The St. John Standard

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PEACE TREATY READY BEFORE EASTER; BRITISH PRESS CRITICISE THE FRENCH; PEASANTS READY TO MARCH ON MUNICH

BRITISH ARE ANNOYED BY THE FRENCH

For the First Time in Five Years the British Press Offer Sharp Criticism of Their Neighbor.

FRENCH COMPARISONS NOT FLATTERING

Britain's French Friends Are Hostile to the Alliance of President Wilson and Lloyd George.

London, April 6.—For the first time in five years the British papers contain sharp criticisms of the French. Certain Paris journals have been protesting that Britain and America are not showing sufficient sympathy for the French demands, and are making comparisons that are not altogether flattering to the British. These newspapers express the desire that Premier Lloyd George drop diplomacy and begin to talk in plain language. The delays in reaching a settlement, and the fact that the Peace Conference is being held in Paris, are considered responsible for these heated passages, the importance of which should be overestimated but must, nevertheless, be considered. The alliance of President Wilson and Mr. Lloyd George has annoyed many of Britain's French friends, who thought that a union of M. Clemenceau and Mr. Lloyd George would be the natural outcome of their long association during the hostilities. There are few critics here of Mr. Lloyd George's course since the signing of the armistice. The overwhelming majority supports his peace policy, and when the British press details the reasons for the delay in making peace and states the opposition of Mr. Wilson and Mr. Lloyd George to Messrs. Clemenceau and Orlando over the Danzig and Rhine questions, there is little sympathy noticed in the statements for the latter. British criticism is restrained but none the less pointed. The British, in the words of the Globe, want a clean peace, a speedy peace, with justice to all the Allies. According to the Evening Star, "the League of Nations must not be based upon the sacrifice of France." The Westminster Gazette, however, says:

"It must be remembered that no strategic frontier can protect 40,000,000 Frenchmen from 70,000,000 Germans. We have to go bail for France, to pledge our resources to maintain the settlement to which we now agree. We must work for a settlement, which has a reasonable chance of general acceptance and which won't be a constant stimulus to any party to break the peace."

FREIGHT WRECK AT BLACK RIVER

Five Cars of Westbound Freight Were Derailed, Blocking Traffic Several Hours.

Moncton, N.B., April 6.—As the result of a freight train smash-up at Black River, five miles east of Springhill, at six o'clock tonight, traffic was blocked on the C. N. R. about seven hours. The Maritime Express from Halifax was held up, east of the wreck, and was not expected to reach Moncton until about four o'clock tomorrow morning. Some five cars of a westbound freight, in charge of Conductor Cormier, were derailed, and more or less damaged. The track was torn up for about three hundred yards. None of the train hands were injured in the wrock. No 9 from Halifax was also delayed by the smash-up.

German Version of the Agreement Reached at Spa

Copenhagen, April 6, (By the Associated Press)——A German version of the agreement reached at Spa, regarding the transport of General Haller's Polish troops, says hat Marshal Foch promised to recommend that the British give freedom to German coastal shipping for the duration of the passage of Polish troops through German territory. After giving the various routes to be taken, the despatch says that the Germans guarantee the complete safety of these routes. On the other hand measures have been taken that the troops being transported do nothing that might cause a disturbance among the population.

FATAL ACCIDENT IN NEW GLASGOW RAILROAD YARD

Former Employe of the I. C. R. Struck Down by Shunter Engine and Almost Instantly Killed.

Special to The Standard.

New Glasgow, N.S., April 5.—A shocking accident occurred in the railway yard at New Glasgow this morning, and Alex. A. McDonald, of Lourdes, was almost instantly killed. It seems he had been in town and started to walk home, following the track to Lourdes Station across the iron bridge, as is the practice with many pedestrians daily. The express from Halifax was coming in, and Mr. McDonald, opposite Johnson and McDonald's Mill, stepped to the next track to let it pass by. He did not notice the shunter, which was almost on top of him, and he was struck down, and only lived a few minutes afterwards. Deceased was 66 years of age, and is survived by his wife, three sons and four daughters.

Deceased was a brother of the late "Father William," Rev. W. D. McDonald, for many years Parish Priest at Lourdes. He had been a resident of Emmanuel street, Lourdes, for many years. He had been an employe on the I. R. C. for a long period, but had retired under superannuation. He as a man who was held in the highest regard, and his tragic end is a shock, not only to his family and relatives, but to hosts of friends as well. An inquest will be held at the Ross Undertaking Rooms at 8.30 this evening.

