

### Bay State Probes Booze in Nursing Bottles at Feast

By the Associated Press.  
BOSTON, December 16.—Two investigations of a banquet on Thursday night of the New England Road Builders' Association, at which Scotch whisky was alleged to have been served in nursing bottles to the 1,000 diners, were under way today.

Prohibition Agent James P. Roberts said that several members of his staff had been assigned to investigate the alleged violation. He is responsible for the alleged serving of liquor. He said that this investigation was preliminary to a full-scale probe. An inquiry also is being conducted by the city police.

The information gained, it is said, will be turned over to the federal authorities.

At a conference of district attorneys in the state, Attorney General J. Weston Allen today urged them to back up police officers making arrests by executing warrants to the full extent of the law.

### Maximilian Harden Declares Withdrawal Is Only Solution of Reparations.

By MAXIMILIAN HARDEN.  
Germany's Foremost Publicist.

Berlin, December 16.—There can be no peace, no settlement between France and Germany until the allied armies of occupation are withdrawn from German soil. These armies, in their prodigal tastes, are eating up all that Germany can afford to pay. There can be no solution of the reparations question by military force. France must and shall receive what she rightfully deserves, but the means of payment cannot be organized under foreign control.

Day by day the purchasing power of the mark declines. It must be plain to our bitterest enemies that the conditions of financing Germany to pay exorbitant debts with official world standards of payment.

Yet her creditors try to force Germany more and more to unproductive loans—credit which they have no prudence. Few persons realize the extent of the burden of the armies of occupation. The more they are increased, the more loudly complain of this crushing weight laid on the new German republic.

### U. S. IS PICTURED AS SHOCK REE Foreign Statesmen Agree America Must Reverse Position on Debts.

By Cable to The Star and New York Tribune, Copyright 1922.

LONDON, December 16.—Col. George Harvey, the American ambassador, said recently in a speech at the Lyceum Club: "The meeting of the members of the four allied powers of Europe, called in London, is the most momentous thing of its kind since 1918. If the economic problem of Europe is not put in the way of solution by this meeting I do not know where Europe is going to land, for it cannot go on another year with the present cloud hanging over it."

Commenting on these momentous words, M. Agostine Edwards, the Chilean ambassador, says: "I agree with the American ambassador as to the capital importance of the question of the economic center of the world because it possesses the greatest mass of civilized population and a large scale, cannot continue to be the prey of anarchy without running the risk of producing a catastrophe not only for the old continent, as Harvey says, but for the whole civilized world, because the economic center which is the re-establishment of the world and producing power of Europe for its own prosperity and development."

### Harvey Speech Lauded U. S. Ambassador Praised for Emphasizing Plight of European Nations.

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### Germany Must Pay for All This Despite Tremendous Prices Prevailing in Some Countries.

Germany must pay for all this despite the tremendous prices prevailing in some countries. The thousands of engaged couples are forced to postpone their marriages because of the high cost of living. The army is reduced to a bare minimum. The people are starving. The reparations payments and how much they are increasing the difficulties of the German people. The reparations payments and how much they are increasing the difficulties of the German people.

### French Vessel Burns After Explosions—Fifteen Passengers Are Missing.

By the Associated Press.  
CONSTANTINOPLE, December 16.—The American destroyer Bainbridge today rescued 400 persons from the burning French hospital ship Vinh-Long in the Sea of Marmora.

The vessel took fire opposite San Stefano, on the western outskirts of Constantinople, when she was boarded by the Vinh-Long. Five of the missing are believed to have been killed by explosions.

The hospital ship, which was en route to Constantinople from Bizerta, when a fire was discovered in the magazine. Several explosions followed, rapidly developing the ship in flames.

### D'ANNUNZIO PLANS PAPER, Italian Foot-Soldier Forms Company to Start Daily.

ROME, December 16.—Gabriele D'Annunzio has formed a company for the publication of a newspaper. It was announced today that details were given in the announcement as to just what character the paper would be.

In reply to a committee representing the publishers of all the newspapers in Italy, D'Annunzio said today that he would not accept any conditions for the subject, which would include provisions for the requisition or even the suspension of newspapers which seemed to him to be in the interest of the nation.

### Poincare Rule Seen Topping As Many Covet Leadership Peret, President of Chamber, First in View.

By Cable to The Star and New York Tribune, Copyright 1922.

PARIS, December 16.—Many people in France are discussing the probable fall of the Poincare ministry, but there is no doubt that the premier will be able to uphold his own end until long after January 2, when the reparations problem will be discussed.

There has rarely been a time in French political history, when so many men have been expected to succeed him. The premier has stated definitely that he would not continue in office after the elections, which occur next summer. But there is also the possibility of his being re-elected, if the desires of the chamber and being overthrown. There are only three men now in view to become premier: Gaston Doumergue, the first, Barthou, the second, Loucheur, and the third, Letroquer. In case some one defeats Poincare, the latter will be the leader of the largest group in the chamber to accept the premiership, but that man is in a position of weakness, which is given for a comparatively unimportant position and one with little possibility of executing any influence, for one of greater power, even though the salary were smaller.

