

U.S. TO CANCEL INTEREST ON ALLIES' DEBT

To-Night's Weather—FAIR, COLDER.

To-Morrow's Weather—FAIR.

WALL STREET CLOSING TABLES

FINAL EDITION

The Evening World

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"Circulation Books Open to All."

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PRICE THREE CENTS

Woman and Her Adopted Son, Aged 7, Slain and Set on Fire

WOMAN AND ADOPTED SON MURDERED IN CONEY ISLAND; MISSING HUSBAND SOUGHT

Bodies of Both Victims Badly Burned and Brutally Slashed With Knife. SLAYER FIRES HOUSE. No One Heard Anything to Indicate Struggle Had Taken Place.

The police are looking for Dominick Cataldo, a window cleaner in the employ of the B. R. T., whose wife, Anna, thirty-five, and their adopted son, Fred, aged seven, were brutally murdered some time last night in the kitchen of their apartment, No. 2514 Stillwell Avenue, Coney Island, and their clothing set afire in an attempt to hide the evidence of the crime.

HIS \$3,500 CHECK BAD, EVEN POLICE ADMIRE EXQUISITE

"Hall of Harvard" Beards Detective "Line-Up" Cool and Haughty.

Before the hardest-boiled audience in the world—the detectives assembled for the "line-up" at Police Headquarters—a person calling himself Walter Hall aroused reluctant admiration today. Mr. Hall, leaning on a cane that might have been a Zulu chief's war club, had a raincoat draped over his slender form and a heavy fur overcoat hung on his arm. In delicate accents he asserted that it was "an outrage to subject any gentleman to such a grotesque ordeal."

EX-CONSUL OF DAIL HERE IS WARNED IN LETTER TO QUIT U. S.

Mysterious Signer Holds D. J. McGrath Responsible for Rory O'Connor's Execution. WON'T TELL CONTENTS

Free State Former Representative Silent When Asked About Death Threat.

(Associated Press.) Daniel J. McGrath, formerly Dail Eireann consul to the United States, to-day was warned to leave this country before the morning of Dec. 26 by a mysterious letter writer who signed himself "Authority, Irish Republican Army."

CHARGES GRAFT IN ENFORCEMENT OF STATE DRY LAW

"Out-and-Out Shakedown," Says Magistrate in Case Before Him. OFFICER NOT IN COURT

Subpoenas Issued to Compel Policeman to Be at Hearing Adjourned to Dec. 20.

Nine-tenths of the arrests made by policemen of this city for violations of the State Prohibition Law are for the purpose of graft and are out-and-out shakedown, Magistrate Joseph E. Corrigan, sitting in Yorkville Court, charged to-day in a bitter arraignment of methods employed by the Police Department in enforcing the Mullan-Gage law. The Magistrate made his declaration in the course of the arraignment of two employees of restaurants in whose establishments police declared they found liquor.

CITY TAKES OVER TWO FERRY LINES OF UNION COMPANY

Atlantic and Hamilton Avenue Boats to Be Operated by Municipality. FIVE-CENT FARE FIXED.

Refusal of Company to Obey Orders Causes Cancellation of Permit.

Commissioner Grover A. Whalen of the Department of Plant and Structures announced to-day that at midnight on Saturday the city would take over the Atlantic and Hamilton Avenue ferries of the Union Ferry Company and operate them as municipal ferry lines. In an announcement by the Commissioner he gives as his reason the fact that the lines three times have increased fares and rates for traffic and have ignored orders of the city to reduce them.

U.S. TO REMIT \$500,000,000 A YEAR WAR DEBTS IF NATIONS DISARM

Temporary or Permanent Cancellation Would Depend on Europe's Making a Real Effort to Pay Principal, \$10,000,000,000, and First Evidence Would Be to Cut Armies.

First Step Proposed Is Reduction of Reparations to \$500,000,000 a Year, With Total of \$12,000,000,000—International Loan to Germany to Enable Her Rehabilitation.

By David Lawrence. (Special Correspondent of The Evening World.) WASHINGTON, Dec. 15 (Copyright).—America may be willing to forego the interest on the war debts of those countries in Europe which are unable to pay for several years to come. The principal will not be cancelled or reduced.

