

## FATAL EXPLOSION IN COAL MINE

THE SOVIET  
GOVERNMENT  
READY TO ACTWilling to Participate in  
Disarmament  
Congress.TO BOYCOTT  
GENEVAWould Oppose Having  
the Conference Meet  
There.(Special cable to the Daily Mail by the  
British United Press)

Moscow, Dec. 19.—The Soviet Government is ready to participate in the preparations for the disarmament conference of the League of Nations, Izvestia, the Government organ, said today. The same informant, however, said that the Soviet would boycott Geneva as the meeting place of the conference owing to the acquittal in the Swiss courts of the assassin of Ambassador Vorovsky.

CONSERVATIVE  
LEADER GIVEN  
WARM WELCOME

Portage La Prairie, Man., Dec. 18.—Digressing for a few minutes from his avowed intention of not discussing politics while on his present visit to his constituency of Portage La Prairie, Right Hon. Arthur Meighen turned aside to answer a criticism of previous utterances on the tariff. He declared that he had never advocated a tariff brick for brick with that of the United States, except in relation to farm produce.

Returning to the city of Portage La Prairie for the first time since he was elected as its representative in the House of Commons, the Conservative leader was accorded a reception that was continuous throughout the afternoon and evening. Met at the station by a crowd of several hundreds, he was escorted to a theatre, which was packed to the doors with people of all shades of political opinion from all sections of the constituency. He was presented to the gathering by Mayor Burns, and received a welcome that left him visibly affected and kept him standing in front of his friends for several minutes before he was permitted to speak.

Following the meeting in the theatre Mr. and Mrs. Meighen received their friends numbering upwards to 1,000 at the Hotel Portage, and this evening were host and hostess at a ball to all their friends.

Sincere thanks were given those who had made possible his election in Portage La Prairie, and Mr. Meighen declared that his one object in the present visit was a desire on the part of Mrs. Meighen and himself personally to thank all those who had worked so hard for him during the recent campaign.

MR. G. BIDLAKE  
TO BE CLERK OF  
LEGISLATURE

The St. John Times quotes Premier Baxter as stating that Mr. George Bidlake of this city has been appointed clerk of the Legislature in succession to Mr. John M. Keefe, of Grand Falls who has been dismissed. Mr. J. Fred Payne of Lincoln, is to succeed Mr. J. Bacon Dickson as Clerk assistant. Mr. Bidlake served as clerk assistant under the Foster government and on the death of Mr. George Y. Diblee was appointed acting clerk, discharging the duties for one session in a satisfactory manner.

BAD WHISKEY  
IS PLENTIFUL  
ACROSS LINEOnly Two Samples Pure  
Out of a Thousand  
Seized.WANTS LAW  
OBSERVEDU. S. to be Plastered  
With Posters by Pro-  
hibition Czar.(Special to the DAILY MAIL by the  
British United Press)

Washington, Dec. 19.—General Lincoln S. Andrews prohibition czar, intends to carry out Roy Hanes' plan to plaster the nation with posters urging observance of prohibition, it was disclosed in testimony on the treasury appropriation bill made public today. A \$50,000 appropriation for this purpose has been available for four months.

"My administrator in one city reports that of the last chemical tests of one thousand different captures of liquor, there were only two samples that were pure whiskey," Andrews told the House appropriations committee. "I want these facts for the bulletin. That will be the first poster."

A TRAIN ON  
PEN ROAD  
LEFT RAILS

Altoona, Pa., Dec. 19.—Speeding down a mountainside at Bennington, a few miles west of here, train No. 32, eastbound on the Pennsylvania Railroad, left the track early today. Early reports were that none were killed but several injured.

MUSSOLINI  
GIVES DENIAL  
TO A REPORT

Rome, Dec. 19.—In a statement to the press today Premier Mussolini emphatically denied that his proposal in a circular to his diplomats for recreation centers for Italians abroad had any political significance.

He declared he had no other motive than to provide recreational and cultural activities after working hours.

"It is foolishness," he stated, "to deduce from this the slightest intention of meddling into the affairs of other countries. My circular, which went to every country in the world, absolutely excludes any political intent."

"We want our Italian emigrants to show up well abroad. Instead of drinking wine all the evening, getting into trouble, committing crimes, joining radical organizations and becoming Socialists and anarchists, it is better that they congregate under good influences that keep them on the right path." Mussolini plans to issue an official explanation.

To Reside in Boston.

Saint John Times: Mrs. James H. McCluskey, of Fredericton after visiting her sister, Mrs. Holly Mahoney, left on Saturday evening for Boston, where she intends residing. She was accompanied by her son and daughter, Thomas and Miss Veronica McCluskey and also her grand-daughter, little Miss Anna Reece of Dorchester, Mass.

