

## Arrangements Made For a Discussion of Situation in Sydney.

### H. Thomas Speaks on Foreign Policy—Labour Leaders Disagree over Railway Strike in Britain—Naval Funeral Service over the Spot where L-24 Sank.

ARRANGEMENTS POSSIBLE. SYDNEY, Jan. 18. Although nothing official on the subject is being said on either side, it is reported in usually well informed circles here that an early resumption of wage negotiations between coal miners and operators of Cape Breton is in sight. Since the breaking up of the actual wage conference last Tuesday, there have been several meetings between the United States Mine Workers and coal officials to arrange for maintenance men. Another of these parleys is set for this afternoon to clear up some minor disputes among the maintenance men. Such interim conferences will probably be made the channel for resumption of negotiations, according to report.

#### THOMAS DENOUNCES STRIKE.

LONDON, Jan. 18. What appeared to be a rift in the Railway Labor ranks occurred to-day when J. Bromley, the organization's leader, announced that his executive

had no alternative but to carry on with the strike set for Sunday, midnight, and simultaneously an important circular, signed by J. H. Thomas and C. T. Cramp, was issued from the headquarters of the National Union of Railwaymen to all its branches denouncing the strike.

#### LABOR AND INTERNATIONALISM.

LONDON, Jan. 18. In resumption of the debate on the speech from the throne to-day, J. H. Thomas, Railwaymen's Secretary, alluded briefly to the international relations of the British Labor Party. He said that the Party did not regard itself as not going to apologize for its association with internationalism. Dealing with Great Britain's foreign policy, Mr. Thomas said: "We have been asked how we are going to deal with France. God forbid that any of our words should be construed that we are anxious to break with France, or to talk about it. However, he added, real friendship did not consist in pretending all was well, when all was not well. He condemned France's attitude on the Reparations question and declared that because of the British Government's vacillating foreign policy France was treating the former with contempt.

#### THREE CHILDREN PERISH.

AVONPORT, N.S., Jan. 18. Three children of Louis Duncan, Margaret, aged 8, Pauline 6, and Peggy 4, were burned to death this morning when his home was destroyed by fire and he himself seriously burned. Mrs. Duncan and a two-year old baby were saved from death by the heroic conduct of Duncan, who, upon returning from the barn, discovered the house in a mass of flames, and entered the building and carried his wife and baby to safety. While attempting to return to the house to rescue his other three children, he collapsed and "with his wife" was forced to endure the anguish of knowing that their children were being burned to death.

#### DUCHESS OF ATHOL'S MAIDEN SPEECH.

LONDON, Jan. 18. The Duchess of Athol, one of the new women members of the House of Commons, made what was considered an auspicious debut on the floor of the House to-day. She discussed proposed legislation and measures especially interesting to women, and urged the need for acceleration of the naval shipbuilding programme in view of the depression in the shipbuilding trade. She said she longed, however, to see some cases throughout the world and to see some of the most important of merchant ships than ships of war.

#### IMPRESSIVE NAVAL FUNERAL SERVICE.

PORTLAND, Eng., Jan. 18. Twelve submarines and a flotilla of other vessels participated to-day in a deeply impressive funeral service for the submarine L-24, which sank off Portland Bill, at the spot where the submarine L-24 sank Thursday after collision with the dreadnaught Resolution. The crews of the vessels stood bareheaded while the flotilla moved forward to a tossing flag on the buoy that marks the grave of L-24 and forty-three men who went down with it. Every engine was stopped and salutes to the dead were fired. A great wreath of flowers was dropped from the stern of the flagship and bugles sounded the last post.

#### ANOTHER TROTSKY RUMOR.

BERLIN, Jan. 18. Unconfirmed reports reached Socialists headquarters here that Leon Trotsky, Soviet Russia's War Minister, had resigned from his post, and that Leo Kamenoff had been appointed his temporary successor in the War Council. General Budenny said to be the prospective Commander of the Red Army.

