefit to the people of Bridgeport in obtaining relief, Mayor Fitzgerald said: "Now, you know I am Mayor of New Haven, not of Bridgeport. I am working for the people of New Haven who have elected me mayor and while I will do anything I can for the other cities, my first duty is here, and I do not want to jeopardize the benefits that I hope to realize for the people of New Haven by giving out any information prematurely." "After we have decided on our plan and have gotten it under way I will be pleased to give you one the results of my investigation of the ice question."

One of the two propositions which the Mayor is giving considerable thought is the building of a municipal ice plant capable of turning out

fifty tons of ice a day. Experts in this line of manufacture have advised him that a first class plant of that capacity can be built for about \$25,000, and that it can be built, finished, and in operation, turning out its capacity production by the first of June.

This plan seems to the Mayor to offer the solution of the problem which will be of the most advantage of the city in the long run, as he believes that eventually all cities will have their municipal ice plants and will not be subject to exploitation of the dealers or dependent on the vagaries of the winter weather for summer ice.

Last year the ice harvested by the city of New Haven on its municipal ice ponds was disposed of at city owned ice stations located in the more densely populated parts of the city and five of these stations look care of 6,000 families throughout the entire summer selling the ice at cost.

This year Mayor Fitzgerald intends to increase the number of public ice stations to 18 to 20, and now has under consideration a proposition from some ice dealers to furnish the city all the ice that can be used by these stations so that it can be sold there at the price of 50 cents a hundred pounds.

Besides this the dealer agrees to furnish ice to twenty charitable agencies in the city free of charge. These agencies include the nurses, the infant welfare societies, the Red Cross, visiting nurse, City Mission and Milk stations.

It is probable that these two propositions will be put in operation at the same time, as this year, at least, one will supplement the work of the other.

The people of New Haven, without regard to politics, are endorsing the attitude of the mayor, and giving him great praise for his knack of getting results in all things that go for the benefit of New Haven.

### HARTFORD'S LOAN QUOTA.

Hartford, April 15.—Chairman Leon P. Broadhurst of the local Victory Loan committee announced today that Hartford's quota had been fixed at \$12,353,000. This is about 75 per cent of the Fourth loan quota.

## WILSON TO SAIL APRIL 27 OR 28

### Will Be Present At Opening Session of Conference Only.

Paris, April 15.—President Wilson intends to sail for the United States on April 27 or 28, after being present at the opening meeting of the Peace Congress at Versailles, the Echo de Paris says today. After his departure Colonel E. M. House will act for him, the newspaper adds.

Washington, April 15.—Four destroyers, the Manley, Rathburne, Talbot and Dorey, have left for the Azores to escort the Presidential ship George Washington when she returns from overseas. Acting Secretary Roosevelt said today that the transport was due at Brest on the evening of April 18.

Announcement also was made that the super-dreadnaught Arizona had replaced the Mississippi as the escort flagship for the George Washington.

## 52ND ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT

### G. A. R. Meets in Danbury—W. A. Barnum Reports.

Danbury, April 15.—The 52nd annual encampment of the Department of Connecticut Grand Army of the Republic opened in this city at 1 o'clock this afternoon. Colonel Christian Quisen of this city, department commander, presiding. General Clarence P. Adams, of Omaha, Neb., commander-in-chief of the G. A. R., is the guest of the encampment.

The report of William A. Barnum, of Bridgeport, assistant adjutant general, showed a total loss in membership of 211 during the year ending Dec. 31. Of this number 173 were deaths. There are 27 posts in the state, with a total membership of 1,640. The loss of members in 31 years has been 4,842. The financial report shows receipts of \$1,027 during the year and the disbursements of \$1,878. The balance in the treasury is \$1,927.

## WOMAN SUING FOR LOST TEETH

### Claims Four Molars Were Knocked Out in Auto Collision.

Alleging that four teeth were knocked out when she was thrown from an automobile which collided with another car, Esther Binkofsky, 55 years old, appeared before Judge Walsh and a jury in the Common Pleas Court today to testify in her \$2,000 suit against Arthur Gerstel of this city. The elderly woman also claimed she was severely bruised about the body.

The accident happened on the Boston Post road in Fairfield on June 27, 1918. It is believed that the Gerstel car was being driven at reckless speed but this is denied by Gerstel. Another suit resulting from the same collision was brought by Harry Binkofsky, son of Esther Binkofsky. He claims \$1,000 damages. He owned the car and says it was so badly damaged by the collision that he had to pay \$500 for repairs. He also said he suffered financial loss because he was deprived of the use of the car. This suit will be tried this afternoon when testimony in the first action is closed.

