

GOVERNMENT SHIPBUILDING PROGRAMME

Was Brought Down in the House Yesterday and Was Well Received.

A NECESSARY ADJUNCT TO INCREASED TRADE

Which Should Prove One of the Best Advertisements the Country Could Possibly Have.

Ottawa, March 23.—The story of what is being achieved to regain for Canada the proud position of the brave days when Canadian ships sailed the seven seas, was told to the House today by Mr. Ballantyne. The story, briefly summarized, is that from the modest beginning of two years ago (a beginning that called for the men and the women of the yards and the workers) there has been produced a fleet of twenty-four fine ships with an aggregate of 121,900 tons and a programme, which, when complete, (as it will be this year) will give Canada a mercantile fleet of sixty-three vessels, owned and operated by Canada, manned by Canadians and carrying the merchandise and the flag of Canada to the ports of every nation.

Six types of ships are being built, ranging from 3,000 to 10,000 tons, the weight of these thus far placed in commission being as follows: Seven of 3,000 tons; four of 5,000 tons; four of 4,500 tons; eight of 3,000 tons, and one of 1,800 tons. The cost of construction has varied from time to time, but, roughly speaking, has averaged about \$175 a ton, a cost which, while slightly higher than the scale in British yards, is considerably less than the cost of ships produced in the United States.

One of the finest things achieved in connection with the programme is the erection of a steel plate plant at Sydney. Up to the time this plant was secured (it is the result of an arrangement made by the Minister with the Dominion Iron and Steel Company) Canada was dependent upon the United States for steel plates; the consequence being that ship construction was a precarious undertaking, with the Sydney plant turning out all steel plates that are required and at a price that compares more than favorably with the United States price, the Canadian shipbuilding position is made immeasurably more secure, and competition of Canadian ships with American yards placed upon a fairer basis.

The Canadian Mercantile Marine is operated in connection with the National Railways, and regular sailings between British and Canadian ports have been established. Thus far, taking the figures of last year as a basis of calculation, the operation has been a pronounced financial success. The gross earnings for fifteen ships totalled \$2,448,020, while the net earnings were \$1,466,000, which meant that the fleet had more than paid its way, and Mr. Ballantyne was able to add, with perhaps a pardonable pride, that if any further vindication of his policy were required, it was found in the fact that he was in a position to sell all the ships thus far completed at a figure greater than their cost.

As for the future—after the present programme for the completion of which \$20,000,000 is asked—Mr. Ballantyne was non-committal. The most he would say was that the question of subsidies was being given "very careful consideration."

It would be quite impossible to think of any subject which Dr. Clark could not twist into a text for a sermon on free trade; and today he undertook to prove that you cannot have protection.

FORCES OF THE REVOLUTION VERY ACTIVE

Much of the Rhine Provinces in the Hands of Victorious "Red" Army.

VIOLENT FIGHTING IN MANY PLACES

With the General Military Situation Favorable to the Revolutionaries.

Essen, Germany, March 23.—via Copenhagen.—The local Executive Council today announced that the industrial region hereabouts is in the hands of the revolutionary workers and that a Red army of 50,000 men is victoriously advancing on Westphalia, where the last remnants of the regular troops are concentrated.

The Ruhr "Echo" announces that the left wing of the Red army's front stretches from Dinslaken, 24 miles from Düsseldorf, through Herten to Dorsten, 35 miles South West of Münster. Violent fighting is still progressing on this front. Dorsten and Vaesum have been taken by the Reds with 900 prisoners, the newspaper adds, and a general advance is in progress towards Wesel.

In the vicinity of Münster, an armored train on the way to the industrial region from Münster was halted by the blowing up of a stretch of road bed.

Quiet prevails on that section of the front between Dorsten and Dortmund. The general military situation it is declared, is favorable to the revolutionaries.

Ebert Optimistic. Soon after his return to Berlin, President Ebert ordered the Imperial Court at Leipzig to bring action against the leaders of the revolution, including Kapp, Von Luettwitz, Von Jagow and Admiral Trosch.

MANY C. N. R. MEN TO RETIRE SHORTLY

Special to The Standard. Moncton, N. B., March 23.—It is reported in railway circles that a large number of C. N. R. employees in different branches of the service are shortly to retire under the President's Fund Act. It is said the number dropping out of the service on maritime lines within the next month will reach as high as 150, and will include employees in the offices, shops, train service and track department, etc., some of the oldest and best known conductors in the service are slated for retirement at once.

The President's Fund Board however has to pass upon the names of those retiring voluntarily or otherwise. W. U. Appleton, C. N. R. Mechanical Supt., G. E. McCoy, Master car builder, W. E. Burns, master mechanic, and James Stewart of the Post Dept, left today on an inspection trip over the Halifax and South-western. W. C. Roberts, auditor of Stores and Mechanical accounts, Toronto, accompanied the party.

