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MOSTLY FAIR

TWO CENTS

MIGHTY VICTORY WON BY THE TEMPERANCE FORCES

ITALIANS HOPE CONFERENCE TO BE SUCCESSFUL

Greatest Achievement is in Bringing Former Enemies Face to Face.

ONE COMMON GROUND IS NEED TO WORK

None Entirely Satisfied Which in Itself is Regarded as Proof of Fair Play.

Spa, July 10.—The Allied conference will probably be fruitful in actual concrete results. The conference will likely be short. The town is unexcited for a long meeting because the delegations are scattered about and communication is difficult.

I went this morning to visit Count Storza, the Italian Foreign Minister. He and his chief assistants occupy a country house on the hills five or six miles distant from the Lloyd George headquarters in the centre of the town. It is a charming villa, but its location is not favorable to intercourse.

Storza spoke hopefully of the outlook for an agreement among the Allies and of eventual settlement with Germany on the basis of the Versailles treaty. His conversation reflected none of the disappointment which had been attributed to him.

"I have ten per cent. of the reparations for Italy is, of course, impossible," he said. "It would not express the service and sacrifice of Italy in the war. We are a sentimental people, and such inadequate apportionment of the German reparations would be a deep wound to our sensibilities."

"But the division of the reparations to be considered in connection with other recognition of the value and importance of Italian partnership in the Entente. I look confidently to those with whom Italy is associated for final action substantially in accord with the just claims of all."

"Measures which work an injustice in some particular may be proposed, but there will be an appeal to justice and equity in the final settlement. Nobody will be entirely satisfied, which in itself will be the best evidence that there has been fair play."

Count Storza thought the Spa conference would turn out satisfactorily. It was a beginning, he said, to get representatives of the combatants together for the first time. He was sure that such a war this was a difficult and delicate matter. Sooner or later it had to be done, however. The ice was now broken and it would be found less difficult to deal face to face than at arms' length.

One Common Ground

"There is at least one common ground for us all," he continued. "That is to get back to work. Work is the sovereign remedy for most of our ills. When we are all at work again and producing and exchanging the necessities of life we can know the war is over. We in Italy are very desirous of putting the mechanism of world industry in motion. We are anxious to avoid all friction, and there is no spirit of militarism among our people. We justly expect to be firmly established in whatever is clearly our right so that we may turn with confidence to the industrial development in which lies our hope of recovery and prosperity."

"Italy possesses a great advantage in her combination of natural resources and general willingness to work. With the whole world in sore need of every product of human energy, Italy can serve humanity in serving herself. Throughout all the inter-Allied negotiations of the last year Italian influence has been steadily exerted for a return to normal activities at the earliest possible time. While we recognize the difficulties which lie in the way, we feel that every moment of unnecessary delay increases the waste of war in Europe."

It was remarkable that Storza and Drumhich, the Yugoslav delegate, were walking together in a garden near the conference hall after the adjournment and had a long talk, apparently very friendly.

TROOPS PREPARED TO CHECK TROUBLE

Scattered Throughout Ireland Where Demonstrations Are Expected in Celebration of Battle of Boyne.

Dublin, July 11.—Troops being sent to the North of Ireland are not confining their activities to Belfast alone, but are being distributed in all districts in which it has been announced demonstrations in celebration of the Battle of the Boyne will be held. The explanation current here of the exceptional military activity is that the government had reason to believe

FIRE DESTROYS PLANT OF MANN AXE & TOOL CO.

Bursting of Pipe Supplying Oil to Forge Bellows Was Cause of the Blaze.

LOSS PLACED AT \$100,000

Some Question as to Whether Plant Will be Rebuilt—Other Property Threatened.

Special to The Standard. St. Stephen, N. B., July 11.—A disastrous fire occurred here on Saturday, completely destroying the plant of the Mann Axe and Tool Co., a large wooden building occupying an isolated position at the extreme eastern boundary of the town.

