

DOMINION GOVERNMENT TO LEND ITS ASSISTANCE TO THE PROVINCE FOR IMPROVING HIGHWAYS

The Legislative Programme is Practically Complete and Includes Many Important Measures Involving a Considerable Expenditure for Purposes of Reconstruction—There Will be no Tariff Tinkering at the Forthcoming Session.

Ottawa, Feb. 4.—The government's legislative programme for the coming session is practically complete. It includes a number of very important measures, involving a considerable expenditure for purposes of reconstruction. There will be a bill providing for Federal assistance to highways under which the Dominion shall provide from ten to fifteen million dollars to be distributed among the various provinces during the coming year.

Even the Liberal-Unionists, most of whom are low tariff men, agree that the Government purpose in introducing the bill is not an extremely un-likely that this will be done. Even the Liberal-Unionists, most of whom are low tariff men, agree that the Government purpose in introducing the bill is not an extremely un-likely that this will be done.

The Federal Franchise Act, which the Government proposes introducing, is expected to provide the big battle ground of the session. The Laurierites will fight, as Blake fought in 1895, to have provincial lists, and will, undoubtedly, work to the utmost to break the solid Unionist phalanx upon that question.

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SIR ROBERT BORDEN SAYS CANADA HAS NO TERRITORIAL CLAIMS

Does Not Forecast Any Possible or Desirable Solution for Problems of the Peace Conference as They Are of Too Delicate and Difficult a Nature—League of Nations Before Everything.

Paris, Feb. 4.—Interviewed by the newspaper Excelsior, Sir Robert Borden, Prime Minister of Canada, declined to make any formal statement on provisions of the Peace Conference, as he considered haphazard discussions might be harmful to the rapidity of its labors.

Premier Borden then emphasized the intellectual affinities of the two nations, and referring to the Franco-Canadian convention of 1895 declared it was particularly a commercial arrangement. Sir George Foster, Dominion Minister of Trade and Commerce, also interviewed by the newspaper Excelsior, said that France had informed Canada of her desire to denounce the 1895 treaty, as well as all other commercial treaties.

Sir Robert referred to the military effort of Canada, which he observed has "all the more right to be proud at the exploits of her army as she only possessed at the outbreak of the war three thousand men and has placed nearly half a million men at the service of the common cause."

He had received but few commercial offers or applications, and emphasized the order to prosecute the war in case the proposed conference on the Island of Princess fails.

DIRECT COST OF WAR ESTIMATED AT FORTY BILLION POUNDS

Indirect Cost in Diminished Trade and Financial Disturbance is Placed at Fifty Billion Pounds Sterling—Billions Have Not Been in Vain if a Better World Emerges Out of the Four Years of Ruin.

London, Feb. 4.—(British Wireless Service).—The direct cost of the war is estimated at forty billion pounds sterling. In a special article in the Daily Telegraph today, the author estimates the indirect cost of diminished trade and financial disturbance at fifty billion pounds sterling.

But there is a moral aspect to be taken into account. We may, at least, hope that we have put an end forever to the danger of Prussian militarism. If, out of the ruins of the last four years, there arises a new, brighter and happier world, then the billions that have been spent will not all have been spent in vain.

TWO MAIN PLANS FOR LEAGUE OF NATIONS EMBODYING COMPOSITE IDEAS WERE CONSIDERED BY COMMISSION TESDA

One Plan Considered Democratic and More Acceptable to Smaller Powers, While the Other is Not Favored by Them—First Plan Goes Long Way Toward Creation of International Supreme, Legislative and Executive Branches—Smaller Powers Object to Revised Plan or Second Under Consideration.

Paris, Feb. 4.—(By The Associated Press).—President Wilson presided tonight over the Commission of the Society of Nations, which had before it the completed project for constituting the League, discussing its article by article. While there is no authoritative information concerning the details of the project, the distribution of printed drafts among the members has disclosed the main features and these can be summarized as follows:

Two main plans have been presented, which the members of the commission regard as embodying the American views, though both plans are composite, containing the best features of various sources, American, British, French and Italian.

Both plans are being considered together. In its original form the first plan is generally considered more democratic, and therefore more acceptable to the smaller powers, as it eliminates them from the executive branch of the proposed organization, and is a long step toward the creation of an International Supreme Court, with a fundamental basis of codified international law.

The second, an executive branch, consisting of two members from each of the great powers, United States, Great Britain, France, Italy and Japan, and nine members chosen from the small powers. This gave the executive body a total membership of nineteen of which ten represented the great powers, and nine represented the small powers.

FREDERICTON CITY COUNCIL IN ACTION

Sidetracks Vocational Education Temporarily—Adjusting Difficulties With Exhibition People.

Fredericton, Feb. 4.—At a meeting of the city council tonight it was decided to delay action on the matter of vocational education under act passed by the last Legislature. The council will ask for a conference with Fletcher Pascoe, director of Vocational Education in this province.

MONEY BULGING FROM POCKETS

Laborers Returning from Halifax With Fat Rolls—Many Building Permits Issued in January.