## WITNESS IS IN ARMY IN FRANCE

### Trial of Suit Brought By Max Cohen Against David Keen is Postponed.

Because an important witness is still in the military service in France, it was necessary to postpone the trial of the suit brought by former City Sheriff Max Cohen against David Keen, which was assigned for a hearing before Judge Curtis in the superior court today. There was some opposition to the postponement and the court said if counsel could not agree to try the case tomorrow that he would hear a motion on Friday for the further disposition of the case. Cohen is suing to recover on a check for \$950 given him by Keen. He said the check went to protest.

The court also continued the case of Andrew J. Hallock of this city against Hubbell, Merwin & Co. of New Haven. This action was brought to decide whether a mortgage on Willow street property in this city is valid. Hallock says that Joseph B. Morse, who executed the mortgage, had no authority to do so.

Charged with the theft of \$33.50 in cash from Charles Mercier, a subcontractor for Wheeler & Howes Co., Walter Nicklas of 35 Wells street, appeared before the City court this morning. Nicklas was arrested last night upon complaint of Mercier. The court ordered a three months jail sentence, but sentence was suspended and the prisoner was placed under probation for one year.

## N. E. PHONE SERVICE IS TIED UP

### Completely Suspended By Strike of Operators This Morning.

### OPERATORS QUIT AT 7 O'CLOCK

### Arrange For Little Interference With Army and Navy Business.

Boston, April 15.—A strike of more than 6,000 young women operators in the employ of the New England Telephone and Telegraph Company and the Providence Telephone Company for wage increases tied up the telephone service today in the greater part of New England, except in Connecticut.

At 7 a. m. it was announced orders issued by union leaders, virtually all the night operators in the larger cities and towns quit work, and the day operators, reported by union headquarters for picket duty.

From that hour telephone subscribers found their instruments useless, as the thousands of calls that lighted up the various switchboards went unanswered. Only chief operators remained at work, the supervisors going out with the operators. In some of the smaller exchanges efforts were made to give some sort of service by the help of the chiefs and such other employees as could be obtained for the work, but they were able to handle only a small fraction of the business.

At the main office of the New England Telephone and Telegraph Company it was announced that first reports indicated "a pretty complete tieup of the system, but with some local service being given in small places."

Plans were being made, it was added, "for restoration of service." Strike headquarters here reported all of the five thousand operators in the Boston district idle, with announcement coming in constantly that the strike order had been generally observed in outside cities. Pickets were established in front of all the exchanges and at railroad stations, the union leaders saying they anticipated the government would endeavor to operate the lines with men and women from outside New England.

There are approximately 630,000 telephone subscribers in the four states served by the New England company, according to officials. Five hundred of these are in Massachusetts, Maine has 6,000, New Hampshire had 40,000 and Vermont 20,000. No immediate action in regard to the strike was planned today by officials of the government, but they are entering to a statement by United States Attorney Thomas J. Boynton.

The switchboard in the Federal building was operated as usual, the young women there having been instructed to remain at their posts to prevent interference with the mails.

Washington, April 15.—Holding the New England telephone strike without justification, the Postmaster General today directed the Postmaster of the company at Boston to replace the strikers or take any other steps to see that they maintain service unimpaired.

A committee of the employees called Postmaster General Burleson several weeks ago, being received as representatives of their fellow workers. They asked for certain wage increases and were told that the department would consider the matter if the company in Boston, which it was said they agreed to.

Before they left, it was stated officially today, Postmaster General Burleson called the company manager and directed that the strikers be replaced if the company in Boston, which it was said they agreed to.

When the schedule was not presented, it was said, inquiry evoked the reply that the employees did not care to present a schedule.

Handling of the situation created by the strike was said to be a matter entirely for the local authorities. Officials of the postoffice department claiming that question of "entirely harmonious" with principles laid down by the war labor board. The telephone employees, it was said, were asked to present a schedule of the wages with increases desired, but refused to do so, and the department had nothing which to act.

Springfield, Mass., April 15.—Between 500 and 600 operators, comprising the entire union force of the New England Telephone and Telegraph company, obeyed the strike order today in the district comprising this city, Chicopee, Westfield and smaller towns. In the local exchange only one chief operator and her assistant were on duty. Pickets were established in front of the buildings in pairs as instructed by the police. No effort was made today by the management to open up the lines to the strikers. The operators held a meeting to discuss plans.