This contribution to the stabilization of the world's economic crisis is under consideration, but it will be done only if European Governments pursue a policy which this Government believes will accomplish the desired readjustment in Europe. The steps in the order in which they should be taken are these:

First—All the powers should reach at once a definite agreement as to the amount of reparations Germany should pay annually. America's economic experts believe \$500,000,000 in the limit of Germany's ability and that approximately twelve billions is the total sum that Germany can and should be made to pay. France should be willing to agree to renounce her claim to any sum above that.

Second—Once the reparations sum is fixed the world will be ready to consider an international loan, such as was proposed by the International Bankers' Committee meeting a year ago, which J. P. Morgan and other financiers attended. This loan would not necessarily require the guarantee of Governments but would need the assent of the Allied Powers to regard it as a prior lien on Germany's assets.

Third—Such a loan would assist Germany in the purchase of foodstuffs and would tend to raise the value of the German mark and thus keep German capital to Germany for self-development instead of outside Germany in the investment markets of the world. The United States Government wouldn't subscribe to the loan, but the American investor would have the same opportunity to buy the reparations bonds at a good rate of interest as he has to buy other foreign securities. The value of such a loan, however, would be enhanced through the moral support of America and particularly through such contribution as the United States may make to the easing of Europe's burdens through the postponement or cancellation of interest on the Allied war debt.

Fourth—Cancellation of the interest would never be proposed without something in return, namely, assurance that Europe would make a real effort to pay the principal of the ten billion dollar war debt, and the only assurance which would be convincing here would be a reduction of land armament. The American Government cannot ignore the fact that there are from three to four million under arms on the continent of Europe, and that 95 per cent. are troops of the Allied powers. Reduction of land armament means more money available for productive purposes and more for the meeting of payments on the principal of the war debt.

As for cancellation of the principal, no doubt exists here that a steady propaganda has been conducted by Europeans to impress America with the need for remitting the allied war debt, as a means of adjusting the reparations problem. But the matter here is not to be treated separately and the American Government hopes that Europe by this time is rid of the illusion of cancellation.

American sentiment, it is pointed out by officials, would not permit it and the most that can be foreseen is a willingness on the part of the people to continue to forego the interest as they have been doing since the armistice. Some of the nations of Europe—ones or two of the smaller ones particularly—can in a few years begin paying their interest and principal. Some cannot.

No general rule can be established for all as local situations in each

CABINET TACKLES EUROPE'S TANGLE ON REPARATIONS

Imminent Break of England and France Discussed—Get German Views.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15 (Associated Press).—The European reparations tangle, which is threatening a break between Great Britain and France, is understood to have been discussed by President Harding and his Cabinet to-day at a meeting which lasted more than two hours.

It was indicated afterward that there had been no final decision as to the policy of this Government toward the present difficulties. There were evidences, however, that the Administration was preparing to avail itself of all possible information on the subject, with a view to determining whether it could be of service in any practical way in bringing about an adjustment.

One of the questions touched on in the Cabinet discussion was said to have been the proposal for an international loan to permit Germany to stabilize her finances, reported in official advice to the American Government as the verge of a collapse. It was declared, however, that no concrete proposal for such a loan had come to the attention of the Washington Government.

The President and his official family had before them, in addition to information which has come to the Government through official American sources, a picture of Germany's financial troubles as given by the German Ambassador, Dr. Otto Wiedfeldt, in a long conference earlier in the day with Secretary Hughes.

HARVEY COMING HOME FOR CONSULTATION

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15 (Associated Press).—George Harvey, the American Ambassador, has been called home for consultation, it was stated at the American Embassy this afternoon.

The Ambassador will sail on the Berengaria Dec. 23. He will not be accompanied by Mrs. Harvey, who will leave the preceding day for a visit to Madeira.

STOLEN CAR HITS GARAGE WALL AND ONE MAN IS KILLED

Two Others in Machine Seriously Injured—Both Are Put Under Arrest.

One man was killed instantly and two others are seriously injured in Greenport Hospital, one of whom probably will die, as the result of having crashed into the wall of a garage at Oak and Franklin Streets, Williamsburg, while speeding at 6 o'clock this morning in an automobile which had been stolen from a garage at Reeling and South Eighth Streets, Williamsburg, last night. The two survivors were placed under arrest on a charge of grand larceny.

