

THE WEATHER FORECAST.
Fair and slightly warmer to-day; to-morrow, increasing cloudiness.
Highest temperature yesterday, 30; lowest, 21.
Detailed weather, mail and marine reports on page 12.

IT SHINES FOR ALL
ONE CENT
In Greater New York, Elsewhere
Jersey City and Newark, TWO CENTS

LABOR PUZZLE FOR CONGRESS

Unions' Reversal on 8 Hour Law Is Mystifying to Legislators.

GOMPERS WON'T EXPLAIN

Head of A. F. of L., It Is Said, Now Favors Repeal of Railroad Measure.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—A pronounced change in sentiment with respect to the Adamson law on the part of labor is perceptible here. Leaders in Congress confess to be mystified by what apparently is a complete reversal of labor's position. There is a humorous touch to the situation owing to the well recognized fact that the law was constructed to win labor votes at the last election.

The American federation labor leaders are intimating now that they would prefer to have the law on the statute books. The Democratic leaders there have been driven into the position of defending the law against the labor people. Judge Adamson, its author, reiterated to-day that the law would stand whether labor liked it or not.

Chairman Newlands of the Senate Committee takes the position that whatever was done last summer by Congress was done in the interest of the public. Labor will have had time getting the law repealed, it seems.

Russell Gompers refused to-day to discuss the report that he had promised the brotherhood of the railroad men to have the law repealed, but the statement was made for him that he had always taken the position that the law should be fixed by agreement rather than by legislation.

Labor Didn't Ask for the Law.

Frank Morrison, secretary of the federation, said to-day that labor had not asked for the Adamson law in spite of the general impression that it had.

It is well to keep clear on this," said Mr. Morrison. "The brotherhoods threatened to strike if they did not get an eight hour day. The Adamson law was passed about by the President and Congress as a way of compelling the railroad roads to accede to the men's terms. It was not sought for by labor. It might have been better if it had not been passed. The eight hour day might have been won either through agreement or by labor's weapons."

Mr. Morrison refused to say whether or not the federation was working toward a repeal of the law. Our impression is that this was largely up to the brotherhoods. At the Baltimore convention of the federation it was resolved to appoint a committee to study the law. The report, it is said, was that the law was deemed advisable because a "contest is now on involving the employers and the country, and the railroad corporations, and the facts brought out in this contest, and the final termination of the law on the eight hour principle for all workers."

Committee to Be Appointed.

This committee, according to Mr. Morrison, was not an act of a plan for a repeal of the law. It is believed Mr. Gompers has been carrying on negotiations already paving the way for it, and that this has resulted in the alleged agreement to work to repeal the law.

Significant emphasis was laid by Mr. Morrison to-day, however, on the month-end taken by the federation at the San Francisco convention a year ago, as expressed by the following:

"The wage earners must depend on their own organizations for securing a shorter workday. This method is not only effective in securing for the month-end, but it enables them at the same time to maintain their independence and self-reliance, together with the right to determine what they will do under the conditions under which they must toil. To secure the shorter workday by any other method makes it necessary for the wage earners to delegate to other authorities other things which vitally affect them and which constitute a limitation upon their activities and their rights, and thus finally lessen their freedom."

Gompers Opposed Legislation.

Mr. Morrison said that this still defined the attitude of the federation toward the Adamson law. Furthermore, he said Samuel Gompers, its president, when he appeared before the Senate Committee last summer when the Adamson law was up, had said that while he was in favor of the principle of the eight hour day he did not believe in getting it by legislation.

The general impression of the members of Congress is that labor is offering themselves to vote for this law in order to win labor votes that Mr. Gompers not only then was for an eight hour day generally but wanted to see the Adamson bill passed.

It was intimated to-day that the apparent change of sentiment toward the Adamson law is the result of a plan for a compulsory investigation of railroad labor disputes. The federation leaders deem this more vital to them than any other law. They are fearful that the President is about to insist upon it. They believe that by averting now the repeal of the law passed last summer the can, in some way, avert legislation which will, in their belief, curb their power more drastically than any legislation ever before proposed.

ROADS WON'T PROTEST

Managers Willing to See Eight Hour Law Repealed.

Railroad managers of the country are willing to agree with the "Big Four" brotherhoods on the repeal of the Adamson eight hour law if the employees' organizations will not require the active cooperation of the roads in the enterprise. They will give passive acquiescence to the brotherhoods and Samuel Gompers' efforts toward the nullification of the law. This agreement was announced yesterday by one of the foremost railroad men of the United States.

The roads will not fight for the law's repeal, it was said.

SANTA IS LOADING UP WITH STACKS OF GOLD

He Sends His Agents to the Sub-Treasury for Bright New Pieces.

A long line of men, women and children, holding a roll of bills and each one wearing a more or less broad grin, lined from the Pine street entrance half through the Sub-Treasury Building yesterday, seeking to change the paper currency into Christmas gold.

