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Semi-Weekly Telegraph and The News

ST. JOHN, N. B., APRIL 26, 1916.

THE PROHIBITORY LAW

The prohibitory law introduced yesterday in the Legislature is, of course, subject to change before it becomes law. The principal provisions of the bill as it stands are published in this issue, and require careful study.

It is not become effective until May of next year, and it will not even then affect the nine counties which now have the Scott Act, though they may introduce it if they so desire.

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As regards the arrival of the Grand Trunk Pacific in St. John, the night train is running now but for the Laurier government's disgraceful record in connection with the construction of the road and the contract for the Quebec Bridge.

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On Saturday the troubled government organ, evidently under orders, denounced Messrs. Woods and Smith, and rebuked Dr. Price, and so has revealed a party now of generous proportions, in addition to intimating that if the relation process goes on there are many men on the government benches who must be ruined.

The strife in the party is going to be fatal. The government itself is divided. Its supporters are rending one another and the government as well. The cleaning-up process, if carried to its logical conclusion, would break up the whole combination.

What can Premier Clarke and Hon. Messrs. Murray and Baxter—themselves under fire from within and without—do to keep the ship afloat? The evidence recently supplied by the opposition, and by government supporters, shows how hopeless their task is.

Under such circumstances the government is discussing the advisability of asking an election by acclamation for Mr. P. G. Mahoney as a successor to Hon. Mr. Morrissy. There should be no more elections by acclamation for supporters of the tottering and discredited administration at Fredericton.

AT FREDERICTON.

Among the many unsettled questions at Fredericton is that of the relations existing between Hon. Mr. Morrissy and the other members of the government. If the Minister of Public Works considers that the Teed report, by inference or otherwise, contains any reflections upon him as a public man, he will not doubt take the proper steps to make his position clear.

The Teed report makes only incidental reference to the Minister of Public Works and his son, and a statement from Hon. Mr. Morrissy as to that will doubtless be forthcoming in due season. Mr. Charles Morrissy has already given his side of the matter to the public.

But where does Hon. John Morrissy stand as to the government, and where does it stand with respect to him? A few days before the Teed report became public property the Minister of Public Works placed upon the records of the House an impassioned defence of his deputy and a strong denunciation of the deputy's accusers.

A few days later the government removed Mr. Blair in accordance with the findings of Commissioner Teed. It is publicly understood that some of those who were concerned in bringing charges against Blair were really striking at the Minister of Public Works.

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intimated in President Sumner's advertisement that there are several sections in "the uncompleted portions" of the road. Each tender for a section requires a deposit of \$100,000. This is different from the last call for tenders. Then the deposit was five per cent of the amount of the tender.

Evidently the local government is setting the stage for one more announcement that the Valley railway is to be "rushed to completion." The people are waiting for it—the railway, not the announcement—at Grand Falls, Andover, Welsford, Westfield, Kingston, Rothney, Vanocboro, St. Stephen, and elsewhere. The announcement, therefore, will interest many communities.

There is, of course, nothing to indicate that it pledges in regard to the railway will be worth any more than the old ones were.

ENEMIES IN CANADA.

Letters written in Canada by Germans or German sympathizers have been many. The number will probably be less now that the authorities are giving the matter belated attention.

The Toronto Globe publishes one example from the columns of a German newspaper in New York:

"A young actress, the niece of one of our readers, has written from Toronto, Canada, to her mother in New York. I will tell you about the excitement we had here the other night. They have here an American Legion of 1,400 Americans who enlist in the English army. The money and the adventure they can get out of it. Tuesday night one of the Americans got drunk and came into the 'Club' restaurant and started 'roughing' a 'cop' and he resisted, so they beat him up, and on the way to the station he died. One of the soldiers ran to the American barracks and told them what had happened. In ten minutes the streets were full of Americans in their English uniforms. They marched to the police station and smashed everything in the place, killed some 'cops,' started back to the restaurant to fight again. They called out every company and they then there was some fighting. We watched it from our window. It looked like a battlefield. After a while, when things quieted down, we looked at a Department store window and every lamp was smashed. They have riots here every night. The English are afraid to stop the Americans, as they need them to fight."

