

Ardmore has the finest hotel in Southern Oklahoma, built at a cost of \$500,000.

OKLAHOMA: Tonight, clouds, Tuesday, unsettled, colder in northern portion.

FIRE SWEEPS DILLARD; 1,000 HOMELESS

LITTLE HOPE FOR SUB SETTLEMENT DELEGATES THINK

Matter Hinges on Decision of France and Japan; Other Countries Make Agreements.

FRENCH REPLY EXPECTED TODAY

Possibility of Entire Problem Being Passed Over Is Discussed as Likelihood.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—Formal negotiations of the arms conference continued in suspension over the Christmas holiday, the controversy which has arisen over the question of submarine tonnage promised considerable activity in the way of informal discussions among the delegates today in an effort to find an acceptable basis of settlement. Any material change in the situation, however, one way or the other, appeared to wait upon receipt by the French delegates of a reply to their communication referring to Paris the American compromise proposal whereby France, Italy and Japan would accept a status quo tonnage in submarines and the 90,000 tons allotted in the limitation plan to Great Britain and the United States would be reduced to 60,000 tons each. The French reply was looked for before the next meeting tomorrow of the full naval committee. With Japan standing out unqualifiedly for the 54,000 tons on submarines provided under the original limitation plan instead of the 22,000, she would have under the compromise proposal and the French having indicated no recession from the 90,000 figures suggested for their navy, although they have referred the American proposal to Paris, the situation today appeared to offer little promise of an early agreement. Upon the decision of these two countries apparently hinged the hope of a settlement, as Great Britain has joined the United States on the proposal and Italy has indicated a willingness to accept any reasonable figure so long as it places her on a parity with the tonnage allotted France.

Possibility of the present conference passing over the entire problem of limitation for submarines and other auxiliary craft and leaving it for a future conference with representation for a greater number of nations, is known to have been discussed privately among some of the delegates. This suggestion apparently is based on the view that without some sort of acquiescence from small nations, who possess submarines or the ability to build them in considerable number, it was believed impracticable for the five great powers to come to any decision among themselves on such questions as the size and usage of submarines.

French Cabinet Meets

PARIS, Dec. 26.—A meeting of the French cabinet has been called for tomorrow to consider France's position regarding submarines. The recent exchange of notes between Secretary Hughes and Premier Briand apparently has not changed the French attitude in claiming for France a larger submarine tonnage than was suggested in the American proposal.

STORM RUBBISH BEING CLEARED

MEMPHIS, Tenn., Dec. 26.—With the injured and homeless cared for the debris of the storm which swept a section of eastern Arkansas and northern Mississippi Friday and Saturday with a loss of 25 lives and the injury of a hundred or more persons was being cleared away today.

Plans were being perfected for the rebuilding of wrecked farm buildings on a score of plantations swept by the tornado.

Approximately fifty of the injured still were being cared for today in hospitals here and in other cities. Several still were in a serious condition, but it was stated that all probably would recover. With the exception of two white men killed and several injured all of the victims of the storm were negroes.

U. M. W. OFFICIALS RELEASED FROM JAIL

CHARLESTON, W. Va., Dec. 26.—C. F. Keeney, president of District No. 17, United Mine Workers and Fred Mooney, secretary-treasurer under indictment in connection with the armed march of miners into Logan county last summer, were released from jail about midnight Saturday. It became known today that there was Wm. Hiltzard, a sub-district president of the union who also was in jail on a similar charge. They each gave bail in \$10,000.

To See Cousin After 50 Years' Separation

To visit a cousin whom he had not seen for 50 years, J. H. Jones banker of Longmont, Col., left Ardmore this morning for Denison, Texas.

Mr. Jones and his cousin, Warner K. Jones, retired business man of Denison were boys together in Bowling Green, Ky., when the former left Kentucky in 1872 to come west. Mr. Jones is accompanied by a business associate, N. C. Sullivan, also of Longmont. Together they are making the trip from Colorado in an automobile. From Denison they will go to the Gulf coast, where they will spend the winter.

HEALTH WORKERS PLAN BUSY YEAR

Seal Sale Over; County Committees Turn Attention to Programs.

OKLAHOMA CITY, Dec. 25.—With the 1921 tuberculosis seal sale out of the way health workers in all counties of the state were turning their attention Christmas week to plans for the 1922 program. A definite report on the results of the sale is not available now, according to Jules Schevitz, sale director, because only a small percentage of reports from county committees have been received.

Meetings of all county committees will be held in January for the purpose of adopting 1922 programs and electing new officers. In many cases the program has been tentatively drawn up and was used as basis as a plea to the public for support in the sale.

