

The Courier

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News in Brief

"GRAF WALTERSEE," FORMER GERMAN LINER, RAMMED

NEW YORK, June 11. — A wireless message received at one o'clock this morning said the steamer Patricia was taking off passengers and crew of the Graf Waldersee, rammed by the steamship Redondo, thirty-eight miles off Sandy Hook, shortly before midnight. The engine room and fire room of the former German liner were flooded but the message said it was believed she would remain afloat and a request was made that tugs be sent to her aid.

FRENCH STRIKE ENDED

PARIS, June 15. — The transportation strikers met today and formally accepted the conditions for ending the strike. In a resolution they called the strike "an appreciable union victory."

HUNGARIANS AHEAD

PARIS, June 13. — Peace conference advisers are to the effect that the Czech-Slovaks are still retreating before the Hungarians.

GENERAL STRIKE IN ITALY AT END

LONDON, June 15. — A wireless despatch received from Rome says the general strike has been ended throughout Italy.

PROTECTIONISTS GRIP AUSTRALIA

LONDON, June 13. — W. A. Watt, acting prime minister of Australia, according to an Exchange Telegraph despatch from Melbourne, told the Industrial Protection League Thursday, that the Australian government intends to introduce a tariff measure to protect industries created during the war, at the approaching session of parliament. The measure would also encourage new industries and extend those already in existence.

BRITISH LABOR NOT TO ATTEND PARIS CONGRESS

LONDON, June 13. — The British labor party will not be represented tomorrow at the conference in Paris which is to discuss the Italian proposal for a 24 hour strike in Italy, France and England, in protest against allied intervention in Russia and the peace terms. It was explained in labor circles to night that there is not sufficient time to permit of a ballot by the affiliated trades unions, which would be necessary before any decision could be reached concerning it, before British labor could take part in the conference.

BRITISH IN RUSSIA

STOCKHOLM, June 12. — Part of the British troops, which recently arrived at Muskmansk, are participating in operations against Petrograd, according to reports from Archangel. They are now near Petrograd.

LESS DRUNKENNESS IN BRITAIN NOW

LONDON, June 12. — Convictions for drunkenness in England and Wales have decreased in the past four years under the operations of the liquor control board, according to its announcements. The board states that conviction of men and boys in 1915 were 35,457; in 1918, 6,990. In the same period convictions of women decreased from 15,915 to 3,211.

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OUR ORGANISED GRAIN GROWERS

Saskatchewan Grain Growers Hold Political Conventions

WOLSELEY, June 9. — Today was another red letter day in the history of the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' association when the first practical step was taken in the organization of a new political force in the public life of the Dominion. The first of the 16 conventions which have been arranged to be held in this province during the next three weeks, was held in the Wolseley city hall this afternoon and evening. The outstanding feature of the convention was the fact that by the unanimous approval of the one hundred and twenty-one delegates, it was decided not to nominate a candidate, which everywhere appears to have met with general approval. But, while this negative attitude was adopted, it is only for the purpose of securing a firmer grip upon the situation. The necessary machinery for calling a nominating convention has been provided and there is no manner of doubt as to the determination of the grain growers in the Qu'Appelle constituency to enter the political field by the selection of a candidate who will stand square on the farmers' platform. One of the main reasons for not nominating a candidate was by general consent, with a view to making the present organization broad and comprehensive enough to include all who are prepared to support the same platform. Among the conspicuous figures who were present and participated in the convention deliberations were John Miller, of Indian Head, the first secretary of the original Grain Growers' association, A. E. Partridge, Sinteluta, and D. Railton, also of Sinteluta.

During his address, in explaining the attitude of the executive of the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' association, J. B. Musselman of Regina, laid special emphasis upon the "red peril," which is now facing the people of Canada, and urged that while the Grain Growers' association was prepared to back up all legitimate demands for right living conditions, it was entirely and irrevocably opposed to being held up by a club by a minority of the people. An interesting feature of the convention was the presence of ladies as delegates, who showed themselves the equal in debate during the deliberations, and who were listened to with every evidence of approval during the session. An interesting and able discussion of the farmers' platform was delivered by R. M. Johnson, of Pasqua, director of District No. 4. J. W. Eaton, of Spring Creek, was elected president and Geo. Burden, of Red Jacket, was appointed secretary-treasurer.

