

SHARP CROSS-FIRING STARTS PARLIAMENT

Prime Minister and Rt. Hon. Arthur Meighen Enlivened Brief Proceedings at Opening.

MEIGHEN REGISTERS TART COMPLAINT

Premier Retorts That Mr. Meighen Wished to Dictate Parliament's Course.

Ottawa, March 9.—Sharp cross-firing between the Prime Minister and Rt. Hon. Arthur Meighen, leader of the Opposition, enlivened the brief proceedings of the House this afternoon, following the formal opening of Parliament. Prolonged Commons, preceded by their newly elected Speaker, had been to the Senate Chamber where His Excellency, the Governor-General, had formally approved the election and read the Speech from the Throne. There were a few minutes' delay to permit the Prime Minister to change the Windsor uniform he had worn in the Senate Chamber. Then following a few formal preliminaries, Mr. Mackenzie King submitted a motion that the address in reply to the Speech from the Throne should be considered on Monday and given precedence over other business.

Immediately Mr. Meighen complained that the customary notice had not been given to the Opposition. Mr. King was sorry that the notice had been overlooked, but retorted that he thought Mr. Meighen would be aware of the usual custom. "Mr. Meighen," warmly added the Prime Minister, "did not even permit His Excellency to read his speech before saying what business he wished Parliament to take up."

Imperial Conference Report.

A new minutes later there was a significant reference to a statement made by Mr. Meighen on the previous day. Mr. Meighen then intimated that he had a report on the conference of Empire Prime Ministers, but it had come marked "Secret," and suggested that Mr. King should communicate with Mr. Lloyd George that it might be tabled. Today, Mr. King tabled a copy of the report. He saw no reason, he said, why the Canadian Government should consult the Imperial Government to ask the permission to table a document which had been tabled in the British House and was a public document. Mr. Meighen had emphasized that Canada stood on the same footing in London as the Mother Country. Would it not, therefore, be just as reasonable to ask the permission to table a document or Australia?

Mr. Meighen interjected that the conference had been called by the Imperial Government and the Imperial Government should be consulted before the report was made public. "Let me make myself clear," sharply retorted the Prime Minister. "The conference was a conference of representatives of different countries, all of which met on a basis of equality. For that reason, I don't propose to return to the colonial status so far as this country is concerned. I am asking permission to quote from the report."

And the House adjourned till Monday, when debate on the address will begin.

FINANCE MINISTERS DISCUSS REPARATIONS

Consider Charging Value of Saar Coal Mines Against France's Reparations Share.

Paris, March 9.—The allied Finance Ministers, holding sessions here in connection with German reparations payments, today heard a preliminary report of the experts at a brief session. The chief point of contention was understood to be whether the value of the Saar coal mines should be immediately charged against France's share of the reparations payments.

Indications were that the compromise suggested at the supreme council meeting at Cannes, whereby Great Britain would release France about 140,000,000 gold marks of her share of the cost of the cost of military occupation, would be adopted. The remainder of the first billion gold marks in cash paid by Germany, under this plan, would go to Great Britain and Belgium.

N. S. HIGHWAYS ATTACKED IN DEBATE

Haltax, N. S., March 9.—Urging on the provincial government the importance of highway improvement during the debate on the address in reply to the Speech from the Throne in the House of Assembly today, Angus McGilivray, Farmer member for Antigonish, said that in his county the roads were so bad in winter that even the spooks couldn't get around when a wise man from Gettysburg was waiting to meet them.

GRIFFITH ISSUES STATEMENT ON LIMERICK AFFAIR

Situation Largely Outcome of Incitement to Indiscipline of Army.

Dublin, March 9.—Arthur Griffith, in the course of a statement issued tonight regarding the Limerick affair, said:

The situation in Limerick is largely the outcome of incitement to indiscipline, indulged in or connived at by some of Eamonn De Valera's supporters. This negation of the national authority can, under no circumstances, be acquiesced in. If Mr. De Valera will even now condemn the mutiny in the army, the danger of the situation in Limerick will be considerably lessened.

ARTILLERY MOBILIZED FOR ACTION

Gov't Determined to End Situation Created by Strike of Gold Miners.

STRIKERS TERRORIZE NATIVE WORKERS

Raiders Marched into Primrose Mine and in Fight Two Were Killed.

Johannesburg, March 9.—The Government determined to end the present situation created by the gold miners' strike, today mobilized artillery, imperial light horse and other units to reinforce the police here. The public also was warned that airplanes will use machine guns if necessary.

