

The Freeman, Times & Star

VOL. XV., No. 115.

ST. JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1919

TWELVE PAGES—ONE CENT

Say German Plan Back Of Conference

Americans' View Of Gathering At Berne

Note Absence of Representatives of Important Organizations and Declare Belief of Design to Redeem Germany From Military Dealt and Avoid Indemnity

Paris, Feb. 4.—The Berne Socialist conference, to which many Socialist bodies in Europe have failed to send representatives, is the outcome of a German plan to help Germany retrieve her military defeat and escape the payment of just indemnities, in the belief of Charles Edward Russell and William Walling, speaking in behalf of the Socialist League of the United States. Messrs. Russell and Walling last night gave out the following statement in the name of the league: "As delegates to our organization we decline to go to Berne, because, despite the pretension that the world's labor classes are represented there, its principal movers are those in all countries who tried to cause peace when it would have meant the triumph of imperialism and the ruin of the working class democracy."

GREEK CLAIMS TO TERRITORY

Matters in Venizelos' Statement to go to Commission of Experts

Paris, Feb. 4.—The supreme council today agreed that questions in the statement of Premier Venizelos concerning Greek territorial interests in the peace settlement should be referred to a commission of experts whose duty it will be to make recommendations for a just settlement.

Paris, Feb. 4.—No answer has been returned by the American delegates to the peace conference to that is said to be an almost unanimous desire of the other powers that the United States undertake to act as mandatory for Armenia and the other several provinces of Turkey.

Paris, Feb. 4.—Leon Bourgeois, French proponent of a league of nations, yesterday transmitted to the Society of Nations Commission recommendations as to principles submitted to him by the inter-Allied Association for the Promotion of a League of Nations.

Paris, Feb. 4.—The committee on war savings societies, of which R. W. Wignore, M. P., is chairman, met this morning at the Thrift stamp headquarters, Prince William street, to report progress. Reports were most satisfactory; everywhere the committee men had gone ahead and organized many telephone requests for the organization of societies had been received and in several large establishments, the staffs had gone ahead and organized savings societies without waiting for the committee.

Paris, Feb. 4.—The committee on war savings societies, of which R. W. Wignore, M. P., is chairman, met this morning at the Thrift stamp headquarters, Prince William street, to report progress. Reports were most satisfactory; everywhere the committee men had gone ahead and organized many telephone requests for the organization of societies had been received and in several large establishments, the staffs had gone ahead and organized savings societies without waiting for the committee.

Paris, Feb. 4.—The committee on war savings societies, of which R. W. Wignore, M. P., is chairman, met this morning at the Thrift stamp headquarters, Prince William street, to report progress. Reports were most satisfactory; everywhere the committee men had gone ahead and organized many telephone requests for the organization of societies had been received and in several large establishments, the staffs had gone ahead and organized savings societies without waiting for the committee.

Paris, Feb. 4.—The committee on war savings societies, of which R. W. Wignore, M. P., is chairman, met this morning at the Thrift stamp headquarters, Prince William street, to report progress. Reports were most satisfactory; everywhere the committee men had gone ahead and organized many telephone requests for the organization of societies had been received and in several large establishments, the staffs had gone ahead and organized savings societies without waiting for the committee.

Paris, Feb. 4.—The committee on war savings societies, of which R. W. Wignore, M. P., is chairman, met this morning at the Thrift stamp headquarters, Prince William street, to report progress. Reports were most satisfactory; everywhere the committee men had gone ahead and organized many telephone requests for the organization of societies had been received and in several large establishments, the staffs had gone ahead and organized savings societies without waiting for the committee.

Paris, Feb. 4.—The committee on war savings societies, of which R. W. Wignore, M. P., is chairman, met this morning at the Thrift stamp headquarters, Prince William street, to report progress. Reports were most satisfactory; everywhere the committee men had gone ahead and organized many telephone requests for the organization of societies had been received and in several large establishments, the staffs had gone ahead and organized savings societies without waiting for the committee.

Paris, Feb. 4.—The committee on war savings societies, of which R. W. Wignore, M. P., is chairman, met this morning at the Thrift stamp headquarters, Prince William street, to report progress. Reports were most satisfactory; everywhere the committee men had gone ahead and organized many telephone requests for the organization of societies had been received and in several large establishments, the staffs had gone ahead and organized savings societies without waiting for the committee.

