

# May Change House Seats Since Members Complain They Can Not Be Heard

## Government Now Studying Acoustics With View to Rearranging Seating in House of Commons

## DIFFICULT FOR HALF TO HEAR ADDRESSES

Complaint is Made That  
Members' Speeches Are  
Heard Only With Difficulty  
in Galleries and Especially  
in Press Gallery.

Ottawa, Sept. 19.—Acoustics, or the science of determining the shortest distance from a member's seat in the House of Commons to the galleries, is engaging the attention of the government. It is generally complained that it is difficult for members to be heard in the galleries, notably in the press gallery and even by their fellow members. As the members, in the long hall-like arrangement of the chamber, face each other row upon row and as the speaker, to whom they are supposed to address their remarks, is seated at one of the ends of the chamber, it is extremely difficult for at least one-half of the other members to hear. It is contended that the speaker and the press gallery, which is immediately overhead, also have considerable difficulty in hearing all that is said.

It was many times discussed outside the chamber at the last session and on the last day a short speech was made by James Logan, Liberal for Cumberland (N. S.), urging some radical change in the arrangement of the chamber. His remarks were applauded by all persuasions in the house and Hon. J. H. King, minister of public works, promised to have the matter investigated and if it were practicable to rearrange the seating of the chamber there would be no delay in doing so, he said. It was suggested by Mr. Logan that the speaker's chair be located at the middle of one side of the chamber and the members' seats be arranged in the form of an amphitheatre.

The prime minister said tonight that acoustic tests were now being made but that not sufficient information had yet been obtained to make any decision as to when and how the changes would be effected. It is not believed to be practicable to make any rearrangement before the next session which will open early in January.

## \$150,000,000 Estimated Property Losses in Smyrna Destruction

Smyrna, Sept. 19.—British and American insurance experts estimate the total property loss in Smyrna at \$150,000,000, only \$60,000,000 of which is covered by insurance. British underwriting companies will bear the brunt of the loss. The American property loss is based at about \$12,000,000, the greater part insured.

A vital question has arisen as to whether the losses shall be paid upon the basis of destruction by fire or under war risk. Some of the property owners carried both forms of policy; others only one.

The allied and American authorities are endeavoring to establish whether the Turkish forces were fully in occupation of the city and the civil administration already functioning when the fire occurred, or whether the conflagration was the direct result of an act of war by the Kemalists.

It is impossible to estimate the loss of life. Most observers agree, however, that fully 2,000 perished in the flames. Those who were killed by Turkish irregulars seeking valuables or vengeance probably number several hundred.

No cautious man would venture to say how many were deliberately massacred, and it is undeniable that there were wholesale deportations. The fate of these unfortunates can only be conjectured.

**Hard Conditions.**  
Fire has accomplished for the Turks what the sword failed to do. Asia Minor, the cradle of Christianity, will soon be depopulated of Christians. Some are dying of exhaustion, fright or exposure on the shattered stone waterfront of the benighted city.

Mustapha Kemal Pasha's order permitting allied United States ships to enter the harbor to evacuate the victims, has relieved the anguish of both refugees and relief workers, but every day's delay in the arrival of the vessels means the death of many.

Less than 50,000 Christians remain huddled on the quay in concentration camps out of the original 250,000, and the worst fears are entertained for those who were taken forcibly to the interior. The Turkish edict has gone forth: "Christianity must be stamped out in Asia."

The lack of food and clothing and the unspeakable sanitary conditions are adding to the horrors and the people are obliged to eat the flesh of animals killed in the fire days ago.

The nights are bitterly cold and the shivering fugitives take refuge in the cellars of smouldering ruins; others huddle into the earth like animals and die. Mothers in bitter anguish and despair are thrusting their babes into the sea. The combination of war, massacre, fire, drowning and famine diseases has visited scourge and havoc upon innocent and defenceless Christian women and children. One must go back to the times to find a counterpart of the reign of fury, fire and famine which laid this great shrine of Christianity in ashes.

**CHANCELLOR OF EXCHEQUER GOING TO UNITED STATES**  
London, Sept. 19.—Sir Robert Stevenson, chancellor of the exchequer, will be the leading member of the British delegation to the conference which is to visit the United States. The chancellor's purpose, it is said, is to sail for America, Oct. 18.

## Bracken Must Fight Three Others For Seat

(Canadian Press Despatch.)  
The Pas, Sept. 19.—Premier Bracken is to have opposition in his candidature for the legislature in the Pas, where the election was deferred. Four candidates were nominated today—Mr. Bracken, who has the support of the Northland Association, the local branch of the United Farmers of Manitoba, and the local independent labor party; R. H. McNeill, a rancher; Dr. P. C. Robertson, and Herman Finger, retired lumberman. The latter three are running as independents. Polling is on Oct. 5.