The fire started just before noon, and was caused by the bursting of a pipe that fed crude oil from a small tank on the second floor to the forge bellows. Almost instantly the whole interior was wrapped in intense flames, and many of the thirty or more employees at work found difficulty in effecting an exit, but, fortunately, all did escape and without injury.

The firemen responded quickly, but the plant was at the extreme end of a small pipe, and the water supply was inadequate for fighting such a blaze. The building was soon reduced to ashes, and in it was destroyed, or considerably damaged, much valuable machinery, including electric motors, which the plant had been equipped within a year. Manufactured stock, to the value of \$15,000 or more, boxed ready for shipment and in a place that could be reached, was carried to safety by employees from the nearby factories of the Dominion Fertilizer Co. and Haley & Sons and others early on the scene. Beside the factory, and forming the eastern boundary of the town, runs the Dana weather, across which was an old wooden dam that has not been in use since the plant was supplied with electric power. Along the dry upper works of this dam, and by means of sparks, the fire was communicated to the woods on the opposite bank, the property of Henry E. Hill, and long known as an attractive woodland.

During the last three winters this big expanse of growing timber has been largely cut over by a Calais contractor, and it is said that the trimmings have not been too carefully cleared away. Following the protracted dry weather, the flames found ready fuel here and a large tract has been burned over. The fight to save adjacent farm houses on the Crocker road was often very difficult, but, fortunately, successful until the present time. Sunday night this fire is still burning.

Chas. E. Huestis, manager of the axe factory, is absent from town, but is expected home on Monday. Nothing definite can be learned concerning the loss, but it is generally estimated at about \$100,000, on which there is reported to be about \$50,000 insurance. About thirty men are thrown out of employment. The company, which is well established and doing a prosperous business, has recently entered a merger with Ontario interests, and just how the present unfortunate catastrophe may affect the future will not be known until the return of Mr. Huestis.

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SCOTLAND YARD CALLED INTO CASE

Aid Asked in Solving Mysterious Murder of Joseph Elwell of New York.

New York, July 11.—Scotland Yard had been called upon to aid in solving the mysterious murder here of Joseph Elwell, which expert turf man and "Don Juan." After having followed many feminine trails, apparently without success, the authorities have turned to another woman of Elwell's acquaintance. Her name was not made public, but it was said she had met Elwell at Palm Beach and Miami last winter. She is said to have told a friend that Elwell was sending her to England, intending to follow later. Her picture was found among the dead man's effects and the authorities have expressed a desire to question her concerning any knowledge she may have of a motive for the crime. The District Attorney's office today began examining the bank accounts of several women named among Elwell's friends.

Irish Volunteers contemplated demonstrations in force on various districts, on the plea that their presence was necessary to protect Catholics, and that the government believes the military forces are the proper guardians of the peace.

OVERWHELMING VERDICT IN FAVOR OF PROHIBITION

Province Emphatically Affirms Its Faith in Prohibition Act and Rejects Proposition to Legalize Sale of Wines and Beers—Sixty Per Cent. of Eligible Vote Cast—Many Surprises, and All "Dope" from Wise Ones Went Astray—Only One Wet County—Women Most Active Workers at the Polls.

With sixty per cent. of the voters of the province recording their opinions on the question of provincial prohibition and the sale of light wines and beers, and with that number rolling up a majority of 21,000 for the retention of the present Prohibition Act, and a majority of 15,000 against the sale of wines and beers the province has, most emphatically, affirmed its belief in the efficiency of the Act as well as its opinion that the sale of beers and wines is not desired in New Brunswick.

Well Conducted Campaign.

Following a campaign of education and propaganda, carried on by the "wets" and "drys" for the last three weeks, the voters were given their opportunity Saturday to express their opinion on the two great questions, and the result of their expression will decorate the pages of history for all time. The propaganda campaign carried on has been one of absorbing interest, and conducted with an intensity of feeling that at times bordered on bitterness. Houses were divided against themselves on the questions submitted. The clergy took sides and medical men were not unanimous in their views as to what was best for the people. Advance dope was freely given by the "wise ones," but the leaders in the fight, those who were conducting the campaign, were reticent about expressing an opinion as to the final outcome.

