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Lamps and Candles Were In Readiness

London Prepared For a Night of Darkness

BUT STRIKE POSTPONED

Power House Engineers May go Off Duty on Saturday Night—Volunteer Movements for Carrying on Public Works in Metropolitan

London, Feb. 7.—In expectation that electric light would be cut off last night, there was a great sale of lamps and candles during the day, but at six o'clock in the evening it was announced that the electrical trades union strike had been postponed. It is understood that the latest plan is to call out the engineers in London's sixty power houses at midnight on Saturday.

While the outside electrical workers will strike today, there is another union—the Electrical and Engineering Association—which is a sort of aristocracy among electrical workers. Its secretary said yesterday that the members would stand by their work and would insure a reasonable supply of electricity.

One newspaper here estimates that five million hours of work is being lost daily, apart from the losses of shopkeepers, theatres and railroads as a result of the strike. One result of the inability of thousands to reach their places of business has been such a congestion of telephone business that the company has been forced to appeal to the public to limit itself to strictly necessary calls.

While a majority of the newspapers are against the strikers, the Westminster Gazette, one of the most influential journals here, summarizes the men's case, saying that "the government picked up the pieces of the strike and must put it together again for peace."

The strike has brought out several movements for volunteers to carry on public works and for societies to combine the middle classes for their own protection.

The Bus Men.

London, Feb. 7.—The effect of the agreement which has ended the strike on the railways leading into London on the days which may be made by employees of buses and tram car lines, is not yet definitely determined. The secretary of the licensed vehicle workers' union said today:—"As the terms of settlement appear to be satisfactory to the parties concerned, any action of our members is obviously delayed or held up."

London, Feb. 7.—Some of the electricians struck during the evening, but up to a late hour none of the power houses were working as usual.

SUPPORTS BRITAIN IN EMBARGO MATTER

American Attache at Paris in Address to New England Shoe Men

Boston, Feb. 7.—Pierce C. Williams, commercial attache of the United States at Paris, urged members of the New England Shoe and Leather Association today to be considerate of Great Britain in other countries which might declare an embargo on certain goods manufactured in the United States. He declared that Great Britain, France and some other countries which might declare an embargo on certain goods manufactured in the United States. He declared that Great Britain, France and some other countries which might declare an embargo on certain goods manufactured in the United States.

DOLLAR A SHARE IS ADDED TO DIVIDEND OF STANDARD OIL

New York, Feb. 7.—The Standard Oil of New York today declared a quarterly dividend of \$4 a share, an increase of \$1 over the previous distribution.

SHIP CANAL TO CONNECT GREAT LAKES AND ATLANTIC BY WAY OF ST. LAWRENCE

Washington, Feb. 7.—The Great Lakes-St. Lawrence tide water association was organized yesterday at the opening session of the national rivers and harbors congress to promote construction of a big ship canal so to connect the Great Lakes with the Atlantic by way of the St. Lawrence river.

BURIED TODAY

The funeral of Capt. Nelson A. Withers, who died yesterday morning in the St. John's hospital from pneumonia, was held this afternoon at 2.30. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. E. A. Vestenoreland, and interment was made at Fernhill. Many friends, including members of the I. O. O. F., attended.

LABOR PLAN FOR RAILROADS IN UNITED STATES

Government Ownership; Operation by One Corporation

Profits to be Shared With Employees—Reduce Rates When Gains Exceeded a Fixed Amount

Washington, Feb. 7.—Railroad labor interests today proposed government ownership and private operation by one large corporation, co-operatively organized, and sharing profit with employees, as their solution to the railway problem. Testifying before the senate interstate commerce commission on behalf of the four principal railroad brotherhoods and other employees' organizations, Glenn E. Plumb of Chicago recommended that the government acquire all railroad property at a price fairly representing the property valuation and entrust the operation to a corporation to be directed jointly by employees, officers and the government. Earnings would be divided equally among employees and the government, and rates would automatically be reduced when profits amounted to more than a fixed rate.

