

## GERMANY'S PLAN TO REBUILD FRANCE

### Berlin Sends Note to Britain Stating Willingness to Be- gin Reconstruction.

A despatch from London says:—Germany has sent a note to the British Government reiterating her complete willingness to undertake the reconstruction of devastated France.

The note, which came from the German Foreign Office, was delivered by the German Embassy to the British Foreign Office on Friday evening, as follows:

"Germany is absolutely persuaded that it is unavoidably necessary for the purpose of restoring economic peace throughout the world that the territories devastated through the war should be reconstructed and restored. Until this is done there will be danger that feelings of hate will continue to exist among the nations concerned.

"Germany therefore declares herself once more to be entirely willing to co-operate in this reconstruction with all the means and strength at her disposal and to take into account in regard thereto, in every individual case, each wish of the power concerned as far as is possible."

The note proceeds to enumerate in great detail the possibilities of reconstruction:

First, for Germany to take over specified localities, either as a State undertaking or by directing and work of a national colonizing and settlement association.

Second, to undertake the work of clearing, afforestation, building and repairing brickworks and works for the production of chalk, plaster, cement and other necessities and the delivery of the necessary machinery and the building materials from Germany.

Third, to arrange that all such machinery and materials shall emanate from Germany, and, fourth, to start immediately plans to build at least twenty-five thousand wooden houses in the devastated districts before the cold season begins.

Other clauses of the note specify the execution of deep and shallow excavations of all kinds, according to the plans and under the control of the French authorities or otherwise, according to the wishes of the allied Governments.

The German Government expresses willingness to help in any way possible to take over the cost in paper marks, the amount to be reckoned against the reparations account, and generally to co-operate in every possible manner.

The note is signed by Dr. Walter Simons, the German Foreign Minister. It requests the allied Governments to initiate at the earliest possible moment the necessary discussions of details.

## LARGE WESTERN AREAS IN SEED

### Spring Work is Proceeding Rapidly—Some Oats Are Planted.

A despatch from Winnipeg says:—During the past week weather over the whole of the three Western Provinces has been generally fine, clear skies and high temperatures ruling through the day. During the latter part of the period very little frost has been experienced, and farmers in the districts where seeding has commenced have encountered little delay.

Reports of farmers busy on the land have become increasingly more numerous from all three provinces, and already quite a large acreage of wheat is reported seeded.

It is in Southern Alberta where the most progress has been made. Reports from Grande Prairies, in the Peace River country, are also to the effect that work is proceeding rapidly, and the first report of oat seeding comes from this point.

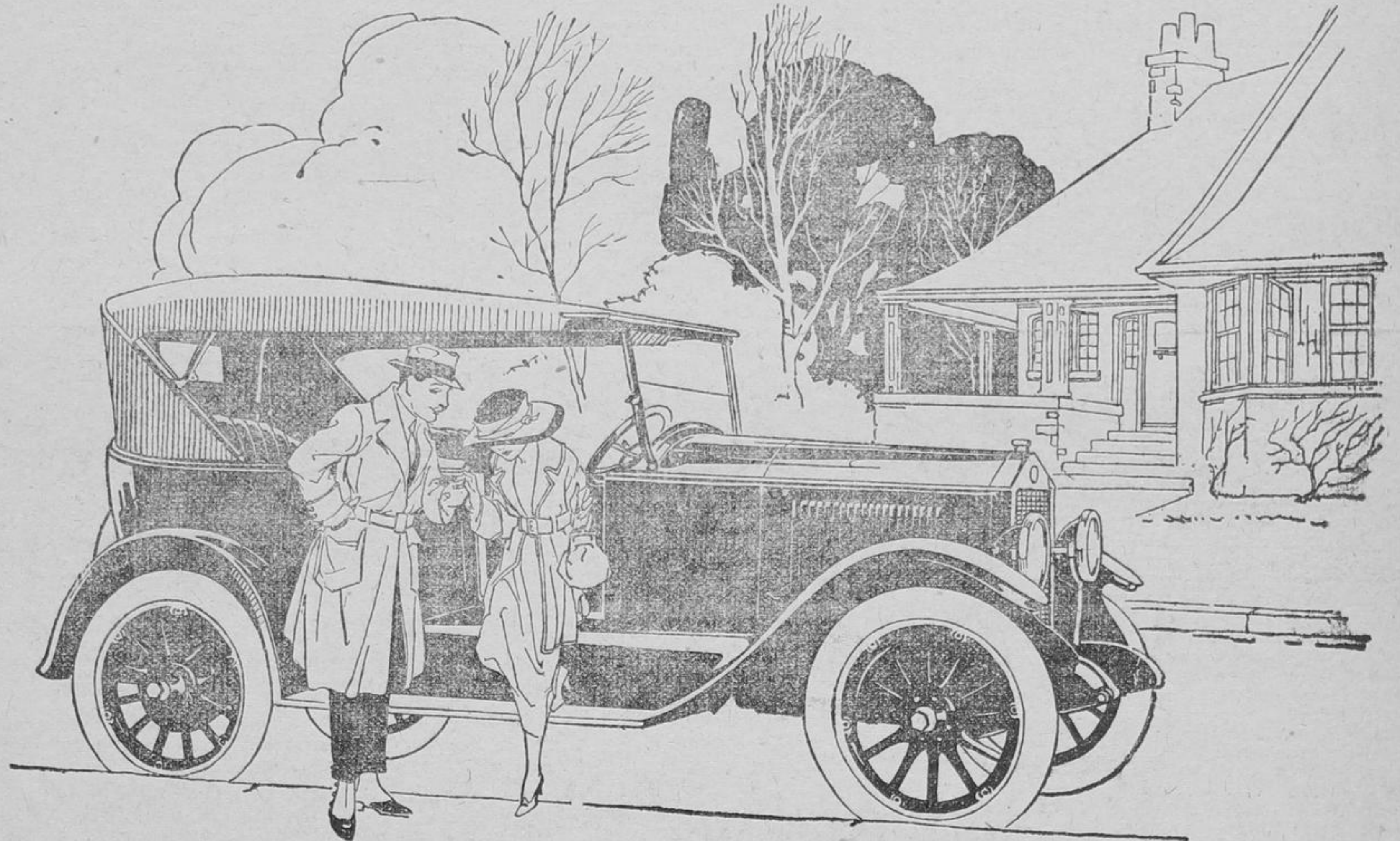
No reports of decreased acreage have come from any part of the West, but several in Alberta expect an increase on account of the excellent state of the soil and lowered costs of production.