ARCOLA, Sask., June 10. — In accordance with the lead given by the convention yesterday at Wolseley, and the announcement that similar action had been taken by the Alberta Grain Growers' convention which are being held during the present week, the second in the series of Grain Growers' conventions of Saskatchewan which was held today in this town, after three crowded and busy sessions, adjourned about ten o'clock this evening without having nominated a candidate. In anticipation of doing so at a later date a strong and representative committee of twenty was appointed, who will be entrusted with the responsibility of organizing the constituency for calling a nominating convention in readiness for the next Dominion election.

During the evening session, the following resolution was moved by Mr. Bergstrom, Alameda, seconded by E. G. Noggle Lampman, and unanimously adopted: "Resolved, that we, the delegates in convention of the supporters of the farmers' platform for the constituency of Assiniboia, hereby express our unwavering confidence in Hon. T. A. Crerar, and give assurance of our support of all western representatives who are faithfully endeavoring to establish the principles of our platform, and further, that a copy of this resolution be telegraphed to Mr. Crerar."

MOOSE JAW, June 12. — By the unanimous approval of the Grain Growers' convention, assembled in Moose Jaw, this afternoon, a wire was sent to Hon. J. A. Calder, M.P. for this constituency, "That we, the delegates assembled at this convention, hereby express our disapproval at the stand taken by the Hon. J. A. Calder on the tariff question, in his reply to Hon. T. A. Crerar, as reported by the daily papers."

Another telegram was despatched to Hon. T. A. Crerar, approving of

his stand taken during the budget debate, as reported by the press of this morning.

About one hour before midnight, after a more or less stormy debate, the fourth in the series of Grain Growers' conventions, which have been held during the present week, the Moose Jaw convention which has been in an all-day session in the Rex theatre, decided by a majority of sixty-three against forty, to postpone the nomination of a candidate until a future convention.

One of the outstanding features of the Moose Jaw convention was the challenge expressed by Chairman Teare against the alleged attempt of the central executive to control the conventions. As Mr. Musselman was not extended the courtesy of the floor in reply, R. M. Johnson, another member of the central executive, who was present, was on his feet in an instant, and indignantly repudiated the insinuations of the chairman. In his reply, Mr. Johnson emphatically denied any desire or attempt to dictate. Having offered to the various conventions their understanding of the purposes of the conventions and the recommendations of the central executive, they had on no occasion attempted, directly or indirectly, to otherwise influence the conventions, which had taken whatever action had been adopted, in accordance with the majority wishes of the delegates.

During the evening session Mr. Musselman announced that up to Friday last, the total amount of money subscribed for the holding of the conventions was \$6,181, with considerable more funds promised in case of need.

Premier Martin, etc.

(Continued from Page 1.) proposals as announced in today's despatches to warrant specific comment, other than to say that the protectionist principle so evident is extremely disappointing. Even the special war tariff of 7 1/2 per cent, extra over the general tariff is to be maintained on many articles. Low tariff sentiment that hoped for something substantial will find little consolation in the proposals as no substantial concessions seem to be indicated.

MOOREHEAD, Congratulates Crerar. The following telegram, dated from Regina June 5, was sent to the Hon. Mr. Crerar by the Hon. W. R. Motherwell:

"Papers report your resignation from cabinet on fiscal issue. Heartily congratulations to you stand in consistent with your well-known professions on the tariff question. I can sympathize with you in what it must have meant to give up voluntarily such opportunities for usefulness as your recent cabinet position afforded."

Hon. Walter Scott. "The surprising thing is not that Mr. Crerar has resigned, but that all the so-called Liberal members of the government did not resign. The fact that Messrs. Calder, Carvell, Maclean, Sifton, Rowell, et al., remain in the government to support the wholly disappointing tariff reductions simply merits, be-

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yond peradventure, the truth of a statement made to me on 2nd January last by the late Sir Wilfrid Laurier, who told me, with apparent conviction, that he possessed inside information to the effect that all the Liberal-Unionist ministers intended remaining with the Union government regardless of policy or anything else, with only one exception—the exception being Mr. Crerar.

Mr. Crerar's action will doubtless be strongly approved by the people of western Canada, to whom the budget must be very disappointing, although to tell the truth, it is exactly what might have been expected from the poorest apology of a government that ever crossed Canada. What else could any person expect from an aggregation of politicians who would appoint a man of Harmer's calibre to the senate?

