Only 2 More Days
In Which to Do Your
Christmas Shopping

Evening Times-Republican

Weather For Iowa:
Unsettled Thursday;
Colder Tonight

VOLUME FORTY-SIX | MARSHALLTOWN, IOWA, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1920. | NUMBER 304

GERMANY POOR CREDITOR FOR LATE ENEMIES

Allies Find Nation Must Be Treated as Insolvent Concern.

TREATY EXACTIONS TO BE SET ASIDE

Up to Creditor Nations to Maintain Germany as Going Concern in Order to Collect Even Reduced Reparations — Comparatively Small Amount in Cash to Be Exacted—May Retain Some of Ships.

By Associated Press.

Brussels, Dec. 22.—Payment by Germany of 100,000 marks in gold remains the basis upon which experts and delegates to the second financial congress, in session here, are working. This amount, altho far below the sum authorized by the treaty of Versailles, is considered by them collectible only on condition that Germany is helped along the lines suggested by the German delegates.

Allied experts in secret, individual reports, the substance of which has come to light, recognize Germany's real necessities, and delegates generally are impressed by arguments that Germany is an insolvent creditor who must be maintained as a going concern. The extent to which strict fulfillment of the Versailles treaty may be waived, however, depends upon the allied governments.

Some Cash Demanded.

Virtually none of the delegates believes the treaty can be executed literally, and allied experts agree with Germans that reparations must be paid chiefly in kind. Some cash, however, will be demanded after a year or two, if not immediately.

Today's meeting was really in preparation for the recess which will be taken until Jan. 10. Allied delegates planned to meet apart this afternoon for the purpose of exchanging views and reaching a common accord which will be reflected in reports to their governments.

German delegates are still working on the list of questions submitted by the allies, which covers a wide range. It is inferred from some of the questions that the allied experts believe indirect taxation in Germany is not high enough, the Germans being asked whether their taxes on alcohol, beer, tobacco and sugar are as high as those on the same products in France and Great Britain. Other questions concern the German financial policy relative to taxation of wealthy citizens and possibly tax increases within a year or two.

Seeking Wealth Facts.

The German delegates have been asked to estimate the amount of German wealth at present in neutral countries and to state how Germany plans to compensate her citizens for property sequestered and liquidated abroad. It is suggested that German wealth in neutral countries has been accumulated by the practice of the German firms shipping goods at cost or at an actual loss to associates in neutral countries. In considering depreciated exchange allied experts have asked the Germans if they do not profit from the low value of the mark to the extent that their labor is not paid proportionately to the compensation of labor in countries where exchange values are higher.

Want U. S. as German Banker.

Delegates have been pledged to secrecy, but there is a general impression they will recommend that their governments permit Germany to keep some of the 350,000 tons of shipping she was ordered to surrender under the Versailles treaty. The United States is still regarded as the only banker who can furnish Germany with the necessary credit.

Germans desire that property owned by their nationals be returned to its owners. Some of the allies, however, are in favor of having it used as a basis of credit, altho the amount of German property in America probably would be insufficient to meet the needs of Germany at the present time.

American Dollar as Basis.

The American dollar is mentioned frequently as a desirable standard in expressing reparation figures. It is impossible for Germany to export gold marks, and the dollar is considered the most stable unit at present.

British shipping and liquidation experts arrived here last night for final conferences with the Germans before today's adjournment. Belief was expressed here today that when the conference assembles next month it will be well on the way toward a settlement of the reparations question.

TAX HEARINGS ADJOURNED.

House Committee Plans to Take Up Tariff Revision at Once.

By Associated Press.

Washington, Dec. 22.—After a brief hearing on tax revision the house ways and means committee adjourned today until Jan. 6, on which date it plans to turn its attention to a general revision of the tariff.

While the committee does not contemplate further consideration of tax questions at this session, Chairman Fordney said this did not mean that new tax laws would be drafted on the basis of information gathered thus far. He explained that the committee felt it should start on tariff revision immediately after the holidays and devote itself to that task until it was completed.

Hughes Has Not Been Tendered Cabinet Place

By Associated Press.