STRIKE SCHEDULED FOR BERLIN TODAY

Independent Socialists and Spartacans so Vote by Overwhelming Majority.

Berlin, Saturday, April 5—(By the Associated Press)—Independent Socialists and Spartacans decided, today, by a vote of 10,000 to 3,000 to begin a general strike in Berlin on Monday. The Majority Socialists, opposed the movement, but the employees of the large machine and metal works carried the day for those favorable to a strike. The Government troops in Berlin have been reinforced.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL.

Special to The Standard.

Halifax, N.S., April 6.—The Dalhousie College Basketball team defeated Mount Allison University in a game here on Saturday by a score of 32 to 27. The Mount Allisons are the champions, hoever, as they had defeated Dalhousie at Sackville, and their points in the two games being slightly more than Dalhousie's.

CUSTODIAN FOR C.P.R. STOCK OF ENEMY ALIENS

Federal Government Seeks to Have Minister of Finance Appointed Gustodian for Such Property.

STOCK EFFECTED VALUED AT $20,000,000

The Vesting Order Demanded Under the Authority of the Consolidated Order of 1916 Respecting Trade With Enemies of the Country.

Special to The Standard.

Montreal, April 6.—The Superior Court was asked on Saturday by petition of the Secretary of State to vest in the Minister of Finance and Receiver General of Canada full control of over $22,000,000 worth of Canadian Pacific Railway stock which is now held in New York by or on behalf of Germans or Austrians. Dividend payments accruing on this stock—143,676 shares altogether—have been withheld from the stockholders in question by the C. P. R. Company, and transferred to Montreal since the outbreak of the war in August, 1914. The Secretary of State, likewise, asks that this accumulated interest may also be brought under government control. The vesting order is demanded under the authority of the consolidated orders adopted in 1916 respecting trading with enemies of the country. Its object is to prevent any disposition of these shares by, or on behalf of the enemy; to enable the government of Canada to carry out its obligations with respect to such enemy property, according to the stipulations of the final treaty of peace; to preserve the shares for the security of Canadian property in enemy countries, and for the security of Canadian claims against enemies. Eugene Lafleure, K. C., appeared on behalf of the Secretary of State. F. E. Meredith, K. C., appearing on behalf of Mr. Tilley as representing the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, asked that before the court adjudicated on the petition opportunity be allowed for notices to be served in London, Paris and New York of the present action of the Secretary of State. Mr. Lafleure opposed the application, and the court, considering that the notices could not have any effect, refused. Mr. Meredith thereupon asked for an adjournment for a week ,as he was not prepared to discuss immediately the matter involved. The court finally agreed to the week's adjournment. The petition stated that under the consolidated orders respecting trading with the enemy, passed in 1916, any superior court of record within Canada, or any judge thereof, might, on application of any department of the Federal Government, vest in a custodian any property belonging to, held, or managed for on behalf of the enemy. The judge might, likewise, confer on the custodian such powers of selling, managing and otherwise dealing with the property in question. The court was, accordingly, asked to issue an order vesting in the Minister of Finance and Receiver General of Canada as the custodian appointed by the consolidated orders: 1—All the shares mentioned in the list filled with the present record, and any interest or dividends accrued or to accrue thereon; 2—The right to sue for, recover and receive all interest or dividends accrued since August 4, 1914, upon the shares in question, or hereafter to accrue on them; 3—The right to transfer all or any of the shares into his name to be held by him as custodian, subject to the provisions of the consolidated orders; such further, or other rights and powers in respect to the shares as to this court might seem proper. Among the stock-holders, whose addresses were stated to be in Germany or Austria are: Banque Commerciale Hongraise de Pest, holding 30 shares; Deutsche Bank, Berlin, London agency, 520 shares; Direction der Disconto Gesellschaff, 692; Lieben and Co., 594; National Bank fur Deutschland, 831 shares; C. Schlesinger-trier 50, 914. The shares held in the two enemy countries total 143,676.

EMBARKATION OF FIRST DIVISION UNITS TO BEGIN VERY SOON

London, April 5—(By Canadian Associated Press cable)—It is officially announced that the embarkation of the first division units will start before the middle of the month. Embarkation of the second division from France to England began last Friday.

LORD BEAVERBROOK SUFFERS RELAPSE

London, April 5—(By The Canadian Associated Press cable)—The Canadian Press regrets to learn that Lord Beaverbrook's wound has broken out afresh and his convalescence is therefore greatly impaired.

Big Four Reaches An Agreement

Are in Accord on the Indemnities and Reparations to be Paid by the Germans, the Details to be Later Considered.

