

The St. John Star

VOL. XI, NO. 281.

TEN PAGES

ST. JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 24, 1920

GALES—RAIN

THREE CENTS

GREAT BRITAIN HAS SUCCEEDED IN RAISING NEW VOLUNTEER ARMY NUMBERING 220,000

Secretary of War Announces That Conscription in Great Britain Will be Abolished on March 31st and Last Conscription Entitled to Release.

TWENTY DIVISIONS READY FOR ACTION

Mr. Churchill Says Great Britain's Army Would be Slightly Larger Than Before the War, as New Responsibilities Had Been Placed on the Country.

London, Feb. 23.—Conscription will be abolished in Great Britain on March 31 and within a month from that date the last conscript will be entitled to be released, it was announced by Winston Churchill, the Secretary for War, in moving the Army estimates in the House of Commons today. Mr. Churchill stated that Great Britain had succeeded in raising and organizing an entirely new volunteer army which would number 220,000 excluding troops serving in India.

The nation would be able, with her reorganized army, to place in the field, in case of emergency, a force of twenty divisions with cavalry and auxiliary services, and supplied with the most modern arms and equipment a British army ever has had, the War Secretary declared in amplification of his address.

Wonder Tank
Incidentally Mr. Churchill disclosed the fact that a new tank had been produced with a speed of twenty miles an hour, which has long life. In a trial run of 100 miles, he said, virtually no wear had developed.

In his speech, Mr. Churchill declared that Great Britain had fought at the Peace Conference for the abolition of conscription, but that there was no response at all to her representations. The only great power which Great Britain succeeded in persuading to abolish conscription was Germany, and that only under direct compulsion. All the other states had maintained compulsory service as the basis of their military system and apparently had no intention of departing from it. These states, he added, included even the United States, which was the original author of the League of Nations and Russia, the "home of advanced political thought."

Army Slightly Larger
Mr. Churchill said that Great Britain's army would be larger than before the war, but she was returning to arrangements which, in principle, were identical with those under which the country lived before the war. It was idle to pretend that Great Britain's pre-war army was sufficient to the risk she ran, that was why the removal of the German danger had been placed in the way of any reduction to be made in the garrison of the British Empire. On the other hand, he said, new responsibilities overseas had been placed upon the country in consequence of the war. The whole eastern world, in which Britain was interested more than any power was in a state of extreme disquiet.

"Centering our burdens throughout the middle east, Constantinople, Egypt, Persia and Mesopotamia," Mr. Churchill said, "no relief can be expected in a real peace is made with Turkey. We have lost ground steadily during the whole of last year, and I trust, having disposed of our armies, we shall not now take steps which would drive the Turkish people to despair, or undertake any new obligations, because our resources are not equal to their discharge. "We do not know when peace with Turkey will be made, or with what degree of acquiescence it will meet from the Turkish people. We do not know what aggressive actions the Russian Bolsheviks will take in this affair. We do not know how far Viscount Milner's Commission may be able to reduce the discontent in Egypt; we do not know when our responsibility in Constantinople will terminate or when the expense of maintaining an international force there will be taken by an international body."

In replying to the debate Mr. Churchill emphasized his confidence in what the country would say when the general election came to a Government which in abolishing conscription had given an example to the whole world, even to pious America."

Worcester, Mass., Feb. 23.—Massachusetts post office clerks are out after a fifty per cent. increase of wages. They adopted resolutions in favor of demanding this advance at a convention here today.

Four Hundred French Troops Are Reported Killed By Turkish Forces

London, Feb. 23.—It is reported from Damascus that 400 French troops either have been killed or made prisoners by a force of Turks and Arabs near Houran, Palestine, says a Central News despatch from Cairo, Egypt, dated last Wednesday. The correspondent adds that it also is reported that the French are evacuating Baalbek (thirty miles north of Damascus) and the Bika Valley, lying between Lebanon and Anti Libanus. There is no confirmation of the reports.

Attempt Made Yesterday To Blow Up Barracks of Ballynahinch

Dublin, Feb. 23.—An attempt was made today to blow up the constabulary barracks in the market town of Ballynahinch, County Down. A gelignite bomb, which had been placed, failed to explode. The town previously had been isolated by cutting the telephone wires and blocking the roads leading into it with trees. A large force of police was sent there from Belfast. The body of Harry Timothy Quillisk, a former corporal who was a member of the Brigade of Sir Roger Casement, who was hanged in prison in 1916 for high treason, has been found, riddled with nine bullets, in a field near Cork.