Marion, O., Dec. 22.—President-Elect Harding today denied published statements that he had offered to Charles Evans Hughes the appointment of secretary of state in his cabinet.

"I find this one of the most complete bits of holiday fiction writing that has yet been brought to my attention," he told correspondents at his home here.

By Associaed Press.

Nek York, Dec. 22.—Charles Evans Hughes, in a statement here today, characterized published reports that he had been tendered the appointment of secretary of state in the Harding cabinet as "irresponsible rumors."

"I do not care to discuss them," he added.

EMPLOYES AND HEADS CONFER.

Pennsylvania Railroad Officials and Workers Plan Adjustments.

By Associated Press.

Philadelphia, Dec. 22.—Officers and representatives of the employes of the Pennsylvania railroad resumed their conferences here today in an effort to devise a method by which controversial questions affecting men in the train service of the company may be promptly handled.

The meeting was called by Gen. W. W. Atterbury, vice president, in charge of operations. Railroad officials explained that the question of the "closed shop" is involved so far as the national boards of adjustment, generally favored by national leaders of the railway brotherhoods tend to make railroads "closed shops."

In addition to creating the boards of adjustment the transportation act of congress permits also the creation of local boards whereby a railroad can deal with its own men without reference to the national board, and it was for the purpose of obtaining the sentiments of railroaders as to the advisability of setting up these local boards that the meeting was called.

PRESIDENT WINDOW SHOPPING.

Mr. Wilson, Accompanied by Wife, Views Capital's Festive Garb.

By Associated Press.

Washington, Dec. 22.—President Wilson went window shopping on "F" street yesterday, viewing the Christmas crowds and the brightly decorated shops from an open automobile. Accompanied by Mrs. Wilson the president was driven slowly down on one side of the street which is the main artery of the capital's shopping district, and back up the other, few in the hurrying crowds of shoppers recognizing the chief executive.

MILLION DOLLAR FIRE AT RESORT

Pleasure Pier at Venice, Calif., Destroyed and Entire City Is Threatened—Help Sent From Los Angeles—One Fireman Killed, Another Injured.

By Associated Press.

Venice, Calif., Dec. 22.—Damage estimated at $1,000,000 was caused by fire which burned for two hours on the amusement pier here last night before it was brought under control by the combined efforts of the Venice fire department and two companies from Los Angeles, just as it was threatening to destroy the city.

Five firemen were injured when a wall of the Ocean Inn collapsed. One, Arthur Harlan, was reported to be in a critical condition early today.

Charles Kirby, a volunteer fire fighter, fell with the roof of one structure and suffered burns from which he died soon after. Several firemen carried him out of the flames at imminent risk to themselves.

Iowa Supreme Court.

Special to Times-Republican.

Des Moines, Dec. 22.—The supreme court today ruled as follows:

Estate of Champion vs. Prince et al., appellants. Mahaska county. Affirmed.

Daugherty vs. Advance Rumely Thresher Company, appellant. Clay. Affirmed.

Rosenstein vs. Bernhard-Turner Automobile Company, appellant. Des Moines municipal court. Affirmed on condition.

Richman, appellant vs. Richman. Poweshiek county. Affirmed.

State vs. Stuart, appellant. Shelby. Affirmed.

Lowrey, administrator, appellant, vs. Schroeder, Delaware. Affirmed.

State vs. Norman, appellant. Polk. Affirmed.

The Hell Company vs. Lamson et al., appellants. Black Hawk. Affirmed.

Dodge vs. Alley, appellant. Polk. Affirmed.

Walters vs. Graham, appellant. Taylor. Affirmed.

Firestone Tire and Rubber Company, appellant, vs. Anderson. Mills. Reversed.

Cotter, appellant, vs. Gilman. Pottawattamie. Affirmed.

Graft, appellant, vs. Employes Liability Life Insurance Company, Ltd. Buchanan. Affirmed.

Fowlder vs. Decatur, appellant. Decatur. Dismissed.

Scott, appellant, vs. City of Waterloo. Black Hawk. Affirmed.

