

The Evening Times-Star

The Weather Gales; Rain

A Progressive, Clean, Home Newspaper

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SAINT JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 1925

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DEATH TOLL IN TORONTO REACHES 1,000

26 CITIES AND TOWNS IN FIVE STATES BADLY HIT BY STORM

At Least 3,000 Are Injured and Many Hundreds Homeless According to Meagre Reports This Morning

PROPERTY LOSS TOTALS MILLIONS

Fire Follows in Wake of Twister and Completes Destruction—Only Three Out of 250 Occupants of School Building in Desoto Escape Unhurt—Aid Rushed to District

CARBONDALE, Ill., March 19.—Upward of 1,000 persons are dead, and probably 3,000 injured, with hundreds of others homeless, within a radius of 25 miles of this city, as a result of yesterday's tornado, according to reports filtering here this morning.

Twenty-six cities and towns in five states were hit by the tornado. Fire completed the destruction of large sections of many of these cities.

The storm swept a path from Cape Girardeau, Missouri, to Elizabeth, Indiana, with one branch of the tornado over Witham, Tenn., and into Central Kentucky.

The principal cities affected were Murphysboro, Desoto and West Frankfort, in Illinois, and Griffin, Owensville and Princeton, in Indiana, and Witham, Tenn.

DEATH LIST MOUNTS

CHICAGO, March 19.—So prostrated were portions of Illinois and Indiana through which the tornado traveled in a series of erratic hops that definite figures of loss of life and property were impossible early today, although available reports trickling in from territories in which communication virtually was cut off added to an uncertain casualty list which it was feared would be increased as they advanced.

"Several towns" in the path of the twister, which apparently came out of the Ozark Hills, due to low barometric pressure in Arkansas, and first struck at Annapolis, Mo., virtually were destroyed, while in many places added to the havoc.

So terrific was the force of the storm that bodies were carried a mile, while timbers from the wrecked town of Desoto, Ill., were found in Duquoin, 15 miles away.

The greatest loss of life, according to available reports, occurred in Southern Illinois, where more than 800 were reported killed as the tornado tore northeastward through Murphysboro, West Frankfort, Desoto and other large towns of the area.

SCHOOL RAZED. At Desoto, a school house was razed, only three of the 250 occupants reported escaping without injuries, while 88 bodies had been taken from the ruins last night.

The main path of the tornado was less than 200 miles in length, but divisions of the twister hopped off in several directions.

Starting from Annapolis, the storm moved northeast and after striking two other towns on the Missouri side of the Mississippi River, jumped into Illinois, traversed that state, divided near the Indiana state line, and spent its force in Southern Indiana and Northern Kentucky.

Another line apparently moved southeastward from Annapolis, through Cape Girardeau, Mo., and struck isolated portions of Northern Central Tennessee and Kentucky, where the storm was also reported from Portsmouth, Ohio, but without serious damage.

TRAVELS 700 MILES. With its various offshoots, the tornado apparently traversed nearly 700 miles of territory although only in the main path from Annapolis to Princeton, Ind., about 165 miles, was the distance and loss of life heavy.

The path of the storm apparently was not steady in places. It being reported 300 feet.

While details of the destruction left by the storm came in on crippled lines of communication, relief was being rushed into the stricken area from many nearby towns.

RELIEF MEASURES.

Relief workmen, doctors, nurses, medicine and supplies, were dispatched immediately from St. Louis, Chicago and other points.

Troops were rushed into the district in Illinois and in several towns in the path of the storm, local companies of militia were mobilized for guard duty and relief.

It was announced that a bill authorizing \$300,000 for relief would be introduced in the Illinois Legislature today.

Loss of life was reported from 26

Eye-Witness Tells of Scene of Destruction

DUQUOIN, Ill., March 19.—The first authentic eye witness description of the destruction of Desoto and Murphysboro was told today by A. Essick, editor of the Duquoin Call. Essick was the first outsider to get into Murphysboro after the storm struck.

"The storm swept directly through the business section of the city," he said, "cutting a swath about 100 yards wide.