Remanded to Gaol.

Joshua Walker an aged resident of the county who was lodged in the police cells here on a charge of vagrancy was remanded to gaol until Monday. In the meantime it will be ascertained if the old man can be placed somewhere for safe-keeping.

Terrorist Group in  
Germany had Planned  
To Murder JudgesPlot Was Unearthed Through the Confession of  
a Communist Held on a Charge of Burglary  
—Report That U. S. Congress Had Abolished  
Prohibition Received Gleefully in Berlin.

(Special to the Daily Mail by the British United Press)

BERLIN, Dec. 19.—Details of an assassination plot against several judges of the Supreme Court disclosed today in an alleged confession of the Communist Hartmann held in Leipzig on charges of burglary. Hartmann is said to have confessed that he stole in order to finance a terrorist group which planned the assassinations. The police revealed that they had found two automobiles in which were several machine guns and revolvers, acting upon information supplied them by Hartmann.

## A Prohibition Canard

Berlin, Dec. 19.—Germans on their way to work today found their morning papers jubilantly proclaiming that the American Congress had abolished prohibition. The dispatches which bore sensational headlines were sent from Paris. The press pointed out gleefully that if the report were correct the chances of prohibition throughout Europe had received a severe setback.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IS  
READY TO COMBAT OUTBREAK  
OF DIPHTHERIA IN THE PROVINCE

St. John, Dec. 18.—The New Brunswick Department of Health is prepared to give freely diphtheria toxoid, to immunize from diphtheria. The provincial pathologist, Dr. H. L. Abramson, said last night that there was every indication that this winter diphtheria of a serious type would be more than usually prevalent. He said the department was specially desirous of having its offer taken full advantage of in preventing the occurrence of the disease.

Croupous or laryngeal diphtheria had made its appearance in Montreal and was threatening to become epidemic there. Several cases had been reported in Moncton and cases had appeared in Saint John. While there was no epidemic in New Brunswick at the present time, the doctor felt that if the public was aware of the fact that the toxoid would secure complete immunity from the disease throughout life and that there were no ill effects of any kind from the injection the offer of the department would be promptly and generally accepted.

## Recent Development.

He explained that the toxoid was a recent development of the last four years from a method which had been in vogue for some time for the prevention of diphtheria. The toxoid has been used to immunize the children in a number of the city institutions and where previously there were numbers of children from these institutions received at the annex of the General Public Hospital each year as diphtheria patients some cases proving fatal, there had not been one case since the inoculation of the children has been carried out. The Department of Health, he said, was prepared to inoculate with the toxoid any persons offering themselves either at the General Public Hospital or at the toxoid to any doctor so that the inoculation might be made by the family doctor if so desired. The toxoid has been distributed throughout the province and will be distributed as requested. It can be

had from some of the city drug stores.

Susceptibility to diphtheria Dr. Abramson spoke of as being greatest up to the age of five years. After five years the body gradually developed a greater resistance and the adult was very considerably less susceptible.

## To Wipe Out Disease.

By the use of the toxoid it will eventually be possible to wipe out diphtheria completely. Dr. Abramson asserted where the disease has already occurred a treatment serum will stop its progress. Science has diphtheria marked for eradication and it is hoped that scarlet fever also will be similarly conquered.

Dr. Abramson recently attended the congress of Physicians and Surgeons of America in Washington, and the symposium on scarlet fever at the congress had a very striking result. It made clear that there were now sufficient methods of attack against fever to fight the disease with every assurance of success. There were known means of testing susceptibility, of treating acute cases by serum injection, of temporarily immunising children who had been exposed to infection and what is hoped to be a means of securing permanent immunisation for those who have not been exposed.

RUINS OF AN  
ACROPOLIS  
DISCOVERED(Special to the Daily Mail by British  
United Press)

Caserta, Italy, Dec. 19.—The ruins of a Greek acropolis have been discovered by the archaeologist Prof. Raffello, at Piedmont.

Dr. Malurl, life professor and director of the Naples Museum, thoroughly inspected the ruins, and declared that the acropolis was an authentic discovery which would probably lead to the unearthing of an ancient Greek city.

AVIATOR WAS  
CAUGHT BY A  
HEAVY GALEBecker Was Blown 160  
Miles Out of  
Course.REPORTS HIS  
FACE FROZENPolice Had Been Asked  
to Broadcast an  
Alarm.(Special to the Daily Mail by British  
United Press)

New York, Dec. 19.—Running into a hundred mile an hour west wind five miles above the earth, Frederick H. Becker, test pilot of the Wright Corporation, was forced to abandon any plans he might have had to be home for supper last night. When the gale ceased play with Becker's ship he found himself at Kingston, Bass, 160 miles out of his course. "Face frozen otherwise O. K.," he telegraphed his family, who asked the police to broadcast a general alarm for him.

