

# DOMINION GOVT TO HAVE GRAND TRUNK; GEORGE CHIEF WILSON INFLUENCE; DISBURBING RUMORS FROM BULGARIA

## HON. MR. VENIOT CONDONES IRREGULARITIES OF TWO ROAD SUPERVISORS AT SHIPPEGAN

Investigated the Allegations Made Against His Department in Road Work in Gloucester, Finds Irregularities as Alleged, But Says No Harm Was Done the Province, and Gloucester Probably Needs the Money.

Fredericton, April 3.—The report of the Minister of Public Works on his own investigation into allegations of irregularity in his department in connection with road work at Shippegan, came before the House today, and Mr. Smith (Carleton) moved a resolution declaring that the conduct of Hon. Mr. Veniot and John G. Robichaud, M. L. A., deserved the censure of the House. This was defeated on a straight party vote, 17 opposition members voting for it, and 19 government members against it.

When the order of the day was called, the clerk read the report of Mr. Veniot. The minister found two supervisors guilty of irregularities, but declared there was no intention of dishonesty, and held the province responsible for the irregularities. He had work done on his property at public expense, he found that the road supervisor, under the direction of the road engineer, had dumped soft stuff, taken from ditches, on Mr. Robichaud's property, a haul of half a mile. The supervisors had put boys names on the pay sheets as drivers, but where this was done the men had been picking berries or making hay when paid by the province. Mr. Smith said it was unfortunate the report and evidence had not been printed so members could have an opportunity to form a fair judgment. He had attended the investigation, and had noticed the Minister did not touch on many things brought out by the witnesses. It was useless for the minister to conduct an investigation where he had close personal relations, and it was natural for his relations to show his partisanship. In one case Geo. A. Robichaud had a horse working on the road, and a boy of 8 years was paid for his services. It was said the father worked on the road, but if so, why was the check sent to the boy? There was an attempt on the part of the supervisor to deceive, and the evidence showed that this was in collusion with John G. Robichaud, the member.

P. J. McNally, supervisor, had a man working two days in his hayfield when he was supposed to have been working on the road, even the minister admitted the pay sheet had apparently been altered to hide this. Mr. Smith read parts of the evidence to support this view, and cited other instances of boys between 8 and 15, being employed as drivers.

## GERMANS ARE CHARY OF MAKING ANY PREDICTIONS FOR THE FUTURE

What Will Come Out of the Welter of Political and Economic Disorders and Developments in Revolutionary Germany is Problematical—Nothing in Germany is Now Certain Except the Uncertainty of the Morrow.

Paris, April 3.—(By the Associated Press) Completion of German and foreign observers are chary of making any definite predictions of what will come out of the welter of political and economic disorders and developments in revolutionary Germany. To borrow an epigram of Count Von Bernstorff, "nothing in Germany now is certain except the uncertainty of the morrow."

The former Berlin correspondent of the Associated Press, returning to Paris after six weeks devoted to study of conditions in Germany, left that country, however, with the distinct impression that the tenure of the present coalition government was by no means secure, although it is, for the moment, in control of the situation; that there is no alternative except a radical socialist administration with a strong drift toward a Soviet republic is possible if the present government falls; that a removal of Spartacist activities against the present regime by further strikes and uprisings is almost certain; that, although the great mass of people are opposed to a Bolshevik government, they can count only upon the comparatively small force of Noke volunteer troops to keep down the insurrectionary movement, the masses, at present, being politically too anemic and apathetic to give more than passive support in an emergency; that, while the Noke troops have a right to be able to handle the Spartacist insurgents as long as they can take sectional reprisals in turn, success would be difficult if the Spartacists and their independent socialist allies should be able to stage a really general strike and insurrection.

If the Spartacist leadership is not able to organize such a widespread movement, the government, probably will be able to maintain itself until peace is signed.