"The dome was lifted completely off the city hall and hurled down the Main street. The high school was demolished and virtually every building in the path of the storm wrecked.

"Fire broke out almost immediately after the storm and swept over the town. One woman was burned to death and I counted 150 bodies of storm victims in one undertaking establishment.

"The town of Desoto was completely wiped off the map. Desoto and not one third of the population had escaped death in the hurricane. The scene was that of absolute and indescribable desolation, and the horror of fire added to the travail of the day."

MONTREAL BUTCHER BEATEN BY BANDIT

Robbed of \$200 and Left Unconscious on Doorstep of Home.

MONTREAL, March 19.—Gabriel Arthur Moreau, aged 40, is lying in a critical condition in the hospital with a badly fractured skull, as a result of a murderous attack made upon him last night in front of his home by two men, who beat him on the head with some blunt instrument, and robbed him of \$200.

The bandits are believed to have followed him from his butcher shop.

Two young women entering a house nearby witnessed the attack. When picked up his pockets were empty.

WINNIEP Men Out to Raise \$40,000 to Boost Tourist Trade.

WINNIEP, Man., March 19.—In less than an hour last night approximately \$20,000 was subscribed by business, financial and professional men, in support of the movement for popularizing Winnipeg as a tourist centre and promoting city.

The objective set by the publicity, tourist and convention bureau organized by Mayor R. H. Webb, is \$40,000.

OPPOSES BRANCH

B. C. Delegation Urges Premier Against Peace River Line.

VICTORIA, B. C., March 19.—A delegation of members of the Legislature yesterday urged on Premier Oliver and members of his cabinet, that the Government should take immediate action to oppose construction of the proposed branch of the Peace River district with the C. N. R. main line east of the mountains. The motion was carried.

The discussion on the potato industry was opened by Hon. D. W. Mercer, Minister of Agriculture, who, after pointing out how the government had made an effort to secure new markets, declared that evidence had been forwarded the Department showing that the shippers had sent rotten stock out of the province. A sample of inferior potatoes shipped to Calgary was before the committee this morning. This sample has been sent to the minister by Calgary buyers.

CHURCH UNION VOTE

Reported Total Shows 1,438 Congregations For Merger, 534 Against.

TORONTO, Ont., March 19.—The latest summary of the church union vote based on returns received by the Union committee follows:

British Columbia and Y. T., for 195, against 25; Alberta, for 110, against 25; Saskatchewan, for 407, against 19; Ontario, for 458, against 381; Quebec, for 78, against 98; Nova Scotia, for 96, against 37; Prince Edward Island, for 44, against 14. Totals, for 1,438, against 534.

STORM WARNING

Winds and Squalls From Northwest Indicated in U. S. Bulletin.

WASHINGTON, March 19.—The following storm warning was issued today by the weather bureau:

Advisory, 9:30 a. m. Southwest storm warnings ordered Atlantic coast, Cape Hatteras to Eastport, Maine. Disturbance over Lake Ontario, moving north eastward, will cause strong southwest shifting to west and northwest winds, with squalls.

Temperance Alliance Sees No Need For Liquor Vote

PECK ATTACKS FINANCE POLICY OF GOVERNMENT

Alberta M. L. A. Says Debt Increase Is Enormous

CHARGES WASTE

Declares Musquash Development cost \$1,500,000 More Than It Should Have

By LEO DOLAN. Special correspondent of The Times-Star.

FREDERICTON, March 19.—New Brunswick's debt has increased enormously due to the wanton extravagance of the present government, according to J. L. Peck, M. L. A. for Albert, and financial critic of the opposition, in his speech in the debate on the address this afternoon.

Mr. Peck attacked the financial policy of the Veniot administration, charged that \$1,500,000 had been wasted in the Musquash development, and called upon the government to exercise the economy it had promised to the people.

Against Plebiscite. The member for Albert also came out strongly against a plebiscite on the liquor question—the proposal that New Brunswick hold a plebiscite on the liquor question.

Mr. Peck said the present prohibitory law should be given a fair and honest trial, and the government take steps to properly enforce the act. He charged that the government had failed in its duty on prohibition.

