

PRENDERGAST DEFENDS DUAL SUBWAY PACT

Says False Impressions Have Been Created by Thompson Inquiry.

"DISCOVERIES" LONG KNOWN BY PUBLIC

Comptroller Makes an Exception of Shonts' Commitments.

Comptroller William A. Prendergast made a statement last night which was characterized as "the first installment of an education of the Thompson committee rather than a defense of the dual subway system contracts with the International Brotherhood of Railway Employees."

The comptroller takes up seven specific points in the Thompson committee testimony, relating especially to the examination of Horace M. Fisher, secretary of the International Rapid Transit Company.

Text of the Statement.

As a result of the work of the Thompson committee the newspapers of this city for the last few days have been filled with a mass of inaccurate and misleading statements regarding the dual subway contracts.

Two months ago when a distinguished group of this city's prominent business leaders and civic leaders met in a public hall to discuss the proposed dual subway system, they were informed of the exact terms of the contracts, and not only that, but they were also informed of the exact terms of the contracts.

Wants Facts, Not Sensations.

What he wants to know, and I for one, is not what the newspapers have said, but what the facts are. I want to know the exact terms of the contracts, and not only that, but I want to know the exact terms of the contracts.

It is not my duty to make a statement of the facts, but to make a statement of the facts. I want to know the exact terms of the contracts, and not only that, but I want to know the exact terms of the contracts.

Concerning Beglets.

It was never contended that the receipts of the new subway system would be sufficient within the first few years of operation to pay the railroad's and the city's bills upon the new investment.

Confessions Pour In as Baff Plot Involves 200

Warrants Issued for Dozen Ringleaders—Evidence Enough to Send Gunmen to Chair, Says Swann—Grand Jury to Hear Story To-day.

CHAUFFEUR FERRARA MAKES CONFESSION

Frank Ferrara, the young chauffeur who drove the Baff murder car, made a new and complete confession of his connection with the crime yesterday in the Tombs. He said he was driven by poverty to undertake the job.

There were wholesale confessions made in the Baff murder case yesterday. As a result District Attorney Swann is in possession of information which he believes will send the four gunmen in the case to the chair.

He believes also that indictments for first degree murder may be obtained against the twelve members of the "steering committee"—a body of men who handled the money and decided upon the Baff's death.

CONFESSIONS POUR IN; 200 NOW INVOLVED

District Attorney learns 200 were involved in plot. There were not 100 contributors to the fund that bought the murder of Barnett Baff. There were 200, possibly more.

Also the District Attorney received a number of unsigned letters from poultry dealers in West Washington Market giving information respecting the identity of the "steering committee."

FIRE RUINS \$400,000 CORNELL BUILDING

Records of Research Work and Chemical Instruments Destroyed.

Yonkers, N. Y., Feb. 13.—Morse Hall, home of the chemistry department of Cornell University, was destroyed by fire early today, entailing a loss of more than \$400,000 and wiping out records of research work.

Records of Research Work and Chemical Instruments Destroyed.

The fire started in the photographic room of the building. The fire spread rapidly, reaching the main building in the early part of the afternoon.

GRAHAME-WHITE IS WOUNDED

Aviator's Injury Is Reported in Paris to Be Serious. Special Cable Despatch to The Sun.

Paris, Feb. 13.—The Havas Agency received a despatch late tonight saying that Claude Grahame-White, the aviator, has been seriously wounded.

PRIEST FIGHTS FOR POOR, NIECE SPURNS RICHES, MISER LEFT

Father Curry Works to Get Freedom for Youths Sentenced as Robbers. Miss Kitching, Rejected Ripley's \$10,000, Says Money Is Tainted.

REAL CULPRITS CONFESS MAY BE HEIR TO \$200,000

Prisoners Unwillingly Pleaded Guilty So as to Escape Twenty Year Term.

It was fitting that a woman was chosen to represent Justice, so the Rev. Father James B. Curry, pastor of St. James's Catholic Church, in James Street, believed, because, as Father Curry put it in a letter he wrote yesterday to one of two young men serving a sentence of three years and six months for the crime of robbing a woman.

John Banigan, an old man living in Brooklyn, stepped out of the Roosevelt street ferry on the Manhattan side on December 29, 1913, and while walking on Roosevelt street he was dragged into a hallway and robbed of \$437 and his watch and chain.

While the police have been delaying their final roundup of the conspirators in order to locate the original instigators, some of the men they want have been able to escape.

Would Rather Starve

I would rather starve than take a cent of that money. I take the money ground out of unfortunate people. I was informed by the Hamilton Trust Company that while my uncle had registered to make a will he had secured the intention of leaving \$100,000 to me.