Seaman et al., appellants, vs. Galluy. Buchanan. Affirmed.

Banwart, appellant, vs. Shullenburg. Palo Alto. Affirmed.

Milder vs. Milder, appellant. Clinton. Affirmed.

Gardner & Butters vs. Builders Material Company, appellant. Cedar Rapids superior court. Reversed.

AMERICAS IN EXCHANGE OF COMPLIMENTS

Felicitations Passed by Brazil and United States.

COLBY RECEIVED BY PRESIDENT PESSOA

North and South America Bound Together by Ties of Common Ideals and Closer Relations Are Urged by Brazilian Executive—America and Wilson Staunch Supporters of Brazil at Peace Conference.

By Associated Press.

Rio Janiero, Dec. 21.—Dr. Epitacio Pessoa president of the republic, addressing Bainbridge Colby, secretary of state of the United States, at a banquet given in Mr. Colby's honor tonight, said that North and South America were bound by ties of common ideals. These ties must be drawn still closer, however the president declared, to bring to completion the work of democratic civilization undertaken by the two Americas. President Pessoa said:

"Your visit is a source of much happiness to us. Your presence reminds me of the happy days I passed recently in the United States. We two continents of America, so great in the riches of nature, are bound by bonds of common ideals. By common destiny the two continents are devoted to culture and democracy. To complete the work of democratic civilization entered upon by North and South America even yet more intimate relations are necessary between the peoples of the two continents.

"We have much to learn from you. We not only see here your commercial citizens, but the visits of your statesmen remind us anew of our common political aims. For this reason we have received with great pleasure various North American statesmen, and also your self today. We welcome you not only because of your vigorous personality but also for the high nature of the mission with which President Wilson has entrusted you.

Compliments Wilson.

"Personally, I will never forget my association with him in the peace conference where his loyal friendship for and support of Brazil never failed.

"I feel that I speak for all Brazil in toasting the greatness of the United States, our unbreakable friendship, and the health of President Wilson and yourself."

In responding Secretary Colby referred to the long friendship between the two countries.

"There exists such a strength of friendship between the two countries," Mr. Colby said, "that despite malevolent attempts to lessen this friendship, it remains unshaken, as manifested during the long period of friendly relations. We always have been friends, and if we differed in ideas, we differed as friends. Never have we lost the respect due one another which is the foundation of true friendship with individuals as with nations."

Mr. Colby concluded by toasting Brazil and President Pessoa.

PENSION BILL COMPLETED.

Measure Carries $14,000,000 Less Than Previous Appropriation.

By Associated Press.

Washington, Dec. 22.—Carrying $14,000,000 less than was appropriated for this year, the annual pension bill was reported out today by the house appropriations committee. The total in the bill is $265,500,000. House leaders have agreed to consider the measure tomorrow, with the expectation that it will be passed before adjournment tomorrow evening for the Christmas recess.

The estimated pension disbursements in the bill, as given by the committee follow

Civil war	$251,612,192
War of 1812	21,145
Mexican	840,439
Indian wars	2,168,915
Spanish-American war	5,844,360
World war	36,734
Regular establishment	4,476,215

BURGLAR WITH A HEART.

Heeds Plea Not to Take Christmas Gifts of Girl.

By Associated Press.

Chicago, Dec. 22.—A "Christmas burglar with a heart" heeded the pleas of Ruth Malley, aged 10, not to take her Christmas presents, when she found him in her home yesterday noon on her return from school for lunch.

The burglar, however, ate her lunch, which had been left by her mother before going down town shopping. He then took her to the parlor and played little jingles and Christmas songs on the piano for her.

When she told him she would have to return to school he told her to tell her mother that he would return some day and steal everything in the house. But he left without taking anything.

Interwoven Mills Announce Wage Cut

By Associated Press.

Martinsburg, W. Va., Dec. 22.—The Interwoven Mills, employing 1,600 persons, today announced a wage cut of 20 per cent.

Government Revealing Coal Price Rottenness and Graft

By Associated Press.