COMPROMISES EFFECTED ON DEBATABLE POINTS

Rights of France and Belgium to Prior Consideration in Payments by Germany Have Been Recognized.

Paris, April 6—(Havas)—The council of four on Saturday reached an agreement on the principles of the indemnities to be paid by Germany, and examination of the details will begin immediately, the newspapers say. It is not believed there will be any disagreement as to details, and it is indicated that the text of the financial terms will be finished during the week.

The Echo de Paris says that compromises were effected on all debatabe points regarding the sum to be paid at once by Germany, and the payments in the future. Against the opposition of the French government, it was agreed, the paper says, to distribute the future payments over a term of 30 years. The payments for the next few years were fixed.

The Journal says there are indications that the rights of France and Belgium to prior consideration in the payments by Germany have been recognized. The first German payment, it says, will be 25,000,000,000 francs, of which five billion will go to pay for raw materials to insure the resumption of German economic life. France will get ten billion francs, and Begium five billion of the first payment. The rest of the indemnity, the paper says, will run over a period of thirty-five years.

Plans for continued occupation of the left bank of the Rhine have been abandoned, and the Allies will depend upon an economic blockade as the means of pressure on Germany. Final agreement on the Rhine and Sarre Valley questions will be reached before the end of the week, it is added.

Increased optimism in diplomatic circles is noted in the press, while in editorials, the newspapers express satisfaction over the progress made over the reparation and indemnity. It is pointed out that each day of delay in reaching a final agreement adds to the losses of France.

The favorable solution of the Dangig question is commented upon in complimentary terms. The moral and political advantages of the agreement are emphasized by the papers.

The confident statement of Premier Lloyd George, that the peace treaty will be concluded by Easter, is supported by predictions repeatedly made by less prominent members of the Peace Conference and dispelled today much of the hopelessness and uncertainty in which many important problems of the conference seemed to have been enshrouded.

Even the announcements of serious Bolshevik troubles in Bavaria, and the danger of a break with Italy over the Adriatic problem, apparently did not affect the optimism today of the leaders of the British, French and American delegations.

CAPT. REED, M. P. DIED AT OTTAWA SUNDAY

One of the Most Unique Figures in Parliament Who Carried to the Commons the Gruff and Hearty Ways of His Early Calling.

Ottawa, Ont., April 6—Captain Joseph Reed, M. P. for Queens, P. E. I., died here tonight of pneumonia.

Captain Reed had been ill only a few days and was not considered to be in danger until today, when he took a turn for the worse and sank rapidly. His remains will be interred at Summerside, P. E. I. John E. Sinclair will accompany them to the east tomorrow. The deceased was in his seventieth year, having been born on October 31, 1849. Although only a member of parliament since 1917, Captain Reed was one of the best known figures in parliament. For nearly forty years previous to his entry into public life he had been a sea captain and he carried into the Commons the gruff and hearty ways of his calling. He was a frequent speaker in the debates and, although very outspoken in his expression of opinion, was a general favorite with members on both sides of the house. Undoubtedly his death means the passing from the scene one of the members who was in some ways the most unique figures in the house. Previous to coming to Ottawa Captain Reed sat for two terms in the Prince Edward Island legislature. The deceased is described in the parliamentary guide as "an active propagandist of Canadian free trade and of reciprocity with the United States in natural products." His death makes the fifth vacancy in the Commons, the others being: Quebec East, Assiniboia, Glengarry and Storm, Ontario, and North Ontario.

HALF CANADIAN TROOPS HOME BY APRIL 30TH

Sir Edward Kemp Voices His Own Sentiments on Criticisms Made Against Him in Canada.

EXPRESSES SORROW OVER RHYL AFFAIR

Canada's Premier Bears Willing Testimony to the Work of the Overseas Minister.

London, April 5—(By Canadian Associated Press cable)—At a small luncheon given here today by Sir Edward Kemp to meet General Currie, the overseas minister took the opportunity to voice his own sentiments upon criticisms from Canada. Sir Edward Kemp said he had, ever since the armistice, urged that Canadian soldiers should be repatriated as fast as possible, and his own view was entirely contrary to that urged in some quarters in Canada that soldiers should not be demobilized too quickly, or else they would find no work to do at home. He was absolutely satisfied that they had arrived at the best conclusions possible regarding demobilization, and was quite prepared to defend the form it took. He was equally sure the Canadian people would approve it directly they understood the situation.

Before the end of this month half of all the Canadian troops on this side would be back or on the water.