CAPTAIN FINCH, NOW OF BALTIC, TELLS OF LOSS OF THE ARABIC

Halifax, Feb. 7.—Three hours after she had been tied up at pier 2 the steamer Baltic left for New York. The handling of the men she brought was most creditable. Less than three hours after the gangway was made fast four special trains were sent off for Quebec.

TWO DEATHS IN PARKS HOSPITAL

Joseph C. Bennett passed away at four o'clock this morning in the Parks Hospital. Mr. Bennett was taken from his home, 17 St. Andrews street, on Feb. 4, suffering from Spanish influenza. He had been a resident of this city for the last five years. He was born in Newfoundland. He was a large circle of friends in St. John and was well respected by all with whom he came in contact. He was a member of the membership with regard to the loss of a good workman from among them. Besides his parents, John C. and Clara Bennett, he leaves his wife and three children, two of whom are in the hospital in a serious condition suffering from the same disease. He also leaves two brothers, Charles, serving in France with the 10th Canadian Battalion, and Albert, with the same unit, and two sisters, Mrs. Henry Pyne and Mrs. Frank Osborne. Mr. Bennett was thirty-four years old.

WORK SIX HOURS ON FIVE DAYS A WEEK

Berne, Feb. 7.—Gustav Franck, Canadian labor leader, proposed to the International Trades Union Conference yesterday that it claim a six hour day and a five day working week throughout the world.

MURDER IN NEW YORK; \$500 IN POCKETS UNTOUCHED

New York, Feb. 7.—In front of a saloon at 130 Elizabeth street, a shot distance from police headquarters, James Logerfo, thirty-two years of age, a salesman, was shot and killed last night. He had \$500 in his pockets, but apparently no attempt was made to rob him.

WEATHER REPORT

Issued by Authority of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, R. F. Stuart, director of meteorological service.

Synopsis.—The pressure distribution has not changed since yesterday, and the temperature continues very low in the western provinces and moderate from Ontario eastward.

Fair. Maritime—Fresh northwest winds, fair today and Saturday, not much change in temperature.

Lower St. Lawrence, Gulf and North Shore—Moderate westerly winds, fair today and Saturday, not much change in temperature.

New England—Fair tonight and Saturday; not much change in temperature; moderate west winds becoming variable.



AMENDMENTS TO CITY CHARTER ARE DISCUSSED

Matter of Exemption For Soldiers Stands Over

VETERANS TO BE HEARD

Suggestion of Opening Poles at Eleven O'Clock on Election Day—Matter of Income and Vote—The Street Paving Question

Legislation which will be sought at the coming session of the provincial house was discussed at a special meeting of the common council committee this morning. Several changes were agreed upon and others were laid over for further consideration. In the latter class was a proposal for tax exemption of returned soldiers, on which the council wishes to hear a delegation of returned men on next Monday morning before taking action. Changes in the hours during which the poles are to be open for civic elections were held up until the labor organization could voice their views.

The mayor presided and all the commissioners, the city solicitor and the council were present.

An amendment to the city charter to make it agree with the new assessment act by extending the intransigent all those paying taxes on income, the minimum assessment being fixed by the new act at \$100, while the old minimum was \$500, was presented.

The city solicitor brought up the status of non-resident taxpayers, remarking that many municipalities now were exacting non-residents from the voters' lists. For his own part, he thought a property owner had a right to vote on municipal matters, and considered it unfair that he was taxed. No action was taken.

It was decided to amend the act to make it impossible for a member of the council to continue as such after being elected to any federal, provincial or municipal office, to which a salary was attached.

A proposal to reduce the number of members required for a quorum from four to three was rejected.

With regard to proposed changes in the hours for keeping the poles open, the city solicitor suggested that the task of the officials might be made easier by preserving the present closing hour, but not opening until eleven o'clock instead of eight o'clock. The matter was allowed to stand until labor organizations could be heard from.

