

tonight", added M. Jasper, the Foreign Minister. "Don't be too hasty", said Mr. Lloyd George, with one of his winning smiles, "I was only discussing hypotheses. It clarifies the judgement to examine all sides of a question". Mr. Lloyd George and M. Briand really got on admirably together, they are fellow-celts and not unlike each other in temperament. They both arrived at the conclusion that what the German Govt. and people required was an order, and an order that would be obeyed, that otherwise Germany would wear out the Allies by continuously shifting the basis of negotiations. The troops sent into the Rhine ports will be the minimum necessary to maintain order. Germany will be notified that the troops will be withdrawn immediately the allied conditions are accepted. If Germany maintains an attitude of passive resistance, the allied Govts. will examine further means of coercion. The new levy on the Rhine at the bridgehead will be established by the inter Allied Rhine Commission. A plan has been worked out in all details and will begin to operate on Thursday.

London, March 8th. — This morning newspapers, with one exception, approved of the Allies decision to penalize Germany for refusing to accede to the allied plan for reparations. The exception was the Daily News, which complained that Mr. Lloyd George "Had brushed aside solid German offers making for the peaceful solution of the situation. Mr. Lloyd George, 'The newspaper continued,' completely capitulated to France. The Allied decision was a triumph of the French Policy of revenge and all the sinister implications it contains." The newspaper urged there was no legal and scant moral justification for the step projected by the Entente and asked why the Allies could not have waited a forth-night longer for the result of the Upper Silesian Plebiscite. It says three sequels are most inevitable. Germany will lose the plebiscite which will still further reduce her paying capacity, the indemnity will become worthless as an economic reality and Marshal Foch will find a "convenient occasion to take over a vast industrial region which France has long coveted."

Berlin, March 8th. — The occupation of Dusseldorf, Duisburg and Ruhrort by Allied forces, will not be opposed by the German Govt., it was indicated here early this morning. The Cabinet was in session until 11 o'clock and then dispersed without taking action, calculated to meet the situation which has arisen between Germany and the Allied nations. It has been hoped that some means of avoiding a final break must be found, in the formal conferences between Dr. Simons, Mr. Lloyd George and M. Briand, during the past three days. Speaking of the Allied penalties, a cabinet member stated after the adjournment

of the meeting, "We must bear them with dignity." Members of the Cabinet who were willing to talk viewed the situation with a sigh of resignation and declared nothing will be said or done, until the effect of the Entente invasion has been demonstrated practically. Germany's coal deliveries to the Allies must be effected by the present situation, it was indicated here last night. Although Entente troops may seize important coal shipping points, they will have to go still further into the interior of the Ruhr district, in order to secure effective control of coal production. President Ebert, late last night, issued an appeal to the German people, urging them to meet this foreign despotism "with austere dignity." He also admonished them not to commit ill advised acts, and concluded his appeal saying, "Be patient, have faith, for the Govt. will not rest until the foreign tyrants yield to our rights." None of the Cabinet members appealed to have any definite idea as to the next move of the Allies aside from invading fresh German area. The Govt, it was said, was certain of support in the Reichstag in view of declarations made last Saturday, when all factions, except the Communist, went on record in opposition to the demands formulated at Paris.

A letter addressed to Her Royal Highness Princess of Prussia" was recently refused for registration by a German post office at Hermesdors near Berlin, on the grounds that Royalties no longer existed in Germany and that the letter should have been addressed to Frau von Preussen.—*Barbados Herald, Feb. 19th.*

In certain villages in Hungary an order has been published according to which all men over the age of eighteen who are able to maintain a family must marry within two months.—*Ibid.*

A part of a mummified skeleton is said to have been found in Pennsylvania which must have been that of a man nine feet high. He is supposed to have belonged to a race inhabiting the country before the Red Indians arrived.—*Ibid.*

OSTRICH SKIN SHOES NEXT

The first consignment of ostrich skins to be used in shoe manufacture has arrived in Boston. Shoes made from this material are "much superior to leather and will wear longer and cost less." Such are the claims. It is proposed to place them on the market about Easter time as an "Easter specialty." Some of them may last till April Fool, which is five days later.—*The Pathfinder.*

SNOW IN CALIFORNIA.

For the first time in the memory of

its oldest inhabitant snow fell in Long Beach, a suburb of Los Angeles, Calif. and a blizzard held up traffic in the mountainous vicinity of San Bernardino.

PRESIDENTS WHO SMOKED CIGARETTES

Women who are bent on reforming everyone are objecting to the inauguration of President-elect Harding on the ground that he smokes cigarettes. Other Presidents have smoked them more or less—for instance: Arthur, Cleveland, Benjamin, Harrison, McKinley, Roosevelt, Taft, and even our present Mr. Wilson. Senator Smoot, who introduced an anti-smoke bill in Congress, does not smoke. This leads some critics to remark that the reformers never do care for the things they to want prevent others from doing. None of the Presidents named above were confirmed cigarette smokers. Roosevelt was opposed to the smoking habit, but he kept cigars and cigarettes on his desk for callers, and he would sometimes puff a coffin-nail with a visitor for social purposes. President Wilson smokes a cigarette only on rare occasions.—*Ibid.*

Nearly two-thirds of the nations belonging to the league have neglected to pay their dues. This is as might have been expected. There is always the deuce to pay when the e is the dues to pay. Who ever heard of a church, club, society, lodge or other organization in which the members would all do their full share and put up their cash without being "jumped on"? A few of the members always have to be depended on to do the work and foot the bills; the two human elements—the doers and the slackers—are found everywhere. The League of Nations members have merely displayed their human weakness by being backward in coming forward when it comes to putting up the money. As long as oratory and discussion and advice is all that is in order, everything is lovely, but when the call for actual duty is issued, the volunteers are not so numerous. A good excuse for "ducking" responsibilities can always be found by some people. But still, the world can't stop for such slackers. The people who have the capability and the ability have to take control and shoulder the burden.—*Ibid.*

CAUSE OF "ROOT ROT" IN CORN.

Chemists of the department of agriculture have discovered that the cause of the destructive of corn disease "root rot," or corn "rheumatism," is insufficient acid in the stalk juices. It is believed that as a result of the discovery the corn crop will be increased 10 per cent.—*Ibid.*