At Germiston last night a band of raiders marched into the Primrose mine and intimidated the workers. A fight ensued in which two natives were killed and the manager of the mine, with several others, including police, were wounded.

Natives Armed.

Natives, armed with various kinds of weapons, yesterday took a hand in the strike situation, when they dispersed a band of extremists who previously had threatened and defied the police, as well as exploding large fire crackers around the new law courts.

FISHERIES TURNED OVER TO QUEBEC

Entire Control of Fisheries in Province Vested in That Province Now.

Ottawa, March 9.—(Canadian Press)—The order-in-council respecting the transfer of the control of fisheries in Quebec Province from the Federal Government to the Provincial Government, recurred yesterday by Right Hon. Arthur Meighen, was tabled in the House by the Prime Minister today. It provides that the entire control of fisheries be vested in the Province of Quebec, inasmuch as fishermen have been handicapped in the past by being forced to secure double licenses. It also authorizes the Quebec Provincial authorities to take over and operate from July 1, 1922, the fishery hatcheries at Gaspé and Tadoussac, and provides that the Federal fisheries officers as well as the patrol gunner boats shall be withdrawn on April 1.

VIOLATION OF GAME LAW CASE

Defendant Accused With Having Unstamped Muskkrat Furs in His Possession.

Special to The Standard.

Fredrickton, March 9.—The case of Chief Game Warden L. A. Lavigne vs. Abe Levine, was held in the police court here this afternoon and was adjourned until the 19th inst. The defendant was charged with violation of the Game Act, in having unstamped muskrat furs in his possession. The defence showed that the skins had been purchased at Mont Joli, Que., and the prosecution claimed that a violation of the act had taken place even at that.

SCHOONER BORDEN DRIVEN ASHORE

Lunenburg, N. S., March 9.—The schooner R. L. Borden, salt laden from Oad's, while making harbor here early today went ashore at Falben South. She is in a bad position and leaking freely, but it is hoped to float her at high tide tonight.

TOWN OF SUSSEX SUFFERS HEAVY LOSS BY FIRE

Magnificent School Building and Contents Wiped Out, Entailing \$190,000 Setback.

OTHER FIRES STARTED BY FLYING EMBERS

Firemen Kept on the Jump and by Prompt Work Prevented General Conflagration.

Special to The Standard.

Sussex, N. B., March 9.—The town of Sussex met with a serious loss tonight when its magnificent school building and contents were totally destroyed by fire. The building was three stories with basement, and was constructed of brick with stone trimmings and had an equipment second to none in the Province. When the fire was discovered, about ten o'clock in the evening, it was in near vicinity, flames were bursting through the roof, and the interior of the building was in a mass of flames. The blaze which had evidently started in the basement had worked its way up and spread with great rapidity. The fire department, in response to an alarm from box 5, made a quick run to the scene and in a short time had several streams at work on the burning building, but the fire had gained such headway that it was found impossible to check it, and the firemen turned their efforts to saving the residences nearby.

The night was luckily very calm, but, notwithstanding this fact, blazing embers were carried several blocks and the firemen were called to Main street in the business section to extinguish a blaze on the roof of the Fowler block. In the block of several caught fire from the embers and the firemen were kept busy putting them out.

Among the fires started was one on the Tower of the Methodist church which for a time looked as if it would prove serious, but the efficient work of the firemen won out and saved this sacred edifice.

ASK EQUAL RIGHTS FOR QUEBEC PROTESTANTS

Grand Orange Lodge of Quebec Moves to Secure Better Consideration.

Montreal, March 9.—A resolution to the effect that the Protestant minority in the province of Quebec be amendable to the same law as exists in the Province of Ontario in educational matters; or, in other words, that they be granted the same privileges as are enjoyed by Roman Catholics in Ontario, was unanimously adopted at the annual meeting of the Grand Orange Lodge of Quebec held at Shawbridge, Que., on Tuesday.

COAL OPERATORS CAN AVERT STRIKE

Union of Miners Ready to Meet Owners at Any Time or Place.

Indianapolis, March 9.—Hope of averting a nation-wide strike of soft coal miners on April 1 rests with the coal operators of Western Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois accepting the appeal of Secretary of Labor Davis for a wage conference of operators and miners, according to the statement tonight of President John L. Lewis, of the United Mine Workers of America.

"The union," Mr. Lewis declared, "is ready to meet the operators of the four States which comprise the central competitive field at any time and place."