Little light was thrown upon the theft of the machine because of the condition of the two surviving men. They were extricated from the overturned car unscathed, and were revived sufficiently to give their names and that of the dead man.

The latter was Michael P. Whalen, thirty-two, No. 119 Bedford Avenue, Williamsburg, and his companions were Arthur Clark, forty-three, No. 67 North 10th Street, and John Farrell, twenty-three, No. 121

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As editor of the Star, of Marion, Ohio, the President will attend the annual election of the National Club here, and will cast his vote as a newspaper man. He will mix with the men who write daily of events in the National Capital, dropping his mantle of authority to talk for a while.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15 (Associated Press).—The bill of Senator Norris, Republican, Nebraska, to establish a \$100,000,000 Government corporation to finance sale of agricultural products was ordered reported to-day by the Senate Agriculture Committee.

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Mr. Pym said that Nov. 13 an ex-quisitely dressed person appeared at the store and demanded speech with the proprietor. "No mere salesperson will do," he told the first clerk who approached him. The dapper caller introduced himself as John Ruffing, personal and private and confidential secretary of Mr. Walter Hall, a "very important man." Mr. Hall, he said, had lost a cuff link and wanted a new pair at once. In his anxiety and eagerness, Mr. Pym seems to remember, the messenger referred to them as a "pair of gold links," but the slip didn't appear important to him at the time.

Mr. Pym sent Mr. Ruffing away with a pair of platinum cuff links worth about \$100, taking a scribbled memorandum. Five minutes later appeared Mr. Hall. "What do you mean," Mr. Pym said Mr. Hall exclaimed, "by sending me cheap pinhead jewelry like this."

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Mr. McGrath succeeded Joseph Connolly as consul on Nov. 25, 1922. Up to that time he had been vice-consul. Mr. Connolly resigned as a protest against government measures in Ireland at that time and Mr. McGrath, who was in charge of the Irish-American Chamber of Trade, was appointed without going to Ireland. This change in officials followed the execution of Eerskine Childers in Dublin on Nov. 24.

The writer of the letter warning McGrath to leave the country apparently did not believe in secret diplomacy, for the following letter was received by the consulate: "I was shortly after McGrath received his resignation. This morning we have issued our demand to Mr. James McGrath of the Irish Consulate, at No. 119 Nassau Street of this city, to leave this country before the morning of the 26th day of this month."

"Holding him morally responsible for the execution of the four Irish Republican Army officers recently done to death by the agents of the Crown—the so-called Free State Government of Ireland. Trusting that we are not inconveniencing you or your staff, we beg to remain,

"Competent military authority," "Irish Republican Army."

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—The bill of Senator Norris, Republican, Nebraska, to establish a \$100,000,000 Government corporation to finance sale of agricultural products was ordered reported to-day by the Senate Agriculture Committee.

When McGrath's case was called, Policeman John Madden of Headquarters Division appeared against him. He told the court that Policeman Casey obtained the evidence and had procured a search warrant from Justice Mullan, after which McGrath's place was searched and a quart bottle of whiskey found.

"Well, where is Officer Casey?" asked Magistrate Corrigan. "He is not in court," replied M. J. den.

"Now that's just it," the Magistrate blurted out. "This sort of stuff is ridiculous. I refused to do anything in this case until Policeman Casey comes here and tells his side of the story. Nine-tenths of these cases are merely for the purpose of graft and are out-and-out shakedown."

The court went on in that vein to a considerable extent and then wanted to know why Casey didn't arrest McGrath immediately after he served a drink to him, as the officer charged, instead of presenting an affidavit for a search warrant. Madden was unable to answer this.

Then Louis Iaconetti was called, and the same thing occurred again. The Magistrate adjourned both cases until Dec. 20 and issued two subpoenas for the appearance of Casey on that day.

Fares were increased twice after this, and Brooklyn residents and commercial and manufacturing interests in Brooklyn and Manhattan again complained of the excessive

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PRESIDENT HARDING TO BE EDITOR AGAIN—JUST FOR ONE NIGHT

As Member of National Press Club He Will Attend Annual Election and "Talk Shop."

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FRANCO-CANADIAN TREATY IS SIGNED IN PARIS

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