## BROWN GASSED AND BLINDED

### Private Who Fought at Zivray Will Work Again Under Postmaster Greene.

John J. Brown, R. F. D. No. 4, East Main street, a former post office employe, is enjoying a short furlough from Camp Devens. Brown saw service with the 26th Division as a member of Company 1 of the 103rd Infantry. He left Camp Merritt and entered the Toul sector about a year ago. During his French campaign he was engaged in the battles of Zivray, Chateau Thierry, St. Mihiel and the Tryan sector.

At least on two occasions his Bridgeport friends were notified that he had been severely wounded. One rumor had it that he had lost a leg. The truth is—he was badly burned with mustard gas on the Tryan sector and taken to the base hospital at Contreville last September. He has been in several hospitals ever since. Private Brown is now feeling fine and he expects to be discharged in the best of health in a few weeks.

When asked what he considered his hardest fought engagement, Brown replied, "at Zivray the Germans attacked us six to one. It was a bayonet charge and every Heiney had three days' rations with instructions to take our position and hold it until relieved. It was a hard battle for our boys but we repulsed the attack of the best German shock troops."

Along with severe burns from mustard gas, Private Brown was blinded for a period of over seven weeks. His sight is now fully regained. When asked what he intended to do after returning to Bridgeport after being discharged, Brown said, "Postmaster Green has informed me that my former position in the post office is waiting for me any time I decide to go back to work."

## U. S. OFFICERS WIN DECORATIONS

### Great Britain Confers Her High Honors on Americans.

Cologne, Sunday, April 13.—(By The Associated Press).—General Joseph T. Dickman, commander of the United States Army, was today made Knight Commander of the Order of the Bath by General Sir Herbert Plumer, commander of the British army of occupation, on behalf of King George. Mrs. Dickman is now in a civil home in England. In that country she will be known as Lady Dickman, an honor bestowed on but few American women.

The following general officers of the American army were made Knight Commanders of the Order of St. Michael and St. George: Brigadier General George Bell, Jr., commanding the 33rd Division; Major General William Lussier, chief artillery officer of the Third Army; Brigadier General John L. Hines, commander of the Third Army corps, and Brigadier General Charles H. Muir, commander of the 28th division.

The following were made commanders of the Order of the Bath: Brigadier General Main Craig, chief of staff of the Third Army, and Brigadier General Harry A. Smith, in charge of civil affairs in the American occupied zone.

Colonel John Montgomery, assistant chief of staff for General Dickman; Colonel David H. Biddell, liaison officer for the Third Army with the British; Colonel William P. Wooten, chief engineer of the Third Army, and Colonel Horace Stebbins, assistant chief of staff of the Third Army corps, were made commanders of the Order of St. Michael and St. George.

The distinguished service order was conferred upon Colonel R. H. Williams, assistant chief of staff to General Dickman.

During the ceremonies of the day, a brigade of the Durham light infantry served as guard of honor. In making presentations of the honors, General Plumer said that the "friendships formed on the battlefield between America and Great Britain cannot be destroyed in the days of peace."

## REPORT FAVORS WOMEN ELECTORS

Hartford, April 15.—The committee on constitutional amendments today reported favorably on a proposed amendment to the state constitution to give women full electors' rights. This is the amendment which was adopted by the House in 1917 and if this legislature adopts it, it will go to the voters at the next election.

# TOTAL INDEMNITY \$23,000,000,000

### On April 25 German and Allied Delegates Will Gather at Versailles For Opening Session of Peace Congress—Treaty Finished Soon.

(By the Associated Press) Prospects of peace have suddenly become brighter as the result of agreements reached by the Council of Four at Paris, announcements of which seem to indicate that within a short time the war-worn world will begin to return to something like normal international conditions.

On April 25, which will be 165 days after the last gun of the great war was fired, Allied and German delegates will gather at Versailles, the historic place where treaties which have remodeled empires and signalled the rise of new nations have been framed.

A statement given out by President Wilson at Paris last night indicated that the treaty with Germany would be completed in a very short time and that, in the meanwhile, the problems involved in the settlement of the conflicting claims of Italy and Jugo-Slavia to territory on the eastern shore of the Adriatic would be given preferential consideration.

It is probable that the Allies of Germany will be called to Versailles also immediately after the German delegates have received the Allied terms and have passed upon them.