The proposal regarding the required quorum after a municipal election was allowed to stand.

The proposed repeal of the act fixing a limit on the amount of wharfage to be charged on general cargo and grain was approved.

The amendment substituting a tax of \$100 instead of the present method of assessment in the new act, already had been approved.

There was a discussion of matters on which the city commissioners should vote at the municipal council, and it was decided to ask for the right to vote on parish bond issues, as the city shared the responsibility.

Soldiers' Issues. Regarding the exemption of returned soldiers, the mayor said that the council had been asked to exempt all returned soldiers' incomes up to \$250 for a period of ten years. He would approve exemption up to \$1,000 for five years, but he understood that this would not be acceptable. The question of taxing pensions also was brought up, and it was intimated that there was no intention to tax this form of income. These and other matters relating to the subject were laid over until Monday morning.

When representatives of the Veterans' Association may be heard.

Paving Problems. Mr. Fisher suggested that legislation be secured to relieve the Union street property owners of pavement assessments under the local improvements act. In reply to the mayor, he said that he did not think it would be possible to carry out new paving works under this act, and he suggested a plebiscite on the matter.

Mr. Jones spoke in favor of payment for pavements by general assessment, except in cases where the property owners wanted a special class of pavement than the city was willing to provide.

Mr. Fisher said that if the general assessment policy was adopted, the payments would be under the local improvement act by the Union street property owners would have to be returned; also those of owners in Sidney, one block of Germain street, and on King square. Other streets paved under the act, he considered, were in a different class. No action was taken.

It was decided to advertise at once the legislation which was agreed on, and the committee adjourned.

No More Sea Giants To Bring Home The Soldiers From England

Smaller Ships To Be Used and it is Believed the Monthly Rate of 30,000 Can Better be Kept

London, Feb. 7.—(Canadian Associated Press)—The Canadian Associated Press learns that in order to secure the greatest dispatch in the handling of troops on their arrival in Canada, it has been decided that the monster ships will no longer be used. It is said that while this facilitates the handling of troops on their arrival in Canada and prevents delay there, it greatly increases the difficulties here in finding the necessary transport. The number of ships is limited, and great competition is taking place to secure them among different parts of the empire and the United States. Even when the Canadian authorities have secured ships there are labor troubles and other difficulties, which often means that the ships are not dispatched on the arranged dates. It is suggested, therefore, that the question of arrivals in Canada should be considered, not by results of any one week, but on the average for a month. The Canadian Associated Press is assured that the steady homeward flow of 30,000 monthly after Feb. 1, will be maintained, but it is impossible to parcel this number into regular weekly sailings of 7,500.

FOR LEAGUE THAT WOULD TAKE IN ALL PEOPLES

Socialists' Meeting at Berne—French Speaker Says Paris Conference Must Note

Berne, Feb. 7.—The International Socialist conference yesterday accepted unanimously a resolution on the league of nations. The question had been discussed for two days.

The chief opinion was that a league of nations must be formed immediately and comprise all peoples without exception; that it must be a league of peoples, and not a league of governments.

Arthur Henderson, British labor leader, declared that the Paris peace conference was attentively watching to see what the Berne conference would decide in regard to the league of nations, while Pierre Renaudel, leader of the French Majority Socialists, said the Paris conference must be forced to consider the will of the Berne conference.

BACK UP LEAGUE OF NATIONS

New York, Feb. 7.—Resolutions declaring that the American people were ready and willing to take up their "proportionate burden" with the other great nations to maintain a society of nations were adopted here yesterday by the Atlantic Congress of the League to Enforce Peace.

The congress went on record as requesting the governors of the states represented to issue proclamations bringing the league of nations to the attention of the people for consideration and approval on Washington's birthday.

