

The Evening Times Star

VOL. XV., No. 117.

ST. JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1919

TWELVE PAGES—ONE CENT

Would Not Let Hun Have a Soft Peace

American Publisher Home From The War Fields

NOTABLE PEOPLE ON BAL TIC

Alex. Duckham Thinks the Armistice Came Too Soon—Miss Maion Francis Who Discovered Mary Pickford, Came Across on the Steamship

Halifax, Feb. 6.—The White Star liner Baltic, which arrived today en route to New York, brought a number of distinguished civilians in addition to the 2,000 odd returning Canadian soldiers which were disembarked here. C. T. Brainard, president of Harper & Bros., returned after several months spent in visiting the battlefields and in England. He went over with the presidential party on board the George Washington and says that the outstanding conviction he brings from the war zone is that there should be no soft peace. This is in view of the ferocity with which Germany waged war as evidenced by the devastated regions visited. Mr. Brainard is accompanied by Captain T. B. Wells, editor of Harper's Monthly.

Alex. Duckham of Alexander Duckham & Co. and the Trinidad Central Oilfields, is en route to the West Indies to inspect his properties. During the war he was controller of the assembly of American aircraft in England. In his opinion, the armistice came too soon. Mr. Duckham is a chevalier of the Legion of Honor. He is accompanied by A. Beby Thompson, his consulting engineer, who has had a rather remarkable experience during the war.

Thompson served with the British army in the east as an expert on boring operations for water. In the course of his work he penetrated parts of Persia and Arabia that had not hitherto been explored systematically and uncovered a considerable number of valuable inscriptions. Throughout the operations a small army was placed at the disposal of Mr. Thompson to safeguard his work. Discovered Mary Pickford.

Miss Marlon Francis, editor, writer and producer of photo plays for the World's Famous Players, returned after six months of work with the American army as an intelligence officer attached to the bureau of information. She gave up a salary of \$50,000 a year to enter war work. Among her many achievements, as related by Mr. Brainard, former employer, is the bringing out of Mary Pickford into the light of day. Miss Francis left a \$12,500 position with Harper Brothers to go with W. A. Brady at \$25,000, which she relinquished for the \$50,000 a year job with the Famous Players and she gave the whole thing up for an army position when the United States got into the war.

Miss Marcella Burns, head of the book department of Marshall & Fields, returned after an eventful experience as a nurse with the Canadian troops. Other passengers include the Earl of Dunmore, V. C., D. S. O., who is to visit the United States in connection with his business enterprises; Lady Willcocks, wife of the governor of Bermuda; Sir Robert Balfour, Sir Aigerson F. Firth, Major J. R. Raill of the Greek financial house of the same name and who saw service with the Irish Guards, and Horace Jackson of the publishing firm of Hooper & Jackson of Encyclopedia Britannica fame.

BREMEN CAPTURED AFTER BOMBARDMENT

Government Troops Forced Retreat of Spartacists—Reported Many Killed

Copenhagen, Feb. 6.—Government troops entered Bremen on Tuesday night after heavy fighting and occupied the town hall and the stock exchange. The Spartacists have retreated to Groeping.

The government troops made their entrance after the city had been bombarded. Many persons are reported to have been killed. Armed Spartacists from Eisebach and Gotha are on their way to Bremen to the support of the Spartacists.

SWITZERLAND TO KEEP ARMY UP TO STRENGTH

Berne, Tuesday, Feb. 4.—The national council has rejected a motion to reduce to twenty million francs the military budget for the year.

A socialist motion to reject the budget and to introduce soldiers' councils and a uniform rate of pay throughout the army was defeated by 182 votes to eleven. All the non-socialist speakers insisted that a well-trained, armed and equipped federal army was necessary to guarantee the integrity and safety of Swiss land.

THREE MEN DIE IN LODGING HOUSE FIRE

Hoboken, N. J., Feb. 6.—Three men were burned to death in a fire which swept the upper floors of a lodging house here last night.

SAYS CONDITIONS BAD IN GERMANY

U. S. Officer Pictures Country as Land of Graveyards

DECLARES PEOPLE STARVING

No Eggs, No Milk, Half Pound of Sugar a Month for Each Person—Fears Many Women and Children Will Die if Relief Not Given

Paris, Feb. 6.—Germany is pictured as "a land of graveyards," by Lieut.-Colonel Seal Harris of the United States Medical Reserve Corps, who has just returned to Paris after having investigated conditions east of the Rhine. He says that the German nation is starving, the people are actually starving and that "probably no one will ever know the number of casualties suffered by Germany during the war."

