

The Weather Fair today and tomorrow. Rising temperature. See p. 13.

FIGHT INVASION OF RESIDENTIAL ZONES BY B. & O.

Central Citizens Denounce Senate Bill as "Menace to Rights."

KELLER'S LETTER OFFERS SUPPORT

Commissioner Declares He Would Never Permit Extension.

Characterizing Senate bill 3053 as a "menace to the rights of Washington residents," a mass meeting of citizens, held under the auspices of the Central Citizens' Association, at 204 I street northwest, last night adopted resolutions condemning the measure and asking its defeat in the Lower House.

The legislation, said to be supported by railroad interests, would confer upon District Commissioners authority to grant railroads the right to extend elevated and surface tracks into residential sections of the city.

Measure Denounced.

Members declared that the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company for years has endeavored to extend its tracks across First street northwest in the area between I and N streets. Declaring that the present bill, which has passed the Senate, is designed to accomplish this purpose, the members vigorously denounced the measure and the so-called secret means used to effect its passage.

Should the right be granted to build such track extensions, it was pointed out that hundreds of homes in this section would be destroyed. In addition, seven thousand structures would be razed, including the North Capitol Methodist Church, Notre Dame convent, Gonzaga school, St. Ann's Church, Gonzaga College, Blake Public School and St. Mary's Hospital.

Commissioners Reassure Members.

District Commissioners, in a letter written by Commissioner Keller, assured members that they supported the citizens in their fight against the measure which would constitute an invasion of the city. The letter explained that the bill was designed to confer upon the Commissioners the authority to grant railroads the right to extend their tracks where, in the judgment of the Commissioners, it was thought advisable. Under no circumstances, it was stated, would the Commissioners allow extensions that would cause any danger to residents.

Although reassured that no immediate danger attends, citizens declared that future extensions of tracks might not prove sympathetic to their wishes.

Donovan Expresses Confidence.

Expressing confidence in the support of present Commissioners, President Donovan declared that the measure is a menace to the future of the city. "While we have confidence in our officials of today," he stated, "we do not know that those in the future will be attentive to our wishes. For that reason, if possible, should not be granted. If it is granted it will be a standing menace to our section of the city and a danger to these institutions."

The following motion, introduced by President Donovan, was adopted unanimously: "Resolved, That we are grateful for the assurance conveyed in Col. Keller's letter of even date, but that we renew our protest against the passage of the House of Representatives bill 3053, and that we believe the time will come when Congress will refuse authority by special bill for such extension of the railroad tracks as an emergency may require in any given neighborhood, within the bounds of the city as now established. It is unfair in principle that any part of the city be subjected to the adverse effects of such an extension during the past two weeks, when that neighborhood has developed under the reconstruction following the general legislation of 1903 bearing on this general subject."

VIRGINIA INDICTS NEW YORK BROKERS

RICHMOND, April 21.—Roy H. MacMaster and James A. Corcoran, partners in the bankrupt brokerage firm of R. H. MacMasters and Company, of New York, have been indicted in Virginia on charges of grand larceny. It was disclosed today. The indictment was the outcome of complaints made by Richmond customers of the firm. The house conducted branches at Richmond and at Petersburg, Va.

MEXICAN UPRISING FEARED ON BORDER

EAGLE PASS, Tex., April 21.—Reports received here that President Obregon of Mexico has sent General Huasteco to quell the uprising started by Francisco Gorozabo, which is now said to have reached revolutionary proportions, have added to the frank apprehension felt by government officials on the border over the Mexican situation.

GRIEVED MOTHER LEAPS TO DEATH

NEW YORK, April 21.—Shame caused by her son's confessed complicity in the Capitol Theater hold-up in December, caused Mrs. Hannah Donovan, 51 years old, to jump from the roof of her West Fifty-third street home to the sidewalk, five stories below, today. She was killed instantly.

Mrs. Armour Seriously Ill

CHICAGO, April 21.—Mrs. J. Ogden Armour, wife of the millionaire head of Armour and Company, is seriously ill at St. Luke's Hospital. She submitted to a surgical operation yesterday for an affection of the gall bladder. Her daughter, Mrs. John J. Mitchell, Jr., is with her in the hospital.