Washington, Dec. 22.—George H. Cushing, managing director of the American Wholesale Coal Association, was recalled today by the senate coal investigating committee when open sessions were resumed, and entered a denial that coal men had "planned" the series of government statements and actions which, he said, caused a coal shortage panic this year.

"Some of the coal men got the high prices," he said, "but I want to absolve them from bringing about the steps which five government organizations took that caused the panic."

"Did your association ask the interstate commerce commission for priority orders?" asked Senator Kenyon, republican, of Iowa.

"No, we were fighting that," Mr. Cushing replied.

J. D. A. Morrow, vice president of the National Coal Association, representing mine operators, testified there was no need to fear another shortage now.

"It took a world war, a national coal strike and a railroad tieup to bring about last summer's shortage," he said.

The coal association's income was "something over $400,000 this year," the witness told Senator Kenyon, and it "had secured over $1,000,000 during the last three years," by assessments on members.

Denies Prices Were High.

Asked if his association attempted to "influence legislation," Mr. Morrow said "only by furnishing information to members about pending bills and arranging for the presentation of facts to committees."

In a long discussion about prices, Mr. Morrow denied that prices for coal had been generally high. Reminded by Senator Kenyon that Chairman Benson had stated that bunker coal at Norfolk was costing the shipping board $18.50 a ton, the witness said one reason for that was that the board did not make contracts for its coal like ordinary consumers.

"I think the way the shipping board bought its coal was as inexcusable an example of government mismanagement as I ever saw," the witness declared.

Tumulty Knew What Was Going On

"Just what was your association doing with Mr. Tumulty, secretary to the president?" asked Senator Kenyon, after reading a section of a speech made by D. B. Wentz, president of the coal association, to operators, referring to "constant visits" made to the White House by its officers.

The witness recounted the action taken by the interstate commerce commission and other government agencies during the coal shortage last summer and said that, "having in mind that the administration was interested in all this and would be glad to know of action that was being taken to meet the conditions, President D. B. Wentz, of the coal association, and I went to Mr. Tumulty from time to time to advise him upon the situation and the interstate commerce orders. We kept Mr. Tumulty currently informed," he added.

"You were fighting the idea that a fuel administration might be necessary," Senator Kenyon commented.

"Yes, we thought the fuel administration couldn't be installed in time to met the emergency and that the existing agencies could meet the service," was the reply.

Questioned by Senator Kenyon, Mr. Morrow said the coal association was taking legal steps to enjoin the federal trade commission from collecting statistics on coal production prices and profits; to enjoin the interstate commerce cimmission from enforcing "assigned car" orders, and to help in the defense of members facing prosecution for violations of the Lever law.

Washington, Dec. 22.—A sensational scandal, involving a ring of government officials in a rakeoff of millions of dollars in coal transactions during the recent fuel shortage, was unexpectedly uncovered yesterday by the senate coal investigating committee.

George H. Cushing, general manager of the American Wholesale Coal Dealers Association, inadvertently disclosed in his sworn testimony before the committee that government officials taking advantage of advance information on the fuel stringencies obtained in their confidential positions, declared themselves in on the coal price boosting and "cleaned up" millions. The committee immediately determined to go to the bottom of the charges.

Witness Offered a Share.

Mr. Cushing told the committee of one instance in which government officials cleared a profit of $675,000 on the sale of 450,000 tons of coal. He stated that he was offered a share amounting to over $100,000 to participate in the deal but declined. There were many other such instances, he told the committee.

Much of Mr. Cushing's testimony was given behind closed doors and was not made public. He supplied the committee with the name of the ringleader, said to be a dollar a year man. The committee expects to issue a subpoena for this man. Mr. Cushing will return to the witness stand, probably tomorrow, armed with papers that will enable him to furnish the committee with the names of other government officials who drew down huge profits in coal. The committee plans to make a thorough investigation and reveal to the country the names of all officials engaged in the coal deals.

Prosecution to Be Difficult.