"There are no eggs, no milk and only half a pound of beet sugar for each person a month," he says, in giving details of the situation. "Shop girls have lost from ten to forty-five pounds in weight, while everyone shows a lack of vitality. I found children going to school shod with paper sandals or with cloth shoes, with wooden soles had been attached."

"No one knows the composition of the black, gritty bread that is being issued in limited quantities by tickets. Tuberculosis is increasing and skin diseases, due to lack of nourishment and lack of soap, are prevalent."

"One beneficial result of the low diet which has been enforced upon the German people is found in the fact that it has helped many who were over-eaters. Bright's disease has decreased and diabetes has disappeared. There is no more gout in Germany, but on the other hand, intestinal diseases have greatly increased. These are attributed to coarse bread. The beer that is being sold has no substance."

Conditions which he had found in Germany have led Lieut.-Colonel Harris to the opinion that many women and children will die or become defective if not supplied with food. "The German who overran France," he says, "should be punished and permitted to starve, but not the women and children. Hungry men and women do not make good neighbors."

HEAD OF THE CHINESE BOLSHEVIKI IN FAR EAST ASSASSINATED

Stockholm, Feb. 6.—Diancie Richoman, head of Chinese Bolshevik propaganda in the Far East and president of the Chinese section of the communist party, has been murdered, according to advices from Peking. He was shot as he began a public speech. Richoman exercised an absolute dictatorship over the Chinese living in Russia and recently ordered three coolies living near Peking to be tortured and shot.

FRANCE TO LEGISLATE AGAINST PROFITTEERS

Paris, Feb. 6.—A government bill intended to repress increased prices of foodstuffs and speculation in and concerning foodstuffs has been drafted. Under it any attempt to interfere with free commercial competition would be punished by a prison sentence of a month to a year and a fine of 500 to 50,000 francs. Penalties are provided on a greatly increased scale in the case of a person operating illegally in a commodity in which he does not deal habitually.

GENERAL STRIKE IN SEATTLE

Seattle, Feb. 6.—The strike of approximately 65,000 union workers in nearly every trade and industry was set for ten o'clock today, in sympathy between 25,000 and 30,000 metal trades workers who left shipyards and contract shops on January 21, to enforce demands for higher wages.

FREDERICTON NEWS.

Fredricton Feb. 6.—Harry W. Hurley and Miss Elsie Winford Foreman, both of Cross Creek, were married by Rev. G. C. Warren in the Brunswick street Baptist parsonage on Tuesday afternoon. In the matter of the estate of the late Edward Moore, application is to be made for the appointment of a judge or probate clerk at the Miramichi Hotel. Louis Monahan, who recently received his discharge from the C. E. F., will rejoin the Barker House staff as clerk.

WHERE THE PEACE CONFERENCE MEETS



This is the Quai d'Orsay in Paris (the French Foreign Office) where the peace conference holds its public sittings.

Transportation Strike In London Spreads

Lines Outside The Metropolis Are Affected

REPLY TO BONAR LAW?

Action of Engineers Looked on as Answer to His Refusal to Meet Strikers—Charges That the Government is "Quabbling"

London, Feb. 6.—The first step in the direction of the threatened extension of the railroad strike beyond the local lines in London was taken last night when some of the drivers on the Brighton and the Southdown roads were called out. The union order was issued during the evening, but passenger trains ran until midnight. Freight service, however, was partially suspended. Early trains to the suburbs from Waterloo Station, the London terminus of the Southdown, were not started this morning, as the drivers did not appear.

Last night an official notice was posted at Waterloo Station, stating that owing to labor troubles trains might be "considerably reduced or entirely suspended." The notice added that the railroad company were not responsible for any delay or inconvenience resulting from the strike.

The centres on the Brighton route which hitherto have not been affected are the suburban areas are electrified. The Southdown, in addition to serving many western suburbs of the city, runs westward through England as far as Brighton and the Brighton road serves a populous area in southeastern England, as far west as Portsmouth and the Isle of Wight. It is one of the largest passenger roads in the southern London suburbs.