So long did the line become that it threatened to overflow into the street, and Treasury officials promptly broke it into two parts, opening a window on the opposite side of the hall, behind which were stacked hundreds of new gold pieces.

The line gave evidence that the old custom of giving gold for Christmas was largely followed this year. Many of the firms down town have followed the gold giving custom for more than half a century.

"The demand for gold pieces is heavy and we expect it to increase in volume daily until Christmas," said a Treasury official yesterday. "But we have an ample supply on hand for this emergency and we will be able to meet the wants of everybody."

Paying Teller Malnard between the busy demands for gold pieces in the morning and handing out gold said that the demand appears to be equally distributed between half eagles, eagles and double eagles.

"If anything," he said, "I would judge that the demand this year for the larger coins is the greatest."

H. C. FAHNESTOCK'S ESTATE \$16,630,885

Banker Was Said to Have Left \$3,000,000—Christmas Bonus for Heirs.

An increase in the estate of Harris Charles Fahnestock, banker, which will come in the nature of a Christmas bonus to his heirs, was made known yesterday by the transfer tax appraiser of the special session of the Appraiser John J. Lyons. The net value of the property was placed at \$16,630,885.

When Mr. Fahnestock, who was at one time a member of Jay Cooke & Co. of Philadelphia, in its day the most powerful banking institution in the country, died on June 4, 1911, the official estimates of his estate were much lower than this, some persons rating it in the neighborhood of \$3,000,000. According to the report filed yesterday the tax accruing to the State will be about \$550,000.

The largest single asset of the estate and the one which counted for most in the enhanced valuation consisted of 10,000 shares of the capital stock of the First National Bank of New York, which were appraised at \$5,875,000. The executor of the estate, who were the sons, William, Gibson and Harris, objected to the valuation of the stock at \$87 a share, contending that it should not be appraised higher than \$40.

It is expected an appeal on the question of the value of the stock will be taken to the Surrogate. Before fixing his valuation the appraiser heard testimony from the executor, the sons, stocks, and stated in his report that he found evidence of actual sales of the stock at \$85, \$80, \$85 and \$90 a share.

Other stocks owned by Mr. Fahnestock were 9,619 shares of D. L. & W. R. E. \$1,919,835; 4,700 shares of Tidewater Company \$2,000; 2,900 shares of Central R. R. of N. J. \$889,937; and 8,960 shares of Pennsylvania R. R. \$485,264. He also owned a large amount of philanthropic during his life, but generally in the name of others. Left public bequests exceeding \$200,000. His executor, which includes ordinary legacies are Clarence and Ernest Fahnestock and Helen Fahnestock Campbell.

WAR DEPT. BUYS 4,000 VICKERS MACHINE GUNS

Action Construed as Finally Disposing of the Lewis Controversy.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—In accordance with the original recommendation of the War Department, the War Department let contracts to-day for 4,000 Vickers machine guns and accessories at a cost of \$5,500,000. It was announced that additional contracts soon would be let on such weapons for the regular army and the National Guard.

The Department's decision was construed as finally disposing of the suggestion that the Lewis machine gun, contending that additional contracts, contrary, should be adopted as the army standard. In announcing the award the department let it be known that the Lewis gun had been reconvened to consider the Lewis gun, and after holding extensive hearings had adhered to its original recommendation.

The board recommended that all funds available for the purchase of machine guns, except about \$1,500,000, should be expended for Vickers guns and accessories. The essential sum will be held in the treasury until the various types of guns, a number of which will be purchased for experimental purposes.

"JOY RIDING" HAND CARS

Lehigh Valley Installs Gasoline Driven Vehicles.

No longer will Giacomo Garibaldi, section hand on the Lehigh Valley Railroad, or any of his fellows have to break their backs working a hand car ten miles down the track to reach a gasoline driven spike or scrape ice out of a ditch. If Giacomo is told to do any of these things in a place remote from his bunkhouse he will have a gasoline driven motor car and speed to the scene of the endeavor at any rate he selects up to twenty-five miles an hour.

EX-BOWERY BAD MEN IN JUBILEE

Celebrate 26th Anniversary of Johnny Callahan's Conversion.

EULOGIZE A SOUL SAVER

Former Derelicts and Noted Churchmen Laud Rescue Mission Head.

One time convicts, a Bishop, ex-bar-tenders, an editor of the Methodist Book Concern, a former forger—one by one they came into the old stronghold of the Paul Kelly gang at 253 Bowery yesterday afternoon to help the Rev. John— to help Johnny Callahan observe the twenty-sixth anniversary of his conversion.

Johnny, as the Bowery knows the Rev. John Callahan, who once was a convict himself, but now is head of the Hadley Rescue Mission in the Bowery as well as a chaplain of the Tombs, told Bishop Luther H. Wilson of the Methodist Church, the Rev. David G. Downey of the Methodist Book Concern, Ed Smith—once a forger and worst, but now a sainted man—and the rest of the men who, Johnny realized, would take the floor that he would be grateful to them if they would only praise God for his conversion.

