

## BE IN MAY HAVE OFFERED PEACE TO BRITISH NATION

### THE ENTENTE WILL NOT HAVE PEACE AT EXPENSE OF RUSSIA

Peace Terms Probably Offered Great Britain by Germany—Lord Robert Cecil Declares That No Such Proposals Will Be Considered—Hindenburg States That Entente Attitude Unresponsive Towards Germany's Peace Intentions.

General Ludendorff Says "Since the Enemy is Not Inclined to Make Peace He Will Have to Fight and This Fight Will Be Most Tremendous of Whole War—Russian Peace Treaty.

That peace terms have been offered Great Britain by Germany may possibly be inferred from several significant statements given out on Friday. Lord Robert Cecil, British minister of blockade, asked if proposals "had been received for a peace at the expense of Russia" answered that "no such proposals are being considered or will be considered." A little earlier in the day an Amsterdam despatch quoted Field Marshal Von Hindenburg as saying that the "Entente has shown an unresponsive attitude towards Germany's peace intentions and the great German offensive must, therefore, go on."

Later on in the day, General Von Ludendorff, the German quartermaster-general, was reported as saying: "Since the enemy is not inclined to make peace, he will have to fight and this fight will, of course, be the most tremendous of the whole war."

General Von Ludendorff continued, "We are stronger than the enemy as regards men, material, aerial forces, tanks. Everything, in fact, of which he boasted, is standing in readiness on our side in the greatest abundance."

It is admitted that offers of peace have been made to Serbia by Austria-Hungary and Bulgaria, but it is said that Serbia has absolutely refused to consider them.

The Russian Treaty.

The treaty of peace proposed by Germany to Russia at Brest-Litovsk, which makes Russia an outpost of the Central Empire, has either been ratified by the all-Russian congress of soviets or its ratification apparently is imminent. Reports from Moscow are not clear on the situation but it seems certain that the Bolsheviks consented to the treaty, and are willing to try to affirm it. As this element dominates the congress the hard terms doubtless will be accepted; notwithstanding the reports that Trotsky, the mouthpiece of the Bolsheviks, is opposed to their provisions and is willing to try to organize the Russian army to fight the German invaders.

Holland stands in a perilous situation, according to the German newspapers, which are printing editorials, evidently inspired, on the taking over of Dutch ships by the United States and Great Britain. "Arbitrary measures" are advocated if Holland "gives way" to the Allies.

The allied maritime transport council, formed at the instance of the American mission to England and France, led by Colonel E. M. House, has held its first meeting and announces that it will organize allied shipping so that tonnage may be used in the most effective manner.

Spirited fighting is reported along the French front. In the Champagne and Lorraine sectors the French have won local successes. German official reports admit the loss of ground in Champagne before heavy forces of the French, who are apparently able to hold the ground they have gained.

Along the British front the artillery fire has grown in intensity in many sectors and there have been lively engagements between raiding parties.

The Canadians have carried out another raid southeast of Lens.

**MRS. REID SLIPP PASSES AWAY**

Highly Respected Resident of Central Hampstead Was Mother of Hon. A. R. Slipp of Fredericton.

Central Hampstead, Mar. 15.—The death occurred at her home in Central Hampstead today of Mrs. Reid Slipp, a well known and highly respected resident. Mrs. Slipp was aged 81 years and four months. She was the mother of four children, all of whom survive. They are: W. Judson Slipp of Hampton, Hon. A. R. Slipp of Fredericton, former minister of Lands and Mines, Bruce Augustus Slipp and G. Bayard Slipp, both of Central Hampstead. She is also survived by six grandchildren.

The funeral will be held Sunday afternoon at two o'clock at the Central Hampstead church.

### EACH INDUSTRY SHOULD CARRY OWN HAZARD

Such is Recommendation of New Brunswick Commission in Charge of Workmen's Compensation Act—Follows N. S. Law Closely.