WORCESTER STATE HOSPITAL HAS VISIT FROM FIRE

Worcester, Mass., Feb. 6.—Fire, believed started from defective electric wires in the attic of the Washburn Ward of the Worcester State Hospital early today caused damage estimated at \$20,000. This was occupied by women patients, 700 of whom were removed to other sections of the hospital without injury. On the top floor of the wing directly under the fire were quarantined twenty-five violent patients. These were also removed with little difficulty.

PROMOTION COMES TO F. G. ROBINSON

Ottawa, Feb. 6.—Col. F. P. Healey, deputy of the department of soldiers' civil re-establishment has resigned. His successor is F. G. Robinson, director of the "invalided soldiers' commission."

The Fur Sale.

New York, Feb. 6.—Total sales yesterday at the annual mid-winter fur sale were \$1,000,000, making the aggregate for the week \$3,000,000. Raccoon made a good showing, the best pelts bringing \$10.

London, Feb. 6.—In order to prevent a strike of power house employees an order was issued yesterday under the Defence of the Realm Act making it a summary offense for any employee of the government, municipality or company which has assumed the duty of supplying electricity, to break his contract or to strike. The penalty is three months imprisonment or a fine of \$500, or both.

CAPT. WITHERS OF ABERDEEN DEAD

Prominent in Marine Life of St. John—Ill but Brief Time With Influenza and Pneumonia

Captain Nelson A. Withers died this morning in the Pass' Emergency Hospital from influenza and pneumonia. By his death St. John has lost a worthy citizen. Captain Withers was taken ill with other members of the crew of the government steamer Aberdeen about two weeks ago in Yarmouth, N. S. Four members of the crew remained in Yarmouth, but Captain Withers, although ill at the time, stayed by the ship, of which he was commander, and brought her to St. John. Soon after arriving here he was taken to the Emergency Hospital, where he gradually became worse.

Not only in social circles will Captain Withers be mourned, but also in marine circles, as he was held in high esteem by both officials and by the men who sailed under him. His good handling of his men won for him their respect.

Captain Withers since boyhood had spent his life on the sea, and being of bright intellect and studious he soon worked himself up the ladder to success and finally received his deep water captain's papers. For seven years he was a member of the American navy, and later a member of the British Naval reserves. Prior to joining the government steamer Aberdeen, he sailed many ships out of this harbor for local concerns. He was always considered a master of his standing, and a ship in his hands, from the navigation standpoint, was always safe. He was a lover of his country, and from his trip to various parts of the world he always brought home articles illustrating the habits and traits of the country. In his home in Tower street, West St. John, he had a room specially used as a museum.

In addition to his other activities, Captain Withers found time to write both prose and verse. He was a gifted entertainer, even to ventriloquism, in which he was proficient.

Captain Withers was well known in federal circles, being a member of the Masonic fraternity, the Mystic Shrine and the Oddfellows. In the Masonic fraternity he held one of the highest degrees. He was fifty-seven years old, and besides his wife leaves four brothers, George Withers, superintendent of letter carriers, Charles Withers, government engineer, in England, a member of the Canadian army, and Obed, recently returned from overseas; also one sister, Mrs. John Irving East St. John. The funeral will take place tomorrow afternoon from N. W. Brennan's undertaking room.

AMERICANS MUST RAISE GREAT SUM THROUGH TAX BILLS

Washington, Feb. 6.—With the submission to congress, today, of the conferees' agreement as the long-delayed war revenue bill, the American people were confronted with their prospective federal tax budget for 1919 and ensuing years—something more than six billion dollars this year and four billion dollars in the years to come. The revision of future rates expected to be undertaken by the next congress.

The conference report, presented to the house by Majority Leader Kitchin, was regarded as a landmark of approval by both houses and of approval by the president.

Besides this year's tax levy of about six billion dollars, further treasury needs, to be raised by bonds and other means, are estimated by the treasury at about twelve billion dollars. Except for slightly increased war excess profit rates for 1919, and corporations income tax rates for 1920, virtually all the rates as revised in the bill passed by the senate are approved by the conferees and remain in the final conference draft.

WEATHER REPORT

Issued by Authority of the Department of Marine and Fisheries. R. E. Stewart, director of meteorological service.

Synopsis—The barometer is highest in Saskatchewan and lowest in the maritime provinces. The weather is extremely cold in the western provinces and moderately cold from Ontario eastward.