If Germans Refuse to Sign, etc.

(Continued from Page 1.) the British, supporting the Belgians, would move forward and occupy the mining regions. The United States army would occupy Frankfurt and the French would take Hanau, Wuerzburg and Ulm.

NEW YORK, June 13. — The Associated Press tonight issued the following: The Council of Four devoted both of its sessions Friday to revision of the text of the peace treaty, preparatory to its presentation to the German peace delegates. Premier Orlando of Italy was not present, having left for Rome Thursday night to discuss at a secret meeting of the Italian parliament the work of the peace conference, and to reach a decision on some important matters, in particular with regard to military precautions on the Carinthian frontier.

Baron Sonnino, the foreign minister, represented Italy at Friday's meetings in place of the premier. The re-writing of the treaty of peace was rendered necessary by the discovery of errors and inconsistencies in the draft as the first represented to the Germans. Many of the changes to be made are of a highly important nature but most of them are of the minor character.

The latter is particularly true of the reparation clause, which will be virtually unchanged in the new draft. But the financial provisions will be amended so that the reparations commission will be given discretion to allow Germany to gather a working capital for the resumption of her industries in order that she meet the requirements of the allies.

The plebiscite in Silesia and changes in the Polish frontier necessitate new clauses, while a revised draft of provisions on the Danish frontiers is expected.

Official advices stated that Count Von Brockdorff-Rantzau, head of the German peace mission, has requested that a special train be placed at his disposal immediately the reply to the German counter-proposals is delivered to him. It is understood that he will go to Cologne, and it is possible he may proceed to Weimar, to consult the national assembly.

PARIS, June 13. — The Council of Ten on Tuesday morning next will receive a Turkish delegation now at Vancresson, a suburb of Paris, in the cloakroom of the Quai d'Orsay, and hear the statement concerning Turkey.

PARIS, June 12. — The attitude of the German delegation on the signing of the peace treaty is not clear because the delegates are as yet unaware of the exact nature of the instrument they are called upon to ratify, owing to the conflicting earlier reports on the extent of the modifications accorded them.

The French, who alone had an opportunity of sounding the members of the German delegation on the prospective changes believe that neither the present delegation nor the present government will sign, but they look for the immediate installation of a radical socialist administration which will accept the treaty.

BERLIN, June 11. — A terrible picture of the fate awaiting Germany unless she signs the peace treaty is drawn by the Vossische Zeitung, which prophesies that "The allies will, in any case, occupy more of the west German industrial region. The Poles will attack us in the east. In a short time trains will cease to run owing to lack of coal. Our towns will be without gas, food and electricity, and we will be unable to thresh the new corn except with the flail. Our industries will cease owing to lack of raw materials. In short, the life of the whole nation will come to a standstill and collapse."

The Journal further pictures Soviet republics being established all over Germany with Berlin as a Soviet republic. It finally begs all who are opposed to signature of the peace treaty to reconsider the question in the light of these possibilities.

Dominion Parliament

(Continued from Page 1.)

June 11th, because Hon. T. A. Crerar and Hon. J. A. Calder were billed to speak, were not disappointed.

At the outset there was a rather disagreeable incident. The western independents like Mr. Crerar, Dr. Clark, Mr. Reid and others, have been occupying the cross bench. On Wednesday, when the curtain went up, these seats were all pre-empted by hard-boiled Tories, who surrounded Crerar in an obvious attempt to make the western leader feel uncomfortable and humiliated. He had even to go down beside the sergeant-at-arms to get elbow room.

Then they started to heckle him, but it was then that the former minister was seen at his best; he laid them out one by one, from Middleboro, the chief whip, to Lallier, the head of the canners' trust.

Mr. Crerar explained that he had dropped out of the government because he found himself in sharp opposition to his colleagues on the fiscal policy, and the only honorable course to pursue was to tender his resignation. Mr. Calder, on the other hand, maintained that until demobilization is completed, the tariff was not an issue.

Mr. Crerar objected to the budget because of its protectionist tendencies, while Mr. Calder maintained that he would have been satisfied had no tariff changes been announced this session. He agreed with Sir Thomas White's proposals to have tariff revision a little later on, whereas Mr. Crerar was of the opinion that it should take place now as a means of helping production and reducing the cost of living.