This letter, the Globe observes, was a tissue of lies, without foundation or excuse. It adds: "That Canada is harboring active promoters who do not scruple to abuse the hospitality extended to them is a fact. The disclosure by members of the Legislature concerning one another in the published in newspapers across the border. A closer censorship of the mails should result in the discovery of these covert enemies and moral assassins. Canada is at war, and those within her borders who aid and abet the enemy by such lies as those quoted should be visited with the utmost rigor of the law."

The French reports from Verdun look better, but although the ninth week of the fighting there is now closing the German advance has not yet been definitely beaten off. Military men are puzzled that the thrust is still persisted in, as, weighing the cost against the advantage to be gained by shifting the French line a few miles, they cannot see that it is a good investment.

The London Times' military correspondent, writing on April 3, said that the French do not for a moment believe that the Germans can now take Verdun. He endorses this opinion, but he says also that the fall of Verdun now would not amount to any more than the pressing back of the French line for a few miles at any other point.

This view has frequently been advanced in Paris and naturally it has been read as meaning that Verdun might yet be taken. The Times expert is evidently confident that the defence will be successful, but he points out that if Verdun itself should fall, there are at least eight other French positions west of the Meuse, and it is felt that a German success at Verdun would make no difference. The most recent news does not suggest that such a success is imminent.

But the Times' military man dwells strongly upon the great military importance of French success in holding Verdun under eight weeks of unprecedented attack. What he says on this point is strengthened by news of the arrival of a Russian force in France and by French successes since the Times' article was written. The London Times said editorially on April 3:

"Far and away more important than any local successes, however brilliant, is the spirit which pervades the defence of Verdun. From February to April they have been subjected to the most searching tests of war, and their glorious courage and self-confidence have risen under the ordeal. That is the great result of all these weeks of slaughter. All the witnesses—all who have seen the French in the trenches—bear testimony to it. The French soldier, feel our military correspondent says, that they have won a moral victory already. They are confident of victory and are all out to win. Mr. von Wiegand, from the Crown Prince's headquarters, speaks to the same effect. That the moral and spirit of the French army are still wonderful, he is confident. Three weeks ago, he adds, the German artillery seemed to be greatly the superior. Today the French are snuffing shell for shell. It is the way in which General Petain and his magnificent troops have built up the defence in the face of an enemy who at first outnumbered them by three to one that has convinced the French army that they are sure of ultimate victory. They feel that they are the better men and that they are better equipped. The most vividly they better men and more courageous. Since General Halfer's former counter-attack they the Germans before Douaumont, their confidence has never faltered. They have seen the Germans to their work, and they have baffled them. They know what the cost has been to the enemy, and how immeasurably heavier it has been than their own. They have proved at all the world that at no time in all

the splendid history of France did the martial spirit of her sons burn with a brighter and a steadier flame than it burns today.

The world has seen what the French can do on the defensive. What it is to see presently is what they can do on the offensive. In every quarter now the future is full of promise for the Allies.

LOOKING AFTER THE DISABLED SOLDIERS.

Soldiers who return from the war disabled by wounds or by illness contracted on active service call for prompt, generous and wise treatment by this Dominion. Dr. Sexton's fine address on Tuesday evening, brings this subject home to the community with timely force. The federal government, and to some extent the provincial government, have in hand the matter of caring for disabled men home from the war, but it is very clear that progress in detail requires stimulating, and that the federal and provincial governments will have to devote a great measure of attention to this problem if the manner of its treatment is to be worthy of a free people.

Canada has a population of approximately eight millions. Before the war we shall have sent perhaps half a million men to Europe. Whatever the number, we owe it to those who are disabled to make provision for them, not only by means of just pensions, but in the matter of training those who can be fitted for any occupations which will tend to render them self-supporting and add to their comfort and self-respect.

France and Germany, as Dr. Sexton pointed out, have already made great strides in this matter. Great Britain has been slower to begin work upon this big problem, but is now beginning to wake up to its importance. In Canada we are still behind Great Britain in this respect. This country is new to war, and our share in the conflict has already given our government a great many new duties to which it is unaccustomed and for which it was unprepared.