Fredericton, Mar. 15.—The report of the commission on the workmen's compensation act has been presented to the legislature. It recommends: "We suggest that an act along the lines of that of Nova Scotia, modified in some particulars but enlarged in others, be submitted by your honor's advisers to the legislative assembly of this province; strict provision being made: First.—To limit by way of weekly or monthly payments, the amount payable to any one person or his or her dependents to \$5,000. This suggestion varies radically from the act, but we believe the limit should be fixed in the public interest.

Secondly.—That the Nova Scotia Act be again varied by a provision for first medical aid of a character to be determined by the commission itself.

Thirdly.—That a system of merit ratings be adopted so that the rate of assessment to each employer will be fixed to some extent upon the record of his own particular business. And therefore if the record of any particular industry were especially good, it could be noted in a general consideration of all rates.

Fourthly.—If it is possible that consideration be given to a scale of special payments in lieu of the weekly or monthly one as above described in case of certain specified injuries.

Fifthly.—That the Act only apply to those whose employers have filed their pay-rolls as may be provided by the Act, but that failure to comply shall leave the employer open to action at law, and that he should be placed under heavy penalty as well for such failure.

Sixthly.—That in order to keep a close watch over each industry as possible that the provisions of the Factory Act be extended so that it will be necessary for each engineer to have a certificate for the special industry in which he is engaged which shall set forth the date of his employment, and notice to be given to the government of the terms and conditions of his engagement, in other words the government should know at all times where each engineer is employed.

Seventhly.—The negotiations be entered into with the Medical Society of New Brunswick to fix, if possible, fees for first medical aid or for the services which may be rendered under the Act.

Eighthly.—That provision be made to include occupational or industrial diseases.

Ninthly.—That the \$5 monthly to be paid to each child be not limited to any number.

Tenthly.—When an employee is paid more than \$1,500 a year the Act shall only apply on that basis; to those who are paid less than \$6 a week, full wages shall apply.

Eleventhly.—That the waiting period be made for any part of this time, unless incapacitated for that period when compensation shall be paid from date of injury.

Twelfthly.—That provision be made to pay burial expenses in case of death of workman, the amount of which shall be limited in the Act to a special sum.

We therefore recommend to your honor that an act be passed, embodying the above suggestions; believing, as we do, that from an economic point of view each industry should carry its own burden so that every human life which is jeopardized in the process of creating should be paid by the industry affected. In other words, that human life, human thought, human action which have been impaired by injury arising out of, or in the course of, employment, should be repaid by the industry which has caused the loss, which therefore would carry the burden of debt to the individual, it would also thereby relieve the employer in

### Hindenburg States That Great German Offensive Coming

Amsterdam, Mar. 15.—According to news received here Field Marshal Von Hindenburg has stated in an interview in Berlin that the Entente had shown an unresponsive attitude towards Germany's peace intention, and that the great German offensive therefore must go on.

In well informed neutral quarters recently the Associated Press correspondent was told that the Germans were prepared to lose 300,000 men in an offensive operation.

The Verdun offensive of the Germans, in which they failed utterly to break the French line, has been estimated in conservative quarters as having cost them something like 500,000 men.

Says Germany Stronger.

Amsterdam, Mar. 15.—Germany is now stronger than her enemies in men, material and air forces and in tanks as well. General Von Ludendorff declared in an interview in the Cologne Volks Zeitung. The General said the enemy was welcome to attack and would find Germany ready, and that if he was not inclined to make peace he would have to fight.

"Our front in the west is now much more favorable for us than it was last year," General Von Ludendorff told the interviewer. "How difficult the situation was, may be gauged from the fact that we had to restore calm in the east and defeat Italy in the south. But now we are stronger than the enemy both as regards men, material, aerial forces, tanks. Everything in fact of which we boasted, is standing in readiness on our side in the greatest abundance. If the enemy wishes to attack now let him do so. He will find us ready. If the enemy does not want peace he will have to fight, and this fight will, of course, be the most tremendous of the whole war. With God's aid we will obtain a German peace, not a doubtful peace."