The ex-minister of agriculture suggested various means of raising revenue, including a tax on unimproved values of land, which, he said, would yield from 75 to 80 million dollars per annum.

Mr. Calder emphasized the point that the retirement of other Liberal Unionists from the cabinet would precipitate a political crisis and asserted that despite the pleadings and even threats of many of his friends he proposed to follow his own counsel. He intimated his belief that when the principles underlying the revision of the tariff became a matter of consideration by the cabinet the time may have arrived for the retirement of the other ministers of the government. Closing, he expressed the fear that a dangerous situation will be created if no effort is made to remove the cleavage between east and west.

E. B. Devlin, Wright who continued the debate in the afternoon, urged the government to get after the profiteers, while W. F. Cockshut, Brantford, at the evening sitting criticized the finance minister for having made reductions in the tariff. The reduction in the duties on agricultural implements had hit Brantford worse than any other city in Canada, he said.

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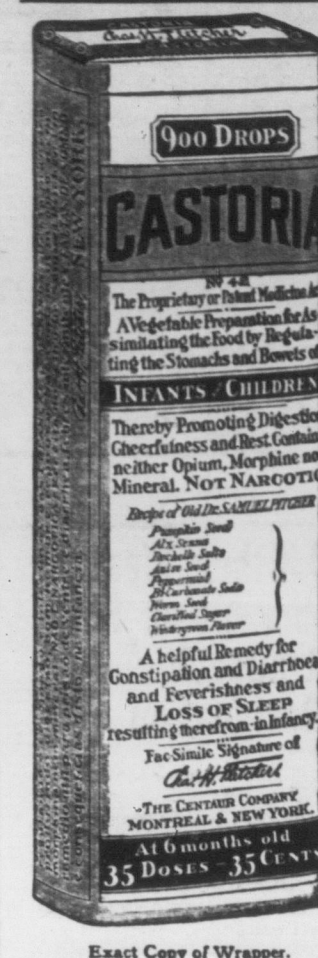
Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux, who followed Mr. Cockshut, thought it amusing that Mr. Calder, who, in 1917, said that "Union government under Borden was impossible," now said, "We must not play politics." Robert Borden gave notice that the commons will sit this week on Saturday afternoon and that morning sessions will commence Monday next. The government hopes to bring about proration about the end of the month.

Several more speakers were heard in the budget debate in the commons on Friday, June 14th, but the division on the McMaster amendment is not expected until towards the end of next week.

The first western member to place himself on record on Friday was Dr. Whidden, member for Brandon. He said he would support the finance minister's proposals, although he would have been better pleased had the concessions made to the west been greater. However, the budget was a move in the right direction, he said, and the west could not expect all the tariff changes to be made in one year.

W. A. Buchanan, Lethbridge, in voicing his disapproval of the tariff provisions of the budget, maintained that the time was opportune for tariff reductions because such would reduce the cost of living, which had been enhanced by the war. Tariff changes were, therefore, a proper remedy to apply

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during the reconstruction period.

J. F. Johnston, of Last Mountain, the first Saskatchewan member to oppose the budget, was heard from late Friday night. His speech was one from a western viewpoint. Just as manufacturing interests in the house tried to disconcert Mr. Crerar during his speech, so Johnston was heckled by corporation lawyers in the house but he proved a match for them. He came out four-square for the progressive platform of the council of agriculture and emphasized the intensity of feeling in the province for tariff relief — a movement which, as he stated, is taking the form of independent political action. He warned the government and the eastern protectionists that the western people are bent upon the redress of their grievances and that there will be no letup until the remedies they demand are applied. Speaking on subjects of special interest to Saskatchewan, apart from the tariff, Johnston put it up to the government to make a pronouncement of their policy for handling the 1919 wheat crop. He also reminded them of their promise to return to the province its natural resources and demanded an early completion of the Hudson

Bay railway. Another point was urging fair settlement in respect to the administration of school lands. The effort of the young member was warmly applauded by Mr. Crerar and the Grain Growers in the house.

Col. Norman Lang, Humboldt, stated that he was still a strong supporter of union government. Although the war was over, its effects were still felt, and he thought the government was entitled to strong support through the present difficult period. He asked for an early repeal of the war time election act; expressed hearty approval of the land settlement scheme, and thanked the government for the railways constructed in his constituency.

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