The New Mutual Admiration Society.

By J. N. Darling.



CHEMICAL BLAST IN SCHOOL INJURES HYATTSVILLE BOY

Shaking up of Test Tube Causes Explosion and Near Panic.

PUPILS RUSH OUT

Son of Prof. Oldenburg Suffers Burns and Lacerations.

HYATTSVILLE, Md., April 21.—One boy was severely injured, two were shattered, and a near panic occurred, following the explosion of chemicals in the laboratory of the Hyattsville High School this afternoon.

The injured lad, Lester Oldenburg, 17 years old, son of Prof. and Mrs. Frederic Oldenburg—the father is a member of the University of Maryland faculty—was in the laboratory, suffering from lacerations and burns about the head and upper portions of his body. His eyes are believed to have been affected.

Girls in Class Swoon.

The explosion, which occurred while the Oldenburg lad was experimenting with chemicals, shook the school building and caused the 250 students to rush from the building. Other members of the laboratory class were knocked over by the concussion, and several girls who were in the room at his home fainted by the blast. Oldenburg staggered from the laboratory and fell to the floor in an adjoining hall, bleeding profusely from a deep gash in the neck and suffering from pain caused by the burns about his face. Two fellow students placed the wounded boy in an automobile and rushed him to the hospital.

Shook up Chemists.

As soon as the student body realized that the explosion had not been followed by a blaze, the near panic which followed the deafening report was averted, and the classes continued. After placing the chemicals in a testing bottle, Oldenburg did not wait until they had become mixed but instead placed his thumb over the opening in the tube and proceeded to shake them in an effort to quickly cause their mixing, resulting in the explosion, according to instructors at the school.

Leaders Say Coal Strike Peak Not Yet Reached

INDIANAPOLIS, April 21.—The fourth week of the country-wide suspension of work in the coal industry begins Saturday with officials of the United Mine Workers claiming more than 650,000 men now on strike. The mine union chiefs declared that between 20,000 and 25,000 men joined the national walk-out during the week just ending.

Will Investigate Histories.

Careful investigation of all history books in use in the public schools of the United States will be made by the committee on Education. Important among the causes for this action by the society is undoubtedly the attack in the District of Columbia on "Museum of History," in use in the high schools. This text will be among those investigated.

Slap Flapper, Mothers Told By Lady Astor

Clothes Obsession Cause Of Immorality, Says Woman M. P.

NEW YORK, April 21.—Women's clothes are an evil, an impediment, a cause of immorality—when they abase the female mind.

So said Lady Astor today, in her final interview before she departs tomorrow for Baltimore to address the Pan American conference held by the National League of Women Voters. She was to have gone to Baltimore this afternoon, but deferred her departure.

"In England women are not as keen about clothes as here," declared the widowed M. P. "They give less thought to dress. They are not eternally running after the latest fashion.

"Clothes are responsible for more girls going wrong than any other cause. They long for the pretty things they see in the windows—and pay the most serious price to get them.

Enthusiasm and suspense marked

the attitude of the audience as Mrs. George Maynard Minor, president general, on a stage cleared of officers and flowers preparatory to the subsequent program, introduced the teller, who read the election results. Prolonged applause greeted each pronouncement, and the successful officers bowed in response to the calls of the audience, thus making their first official appearance.

Colorful Pageant Given.

At the close of the afternoon session the Congress adjourned to the White House, where they were cordially received by the President and Mrs. Harding.

Colorful Pageant Given.

The History of America was displayed by the children as the feature of the eventful evening meeting. The pageant told the romantic story of America, the vision of

D. A. R. ELECTS VICE PRESIDENTS IN KEEN CONTEST

Miss Alice McDuffee, of Michigan, Gets Highest Vote, 1,035.

VISIT WHITE HOUSE

Mrs. Frank Mondell Also Honored With Office.

Miss Alice Louise McDuffee, of Kalamazoo, Mich., was elected vice president general of the National Society of Daughters of the American Revolution yesterday by a vote of 1,035. This is the greatest vote polled by any of the eleven candidates for the office to which seven were elected, and the largest ballot any woman has received in an election when a president general is not on the ballot.