As to the peace treaty, the members of the government and their publicists are announcing firmly, perhaps sincerely, that no preliminary treaty, not in accord with their interpretation of President Wilson's armistice terms will be signed, particularly if it involved the alienation of what is called purely German territory. This announcement, probably, is correct so far as the cession of the Saar district, the political alienation of the west bank of the Rhine outside of Alsace-Lorraine and perhaps, the incorporation of Danzig in Poland are concerned, but the pressure of public opinion which would not easily understand or accept any failure to obtain peace, and the desperate food situation probably will force the government to modify this recalcitrant attitude in case of need, and to sign any terms of peace presented by the Allies, except those mentioned above.

## FORMER PASTOR OF ST. JOHN, LOCATED AT QUEBEC, ILL.

Quebec, April 3.—Rev. F. H. Wentworth has arrived here from St. John, N. B., to take over the pastorate of the Baptist church. The Baptists have erected a new church on Grand Allee which will be formally opened on Wednesday the 16th instant.

## BRITISH FEAR LLOYD GEORGE IS UNDER INFLUENCE OF THE GREAT PHILOSOPHER

The House of Commons Urged the Necessity of Exacting the Fulllest Payment from Germany—Conservative Opinion in England is Especially up in Arms by the Report That Lloyd George Favors a Moderate Indemnity—President Wilson Blamed for the Premier's Attitude.

(By Arthur S. Draper)  
Special cable to New York Tribune and St. John Standard.  
London, April 3.—Upon a motion this evening to call attention to the war indemnity question many speakers in the House of Commons urged the necessity of exacting the fullest payment from Germany, Conservative opinion in England is especially up in arms upon the report that Premier Lloyd George now favors what is comparatively a moderate indemnity. Colonel Claude Lowther, in introducing the motion, coupled the name of President Wilson with the British premier's alleged present attitude. He feared that Lloyd George was being influenced by the higher philanthropy of "that great philosopher."

The speakers particularly called attention to the necessity of payments from Germany to relieve the financial situation at home. In this connection Mr. Lowther said that the European money settlements should not be interfered with by Wilson, who is not to be interfered with by perfect equanimity and splendid virtue the financial embarrassment of every country but his own.

MacMaster blamed the league of nations for much of the delay in arranging the terms of peace.

Bonar Law, replying on behalf of the government, declared that there would be no payment from Germany whatever she could pay. He said it would be a mistake to assume that the British government had been influenced in its desire to obtain everything that Germany could pay by any action on the part of the president of the United States.

The weight of tonight's motion cannot precisely be estimated. Many members of the House of Commons are under a pledge to their electors to advocate payment to the utmost farthing from Germany. Nevertheless, it is doubtful whether all these are prepared to seriously oppose a settlement judged by the government to be the best obtainable under the circumstances.

Tonight's motion was not favored by the latest events in Germany, where the situation is again feverish, with movements in Stuttgart and Frankfurt also growing more serious.

## ALLIED GARRONS AT ODESSA GREATLY STRENGTHENED

London, April 3.—(Canadian Press despatch from Reuters Ltd.)—Reuters learns that a party of about four hundred Siberian troops from Admiral Kolchak's army, recently travelled on snowshoes from Siberia and joined the hands of the Allied north Russian expeditionary force, near Tityz, on the Petchura River.

A telegram from Omsk, dated March 25, states that, according to the newspaper Ruskaya Armiya, communications between Admiral Kolchak's army and the Archangel Government have been established and finally assured. "It is authoritatively stated that the Allied garrison at Odessa is now greatly strengthened. The French commander is confident to be able to hold the town. The Bolsheviks have now reached the outer defences which are very strong."

## FORESTERS HEAR HELPFUL SPEECHES

Dr. C. C. Jones, Chief Game Warden Cagnon and Others Spoke to the Rangers in Conference.

Fredericton, April 3.—The fourth session of the Forestry Conference opened this afternoon with an address by Mr. L. A. Gagnon, chief game warden of the Province of New Brunswick, on the "Qualifications of a Successful Ranger and Game Warden."