At Limerick patrols posted along the approaches to the city while the constabulary was taking prisoner to jail were booed and stoned.

HON. ROBERT ROGERS SPEAKS PLAINLY IN CONDEMNATION OF THE UNION GOVERNMENT

Declares Union Government to be a "Government of Tinkers and Jobbers, a Government of Second-Hand Dealers"—Urges a Definite and Fixed Scientific Tariff—Points Necessity of the Liberal-Conservatives to Immediately Perfect Their Organization Everywhere—Has No Further Political Ambitions to Gratify and Was the First to Suggest Union Government.

Winnipeg, Man., Feb. 23.—(Canadian Press)—"Canada's industrial and economic conditions have reached a most critical period in the history of our country," said Hon. Robert Rogers, former Dominion minister of public works, who addressed here tonight, in the Fort Garry Hotel, an open meeting of the Liberal-Conservative Club of Winnipeg. Declaring that he had "no further political ambition to gratify," he proposed to speak plainly. Mr. Rogers declared the union government to be a "government of tinkers and jobbers, a government of second hand dealers. Their energies were almost entirely devoted to second-hand theories that are the product of the diseased brain of some poor, unfortunate, uplifter." The former minister urged strongly "a definite and fixed scientific tariff," advocated the dissolution of every existing government commission, pointed out "the necessity for the Liberal-Conservatives to immediately perfect their organization everywhere," and elaborated on the benefits which, he said, had been secured for the farmers of Western Canada through the Liberal-Conservative party. Mr. Rogers closed with an appeal for further recognition for the claims of Canadian veterans of the war.

Liberal-Conservatives.
He declared himself a "lasting believer in that traditional policy that has ever governed the actions of the Liberal-Conservative party in this Dominion." Union government might have been necessary during the war, but in peace it was a different thing, he said. "I confess," he said, "that at one time I thought myself that union government was advisable for the peace of the country and stood ready to make any and every sacrifice in my power to bring about such union with the Liberal party as a whole. I may surprise you when I tell you that I was the first to propose such a formal union with the Liberal party. Many excuses were given why such proposals could not be accepted, among them being the exaggerated opinion of certain Liberal leaders, of my ability to take advantage of such a union to destroy the Liberal party." Mr. Rogers added that he gave assurances "to those with whom the matter was being discussed," that, in the event of arrangements being reached, he would at once resign his position in the government, but the arrangements fell through. "Some time later," he said, "proposals were made to form a union of individuals. In this I did not believe and, therefore, resigned."

The union government today was supported by a parliamentary majority, "made up of a group of individuals with no co-operation" who regarded "approval of executive action" as their safest course to order a general election, said Mr. Rogers. Included in the number were some, "fortunately very few," of former standard-bearers of the Liberal-Conservative party and over their course he expressed deep regret.

Mr. Rogers urged the importance of Canada of a stable government, which, he said, could not be expected from an "inherent army" with "a thirst for power."

Tariff Review.
Dealing briefly with the tariff, Mr.

CAPTAIN S. P. GEROW SAFE IN MONTREAL

Montreal, Feb. 23.—Captain Stephen P. Gerow, a Canadian officer, whose home is in St. John, N. B., who was reported in a New York despatch last night to have disappeared, is in Montreal. Capt. Gerow walked into a local newspaper office this morning and explained to friends there that he left New York in the ordinary way on business two weeks ago and went to Philadelphia. From there he went to Boston where he was sick for a few days. On his recovery he came to Montreal. Capt. Gerow stated he was returning to New York tonight.

W. M. McLEAN RESIGNS FROM UNION CABINET

Makes It Clear That His Retirement is Not in Any Way Due to Differences or Disagreement With Colleagues.

RETIREMENT CAUSES NO SURPRISE

Has Been Known for Some Months That He Had Definitely Made up His Mind to Retire from Ministry.

Ottawa, Feb. 23.—Hon. A. K. MacLean has resigned from the Unionist cabinet. His resignation was sent to Sir George Foster, acting premier, at 5 o'clock this afternoon. In his letter to the Acting Premier Mr. MacLean makes it clear that his retirement is not in any way due to differences or disagreement with his colleagues. He simply states that as he entered the government in 1917 for the period of the war and a reasonable time thereafter, he now feels that his contract has expired and that, consequently, he will take up again his interrupted practice of law.

