

vicinity as a result of Saturday's hurricane and tidal wave, stood at 255 today, according to reports from burial squads. The generally accepted estimate was that the final figures would reach 500. Estimates of the property loss varied from \$10,000,000 to \$15,000,000.

Toronto, Sept. 18th. Lord Finlay, former Lord Chancellor of Great Britain, who has been a visitor in this city for several days, addressed the Empire Club here at a luncheon today. "Much as we may desire, a close union of the parts of the Empire," he said, "I feel that there are very great difficulties connected with any plan for incorporating them, under one Supreme Imperial Parliament". The distinguished speaker said that difficulties of long distance made an Imperial Parliament impracticable. "I feel that we should rather seek to draw the bonds tighter," he said "by development of the functions of the Imperial Council, which played so important a role during the war". Lord Finlay urged the importance of Canada retaining the appeal of the Privy Council, and of improving the relations between capital and labour, by the adoption on a wide scale of some form of profit-sharing.

Rome, September 18th.—Speaking on the Fiume situation in the Chamber of Deputies, Premier Nitti promised that all news would be communicated to the Press. Nothing would be concealed, he declared. At present, he said, there was nothing to add to the previous communications on the subject. The Govt. up to the time, he explained, had confined itself to consulting various Generals and others who had rendered valuable services to the Army, including General Diaz and the Duke of Aosta. All of these regretted extremely what had happened, the Premier reported. The Govt., declared Signor Nitti, would support General Badoglio, who was on the scene, in dealing as he believed best with the difficult task. It was not yet the moment to judge of events, and perhaps the discussion of them at the time was not without danger. He appealed to the army to maintain its discipline, and not to undo the work it had previously accomplished.

Quebec, Sept. 18th. A bold robbery by which a consignment of \$75,000 was robbed from the mail car of the Ocean Limited train on the J.C.R. near Harlaka, Quebec, early today, was committed by 5 masked bandits who held up the mail clerks, gagged and bound them hand and foot and went through the mail and jumped off the train when it pulled into St. Thomas, Montmagny. The money had been shipped from Montreal yesterday evening and was consigned to Halifax. It seems the bandits came originally from Montreal and followed the shipment all the way down riding in a passenger coach. The mail clerks when found at St. Thomas were stiff from having been tied up. They lost no time in reporting the robbery and the

wires were made hot with orders for the organizing of posses that have been scouring the country side ever since, but so far no trace of the highwaymen has been found.

Rome, Sept. 17th.—"I, a war volunteer and a mutilated fighter, appeal to Victor Hughes, France, to Milton, England, and Lincoln's America, and speaking as an interpreter of the various sentiments of the whole Italian people, proclaim the annexation of Fiume to Italy", said D'Annunzio speaking to an immense throng today as irregular forces marched into Fiume, according to reports reaching this city. D'Annunzio, who is reported to have been quite ill and suffering from a high fever when he reached Fiume, went to the Commander's palace, being borne along by a crowd that seemed crazed with patriotic fervour. After entering the Palace he was asked to speak and at once went to the balcony overlooking the crowd. "I am so ill that I will say but a few words. In the present mad cowardly world, there is one pure thing, our love for Fiume. It stands like a lighthouse over the sea of degradation. People of Fiume, do you confirm your vote of October 30th last, when you decided for annexation to Italy?" Up from the crowd came a tremendous shout of "Yes". D'Annunzio then unfurled the tri-coloured flag of Trieste which he bore with him through the war and which was concentrated in Rome, pressing it into his breast while the people responded with wild cheers.

London, Sept. 18th.—Reuter's. The Board of Trade has approved the appointment of Lieut. Col. W. S. Franklin as His Majesty's Commissioner in East Africa. Lieut. Col. Franklin will leave England at the end of October to take up his official duties at Nairobi.

Havana, Sept. 19th.—Two Cuban gunboats are searching along the Northern Coast, and in the Bahamas for some trace of the Spanish steamer Valbanera, which is 9 days overdue and for the safety of which grave fears are entertained. The steamer with several hundred passengers on board, arrived off More's Castle on Sept. 9th. when a great tropical hurricane was raging and being unable to enter port, put out to sea for the storm to abate. Faint wireless calls supposed to come from the Valbanera have several times been picked up here and at Keywest but they were so feeble that the location of the steamer could not be learned.

London, Sept. 19th.—The Pontefract bye-election resulted as follows: Forrest (Coalition Liberal), 9,920 Burns (Labourite) 8,445.

London, Sept. 19th.—Sir Gordon Hewert, the Attorney General has completed the case for the prosecution of the ex-German Emperor, according to the Daily Mirror. The place for the trial has not yet been settled.

Berlin, Sept. 18th.—(Associated Press).

The Committee Foreign Affairs of the National Assembly has decided, according to the Tageblatt, to nullify article 61 of the constitution by which Austria would be given representation in the German Reichstag. Herr Kurt Von Visner, head of the German delegation at Versailles, has been instructed to inform the Entente Powers that the demand of the Peace Conference relative to article 61 will be complied with.

New York, Sept. 17th.—Cardinal Mercier, Archbishop of Malines and Primate of Belgium, today became an honorary citizen of New York City. From the time Belgium's heroic Prince of the Church left the train which brought him from Baltimore until he had retired at the residence of Archbishop Hayes tonight the hours were crowded with events which showed the veneration in which he is held, not only by those of his own faith, but by Americans of all creeds.

Brest, Sept. 17th.—The steamship George Washington on which King Albert and Queen Elizabeth of Belgium are to sail for the U. S., will leave Brest tomorrow for Ostend to take the Royal Party on board.

Madrid, Sept. 16th.—Recent earthquake shocks in Southern Spain caused serious damage at Alcantar. The buildings on entire streets of the city caved in from the tremors, the advices state.

Paris, Sept. 18th.—The Chamber of Deputies is expected to ratify the treaty with Germany tonight, or on Saturday at the very latest. Premier Clemenceau will speak tomorrow, considerable importance being attached to his address.

Dublin, Sept. 19th.—All the Sinn Fein weekly newspapers publish full page advertisement of the Irish Republican loan. The publication of the same advertisement resulted in the suppression of the Cork Examiner, Ireland's chief daily newspaper. Developments therefore are expected in connection with to-day's publication of the loan announcement.

AMERICAN OPINION FAVORS INDEPENDENCE OF THOUGHT AND DENOUNCES DESPOTISM.

"The evils arising from the abuses of freedom of speech, the stage, and the press are bad enough, to be sure, but not so bad as tyranny. The power of censorship may be abused as well as freedom, and when that is abused there is tyranny. An aroused public conscience and an educated public opinion must correct these evils. There is little danger from error when public opinion is enlightened and reason is free. *** The right of free speech does not mean only the right to say pleasant things, but the right to say things displeasing to the powers that be."—Hon. Joseph W. Folk in "Saturday Evening Post" February 12, 1910.