Dr. Gordon Hewitt, consulting zoologist to the Dominion government, who is one of the best authorities on game protection in Canada, gave a very interesting lecture, illustrating slides on the wild game life in Canada, and a conservation and protection.

A number of rangers and game wardens followed with short addresses.

Dr. C. C. Jones, chancellor of the University of New Brunswick, gave a short address in which he referred to some of the graduates of the Forestry School of the University, who have made a success of the work, referring to Mr. G. H. Prince, provincial forester of New Brunswick, Mr. P. Z. Caverhill, the former director of the N. B. Forest Survey, and others.

Dr. Jones is a member of the Conservation Commission and takes a keen interest in all matters in regard to forestry.

Mr. A. E. Murchie, chief scaler, gave a few interesting remarks in regard to what steps to take to save one's life in case of a bad forest fire.

The meeting adjourned at 6 p. m. every ranger and game warden appreciating the opportunity of meeting together and requesting that the conference be held again next year.

## DIRECTORS NAMED TO TALK WITH GOVT

London, April 3. (C. A. P.)—The directors of the Grand Trunk Railway have arranged that the undermentioned directors shall represent the stockholders in the further negotiations regarding the acquisition of the railway by the Dominion government: Sir Herbert Hamilton, of Barclays Bank, the London, Algonquin, and Glen Mills Bank, Sir Gerald Ryan, of the Phoenix Assurance Company; Alfred Boshier, of Sheffield, and John Ashley Mullins.

## INVESTIGATING THE UNREST IN RANS

Cabinet Ministers Proceed to Johannesburg to Enquire Into Situation.

Cape Town, April 3. (Canadian Press despatch from Reuters, Ltd.)—In the House of Assembly, Acting Premier Malan in the course of a statement on the subject of unrest in the Rans announced that Mr. De Wet, Minister of Justice, and Colonel Meitz, Minister of Lands, were proceeding to Johannesburg to enquire into the position there.

It was the policy of the government to protect life and property, and the necessary measures were being taken. The government was confident that a serious crisis would be averted.

The assembly adopted by a vote of 44 to 42 a resolution favoring woman suffrage.

## THE DOMINION GOVERNMENT WILL COME INTO POSSESSION OF GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY

Negotiations Have Been Reopened With the Gov't Looking to the Consummation of That Deal—Sir Thomas White Makes Important Announcement to Parliament Regarding the Exact Status in the Railroad Situation With the Government.

Special to The Standard.  
Ottawa, April 3.—Sir Thomas White announced in the House today that Howard Kelly, president of the Grand Trunk Railway, since his return from England, had reopened negotiations with the government for the purchase of the system. "I cannot, of course, forecast what the course of those negotiations will be," declared Sir Thomas, "but my view is that the Grand Trunk Railway will come into the possession of the Dominion government, and that there was legal procedure which could be taken by the government."

Sir Thomas said that if negotiations failed there was legal procedure which could be taken by the government.

"I stated the other day," continued the acting premier, "that the Dominion had many remedies which it could pursue. For example, when legal action could be taken and application to the Exchequer Court for foreclosure, under the first mortgage securing bonds of the Grand Trunk Railway Company guaranteed by the Dominion government, might be made. There are other mortgages under which the Dominion government, in the event of default, can proceed, and there has been default. The government would have to take action when the G. T. P. defaulted, and it would be the most possible thing to do. If the government had not acted there would have been chaos, and the honorable gentlemen opposite would have been denouncing the government in unmeasured terms. It is a case of 'you're damned if you do and you're damned if you don't.' The party with which the honorable gentleman is associated loaded this country, by its railroad policy, with a debt of a billion dollars, and brought about a state of chaos which Dante himself could not describe. It was the most insane policy ever entered into by a free people. Mr. Richardson had not much sympathy for the Grand Trunk, and no reason for treating them generously. He thought the government was if anything, treating them too well."