Paris, Feb. 4.—The committee on war savings societies, of which R. W. Wignore, M. P., is chairman, met this morning at the Thrift stamp headquarters, Prince William street, to report progress. Reports were most satisfactory; everywhere the committee men had gone ahead and organized many telephone requests for the organization of societies had been received and in several large establishments, the staffs had gone ahead and organized savings societies without waiting for the committee.

UNION HALL AND PORTLAND LIBRARY

Reports at Annual Meeting Today—Salary Increase for Librarian—Epidemic Affected Use of Library

The annual meeting of the corporation of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, of the Town of Portland, was held this afternoon in their building, Main street. The election of officers took place and reports were received from the secretary, treasurer and librarian.

The following is the report of the secretary-treasurer:—

Abstract report of income and expenditure of Union Hall for the year ending January 31, 1919:—

INCOME.

January 31, 1918, balance.....\$ 1.50

Rent of stores..... 47.00

Rent of hall..... 705.20

Rent of library..... 100.00

.....\$1,276.70

Expenditure

St. John Times.....\$ 7.50

Ground rent..... 70.50

City taxes..... 125.08

Standard Ltd..... 8.40

Dr. J. D. Maher, rent..... 12.50

Water tax..... 28.81

Quinn & Co..... 1.25

Insurance..... 140.00

Janitor..... 25.00

Secretary-treasurer..... 50.00

W. C. T. U..... 50.00

Dividend to Librarian..... 190.00

(Continued on page 2; seventh column)

HEAVY WORK AHEAD FOR THE NEW BRITISH HOUSE, OPENING TODAY

London, Feb. 4.—(British Wireless Service)—A heavy programme of work faced the new parliament at its opening session today. Financial problems and measures concerning social and industrial reconstruction were expected to be among the first things tackled. The budget probably will be taken up after the Easter recess.

The government, it is understood, will propose the establishment of several new government departments. Four new ministries have been planned to deal with supply, ways and communications, health and commerce.

There will be land and housing bills, a bill for the reconstruction of pre-war practices in industry and a military service bill to give legal sanction to the proposals of the constitution of the British army of occupation. Measures are being prepared by the government to prevent "dumping" and to restrict immigration.

Paris, Feb. 4.—Leon Bourgeois, French proponent of a league of nations, yesterday transmitted to the Society of Nations Commission recommendations as to principles submitted to him by the inter-Allied Association for the Promotion of a League of Nations.

Paris, Feb. 4.—The committee on war savings societies, of which R. W. Wignore, M. P., is chairman, met this morning at the Thrift stamp headquarters, Prince William street, to report progress. Reports were most satisfactory; everywhere the committee men had gone ahead and organized many telephone requests for the organization of societies had been received and in several large establishments, the staffs had gone ahead and organized savings societies without waiting for the committee.

Paris, Feb. 4.—The committee on war savings societies, of which R. W. Wignore, M. P., is chairman, met this morning at the Thrift stamp headquarters, Prince William street, to report progress. Reports were most satisfactory; everywhere the committee men had gone ahead and organized many telephone requests for the organization of societies had been received and in several large establishments, the staffs had gone ahead and organized savings societies without waiting for the committee.

MAKE IT CRIME TO BUILD SUBMARINES

London Telegraph Very Strong on This Matter

ENGLAND CHIEF SUFFERER

Nine Million Tons of Shipping, Cargoes Worth Hundreds of Million Pounds, and 15,000 Lives Sacrificed by Enemy

London, Feb. 4.—Referring to a report received from Paris by way of New York, that the American plan for assuring freedom of the seas includes the restricted use or abolition of the submarine, the Daily Telegraph says: "The submarine campaign, was aimed at this country and we suffered worse than all the other nations combined. There is danger that that fact may be overlooked. Besides ships, we lost cargoes valued at hundreds of millions of pounds sterling, while 15,000 British men, women and children were assassinated at sea."

"As we made no special representations on this subject, there has been a tendency to suggest that we emerged from this piracy rather well off. Let it be remarked once more that 9,000,000 tons of our shipping lie at the bottom of the sea. We are interested that any community in the proposal for the abolition of the submarine. It would be misleading to claim that naval opinion is unanimous in this matter, but a large body of naval opinion, and even a larger proportion of statesmen on both sides of the Atlantic favor the abolition of the U-boat."

"It is not sufficient that the peace conference shall mark by a resolution its abhorrence of the enemy's acts. If the world is to be safe for democracy, something more than a declaration as to the limits within which submarines may be employed must be made, for as long as submarines exist they may be misused. It must be stigmatized as a crime to build submarines, and power must be secured to punish any nation which again embarks on this kind of naval construction."