#### GRAPE JUICE SWINDLE.

CHICAGO, Jan. 18. Arrested in a drug hotel, a man claiming to be Russell T. Scott, former head of the Russell T. Scott Co., Ltd., Toronto, a ten million dollar financial services company, is being held on obtaining money under false pretenses by substituting one kind of grape juice on orders for another.

#### U.S. CABINET CONSIDERS MEASURES IN MEXICO.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 18. The situation in revolutionary Mexico was the subject of one of the longest sessions of the Cabinet in recent months when the question of taking action to protect American interests in the blockaded port of Tampico was considered. President Coolidge announced at the close that no warships would be sent to Tampico at present as the situation was not serious enough to indicate such action.

#### NO CHANGE IN WAGES FOR YIP-TEEN DAYS.

SYDNEY, N.S., Jan. 18. A fifteen day strike in the Cape Breton Labor dispute was possible late to-night, when E. W. Wolvin, President of the British Empire Steel Corporation, wired Premier Armstrong of Halifax, according to the latter's request that rates of pay as existed prior to last Tuesday, when twenty per cent. reduction became effective, would be restored for a period of fifteen days only to allow further wage conferences, with a mediator. It now

remains for the United Mine Workers' Executive to agree to this proposal, but their decision could not be obtained to-night.

#### Mothers Here Interested in New Treatment

### Relieves Colds Over Night and Croup in 15 Minutes—Applied Externally.

Local druggists report a great deal of interest, especially among mothers with small children, in the remarkable external treatment known as Vicks VapoRub. This famous remedy has just been introduced here from the United States, where it has been having a tremendous sale—over \$2 million in the past five years.

"Vicks is a combination in salve form of Camphor, Menthol, Eucalyptus, Thyme, Turpentine, etc. It is absorbed like a poultice or plaster and inhaled as a vapor."

For colds, sore throat and bronchitis, you just rub Vicks over the throat and chest and cover with a hot flannel, leaving the clothing or bed-covers loose around the neck, so that the medicated vapors arising may be freely inhaled.

For deep chest colds or threatened pneumonia, hot wet towels should first be applied over the throat and chest to open the pores of the skin before using Vicks.

For nervous, astringent and head colds, melt a little Vicks in a spoon and inhale the vapors. Also apply up the nostrils and snuff well back.

Croup is usually relieved within 15 minutes. Just rub Vicks over throat and chest until the breathing becomes easy, then cover with a warm flannel. One application at bedtime will prevent most night attacks. Vicks is good also for inflammations of the surface of the skin. It is applied as a salve for burns, sore muscles, sprains, cuts, chapped hands and lips and itching skin troubles.

#### Fine for Children.

Mothers of young children will find Vicks VapoRub ideal. Since it is applied externally, it can be used as often as desired, with perfect safety, on the youngest member of the family. For relief of the internal dosing with strong, bitter medicines that are so apt to ruin children's digestion. Just as good, of course, for adults also.

Sold by all druggists at 50c per Jar.

#### Beginning Sunday, Jan. 20th.

for the greater convenience of our patrons, the Blue Puttee will be open Sundays from 9 am. to 11 p.m. A full line of Chocolates, as well as, Cream and Ice Cream, local and imported, always on hand. Afternoon Teas served, also Hot Chocolate and Coffee of the well known Blue Puttee quality. Homemade Cakes for sale, also Cream and Ice Cream. Bricks for your Sunday dessert.

#### Sunday Services.

C. E. Cathedral—8, Holy Communion; 11, Morning Service; 3, C.M.B.C. (Baptist); 6, Evening Service; 8, Children's Service; 8:30, Evening Service. St. Thomas—8, Holy Communion; 11, Holy Communion and Sermon; 3, Children's Service; 6, Evening Service; 8, Children's Service; 8:30, Evening Service. St. Michael's—8, Holy Communion; 11, Holy Communion; 3, Children's Service; 6, Evening Service; 8, Holy Communion; 11, Holy Communion; 3, Children's Service; 6, Evening Service. St. Nicholas—8, Holy Communion; 11, Holy Communion; 3, Children's Service; 6, Evening Service; 8, Holy Communion; 11, Holy Communion; 3, Children's Service; 6, Evening Service.