### HON. J. A. MURRAY GIVES NOTICE OF A RESOLUTION FAVORING THE FRANCHISE FOR WOMEN

Motion Will Come Before Legislature on Wednesday—It Asks That Body To Approve of The Principle, and if Adopted, as it is Likely to be, Bill Will be Prepared and Submitted to House for Passage.

Motion Was Seconded by Mr. Tilley—Action of Leader of Opposition Will be Received With Delight and Approved by Champions of Women Suffrage, Not Only in Province, But Throughout the Dominion.

Special to The Standard.

Fredericton, N. B., Mar. 15.—Recognizing the splendid work done by the women of New Brunswick in all lines of patriotic war effort the praiseworthy manner in which they rallied to the support of the cause of Union government at the recent federal election, and their general fitness for the franchise, the provincial opposition leader took steps today to have the provincial franchise extended to women. In the legislature, this afternoon, Hon. Mr. Murray, the opposition leader, took the first action to this end, and seconded by Mr. Tilley of St. John, gave notice of the following motion: "Resolved that in the opinion of this house the provincial franchise shall be extended to women."

The motion will come before the legislature on Wednesday next.

Bill Probably Later. The present motion merely asks the legislature to approve of the principle of conferring the provincial franchise upon women, but if adopted, as it is likely to be, in the light of the very general support and endorsement and has general feeling that the women of the country have earned the right to the ballot, a bill will be prepared and submitted to the legislature for passage. The manner in which the bill will be submitted will be determined later. In the past, proposals for women suffrage did not meet with favor in the legislature of New Brunswick. It is generally felt, however, that the movement is making such progress elsewhere in Canada that New Brunswick should fall in line, particularly as Sir Robert Borden has stated that general suffrage for women has his support and endorsement and has promised that, in the near future, a measure conferring the franchise in Dominion elections will be submitted to the Canadian parliament. The action of the leader of the provincial opposition party will be received with delight and approval by champions of women suffrage not only in this province but throughout the Dominion generally.

### PILOT RELEASED

Halifax, March 15.—A habeas corpus application in the case of Pilot Francis MacKay, committed for trial on a charge of manslaughter in connection with the Imo-Mont Blanc collision, which caused the Halifax disaster, was granted today by Judge Russell, who stated in his judgment that there seemed to be before him no evidence whatever upon which an unbiased tribunal could hold Pilot MacKay criminally culpable.

### CALL UPON GOV'T FOR EXPLANATION

Hon. J. A. Murray Desires Light Thrown on Seed Grain Policy—Hon. B. F. Smith Wants to Know Concerning Government Automobile Habit—Mr. Sutton After Fosterites on Their Reluctance to Hold Election in Carleton.

Special to The Standard. Fredericton, Mar. 15.—The opposition party intent to find out just what deals there is for the contention of the Provincial government that extensive plans are being made for the purchase and administration of seed oats, seed wheat and fertilizer for the season of 1918. It will be recalled that in the debate on the speech in reply to the address from the throne Premier Foster while expressing regret that more was not done last year in the way of stimulating the campaign for greater production laid considerable stress upon the plans of the government for this year.

Failure Last Year. The seed wheat distribution of last season was a distinct failure inasmuch as it cost the province more than it should have cost and supplies were not always available. Also the supply of chemical fertilizer promised to the farmers did not at all times materialize. In order to get exact information as to the action the government has taken this year to avoid a duplication of last year's failure the opposition leader this afternoon gave notice of enquiry relating to the purchase and distribution of seed oats, wheat and chemical fertilizer.

He wants to know what kinds of wheat and oats were purchased, what price was paid, from whom purchased, if sold to whom and the price received. Similar questions cover the matter of fertilizer and in addition Mr. Murray asks if the fertilizer was analyzed before purchase to ascertain its quality and if so who made the analysis.

Other questions concerning purchases by different departments were submitted by other members of the opposition. Mr. Sutton of Carleton is curious concerning the price paid for gasoline by the public works department from April 1st last to December 31, what quantities were purchased and from whom.

