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BRITISH HOUSE TO REASSEMBLE TOMORROW

EXTREME COLD WAVE IN STATES CAUSES LOSS OF LIFE AND PROPERTY

Speculation Keen as to Possible Lineups of Political Parties

LONDON, Jan. 7.—Members of parliament are flocking to London today preparatory to the re-assembly of the House of Commons tomorrow.

Among the arrivals are the members of Glasgow's Labor contingent popularly regarded as "The Wild Men" of the Labor movement who were given an enthusiastic send-off in Glasgow. Baillie Dolan, chairman of the group, told the crowd that the new Labor members were not going to London with the idea of becoming cabinet ministers but rather to take their seats in parliament as the missionaries of socialism.

Lingering rumors of some eleventh hour arrangement whereby the threatened action of the Liberals to help Labor into government may be averted, include one given publicly by the Herald, Labor organ. The report is vague but it indicates the belief that a section of the Liberal party has already come to an arrangement with the Conservatives whereby the present government may be saved.



Philip Snowden, the British Laborite leader, has been prominently mentioned as a likely member of the new British cabinet if Ramsey MacDonald becomes premier.

KIDDED HIM SO HE KILLED THEM

North Dakota Farm Hand Makes
Gruesome Confession to
Police

BISMARCK, North Dakota, Jan. 7.—Because two men with whom he had been drinking home-brew kidded him and would not let him sleep, Joseph Berger, aged 25, a farmhand, today told the police he had killed them as they slept in a straw stack near here last fall. He clubbed them with a pump handle before they were wide awake. Berger escaped undetected but said his conscience bothered him and kept him awake at nights so he decided to tell the story.

STRESSES NEED FOR NEW CHURCH

Rev. Dr. Grant Refers Particularly to Subject in New Year Sermons

Expressing his confident expectation that the Presbyterian congregation would be housed in a more suitable church building before the close of 1924, Rev. Dr. H. R. Grant referred at both services yesterday to the great necessity for such an edifice. In the course of his New Year's messages, Dr. Grant particularly stressed the admonition that all members of the congregation should put forth their best efforts this year to that end. The matter will be taken up at the annual congregational meeting to be held this month.

Mrs. H. C. Fraser was soloist at the evening service yesterday.

STRONG EARTHQUAKE IN CENTRAL ALASKA

Tremor on Saturday Believed by Some to Have Been Most Distinct in History

FAIRBANKS, Jan. 7.—An earthquake shock, believed by some to have been the strongest ever felt in this vicinity, occurred on Saturday. No damage is reported.

MARKED GAIN IN DEPOSITS

Royal Bank of Canada Has Made
Remarkable Progress in
Past Fiscal Year

A gain of fifty millions in deposits, liquid assets of approximately 50% and cash amounting to no less than 28% of liabilities to the public are among the outstanding features of a remarkable strong statement which the Royal Bank of Canada is forwarding to its shareholders for the fiscal year ending November 30. A \$50,000,000 gain in deposits is really phenomenal under conditions that prevailed during the past year and must be accepted as unmistakable testimony of the confidence that is everywhere placed in this strong Canadian banking institution. What will make such a large gain still more satisfactory from the shareholders' standpoint is that owing to the general character of the business done by the Bank there are no especially large deposits of any nature.

The general business of the Bank continues to show an expanding tendency. Total assets are now \$538,358,551, as compared with \$479,362,366 for the previous year, or a gain of about \$59,000,000. Liquid assets are \$233,125,171, as compared with \$216,048,331, while cash on hand amounts to \$81,604,539, against \$71,935,920 a year ago. In the liquid assets a number of other large increases are shown, the principal being a gain in short term government securities. Dominion and Provincial government securities now stand at \$28,783,950, up from \$22,950,224, and Canadian, Municipal and British, Foreign and Colonial Government securities, other than Canadian, amount to \$15,900,363, against \$7,901,927 a year ago. Call loans total \$46,372,574, compared with \$48,610,020 last year.