Declaring that the operators were morally bound to meet the miners in the conference, Mr. Lewis added: "Up to this time we have failed to bring the operators into a conference and the only thing we can hope for now is that the Government in Washington may succeed in bringing sufficient pressure to bear on these operators to compel them to meet us as they agreed they would do."

EXPECT ONSLAUGHT ON CATHOLICS BY ORANGEMEN TODAY

Provisional Gov't Claims to be in Possession of Such Knowledge.

London, March 9.—The Provisional Government claims to be in possession of knowledge of an intended wholesale onslaught by Orangemen upon Catholics in Belfast tomorrow. Eamonn De Valera today refused to make any statement regarding the Limerick controversy, saying he considered the situation too delicate for discussion. Negotiations for a settlement of the trouble are continuing in London between Mr. De Valera, Arthur Griffith and Arthur Mulcahy and Commandant Berry of the Limerick invaders.

LABOR MEMBER CAUSES FURORE IN BRITISH HOUSE

Heated Debate Precipitated When It Was Announced Gov't Could Not Aid Russia.

CHAMBERLAIN PLACES BLAME ON RUSSIA

Feels Russian Gov't Has Resources Being Applied to Matters Less Urgent.

London, March 9.—The question of British Government relief for the starving Russians was heatedly debated in the House of Commons today. The debate was precipitated when Austen Chamberlain, the Government leader, announced that, in view of large sums already voted for European relief, and the grave distress and sufferings existing among the British people, the Government was unable to propose a grant from public funds, but would make every effort to aid in supplying medical stores for Russia.

George Nicol Barnes, of Glasgow, asked Mr. Chamberlain were we aware that the United States Government had given \$12,000,000 and was feeding 7,000,000 women and children in Russia, as against Great Britain's 700,000. He also asked if Mr. Churchill knew that there was a seed shortage of 5,000,000 pounds for spring sowing, and that if this seed grain was not forthcoming the Russian people next year would be faced with a catastrophe even worse than the present.

Mr. Chamberlain said he knew that the United States had devoted an even larger sum than Mr. Barnes had mentioned for the purpose of famine relief.

Russia Can Help Self.

"I believe the horror of the situation in Russia can hardly be exaggerated, but we must have regard to what we have already done," he said. "It was probably," added Mr. Chamberlain, "that Great Britain would shortly be asked by the League of Nations to vote a further sum for combating the spread of typhus from Russia into Europe, and I cannot all together overlook the fact that the Russian Government has resources of its own which are being applied to matters much less urgent."

U. S. INTERPRETATION OF ITS DECISION

By Declining Invitation to Genoa Hopes to Force Nations Into Action.

Washington, March 9.—Refusal of the United States to participate in the Genoa Conference may be viewed as the first step in a campaign of tactical pressure "to promote economic rehabilitation of Europe," it was said today by a high official of the American Government. It should not be regarded, this official said, as an indication of the United States' desire to hold aloof from the grave problems confronting European nations.

FOUR-POWER PACIFIC TREATY UNDER FIRE

Charged in U. S. Senate of Being Plan to Offset Anglo-Jap Alliance.

Washington, Mar. 9.—Charging that the four power Pacific treaty resulted from a Japanese-British plan to offset the embarrassing effect of the Anglo-Japanese Alliance, opponents of the treaty today to learn exactly by whom the original draft of the document was prepared. Both of the Senate's representatives on the arms conference delegation, Senators Lodge of Massachusetts and Underwood of Alabama declared in reply to direct questions that the delegation head, Secretary Hughes had conducted most of the negotiations leading up to the treaty. Mr. Lodge said: "Many hands had helped in the drafting and redrafting, and that he did not know who made the first suggestion."

Mr. Underwood asserted that the first draft he saw was the final one, laid before him by Secretary Hughes. The statements of the two Senate leaders were made in reply to a series of questions by Senator Robinson, Democrat, Arkansas, who told the Senate, when the cross questioning was over, that although "we don't know and will never find out from any authentic source who wrote the first draft," he was sure that the treaty was the finished product resulted from the joint labor of Arthur J. Balfour, for Great Britain, and Prince Tokugawa for Japan. He assailed the treaty as "an alliance" and predicted it would do more harm than good.

CANADIAN FIRE LOSSES INCREASE

Toronto, March 9.—Fire losses in Canada during the week ended March 8 are estimated by The Monetary Times at \$1,292,000, compared with \$860,000 the previous week. Fire losses in February totaled \$4,062,490.

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DOM. ARSENAL AT QUEBEC HAS ANOTHER FIRE

Damage Done Will Probably be in Vicinity of \$200,000 to Main Plant.