That the program this year will be of broader scope than ever before is plainly indicated, Schevitz said. All committees are planning a significant extension of health work. One of the most important features to be carried out will be demonstration school nursing surveys. Already many thousands of children in town and rural schools have been examined for physical defects. Other plans include the modern health crusade tournament, health centers and dispensaries, health booths at county fairs, infant and child welfare activities and educational campaigns.

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM CHRISTIAN CHURCH IS WELL ATTENDED

A very delightful service was enjoyed by a large number of persons at the First Christian church Sunday evening when the Christmas musical program, under the direction of Mrs. Billie Baker was given. A violin solo by Mrs. R. E. Behlens and a duet by Miss Dickson and Mrs. Baker were interesting features of the program. The anthem, "Sing of Heroes," by Miss Grunert and Ernest Grunert and a number of other delightful numbers were enjoyed. Mrs. Jesse Best was pianist. The other churches of the city gave Christmas programs on the preceding Sunday.

PROPOSED CONFERENCES ON MUSCLE SHOALS PROJECT

WASHINGTON, Dec. 25.—Conferences between Secretary Weeks and Representatives C. C. Tinker head of a San Francisco construction company in connection with the Muscle Shoals, Alabama, nitrate and power projects which the latter had announced would be held today had failed to materialize.

Secretary Weeks said he had not been advised of the arrival of Tinker's representative and in fact he had had no further communication from the San Francisco contractor.

Philippe Berthelot Resigns.

PARIS, Dec. 25.—Philippe Berthelot, general secretary of the French foreign office today tendered his resignation to Premier Briand.

The Mohammedans hold their Sabbath on Friday.

HAMBONE'S MEDITATIONS

DEYS TWO KIN' O' SMAHT FOLKS -- ONE UV 'EM DOES THINGS FUH YOU EN TOTHER DOES 'EM TO YOU!



HAPPY OVER IRISH SETTLEMENT



Three of England's leading statesmen snapped as they left Buckingham Palace after a privy council there following the Anglo-Irish pact. Left Winston Churchill and right Sir Hamar Greenwood are a study in smiles, while Lloyd George seems less enthusiastic.

CHOP SUEY FOLLOWS IN WAKE OF BONE-DRY LAW

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—Healy's long, known as one of New York's famous restaurateurs, soon is to go out of business, a victim of prohibition. Thomas J. Healy, the proprietor has sold the establishment to several Chinese who will convert it into a chop suey emporium.

ESTIMATED FIRE LOSS SATURDAY REACHES \$50,000

Estimated loss entailed by the Saturday night fire that destroyed the big seed shed and hull house at the oil mill was placed at \$50,000 this morning by one of the men connected with the corporation.

The seed and hulls as well as the machinery and building is a total loss and the figures given are only approximate as it will be several days before a complete check up can be made.

BULLETIN

CINCINNATI, Dec. 26.—At an early hour today the Ohio river in Cincinnati had reached a stage of 54.4 feet and it is believed 55 or 56 feet will be reached before the crest has been attained.

WORK ON METHODIST CHURCH TO BE RUSHED

The new Methodist church under construction at the corner of West Main and E streets opposite Central Park will be finished during the first part of the coming year, according to a statement of one of the stewards. Work on the edifice has progressed rather slowly for various reasons, but it is believed that all difficulties have been surmounted and that the edifice will be rushed to completion.

Ford Manager Denies Another Cut in Cost

Emphatically denying that there would be any reduction in the price of Ford cars after January 1, W. A. Ryan, general sales manager for the Ford Motor company, at a recent meeting of Ford dealers at Oklahoma City said that no such reduction was contemplated and that the rumor in circulation was absolutely false.

CENTRE'S NEXT OPPONENTS EAGERLY WATCH FOR TODAY'S OUTCOME

DALLAS, Texas, Dec. 26.—While Centre college was clashing with the University of Arizona College squad which is to meet the "praying squaws" at Dallas stadium a week hence, reassembled here after a brief holiday period and started a grueling preparation for next Monday's contest.

Dominican Officials Fail Provide for an Election Senate Committee Reports

DEATH LIST FROM STORM TOTALS 41

Number of Injured Is Still Undetermined; Red Cross Continues Relief Work.

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 26.—The death list from storms which Friday night swept through northeastern Arkansas, northwestern Mississippi and northeastern Louisiana, today stood at 41—three white men, one white woman, and 37 negroes. The number of injured persons was still undetermined. The property damage has been placed at less than a million dollars. The Red Cross was today continuing its efforts to supply the homeless with food, clothing and shelter.