Full Confession of Robbery

Father Curry denied the country should and assured him that he would not harm them. He wanted, he said, was the truth about the robbery of Mr. Banigan. Then he told the priest a long and detailed story of the robbery, and after preliminary hearing and hearing and swallowing had they finally confessed to Father Curry.

May Be Heir to \$200,000

The situation is a peculiar one. The court will have to decide as to the legality of the institutional bequests. If these are disapproved the whole estate of about \$200,000 would legally fall to Miss Kitching.

LANE NOW FAVORED

Goethals' Stock Takes a Sudden Drop, as Does That of Secretary Houston.

Washington, Feb. 13.—Stock in the hands of Franklin D. Lane, Secretary of the Interior, and a successor to former Secretary of War Garrison took a sudden rise to-night when it was stated in official circles that the vacant portfolio would probably go to one of the present members of the Cabinet.

BRITAIN TO SEIZE ALL FOR GARRISON'S PLACE WHISKEY DISTILLERIES

Buildings Will Be Turned Into Munition Factories by Lloyd George.

London, Feb. 13.—The British Government has decided to seize all the distilleries in Great Britain and to turn them into munition factories.

Lusitania Case May Be Ended by Radio To-day

Ambassador von Bernstorff Expects a Wireless to Recognize Germany's Liability for Reparation and to Draft and Sign the Final Agreement.

ACTION ON ARMED LINERS COMES NEXT

Washington, Feb. 13.—Officials of the German Embassy are expecting a final settlement of the Lusitania case before the end of the present week.

By Tuesday or Wednesday at the latest the embassy expects word from the Berlin Foreign Office accepting the changes of phraseology in the agreement which Secretary Lansing suggested at his conference with Count von Bernstorff last week.

Should this confidence be borne out Germany, in a formal communication to the United States, will answer the American demand for a disclosure of the extent and assurances for the future by the following concessions:

Recognition of liability for reparation on the fact that American lives were destroyed by the sinking of the Lusitania.

A ratification of previous assurances given at the time the Arabs were sunk, that passenger vessels will not be attacked or destroyed without warning.

"Recognize" for "Assume"

In her informal memorandum of February 4 Germany agreed to "assume" liability. Mr. Lansing asked that the word "recognize" be substituted for "assume."

Acceptance of the recognition of liability on the ground stated in place of an out and out disavowal of the attack itself is the outcome of the agreement which is likely to arouse most comment in Congress.

There is no apprehension in German quarters tonight that the Berlin Foreign Office will hold up the settlement pending the determination by the United States of the course it will take in reference to Germany's announced intention of attacking all armed merchant vessels without warning.

FOR SUBMARINE WAR

Budget Committee of Prussian Diet Fights Restriction.

London, Feb. 13.—The Sanctioning of the budget from Berlin state the following proposition was adopted by a large majority of the budget committee of the Prussian Diet.

Likely to Bar Armed Liners

The critical period of the negotiations between the United States and the belligerent Powers on the disarmament proposition is now at its most delicate.

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\$2,500,000 BURGLAR DIES

Mark Shimburn Drops Dead in a Boston Reformatory.

Boston, Feb. 13.—Mark Shimburn, a well-known burglar, died in a Boston reformatory today.

GERMANS CUT FRENCH LINE IN CHAMPAGNE

Kaiser's Men Take Trenches on Front of 700 Yards—Repulsed, Says Paris.

TEUTONS' ATTACK AT OTHER POINTS FAILS

Fierce Assaults Made From Belgium to the Vosges Driven Back.

FURIOUS FIGHTING IN ARRAS SECTOR

Four of 5 German Charges Halted—Ground Gained in Fifth Lost Again.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun.

London, Feb. 13.—German attacks of varying intensity made at many parts of the French and British line from Belgium to the Vosges, have caused great activity during the past two days on the western front.

LANSING'S "INTERVIEW"

Given to "Wolf Agency" in Third Person Form.

Washington, Feb. 13.—The Lansing "interview" given to the "Wolf Agency" was prepared in the third person form by Mr. Lansing, as follows:

When Secretary of State Lansing's statement was called for the interview was given to the "Wolf Agency" by the German Ambassador, Mr. von Bernstorff, who said that while he declined to comment on press reports of this sort it was in order that a wrong impression might be removed.

Five Attacks Near Arras

Five separate assaults were made today in the Vimy sector, north of Arras. Four of the attacks failed, the German forces being repulsed in each case.

German's Claim Totals

The German official statement says: In Flanders, after heavy artillery fighting, the British and strong positions were captured on the 12th.

British Artillery Bombarded Town of Lille

British artillery bombarded the town of Lille yesterday and today. The shells were fired from the coast of the English Channel.

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