Germany, by the terms of the treaty will be called on to pay 100,000,000,000 gold marks, which at the pre-war rate of exchange would be equivalent to \$33,820,000,000. Of this immense sum there must be paid within two years an amount equal to \$4,784,000,000 and during the next thirty years, a sum that must be turned over to the Allies. A commission will determine when and how the remainder of the reparations fund must be paid.

There seems to be an agreement on the vexing problem of the Franco-German frontier. It is said that the Germans will be compelled to withdraw all troops from a zone 25 miles wide on the right bank of that river until the first instalment of the indemnity is paid.

While the work of fixing the amount of money to be paid by Germany to the Allies and associated powers has been completed, there remains a further task of apportioning the indemnity funds among the Allied nations.

It is indicated that France and England will receive a major portion, it being estimated that 15 per cent of the total will go to them. Out of the remainder the smaller powers will be given their shares, and that there will be some dissatisfaction on their parts is expected.

## Local Veterans Near Boston 2 Days Ahead Of Schedule

### 102nd Ambulance Train Probably on American Soil By Now—City Officials Make Hurried Trip to Hub.

(Late Associated Press messages this afternoon said the story of the arrival of the Winifredian in Boston was probably false, and that word had been received from Boston saying the vessel had reported by wireless and would not reach the harbor until Thursday.)

Sadly disappointed at the miscarriage of his plans to give the boys of the 102nd Ambulance Train, Bridgeport's own company in the Twenty-Sixth Division, a rousing welcome in Boston harbor, Mayor Clifford B. Wilson at noon today was probably on his way to the Hub to greet the local veterans when the White Star liner "Winifredian" which had carried them from Brest docked, or to assemble them some place in the Massachusetts capital if they had already set foot on American soil. At press hour there was no definite information as to whether or not the transport had docked.

## OPERATORS TO VOTE THURSDAY

### Local Phone Girls Will Then Decide About Strike.

The Telephone Operators' union at their meeting last night decided to wait until Thursday night before taking any further action on their dispute with the Southern New England Telephone Co.

At the Thursday night meeting a strike vote will be taken and the result of that vote will dictate the course of the operators. The demands of the local operators are the same as those of the Hartford operators. The instantment of seven employees affiliated with the union, who were discharged by the company; a seven-hour day; a minimum wage of \$10 a week, and after six years' service, a minimum wage of \$22.

There are now about 220 operators employed in the Bridgeport exchange, and the majority of these are members of the union.

Should the company refuse to grant the demands, the question of an active strike will be placed in the hands of Miss Julia O'Connor, president of the Operators Department of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

Miss Teresa M. Sullivan will be in this city tomorrow to advise with the officers of the local union.

### ALLEGED ARCHDUKE KILLED.

London, April 15.—A Copenhagen despatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company says that the Acht Uhr Blatt and the Abendblatt of Berlin print reports received from travelers to the effect that Communists at Budapest have executed Archduke Joseph, Dr. Alexander Wekerle, former premier, and Baron Joseph Stepany, minister of commerce. The report, the despatch says, has not been confirmed.

The first intimation that the American contingent came this morning from Mrs. Fannie Crosby, president of the Bridgeport Chamber of Commerce, who phoned the mayor's office and said she had a telegram from Richard Barlow of this city, a member of the 102nd Ambulance Train. The message said that a large contingent of Bridgeporters to meet the transport at sea. The mayor had brought tickets of admission for the ship to this city, and said he had been informed in Boston that the vessel carrying the Bridgeport boys would not arrive until Thursday morning at the earliest, therefore the mayor left for Hartford this morning.

When his office was notified of the arrival of the "Winifredian," strenuous efforts were made to locate the mayor, but as he could not be reached at Hartford it was thought that he had learned of the arrival of the transport and had proceeded to Boston.

One of the first moves made in this city on receipt of the news of the return of the local heroes was a hurried meeting of aldermen, and finally Aldermen Hamilton, Connor, Burdick, Drew, William E. Seeley, Tax Commissioner Arthur Connor and Colonel T. J. Murphy, left for Boston on the 10:45 train, carrying with them the official city standards and banners. Numerous other citizens, the names of who could not be learned, made preparations to leave for Boston on early trains.

Montreal, April 13.—Augustus Real Angers, K. C., Lieutenant Governor of Quebec from 1887 to 1892, died here last night of pneumonia. He was 81 years old.