#### METHODIST.

Gower St.—11 and 6:30, Rev. Hammond Johnson. George St.—11 and 6:30, Rev. R. E. Fairbank. Morning subject: "The Rediscovery of Sin"; evening subject: "The Revival needed for the Times".

#### Wesley—11 and 6:30, Rev. J. G. Joyce.

Gospel Mission—Evangelistic Services 2:45 and 7.

#### St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church.

11 and 6:30, Rev. R. J. Power, M.A.

#### Congregational (Queen's Road)—11 and 6:30, Rev. T. B. Darby, D.D.

Adventist (Cookstown Road)—6:30, Evangelist B. E. Manuel; subject: "Who Changed the Sabbath from Saturday to Sunday?" Was it done by Christ or His Apostles? All welcome.

#### International Bible Students' Association (Victoria Hall)—7.

Discourse: "Who only hath Immortality." (4 Tim. 6:16).

#### SOLOISTS AT KIRK.

During the evening solos will be rendered by Miss Inez Harrison, contralto; Miss Hazel Drury, soprano; Miss Harrison will sing "By the Waters of Babylon" (Howell) and Miss Drury will contribute the solo "These Are They" from Gault's cantata "The Holy City." Both ladies will also be heard in the well-known duet of Mendelssohn "I Waited for the Lord."

#### The Bank of Commerce in Strong Position

The Shareholders of The Canadian Bank of Commerce who attended the Annual Meeting held in the Board Room of that bank at noon on 8th instant, were most impressed upon the General Manager, an expression of belief that the time had come for the creation of a body of informed public opinion on the subject of Canadian banking, both among customers and shareholders. Sir John, in his annual address, referred to the change contained in the New Bank Act, and said that while some of these "were improvements upon the provisions of the old Act, there were also incorporated a number of restrictions which measurably increased the power of a bank to serve the public. "It will be a great misfortune," he said, "if by the introduction of a number of unnecessary minor regulations, the full effect of which is understood by those who propose them, the usefulness of the banks should be materially curtailed."

The recent failure of the Home Bank had once more brought up the question as to whether the present system of bank auditing was effective, but it was necessary to bear in mind, said Sir John, that no system of audit or government inspection could preserve a bank from the ill-effects of mismanagement. "If we turn to the United States," he continued, "which is usually held up as a model of excellence by critics of our Canadian system, and where outside audit and inspection, both by Government officials and otherwise, have been developed beyond anything ever known in other countries, the only conclusion to which the full effect of which is understood by those who propose them, the usefulness of the banks should be materially curtailed."

It had been proposed that, following American lines, a system of small independent banks should be established in Canada, but it was a curious fact that no mention was made of the previous experiment along these lines. Such a system was provided for by an Act passed in 1890, which remained in force until 1912, when it was repealed. "The fact was," said Sir John, "that the system could not be worked on the scale of profits which supported a chartered bank, and the public was not willing to pay higher rates for privilege of doing business with them. Turning to the two remedies proposed in certain quarters for such a situation as that produced by the Home Bank disaster, Sir John said he declared that as far as systems of government inspection were concerned, he had, frankly speaking, not been favorably impressed by what he had seen of it in foreign countries. In the United States, for instance, where it had developed most fully, it had become a factor impeding the successful future of the National banking system, because of its inherent tendency to develop only a restrictive policy. "If the spirit of good citizenship," he continued, "be absent in the conduct of any business, the Government may step in and regulate, but the work of that business is best done in the spirit of the individual and with all the self-reliance and initiative which this implies. The past history of Canadian banking includes many a lesson avoided by courage and initiative, of which Canadian bankers are justly proud, when all precedents were waived aside, and the situation faced in a manner that might not have been possible under government inspection."