Fred L. Estabrook, of Westmorland, is to follow Mr. Peck for the government.

Agriculture Committee. At its initial meeting of the session, the Agricultural Committee today endorsed a resolution urging the establishment in New Brunswick of a system of shipping point inspection of potatoes.

The adoption of the resolution followed a lengthy discussion of the potato industry here and after Harvey Mitchell, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, had pointed out to the committee that the shipping point inspection system had proved beneficial in the United States.

The discussion on the potato industry was opened by Hon. D. W. Mercer, Minister of Agriculture, who, after pointing out how the government had made an effort to secure new markets, declared that evidence had been forwarded the Department showing that the shippers had sent rotten stock out of the province. A sample of inferior potatoes shipped to Calgary was before the committee this morning. This sample has been sent to the minister by Calgary buyers.

The system of grading came in for considerable discussion, and Messrs. Smith and Burlock, of Carleton, Pickett of Victoria, Bentley of Saint John, Estabrook of Westmorland and Grey of the Farmers and Dairyman's Association spoke.

VESSELS COLLIDE

Oil Tanker and Norwegian Freighter in Crash Off Ambrose Light.

NEW YORK, March 19.—The oil tanker Ardmore and the Norwegian freighter Thyra were in collision this morning in a fog, 125 miles south of Ambrose Light, according to a radio message received here. Both vessels were damaged, but neither apparently was in danger of sinking.

Disasters In Many Places Take Big Life Toll; Do Much Damage

British United Press. The last 48 hours have been marked by disasters which have taken an enormous toll in lives and property.

Between 600 and 900 persons are reported dead, over 2,000 are injured in the tornado which swept through Southern Illinois, Eastern Missouri and Indiana.

In Tokio over 2,000 homes were destroyed and thousands made homeless by yesterday's fire.

Forty-four men are entombed and believed dead in Fairmont, W. Va., as the result of a terrific explosion Tuesday night.

Two hotels were burned to the ground at Palm Beach, entailing a loss of approximately \$2,000,000.

Hundreds of persons are homeless in Trujillo, the principal city of Northern Peru, their adobe homes having been washed away by floods yesterday, causing damage estimated at \$74,000.

Seek Still For Buried Miners

FAIRMONT, W. Va., March 19.—Tireless rescue workers continued their struggle today to reach the 34 miners entombed by a terrific explosion that Tuesday night wrecked mine No. 41, of the Bethlehem Mines Corporation, at Barrackville. The mine has been penetrated more than 4,000 feet.

No bodies had been found early this morning, nor were there any indications that any of the men caught far in the workings were alive.

VENIOT ADDRESSES LABOR CONVENTION

N. B. Federation Committee Presents Request to House For Legislation.

Socialist to the Times-Star. FREDERICTON, March 19.—This morning Premier Veniot attended the session of the New Brunswick Federation of Labor, which is an annual convention, and delivered an address.

The Premier was heartily received. He dealt with the subject of organized labor in a general way and the relations of the province to it. He referred to the report of the commission of Mothers' Organizations and a minimum wage-for-women and children.

Ask Legislation. At noon the federation was reported before the Provincial Government by a committee which requested a number of requests for legislation.

The committee was composed of President J. E. Tipton, Secretary G. R. McNeil, J. McKinnon and R. Carlin, St. John; L. McKinnon and E. R. Steeves, Moncton; W. C. Whipple, Miramichi; Harry Ryan and Edward McDonald, Fredericton; George Anderson, Moncton; Fred Henderson and F. S. A. McLaughlin, St. John; J. A. McClelland, of Moncton; T. J. Coughlan, Ottawa and J. S. Martin, M. P. P.

The requests for legislation were embodied in resolutions previously adopted by the Federation.

WOMAN LOSES \$7,500 ON NEW YORK BUS

Misses Money as She Steps to Street But Loses Trail in Traffic.

NEW YORK, March 19.—A manila envelope wrapped in a sheet of newspaper and containing \$7,500 in bills of large denomination was lost on a Fifth Avenue bus.