Basle, Feb. 4.—Speaking before the Colonial Society in Berlin yesterday, Matthias Erzberger, one of the German armistice commissioners, protested against Germany being deprived of her colonies, according to a despatch from the German capital. He is reported to have said: "If we no longer have troops or arms, we have our rights. The Allies have accepted Mr. Wilson's fourteen points, as Germany has. Mr. Wilson demands peace and impartial regulations of the colonial questions, but the Allies are seeking to impose the will of stronger nations, without taking into account the rights of Germany."

"Depriving Germany of all her colonies would contain a deadly germ for the league of nations, ever before that league is born. We understand it has been proposed to internationalize German colonies under the administration of the league of nations. We ought categorically to repel such a proposition, or claim the same treatment for the colonies of all other powers. President Wilson's programme gives Germany an inviolate right to her colonial territories."

AMERICANS PAY HONOR TO BRITISHER

London, Feb. 4.—The American distinguished service medal has been awarded by President Wilson to Lieut. Francis W. Craven, who commanded the British destroyer Mounsey, which saved 600 Americans from the British transport Otranto when she was sunk in a collision off the Scottish coast on October 6, 1918, with the loss of 367 American soldiers.

BURNED IN EXPLOSION; CHEMIST LOSES LIFE

Jersey City, N. J., Feb. 4.—Dr. George Peirce of Montclair, N. J., research chemist for a soap manufacturing plant, who was burned in a chemicals explosion at the Colgate Works yesterday, died today of his injuries.

WEATHER REPORT

Issued by Authority of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, R. F. Stewart, director of meteorological service

Synopsis—The weather is very cold in the western provinces, moderately cold from Montreal eastward and mild in Ontario. There are indications that a storm will develop near the middle Atlantic coast.

Maritime—Fresh westerly winds, fine; Wednesday, winds increasing to gales from eastward, with snow or sleet.

Lower St. Lawrence, Gulf and North Shore—Fine and moderately cold; Wednesday, northeast winds with snow.

New England—Cloudy tonight and Wednesday, probably snow in interior and rain or snow on the coast; warmer tonight, moderate south winds.

THE SKIPPER WHO SKIPPED



Wilhelm the Skipper:—"I have piled my ship on the rocks, but I seem to have saved my skin—for the present."—London Opinion.

SINN FEIN LEADER SAID TO HAVE MADE ESCAPE

London, Feb. 4.—A report was current this morning that Professor Edward De Valera, Sinn Fein leader, had escaped from his place of internment in England. No confirmation of the report was obtainable up to noon.

Professor De Valera was taken in custody last spring when the British government rounded up several Sinn Feiners and interned them at a time when it was declared a plot backed by Germany, was in process of incubation in Ireland. Professor De Valera denied the existence of any German plot. He has been held, nevertheless, with other Sinn Feiners, and was still under detention when he was elected to parliament at the general election in December, and when, last month, he was chosen as a Sinn Fein delegate to the peace conference.

Professor De Valera was taken in custody last spring when the British government rounded up several Sinn Feiners and interned them at a time when it was declared a plot backed by Germany, was in process of incubation in Ireland. Professor De Valera denied the existence of any German plot. He has been held, nevertheless, with other Sinn Feiners, and was still under detention when he was elected to parliament at the general election in December, and when, last month, he was chosen as a Sinn Fein delegate to the peace conference.

BOLSHEVISTS NOW IN CONTROL OF NEARLY ALL EASTERN UKRAINE

Compel Officers of Old Russian Army to do Their Bidding or See Their Families Suffer

London, Feb. 4.—Bolshevik forces are now masters of almost the whole of Eastern Ukraine, including Kharkov, Poltava, Ekaterinoslav and the Kometz mining region, according to a Helsingfors despatch to the Mail. It is reported that a Soviet government has been established at Kharkov, the president being M. Rakovsky, one of the signatories to the Brest-Litovsk treaty with Germany.

Archangel, Feb. 2.—(Monday, by the Associated Press)—Advice to the Allied intelligence department reveal some of the methods by which the Bolsheviks have been able to organize their army in such a way as to make possible the carrying on of a strong campaign in Northern Russia. The principle of these methods, according to information received from the interior, lies in compelling the generals and staff officers in the Russian army to serve the Bolsheviks by holding their families as hostages for the officers' conduct. There have been officers' families placed under close arrest, the women being treated as badly as the men.