## GENERAL BLANQUET RETURNS TO MEXICO TO LEAD FORCE

Is Second in Command in General Diaz—Revolutionists Are to Make One Desperate Attempt to Overthrow the Government—Have Many Federal Officers in Their Ranks.

New York, April 3.—General Aurelio Blanquet, Mexican Minister of War during the administration of President Victoriano Huerta, and described as second in command to General Felix Diaz, has arrived safely in Mexico, "after a very dangerous trip," according to an announcement made here today by Roberto Gayon, his secretary. General Blanquet, who has been living in New York with his family for the last four years, sailed for Havana, Cuba, from this port, Jan. 8. Gayon said that he understands that the motor sloop, which registers less than 100 tons, also carried some munitions, but that they were not obtained in this country.

General Diaz, according to Gayon, has 40,000 troops scattered throughout fifteen of the 27 states of Mexico. Of these, he said, 7,500 were in Vera Cruz, including 1,800 men at the headquarters in Tepic. Several officers in the old federal army are reported to have crossed over to the Diaz forces. General Candido Aguilar, son-in-law of President Carranza, and a former secretary of state in his cabinet, is said to be leading the Government forces against Diaz in the Vera Cruz district.

Notice of the safe arrival in Mexico of General Blanquet, war minister under the Huerta regime, and now, reportedly second in command in the Felix Diaz revolutionary movement, was received today at the State Department. Officials said no attention would be given to the matter, since it was one to be dealt with by the Government of Mexico recognized by the United States.

Felix Diaz, nephew of the late President Porfirio Diaz, has been leading revolutionaries intermittently ever since the overthrow of his uncle. Whether the undertaking now joined by General Blanquet, with a formidable staff of old Mexican federal army officers, will make greater headway than those that have gone before, no one here ventures to guess.

Ambassador Bonillas said today that the Government of Mexico was fully capable of dealing with the revolutionists.

## HALIFAX POLICE AND LIQUOR INSPECTOR CLASH

Inspector Accuses Police of Being Negligent in Their Duty Insofar as Bootleggers Are Concerned.

Halifax, April 3.—Inspector Tracey appeared before the Board of Control today to substantiate or deny statements credited to him, to the effect that the inspector had said that he would be able to clean out the bootleggers if the police were given instructions from those "higher up," to go out and get the booze sellers.

The inspector said the statements credited to him in the press were perfectly true.

Chief Hannahan was present and took offence at Tracey's remarks about the policemen not having been given instructions to round up the bootleggers. He considered the inspector's remarks were false statements. The inspector said he would back up any statements he had made. The inspector was asked to give a report as to how many cases had been prosecuted by the police. He said he had a couple of tons of seized liquor in a warehouse.

Chief of Police Hannahan asked whether the inspector was sure the police had not been instructed.

The inspector said "No."

The Chief—"Then you shouldn't make lying statements and then try to force the board that the police had received necessary instructions, but they had other work to do than always looking after bootleggers, which was the Inspector's specific duty."

The Mayor told the inspector that he should have named and dated before making such wild statements as he had, and that, apparently, there was no ground for his remarks.

## SLASHING ATTACK MADE ON MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS

His Attempts to Deceive the Province and Glimpses of His Mismanagement of Dept. Affairs Revealed.

Fredericton, N.B., April 3.—Continuing the budget debate this evening, Mr. Smith (Carleton) made a slashing attack upon the Minister of Public Works, showing up many glaring instances of his mismanagement of the affairs of his department, and of attempts to deceive the province. He said the present government had about \$800,000 more money than the old government to spend on the roads, but it had made little improvement. The minister discriminated in a grossly unfair manner between the different counties; apparently his fair share of public money, unless it returned representatives abiding the government, Albert, with 631 miles of highway, had only received \$28,000 for roads since the present government came into power, while Westmorland, with 1,168 miles, had received \$164,000, and Gloucester, with 935 miles, had received \$113,000.