## Canadians Confer With Americans on Water Power Pact

## Success and Satisfaction Attend Preliminary Conference at Ottawa Regarding Control of Lake of Woods and Similar Questions.

Ottawa, Sept. 20.—"We had a real peace conference here today. Every man present laid his cards on the table and the meetings were fruitful of good results."

The prime minister thus described tonight the meetings this morning and this afternoon of all the interests directly and indirectly related to the Lake of the Woods and the Rainy Lake power question. The conference was called for the purpose of determining the means by which an international treaty could be drafted whereby not only the vexed problem of the Lake of the Woods water control but also the control of the level of the water in Rainy River and Rainy Lake could be solved to the satisfaction of the United States, Canada and the provinces thereof interested in the matter.

Representing the dominion government were the prime minister, Hon. Charles Stewart, Hon. Charles Murphy and Hon. Jacques Bureau; the International Joint Commission, C. A. Magrath; Ontario, Premier Drury; Manitoba, Premier Bracken; the power interests of Manitoba, Hon. T. H. Johnson; the state of Minnesota, Governor Press; the private power interests, E. W. Backus.

The conference began in the morning adjoining for luncheon when the conferees were entertained by the prime minister. The meeting ended early this evening. All of those spoken to expressed themselves as thoroughly satisfied with the results.

The conference which was called by Premier King was a sequence to the visit of himself and Hon. George P. Graham to Washington last July and to use his own words, "It was an effort to bring the power interests of the two provinces and the one state."

The International Joint Commission several years ago investigated the matter and recommended that an international treaty be drafted. That pact has been drawn up tentatively and understood to be acceptable to the United States government as well as to that of Canada, but the question had arisen of cleaning up the Rainy River and Lake material at the same time as that of the Lake of the Woods.

It was decided at today's conference that further data would be required before the necessary revision of the proposed treaty could be accomplished so the meeting adjourned until Nov. 15 when it is hoped to clear up the entire question.

## BRING UP BODIES OF DEAD MINERS

Jackson, Cal., Sept. 19.—Five bodies of miners, entombed twenty-two days by a fire in the Argonaut gold mine, were brought to the surface today. The United States bureau of mines crew wrapped the bodies in canvas where they were found last night in the 4,350 foot level of the Argonaut and carried them through the Kennedy mine adjoining. Three of the dead were identified. The work of bringing out the forty-seven victims of the fire and the poisonous gases will continue until all are recovered.

A coroner's jury will be sworn in tomorrow to view the ill-fated miners. It is not expected the responsibility for the disaster will be fixed. The bodies were conveyed to a building on the Argonaut property, a mile from the Kennedy shaft, and placed in coffins.

A check of the names of the dead showed seven were born in America, twenty in Italy, thirteen in Jugo-Slavia, and four were of Spanish or Mexican ancestry.

The state compensation fund is expected to pay about \$100,000 to the dependents of the mine disaster. In addition the state allows \$100 for each burial and the Argonaut company has added \$25 in each case. E. A. Stent, vice-president of the Argonaut Company, said he felt the fire was unavoidable and his company had done everything possible to rescue the men. He declared he would welcome an official investigation.

Mexico City, Sept. 19.—Twenty persons were reported dead and a large number injured in a railroad wreck early today of a Laredo-bound passenger train, which left Mexico City last night at a village near Queretaro.

## SCENE OF CONFLICT IN THE NEAR EAST.



The above map shows the troubled Near East. The old boundaries of Turkey, where they do not agree with the present ones, are shown in the heavy dotted lines. Under the treaty of Sevres, which limited the Ottoman Empire, Thrace became part of the Greek territory, with Smyrna and district to be held for two years with a plebiscite to be taken at that time. The treaty made Constantinople, the area surrounding the Dardanelles, shown in black, neutral territory under control of an international commission known as the Straits Commission. The Turkish Nationalists, under Mustafa Kemal, repudiated the treaty of Sevres. The Greek army was defeated several weeks ago. With the Greek army routed, Kemal Pasha announced the line on which the Greek army was defeated several weeks ago. The dotted line from Bursa to Atim Karahissar shows the line on which the Greek army was defeated several weeks ago. This announcement caused the British government at once to take action to preserve the neutrality of the Straits. The broken Greek army is seeking to escape via the Sea of Marmora, and several have been landed on the Piraeus, near Athens.

## PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF NEAR EAST ISSUE ASSURED FROM PARIS

## Conference of Eight States Concerned to Meet at Rome or Venice Within Three Weeks Arranged at Allied Meeting

Paris, Sept. 20.—Definite assurance that there will be no war in the Near East and the calling of a peace conference for the settlement of the Turkish problem were the chief results of the Allied meeting this afternoon. Premier Poincare, Lord Curzon and Count Sforza were the participants in the conference. The eight interested powers, including the Angora government, will gather around the peace table within three weeks, probably at Rome or Venice, and make a new treaty with Turkey to take the place of the treaty of Sevres.

The eight nations called together are Great Britain, France, Italy, Japan, Turkey, Greece, Roumania and Jugo-Slavia. Japan's inclusion at the last minute came as a considerable surprise. It was due to Lord Curzon's insistence. The British foreign secretary told Premier Poincare that his government frankly feared the close connection which had reason to believe existed between Moscow and Angora, and Japan's presence was desired to offset this Bolshevik influence. It was also explained that Japan was a signatory of the Treaty of Sevres, which is to be abandoned for the new agreement, and was therefore entitled to be present for that reason.

It is remarked in French circles, however, that the participation of Japan in any issue which may arise in the conference. M. Poincare, in consenting to the presence of Japan, demanded also the presence of Roumania and Jugo-Slavia. While the United States was not included among the eight countries which will participate in the conference, it is regarded as certain that an invitation from the United States government that it desires to attend, even as an observer, will be followed by an invitation from the Allies. In fact, there is said to be a strong sentiment in certain quarters in favor of asking the United States representative, but in view of American aloofness from European affairs it was decided not to take the initiative.

**Want No War.**  
Lord Curzon, M. Poincare and Count Sforza were in complete accord that there should be no war in the Near East, but Lord Curzon asserted that Great Britain felt that the presence of a great fleet in the straits was necessary to maintain freedom of passage.

Admiral Lord Beatty, of the British navy and Admiral Gasset, of the French navy, reported on the military and naval situation in the Dardanelles. Admiral Beatty is believed to have said that freedom of the straits could be maintained by the navy.

While insisting on what they term their legitimate claims, the British and French representatives, however, declared that the Kemalists would not depart from their present attitude if a reasonable basis for the discussion of peace were proposed to them. It is practically decided that the conference will be held in Venice, always provided that Mustafa Kemal Pasha will be able to go there, and it is likely that the powers will be represented by their foreign ministers, at least in the beginning, for the sessions will last several weeks owing to the necessity of elaborating entirely new territorial, military, political and financial conditions.

**Russia Not to Take Part.**  
Russia will not be invited to participate, she having no interests involved in the settlement. The Angora government, it is true, signed a treaty with the Soviets at Moscow on March 16, 1921, but this treaty has no bearing on the present situation.

The question of the League of Nations being left to deal with the problem of the Near East, as proposed by Dr. Hansen and dominion representatives, was scarcely considered, it being held that the task of making a settlement was entirely one for the governments.

**Situation Easier.**  
London, Sept. 20.—Beyond the fact that the result of Lord Curzon's conference at Paris with Premier Poincare was an agreement among the three allied powers, Great Britain, France and Italy, on the advisability of convening a peace conference, little has become known of today's developments in the Near East crisis.

The sudden and unexpected call for a ministerial conference in London this afternoon, which led to a formal council, caused renewed alarm concerning possible critical developments, but these were allayed later when, although no official communication was issued, throwing light on the origin of the sudden conference, it was intimated that the situation, instead of having undergone a change for the worse, might be considered much easier.

The assumption is that the council known of the projected peace conference and M. Poincare's explicit statement that under no circumstances would French soldiers be employed against the Kemalists.

## HOPE OF HURST ARE CRUSHED

## His Henchmen go Down to Defeat in Primary Election of Delegates to Nominating Convention

(From the Telegraph's Special New York Correspondent.)  
New York, Sept. 20.—Revised returns from yesterday's state primary elections indicate that the hopes of William Randolph Hearst, the publisher, doomed for the Democratic nomination for governor of New York, have been temporarily shattered.

William F. Conners, of Buffalo, generalissimo of the Hearst forces and an astute political campaigner, was indignantly defeated for the leadership in his own county, that of Erie, by William J. Fitzpatrick, regular Democrat leader and firm supporter of former Governor Alfred E. Smith for the office Conners had picked out for Hearst.

