The St. John Standard

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PARLIAMENT LISTENED TO GREAT SPEECHES

Two Outstanding Speeches of the Session from Opposition Benches Heard Yesterday.

HON. W. S. FIELDING DISCUSSED TARIFF

Urged Western Farmers "To Choose This Day Whom They Would Serve.

COL. PECK AROUSES SIR SAM HUGHES

Sticks the Knife Into the "Armchair General" for Maligning Sir Arthur Currie

Special to The Standard.

Ottawa, Ont., March 14.—Parliament heard, today, the two outstanding speeches of the present session from the Opposition benches, Hon. W. S. Fielding discussed, in masterly fashion, the great issues of the day, and concluded an able summing up to the tariff situation with a dramatic appeal to the western members to "choose this day whom they will serve." He told them that today he would have to belong to one or other of the old political parties. Mr. Fielding was in fine form, and his skill as a debater was never better demonstrated. His remarks were vigorously applauded by the members of the Opposition, and when he had concluded he had an ovation. Hon. Mr. Crear applauded his remarks about the tariff from the Government benches. Colonel C. W. Peck, V.C., the member for Skeena, delivered a desolating attack on the ghastly charge of General Sir Sam Hughes, that thousands of Canadian soldiers had been slaughtered in vain attacks ordered by General Sir Arthur Currie, the Canadian commander in France, for his own glorification Colonel Peck commanded for four years the 16th, 6th Canadian Scottish Battalion, and marched at the head of the regiment across the Rhine. He was wounded twice, and won the Victoria Cross, most coveted of all decorations, for valor on the field of battle. When he got through his defence of General Currie, this afternoon, "the armchair critic who did not fight" was thoroughly discredited. General Hughes interrupted once or twice, and there was a tense situation when Colonel Peck angrily threatened that "if the campaign of infamy started by Sir Sam was continued, I will tell some things I know, and there will be some gentlemen in Canada who will curse the day they were born." Colonel Peck's remarks were greeted with prolonged applause from both sides of the House. He returned only a few days ago from the front, and this was his maiden speech.

Col. Peck said the reports of the rioting in the Canadian Camp at Rhyl had been grossly exaggerated in sections of the English press and that more serious disorders had taken place in the British army. He rode into one city and found 40,000 British troops in open insurrection. He complained of the treatment meted out to the Canadian Corps on the Rhine by General Sir Charles Ferguson, the British Military Governor at Cologne. Sir Charles Ferguson, he said, had made charges of misconduct against the Canadian troops, to which there was no foundation. And Generals Currie and Macdonell had resented his insinuations. General MacDonell had challenged him to prove his statements and he could not do it.

In a stinging arraignment of Sir Charles, Colonel Peck declared that he was in command of the British troops which permitted the Germans to take Monchy, and he told the House that he had vowed before his men in the field that he would make Ferguson's name stink in the nostrils of the Canadian people.

Col. Peck, in conclusion, declined the invitation of the Opposition leader to cross the floor of the House. "I was overseas for four years fighting for Liberalism," said he, "and if the Liberal party has not come up to the scratch it is no fault of mine. The reason we men at the front supported the Union Government is that we had no faith in the Laurier Liberals going on with the war. We were fighting with our backs to the wall. Is it any wonder that we turned to somebody who had a definite policy, the policy of the Laurier Liberals was as the shifting sands."

Hon. Mr. Fielding opened with strong criticisms of the trip of Premier Borden and his colleagues to Europe. He said that, unless it could be shown that Canada had some interest, apart from the British Empire, there was no reason why Sir Robert Borden and his ministers should be at the Peace Conference. "We have no territorial axe to grind," he said, "and we are not adding a cubit to our stature. As a matter of fact the Canadian delegates are not taking part in the Peace Conference. The Council of Ten is the real Peace Conference. Canada is not represented on the Council of Ten, which is the 'big circus,' while the other councils are merely 'sideshows.' Canada has a place on the General Council of the Peace Conference, but that Council never meets. The whole thing is humbug. Premier Lloyd George said to President Wilson that 'some Canadian statesmen have got a bee in their bonnets. We will put them on the General Council alongside Monica, Libera and let them inquire into the boundaries of Boolah-Boolah." (Prolonged laughter.)