Current loans gained during the year. They now stand at \$264,722,967 against \$242,937,776. Savings deposits increased from \$277,535,882 to \$311,759,427. The earnings during the past year were \$3,909,316 as compared with \$3,958,469 in the previous year.

COURT OF REVISION

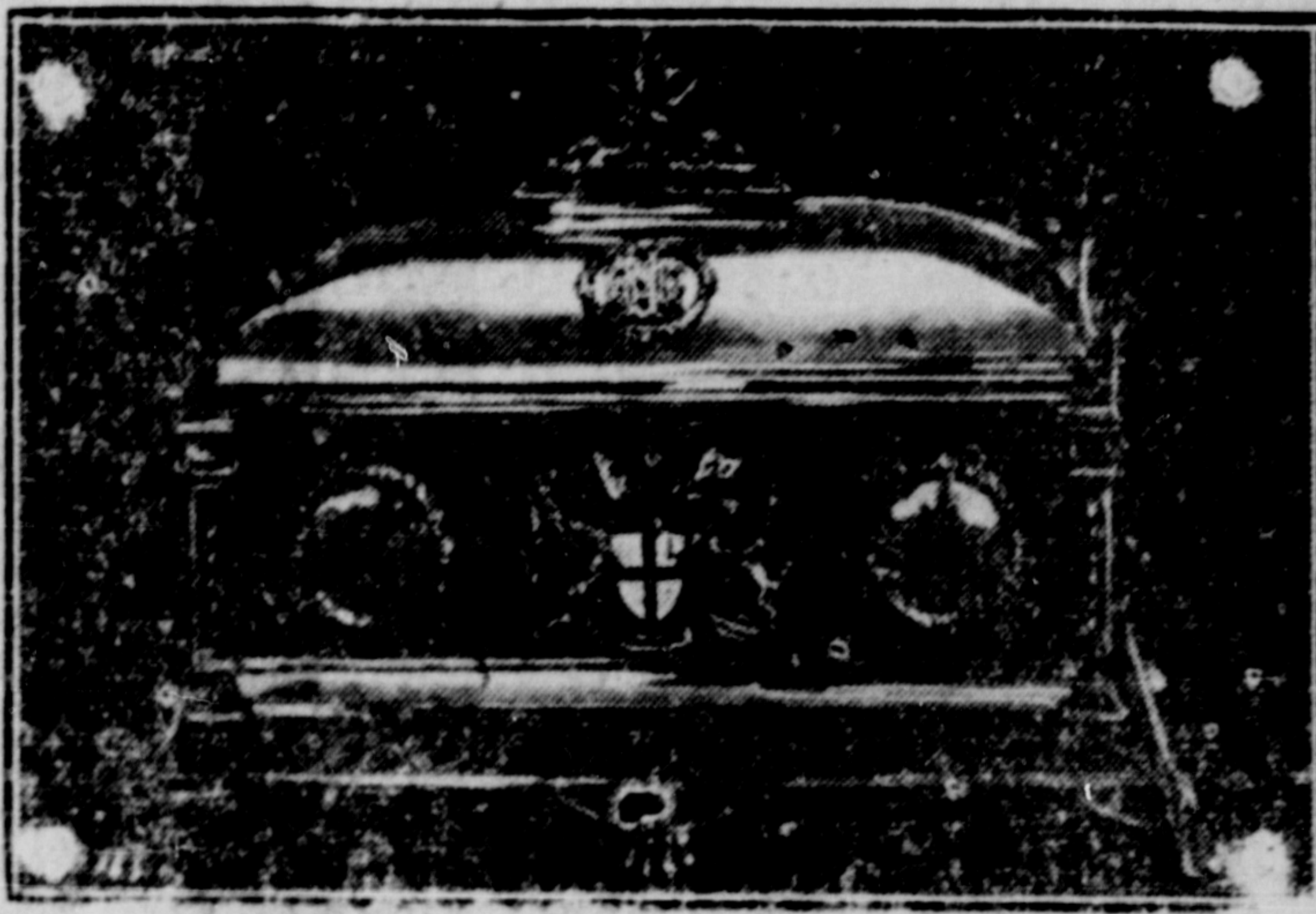
The court of revision on the tax assessment for the grading work on Fourth and Fifth Avenues sat this morning in the council chamber.