Seen tonight Mr. MacLean said there was nothing he could add to what he had stated in his communication to Sir George Foster, and he did not even know whether his resignation had been accepted. He added that during the coming session he would give the government independent support. He has no intention of resigning his seat in the House and hopes to continue as one of the Unionist representatives. He also intends to resume residence in Halifax where, it is understood, he will take up again his interrupted practice of law.

Mr. MacLean's resignation causes no surprise in political circles here. For some months, indeed, it has been pretty generally known that he had definitely made up his mind to retire from the ministry.

SIR AUCLAND GEDDES WILL GO TO WASHINGTON

Newspaper Opinion Not Enthusiastic Over His Ability to Properly Fulfill Duties of Ambassador at American Capital.

London, Feb. 23.—(Canadian Press)—Journalistic speculation, today, seems to have generally decided that Sir Auckland Geddes is going to Ambassador to Washington, which means a vacancy in Basistoke. Sir Auckland had a majority of 6,000 over the Labor candidate at the last election. The Daily Express regrets that Mr. Fisher, the Minister of Education, is not going to Washington. The Daily News has an editorial wherein it refers to "the sinister report" of Sir Auckland Geddes going to Basistoke, that he possesses, doubtless, all the gifts that would qualify him for Montreal, and certainly possesses none qualifying him for Washington.

NO FURTHER WORD FROM THE DUTCH

No Intimation as to Their Real Intention Regarding Former German Emperor.

London, Feb. 23.—Andrew Bonar Law, the government leader, stated in the House of Commons today that no intimation of the decision of the Netherlands' government regarding the former German Emperor had yet reached the British government.

ARCHITECTS SEEK TO CHECK EXPORT OF LUMBER

Are Insistent That Demands of Canadian Consumers be Filled First.

Montreal, Feb. 23.—The Alberta Association of Architects have petitioned the Board of Commerce to take immediate action which will prevent, or at least curtail the amount of lumber exported to the United States until the demands of Canadian consumers have been filled.

The architects further ask that steps be taken to regulate the price of lumber.

Lord Robert Cecil Strongly Favors Ousting Turks From Constantinople

London, Feb. 23.—In an article in the Evening Standard today Lord Robert Cecil gives it as his opinion that the Turks must leave Constantinople on the grounds that the maintenance of Turkish sovereignty over that city would be a "menace to tranquility."

First requirement, Lord Robert says, is that the policy of the Allies toward Turkey should be just, and so said he could not conceive that any one could doubt they were justly entitled to remove the Turkish Government from Constantinople. He declares that everyone of the Armenian massacres and other Turkish outrages had been carried out by direct orders from that city. As to the alleged danger of offending Muslims in India, he expressed the view that the danger is "very gravely exaggerated."

CORPORATION OF NORTH RUSSIA DUBLIN PLAYS A TRUMP CARD BY SOVIET GOVT

Refuses Permission to Any Employee or Official to Ask Permits from Military—Public Utilities Down on Banned Hours.

Dublin, Feb. 23.—The Dublin Corporation by a large majority today refused to refuse permission to any employee or official to ask permits from the English military government for the discharge of municipal duties. Further, the Corporation orders the cessation of any municipal services endangering the lives of its employees during the imposition of martial law, and has issued instructions to remove night watchmen and to extinguish lights, and refuses to authorize the payment of overtime to any men working by permit between midnight and 5 o'clock in the morning. It is pointed out by the Corporation that the darkened city would be at the mercy of the burglars and other criminals and the new measure would obstruct the work of doctors and nurses. The rejoinder is made that the responsibility is the Government's.

The streets tonight are in absolute darkness within the city limits, but electric lights are supplied to the houses. The newspapers that use electric power may be compelled to cease publication.

HAVE REGISTERED NO COMPLAINT WITH PRESIDENT

British Government is Aware of American Press Invitation for Subscription to Bond Issue of Republic of Ireland.

London, Feb. 23.—Sir Hamar Greenwood, Under Secretary for Home Affairs, replying to a question in the House of Commons today, said the Government was aware that invitations were being issued through the American press inviting subscriptions for bond certificates of the Republic of Ireland, but that Great Britain had made no representations to the President of the United States upon the matter. The latter part of Sir Hamar's answer was greeted with a "why?"

POLICE RUN DOWN MAN SUSPECTED OF BURGLARY

Alleged to Have Robbed Shediac Store of Jewelry and Also of Attempting to Kill Police Officer.