Members of the committee, after hearing Mr. Cushing's testimony in secret session, explained that the coal handled by the ring was not sold to the American government and they doubted, therefore, whether any graft prosecutions could be instituted. The coal was sold, it was stated, sometimes to American consumers in regions where the shortage was acute and sometimes to foreign governments who were badly in need of fuel for their shipping and industries.

The practice of the ring was to get secret orders from persons and concerns badly in need of coal, enter into negotiations with coal dealers, with whom they usually offered to share their profits, and then deliver the coal at a price about $1.50 a ton in excess of the purchase cost. The officials were in positions where they were able to obtain information and give assurances by reason of their positions, it was stated.

Drops Like a Grenade.

Mr. Cushing's revelations slipped out accidentally. He was asked to give a list of those who took profits in the handling of coal from the mine to the consumer. He stated that profits were taken by the miners, the operators, the railroads, wholesale dealers, retail dealers, etc., and then, to the surprise of the committee added, "and officials of the United States government who got into the coal business."

Instantly the committee was on the alert. He was pressed by Senator Kenyon, Iowa, to furnish more light on this charge. He steadily declined to do so.

"You know that government officials secured a profit in the handling of coal?" Senator Kenyon asked.

"Yes, I do," Mr. Cushing replied. "But there is no good digging in the graveyard. My muckraking days are over."

Rail and Labor Officials, Too.

When the committee insisted on further information Mr. Cushing finally agreed to answer questions behind closed doors. The committee accordingly went into secret session, where Mr. Cushing proceeded to back up his charges with additional testimony.

He charged that railroad officials and labor leaders who had to do with the handling of coal also managed to get a "rake off" frequently. All these levies, he explained, helped to raise the price of coal to unprecedented heights.

Another sensational feature of the investigation was the production of evidence showing how the American Wholesale Coal Dealers' Association succeeded in thwarting the campaign instituted last summer by the department of justice against profiteering operators.

Senator Calder, New York, chairman of the investigating committee, brought forth a telegram sent by Mr. Cushing to members of his organization advising them not to answer the questionnaire sent out by the department of justice for the purpose of obtaining information about operators' prices. The department wanted the wholesale coal dealers to give the names of the operators from whom they bought their coal and how much they paid. Mr. Cushing wired to the wholesale dealers on July 30, 1920:

"Am advised by competent counsel you need not answer department of justice questionnaire. Important you do not disclose name of operator or his price, as it will prove detrimental to your business. Give your own business only if you choose to do so. Please disseminate."

Mr. Cushing admitted sending the telegram.

"I didn't want members of our association to become informers on operators who supplied them with the coal that kept them in business," he explained.

Didn't Like Threat of Prison.

When Senator Edge wanted still further explanation Mr. Cushing replied that the department of justice had told him "they were going to put our members in the federal penitentiary."

"And you wanted to keep them out of the penitentiary?" asked Senator Kenyon.

"I wanted to keep members out of the penitentiary so there would be enough of them left to pay my salary," answered Mr. Cushing.

The witness added that the coal dealers did not want to run the risk of prosecutions because there was too much uncertainty about the meaning of the "reasonable price" clause or the Lever act. He also said Attorney General Palmer admitted to him afterward that the department of justice had exceeded its authority in sending out the questionnaire.

Italian Troops Begin Siege of D'Annunzio Army

By Associated Press.

Udine, Italy, Dec. 22.—Fiume, the stronghold of Capt. Gabriel D'Annunzio, the insurgent Italian leader, is being besieged by regular Italian forces.

By Associated Press.

Rome, Dec. 22.—General Caviglia, commander of the Italian regulars surrounding Fiume, has ordered a rigorous blockade of Fiume and the islands of Veglia Arbe and San Marco. He gave forty-eight hours to those who wish to leave the blockaded region before it is invested.

Plane Kills Son of Alexander.

Washington, Dec. 22.—Walter R. Alexander, son of Secretary Alexander of the department of commerce, was killed instantly yesterday here at Bolling Field, when the propeller of an airplane, in which he was preparing to fly, struck him on the head. He was a commissioned flyer during the war and had gone to the aviation field today to make a flight, to keep in training.

The Weather.

