

by the President in person in the Chamber of the House and in the presence of the delegates to the conference and most of the diplomats regularly stationed in Washington. At the outset the President discussed world's conditions, saying, "a world restoration programme would have to be worked out by the nations more directly concerned. The United States will help," he added, "unselfishly, and because there is compensation in the consciousness of assisting unselfishly because the commerce and international exchanges in trade, which marked our high tide of fortunate advancement, are possible only when the nations of all continents are restored to stable order and normal relationship." Turning to domestic problems, the President urgently recommended early enactment of the permanent tariff Mr. Harding suggested extension of the powers of the tariff commission and foreign debt refunding bills. He also announced that later on he would make some recommendations about renewed consideration of the tax programme, involving further reductions and the abolition of "hindering burdens". He also suggested consideration by Congress of an amendment to the constitution to end the issue of non taxable bonds. With regard to the merchant marine, Mr. Harding said it was the purpose to present a plan which contemplates no greater draft on the public treasury and which though yet too crude to offer it today, gives such promise of expanding our merchant marine that it will argue its own approval. Other recommendations included "plans for a conference of common counsel of mediation, arbitration and judicial determination, in controversies between capital and labour". An appropriation necessary to supply the American relief administration in Russia with 10 million bushels of corn and one million bushels of seed grains. In discussing the tariff commission in order to bring out greater flexibility in meeting unusual and changing conditions.

St. Johns, N. F., Dec. 7th.—A heavy toll of human life and casualties in the New Foundland sailing fleet are feared, following a terrific storm which on Monday and Tuesday swept the Northern and Eastern coasts of New Foundland, according to reports reaching Govt. depots here.

Birmingham, England, Dec. 6th.—In outlining the general terms of the Irish agreement to the Lord Chancellor said, "We propose, in the first place, that within the area of South Ireland we shall make those who beyond all question within that area at this moment are entitled to speak for the overwhelming majority of the population, masters in their own house. With one single reservation, "declared Lord Birkenhead," we place Ireland, and I shall define Ireland in a moment, precisely in the position of Canada, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa, and

there is no power, subject to the reservation which I shall indicate, that is given to any of these great self-governing Dominions, that we shall not equally concede to the state which is to be created." Lord Birkenhead said the Parliament to be set up would be supreme in its own domain in matters of finance but that arbitrators would determine the amount to be asked from Ireland as her proportion of her National debt and war expenditure. Referring to the negotiations with the Sinn Fein representatives and the debate among the conferees over the earlier British proposals, Lord Birkenhead remarked. "One of the Irish delegates said over the conference table you cannot quite dismiss us and our claims and story in that way. We too are an ancient parent state, and we have through the centuries flung our sons and our settlers into every corner of the habitable World." That claim is true. That claim has modified the fundamental view which we have adopted and by which we stand." In discussing the financial phases of the agreement, he said. "In matters of finance, there again the Parliament to be set up is supreme in its own house. They (the Irish delegates) have recognized that it is necessary to strike a balance between the country and Ireland in financial matters. On such a balance being struck, they will pay us a due proportion, having regard for any set-off or counter claim they may think proper to put forward as a due proportion of our National debt and our expenditure on war. The amount of this will be determined by arbitrators to be chosen from among the citizens of this country, and who, I hope, will include a distinguished Colonial Judge. In the opinion of all my colleagues the interests of Ireland itself and of the Empire as a whole will be forwarded; should it become possible in the near future for the inhabitants of Northern Ireland to adhere to a general parliament which on matters not reserved by existing legislation for the decision of the Northern Ireland Parliament alone still required decision and obviously affect the interest of Ireland taken as a unit and as a whole. The representatives from the Sinn Fein are prepared to recommend to the Dail Eireann that the newly constituted Irish Free State shall not merely make a treaty of association with the British Empire, but shall enter into the British Empire, for all purposes. The fidelity of the Irish Free State, to be constituted, will be declared in plain unequivocal language in the constitution as created by this instrument to the Commonwealth of Nations and to King George. The Dail Eireann will be summoned at an early date, and the terms will be placed before them. The terms will be placed before both Houses of Parliament in the new year. If they do not assent, the people of England will have an early opportunity

of deciding. "The Lord Chancellor said one must face the contingency that Ulster might say she was not prepared to send representatives to the all-Ireland Parliament. If this was Ulster's attitude, it was the attitude under the term of the instrument agreed to last night, she would be entitled to maintain it and would be protected in maintaining it. He said the scheme agreed upon gives a free option to Ulster. If within a month of the passing of the statute, Ulster determined she would retain her existing powers, and she elected her to retain her membership in the British House of Commons, that decision would be profoundly respected. He said North Ireland would be well advised if she contributed her sobriety and business experience to the Parliament, which would not otherwise be represented by such characteristics. He declared the Sinn Fein had given reasonable guarantees for the protection of the minority in South Ireland. The Lord Chancellor said the terms signed had fully satisfied the representatives of the British Admiralty and those of the country at Westminster. "There is only one reservation to be made" said the Lord Chancellor. "If Ulster decided to stand side by side with England, we are committed in one respect to a modification of the Parliamentary arrangements of a year ago. There must be a rectification of frontiers. We do not propose to interfere with the arrangements of counties. It is proposed that a boundary commission should examine into the boundary. It might be rectified on one side or the other. It is not an artificial boundary, but one which could be worked out with infinite flexibility". Lord Birkenhead, who was one of the signers of the epoch-making agreement, declared the conferees had made secure the safety of Great Britain and Ireland, and that they had put their names to a document representing a sane and reasonable settlement.

LIST OF UNCLAIMED MAIL FOR THE WEEK ENDED DECEMBER 3, 1921.

Miss Ernesta Benjamin,
Miss Agatha Benjamin,
Miss Christina Francis, Water Gut,
Miss Sarah James, No. 5 Strand St.
Mr. Joseph N. Kirton, No. 13 Prince's St.

Miss Clothilda Larsen,
Mr. Peter Messer,
Mr. James Nesbitt, Estate ? Bay ?
Miss Eliza Roberts, No. 50 Company St.,
Miss Albertina Simmons,
Mrs. Antonetta Samuel,
Miss Mirriam Thomas,
Miss Albertha Thomas,
Miss Georgena Valentine,
Post Office, Christiansted, Virgin Islands, December 3, 1921.

B. R. LARSEN,
Postmaster.