Mrs. Lillian Greenberg had drawn the money from a west side bank and was on her way to her husband's office in lower Fifth Avenue. She said she got on the bus carrying the envelope and her pocketbook tucked under her arm. As she stepped off she missed the money. She tried to catch up with the bus and, seeing that she could not overtake it, got into a taxicab to continue the pursuit. She lost the bus in the heavy traffic and at once reported her loss to the Fifth Avenue Coach Company.

Gloucester Supreme In Fish Industry

GLOUCESTER, Mass., March 19.—In fact as well as in name, Gloucester is still supreme in the fishing industry. During 1924, the "Gloucester fleet" caught approximately 180,000,000 pounds, cod predominating. It is estimated a freight train of 5,000 cars, stretching 40 miles, would be required to haul the Gloucester yearly haul.

Crowds Give Sovereign Sendoff as He Departs on Trip to South.

LONDON, March 19.—King George, Queen Mary and the members of their suite, left Buckingham Palace this morning en route to Genoa, Italy, the royal yacht awaits to take His Majesty on the cruise prescribed by his physicians, following his recent attack of bronchitis.

A big crowd had collected along the route to the Victoria station. As the voyage is strictly private, only the usual military honors were paid, and there was nothing in the way of a ceremonial. The crowds stood bareheaded, but there was no demonstration.

Fire Destroys Large Part of B. C. Town

QUESNEL, B. C., March 19.—Word has reached here over the Yukon Government Telegraph Service line, that a large part of the business section of the town of Burns Lake, north of Prince George, has burned down, causing damage estimated at \$74,000.

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTE GETS CONDEMNATION

Tract Against Public Ownership Assailed in U. S. Senate

EFFECT IN CANADA

Neighbor Shocked by Pamphlet Much of Which Untrue, Says Norris

Canadian Press Despatch. WASHINGTON, March 19.—Sharply assailing the Weyer pamphlet, recently put out under the frank of the Smithsonian Institute, which was declared by Sir Adam Beck, chairman of the Ontario provincial hydro electric system, Senator Norris, of Nebraska, yesterday told the Senate that the Weyer pamphlet had been sent all over the world. He declared that the pamphlet was being used by the United States Chamber of Commerce as propaganda against public ownership of electric systems and that the chamber had issued a pamphlet based on the Weyer document, which would be distributed by the million.

Many of the statements contained in either pamphlet, he said, were absolutely untrue, "while others were very misleading."

Canada is Shocked. The issuance of the Weyer pamphlet, which in fact has very little in it, but what is absolutely untrue, has shocked our neighbor Canada, and I think rightly so," declared the Senator.

Demanding that the trustees of the Smithsonian Institute should see to it that the great institution was not used "for such disreputable and dishonorable purposes," Senator Norris said the actions of Secretary Walcott, of the institute, in permitting distribution of the Weyer pamphlet, were "travel under his own name," and "trespass" in the guise of a great scientific institution of the United States government to criticize the efforts of a friendly nation to deal with its power question.

"The Governor-General said that the militia was composed of the best citizens of the country. After congratulating the association on its magnificent achievements, His Excellency noted with pride the splendid advance which had been evidenced by the younger generation of Canadian shots.

PROTEST TO LEAGUE

Lithuanians Allege Armed Attack on Frontier Guards by Poles.

GENEVA, March 19.—Austen Chamberlain, as president of the council of the League of Nations, it is hoped, will follow the precedent set by M. Viviani, who, when president, personally intervened and recommended a direct settlement when a similar frontier incident to that reported yesterday occurred between Lithuania and Poland. A protest received from Lithuania alleges an armed attack by Polish frontier guards and seizure of three Lithuanian soldiers.

Says Heart Disease Is Growing Menace

NEW YORK, March 19.—There is almost a constant yearly increase in deaths from organic heart disease. In the registration area the deaths have mounted from 141.5 per 100,000 population in 1910 to 175.5 in 1923. While the greatest mortality is among people in middle life, there is a shocking loss of younger lives also.