Iowa—Unsettled weather tonight and Thursday; probably snow in east portion tonight; colder tonight; cold wave in east portion; colder in extreme east portion Thursday.

WILSON WILL TAKE PART IN INAUGURATION

Health of President Such That He Will Do Honors to Successor.

USUAL CUSTOMS TO BE OBSERVED

Retiring President Will Act as Escort to Harding On Trip From White House to Capitol and Return—Will Lead Parade Up Pennsylvania Avenue—Wilson's Health Better Than at Any Time Since Illness.

By Associated Press.

Washington, Dec. 22.—President Wilson plans to accompany President-Elect Harding from the White House to the capitol on March 4 and back to the White House for luncheon, as is the usual custom when a new chief executive is inaugurated.

Joseph P. Tumulty, secretary to the president, said today that Mr. Wilson had outlined to him yesterday his plans with regard to inauguration day. As is the custom, Mr. Harding will call at the White House just before noon and will be received by the retiring executive. They then, under present plans, will ride down Pennsylvania avenue to the capitol, where the president-elect will take the oath of office and deliver his inaugural address. The new and retiring president will lead the usual parade up the avenue to the White House, where Mr. Wilson will entertain Mr. Harding at luncheon. Immediately afterward President Wilson will retire to his new home on S street to take up his life as a private citizen after eight years in the White House."

Weather Not to Interfere.

The continued steady improvement in the president's health, according to Secretary Tumulty, will make the contemplated trip with President-Elect Harding to the capitol possible, even in the event of the most intemperate weather.

Mr. Tumulty said today that when he visited the president yesterday he found him in better spirits than at any time since he was taken ill more than a year ago. The president and his secretary discussed a variety of topics, but Mr. Tumulty said the executive did not bring up the subject of the treaty of Versailles and did not indicate in any way what disposition he was prepared to make of it.

The president, said Mr. Tumulty, said in the course of their talk that he was not greatly interested in the writing of memoirs for an autobiography, as it was a form of literature which had never greatly appealed to him. It has been generally understood that when Mr. Wilson retires from office he will take up the preparation of a history of the world war.

AMERICANS IN TRAGEDY.

George A. Kelly, of Omaha, Kills Sophia Taylor and Self in London.

By Associated Press.

London, Dec. 22.—The coroner's jury which held an inquest today into the death of Miss Sophia Irica Taylor, a 29-year-old dancer, and George Augustus Kelly, aged 30, of Omaha, Neb., returned a verdict of willful murder and suicide against Kelly. Kelly was found dead and Miss Taylor mortally wounded in a residential flat in St. James street, Picadilly. Miss Taylor died shortly afterward.

According to Miss Taylor's maid Kelly had been keeping company with the dancer, but the latter had recently received attentions of an army captain.

Kelly, the maid asserted, followed Miss Taylor into the flat from the street Friday evening and shortly after sounds of a struggle were heard. The maid intervened but she said a shot was fired over her shoulder and Miss Taylor fell to the floor. A second shot followed and Kelly fell dead.

AFTER CROOKED PLAYERS.

Lawyer Noted For His Convictions To Prosecute White Sox Grafters.

By Associated Press.

Chicago, Dec. 22.—James C. O'Brien, former assistant state attorney, will be engaged to assist in the prosecution of White Sox players and gamblers who are charged with conspiring to throw the 1919 world series, according to an announcement today by President Johnson, of the American League. Johnson says he expects early hearings.

During the last year O'Brien as assistant state attorney secured convictions which sent several men to the gallows. During murder trials he always wore a red necktie.

"We must go to the bottom of this affair," Johnson said, "and no guilty person must be allowed to escape. That is the only reason why the American League is taking an interest in this matter. Mr. O'Brien has a notable record for convictions, and that is why we have decided to employ him."

MUCH AID GIVEN FARMERS.

Nearly Two Billion Dollars in Paper Rediscounted by Federal Banks.

By Associated Press.