Miss Mary Gladwell appeared before the court to request that the city bench post marking her lot between Emmerson Place and Grant Place, which had been removed by city workmen during the grading work, be replaced. Ald. Muir, chairman of the board of works, stated that this would be done.

Present at the meeting were Mayor S. M. Newton, Aldermen Munro, Smith and Perry, City Clerk Jones and E. S. Alliston.

FISH ARRIVALS

The American schooner Yakutat with 44,000 pounds of halibut was the only boat offering fish on the Exchange this morning. The catch was sold to the Atlin and Royal Fisheries at 19.5c and 12c.



Photograph shows the gold casket presented to the Right Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie King, with the freedom of the city of London at the imperial conference.

Thermometer Reaches Low Level in Middle West at Weekend and Mild Weather Today is Welcome

NEW YORK, Jan. 7.—An extreme cold wave throughout the United States is accounted responsible for a number of fires and disasters which have caused the deaths of twenty people and done damage amounting to many millions of dollars.

The temperature elsewhere throughout the Northern States compelled many people to overheat their stoves and take risks resulting in hundreds of fires in dwellings.

CHICAGO, Jan. 7.—The Middle West welcomed the return of temperatures to normal today. A recapitulation shows a loss of seventeen lives in Chicago due to cold. The reading of 16 degrees below zero reached on Saturday broke the record for cold weather for the past twelve years.

ABSURD AND RIDICULOUS PECK SAYS

VICTORIA, Jan. 7.—Col. C. W. Peck, V.C., Conservative candidate for the Islands, describes as "absurd and ridiculous" the statements that he is being groomed for the provincial leadership of the party.

NEW STEAMER FOR ISLANDS

Capt. Donald Goes to Denmark to Inspect Craft to Replace Prince Albert

A Vancouver paper says that Capt. D. Donald, master of the steamer Prince Rupert who left Vancouver for the Old Country last week, has gone to Denmark to inspect a steamer the C.G.M. M. is contemplating purchasing to replace the Prince Albert.

E. G. Dawson, C.N.R. director, questioned this morning on the matter, said the company had a ship in view in the Old Country but he had not been advised officially as to who had been sent to inspect it.

MUCH DAMAGE IN OCEAN PARK FIRE

Amusement Parks and Municipal Hall Wiped Out in California City

OCEAN PARK, Cal., Jan. 7.—Fire wiped out amusement parks and the municipal hall here causing damage of \$1,500,000.

CHINESE KILL ENGLISHMAN

Brigands Attack River Steamer on Upper Yangtze River

SHANGHAI, Jan. 7.—Brigands attacked the river steamer Tzadui killing the captain and part owner, J. F. Brandt, an Englishman, and one Chinese, besides injuring several Chinese passengers. The vessel was tied up for the night on the upper Yangtze river. This word has been received here by the Dollar Steamship lines.

WOMEN HAD CHARGE OF NEW YORK COURT

Six Men Tried Without the Aid of Any Masculine Officials

NEW YORK, Jan. 5.—Feminized completely, the women's court one day recently was in the hands of women judges, women lawyers, women detectives and women court attendants. The entire process of the law in the case of six men arraigned on various charges was carried out without the aid of a man.

COUNTY COURT

In the county court this morning before Judge F. McB. Young the following cases were set: Salmon Arm Trading Co. Ltd. vs. Geo. Fraser; and Dan McIntosh vs. W. A. Dann set for the February court.

The appeal of H. H. Wear against the conviction of the Ocean Fall's magistrate under the Government Liquor Act was set for January 31.