Discussing the most contentious problem facing the country, namely, the tariff, Mr. Fielding said that in the rising tide of Western Canada there was no lack of warning, and those who stood in the way of tides would be overwhelmed.

CONFISCATE IRON CROSSES BROUGHT IN BY GERMANS

Treves, Thursday, Mar. 13—(By The Associated Press)—The police authorities here took a hand today in the business of selling iron crosses and confiscated more than 2,000 crosses which had been brought to Treves by Germans despite a municipal order against the sale of the crosses.

Iron crosses, however, remain on sale in most other towns in the area of occupation, but they are no longer displayed in windows.

EMILE COTTIN GETS DEATH SENTENCE

Charged With Attempt to Kill Premier Clemenceau — Court Finding Was Unanimous.

Paris, Mar. 14—Emile Cottin, the anarchist, who recently made an attempt upon the life of Premier Georges Clemenceau, was today sentenced to death by the court martial which was trying him. The verdict of the court martial was unanimous.

Paris, Mar. 14—Emile Cottin, the assailant of Premier Clemenceau, first conceived the idea of shooting the premier in May, 1918, according to an official record read at the court martial of Cottin, which opened today. In May, 1918, the employes of aviation factories were on strike. Cottin practised shooting after that, it was said.

When the court martial opened the clerk read the report describing the attempt upon the premier.

The report showed that Cottin fired twice without moving and then fired five times while running behind the automobile to which he was so close that one witness believed he had jumped on the rear of the car. It was shown that Cottin aimed at he seat in which Premier Clemenceau was sitting and fired so accurately that two bullet holes almost touched.

"Rarely has a crime," says the report, "been accomplished with more sustained premeditation, more mature design, and more implacable tenacity with a certainty of method which it seemed would infallibly lead to a fatal result."

Cottin is described in the report as primitive, vain and conceited, and believing himself omniscient. He was able to earn thirty-seven francs a day easily, yet, finding society badly organized, was desirous of destroying everything. The document gives expert medical opinion respectively holding Cottin responsible for his actions.

RHODES SCHOLAR TAKES A BRIDE

Lieut. Munro, Graduate of Dalhousie, Marries Edinburgh Lady—Sail Shortly for Canada.

Halifax, N. S., Mar. 14—A cable from Edinburgh announces the marriage there yesterday of Lieut. E. A. Munro of Vancouver, to Mary Isabel, daughter of George Flint Milne of Edinburgh. Lieut. Munro was a Rhodes scholar of Dalhousie University, Halifax, and went overseas in 1916, seeing service with the Imperial army in Italy, Mesopotamia and Saloniki. He will sail shortly with his bride for Canada.

HEAVY RAINS IN FLORIDA

Damage Done Estimated at Over $5,000,000—Winter Tomato Crop Wiped Out.

Miami, Florida, Mar. 14—Damage estimated at between $5,000,000 and $6,000,000 was caused by heavy rains in Dade and Broward counties today, which practically wiped out the entire winter tomato crop. At the Miami weather bureau eight inches of rain had been recorded up to 10.15 p.m.

HIGH-HANDED WORK HAS KEPT UP THE FISH PRICES

The Bay State Fishing Company of Maine Controlled the Industry in New England.

Boston, Mass., March 14.—How the Bay State Fishing Company of Maine absorbed other fish dealing firms, was described by Arthur P. French, general counsel of the company, who testified at the trial in the Superior Court today of the Bay State Company and twenty-nine other defendants, charged with conspiring to monopolize the New England fish market. He was called as a witness by the State.

ENGLISH CHAMPION MATCHED.

Tulsa, Okla., Mar. 14—Ted "Kid" Lewis, welterweight champion of England, has been matched with Willie Laughlin, South Bethlehem, Penna., for a twelve round bout here March 31, it was announced today.

PRELIMINARY PEACE TREATY APRIL FIRST

The Treaty Will be Considered by the Council as Soon as Wilson is Able to Take up His Work.