LEGISLATION RE FEEDING STUFFS

Ottawa, March 23.—In the House of Commons this afternoon first reading was given to a bill presented by the Hon. N. W. Howell respecting commercial feeding stuffs. The bill re-enacts the provisions of the existing law with necessary amendments to bring them up to date. It also includes clauses now in the deliberation of food act. The clauses have been taken out of the adulteration of food act and included in the present bill so that one act will cover the whole matter.

NEW STEAMSHIP LINE

Vancouver, March 23.—Agent General P. C. Wade announces in a letter that the line of 22 steamers between British Columbia and the Old Country for the purpose of carrying lumber.

LOYD GEORGE'S POSITION PRECARIOUS

Rejected by Both Liberals and Laborites, He is Searching for a Programme.

Special to The Standard. London, March 23.—(By the Cross Atlantic Cable Service)—Whether Lloyd George will survive the present governmental crisis was the question of the hour late here today. The Premier has been engaged with his political advisers in an effort to find a way out of an obviously difficult situation.

Admirals of a general election were floated following the publication in the Northcliffe "Daily Mail" of an editorial in reply to Lloyd George's terms of "socialist peril" statement, head "Labor Will Govern, Why Not?" The Premier's position is conceded to be increasingly untenable.

Eighteen months ago, the little Welshman was the nation's great hero, the man who had won the war. Today, rejected by both Labor and Liberal parties, he was searching for a programme that will unite behind him scattered elements of moderate opinion. Unless such is forthcoming, he stands with his single slogan "Down with Socialism."

CHURCHGOER LOSES HIS BARRELS OF BOOZE

Baltimore Man Returns from Service and Finds His Cellar Empty.

Baltimore, March 23.—While Luke P. Maguire was at church three days ago, a neighbor sat in his room with a small automobile truck made away his five barrels of whiskey. Mr. Maguire places the conservative value of \$1,250 on his lost stock.

A neighbor sat in the room of his home and watched the entire process, but as all of the lights in the McGuire home were burning it was thought that the thief was a stranger.

When McGuire returned from church he found the gate was open and started to investigate. The kitchen door was unlocked but he found nothing disturbed until he went to the cellar, and then, oh, gloom!

STIFF SENTENCE FOR RAISING A RACKET

Moncton, March 23.—A local barber who was charged some time ago with raising a disturbance in a restaurant and assaulting the Chinese proprietor, was convicted in the police court today and sentenced to four months in the county jail. Judge McDougall, however, suspended the sentence pending the citizen's future behavior.

AN ANNUITY FOR RUFUS P. STEEVES

Special to The Standard. Fredericton, N. B., March 23.—Premier Foster did a most graceful act today when he introduced a bill into the Legislature to provide an annuity for Rufus Steeves. The annuitant named has devoted nearly forty years of his life to the services of the province. He has been connected with the Agricultural Department, and has done much to stir up an interest in greater production of food.

MONCTON ROTARY CLUB LUNCHEON

Moncton, N. B., March 23.—The first regular meeting and luncheon of the Moncton Rotary Club was held at the Brunswick Hotel this afternoon. The guests included Major E. A. McSwainey of Boston; Lt. Col. D. A. Gibbons, and Rotarians S. Buckley, of Halifax, M. Fenwick and Thaddeus of St. John. President Marvin presided and short addresses were given by Dr. Buckley, Major McSwainey and Lt. Col. Gibbons and others. Committees for the year were appointed.

NO CHURCH FOR WILHELM SUNDAY

Amersfoort, Holland, March 23.—By the Associated Press.—For the second time former Emperor William of Germany was deprived of the customary religious services at Bantick Castle Sunday. Because of the new restrictions the German minister Tom Zeisel, who usually presides at the services at Bantick Castle was unable to enter.

Monday the former Emperor renewed with energy his wood sawing operations, sticking to his task for four hours.

BRITAIN IS THE ONLY BRIGHT SPOT IN ALL EUROPE

She Alone is Making Appreciable Progress Along the Lines of Reconstruction.

OTHER NATIONS ARE ALMOST BANKRUPT

Even France, Wealthy in Her Country Districts, Has So Far Failed to Measure up to Expectations—Austria, Russia and the Balkans Are Ruined.

By Major General A. D. MacRae, Appalling, falls to express the situation in Europe today. "That a large part of that unfortunate continent is already bankrupt and many of its other nations on the verge of bankruptcy with but a few months grace ahead of them, will not be denied by any financier at all in touch with the situation.

