

WAR TO THE HILT WITH MEAT TRUST IS NOW DECLARED

United States Thoroughly Aroused at Increased Cost of Living—Boycott Continues to Spread.

Heads of Packing House Ready for Fray at Chicago—J. Ogden Armour on Situation.

New York, Jan. 23.—"Revolutions have been started by less than the American people are suffering now," says Senator Joseph L. Bristow of Kansas. "Meat riots up to a quarter of the average household expenses and it ought to be cheaper today instead of dearer than it was 25 years ago, because of the greater economy in its preparation and sale."

Nation Aroused. What the sea-farers and sporadic boycotts all over the country and the universal protest have done, however, is to focus the attention of the nation upon the necessity for economy. The most serious subject by economists, statisticians and business men without bringing the truth home to the people as has their sudden realization of its application in one particular case.

Against clamor, the packers reply that high prices for meats are attributable to the high price of corn and advocate that the poor be educated to eat cheaper cuts. "These cuts are properly cooked," says Harold Swift, of Swift & Co. "Prices are very high, but there is every indication that they will go higher."

Chicago, Ill., Jan. 23.—With the heads of all the big packing houses gathered here, the industry arrayed on each side, the government's investigation of the dressed meat industry is expected to be ready for action tomorrow. Whether the price of meat is artificially kept high is to be the contention in a contest which may last for weeks.

Subpoenas have been prepared to bring before the jury witnesses from all departments of the packing house business. It is promised this inquiry will surpass all former attempts for thoroughness.

Much interest has been taken here in the appointment of Charles B. Morrison special assistant to the attorney general in charge of the investigation. Mr. Morrison is a man who has become thoroughly familiar with the meat situation.

50 PATIENTS RESCUED FROM DEATH BY FIRE

City Hospital At Hamilton In Flames—Patients Are Saved With Difficulty—Chorlton, Ontario, Has Big Fire.

Hamilton, Ont., Jan. 23.—In the height of the fierce wind storm last evening, fire broken out at the city hospital, and for a time it looked as though the entire institution was doomed. The fire was caused by spontaneous combustion, started in the cellar under the outdoor department wing and through a fine quickly travelled to the roof. It was burning for half an hour before being discovered by Miss Richtock, one of the nurses, who lost no time in turning in an alarm.

The entire hospital staff, aided by several outside volunteers, worked hard in removing the fifty patients confined in the ward. Several of the patients were too critically ill to be removed from their beds, and the rescuers had to life beds, patients and all carry them to a place of safety in an adjoining ward. Other patients not so critically ill, were lifted bodily by their rescuers and carried out of the burning building. Fire Chief Teneyck assisted in the work of re-arranging the work of checking the flames to an assistant. The 50 patients had been removed to safety in an incredibly short time, and then commenced the hard task of checking the flames, an easy task in view of the great winds blowing outside. In that respect the department vindicated its reputation as one of the best in Canada and the hospital will escape with a loss not exceeding \$6000.

Nearly all the automobiles in the city were in the fire, as it was the intention, if the fire spread, to remove the 135 patients in the institution to the army.

Charlton, Ont., Jan. 23.—Fire this morning broke out in Boyl's pool room in this city, caused by a coal heater which was left burning when the pool room closed last night.

Archbishop Bruchesi on Montreal Election. His Grace Asks That Electors Vote For Temperance Candidates—Makes No Pronouncement.

Outcome of Present Election Certain to Place Liberals in a Position From Which They Will be Unable to Effectively Conduct Administration of National Affairs.

Closeness of Popular Vote Precludes Any Attempt Being Made to Arrive at the Will of the People With Respect to the Many Issues Involved—Lord Northcliffe Cables of Victory.

Table with 2 columns: Party Name and Seats. Includes Unionists, Laborites, Nationalists, Liberals, and totals for present standing and gains for seats reported Saturday.

Lord Northcliffe cabled The Standard last night as follows: "We have got the small navy, free trade, anti-Canadian party fairly beaten. They are now at the mercy of the Irish vote despite their bluntness to the peers and dear food. The people have emphatically endorsed the democratic action of the peers in submitting the budget and tariff for their approval."

London, Jan. 23.—Never in the recollection of the oldest politicians have the British parties been in such a perplexing position as they find themselves today, and are likely to face when the next House of Commons is organized. So evenly divided will be the membership of the next House and so close is the popular vote that the result of the elections for all practical purposes, may be considered a tie.

No human mind can divine which of the principal and different questions before the electors had the most influence at the polls or whether the tariff reform or are loyal to the lords or anxious to reject Chancellor Lloyd George's budget, or whether all three of these had an equal effect. Under these circumstances neither party wants the responsibility of attempting to legislate and, since a division must be so close, the Unionists are better satisfied to be in opposition than to have won by a very small majority.

Mr. Balfour's speeches show plainly that with the existing conditions he is glad not to have control of the Government. Premier Asquith would be equally pleased to escape the perils of plotting the party through the troubled waters. There are precedents for him to ask the King to summon another leader to form the Government, but no one expects him to haul down his flag. All the prophets make the prediction that the new Cabinet will find itself in the minority within a year and that the country will be plunged into another general election.

The remarkable figures recorded at the present standing of parties are as follows: Unionists—218, Liberals—185, Laborites—33, Nationalists—67. TOTAL GAINS: Unionists—100, Liberals—14, Laborites—1.

EVEN SPLIT IN LIBERAL RANKS TO MAINTAIN OLD STANDING

Opposition of Two in British Columbia Legislature At War Over Leadership—Serious Trouble Is Feared.