GERMANY EXPECTS TO SIGN IN TWO WEEKS

In Meantime Allies Are Making Gigantic Preparations for Feeding Central Europe.

BLOCKADE SOON TO BE LIFTED

Abolishing Conscription in Germany is Considered in London as Most Important Move.

(Special Cable to the N. Y. Tribune and the St. John Standard)

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London, March 14.—News from Paris, that a preliminary treaty of peace might be expected by April 1st, is received here with the greatest satisfaction It is stated that Colonel House kept President Wilson informed of every step taken during the last few days, and that the treaty will be considered by the Supreme Council as soon as Wilson arrives.

German delegates, who had anticipated being summoned to Paris this week, now expect that they will have the opportunity of signing the document within a fortnight. Meanwhile the Allies are making gigantic preparations for feeding the people of Central Europe. The blockade will be lifted as soon as the preliminary treaty is signed.

The decision of the Council of Ten to abolish conscription in Germany is considered here as one of the most important since the armistice was signed. It will have a profound effect on the military policy of the Entente, thus indirectly influencing the economic and financial future of all Europe. Not the least important is its bearing on the League of Nations

The first session of a two-day conference, during which speeches will be made by Leon Bourgeois, Venezelos, Vanderveide, Lord Shaw, J. H. Thomas and J. P. Clynes, was held today. The draft of the League of Nations covenant will be carefully studied, and constructive criticism in the light of the recent American opposition will be offered by the speakers. Senator McCormick's recent comment on the league draws the fire of Leo Mazse the editor of the "Globe," who has been attacking the draft with the same violence he showed in his long fight against Germany. He writes: "We are not asking, and are not expecting from the League of Nations any help whatever to maintain our empire. We can do that for ourselves, and are quite wise enough to know that, if ever we become incapable of the task, even American bayonets can give us no permanent help. In so far as this country supports the League of Nations, it is for the sake of humanity in general, but it is by no means 'our pigeon.' It sprang fully armed from the brain of Wilson, like Athens from the thigh of Zena, and he presented the lady to us with all a father's pride.

"McCormick and his friends may like to know that, though we admire her very much and her illustrious progenitor still more, we are not, by any means, in a state of calf love for her."

THREE YEAR OLD TRAVELLER HERE

Little Ida Tompkins Arrived on Steaemr Grampian Yesterday En Route to Join Her Mother in Windsor, Ont.

A picture of a light-haired chubby child, with the inscription "For my dearest mummy, with fondest love," written on the back in childish characters, was the main clue the local Patriotic Fund committee had for locating a Canadian tot who was supposed to have sailed from England on the last trip of the Grampian.

Little Ida Tompkins, three years old, was left in England with relatives when her mother returned to her home in Windsor, Ontario. The little tot wanted to come home, her folks here wanted her home and so she embarked on the voyage, a rather venturous undertaking for one of her tender years.

A description from her mother and a picture postcard were all the local authorities had to guide them, but little Ida who had not been sick a day on the voyage, was soon found and left for her home yesterday afternoon, accompanied by a trained nurse.

CONSULATE RAIDED AT TIEN TSIN BY AMERICAN MARINES

Washington, Mar. 14—United States government officials were greatly disturbed today by the news from Peking that American marines raided the Japanese consulate at Tien Tsin and seriously injured the consul. No official information had been received either by the state department or the Japanese embassy.

Navy department officials doubted that two hundred marines were involved in the raid, as reported, because no marines are stationed at Tien Tsin and the entire contingent at Peking, three or four hours ride away, numbers only a few hundred. Only the presence of a number of American ships in port, of which the department has not been advised, could account for so many marines being ashore and off duty at Tien Tsin.

PORTLAND MAN UNDER ARREST

Taken Into Custody at Moncton on Charge of Larceny—Given $60 Too Much of P. O. Funds.

Special to The Standard.