Others elected vice president general were: Mrs. John Laidlaw Buel, of Connecticut, with a vote of 1,008; Mrs. Frank Mondell, of Wyoming, 1,015; Mrs. Willard T. Block, of Illinois, 986; Miss Annie Wallace, New Hampshire, 807; Mrs. H. H. McCall, Georgia, 739; and Mrs. Everest George Sewell, Florida, 704. In all, 12,067 votes were cast. Of this number, 15 were illegal because the women who had filled out the ballots had voted for too many candidates.

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RIOTS RENEWED AS IRISH STRIKE PLANS MATURE

Monday Walkout Expected to Paralyze Erin For 24 Hours.

BELFAST AGITATED AGAIN BY SHOOTING

Lord Mayor O'Neill Lauds Tie-Up Move to Fight Lawlessness.

DUBLIN, April 21.—With the backing of many influential elements the Labor party will attempt to tie up Ireland completely for twenty-four hours Monday in protest against the rule of lawlessness throughout the island.

Elaborate plans have been announced for the strike, and if they are successful, there will even not be a meal served in the lowliest restaurant. The cessation of work will be made as complete as possible. The Labor party can possibly make it on the theory that the more inconvenience suffered, the quicker the Irish people will be impressed with the necessity of breaking up the lawless guerrilla warfare now raging.

Mayor to Help Strike.

Lord Mayor O'Neill at the council meeting congratulated the laborites on their stand and promised to do all he could to make their protest strike a success.

The spirit of militarism is abroad in Ireland," he said. "It is up to the people to draw the fangs which are poisoning it. They got rid of the British army. Now they should get rid of the Irish army. Young men should be cleared out of the city and sent to their homes in the country. Then the bullies should be cleared out."

More Shooting in Belfast.

Plans for Monday's general strike call for tying up all kinds of work and business, trains, tramways, newspapers, telephones, telegraphs, mails, restaurants and hotels. Breakfast will be interrupted Monday morning, but after that guests must get their own food if they care to eat.

Belfast dispatches report renewed outbreaks of shooting in various sections of the city. One is reported dead.

Government of Ireland Stronger Than It Seems

LONDON, April 21.—"It cannot be emphasized too strongly that the position of the Irish provincial government is far stronger than it appears," said the editor of a London newspaper.

This statement was made today by a British official, who is one of those most interested in the administration of relations between Ireland and Great Britain. This man insisted that Michael Collins and Arthur Griffith were growing disenchanted with the extreme agitators, who are gradually agitating themselves into smaller groups, while all the sane and sensible in every day are now springing up in many parts of the country, each commanded by at least a major general, self-appointed to that rank, succeed in defeating the treaty by a side-wind in this manner, it is not expected here that England will take immediate action.

Believe 3,000 Dead in Blast

City of Monastir in Ruins. Hundreds Buried in Debris.

Believe 3,000 Dead in Blast

LONDON, April 21.—Three thousand may have perished in the munitions explosion at Monastir, according to dispatches from Athens to the Exchange Telegraph Company. The entire city is practically reduced to ruins, almost every building in the city proper having been wrecked by the terrific explosion. Hundreds are buried in the ruins, probably hundreds of persons were blown up and will never be found, and many were burned.

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TEXT OF BOLSHEVIK REPLY ASKING ALLIED RECOGNITION

Russia Would Agree to Restore Nationalized Property to Former Owners

The text of the Russian reply to the Genoa conference leaders follows in part: "With greatest care the Russian delegation has examined the proposals of the allied governments and has at the same time consulted its government on the subject. It is of the opinion that the present economic situation in Russia and the circumstances leading to it amply justify in respect to Russia complete remission of all her debts by recognition of counter claims.

"This time the Russian delegation is ready to go a step further in quest of a solution for adjustment of differences on condition, first, that war debts and arrears in interest, as well as the proposed interest on all debts are written down, and second, that adequate financial assistance be given Russia to help her emerge from her present economic situation as speedily as possible.

"Subject to the above conditions, the Russian government would be ready to restore to former owners, property nationalized or reserved. This is subject to the reservation that in event of that not being possible, satisfaction shall be given legitimate claims of former owners either through mutual agreement arrived at directly between both parties or by virtue of arrangements to be worked out at the present conference.