Washington, Dec. 22.—Nearly two billion dollars worth of paper based on production and sales of farm products has been rediscounted by federal reserve banks this year, Governor Harding, of the federal reserve board, estimated in a special report sent today to Chairman Gronna, of the senate agricultural committee. The amount of such rediscounts in 1919 was estimated at $719,266,000, Mr. Harding estimated.

TO PAVE SEVENTEEN MILES.

Woodbury County Lets Contract For $800,000 Highway Improvement.

By Associated Press.

Sioux City, Dec. 22.—The Woodbury county board of supervisors this morning completed letting a contract for paving seventeen miles of country road, at a total cost of $800,000. The contract was awarded to a Sioux City concern, the bid being $3.67 per square yard. The work is to be reinforced concrete, the roadbed twenty feet wide, with a curb to throw surface water to the center, according to specifications of the state highway commission.

POWDER BLAST KILLS FOUR.

Explosion in Dupont Powder Mills Rocks Lackawanna Valley.

By Associated Press.

Scranton, Pa., Dec. 22.—Four men were killed and two injured in an explosion today in the pressing and packing mill of the Dupont Powder Company at Belin village, near Moosic, seven miles from here. The property damage amounted to about $10,000.

The force of the explosion was felt all over the Lackawanna valley.

The plant is engaged in handling commercial powder, largley for the anthracite mining industry.

EXPLOSION CAUSES FIRE.

Springfield, Ill., Loses Finest High School Building.

By Associated Press.

Springfield, Ill., Dec. 22.—Feitshans junior high school, the largest in Springfield, was destroyed by fire this morning. Firemen said the cause was a boiler explosion which blew an entire wall out.

The fire was burning fiercely when the fire department received the alarm. At 9 o'clock only three of the brick walls remained.

BRITAIN ANXIOUS OVER IDLENESS

Conditions of Unemployment Growing More Critical and Many Makeshift Relief Measures Being Adopted—Next Few Months to Bring Privation to Many Thousands.

By Associated Press.

London, Dec. 22.—Extreme anxiety is felt by the British people over conditions of unemployment, and in some quarters the opinion is held that the crisis is more serious than any previously.

This pessimism is reflected in editorial comment relative to government proposals to relieve distress, and there is a fretful tone in some comments, which further emphasizes forboding over the prospects of the coming winter. It is predicted that in spite of all aid that may be devised the next few months may bring privations to many thousands.

Premier Lloyd-George outlined his plan for relieving the unemployment in the house of commons yesterday and newspapers give him credit for doing whatever is possibly by resorting to makeshifts which are admittedly palliatives. Some newspapers apologize for the government's plan, contending that it is better than previous government efforts to meet critical conditions in the labor world.

On the other hand, many newspapers attack the cabinet for doing too little, too much or the wrong thing.

Natinal Lumbermen to Meet.

Special to Times-Republican.

Minneapolis, Dec. 22.—More than two thousand retail lumber dealers from Minnesota, Iowa, North Dakota and South Dakota, are expected to attend the Thirty-first Annual Convention of the Northwestern Lumbermen's Association, which will be held in Minneapolis, Jan. 18, 19 and 20.

The officers of the association are: F. J. Ward, Clinton, Iowa, president; I. R. Goodridge, Minneapolis, vice president; C. F. English, Minneapolis, treasurer; and Adolph Pfund, Minneapolis, secretary.

Advance reservations at the principal hotels indicate the largest attendance at the convention in the history of the association.

Burlington Barber Commits Suicide.

By Associated Press.

Burlington, Dec. 22.—Clarence Larson, aged 35, a barber, committed suicide by firing a bullet into his brain in the bathroom of the Eagles club room. He had attempted suicide on two previous occasions.

Caddock Defeats Santell.

By Associated Press.

San Francisco, Dec. 22.—Earl Caddock defeated Ed Santell here last night in a two-hour wrestling match. Caddock won the only fall in one hour and forty-three minutes with an armed scissors hold.

Boys of 9 and 10 Years in Fatal Fight Over Dirty Terrier

By Associated Press.

New York, Dec. 22.—Fighting with a playmate for possession of a stray dog, Frank Verilla, aged 10, was stabbed, probably fatally, here last night.