Fair. Maritime—Moderate to fresh west and northwest winds, fair today and Friday. Lower St. Lawrence, Gulf and North Shore—Fresh westerly winds, fair and moderately cold today and on Friday. New England—Fair tonight and Friday; not much change in temperature; light to moderate west winds.

Meeting' Next Year In Quebec

Lumbermen Conclude Sessions Here

OFFICERS ARE CHOSEN

Convention Urges That Canadian Government Railways be Brought Under Railway Commission Jurisdiction—Plans for This Afternoon

The next annual convention of the Canadian Lumbermen's Association will be held in Quebec city. This decision was reached at the closing meeting of the convention this morning, after St. John had extended a cordial invitation for a return visit.

The business this morning included the adoption of a resolution urging that the government railways should be brought under the jurisdiction of the Board of Railway Commissioners, and one of thanks to those who had assisted in making the convention a success.

Directors were elected and, at a subsequent meeting of the directors, officers for the coming year were chosen. W. Gerard Power being re-elected president.

When the morning session opened Mr. Mason presented a resolution moved by W. E. Golding, urging that the government railways should be brought under the jurisdiction of the Board of Railway Commissioners in order that their regulations regarding fire hazards should be made operative. The resolution was adopted.

After personal expressions of appreciation by the past president, Mr. Bigwood and President Power, a resolution of thanks was adopted by standing vote, as follows:

"That the hearty thanks of the officers and members of the C. L. A. be and are hereby tendered to the following people, associations and corporations who by their kindness and thoughtfulness, and the entertainments furnished in Quebec, this morning, have helped to make this our eleventh annual meeting, one of the most successful ever held by the association: The St. John committee, the mayor, the Union Club, the city press, the Imperial Theatre and Opera House managements, the citizens who so generously furnished automobiles, B. E. Norris, M. S. Superintendent Publicity and Exhibits Bureau and Cleveland Tractor Company for use of films, the board of trade for use of rooms and attention shown our members, the C. E. R. and the Atlantic Sugar Refineries; further, that the secretary of the C. L. A. be instructed to forward a copy of this resolution to the parties referred to above."

In receiving the report of the scrutineers the president announced that there was a tie for tenth place among the Ontario directors and it was agreed to choose between them by lot. W. J. Bell was the choice. Under the same circumstances Sir D. C. Cameron was declared elected as western representative on the board.

The election of directors was announced as follows: Ontario, ten members—For three years, W. E. Bigwood, Gordon C. Edwards, A. E. Clark, W. M. Ross; for two years, E. R. Bremner, Daniel McLaughlin, Walter C. Laidlaw; for one year, James G. Cane, Duncan McLaren, W. O. Bell; out that no Quebec, six members—For three years, W. G. Power, Alex. MacLaurin; for two years, George W. Grier, David Champoux; for one year, H. B. Foltz, W. T. Mason.

New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, four members—For three years, Angus McLean; for two years, J. Fraser Gregory; for one year, B. H. Dunfield, Archibald Fraser.

Saskatchewan, Manitoba and British Columbia, one member—For two years, Sir D. C. Cameron.

MUCH SMALLPOX IN QUEBEC PROVINCE

By Law For Compulsory Vaccination is Being Urged

Quebec, Feb. 6.—Smallpox reigns in a state of epidemic in a large number of towns and villages in Quebec province. A circular letter from the provincial health bureau in Montreal is being sent to all councillors throughout the province, asking the councils to enact a by-law forcing everybody to be vaccinated.

INFLUENZA AGAIN HAS H.L.D. IN QUEBEC PROVINCE

Montreal, Feb. 6.—A new epidemic of influenza seems to be raging throughout the province of Quebec, according to reports to the provincial medical health officer. The number of cases and violence of the disease, however, are almost negligible as compared with the great epidemic of last fall.

JOIN JOB PRINTERS IN SYMPATHETIC STRIKE

Havana, Feb. 6.—Under orders of the Typographical Union a strike of linotypers, stereotypers, lithographers and machinists went into effect last evening. It is in sympathy with the walk out of job printers.

Halifax Bank Clearings

Halifax, Feb. 6.—Bank clearings for the week ending today were \$3,002,443. Last year, \$3,928,212; in 1917, \$2,995,600.