"Financial assistance from foreign sources is absolutely vital for the economic reconstruction of Russia and so long as there is no prospect of reconstruction forthcoming, the Russian delegation does not see its way clear to saddling the country with debts from which it would not be able to acquit itself.

"The Russian delegation wishes it to be clearly understood that notwithstanding the fact it appears obvious in point of right that the Russian government cannot assume any obligation in respect to the debts of its predecessors until it has been officially recognized de jure by the interested powers. The Russian delegation hopes you will find the foregoing proposals an adequate basis for the resumption of discussion.

La Follette Demands Probe Of Naval Oil Land Leases

Former Secretary Daniels Denies Fall's Statement That Leasing Originated During His Term.

Congressional investigation of activities of Secretary of Interior Albert Bacon Fall looms as the result of a resolution introduced in the Senate yesterday by Senator La Follette.

Recent action of Secretary Fall in granting rich concessions of oil lands in Naval Reserve No. 3 to certain private corporations is said to be responsible for yesterday's request for information. Conservationists, who temporarily defeated Fall's efforts to gain control of the Forestry Service, admit that the Secretary of Interior has gained a victory in his latest act of leasing naval oil lands to private corporations.

Referring to the report that he proposed leasing of naval oil lands, former Secretary Daniels said: "I am astounded that any such impression prevails. Persistent attempts to lease these lands began in 1913 and were kept up until my term of office expired. It was a battle during my entire term, and I was happy upon my retirement to know that the Navy Department had blocked the insidious propaganda to exploit these reserves."

"The lands involved in the controversy are located in California and Wyoming, and have been leased by Secretary Fall to the Mammoth Oil Company, a Sinclair concern of Delaware, and the Pan American Petroleum Company, of California.

"Recalling the numerous efforts of oil interests to gain control of the naval reserves under his administration, Daniels declared that at the end of a session of Congress, he and former Assistant Secretary Franklin D. Roosevelt were compelled to remain at the Capitol all night to prevent oil interests from slipping a bill through Congress granting them concessions in the reserves.

"You may be interested to know," the letter to Senator La Follette continues, "that when I first looked into this matter, when the first applications were made, I found that the claims on the naval oil reserve were asked for in the names of parties working in the stock yards in Chicago. When these parties were interviewed, they declared that they had never made application for the oil lands, and the application bearing their names were in fact signatures they had made supposing they were signing a petition for an election. Many of these petitions were grossly fraudulent and nearly all of them were made after President Taft had set the reserve apart for the use of the navy."

J. P. MORGAN READY TO AID CONFERENCE

NEW YORK, April 21.—J. P. Morgan, announcing receipt of an official invitation from the reparations commission asking him to attend a conference of international bankers on a loan to Germany, declared he would go if he thought he could be "useful."

BOLIVIA PROPOSES TO PURCHASE ARICA

BUENOS AIRES, April 21.—A Washington dispatch to La Nación states that Bolivia is willing to pay \$10,000,000 for Arica, which the treaty of Ancon provides the plebiscite loser shall pay the winner. It is contended that the Chilean people need Arica, but it would be sold to Bolivia by providing interest.

RIVER-FRONT PLAYGROUND IN OPERATION THIS SUMMER

Over-Water Recreation Hall and Pier to Be Prominent Features.

Three hundred feet of the city's waterfront, at the foot of Thirtieth street southwest, will soon be transformed from a group of dilapidated frame buildings into a modernly equipped municipal recreation pier and playground.

This, the initial action in connection with the proposed mammoth river-front improvement program, was decided upon by the District Commissioners yesterday during the weekly board meeting in the District Building.

After the lease on the proposed play place which is held by the J. Maury Dove Company—has been surrendered on May 1, a conference for completing plans for construction will be held by the Commissioners and playground officials.

The work of razing the unwholesome buildings now located on the ground will be begun by the middle of next month, according to present plans, and it is expected that the new recreation center will be in full operation soon after the close of the school year.

The site selected by the Commissioners has been the subject of considerable controversy for many months, as the Dove Company objected to disposition, on the grounds that the pier was necessary as an unloading place for shipments of fuel wood. Having been denied a renewal of the lease, which expires at the beginning of next month, the Dove Company has announced the complete closing of their fuel wood business.