Nevertheless, the country must face these new problems as a duty to be met by generous and sustained action, forever keeping in mind what we owe to the men who risked life and limb on our behalf, and yet never forgetting that something more than money is required. So far as possible measures must be adopted which will assist a great percentage of the disabled men to take some useful place in the life of the country. In setting about the successful handling of this problem the government should be able to depend upon the ready sympathy and co-operation of every community.

The work requires unusual qualities. Those who have to deal with disabled soldiers will need skill, patience, high intelligence and a keen sense of duty. The work will be difficult, but it must not be neglected in any way that could be avoided. It requires large funds, but these must be obtained without hesitation. The country is in honor bound to give its disabled soldiers the fullest degree of fair play, and the greatest possible measure of assistance in their restoration to useful citizenship in the home land in whose service they suffered. We who urged them to go must stand by them when they return.

NOTE AND COMMENT. Hon. Mr. Baxter insists upon mixing his politics and his prohibition. And evidently he finds the dose bitter.

Admiral Sir John Jellicoe, in command of the Grand Fleet, is paid less than Sir Richard McBride, the agent in London for a province of Canada, says the Ottawa Citizen.

But for previous "notes" and surprising displays of "patience," the world would think the United States about to break off negotiations with Germany. What is probable is that a new chapter of negotiations is really beginning. But, of course, it is possible the United States has finally come to the turning in the long lane.

Instead of the "whistle of the Hong Kong train" we are going to hear the whistle of the Westfield-Vanocboro-Centreville-Oromocto-St. Stephen-McGivney local. By the way, what is the name of the M. P. P. who is going to rise in his place in the Legislature and propose that New Brunswick issue bonds to pay for that Vanocboro branch?

To Honorable J. D. Hazen and his family the whole country will extend deep and heartfelt sympathy on learning of the blow that has fallen upon him in the death of Lieutenant J. M. Hazen on the field of battle. These things are beyond mere words. It is one more name enshrined in the memory of a young nation honoring and mourning the summons of duty and patriotism and who gave their lives for the cause.

Mr. Col. P. A. Guthrie's remarks in the Legislature yesterday concerning an attempt to associate with a grafting transaction will bear careful reading. It will be noted, too, that Messrs. Price and Woods received Colonel Guthrie's speech with marked impatience and ungraciousness. The soldier member for York evidently found that an attempt was on foot to prevent H. M. Blair from revealing political scandals by making Colonel Guthrie believe his reputation would be attacked if Blair were not silent. The scheme to control Blair by threatening Colonel Guthrie fell through with a crash when the latter took the bull by the horns and exposed the whole thing. His skirts are clean. The others must stew in their own juice. The public interest will be well served if the late deputy minister of Public Works were to take them at their word and pull down the house. The incident in the House yesterday throws further light upon the situation of the government party. The moment some insider tells the truth publicly the whole combination will blow up.

There is more doubt about Roumania. It is even suggested now that Roumania may throw its 600,000 men into the scale for the Central Powers. The Toronto Globe has this disquieting reference to the Balkans: "The attitude of Roumania toward the Allies becomes more doubtful. She has already arranged to provide for Germany's wheat shortage so far as she can do so, and is going to float an internal loan and call to the colors 120,000 year-old lads. It begins to look as if the Roumanians may yet enter the war on the side of the Central powers instead of the Allies. If a secret pact exists between Roumania and Germany it will make a very serious difference in the accuracy of our estimate of the Roumanian army. Roumania is well equipped, and could speedily overrun Bessarabia and paralyze Russian operations on the southern end of the front."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR. SUBSIDIES FOR RIVER STEAMERS. To the Editor of The Telegraph. Sir—Please let me have space in your valuable paper for a few remarks in regard to the steaming service on the St. John river this season. It seems as if we are to have no through service. If this is the case it would be useless for the farmer to plant anything—no way was provided to get to a market. The past steamer Hampshire received a subsidy on the upper end of the river, taking the way from the through boats, and causing the companies to be financially sound, so that they can now continue the service. If a steamer is to be used to plant anything, a few people, a steamer that accommodates all the people along the river is certainly deserving of the same. They ought not to be left to plant anything of another. If there is no through service on the river it certainly will be nothing short of a calamity. I think that the members of the Legislature should regard this matter a little more seriously and try to look after the needs of the people in their constituencies.