Concerning Automobiles. Hon. B. F. Smith asked concerning automobiles purchased for the different government departments from whom they were bought and the cost, also what officials have automobiles, the expense and upkeep of which are charged to the province.

Mr. Smith also asks concerning the contract for the substructure of the bridge over the St. John river at Florenceville, who tendered for the contract and the amount of each tender when the contract was completed and the amount already paid on account of it.

Mr. Tilley, St. John, and Mr. Sutton, Carleton, are going after the appointment and dismissal of certain officials. Mr. Tilley asks as to the names of the applicants for the position of chief game warden and by whom the applicants were recommended.

Mr. Sutton wants to know on whose recommendation H. B. Durost was dismissed from the department of agriculture.

Mr. Sutton also returns to the question of the vacancy in Carleton county's representation and asks if it is the intention of the government to issue writs for the election there before the next session of the legislature.

Answers to these questions are asked for next week and when received, if they are as frank as Mr. Foster promised, will throw additional light upon the unbusinesslike methods employed by the men who now occupy the government benches.

### TWO MINISTERS COMPLIMENT MURRAY GOV'T

Hon. Dr. Smith Pays It Tribute For Establishing Forestry Department.

OUTLINES HIS PLANS TO SAVE FORESTS

Attorney-General Likes Workmen's Compensation Commission.

SAYS THE COMMISSION DID ITS WORK WELL

The House Decides To Adjourn Until Next Tuesday Afternoon.

Special to The Standard.

Fredericton, Mar. 15.—Approval of acts of the former government was expressed in the legislature this afternoon by two members of the Foster administration.

Introducing the bill to amend the workmen's compensation act, Attorney General Byrne declared that the commission appointed by the Murray government to consider the compensation acts in Nova Scotia and Ontario was an excellent one and has done its work well. The present bill is based upon the report of that commission which was tabled in the legislature this afternoon.

Hon. Dr. Smith, minister of lands and mines, introducing measures providing for forest conservation and for the appointment of a provincial advisory board to administer the government forestry policy and also to look after fish and game protection, paid tribute to the Murray government for its action in establishing a forestry department in connection with the department of lands and mines.

He also had a word to say against the cutting of Christmas trees. In the United States and Norway it was not permissible to cut trees below a certain size. In this province the cutting of Christmas trees on crown lands is prohibited by law, but he regretted to say that many such trees were still cut on granted lands and the practice should not be permitted.

Both bills were read a first time and will be considered in committee next week. The House adjourned at 8:15 until Tuesday afternoon. Next week is expected to be a busy one as several important measures are slated for consideration. The bill outlining the government's highway policy will likely provoke the most discussion. Most of the members resigned in town tonight as the bad weather and consequent disruption of train services has interfered with the usual Friday night exodus.

### THIS IS THE DAY IRISH CELEBRATE

Holiday in American Cities and Sons and Daughters of Erin Will Participate in Patriotic Parade in New York.

New York, Mar. 15.—St. Patrick's Day is to be an American holiday this year. The annual convention of the Ancient-Order of Hibernians and its allied organizations in New York have voted to make what has always been an Irish national festival a day of patriotic display. Tomorrow the Irish of New York will march with the Stars and Stripes and with service flags to demonstrate the loyalty of the race in America. Green will be entwined with the war flags only to call attention to the part the Irish have always played in upholding American institutions. Every society taking part will be required to carry a service flag containing a star for each member in the United States army or navy. For the first time in the history of St. Patrick's Day demonstrations in the metropolis the parade will include a division of women marchers.

### FRUIT CONFERENCE

Ottawa, Mar. 15.—D. Johnson, Dominion fruit commissioner, after interviewing Hon. T. A. Crerar, Minister of Agriculture, has named March 20 and 27 as days for a fruit conference, when delegates from the Atlantic to the Pacific will meet in Ottawa to discuss the question of vital importance to the fruit industry which have been for many years contentious. Every fruit organization has been asked to send representatives while the program will also be represented.