Halifax, N.S., Feb. 4.—Some of the men who came to Halifax to work on reconstruction, and who are now finished with the work, are leaving Halifax with small fortunes. A number of Montreal workers who were on the job when the big salaries prevailed, saved over \$2,000, while others will take back with them \$1,500 to \$1,800.

PERMANENT ROADS AT FREDERICTON

Representative of the Barrett Co. Meets City Officials Regarding Work to be Done.

Fredericton, Feb. 4.—Roy Deb Carritte, of the Barrett Company, who has been engaged in putting permanent tarred pavement in the Marsh Road street, St. John, was here today discussing the proposed permanent pavement programme with Mayor Hanson and members of the city road committee. The details will be taken up at a later date.

FOOD CONTROL AIDED PACKERS

Former Employee of the Food Administration of U. S. Makes Statement.

Washington, Feb. 4.—The food administration and the department of agriculture aided the five big packing firms in obtaining a monopolistic control of the meat packing industry. Edward C. Lassiter, of the National Livestock Association's executive committee, and a former employee of the food administration, said testifying before a subcommittee of the house interstate commerce committee.

SINN FEINERS ESCAPE PRISON

London, Feb. 4.—Professor Edward Dr. Valera, the Sinn Fein leader, and Millroy and McGarry, also Sinn Feiners of parliament, escaped from the prison at Lincoln last night, according to a despatch from Lincoln to the Evening News.

ANOTHER STRIKE LOOMING UP

Montreal, Que., Feb. 4.—The employees of the Montreal Tramways Company will meet tomorrow to consider their application to the company for a nine-hour day and an increase in wage rates from 46 cents an hour to 56c. There are other minor claims connected with clothing and holidays, which are also before the company, and to which no reply has yet been received.

HOT RHETORICAL SHOTS FIRED BY FRENCH AND GERMANS AT BERNE LABOR CONFERENCE

Many Reciprocal Reproaches and Accusations Marked Second Sitting of International Labor and Socialist Conference—French Delegates Show Their Distrust of German Representatives Present—Americans Keep Away from Berne.

Berne, Feb. 4.—A violent rhetorical duel between the French and German Socialists, with many reciprocal reproaches and accusations, marked the second sitting last night of the International Labor and Socialist Conference. The French side of the debate was in the hands of Pierre Renaudel, Albert Thomas and M. Mistral.

Wells thereupon attacked M. Thomas and charged that he had driven Russia back into the war by the assurances he gave Premier Kerensky. He said that the Allies gave strength to the Bolsheviks by not allowing the Brat-Litovsk conference. The German Socialist said that M. Thomas had made no protest against the conditions of the armistices "which are ruining Germany" so that "the silence of the German Socialists, when the German government took a similar attitude toward the Allies, ought to be understood."

STRIKERS WILL RETURN TO WORK

Employes of the Artificial Limb Factories Have Come to an Agreement With the Government.

Toronto, Feb. 4.—The striking employees of the local Government Artificial Limb Factories will go back to work tomorrow morning. This decision was arrived at by a vote of 55 to 29 at a meeting this afternoon. After Fred Price, chairman of the men's strike committee, had advised the men to go back to work without him. He announced himself willing to resign in order to help a settle ment. The department of Returned Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment granted all the men's requests except two. The department refused to pay the men for the time they were off, or to reinstate Mr. Price.

BREMEN PARTIES STILL IN REVOLT

Can't Harmonize Their Views and it is Feared a Conflict is Unavoidable.

Berlin, Feb. 4. (By The A. P.).—The Communist Peoples' Commissioners of Bremen have declared their readiness to resign and form a new government, to be composed of men from all the socialist parties on the basis of the vote cast in the election. The armed workmen have agreed to surrender their arms to the soldiers' councils of Hamburg and Bremerhaven. The commission, however, will ask the government to withdraw the Gerstenberg division.

EVIDENCE CLOSES IN HALL CASE

Arguments Started Yesterday and Jury Will Take Evidence Under Consideration This Afternoon.

Saco, Me., Feb. 4.—In Hall's cross-examination his relations with women were the subject of many of the questions. He was asked about his engagement to Grace Gerow of Wells, soon after the death of his wife, and about an alleged dispute in his parish in Princeton over visits to a young woman there. He admitted there "was some kackling of old hens" in Princeton, but denied later in re-direct examination that there was any impropriety in his relations with the woman mentioned.

THREATENED STRIKE OF RAILWAY CLERKS HAS BEEN AVERTED

Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen Serve a Warning Notice—Hotel Workers' Strike Has Caused Some Inconvenience.

London, Feb. 4.—The threatened strike of railway clerks has been averted, the employers have conceded the recognition of the railway clerks' union.

BUILDINGS TAKEN BY SPARTACANS

Copenhagen, Feb. 4.—A majority of the government buildings in Koenigsberg, East Prussia, have been seized by Spartacus from Berlin. The governor of East Prussia has declared a state of siege in the Thorn district and instituted court martial.

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