Special to The Standard. Victoria, Jan. 23.—The latest developments in the ranks of the Liberal side of the House represented by only two members. Saturday John Jardine, of Esquimalt, tacitly took possession of the leadership by seconding the nomination of Hon. D. McEwen Eberts, as Speaker. Saturday morning Mr. Brewster refused to follow Jardine, the action of the latter having been the subject of a warm debate amongst the prominent Victoria Liberals in convalescence last night.

15 ARE TAKEN FERRY DOOMED SIX-HOUR RACE

Schooner Mertie B. Crowley Piled Up On Martha's Vineyard Island—Her Crew Are Rescued With Difficulty.

Edgartown, Mass., Jan. 23.—The schooner Mertie B. Crowley, one of the few six masted flying the American flag, lies tonight a total wreck on the reefs off the southeast end of the Martha's Vineyard Island. Already the Crowley has broken in two and great seas are fast splintering her stout timbers. She was bound from Baltimore for Boston with coal.

The great sea swept incessantly over the hull and through the rigging and finally the fore and mainmasts gave way and swung wildly to the fairlead discomfort of those lashed to the railings. Then Captain Jackson and finally the fore and mainmasts gave way and swung wildly to the fairlead discomfort of those lashed to the railings. Then Captain Jackson and finally the fore and mainmasts gave way and swung wildly to the fairlead discomfort of those lashed to the railings.

At 9 o'clock this morning it was known here that a vessel had been wrecked on the North End Reef. Efforts were made to get out to her during the forenoon but were unsuccessful because of the great waves. The schooner Viking, another of the local fishermen, put her safely through the breakers, lowered her sail and with her engine at his top notch of speed, succeeded in passing the straits 37-foot craft a short distance to leeward of the wreck. There he anchored.

Aboard the Crowley, the sight of the little craft was hailed with thankfulness and fear, when Capt. Jackson and his four men, Patrick Kelley, Eugene Bennett, Louis Doherty and Henry Doherty, another of the local fishermen, put her safely through the breakers, lowered her sail and with her engine at his top notch of speed, succeeded in passing the straits 37-foot craft a short distance to leeward of the wreck. There he anchored.

The schooner Mertie B. Crowley was built in Rockland, Me., in 1907. She was owned in Boston and was 296.5 feet long, 48.4 in breadth and had a depth of hold of 23.8. She registered 2,824 gross and 2,410 net tonnage.

RETURNS TO WIFE TO COMMIT SUICIDE

Somerville, Mass., Jan. 23.—Raymond G. Smith, aged 34 years, formerly of Stockton Springs, Maine, returning to his wife on Kilcort street tonight, after a separation of some months, asked the favor of a sheet of paper, and writing her a farewell note, shot himself dead in the head. He was employed as a brakeman on the Boston and Maine R. R. and leaves a wife and two children and two brothers in Stockton Springs.

FRANCE IS SWEPT BY GREAT FLOOD, MANY HOMELESS

Paris, Jan. 23.—The floods tonight exceed all records and are fast assuming the proportions of a national disaster. In the north, east and west, hundreds are homeless and ruined. Although it is impossible at the present time to estimate the damage, it will be very great.

DEATH LIST IN TRAIN WRECK AT WEBB WOOD

C. P. R. Issue Official Statement Of Dead In Webb Wood Disaster—Many Bodies Impossible Of Identification.

Special to The Standard. Montreal, Jan. 23.—The official list of the dead in the Webb Wood wreck issued by Vice-president McNicoll from C. P. R. headquarters tonight shows that thirty-one people at least lost their lives in the wreck and the number of dead may be increased by later reports as advised to the C. P. R. state that the work of extracting the first class car from the river has not yet been completed and it is feared that more bodies may be found in the submerged car.

The Canadian Pacific as well as the Railway Commission will hold an inquiry into the cause of the accident, all that is known so far being that the fourth coach from the engine left the track about 300 feet east of the bridge.

Following is the official list of the dead, issued by the C. P. R. tonight: Father Chalou, Dorval, Q.; J. Henault, Matheson, Ont., died in Sudbury hospital, Jan. 22nd; Taroroff Hoppe; Mrs. C. Houde, Soo, Ont. drowned in the schooner Viking, another of the local fishermen, put her safely through the breakers, lowered her sail and with her engine at his top notch of speed, succeeded in passing the straits 37-foot craft a short distance to leeward of the wreck. There he anchored.

WHEELS ARE RESORTED TO AT FREDERICTON

Fredericton, N. B., Jan. 23.—Following a real old "January thaw" wheels made their appearance today and until more snow comes sleds have given way to wagons for heavy hauling at least. Many of the roads are bare of snow in spots and travelling in the country will be difficult. Heavy rain fell continuously on Saturday and all last night, taking off snow and making it difficult to get on and off the ice here for crossing the river.

Rise in Waters of Seine Continues and Authorities are Helpless to Grapple With Situation

Paris, Jan. 23.—The floods tonight exceed all records and are fast assuming the proportions of a national disaster. In the north, east and west, hundreds are homeless and ruined. Although it is impossible at the present time to estimate the damage, it will be very great.

The sharp cold of yesterday led to the hope of abatement of the floods, but this morning a heavy snow set in, turning in the afternoon to rain which is still falling. This aggravated the situation and caused great suffering to the victims.

Further Rise. "The weather bureau," he said, "forecasts a further rise of 50 centimetres tonight. I do not know what to do in the face of this situation."

Thousands of people thronged the banks of the river all day, watching the waters rushing by. One of the few casualties reported, was the sweeping away of a man who was trying to drag out some floating logs.

RECENT RAINS BANISH RUNNERS AND TRAVELLING IN COUNTRY IS FRAUGHT WITH DIFFICULTIES—SUPREME COURT TUESDAY.

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