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BOSTON VOICES TO STAY WET

Liquor Forces Have Majority of 23,462 as Against 14,238 Last Year.

WOMEN AT THE POLLS

BOSTON, Dec. 19.—Boston to-day voted to continue the licensed sale of liquor after the liveliest campaign on the liquor question that the city has had in years. The vote in favor of license was 53,453, with 29,997 against. Last year the vote for license was 46,116, and 21,577 against.

The total vote was the largest ever cast here on the license question, and the majority of 23,462 for license has been exceeded only three times in the city's history. The largest majority, 28,613, was recorded in 1905.

The liquor question overshadowed all other issues in the campaign, and both the license and the prohibitionists were represented by many workers in virtually every precinct. Hundreds of canvassers were used to carry voters to the polls. Motor trucks and brewery wagons carrying printed appeals to vote "yes" were sent through the city by the license forces.

"Billy" Sunday, who is conducting an evangelistic campaign here, took a prominent part in the fight. He delivered several addresses in order to keep saloons out of their particular wards changed their votes to "yes" this year because of the fear that the entire city would be turned into a "dry" town.

No license advocates gained two new victories in the four municipalities outside of Boston. North Adams changed from the wet to the dry column for the first time in twenty-nine years, and North Adams changed from the wet to the dry column for the first time in twenty-nine years, and North Adams changed from the wet to the dry column for the first time in twenty-nine years.

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GERMANS MUST MAKE REPARATION AND RESTITUTION TO GET PEACE

LLOYD GEORGE SAYS IN COMMONS

Premier Asserts the War's High Object Must Be Attained.

FOLLOWS LINCOLN'S ANSWER TO SOUTH

Should Be No Mistake in Matter of Life or Death.

LONDON, Dec. 19.—Premier Lloyd George in his speech before the House of Commons this afternoon treated the German peace note in the same manner as Abraham Lincoln did in the South's suit during the American civil war, namely, that the conflict will go on until the high object of the Entente Allies is attained.

This high object the Premier condensed in the following sentence: "Let me repeat—complete restitution, full reparation and effectual guarantees."

The Prime Minister said: "I appear before the House of Commons today with the most terrible responsibility that can fall upon the shoulders of any living man as chief adviser of the crown in the most gigantic war in which this country was ever engaged. I am aware that the burden of this destiny depends. It is the greatest war ever waged; the burdens are the heaviest that have been cast upon this or any other country, and the issues the greatest that have been attached to any conflict in which humanity was ever involved."

"The responsibilities of the new Government today are the heaviest that have been attached to any conflict in which humanity was ever involved. I am aware that the burden of this destiny depends. It is the greatest war ever waged; the burdens are the heaviest that have been cast upon this or any other country, and the issues the greatest that have been attached to any conflict in which humanity was ever involved."

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PREMIER LIFTS WILSON'S HOPE

Bernstorff Also Interprets Lloyd George's Speech as Encouraging.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—Premier Lloyd George's speech in the House of Commons is not regarded here as entirely destroying the prospect of peace negotiations at a comparatively early date. It is not looked upon as a flat rejection of the German proposal.

If anything, it has raised the hopes of President Wilson and officials of this Government that a new chapter in the war—one in which the belligerents seek at least a basis of understanding—has been begun.

Official Washington practically is unanimous, however, in the opinion that the British Premier's speech has shown that any positive action by the United States toward mediation will not be premature, but might embarrass such action later. It was stated authoritatively to-night that for the present the United States would act only as an intermediary, transmitting communications between the belligerents.

The German Embassy interprets the Premier's speech as opening the door to a further discussion, although the German diplomats intently familiar with the aims and views of the central Powers make no attempt to conceal their uncertainty regarding the outcome of such negotiations. They are doing all they can to bring the German communication follows the tenor of the Premier's speech, the Entente, from the "Tudor viewpoint," as they call it, and has brought the idea of a peace conference one step nearer realization.

"The answer they have given has already appeared in the papers, and I simply stand here to give clear and definite views on the subject. They have already said that the answer they have given has already appeared in the papers, and I simply stand here to give clear and definite views on the subject. They have already said that the answer they have given has already appeared in the papers, and I simply stand here to give clear and definite views on the subject."

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CURZON WARNS OF GERMAN MENACE

LONDON, Dec. 19.—In presenting the policy of the Government in the House of Lords Earl Curzon, who is a member of the new War Council, said:

"The policy of the new Government is that the war must be conducted with the utmost prosecution; that there must be an ample return for all sacrifices; that full reparation must be made by the enemy for his countless crimes, and security given that those crimes will not be repeated and that the sacrifices made shall not have been in vain.