The position of former Russian officers in the ranks of the Soviet army is extremely difficult. They occupy posts as commanding officers and are treated in all technical matters; but in regard of everything else are under constant suspicion by the carrying out of operations. The Bolshevik commissioners, who are permanently attached to the army and even control the staff of the city schools.

General mobilization of soldiers in all districts is being vigorously carried out, and all attempts to avoid service are being severely dealt with.

AMERICANS GET OPTION ON BIG QUEBEC LIMITS

Quebec, Feb. 4.—An American firm with head offices in Baltimore, Md., has taken options on the old Cabot estate vast timber limits in Gaspé county, near Grand River, and intends developing it. A pulp and paper mill employing 600 hands is one of the first improvements to be made.

AN ENJOYABLE DRIVE

Last evening about half past seven o'clock about twenty boys of the Tuxis class of St. Mary's Sunday school, along with young lady friends boarded a sleigh for a long anticipated drive to Torryburn. After the drive they returned to the school room where the rest of the evening was very socially passed in games and other amusements under the supervision of their tutor, Rev. R. T. McKim. Some of the kind ladies of the church served a dainty repast. At the close the national anthem was sung and the rector pronounced the benediction and the young people adjourned to their respective homes.

FEAR NARRAGANSETT MUST STAY ASHORE

Washington, Feb. 4.—Admiral Sims advised the navy department today that officials in charge of efforts to float the American steamer Narragansett, stranded on the Isle of Wight, were not very hopeful of success. All aboard the steamer were removed safely.

More and Stronger Beer

The war cabinet in London has decided to allow an increase of twenty-five per cent on the existing permitted statutory barrelage of beer and to increase by three-decrees the average gravity of beer.

London On Foot Or In 'Busses To Work

RANDFONTEIN TAKES TO WATER

Large Schooner Successfully Launched at Strait Shore This Afternoon

The Randfontein, the new four masted steam schooner built by the Marine Construction Company at their ship yard in Chesley street, was successfully launched this afternoon. The event was witnessed by a large number of people who lined the shore on the east side and the heights on the west side and saw the large ship take her first dip into the waters of St. John. The vessel is the second successfully launched by this company and D. H. Saker, head of the Marine Construction Company, was warmly congratulated by a host of friends, officials and others.

The Randfontein glided gracefully into the water at five minutes to two. The launch was witnessed by about 1,200 spectators, including members of the Canadian Lumbermen's Association, who arrived to meet in conference in this city. The launch was also witnessed by both civic and military officials. As the ship was released on the ways she gradually gained momentum and took to the water without a mishap. The launch is said by those who saw it to have been one of the prettiest seen in St. John for years. The vessel was towed to the wharf of the Maritime Construction Company, where it will be fitted out.

It was learned this morning that Captain J. Freeman Smelter of Mahone Bay, N. S., will take command of her. Work on the Randfontein was commenced about May 20, following the launching of the ill-fated Dorfontein. It is said by the workmen that the time in which the new vessel was built is somewhat of a record considering the season of the year and the complete stage to which the new schooner is finished. She is a stable vessel, stoutly built and beautiful in design. She is equipped with a fifteen 23 by 20 compound engine. Her dimensions are 205 feet length, 250 feet over all, thirty-eight feet beam, and has a whole depth of 18.6 feet. She will be a vessel of 1,200 tons gross.

It has been learned with regret that there will be no more vessels built in the shipyard on Strait Shore, but it is believed that the yard will be turned to other lines of activity necessitating the employment of workmen.

DISCUSSION ON THE COMPENSATION ACT

Moncton Men Bring up Matter of Government Railway Employees—Messrs. Duncair and Sugrue Take Part

Moncton, Feb. 4.—The workmen's compensation board comprising John A. Sinclair, F. C. Robinson and James L. Sugrue attended a mass meeting of Moncton labor men last night, explaining the act. Mr. Sinclair took up the matter fully and replied to questions. There was considerable discussion as to the position of Dominion government employees under the act. The chairman of the board said that the Dominion government employees in the province are not under the act. The board had asked the Dominion government to file a statement of pay roll so that they could be classified with other industries and assessed, but the Dominion government has refused to furnish a pay roll statement. The federal authorities would do as they saw fit, the board could not compel them to submit.

George A. Stone spoke of federal legislation providing that government railway employees coming under the provision fund were excluded from benefits under the Workmen's Compensation Act. He moved a resolution asking the Dominion authorities to amend the legislation so that government railway employees would benefit by the Workmen's Compensation Act. This was seconded by T. C. Ayer and unanimously carried.