Special to be Standard.
Amherst, N. S., Feb. 23.—Chief Gunn, of Shediac, and Chief McKernan, of Amherst, were successful in running down Joseph Lesere, suspected of committing the big jewelry burglary of Dorion & Co., Shediac, on February 19th, and Amherst police are on the trail of another party of the same gang and expect to land their man very soon. The party, "Lesere," arrested tonight, is the guilty one who discharged the revolver at Chief Gunn at Paines Junction. Gunn now has the 44-calibre weapon that almost cost his life. Lesere will be taken to Shediac in the morning by Chief Gunn for his trial at that town. Amherst police have been working on this case and gave Chief Gunn all assistance possible, with good results.

GUELPH NOVITIATE AFFAIR NOT ENDED

Ottawa, Feb. 23.—The last has not been heard of the Guelph novitiate affair, which was the subject of an inquiry and report by a Royal Commission last fall.

Sir Sam Hughes has given notice of motion asking the House to declare that Major Hirsch and Captain McAuley in the conduct of the so-called "raid" displayed the greatest observance of the orders of their superiors, and carried out the orders satisfactorily and with tact and discretion.

HERBERT HOOVER DEPRECATES ACT OF U. S. SENATE

Very Much Opposed to Making Treaty Ratification a Political Issue in Forthcoming Presidential Campaign.

AMERICA SHOULD STOP QUIBBLING

The Delay Caused by the Senate Sets New Forces in Motion That May Yield New Conflicts.

Baltimore, Md., Feb. 23.—Herbert C. Hoover, former food administrator, stated today in an address at Johns Hopkins University, his opposition to making the ratification of the treaty with Germany an issue in the presidential campaign. He insisted that the injustice of arguments for and against reservations would "obscure our pressing democratic issues by conflicts over a question in which the country already has made up its mind and added, "It is my impression that there is no party credit in this position." The present danger Europe is facing, Mr. Hoover said, is not so much a revolutionary cataclysm as the "steady degeneration of the standard of living and the slow decay of the forces of stability."

"Restored productivity," he insisted, "is the remedy if the Allies are to receive the maximum of reparation." "Until there shall not have real peace," he said, "it will be delayed as long as we hang the Treaty in the air, for we are a part of it."

"I believe that the majority of our people are convinced of the necessity of reservations with the League," Mr. Hoover continued. "Both parties to the conflict appear to concede this. It would appear to an outsider that both sides were in agreement on all the great majority of interests of the League, and the major interests of reservations, but that they are in disagreement mostly over secondary questions in the world is held in suspense. Infinite misery goes on accumulating. Forces are set in motion that may yield new conflicts. Already the destruction and undermining of confidence and credit in the world has crippled our export market."

ST. JOHN WOMAN COMMITTS SUICIDE

Found in a Boston Lodging House Unconscious from Inhaling Gas—Dies at City Hospital.

Special to The Standard.
Boston, Mass., Feb. 23.—The police and medical examiner are trying to locate St. John relatives of Sarah Curran, 39, whose body is in the Southern Mortuary. When found in her room, out his past, and it was not until he had been confronted with familiar faces that his memory returned.

MR. TURNBULL TO ADDRESS MONCTON CANADIAN CLUB

Moncton, Feb. 23.—W. Rupert Turnbull, C. E., of St. John, has consented to address the Moncton Canadian Club Friday night of this week on the subject of Tidal Hydro-Electric Power Development in the Petitcodiac and Memramook rivers. At the recent session of the Westmorland municipal council a resolution was passed memorializing the Provincial Government to make borings with its diamond drill in the Petitcodiac and Memramook rivers with the view of ascertaining the feasibility of constructing dams.

PARSONS TO HEAD PINKERTON FORCES IN ALL OF CANADA

Montreal, Feb. 23.—Mr. T. Wilfred Parsons, who for the past six years has been superintendent of the Pinkerton's National Detective Agency for the district of Montreal, has been appointed general manager for the whole of the Dominion of Canada, his promotion going into effect this morning.

NEW REVOLUTIONARY PARTY IN MEXICO

Agua Prieta, Sonora, Mex., Feb. 23.—There is a new revolutionary party in Mexico. A proclamation issued today calls on "patriotic" Mexicans to join the new revolt, which is scheduled for May 5. The new party calls itself "The Reorganized Government of Mexican Free Men."

Railroad Labor Very Much Perturbed Over Passage of U. S. Railroad Bill

Washington, Feb. 23.—Railroad labor is not satisfied with the way things are going in regard to its wage demands. This was indicated clearly today in conferences of union officials and committee men called to pass on President Wilson's proposals. Further bitterness was added to the talk of union men by the passage of the railroad bill by the Senate tonight. There was some talk of a strike.