"We had a little trouble in Rhyl," continued Sir Edward, "about which we all felt very sorry. I don't want to say much about it just now because it is still under investigation, but none felt worse about what hoppened than the men themselves who were led by excitement into such unhappy courses."

Speaking of some personal criticism directed against himself, Sir Edward Kemp said that, since the war began, he had not had six days' leave and had kept at his duties contrary to the doctor's orders. He felt his first and chief duty was to get the soldiers back, and when the time came, he would be pleased to return to Ottawa. He had no fear what the result would be when he went there.

Premier Borden followed with the "strongest and most willing testimony to your own services," mentioning that he had often urged Sir Edward to release himself from his duties for a few weeks. He, Premier Borden, did not know if the Canadian people altogether realized what had been done here in the last four years. He would also bear witness to the unselfish and devoted service rendered by officers still remaining here.

"Naturally these men resent the absurd attacks made upon them. I resent them, also, on their behalf and I hope I may be permitted to say a word in this connection in regard to the duty of the press because although those connected with the administration of public affairs have great responsibilities, those connected with the press have great responsibilities also. Beyond question the strain of the war has had great effect on all nations, and reports which, perhaps, would have received little consideration under other conditions are sometimes unduly disturbing nowadays."

BOLSHEVIK MET HEAVY SLAUGHTER

British and Russian Forces Repulse a Night Charge, Inflicting Terrible Punishment

Archangel, Saturday, April 5.—(By The Associated Press)—The Allied forces principally British and Russian, operating in the Srodn Mekhrenga sector, delivered a crushing defeat yesterday afternoon to a large Bolshevik attacking party.

The enemy charged the Allied blockhouses and the piles of Bolshevik dead lying near this morning indicated the severity of the enemy's losses.

In addition the Allied troops captured 100 prisoners, including a Bolshevik battalion commander and his adjutant.

In the Bolshie-Czherki sector American patrols continue to harass the enemy. The Allied guns are still heavily shelling the town.

Bavaria Will Soon Be in the Throes of a Civil War

London, April 6.—A despatch to the Exchange Telegraph says that when the Soviet republic was proclaimed in Bavaria, Herr Hoffman was in Berlin. He hurried back to Munich, but arrived too late. The Bavarian troops, the despatch adds, declared they would not move a finger for him.

"In a few days Bavaria will be in the throes of civil war," the correspondent continues, "as it is stated that the peasants of various districts are preparing to march on Munich."

BOILER EXPLODES KILLING THREE AND INJURING SEVERAL

Bottom Blew Out of the Combustion Chamber on the Port Boiler of Steamer Cape Breton.

Sydney, N. S., April 6.—When the bottom blew out of the combustion chamber of the port boiler of the Dominion Coal Company's steamer, Cape Breton, Saturday, three men were killed, one died of injuries and three were injured. The dead are:

Chief Engineer C. B. McArthur, Second Engineer W. Scott, Donkeyman K. McDonald, and two Chinese firemen; and the injured, Third Engineer M. Campbell, and two Chinamen.

Full particulars of the accident have not yet been received, but the following information has been obtained from John R. Isaac, traffic manager for the Dominion Steel Corporation:

On March 10 the Cape Breton loaded coal at Louisburg for Newfoundland government. She proceeded to St. John's and discharged her cargo, but was held up in that port by ice until seven o'clock Saturday morning when the ice moved off and allowed her to clear and sail for Louisburg. It was when the vessel was off Cape Spear that the accident occurred. As soon as word of the accident was received in St. John's a vessel carrying doctors and nurses was sent out. The injured were taken to the St. John's Hospital, but Engineer Scott died shortly after being admitted. The Cape Breton was towed back to St. John's by the Reid Newfoundland steamer Argyle.

ASSEMBLING PLANE FOR THE TRANS-ATLANTIC TRIP

Mechanics Busy at St. Johns Putting Together the Big Airplane That is to Make the Attempt.

St. Johns, Nfld., April 6—Work on the Sopwith aeroplane is being carried on actively today by mechanics who arrived on Friday night to put it together. The plane is carefully guarded and nobody is admitted. It is known, however, that it will take three or four da s to complete the work and that trial flights must follow before the machine will attempt its great undertaking. Some days must elapse before this, because the whole flying field is soaking with water after the winter's frosts and from daily snowfalls which may continue until well toward the end of the month.

OLD COUNTRY RUGBY.

London, April 6.—(By Canadian Associated Press Cable)—Fifteen thousand attended the New Zealand vs. Motherland rugby match at Inverleith on Saturday in the inter-services competition finals when the Colonials won by two tries to one. They owed their success mainly to their forward play.