The following applications for naturalization were approved by Judge F. McB. Young in the naturalization court this morning: Aage Torstensen, Dane; Zengo Higashi, Japanese; and An'ou Serbieh, Montenegrin.

Arthur Robert Barrow, formerly of Prince Rupert and now of Telkwa, has been appointed a justice of the peace, the B.C. Gazette announces.

Palestine Under British Rule Prospering but Syria Governed by France is not Doing so well

While conditions in Palestine have greatly improved since the inception of British rule, French government in Syria and Lebanon has not been conducive of very good results in these countries as a whole according to James Jabour, local business man, who returned to the city on Saturday after a visit of nearly three years in Syria, Palestine and Lebanon. Speaking of conditions generally Mr. Jabour said that in 1920, when he arrived in Syria and Lebanon, business and living conditions were not so bad but that they were gradually getting worse under the rule of the French government.

On the other hand Palestine was thousands of experienced farmers progressing well under the British regime and the ordinary laborer was receiving \$2.50 a day as against 60c a day paid for the same class of labor in the French protectorates.

Since the British took over Palestine the country has been much improved in every way. Roads have been widened and many reforms have been made for the betterment of life for the natives. While the Jews in Palestine are restive and anxious for self government, the natives are quite satisfied with conditions as they are. It is claimed by the British government that the Jews are not able to protect themselves and for their protection a standing garrison of from 10,000 to 15,000 soldiers is maintained which is paid for by the British taxpayer. The British government has made it clear to the Jews that if they want self-government they must be prepared to protect themselves out of their own pockets.

While in Jerusalem, Mr. Jabour met a Mr. Roland of Victoria in the Allenby Hotel. Mr. Roland is working for the British government.

Syria and Lebanon conditions have not improved under the French rule. The French currency is constantly fluctuating which makes it hard for the retailers and businessmen in general. The French franc today in those countries stands at 86 francs to the pound sterling while in the old days it always stood around 55 to 60 francs to the pound sterling. The advantage in this way goes to France while the colonies suffer.

While in Paris Mr. Jabour took a 25 mile trip along the old Allied war front as far as Chateau Thierry. The old battle front is fast disappearing and the French women are rapidly getting back to normal again as far as building new houses and bridges is concerned. According to Mr. Jabour France is in a flourishing condition generally.

ATTEMPT MADE AT LIFE KEMAL PASHA

Hand Grenade Aimed at President of Turkey Hits His Wife

ATHEENS, Jan. 7.—A report from Mitylene says an unsuccessful attempt has been made to assassinate Mustafa Kemal Pasha, president of the Turkish Republic. A hand grenade intended for Kemal Pasha injured his wife.

TORONTO HAS EIGHT VERY SUDDEN DEATHS

TORONTO, Jan. 7.—Eight sudden deaths occurred here over the week-end, the majority of them being attributed to heart disease. Five men and three women were stricken suddenly.

FINDS NOBODY WAS TO BLAME

Tyee Wreck Classed by Victoria
Coroner's Jury as Accidental
and Unavoidable

VICTORIA, Jan. 7.—That the tug Tyee, which foundered off Pender Bay on Christmas Eve, was well found and in able hands was the conclusion of the jury at the inquest over the remains of John Antill, cook of the ill-fated craft, on Saturday. A verdict of accidental drowning was returned.

Coroner Hart classed the disaster as one of those tragedies of the sea which no man's hand might stay.

KIYOSEI MARU IS ABANDONED

Thirty Members of Japanese
Freighter's Crew Taken off
by President McKinley

COROVIA, Alaska, Jan. 7.—Thirty members of the crew of the Japanese freighter Kiyosei Maru were taken from the disabled vessel 2,600 miles off the Washington coast on Saturday by the steamer President McKinley. The derelict, which is apparently abandoned, is still floating eastward.

SEATTLE, Jan. 7.—The steamer Kiyosei Maru carried a cargo of wheat. She was left to sink after the crew had been taken off. A message received here said that the ship was in such shape as to sink very soon and that it had been abandoned about 1,900 miles east of Yokohama.