James Romanello, 9, with a dirty little terrier at his heels, walked into a police station and surrendered himself.

"I'm sorry. He wanted to take the dog away from me. I didn't mean to hurt him," he sobbed.

James was given into the custody of the Children's Society officers.

The terrier, its tail between its legs, scurried away.

LEAGUE FAILS WITHOUT U. S. BRITISH VIEW

Premier Lloyd-George Says All Nations Must Be Represented.

NO REAL PEACE LACKING UNITY

Competition in Armaments Must Cease and Disarmament Impossible Until All Nations Are in League—Willing to Accept Germany When Nation Shows Her Intention to Fulfill Her Obligations.

By Associated Press.

London, Dec. 22.—David Lloyd-George, the British premier, presiding at a luncheon given today in the house of commons for the British and dominion delegates to the recent league of nations assembly in Geneva, declared the league would never achieve real progress until all the nations were represented.

Mr. Lloyd-George said he looked forward hopefully to the United States coming into the league. This, he asserted, was essential. There could be no real peace, declared the prime minister, until competition in armaments ceased, and before disarmament was possible all the nations must be in the league, for all must march together.

Mr. Lloyd-George said he was glad to know that all were doing something. He asserted that if the Geneva assembly had existed in August, 1914, the war would have been impossible. He was sanguine there would be no obstacle to Germany's admission to the league if she manifested an intention to fulfill her obligations.

NEW SWINDLE HAS NOVEL METHODS

Man Under Arrest at Sioux City For Obtaining Money From Estates in England Thru Claiming Indebtedness on Part of Dead Relatives.

Special to Times-Republican.

Sioux City, Dec. 22.—An extensive swindle of the English estates of small sums of money was revealed here today by the arrest and confession of Harry F. Saunders, 42, janitor at a Sioux City Catholic institution. The arrest was made by Chief of Police Earl Morgan, working with Postoffice Inspector Szarkowski. Saunders had a scheme all his own. From copies of a London Times and other English papers he clipped notices of deaths of wealthy persons and notices of settlement of estates of such persons. Then he proceeded to write personal friendly letters to the deceased persons, casually reminding them of "the 5 or 10 pound note I let you have the day we visited the barracks and you went short of funds." He always said he knew it was an oversight the money had not been repaid, and then proceeded to tell how, since coming to America a couple of years ago, he had been moving about so frequently that "My mail had not kept up with me," and closed by wishing the deceased individual all the good luck in the world, carrying the impression that he believed the individual still alive. He requested in his letters that if remittances were made it should be in one pound notes. In letters addressed to women who have died he signed the name "Mrs. Harry P. Saunders."

Saunders carefully kept a diary of journal of all his correspondence. This is in the hands of the authorities and shows that during the three months he has been in Sioux City Saunders wrote to fifty-six individuals, and that prior to coming to Sioux City, during the three or four months he was in Plankington, S. D., he wrote forty-five such letters. It is stated by the authorities that Saunders has already received replies and remittances from relatives or executors of estates, and that many more are expected, as the time is just now ripe for such replies.

The undoing of Saunders came thru a letter addressed to Henry Aitken, London, England. Relatives or executors of the Aitken estate evidently believed all was not just right. They made their suspicions known to detectives.

Saunders has admitted that he was convicted in Minneapolis April 8, 1916, and was sentenced to eighteen months in the United States prison at Fort Leavenworth, having been convicted on using the mails to defraud.

Russians Killed in Train Wreck.

By Associated Press.

London, Dec. 22.—A Central News dispatch from Helsingfors, Finland, under Tuesday's date, says that several hundred persons were killed or injured in a railway accident near Petrograd. The accident was due, it said, to overcrowding of a train, but details are lacking, the dispatch adds.

Chicago Sox Sign Southern Pitcher.

By Associated Press.

Chicago, Dec. 22.—Secretary Harry Grabiner, of the White Sox, today announced that he has received the signed 1921 contract of Clarence C. Hodge, right-handed pitcher who came to the White Sox late last season from the Nashville Southern Association club.