Many Surprises.

There were many surprises for the public when the returns were finally tabulated. At no time was there a belief that the voters would reject the Prohibition Act. Many were of the opinion that there was an even chance that there would be a vote favoring the sale of wines and beers. In fact the "wets" made their big fight on this one question. There was a feeling that the cities and larger towns might return small majorities for wines and beers, and the four counties, Restigouche, Madawaska, Gloucester and Kent were practically conceded to the "wets." To offset this the champions of "bone dry" prohibition were depending upon large majorities from the small towns and country districts. "All signs fail in a drought," and the dope artists were all astray.

With the exception of Chatham and Newcastle not one of the larger towns or cities gave a verdict for the sale of wines and beers. On the contrary, they recorded comfortable margins against such sales. With the exception of Madawaska, which went against the "drys," on each question, and Kent which favored the sale of wines and beers, the north counties were safely in the dry columns on both questions.

Banner Counties.

The counties of Charlotte, Westmorland, Kings, Queens, York, Carleton, St. John and St. John City returned handsome majorities for prohibition and against the sale of light wines and beers.

Women Active.

The women took an active part in the campaign, and were early at the polls working and voting for the retention of the Prohibition Act and against the sale of wines and beers. They proved themselves expert politicians and were most effective vote getters. They worked earnestly and faithfully for their cause and none appear more happy over the results than they.

One ardent worker in the prohibition cause said to The Standard yesterday: "The vote in this province Saturday must be regarded as the final knockout blow to the adherents of the liquor interests. Prohibition, bone dry prohibition, is here to stay. It is now squarely up to the authorities to see to it that the Act is rigidly enforced."

ST. JOHN CITY AND COUNTY

The election on Saturday was rather quiet about the polling booths and it appeared to be the chief endeavor on the part of both factions concerned to bring out the vote. There was no great rush at the booths. The prohibition party had many faithful workers and unlike previous elections the women workers were out in force and performed some effective canvassing as well as working hard at the booths from the time the polls opened at nine o'clock until they closed at five. It had been stated previous to the election that the women were not taking the interest that was expected of them, but any person who happened to be about the city on Saturday will think different as each and every woman worker knew just what was expected and no old time male ward worker could have performed these duties better. When any woman whom they had on their list did not put in

WESTMORLAND STRONG FOR PROHIBITION ACT

Two Parishes, Shediac and Dorchester, Were Against Prohibition, and in Favor of Wines and Beers.

Moncton, N. B., July 11.—By a majority of more than four thousand the City of Moncton and the County of Westmorland voted dry in Saturday's plebiscite for or against prohibition.

In Moncton City the majority for prohibition was in the neighborhood of a thousand, while the majority against light wines and beer was a little more than five hundred. Outside of the city the majority for prohibition was over three thousand. In two parishes, Shediac and Dorchester, smaller majorities were given against prohibition and in favor of light wines and beer. The vote in the City of Moncton and in the various parishes stood as follows:

Moncton City, for prohibition 2,260; against 1,275; for wines and beer 2,085; against 1,520.

Westmorland parish, for prohibition 994; against 303; for wine and beer 320; against 967.

Salisbury parish, for prohibition 825; against 367; for wine and beer 110; against 307.

Dorchester parish, for prohibition 300; against 302; for wine and beer 368; against 268.

Shediac parish, for prohibition 397; against 570; for wines and beer 698; against 306.

Sackville parish, for prohibition 1,301; against 394; for wines and beer 707; against 310.

Westmorland parish, for prohibition 599; against 51; for wines and beer, 50; against 583.

Botsford parish, for prohibition 520; against 125; for wines and beer, 190; against 423.

The voting in Moncton City and throughout the county was conducted very quietly. The principal activity at the city polls was displayed by the women who were out in considerable force and assisted very materially in getting out the women voters.