Moncton, March 14—Ralph Langstaff, a young man from Portland, Maine, who with his mother, has been visiting relatives in Lewisville, was arraigned in the police court today charged with larceny. The complaintant in the case is Postmaster Harris, who alleges that Langstaff, in cashing a Post Office order here, received by mistake, sixty dollars too much money and kept it. It is charged that Langstaff presented a Post Office order from his father in Portland for $15.00, but the Post Office clerk, in error, gave him $75.00. Langstaff denies that he received more than the order. At the hearing this afternoon, Postmaster Harris and the clerk who cashed the order gave evidence and the case adjourned until tomorrow.

SHEDIAC CASE TO SUPREME COURT

Minister of Lands and Mines Got Verdict in Ejectment Case—Defendant Appeals to Supreme Court of New Brunswick.

Moncton, March 14—The Shediac ejectment case, in which Hon. E. A Smith, Minister of Lands and Mines in the Foster Government, was plaintiff, and Rosalie Arsenau, a widow woman of nearly eighty years of age, was defendant, and in which suit Judge Barry recently gave his decision in favor of the plaintiff, is to be appealed to the Supreme Court of New Brunswick, By the decision of Judge Barry, the aged woman was dispossessed of the house in which she had lived for some forty years, and she does not propose to be turned into the street without an appeal to the higher courts.

FREDERICTON HAS SLIGHT BLAZE

Special to The Standard.

Fredericton, March 14.—A double tenement house on St. John street, owned by Mrs. King Hazen, mother of Edt Douglas Hazen, and occupied by Mrs. McKeil and Wm. Robinson, was badly gutted by fire this afternoon The blaze started from a defective flue, and the entire upper portion of the building was burned, while there was also considerable damage from water. Damage is estimated at $1,000 and is covered by insurance.

THE AMERICAN BOWLING CONGRESS

Toledo, Ohio., Mar. 14—The American bowling congress will hold its 1920 in Peoria, Illinois, it was decided today at the annual meeting of the congress held in connection with the tournament in progress here. The prize list, representing $36,460 for winners in the national tournament in Toledo, was presented to Judge Howard of Chicago.

The congress re-elected as president Robert Brown of Louisville, Abe Langley of Milwaukee remains as secretary and F. L. Pasdeloup of Chicago as treasurer, having been installed for a ten year term at the Toledo tournament in 1916.

PREMIER FOSTER ANSWERED FEW ENQUIRIES FRI.

Very Slim Excuses Given Mr. Sutton for Not Bringing on By-Election in Carleton County.

COMPENSATION BOARD EXPENSIVE AFFAIR

Has a Force of Twelve Which Costs the Gov't $19,300 a Year to Maintain in Salaries.

APPOINTED BY LIEUT. GOV. IN COUNCIL

Claim No Party Preference is Shown in Naming the Commissioners or the Employes Under Them.

Fredericton, March 14.—The government made answers to some enquiries today, and asked for further time to answer others. Mr. Dickson, (Kings) gave notice of enquiry as to disposition of seized liquor. Dr. Roberts continued debate, making considerable claims on behalf of health act. After Mr. Sutton (Carleton) had spoken for a few minutes, the debate was adjourned till Monday evening.

Dr Roberts said, we were busy laying foundations of a new world edifice, the corner-stone of which was the public health department. In this respect New Brunswick had stolen a march on Lloyd George, as only in the last speech from throne, King George had recommended the establishment of a public health department in England. Dr. Roberts proposes to establish laboratory and vaccine depots, which, he hoped, would save many lives, and expenses of visits to Montreal or New York. He paid a handsome tribute to the ladies' organizations and the military authorities for their co-operation during the flu epidemic.

Mr. Sutton regretted that government supporters had not been able to address the House without showing so much ill-temper. Evidently they had been angered by criticism from the opposition.

The excuses for not appointing returned soldiers were that no returned soldiers, who were capable were available. If the men who fought for the country were not capable of working for it, in heaven's name who were.

The premier's answer to a question, why the by-election in Carleton had not been held, was amazing. The real reason was that the government did not have the courage to call the election. The premier had been told by prominent Liberals in Carleton that they would not support him.

Speaking of the government's attempt to take credit for the increased production by farmers, Mr. Sutton said that a portion of the fertilizers imported by the government had been turned over to its friends to be sold at a good profit.