BUDGET DEBATE DISSIPATED HOPES OF THE PEOPLE

The Public Have Been Anxiously Waiting for the Government to Show Some Signs of Efficiency in Administration.

UNABLE TO DEFEND ITS ADMINISTRATION

Efforts of the Provincial Secretary, Mr. Robinson, and the Effervescent Mr. Veniot Have Fallen With a Thud.

Fredericton, April 6.—If the people ever entertained any hopes that the present government at Fredericton would develop sufficient ability and serious purpose to administer the affairs of the province with some efficiency, such hopes must have been pretty well dissipated by the budget debate, which came to an end Thursday evening. From beginning to end the speakers on the government side seemed bent on making a burlesque of the debate. They did not attempt to throw any light upon the financial position of the province; they did not try to explain the government's confusing financial statements; they did not seek to defend the apparent juggling with accounts; they did not even attempt an apology for the deception practised upon the people in January when it was falsely asserted that the government had a surplus for the fiscal year. Whether owing to inability to defend the government's administration of financial affairs, or to indifference to public opinion, they evaded the issues raised by the opposition speakers, ignored questions and charges, and generally talked as if the last purpose in the world of the budget debate was that of bringing out information, which the people have a right to know, and in which they might be supposed to be interested.

(Continued on page 3)

PULITZERS OFFER PRIZE FOR AN AERIAL DERBY

To be Held at Atlantic City During May—Awarded for Longest Non-stop Flight.

New York, April 5.—An aerial derby which will be the first competition for a trophy offered by Ralph Pulitzer, Joseph Pulitzer and Robert Pulitzer, owners of the New York World and the St. Louis Post Despatch, will be a feature of the aeronautical convention and exhibition at Atlantic City in May, it was announced here tonight.

The Pulitzer prize is a challenge trophy to be competed for annually in an event to be designated by the Aero Club of America. The trophy must be won three times before it becomes the permanent possession of any aviator.

The trophy this year will be awarded to the aviator who covers the largest non-stop flight in cross-country flying over land, water or both, starting or ending at Atlantic City. The derby is open to all aviators.

ESTHONIAN ARMY DRIVE BOLSHEVIK

Copenhagen, April 5.—The Esthonian army reports that on Thursday the enemy was in full retreat on the Pskova front, and that one town and a number of villages were taken and many machine guns captured. A Bolshevik attack on the Narva was repulsed.

PRUSSIA'S HUGE LOSSES IN MEN AND OFFICERS ARE ANNOUNCED

Staff Officer Submits Figures Compiled from the Official Casualty Lists to Show the Number Killed or Missing at the Front—Losses Particularly Heavy in the First Two Years.

Berlin, Thursday, April 3, (By the Associated Press).—Prussia's huge losses in officers and men during the war are indicated by a staff officer, who writes in the Lokal Anzeiger. He submits figures compiled from the official casualty lists to show that 32,454 active officers at the front were killed, wounded or missing out of a total of 34,350, and that more than 4,330,000 soldiers were killed, wounded or missing out of 10,178,000 who actually fought at the front. He points out that these figures belie the stories sometimes heard that the Prussian officers did not attack with their men, and asserts that their losses were particularly heavy in the first two years, but were much less in the later years of the war because the officers had to be saved for general staff work.

The figures show also how little Germany counted on a long war, for the Prussian mobilization contemplated 3,700,000 soldiers to which approximately 6,500,000 had to be added before the end. Germany started the war with 19,826 active Prussian officers, and drew 14,524 more into the service.

ONLY TWO CANDIDATES FOR THE AMBASSADORSHIP TO WASHINGTON

The Choice Has Now Narrowed Down to Herbert Fisher, Minister of Education, and Augustine Birrell, Formerly Secretary of State of Ireland—Latter Has Right of Refusal.

London, April 6.—Although Premier Lloyd George has not yet made a final choice for the post of British ambassador at Washington, it is understood that the number of candidates has been narrowed down to Herbert Fisher, minister of education, and Augustine Birrell, formerly secretary of state for Ireland, who is regarded as having the right of refusal. It is regarded, nevertheless, that Mr. Fisher, after an academic career of extraordinary brilliance as head of Sheffield University, is the best man for the position an dthat his great personal ability and capacity as an orator eminently qualify him for the post. Mr. Birrell, despite his literary qualities, is handicapped by his failure as secretary for Ireland and by his lack of means. Lord Robert Cecil, who was originally considering an offer to lecture in America on the League of Nations and may possibly accept.