RUSSIAN PRISONERS ESCAPE FROM CAMP

Seven Hundred Break Down Barriers, Overpower Sentinels and March on Antwerp.

Antwerp, July 11.—A force of seven hundred Russian prisoners of war, who had been interned near Turnout, 25 miles northeast of this city, escaped from the internment camp last night and marched upon Antwerp. A regiment of cavalry, sent in pursuit of the Russians, surrounded them and interned them anew in one of the Antwerp forts.

The prisoners were as part of a contingent of 1,100 Russians who were to be released on Saturday for return home. They were informed late in the day, however, that owing to the failure of Great Britain and the Soviet government to reach a definite agreement so far with regard to exchange of nationals, they would have to endure further detention.

Incessant at this 700 of the prisoners rushed the barred wire barriers, overpowered the sentries and proceeded in marching order toward Antwerp. The men offered slight resistance, however, when the cavalrymen appeared and rounded them up. No report had been made up to this morning as to the casualties during the incident.

INCREASE IN FREIGHT RATES

To the Amount of 30 Per Cent. Asked by the Canadian Railway Association.

Ottawa, July 11.—An application has been filed with the Board of Railway Commissioners asking permission for a flat increase of freight rates in Canada to the amount of 30 per cent. The application was sent into the Railway Commission Saturday afternoon by the Canadian Railway Association, and their request is made on behalf of all the railways in Canada of the Association, and also on behalf of all other Canadian Railways subject to the jurisdiction of the Railway Commission.

MOST SHOCKING FATALITIES AT SYDNEY, N. S.

Explosion of Ammonia Tank at Harris Abattoir Caused Death of Two Men and Injury to Third.

MUCH VALUABLE PROPERTY DESTROYED

Work of Rescue and Salvage Hindered by the Liberated Fumes Which Were Suffocating.

Sydney, N. S., July 11.—Sydney was visited with one of the most shocking fatalities of years on Saturday, the explosion of an ammonia tank on the premises of the Harris Abattoir Company, causing the death of two men and the serious injury of a third, as well as damage to property estimated at many thousands of dollars. The dead are William Munn, yardmaster of the Canadian National Railway here, and Edward Langley, an employee of the abattoir, is lying in the City Hospital badly burned and tonight his condition is considered critical. Several firemen of the Sydney department, as well as a number of private citizens, are still suffering from the fumes of the deadly ammonia, received while engaged in the work of rescue after the explosion occurred. The explosion, caused by a defect in the machinery of the ammonia freezing plant, occurred shortly after four o'clock. Three men were in the rear of the building where the freezing plant was located when the tank, which liberated the deadly gas, burst. The shock of the explosion drove open a door and dislodged part of the wall in the rear of the building. McNeil, who was standing near the door, was thrown through the air to the yard in the rear and by this was saved from the gas fumes which caused the deaths of the two others in the building at the time.

William Munn and Edward Langley were not taken from the building until some time after the accident occurred, and when they were dragged forth by firemen who entered with a gas mask, life was found to be extinct.

When the explosion took place, the fire department was summoned. No smoke could be seen issuing from the rear of the building where the tank had burst, and for the moment none realized the seriousness of what had happened. Several firemen, who started to enter the building unaware of the danger which they were confronting, were driven to the open air by the gas fumes. Wounded by the wind, the gas soon began to spread from the building, and only a short period had elapsed when the air for a radius of a hundred yards around became so poisoned that people could only breathe with difficulty.

A truck was dispatched to the fire station, only a short distance away, to procure an ammonia mask kept there for such an emergency. While this was being obtained James Thompson, a fireman, rushed to a stable on the side of the building for the purpose of liberating three horses there. He entered the stable but was unable to stay there long enough to fully accomplish his purpose. Turning back he collapsed. A physician, a number of whom had already arrived on the scene, administered a restorative, and had the fireman removed to his home. He has since recovered from the effects of the suffocation. The attempt of the first fireman falling, another, Jack McLean, entered the stables and succeeded in releasing two of the horses, a third horse, however, perished.