### French Surprised That He Was Skeptical About England in 1918.

By Cable to The Star and New York Tribune, Copyright 1922.

PARIS, December 16.—When these lines appear in The Star, M. Clemenceau will be hearing France. Now, more than ever, the question can be asked: "Has the voyage been a successful one?"

If M. Clemenceau really has silenced the accusations of imperialism and militarism, which produce a feeling near to exasperation in France, well and good; the trip has been a great success. And no one in France will grudge his gratitude to M. Clemenceau. But if, after all his speeches, after all his trips, after all his rhetorical adjustments, the accusation of militarism and of imperialism persists in being sent forth from the lips, then the voyage will have been a "failure" and M. Clemenceau would be leaving the highest assembly behind at home. Thus, at least, reasons French public opinion.

### Mussolini's Reforms So Vast He Presses Them by Degrees Financial Reorganization of All Departments of Public Service and Abolishment of Many Commissions Included.

By Cable to The Star and New York Tribune, Copyright 1922.

ROME, December 16.—Mussolini's scheme for the reorganization of Italy is so vast that it must be put into action gradually. The plan includes not only the financial reorganization of all the ministries of railways, telephones, posts and telegraphs, but also the departments of public service which are now being run at a deficit—but also a change in the electoral system and the improvement of Italy's status as a nation.

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### King's Photo in Schools Crucifix Also Ordered in Italian Foreign Institutions.

ROME, December 16.—The foreign minister has ordered that all Italian representatives in foreign countries asking them to give instructions that a portrait of King Victor Emmanuel and a crucifix be placed in every Italian school abroad. All government grants will be withdrawn from schools not complying with these directions.

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### Eighty Years Old, Smokes in Bed, Shoots Objector Ties with France

By the Associated Press.  
NEW YORK, December 16.—Eighty-year old Michael O'Neill, who persisted in smoking in bed, is being sought by the police for the shooting and wounding today of his friend, Richard Weston, sixty, who objected. The two old men shared a room in Maiden Lane, where the shooting occurred.

Three weeks ago O'Neill, lonely, left a home for aged and appealed to Weston, an acquaintance of other days, to help him. "You're welcome, but I don't know what I've got," Weston said, and their friendship began.

"He was a great comfort for a while," Weston told the police, "but he just would smoke in bed, and I being afraid of fire, objected. He took offense, and after an argument last night I told him he'd have to leave today."

O'Neill, who rose early this morning and went out, returning at 9 o'clock.

He was stuck a pistol in my face, and fired," Weston said. The bullet seared Weston's jaw. O'Neill fled.

### French Writer Notes the Nations Blithely Passing From Moratorium to Moratorium.

By Cable to The Star.  
PARIS, December 16.—It is not our fault as spectators if, every time we expect a climax we simply get an intermission.

I called recently that an exact estimation of the situation in Europe was impossible until after the London conference. Now the conference has taken place and clarity still is lacking. The only decision reached was to adjourn until January 2.

And so we go blithely from moratorium to moratorium. First there was the moratorium for German payments, then the moratorium for the general reparations question, followed by the moratorium for the eastern peace, which drags desperately on at Lausanne; the moratorium for mutual explanations, between the belligerents, which are absolutely necessary for the sake of harmony; the moratorium for allied decisions about sanctions and armaments, and finally the moratorium for our political debates here in France. The intermissions on a cabinet begun October 12 have not yet been finished as I cable.

### Michigan Representative Declares Railroads Make Long Hauls for High Tolls.

By Cable to The Star.  
LANSING, December 16.—There no longer is any doubt that the situation between England and France has reached a critical stage. With the recent change in the English government, Premier Poincare of France probably looked for a more favorable atmosphere for a more liberal attitude toward reparations on the continent, but he has suffered disillusion.

The notorious London conference just ended revealed France and England in decisive antagonism on the central issue of the conference. It is true there was a unanimous decision to reject the German proposals. But it is equally true that England was ready to accept these proposals and finally agreed to reject them only as a means of preventing the open rupture which would have occurred had the forthcoming Brussels conference would have been torpedoed in advance and the reparations question has been left in undisguised antagonism.

Two weeks remain for M. Poincare to make a decision. The breach in allied policy is openly to be declared and become final. The issue now before the world is whether Germany is to be politically and economically destroyed or whether the reparations question is to be left to the European system.

Poincare's policy frankly is for the destruction of Germany. The ground for this policy is the French fear of the revival of France, with the all-powerful Germany, which would be a threat to the French Republic. This fear is aggravated by the sense that four years of merciless treatment of Germany has despoiled the land of revenge beyond the Rhine. The longer the failure to establish peace continues, the more irascible does the French people become.

A further cause of the German fear of Germany is the tremendous fall of the birth rate. Six German children are being born to one French child. Hence the French are afraid of the possibility of a new world war. The longer the failure to establish peace continues, the more irascible does the French people become.

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