SECOND FIRE TO OCCUR IN TEN DAYS

Causing Considerable Comment Because of the Mystery Surrounding Origin of the Blaze.

Quebec, March 9.—(Canadian Press)—Damage, which will probably be in the vicinity of \$200,000 and will result in putting 200 men out of work, resulted from a fire which broke out in the main plant of the Dominion Arsenal at 5:30 o'clock this afternoon. With all the city fire departments fighting the outbreak and all the forces of the permanent militia and the city police on duty to keep the crowds back, the blaze was well under control at 7:30 p. m.

The fire broke out in the case and bullet department, about half an hour after the men had quit work and had left the building.

U. S. GOVT TAKES HAND IN WAGE DISPUTE

Asks Miners and Operators to Get Together in the Interest of the Country.

Washington, March 9.—Cool miners and coal mine operators were urged today by Secretary of Labor Davis "in the interest of common sense to get together and save the country from results of a strike." The Labor Secretary, in a formal statement, said that with the approval of President Harding he had entered into direct communication with representatives of the coal operators of the Central Competitive field, with a view to a joint meeting of the operators and miners, prior to March 31, when the present working agreement expires.

TROOPERS SENT TO GUARD MILL OPENING

Textile Mills of Crompton Company to Resume Operations Today.

Providence, R. I., March 9.—Troops tonight were dispatched to Crompton where the mills of the Crompton Company will resume operations tomorrow morning after being closed nearly seven weeks.

TO MAKE NO CHANGE IN TEMPERANCE ACT

Ontario Gov't Has No Intention Either to Loosen or Tighten It.

Toronto, March 9.—To the big deputation of the Dominion Alliance, which interviewed the Ontario Government today, Premier Drury reiterated his previous declaration that the Government had no intention, at present, of making any change either to "loosen or to tighten" the Ontario Temperance Act, but would do its utmost to see that the law as it presently stands, is carried out.

IRISH FREE STATE BILL NOW BEFORE HOUSE OF LORDS

Believed Bill Will Pass Upper Chamber Without Serious Difficulty.

London, March 9.—The Irish Free State bill formally passed its first reading in the House of Lords today. The debate showed a disposition by Lord Carson, the Marquis of Salisbury and the Marquis of Lansdowne to endeavor to amend the treaty between Great Britain and Ireland. Despite the rather threatening tone of these "die-hard" speakers, the belief prevails that the bill will pass the House of Lords without serious difficulty.

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MULCAHY SAID TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR SITUATION

Proclamation, Extensively Posted in Limerick, Lays Blame for Trouble at His Door.

BROKE HIS WORD WITH DAIL EIREANN

Solemnly Agreed to Keep Republican Army Intact Until the Election.

Limerick, March 9.—A proclamation extensively posted in Limerick today, asserted that Richard Mulcahy, Minister of Defense in the Dail Eireann Cabinet, "by a breach of trust, is alone responsible for the present Limerick situation."

The proclamation declares that Mr. Mulcahy "solemnly guaranteed that the Dail Eireann would keep the Irish Republican army, as such, intact until the election. He has not kept his word. He refuses to allow the Limerick Brigade of the Irish Republican army to occupy vacated barracks in Limerick city, because they would not take them over on behalf of the Provisional Government, but insisted upon maintaining their status as a part of the Irish Republican army."

"He drafted troops into the Republic areas, namely Limerick and Kilkenny, in the interests of the Free State army. These areas were chosen because of their strategic strength. He officered these troops by men who will obey his instructions without questioning whether such instructions are a subversion of the republic or not. He seeks to insure that no matter how the coming Irish Republican army convention decides, the Provisional Government will hold all areas for the Free State party."

Strengthening Position.

The Republic still lives to prevent this insidious attempt to suppress the Republic. Units of the Irish Republican army have come in from Counties Tipperary, Clare, Cork, Limerick, Waterford and Galway. Do the citizens of Limerick understand that these local Irish Republican army units are being placed in a false and humiliating light solely because they stood for a principle? Do the Irish Republican army men employed by the Provisional Government to garrison the barracks in the city, at present know for what purpose they are being used? Will they who fought and suffered for the Republic, now take part in destroying it?"

Both the Irish Republican army and the insurgents were strengthening their strategic positions today. The regulars, in addition to the seven barracks previously occupied, took over the prison. As a counter move, the Republican insurgents occupied the County Infirmary, across the road, and also the Shannon Rowing Club.

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