Carleton By-Election.

Hon. Mr. Foster in reply to Mr. Sutton said:

1. Q. Why had the vacancy in the representation in Carleton County not been filled?

A. The government, in view of conditions existing throughout the year, particularly the health conditions in the latter months, and also because of the representations of the Victory Loan Committee, did not consider the election of sufficient urgency, under the circumstances, to warrant the issuing of a writ.

Compensation Board.

Hon. Mr. Foster in reply to Mr. Smith (Albert):

1. Who are the employees of the Workmen's Compensation Board, and their respective salaries?

Answer—The employees of the Workmen's Compensation Board, and their respective salaries are as follows:

John A. Sinclair, chairman,	$4,000
Frank C. Robinson, vice-chair.,	3,000
James L Sugrue, commissioner,	2,500
H. Russell Sturdee, chief accountant,	2,500
Douglas R. Brown, claims officer,	1,800
Robert B. Irving, book-keeper,	900
Alphonse T. LeBlanc, inspector,	1,600
J. F. L. Brown, M. D., advisory medical officer,	500
Miss Hilda B. Williams, secretary,	780
Miss Genevieve M. Killen, claims stenographer,	780
Miss Florence T. Nugent, stenographer,	520
Miss Mary K. Lannen, stenographer,	520
	$19,300

2. On whose recommendation was each appointed.

Answer. The commissioners constituting the board were appointed by the lieutenant governor-in-council. The employees under the commissioners are appointed by the board, and there were no recommendations in these cases other than the board satisfying themselves that the staff was fit and competent to discharge their duties.

GOV'T CONSIDERING PLEBISCITE ON THE PROHIBITION QUESTION

Ottawa, March 14.—To validate by legislation the war measure of prohibition, to make it effective one year after the official declaration of peace, is the policy of the Dominion government, as announced by Sir Thomas White, acting premier, to a deputation which presented a memorial from the Dominion Prohibition committee. The government is also considering the question of submitting a plebiscite and the deputation was told, frankly, that there had been representations on the other side, but of rather a moderate character, the labor men, for instance, desiring more bite in their beer.

The speakers for the deputation included Judge Etienne LaFontaine, Montreal, president of the committee; W. A. Warburton, Toronto, vic-president; Dr. B. Harkness, Winnipeg; general secretary; Dr. H. Grant, of the social service committee of Nova Scotia; Mr R. M. Miller, Vancouver; Mr. A. A. Powers, representing the United Farmers of Ontario; Mr. W. L. Best, of the train service organizations; Mrs Gordon Wright, of the W. C. T. U. and others.

PRES. WILSON AND LLOYD GEORGE IN CONFERENCE

The President's Arrival at Paris Was Without Any Show of Demonstration, in Marked Contrast to His Arrival Three Months Ago.

Paris, Mar. 14—The presidential party was met at the station by President Poincare and Madame Poincare, Premier Clemenceau and Foreign Minister Pichon today.

Emerging from the station President Wilson immediately entered his motor car which drove at high speed along the left bank of the Seine, crossing the river on the Alma bridge. Arriving in the Place Des Etats Unis the streets were virtually deserted, a fact sharply in contrast with the president's appearance in Paris just three months ago today.

President Wilson got to work immediately after his arrival at his new residence in the Place Des Etats Unis. Premier Lloyd George was waiting there for the president, and the two had a long conference. The president then arranged for a conference at the Hotel De Crillon this afternoon with Premier Clemenceau, Premier Lloyd George and Colonel House.

TO COURTMARTIAL AVIATION CAPT. OF AM. FORCES

An Investigation of His Alleged Remarkable Air Exploits Lead to the Trial—Forgery Believed.

London, March 14.—The investigation of the stories of the remarkable air exploits of Captain Edmund G. Chamberlain, of San Antonio, Texas, an officer of the United States marine corps, which has been in progress in Paris for several weeks, has developed to an extent that the American naval authorities consider a court martial necessary. The court has been called to sit in London on March 24.

The courtmartial, it is announced, will investigate chiefly whether Captain Chamberlain's recommendations were al forgeries, and whether there was any truth whatever in his story of destroying an extraordinary number of machines in a short time.