Mrs. Susie Root Rhodes, director of municipal playgrounds, expressed herself as greatly pleased with the decision of the Commissioners. She said she had long asked for a playground fronting on the river, and felt that a big need was being met in thus converting the chosen site.

Among the features that are expected to be incorporated in the grounds that the pier was necessary as an unloading place for shipments of fuel wood. Having been denied a renewal of the lease, which expires at the beginning of next month, the Dove Company has announced the complete closing of their fuel wood business.

BAR THOU BEGS POINCARE SAVE GENOA PADLEY

French Oppose British Plan on Russia and Call for Premier.

OTHER LEADERS MORE OPTIMISTIC

Soviet Reply, Agreeing to Pay Debts, Gives Rise To New Hopes.

GENOA, April 21.—It is reported in official circles that the French dislike the British solution for settling the Russian war debt, and they gravely regret the Russian offer of a big reduction. It is learned that M. Barthou has replied to President Millerand's telegram and said that the situation is delicate and asked Premier Poincare to come and save it for France.

PARIS, April 21.—France holds that the German refusal to accept the treaty with Russia is highly provocative and the nation is restless and anxious. All the cabinet ministers except M. Barthou have returned to Paris and they gravely deliberated for two hours this morning on the overpowering danger to France from the German and Russian military potentialities.

President Millerand is hurrying home. In official circles there is a distinct attitude in favor of the French withdrawal from the Genoa conference and also for the resumption of action and pressure across the Rhine. The nation is apprehensive of mobilization, at least of one class, before the end of April.

France is also angry at the declaration of Prime Minister Lloyd George of England, to reduce the Russian debt, which is mostly owed to France. The British offer of a big reduction is also a source of orders and little trading.

Other Leaders Hopeful.

GENOA, April 21.—Conference leaders, in a hopeful frame of mind, are studying the Russian reply on the debt question, apparently intending to make it the starting point for the resumption of negotiations with the Bolshevik delegates.

As soon as the reply was received from Tchitcherine, a committee of experts was appointed to analyze the note and report to the political subcommittee of the conference.

In advance of this report from the experts, delegates were somewhat cautious in discussing the Soviet counter proposals. They appeared ready to accept the incident of the Russian military potentialities, actually closed, however, with the receipt of the German reply complying with the allies' suggestion that Germany withdraw from further negotiations respecting the Russian economic works.

May Balk at Conditions.

The allies may be expected to stick somewhat on the Russian demand that it be given de jure recognition before assuming the burden of the old debts. Whether the allies, especially France, will go this far even for the sake of maintaining ready recognition of the debt, which is held in large part by Frenchmen, is debatable.

This is made all the more doubtful by the qualifications which the Russians attached to their proposal. It was remarked that the Russian offer upon a scaling down of the war debt by recognition by the allies of Russia. The further intimation that the allies could not expect to collect anything from the Russian economic restoration was also a factor in the decision.

Offer to Write Down Debt.

Further evidence of the favorable reaction to the Soviet offer was met in allied quarters. It is seen in the fact that the conference made public its memorandum to the Russians April 15, in which they offered to reduce Russia's debts by a percentage of 50, which was a very liberal offer. It is also significant that the allies consider not only postponement of interest payments on financial claims against Russia, but the remission of part of the interest now overdue.

The allies, however, refuse to make any allowance whatever to the Soviets regarding either the obligations of foreigners or the right of foreigners to return of their property or compensation therefor.

Compromise is Foreseen.

This position on the whole is believed to be sufficiently near that taken by the Soviets in their effort to make a compromise possible.

There are still the questions of de jure recognition and the creation of an allied financial commission for Russia, which are sure to provoke warm discussion. The debt question is more easily handled because it involves large, cold financial calculations. But once the question of de jure recognition and the handling of finances through an allied commission are brought up, national pride and all the other emotions that make for trouble will come to the surface.

The Allied-Russian controversy now rests largely on the question of restitution of finances through the Soviets.

Soviet spokesmen cite in support of their objections the fact that the United States made no contribution for slaves freed in the war and did not indemnify the brewers and distillers when national prohibition was enacted. They believe they are entitled to similar treatment.

Continued on Page Thirteen.