Spencer, La., a village which was wrecked by the storm has been abandoned, all inhabitants having been taken by special train to Monroe, where the injured and homeless are being cared for. In some localities in Mississippi entire negro settlements were wiped-out and the homeless are being cared for by their white neighbors.

MANY KILLED IN SUNDAY RIOTING

CAIRO, Dec. 25.—Rioting broke out at Suez Sunday afternoon. Several demonstrators were killed and a number wounded. Dispatches to the Associated Press have reported disturbances in various parts of Egypt, notably in Cairo, and Port Said after the forcible removal from Cairo to Suez of Said Sagdoul Pasha, a nationalist leader and five of his followers by the British military authorities last Friday.

Twelve persons were reported to have been killed in the Cairo rioting up to Saturday night.

ALEXANDRIA, Egypt, Dec. 25.—Considerable excitement prevailed throughout the day Sunday due to nationalist agitation. Police patrolled the city in armored automobiles, frustrating attempts to stage demonstrations. A general strike is reported to be planned. The British cruiser Ceres has arrived here.

POSTAL OFFICIALS THINK AMERICAN PEOPLE IMPROVING

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—Officials of the post office department left their desks tonight convinced that the American people had begun to practice "mail early for Christmas." While the nearly one-third million persons in the postal service staggered under a load which appears, when viewed as statistics to be the largest volume of Christmas mail in history, reports from several thousand divisional and minor offices showed plainly. It was declared, that the mails have been moved smoothly and with dispatch and above all, without the usual "peak."

The Christmas mail viewed as significant by many government officials who declared it showed a betterment in the nation's economic condition. It reflected, he said, better markets, busier stores, fewer unemployed. They believed also it revealed a closer knit American nation for trans-continental as well as local mail alike was heavier.

CHICKENS ARE BURNED. BURLINGTON, Iowa, Dec. 26.—Seven thousand live chickens and a half carload of dressed poultry were consumed when the H. A. Selby Poultry Company house here was destroyed by fire yesterday morning with a loss estimated at \$50,000.

Women's Immodesty In Dress Is Fault of Men, Bishop Says

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—Responsibility for women's immodesty in dress has been placed squarely on men's cupidity by Bishop Alma White, head of the Pillar of Fire denomination. She told a Brooklyn congregation that men really "was the culprit behind the scene," and that all "the low necked sleeveless gowns, the short skirts and gauzy stockings were outgrowths of his schemes for gains."

FREELING REOPENS TRIAL TOMORROW

Interest Centers on Threat of Attorney General on Matter of Klan Questions

The return of Attorney General Freeling here tomorrow to reopen the examining trial of six men charged jointly with murder in the killing of three men at Wilson the night of December 15, gives promise of adding another sensation to the case which has already outshone all others in Carter county in point of prominence for many months.

When the hearing was brought suddenly to a close late Friday after a witness had refused to answer questions of the prosecution concerning the Ku Klux Klan, the attorney general declared that when he returned he would file additional charges of murder under the riot statute against the 14 men held in connection with the case and that he would ask the court to throw the witness in jail until he would answer the questions, it found that this action is within his province.

As a result, speculation among citizens and authorities alike is rife as to whether the attorney general will carry out his threat. The prominence of those held in the case, all of whom are well known business and professional men in Ardmore and the county has aroused a tremendous amount of interest and the district courtroom was filled to capacity during the one and a half days which the trial has so far consumed.

Activity in the case has remained at a standstill since adjournment of court Friday until tomorrow afternoon for holiday observance. The six defendants as well as all but one of the remaining seven held in the case, were allowed liberty under the original bonds of \$2,500 set for their release and so far as is known, all spent the Christmas season quietly at their homes.

The only one to remain in jail was Jeff Smith, of Hendon, suffering from a pistol wound in the leg, and who, according to authorities, has expressed no desire for release under bail. His wound was received, according to his statement, when after being forced to accompany masked men to the home of Joe Carroll in Wilson, Carroll reached for his gun at the command to throw up his hands and a pistol battle ensued which resulted in the death of Carroll, John Smith, St. Wilson, and C. G. Sims, Ardmore police detective.

"Life Saver" Is Unique Christmas Tree Ornament

OLEAN, N. Y., Dec. 26.—Daniel Sherwin, an oil worker in the wilderness south of this city, hung a piece of iron pipe among the ornaments of the family Christmas tree, he said today in relating how the metal had helped him beat off an attack by a black bear in Train Hollow, when he was on his way to work. Bruin opened the attack with a stroke of its forepaw, which tore away Sherwin's coat sleeve and scratched his arm. Sherwin then brought the piece of iron pipe down on the bear's nose and turned and ran toward a boiler house, some hundred feet away. Once during the race, the bear got close enough to Sherwin to bring his claws down his back, but another blow from the iron pipe saved Sherwin, the bear falling exhausted at the boiler house door.