Washington, Mar. 14—Although the Cuban general strike has been called off formally a despatch to the state department from Havana says the situation still is serious and uncertain. Strikers are resuming work in nearly all industries, railroad service out of Havana has been partially restored and the street railways are operating.

TO BREAK FROM INTERNATIONAL AFFILIATION

The Most Momentous Thing That Has Taken Place in Annals of Labor Movement in Canada.

NEW ORGANIZATION WAS FORMED

To Be Known as "the One Big Union" and is to Embrace the Whole of the Workers.

WOULD LIFT BAN ON CERTAIN LITERATURE

Want th Release of Political Prisoners and Express Sympathy With the Russian Bolshevik.

Calgary, Alta. March 14—The most momentous thing that has taken place in the annals of the labor movement in Canada was the action, this morning, at the Inter-Provincial Conference at the Paget Hall, when every delegate present voted solidly for breaking away from International affiliation, subject to the approval of the general membership of the delegates' respective unions.

Not only this, but a new organization, subject to a referendum, was formed to embrace the whole of the workers. It will be known as "the one big union." In order to carry this into effect, the conference adopted the following recommendation of the policy.

"We recommend the name of the proposed organization to be "The One Big Union."

"We recommend the conference elect a committee of five, representative of geographical location for the purpose of carrying out the necessary propaganda to make the referendum a success.

"We further recommend that delegates from each province meet and elect a committee of five to work in conjunction with the Central Committee in carrying on the necessary propaganda to accomplish the wishes of the convention.

"We recommend the drafting and issuing of the referendum be left to the Central Committee, also receiving the publishing returns of the vote.

"In the opinion of the committee, it will be necessary to establish an industrial form of organization to work through the existing trades councils and district boards, and no definite plans of organization be submitted until after the referendum has been taken.

"The committee further recommend that after the returns of the vote are received, the Central Committee call a conference of representatives of trades councils and district boards to perfect the plans of organization: basis of referendum of affiliated membership of five thousand or less to be one delegate, over five thousand, two delegates, over 10,000, three delegates.

"We recommend that an appeal be made to the trades councils and district boards for the payment of two cents per member affiliated to finance the educational campaign for the inauguration of the 'one big union.'"

Several other important resolutions were adopted, mostly without discussion. These include freedom of speech, and the lifting of the ban on certain literature, and the release of political prisoners; the expression of an open convention; that the system of industrial soviet control by selection of representatives from industries was more effective than the present system of government; the demand for a six hour day of five days a week and sympathy with the Russian Bolshevik and German Spartacan revolution.

INQUIRY INTO COAL MINING INDUSTRY SHOWS PROFITEERING

Such Was Declared by Secretary of the Northumberland Miners' Association Before the Commission of Inquiry —He Based His Conclusions on Government Figures.

London, March 14—The revelations, since the opening of the inquiry into the coal mining industry, have confirmed the miners in their suspicions of profiteering by the owners, the distributors and the government, William Straker, secretary of the Northumberland Miners' Association, declared before the commission of inquiry today. Straker added that it was, therefore, useless to ask the miners to withdraw their notices to strike until the government had accepted the principle of nationalization.

Straker was the first witness on behalf of the workers, whose turn it is to be heard.

Quoting figures, submitted by government officials, Straker said that if the mines had ben nationalized at the beginning of the war, and the owners had been paid a fair price in five per cent. government bonds, the purchase would have been cleared off by now out of the profits.

He based this statement on a report of profits which amounted to 25.63 per cent. on the capital invested. Straker added that if the royalties amounting to five per cent. on the capital had belonged to the state, and that if profits on by-products were considered, the total profits for the four years would have been 35.63 per cent.

A great saving also could be made if the wholesale and retail distribution of coal were undertaken by the state. In fact, the profits on this end of the business would be very large, Straker added. He estimated that 2,500,000 tons of coal were lost every year by the practice of throwing back small coal, while the loss on the barriers, which were kept up to divide properties and prevent water from flowing from one mine to another, amounted to 4,000,000 tons.