The former great Russian Empire, both in Europe and Asia is now completely in the hands of the Bolsheviks and has not yet started on the road to reconstruction. A very prominent financial man in London expressed to me his firm conviction that Northern Russia was permanently doomed and would go back to barbarism and that the re-establishment of Southern Russia was a question of many years.

Romania had a great crop last year but has neither the rail nor water transportation to move it and this crop is likely to prove an attractive price to the Bolsheviks now in full control along her entire Eastern frontier.

The plight of the other Balkan countries is much worse than Romania. Poland is a war-ravaged country, without credit or even the necessities of life. Austria is entirely disappeared and her money is no longer worth counting.

It is difficult to conceive what the principle of self-determination has done to the transportation systems of Central Europe. The situation would be laughable were it not so tragic. As in our own country, the railways were built to serve the then existing empire as a whole and naturally led to the large cities which were the principal manufacturing centres. Each new country established on a racial basis and the existing transportation systems and the rolling stock within its boundaries. These countries promptly established their own customs barriers and lacking confidence in their neighbors, decline to permit any of their rolling stock to pass any frontier. It can imagine our abandoning confederation, each province in our Dominion taking possession of its boundaries and rolling stock within its boundaries and declining to let a car pass out of the province, who will have a modest conception of the present transportation situation in Central Europe. Add to this picture the destruction of war and the failure to keep up the railways or replace rolling stock in the last three years, and you have the present transportation problem of Europe, which is almost hopeless.

Germany, notwithstanding reports to the contrary, has made very little progress in reconstruction. So uncertain is Germany's future, due to the failure of the Peace Conference to decide definite indemnities for her, that it is difficult to get people to work off and in some districts goats are being imported to graze land, for which outside can no longer be found. Germany is practically without foreign trade. A personal friend who visited Hamburg within the last three weeks told me you could shoot a cannon down the entire length of the great docks of that city and never hit a man because there was none there.

At most a few small tugs and some wise vessels represented the entire shipping of that once famous port. It is difficult to get people to work for her to buy what is necessary to get her industries under way. Some idea may be had of the depreciation of all German securities from the fact that pre-war municipal bonds of the great city of Cologne are being sold in London at 6 per cent. of their face value.

AMERICAN EXCHANGE

New York, March 23.—Funds in Montreal continue unchanged at 9 1/2 bid and 10 1/4 asked.

HOT IN LONDON

London, March 23.—Today was the hottest March day here for fifty years. Thermometer touched 63 in the shade.

WHAT DO FRASERS CONTEMPLATE?

Considerable Speculation Rife With Regard to Proposed Dam on Tobique.

Special to The Standard. Fredericton, March 23.—There is much speculation in business and particularly lumbering circles as to what is the meaning of the application of the Fraser interests for authority to dam the Tobique River at the Narrows and erect pulp and paper mills there.

There are so many issues that may enter into the proposal that those who like to do some things find all kinds of theories upon which to make a great deal of guessing possible as to what will be the final outcome. There seems to be a very general feeling that so far the whole story has not been told. While there has been a denial given out that the Frasers have an option or have actually bought the N. B. Railway lands of approximately one and a half million acres, there is a negotiation looking to the consummation of such a deal have been going on for some time. Moreover, it is believed in certain generally well-informed circles that eventually the Frasers will become the owners of the N. B. Railway lands, for the operation of which the Tobique Narrows provide the ideal manufacturing site.

MONCTON COUNCIL STANDS BY LABOR MEN

Moncton, March 23.—At a meeting of the city council tonight in a discussion of the legislation being proposed for changing the qualification of candidates and voters in civic elections, Mayor Chapman declared himself in favor of the clauses being proposed by the Board of Trade. In other words the Mayor stands by the Legislation proposed by the labor members of the council, which does away with property qualification for majority and alternate candidates, and gives the vote in civic elections to all paying a poll tax.

The council passed a resolution accepting the offer of the Provincial Government for an additional sum of \$5,000 for the Housing Commission.

Fred B. Brown was engaged by the council to make a report on the present conditions, valuation and additional requirements to the M. T. E. and G. Co. plant and cost of bringing the street railway up to date. The city in asking for legislation to take over the M. T. E. and G. Co. plant.

The proposal to divide the city into four wards instead of three for civic purposes was given a twelve month's hold.

There are indications that Moncton will expensively do considerable building activity again this summer in this city. Up to date since January first, thirty-seven building permits have been issued at a total cost of \$91,085. This amount is in excess of the permits issued for the same period last year.

MASSACHUSETTS AND DAYLIGHT BILL

Boston, Mass., March 23.—A discussion of Representatives passed bill late today to provide for daylight saving in this State from the last Sunday in March to the last Sunday in October. The vote was 181 to 38. Under suspension of the rules the bill was sent immediately to the Senate, which is expected to act upon it tomorrow.