Thinking you for publishing these few lines, I remain, Yours, FARMER. Up. Gagetown (N. B.), April 19, 1916.

SAWDUST IN THE RIVERS. To the Editor of The Telegraph: Sir—The party who made the complaint in your paper of April 18 in regard to sawdust in the rivers, the Kennebecas stream had signed his name, it would have helped the wardens to locate the mills and have it stopped. An inquiry sent it is not west of Apohaqui. I have written the warden east of Apohaqui to keep a sharp look out for sawdust in streams. As the rotary mills are continually moving from place to place, it is hard to keep tabs on them. E. L. PERKINS, Special Fishery Guardian, North, N. B., April 18.

GERMAN SPY'S CONFESSION REVEALS STARTLING PLOTS

Von Papen's Agents Prepared to Raid Towns on Great Lakes with Armed Motor Boats and to Invade Canada—Irishmen in Plot to Blow Up Grain Elevators, Railway Junctions and Canal Locks—Werner Horn's Story to the Telegraph Confirmed.

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The memorandum says that when Von Der Goltz was checked by the British authorities, he was identified as Captain Von Papen, the former military attaché of the German embassy at Washington, who had been seized at Fallmouth, and admitted to the United States, and asked to be allowed to make a voluntary statement. He was thereupon given the opportunity to make a statement, which he afterwards swore to.

The government's memorandum remarks: "Von Der Goltz's statement finds detailed corroboration in the Von Papen checks, which he cannot have known were in the possession of the British authorities. The statement of Von Der Goltz, as given by the government, is in part as follows: "On August 3, 1914, I left the Mexican army on leave, and arrived at El Paso where Consul Kueck directed me to report to Von Papen. After visiting Washington, I returned to New York in August. I visited Vice-Consul Von Krause, who suggested that I avoid being seen about the consulate, and he would notify me when to meet Von Papen. A few days later I met Von Papen. I was given an opinion of a scheme suggested by a certain Schulmacker, for raiding towns on the coast of the Great Lakes with a motor boat armed with machine guns. The proposal was later rejected, owing to the embassy receiving unfavorable information about Schulmacker."

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GERMAN SPY'S CONFESSION REVEALS STARTLING PLOTS

Von Papen's Agents Prepared to Raid Towns on Great Lakes with Armed Motor Boats and to Invade Canada—Irishmen in Plot to Blow Up Grain Elevators, Railway Junctions and Canal Locks—Werner Horn's Story to the Telegraph Confirmed.

London, April 21, 12.30 a.m.—The government last night issued a lengthy sworn statement by Horst Von Der Goltz, the secret agent of the German government, who is now in the United States in custody, giving startling details of his activities in America and plots against Canada. The statement bristles with dates and names of places and of persons associated with him.

Confirmed By Checks. The government prefaces it with a memorandum relating to Von Der Goltz's identity and the manner of his arrest in England.

The memorandum says that when Von Der Goltz was checked by the British authorities, he was identified as Captain Von Papen, the former military attaché of the German embassy at Washington, who had been seized at Fallmouth, and admitted to the United States, and asked to be allowed to make a voluntary statement. He was thereupon given the opportunity to make a statement, which he afterwards swore to.

The government's memorandum remarks: "Von Der Goltz's statement finds detailed corroboration in the Von Papen checks, which he cannot have known were in the possession of the British authorities. The statement of Von Der Goltz, as given by the government, is in part as follows: "On August 3, 1914, I left the Mexican army on leave, and arrived at El Paso where Consul Kueck directed me to report to Von Papen. After visiting Washington, I returned to New York in August. I visited Vice-Consul Von Krause, who suggested that I avoid being seen about the consulate, and he would notify me when to meet Von Papen. A few days later I met Von Papen. I was given an opinion of a scheme suggested by a certain Schulmacker, for raiding towns on the coast of the Great Lakes with a motor