EARLY MORNING FIRE WIPES OUT OIL FIELD TOWN

Origin Believed Due to Defective Gas Line; Fire Discovered in Rube's Restaurant

\$100,000 LOSS; NO INSURANCE

More Than Fifteen Business Houses and Many Homes Were Destroyed

(Special to The Ardmoreite)

WILSON, Okla., Dec. 26.—

The town of Dillard, in the heart of the Hewitt oil field, is today smouldering in ruins and more than 1,000 people are homeless, as a result of a fire which visited the noted "ragtown" during the early morning hours Monday and which completely consumed the entire business section, including six 2-story buildings and several score of one-story structures. All of the destroyed buildings were of wood or galvanized iron and proved an easy prey to the flames, with a high south wind aiding in the rapidity of the destruction.

Loss Estimated \$100,000.

Damage resultant of the blaze is conservatively estimated at \$100,000, with its effect made more appalling by notion of the fact that none of the destroyed structures carried insurance, an account of the close proximity with which they were built to one another, most of the buildings being jammed up against those adjacent to them.

Started in Restaurant.

The fire, believed to have started in Coyler's restaurant and hotel, 616 on a defective gas line, was first discovered by a cook in Rube's restaurant, adjacent to Coyler's at 2:30 o'clock this morning. By 3:45, one hour and fifteen minutes later, Dillard was hardly more than a name, for the charred ruins told the tale of a town which "had been" with the south wind fanning the flames, structures on both sides of the main street, for a distance of 300 yards, extending from the Wolverine came to the north edge of the town, were flaked up by the fire.

Efforts of Bucket Brigade Futile. An attempt to put into use efforts of a bucket brigade proved futile, and due to the rapidity with which the destruction was marking its effect it was deemed inadvisable to continue efforts to extinguish it after a few moments work of the brigade proved worthless. A 2-inch water line laid for fire protection through the town by the Wolverine Oil company was not put into use for similar reasons.

Fortunately the blaze was discovered in sufficient time to give warning to the occupants of threatened structures and to become acquainted with the situation, and a few moments after the first was discovered hundreds of citizens, most of whom were attired in night clothes, came (Continued on Page Two)

DEBS ARRIVES IN WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—Eugene V. Debs, socialist leader, arrived in Washington at 9:30 this morning from Atlanta, having been released by presidential commutation of sentence from the federal penitentiary there yesterday after having been imprisoned since March 1919, following conviction of violation of the espionage act.

ARMENIA AN DRUSSIA TO BE "CLEANED UP"

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—America is going to clean up southern Russia and Armenia, wash day has started. "Let me have that scrub brush, tub and dirty clothes, maid an official of a large soap company," that has just shipped ten tons of soap to Batavia, for the near east relief. "This soap will do as much as anything else toward preventing the spread of disease among the orphans who without outside assistance, are compelled to exist amidst horrible filth."

MASONS CONTRIBUTE TO THE NEAR EAST RELIEF

NE WYORK, Dec. 26.—The Masonic grand lodge of Ohio, following the lead of the southern jurisdiction of Scottish Rite Masons in giving \$10,000 to near east relief, has just presented a check for \$5,000 to national headquarters here. This is equivalent to 20,000 bushels of corn. The money will be used for the relief of starving refugees and children in southern Russia and Armenia.

1921 Is A Most Profitable Year for Chicago Burglars

CHICAGO, Dec. 26.—Chicago burglars, safe blowers pickpockets and holdup men enjoyed a most profitable year as figures obtained today from the police department showed their loot from January 1, 1921, up to and including December 23, totaled \$3,974,326. The greater part of the amount stolen was in merchandise. This figure amounted to 3,337,439, while the cash was \$636,887. Allowing for 300 actual working days, the criminals averaged over \$13,000 a day, or enough to pay 2,600 men a daily wage of \$5. These amounts did not include embezzlement or forgeries, nor the great sums lost through mail robberies. The records also showed that \$1,616,293 in merchandise and \$107,199 in cash has been recovered, or a total of \$1,723,492, as against a 1920 figure of 1,414,954 when stolen property and loot passed \$4,299,990. The report of robberies also showed a decrease, the figures up to December 1 being \$10,585, compared with \$12,900 in the same period in 1920.