Before leaving New York Conners confidently asserted that thirty-four out of the thirty-eight delegates from Erie county to be elected to the Democratic state convention would be his men. He also frankly admitted that if the men picked by him were not elected it would have an important bearing on Hearst's candidacy. As a matter of fact, only four Hearst delegates were elected in Erie and, consequently, Hearst supporters here are cast down.

**Grey's Warning.**  
Almost the same thing happened in Albany. The Hearst men suffered a heart-breaking defeat there. In view of the outcome to date it now looks as though Hearst would withdraw Conners and other Hearst supporters figured that if the publisher could be elected governor, he would be in a strong strategic position to demand the national Democratic party's backing for the nomination for president in 1924. Today Smith's chances for the nomination look good. Hearst's American says today: Party machine candidates won the statewide primaries in the great majority of contests yesterday. This means that the regular organizations will probably control the state convention next week and will try to elect their preference at the polls in November." In this city one man was killed and two others were wounded last night in fights growing out of the primaries.

**Rebuke to House.**  
The expected happened when President Harding vetoed the \$5,000,000 soldiers' bonus bill yesterday. Congress received a rebuke for passing such a measure without providing the means to pay what is called for. The language used by the president in pointing out the inconsistency of ordering the payment of such a huge sum when there is a deficit in the national treasury is such that several senators who supported the measure are believed ready to oppose it when the senate vote is taken tonight or tomorrow on the veto.

The house of representatives overrode the presidential veto by the overwhelming vote of 258 to 54. Enough senators have pledged themselves to sustain the veto and to remain in the chamber until the vote is taken.

**Slayer Still Abroad.**  
Despite the promises of the authorities up to this hour, they have failed to arrest the slayer or slayers of the Rev. Edward Welch, pastor of the Protestant Episcopal church of St. John the Evangelist, at New Brunswick (N. J.), and Mrs. James Mills, singer in his choir and wife of the sexton and gardener of his church.

Many persons are under suspicion. The victims were shot on one night last week and after thirty-six hours their bodies were found in a field on the banks of the Karitan river, whether they had been taken from the scene of the tragedy.

The police have not made known where the shooting took place, although they profess to know the spot, the identity of the slayer or slayers, and the motive for the double murder.

Both the wife of the dead man and the husband of the woman victim have told that they were out of their homes on the night of the tragedy, searching for the husband and wife, but they say they were unable to find them and did not see each other. Mrs. Hall says her brother, Willie Stevens, accompanied her.

It has been established that the clergyman and choir singer had been very friendly terms for some time. The police are working on the theory that the crime was prompted by jealousy. Several witnesses have been found who were awakened by screams near the spot where the bodies were found on the night of the tragedy.

The land on which the bodies were found is called Long Brook Farm. There is a fine farm house nearly a hundred years old and fully furnished with rare old mahogany furniture on the property but the house is unoccupied. The theory has been advanced that the slain pair used this house for a trysting place and were shot there.

**Chauffeur's Testimony.**  
A reliable chauffeur has told the police that he saw Mr. Hall's automobile parked near the house one night within ten days. The house is now owned by Samuel Levine, a real estate dealer. He says he drove by there one night within ten days and saw an automobile with lights out near the house but no lights were visible in the house. He did not stop to investigate.

This house was owned by William D. Phillips up to last October when he moved out. Since then it has been supposedly vacant. Nevertheless, it shows signs of recent occupancy. The authorities are trying to learn whether the dead clergyman had a key to it.

The man who negotiated the sale of the house for Phillips was Joseph H. Porter, trust officer for the National Bank of New Jersey and trustee for the \$150,000 trust fund for the eccentric Willie Stevens, brother of the slain reverend. Stevens was again questioned by the police and a key to it is reported that the police have definitely eliminated the dead woman's husband as a suspect.

## LONG WOULD LIMIT THE GOVERNMENT TO EMPIRE INTERESTS

London, Sept. 20.—Lord Long is going to lead a new empire campaign with the idea of trying to stop the government from dabbling in Russia, Greece, Mesopotamia, Zionism, etc., making it devote itself to empire considerations generally.

He opens the campaign with an article in the October issue of the Nineteenth Century Magazine, wherein he advocates an inquiry by cabinet committee in order to ascertain whether the lapse of years does not demand changes from the United Kingdom viewpoint in the decisions of the imperial conference of 1917 in the direction of bringing them up to date. This would be followed by a conference representing the empire, including the crown colonies.

Lord Long believes the result of the conference would make it perfectly clear that the empire is self-sustaining and that the power of the empire united under a definite scheme for the defence of the British empire would be immensely strengthened.