MAKE PLOTS  
TO ORDER ON  
THE STAGE

London, Dec. 19.—Plots to order have become popular in London theatres, where the trend of the play is decided by members of the audience. It is the villain who demands a decision from those sitting in the plush seats across the footlights. The villain, in one play, just as his fingers are about to close around the neck of the heroine, turns to the audience and shouts: "Shall I?" As the majority of the audience replies, so the plot proceeds to the next critical period.

In another sketch there are several halts in scenes between the villain and other principals, and again the audience is asked whether this or that is desired as the method of procedure.

GOLFERS SEND  
FUNDS TO PUT  
CLOCK IN SHAPE

Rye, England, Dec. 19.—Golfers from all over Great Britain have sent donations to the vicar of the parish church of Rye to be used in repairing the church clock. The clock for more than 400 years has told the time for the inhabitants of the town and the thousands of golfers who annually visit the famous links near by.

Donations were sent to Abe Mitchell, George Duncan, Sarchir Campston and many other stars of the hickory shaft. The £125 necessary for the work was received in less than a week, thus insuring an accurate timepiece in the eyes of the golfers who have a nine teeth hole appointment.

## WEEK-END MARKET.

Fairly Large Market—Poultry Prices  
Stiff—Other Prices Steady.

There was a fairly large week-end market at Phoenix Square today. Poultry prices showed a tendency to go up. Other prices were steady. Prices ruled as follows:—

Butter per lb., 45 cents.  
Eggs per dozen, 60 cents.  
Potatoes per bbl., \$4.50 to \$5.  
Turkeys per lb., 40 and 50 cents.  
Geese per lb., 40 cents.  
Ducks each, \$1.  
Chicken per lb., 30 and 35 cents.  
Fowl per lb., 20 and 25 cents.  
Buckwheat meal per lb., 4 cents.  
Turnips per bbl., 70 cents.  
Beef, per lb., 6 and 8 cents.  
Pork per lb., 12 and 22 cents.

EXPLOSION  
IN BRITISH  
COAL MINESix Miners Were Enrap-  
ped and May Have  
Perished.370 MADE  
THEIR ESCAPERescue Parties Worked  
Hard Throughout the  
Night.(Special cable to the Daily Mail by the  
British United Press)

London, Dec. 19.—When an explosion shook the Birch Inwood Colliery last night 370 miners made their way to safety, according to reports from the coal region. Six miners were still entrapped the dispatches added, and it was feared they had a scant chance of life. Four rescue parties worked throughout the night fighting fire which followed the explosion. The entombed men are reported almost a mile away from the opening of the shaft.

EDWARDS BOYS  
OF SCOTCH LAKE  
SOME GUIDESHave Been Busy on Nep-  
isiguit Waters Since  
June Last—A Good  
Catch of Fur.

The Edwards boys of Scotch Lake, Dave and Fred, were among those who blew into the city yesterday. They are two of the most efficient guides in New Brunswick and have been holding things down on the headwaters of the Nepisiguit for their cousin, Mr. Charles Cremin of this city since the month of June last. Fred Edwards is said to be the most skillful canoe man which the Tobique and Nepisiguit Rivers can boast of, and Dave is said to be a good second. These young men have been in the guiding business for twenty-seven years and in that time have come into close contact with many non-resident anglers and big game hunters, and their work has come in for the highest praise. They finished the season's guiding at the end of November and since that time have been doing some trapping on their own account. During the present month they succeeded in capturing twenty-six foxes, twelve mink, four sable and one otter, carrying fur worth in the vicinity of five hundred dollars. These exceedingly clever woodsmen are back to spend the holidays at their home at Scotch Lake, and the Montserrat boys are expected to be there that they will enjoy themselves.

When the Edwards boys started for home early in the week there was about a foot and a half of snow in the woods on the Nepisiguit headwaters, and the lakes and rivers were frozen solidly.

JAIL IS OUT  
OF BUSINESS

Lake Arrowhead, Cal., Dec. 19.—Chief of Police Tom E. Johnson has placed a padlock on the door of this mountain resort's one-cell jail. With it went this sign: "Business indefinitely suspended."

The chief said the jail was not a paying proposition, since no arrests had been made in the last year and the villagers were running into debt keeping the institution.

The chief added that if any offenders were apprehended they would be placed in the blacksmith shop for safe keeping.