"The pity of it all is that so great a part of this mortality is preventable," says Dr. Lewis F. MacKenzie of New York City.

RELIGIOUS ISSUE

Cardinals' and Archbishops' Letter to be Debated Today in French Chamber.

PARIS, March 19.—The French government's religious policy is to be the subject of a debate in the Chamber of Deputies today. The occasion is an interpretation by Deputy Cazals, president of the Socialist-Workers' group, on the recent letter from the French Cardinals and Archbishops regarding "the so-called non-denominational laws" and measures to be taken to combat them, in which the prelates characterized the laws as "an emanation of atheism." The debate is expected to last two days.

KING LEAVES LONDON

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Is Operated On

EARL OF YPRES. LONDON, March 19.—The Earl of Ypres, who as Field Marshal French, commanded the British army in the field during the great war, underwent a severe and prolonged operation today. A medical bulletin says: "Lord Ypres' condition after the operation is as satisfactory as could be expected, but it must of necessity give rise to anxiety for some time."

The Earl of Ypres, early in December underwent what was termed a minor operation, for the removal of a small fleshy tumor. He was taken suddenly ill, while passing through Paris and was removed to a hospital where the operation was immediately performed.

MILITIA LAUDED BY GOVERNOR-GENERAL

Composed of Best Citizens of Country, He Says—D. R. A. Elects Officers.

OTTAWA, March 19.—Col. John J. McLaughlin, of Hamilton, was yesterday elected president of the annual meeting of the Dominion of Canada Rifle Association, succeeding Major-General Sir Alex. Bertram, of Montreal, who resigned. The meeting was addressed by Governor-General Lord Byng and Major-General H. H. MacBrien, chief of staff.

Praises Youngsters. The Governor-General said that the militia was composed of the best citizens of the country. After congratulating the association on its magnificent achievements, His Excellency noted with pride the splendid advance which had been evidenced by the younger generation of Canadian shots.

Premier's Stand. Regret is expressed that Premier Veniot's promise to enforce this law has not been carried out while reference is also made to the Premier's "only" too apparent efforts to throw upon others the discredit for the non-enforcement of the law, which discredit (Continued on page 2, fourth column.)

GOVERNMENT ENFORCEMENT IS CRITICIZED

Last Majority Sufficient Mandate, Says Executive Report

CHARGES MADE

Laxity Regarding Control of Vendors and Inspectors Alleged

By D. LEO DOLAN. Staff Correspondent of The Evening Times-Star. FREDERICTON, March 19.—"We are more than ever convinced that a majority of people in this province are in favor of the enforcement of the Prohibition Law and, if any change in their opinion has been made, it will be found to be the result of the neglect of the Government in enforcing the law."

This is one of the outstanding statements, contained in the report of the executive of the New Brunswick Temperance Alliance submitted to the annual convention which opened here this morning.

The executive report, referring to the majority vote for prohibition in 1921, declares that this majority was sufficient mandate for the Government. "If they had any regard for the constitutional principles under which this country is governed, there is no need for further voting on the question until such time as we have an honest and efficient enforcement of the present law."

Government Criticized. The executive in its report complains that the Government has dismissed inspectors who have proved their efficiency; has indiscriminately licensed vendors and granted beer licenses; neglected to check up vendors' records and otherwise been lax in its control of vendors; refused to prosecute for second offences; continued in office a chief inspector giving only part time to the position; neglected to carry on prosecution after charges had been made; and finally that the liquor commission, in selling excessive quantities of liquor to the vendors, could not help but know that the vendors securing such quantities were preparing to violate the law.

There will be a strict enforcement of the law, says the report, whereas the Government has dismissed inspectors who have proved their efficiency; has indiscriminately licensed vendors and granted beer licenses; neglected to check up vendors' records and otherwise been lax in its control of vendors; refused to prosecute for second offences; continued in office a chief inspector giving only part time to the position; neglected to carry on prosecution after charges had been made; and finally that the liquor commission, in selling excessive quantities of liquor to the vendors, could not help but know that the vendors securing such quantities were preparing to violate the law.

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