## Sydney Miners Paid Lowest Rate in America

Sydney, N.S., April 24.—The miners of this district are being paid a lower wage rate than any other miners in America, with the exception of the negroes in Alabama, declared J. A. McAlpine, District Secretary of the United Workers, to-day, discussing the suggestion put forward in the Federal House coal inquiry as to the desirability of a cut in mine wages as a means of reducing the price of fuel. "The rate here is thirty per cent. lower than in Western Canada, while our last increase, the Montreal agreement, gives us just half what the American miners are receiving, and their contracts run until April, 1922. Under these circumstances how should we be expected to accept a wage cut?" he asked.

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## TWELVE-HOUR BATTLE WITH SINN FEIN AT MAAM CROSS, COUNTY GALWAY

### Fourteen Police Engage Flying Column of Irish Revolutionaries—Rebels Fire on Priest—Raids on Postmen by Republicans Result in Capture of Letters.

Dublin, April 24.—Fighting which lasted for twelve hours is reported from the neighborhood of Maam Cross, County Galway. Fourteen policemen, under command of a district inspector, went at 4 o'clock this morning in search of a Republican flying column. The Republicans were found entrenched on high ground in the vicinity of the home of Patrick O'Malley, member of Parliament.

The police took to cover as best they could, and a prolonged engagement ensued, in which Constable Boylan was killed and a sergeant

wounded. At 3.30 o'clock this afternoon reinforcements for the police arrived, bringing with them machine guns. They enveloped the position of the rebels, who fled to the hills, taking their wounded with them.

According to an official statement issued from Dublin Castle, Father Cunningham Lennane, who motored out to the scene of the fighting to administer the rites of the Church to the wounded, was deliberately fired upon by the rebels, but escaped injury.

In the vicinity of the fighting, the police say they found arms and am-

munition, beds for forty persons and the stock and collar of a priest, which had been used by the leader of the rebels as a disguise. A search of two neighboring houses showed that they had been used as ambushes. These were burned to the ground by the police.

Simultaneous raids by Republicans on 32 postmen in Cork resulted in the capture of 47 registered and 7,339 ordinary letters.

Two constables were wounded Saturday night by bombs thrown from upper windows in a public house in Limerick. One civilian was hit by splinters of a bomb.

Last night a large number of bombs and a quantity of ammunition were found in stables near Wellington road, a high-class residential quarter of Dublin.

Four police barracks were attacked Saturday night—in Ardee, Cambough, Aramagh and Queenstown. At Ardee the barracks was successfully defend-

ed, but that in Queenstown, which recently was vacated, was completely destroyed.

District Inspector Potter of the Government forces mysteriously disappeared yesterday, but a clue to the circumstances was discovered when the automobile in which he had been riding was found on a country road with bullet marks upon the car. Apparently Inspector Potter ran into the same ambush, near Clogheen, county Tipperary, in which a military ration cart was caught Friday evening.

## No Haste to Declare State of Peace

A despatch from Washington says:—President Harding's attitude as reflected at the White House is that there is no haste about the adoption of the resolution declaring a state of peace