A. R. Mosher of the Canadian Brotherhood of Railway Employees, Halifax, urged that co-operation of all trades and labor councils in Canada be sought in remedying the present condition of affairs as affecting the position of the government railway employees regarding the compensation act.

Dr. O. B. Price said that when labor organizations united their forces they would get the desired recognition.

Mr. Sugrue, who is in charge of the claims department of the board, said that 185 claims had been made during January.

QUEBEC ELECTIONS COMING IN SPRING?

Quebec, Feb. 4.—There is an uncredited rumor in local political circles hinting at provincial elections in Quebec early next spring. It may be that Premier Gouin would retire from the provincial field.

DIED IN MICHIGAN

The death of Mary, wife of Anthony Kreitz and daughter of Frank and the late Bridget McGinnis of North End, occurred in Michigan on January 29. Mrs. Kreitz leaves her husband, three children, her father and two brothers, James of Winnipeg and Frank of this city.

Vancouver Wins

Vancouver, B. C., Feb. 4.—In a hockey match last night Vancouver defeated Seattle, 5 to 2.

Railway Tie-Up in The Empire Capital

Power Plant Quits and District Railway is Compelled to Give up Service—Situation in Glasgow Reported Better

London, Feb. 4.—Profiting by its experience on Monday, when the city awoke to find transportation hampered by the strike in the tubes, London started early to work today. By day-break the streets were well filled with men and women walking from the suburbs, the 'buses, when they started at seven o'clock, were crowded. Almost everyone carried a tube striker, who was urging the grid conductors to strike, but up to the present these efforts have been without success.

The strike of the waiters in the West End hotels has been only partially successful. While some remained at work, many failed to appear this morning. Breakfasts were served after a fashion, however, and hotel men declare they will fight the strike, and that they are now recruiting new forces.

Better in Glasgow

London, Feb. 3.—(Reuters)—The situation at Glasgow showed further improvement today. Though none of the strikers at the Fairfield shipbuilding yards resumed work, fully sixty per cent of the strikers at the Cathcart engineering works and at the Linthouse shipyard returned. This afternoon the shipwrights at Govan notified the authorities they would resume work tomorrow morning if protection for them could be provided.

It is understood that the impression prevails among the authorities that a small minority brought about the strike at Glasgow.

No Power

London, Feb. 4.—The London district railway was completely shut down this morning, for although all the drivers did not join the strikers, the staff at the power plant which supplies the current for the lines went out at an early hour, without giving any reason for such action. As this line, which has a circular route as well as many radial lines, carries thousands of passengers to all parts of the metropolis, the traffic on it became more serious than ever. Many motor lorries, and virtually every other class of vehicle were requisitioned for the emergency, but despite these measures were not nearly enough accommodations for those who desired to move about the city.

As another result of the shutdown of the power station some of the street cars on the Surrey side of the Thames, which get their current from the station, were compelled to stop running.

ASKED FOR 100; WILL GET DOUBLE THAT

French Post Office Department Employees Receive a Pleasant Surprise

Paris, Feb. 4.—The newly formed union of employees of the post office, telegraph and telephone department met yesterday to hear a report from a delegation sent to the ministry to demand an increase of 100 per cent in wages. When the report was heard the surprise was so great that there were some moments of impressive silence.

The report announced that the ministry has a bill prepared by which all wages would be raised 200 per cent up to 4,000 francs yearly, which latter salary would become 12,000 francs annually. Wages above that figure also would be raised on a graduated scale.

Under the bill women's wages would be the same as for men for the same kind of work.

PASSES FOR SAND POINT

Owing to the fact that the work of handling the soldiers and their baggage has been seriously hampered on the arrival of troops recently by crowds of spectators who have thronged the wharves, it has been decided to limit admission to the landing wharf to those who have a reasonable excuse for being there.

J. R. Clancy, agent for the C. P. O. S., waited on Meyer Hayes this morning and explained to him that considerable confusion and delay had been caused on the arrival of the last steamer by the number of people who crowded the sheds, and in the interests of the soldiers who wish to get away to their homes as quickly as possible he asked permission to limit admission to the shed. The mayor agreed to this and in future when a troop steamer arrives admission to the wharf at which she lies will be permitted only to those holding passes.

There is no intention to keep out any one who has any business or any reasonable excuse for being on the wharf, but such persons may secure passes by calling at the C. P. O. S. office on the west side. The rule will have the effect of keeping away idlers and spectators who in the past have hampered the movements of the soldiers and the officials.