LABOR REPORT

Ottawa, March 23.—In the Commons this afternoon Hon Arthur Meighen, tabled the report of the Minister of Labor for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1919. It showed an estimated loss in working days of 765,241, while the corresponding figure for the year previous was 1,247,770 days lost. There were 186 strikes during 1918-19 many of which were very brief. Those of less than three days' duration numbered 41. The report refers to the heavy strain under which the conciliation officers worked during the war period and to their success in averting strikes at many points.

REMINISCENCE OF THE RUSSIAN ROYAL FAMILY

Letter from Sir John Hanbury-Williams Shows Late Czar's Real Feelings.

"NOTHING MATTERS BUT BEATING GERMANY"

Sir John Thinks That Allies Didn't Tackle the Bolshevik Trouble in the Proper Way.

Ottawa, Ont., March 23.—An interesting letter was recently received by Mr. Charles Hanbury-Williams, of the Department of Militia and Defence, from his brother, Sir John Hanbury-Williams, who is very well known throughout Canada, and especially in Ottawa, he having been military secretary for His Excellency Earl Grey, when he was Governor General of Canada.

Sir John wrote from Cannes in the South of France, where he is now enjoying a holiday. During the war and the time of the Russian revolution, Sir John was liaison officer between the British War Office and the Imperial Russian Government.

Sir John's letter sheds new light on the loyalty of the Czar and Czarina of Russia to the Allied cause. In an interview with the late Czar after that monarch was a prisoner, Sir John quotes the Czar as saying:

"Nothing matters except beating Germany." Following is an excerpt from Sir John's recent letter:

"Things in Russia seem to be going from bad to worse. I could do little to persuade such men as I could to give up the Russian question at once, and so I had to resign. I had a long talk with the British Ambassador to Russia, but as usual it was a case of the voice crying in the wilderness. I am told that the late Emperor and Empress failed to find anything incriminating, but he monkeyed with the matter with the result that these private murders were committed and all the while we talk of trying the Kaiser, and talk about apparently entering into relations with the murderers of our ally. It is a funny world and all I don't know as much of the inner history of the job, I shouldn't perhaps feel so much the apparent forgiveness of what we owe to the memory of the Czar, who, whatever his faults and weaknesses, was a faithful ally. I shouldn't be so sensitive about it all. His last words to me after he had abdicated, and when he was a prisoner were:—"

"Nothing matters, except beating Germany."

FEATURES OF FUR SALE AT MONTREAL

Montreal, March 23.—(Canadian Press)—Others were the feature of the afternoon sales by the Canadian Fur Auction Sales, Limited, here today. The highest price paid was \$100 and it was stated that the prices ranged about 25 per cent. higher than those paid at the last auction sales at St. Louis. Ermine skins went at \$4 and 35,000 of them were sold. The sale has been running behind schedule, and it is possible that evening sales will have to be held to end the auction by the close of the week.

LOST HIS HOUSE

Moncton, N. B., March 23.—The residence of Manning Henyon, C. N. R. locomotive engineer, was destroyed by fire at Ammon about one o'clock this afternoon. Most of the furniture, seed grain and potatoes were lost in the fire. The loss will be about \$2,000.

LEGISLATURE WAS VERY DULL YESTERDAY

Lot More Talk on the Proposed Amendments to the Registry Act.

FEW SMALL BILLS INTRODUCED

Budget to be Brought Down Tomorrow, When Things Will Liven up a Little.

Special to The Standard. Fredericton, N. B., March 23.—With the province sorely in need of increased revenues, the rate stampage question which was brought to the attention of the public by the Murray resolution does not down. The Government has introduced a bill to amend the Registry Act.

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JOHN BULL

In response to innumerable requests the article "What's Your Game, America?" which appeared in this paper on March 17th will be re-printed in The Standard on

SATURDAY, MARCH 27TH

This striking review from the pen of Horatio Bottomley, Editor of John Bull, created something of a sensation among readers of this province. The demand for it necessitated an additional press run of The Daily Standard and reproduction of the article in the Semi-Weekly. Both of these editions have been exhausted, and as the clamor for copies still exists, a second printing in The Daily Standard will be given.

This Saturday paper will also contain The Standard's Spring Fashion Number.

SECURE YOUR COPY EARLY.

TOMORROW

The Insufferable Impertinence of the American Press

In Demanding of Congress the Early Adoption of the Underwood Resolution

By means of which Canada, it is planned, is to be forced into surrendering her great natural wealth to the unrestricted exploitation of United States capitalists.

News papers across the line are almost unanimous in their clamor for the adoption of a policy of coercion toward this country, and seem to think they are the rightful owners of our timber lands.

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