WOMEN PICKETS WERE ARRESTED

Engaged in Posting Bills, Denouncing "British Militarism," and Irish Republic Propaganda.

Washington, July 11.—(By Canadian Press)—Two members of the American women pickets have been arrested, charged with violating the bill posting law. The two women, Mrs. Ella Lucille Smith and Miss Kathleen O'Brien, the publicity agent of the pickets, were released on collateral to appear in court on Wednesday.

The posters denounced "British militarism," and contained propaganda urging recognition of the "Irish Republic" by the U. S. Government and expressed sympathy with the Sinn Féin movement. The bill posting campaign was conducted Thursday night, when the women spent two hours pasting circulars and posters on sign boards. A number were found yesterday on the walls of St. Aloysius Church, but the women said they did not put them there.

ENORMOUS DEFICIT FACED BY GERMANY

Thirty Billion Marks Loss—Public Debt of Three Hundred Billions, Forecast.

TAX REVENUES UNCERTAIN

Figures Believed Inspired for Spa Benefit—Measures of Economy Ignored.

By S. B. Conger

Special Wireless Despatch. Copyright, 1920, by Public Ledger Co. Berlin, July 8.—Germany faces in the current fiscal year a deficit of at least 30,000,000,000 marks and an increase of the public debt to almost 300,000,000,000 marks by the end of the year. Financial critics derive these appalling figures from an analysis of the gloomy exposition of the German economic and financial position made by Minister of Finance Wirth, who is able, even with the assistance of 3,000,000,000 marks in new taxes yet to be granted, to foresee an income of only 28,000,000,000 marks, against prospective expenditures of 58,000,000,000. Herr Wirth's estimate of expenditures was somewhat less, but he failed to include interest and service on the additional debt.

The additional revenue of 3,000,000,000 marks in new taxation also is highly uncertain since General Wirth announced yesterday that he had abandoned, on account of the economic depression, the proposal to increase the coal tax upon which he proposed in his budget speech in April to base a considerable part of the new taxation.

The financial critics in the newspapers today naturally are agitated at the figures and discuss the impossibility of providing the necessary additional revenue by any normal system of taxation; but, like General Wirth himself in his speech, none of them attacks the problem from the other side, viz., the reduction of expenditures in an admittedly extravagant government machinery where the number of employees, their salaries and the building space allotted to government departments continue to increase while the efficiency of the individual employes continues to decrease.

An opposite example of German aversion to economy is furnished by Herr Wirth's reference to the railway problem, which, as supplemented by the discussions in the budget committee yesterday, shows that the industrial German states, after arranging to sell their railways to the federal government, loaded them with additional operating expenditures by increasing the number of employes and boosting their salary scale. In general the figures cited yesterday show that the number of employes on the Prussian railways has increased since the armistice by 33 per cent., despite the loss of the railways in Alsace-Lorraine, Poland and Schleswig. The railway personnel in Baden increased 65 per cent.

One newspaper points out that Herr Wirth's speech, while illuminating in its instructions about the false budgeting during the war and the failure to raise a proper share of war expenditures by taxation, contributes nothing positive toward a solution of Germany's financial problem and adds little to his budget speech of April 20. That speech seemed to have been inspired largely by the imminence of the Spa conference.

GOOD NEWS FOR NEWLY WEDS

Yes, Sir, we mean just that, for we intend to present "The Standard" for a period of three months absolutely free of charge to any newly-married couple residing in the Province of New Brunswick. All you have to do is to call at The Standard office or write us a letter letting us know you have started out on life's battles in double harness, and The Standard will be delivered to your home immediately. We are doing this merely because we hope that all along life's journey you may have the best of everything, and we want to start the good work by giving you the best newspaper printed in this part of the country. It is our wedding present to you. The June brides are to be considered as newly weds.