As regards the second remedy, namely a legal guarantee for the safety of bank deposits, he noted that in almost every State of the American Union where the plan had been tried, it had completely broken down; the State of Oklahoma providing one of the worst examples. Sir John then referred to his election as President of the Canadian Bankers' Association and took the opportunity to speak of the real objects and powers of that body, which had been assigned the important duty of seeing that the banks followed the regulations with regard to their note circulation, and had performed this duty conscientiously in a most unexceptionable manner. During the war and since it had been a convenient channel of communication between the Minister of Finance and all the banks, and it had of recent years received its technical education of bank officers. It was not, however, the all-powerful combine which the public sometimes imagined it to be, and he hoped during his tenure of office to

dispel the air of mystery which appeared to surround it. In commenting upon the balance sheet presented to the shareholders at this meeting, the General Manager referred to the increase in note circulation and deposits and to the fact that as a result of the Bank having increased its investments in bonds, particularly in Canadian Government and municipal securities, the ratio of readily available assets to liabilities was higher than a year ago. He also referred to the conclusion of his address to the recent taking over of the assets of the Bank of Hamilton by the Canadian Bank of Commerce, and pointed out that the figures of the two banks combined would show the Paid-up Capital of \$20,000,000, the Reserve Fund, \$20,000,000, Deposits about \$385,000,000, Total Assets over \$500,000,000 and the number of branches as 623.

Sir Edmund Walker, the President of the Bank, then delivered his annual address in which the chief features were a review of the agricultural production and of the trade and industry of the year in Canada. Sir Edmund pointed out that although the western farmer had harvested the best grain crop on record, his profits had been small, and that as a result of his reduced buying power, every other business in the West and many manufacturers in the East had suffered. On the other hand the foreign trade of Canada had shown marked expansion, our exports to the United States bearing a better proportion to our total trade with that country than ever before, in spite of the high tariff. Among our exports, agricultural and vegetable products show a gain for the year ending 31st March, 1923, of \$90,000,000; wool and its products a gain of \$48,000,000; iron and its products one of \$23,000,000; and non-ferrous metals one of \$18,000,000.

The mining industry, said Sir Edmund, shows a distinct recovery as compared with recent years, new records having been established in the output of coal, lead, zinc, asbestos and in the value of cobalt. The annual production of minerals has in fact risen in thirty-five years from \$2.23 to \$26.40 per head of population. It must be remembered, however, that apart from gold, these minerals are all dependent on markets and market prices. "It must be evident, therefore," he continued, "that every industry that can be established in Canada which needs as a raw material any product of our mines should be encouraged." Our importations of minerals at the present time exceeds our exportations by \$190,000,000; among the list are coal and coke, costing \$78,000,000, and petroleum oil and its products, costing \$36,000,000.

Sir Edmund also referred to the economic necessity of retaining such products as pulpwood for manufacture in this country, and to the wisdom of opening the door to more immigrants. He concluded by speaking of the continued unfair manner in which Federal taxation is imposed, and its deterrent effect upon private enterprise, and once more made a plea for the creation of a turnover tax of one per cent; the removal of the sales tax and the lowering of the super-taxes on incomes, which, in common with other unfair taxes, are preventing the creation of new enterprises and are drying up the sources from which the main forces of our civilization are largely supported.

For the children Ivory soap is beautiful, so pure, so soothing the little ones simply delight to bathe in the white, foaming Ivory bubbles. Evening Footwear! Ladies we are now showing the Creighton line in many different colors of Suede Leathers, at SMALLWOOD'S.

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### Under Charter—S.S. Sagona,

having completed the Government Coastal Service for the season, arrived in port yesterday. The ship is now under charter to Dr. J. M. Moon, in connection with his operations at Harbor Deep. She hauled over to Bowring's Southside premises yesterday to have her bunkers replenished, and is expected to sail North on Monday next.

**EXCELLENT SHEET AT RINK.**—Owing to the mildness of the weather the Prince's Rink was closed down yesterday. Last night's frost, however, was taken advantage of by the rinkmen, and an excellent surface has been prepared for to-day.

**Barratt's English medium priced Boots and Oxfords for Ladies' and Gents' at SMALLWOOD'S,** dec24/11

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