IN DISTRESS IN THE ATLANTIC; HELP NEAR

Halifax, Feb. 7.—Word that the steamer Toronto was standing by the oil tanker San Zefirino, which was yesterday reported in distress about 900 miles off Halifax, was brought here by Captain Everett of the steamer Manchester Corporation, which arrived in port this morning from Manchester.

Captain Everett says that he picked up an S.O.S. call from the San Zefirino. He was about to go to her assistance when he received another message, stating that the Toronto was alongside.

The Toronto, of 3,894 tons net, is last reported as sailing from New York on Jan. 19 for Hull, England, and is evidently on her way across again.

WEAPONS OF WAR USED IN STREETS OF MADGEBURG

Paris, Feb. 7.—(Havas Agency)—Serious disorders have occurred in Magdeburg, capital of the province of Saxony, according to Berlin advices. Soldiers and sailors, armed with grenades and machine guns, broke down the doors of the court house, liberated 160 prisoners, smashed shop windows, pillaged shops and trained machine guns on the inhabitants. The government troops are vigorously attacking the revolutionists.

STRIKER SHOT DEAD IN LAW ENCE ON WAY HOME

Lawrence, Mass., Feb. 7.—Deggio Ventino, a striking textile worker, was shot and instantly killed here a little after midnight by unknown assailants. Two shots were fired from an alleyway as Ventino was returning home after a strikers' meeting.

Ebert Says Old Order In Germany Has Gone Beyond Recall

Weimar, Feb. 7.—(By the Associated Press)—The old order in Germany has gone beyond recall and the people are now determined to rule themselves, declared Friedrich Ebert, chancellor, calling the National Assembly to order yesterday afternoon.

"We will call on the old German spirit of Weimar," he said. "We will be an empire of justice and truth."

The chancellor addressed the assembly as "ladies and gentlemen," a form of address never before heard in a German legislative body. His speech was an earnest appeal for unity and untiring labor.

WORK TOWARDS LEAGUE HALF COMPLETED

Getting on Well With Draft of Constitution

CONPULSORY SERVICE

Objection by Italy and France Causes Striking Out of Clause—Paris Paper Sharp in Query About Britain and Arabia

Paris, Feb. 7.—Substantially one-half of the draft of the constitution for the society of nations has been covered by the chief conference commission dealing with this question and the commission reached an accord, it is said, on certain questions of the greatest importance concerning the positive functions of the league.

The paragraph concerning abolition of compulsory military service unless required by reasons of national defence under extraordinary circumstances was approved by President Orlando of Italy and Leon Bourgeois of France. It was decided to leave to each country freedom to select a system of recruiting its forces up to the amount of troops which will be fixed by the society of nations.

Another paragraph which caused animated discussion concerned the method of applying military coercion to the countries refusing to comply with the decision of the society of nations, or breaking its rules. Owing to very conflicting views the commission decided to postpone a definite decision.

The supreme council today heard the claim of King Hedjaz, of Arabia, speaking through his son, Prince Feisal. He is said to have advocated Great Britain as the mandatory for Arabia. This has aroused sharp criticism from French newspapers owing to the French interests in Syria. The semi-official Temps declares today that the prince had received large British subsidies and asked in an editorial:

"Has the prince who addresses the great powers today some particular obligations towards some of his hearers?"

Paris, Feb. 7.—(By the Associated Press)—Captain Andre Turdieu, one of the French representatives on the commission on the Society of Nations, announced last night that the programme of the society will be ready some time next week. He also said:

"France is opposed to the raising of the blockade on raw materials against Germany until her damage to French industries has been made good. Germany was responsible for the destruction of one-third of the factories of France, and, if allowed to resume production with equal facilities, it will be a serious economic handicap for us."

League of Nations. Paris, Feb. 7.—The Society of Nations commission of the peace conference held a session last night attended by all the nineteen members. The commission made considerable progress and disposed of additional sections of the plan for the Society of Nations. It will continue to meet nightly.

EMPRESS ACROSS

The S. S. Empress of Britain arrived at Liverpool today from St. John.