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The Courier

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W. R. Motherwell, Minister of Agriculture, Resigns From Cabinet

Cannot Support Legislative Measures Decided Upon by Government — Difference Appears to be on School and Language Question.

In a twohanded attack on the Union government, Hon. W. R. Motherwell, in a letter to Premier Martin, resigned from the Saskatchewan government, of which he has been minister of agriculture since 1905. The announcement of Mr. Martin from his seat in the assembly just before the orders of the day on December 12, that Mr. Motherwell had offered his resignation and that it had been accepted, came as a complete surprise to everyone outside the cabinet circle. To them it came as a blow, as Premier Martin pointed out during the course of a brief statement, following the reading of lengthy letters from Mr. Motherwell to himself, in which the minister gave his reasons for resigning. Mr. Motherwell in a speech of three or four minutes' duration set all doubts at rest as to his intentions, saying that each member of the government had labored with him till 10 o'clock the previous night seeking to induce him to reconsider his decision, but his mind was made up.



HON. W. R. MOTHERWELL

He accompanied Mr. Motherwell's resignation states his position and reasons for his action: "Regina, Sask., Dec. 12, 1918. "Hon. W. M. Martin, Premier of Saskatchewan: "Dear Mr. Martin—I am this morning in receipt of your letter of yesterday in which you accept my resignation as a member of your government. After our conversation last night it was concluded there was no other way out than for my resignation to be accepted and for me to give place to another. Now that the door is closed for further negotiation I

think the time has come to speak a little more plainly on the reasons that brought forth my resignation. "It will be noted by my correspondence of December 10 that the chief question which I appeared to feature was your attitude toward Union government, which you state and as I admitted in my letter is in itself a strictly federal question. Inseparably interwoven with this, however, are many other questions, some of which are treated in the sub-heads of my letter. For instance, natural resources and the way we have been treated regarding them recently is surely also a provincial question as well as a federal one. The War Times Election act is a strict invasion, in my

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PRELIMINARY PEACE CONGRESS POSTPONED TO JANUARY FIRST

PARIS, Dec. 15. — Plans for the re-assembling of the inter-allied conference at the meeting of the peace congress are gradually being matured. It was the first intention to have the conference meet tomorrow or Tuesday, but owing to the inability of Premier Lloyd George and Foreign Minister Balfour to be here because of the British elections and approaching holidays, the formal sessions will not be resumed until January 1. Meanwhile, President Wilson will have an opportunity to confer with the premiers and leading statesmen of the allies and to visit the battlefields and perhaps Italy.

Lloydminster Visited By Serious Fire.

LLOYDMINSTER, on the border of Alberta, narrowly escaped grave disaster Tuesday night before last, a serious fire breaking out in the centre of the business part of the town. Smoke pouring from the windows of the Fiedler photographic studio gave the alarm about eight o'clock and ten minutes later the town was fighting what threatened to be the most serious outbreak in its history. The Jerome jewelry store, Steers fruit store, and the Red Cross pharmacy were situated just under the studio and were emptied of their contents by scores of workers, jewelry, drugs, tobacco, fruit, and show cases piling up the roadway in great heaps.

After an hour's strenuous work by the two chemical engines the danger was overcome of the outbreak spreading, and a little later the flames were smothered by the splendid work of the two fire brigades and the steady streams of chemically charged water. Comparatively little damage was done by the flames, but much valuable property was destroyed by the chemicals from the engines. The loss is partly covered, but even approximate figures are impossible to ascertain at present. Otto Fiedler, proprietor of the studio where the fire originated who was fighting the flames with the brigade was the victim of a painful accident during the struggle, one of his fingers being cut off close to the hand. The unfortunate sufferer was rushed to the hospital where he now lies in a serious condition.

Montreal in Reign of Terror For 33 Hours.

MONTREAL, Dec. 13. — The strike of policemen, firemen and aqueduct engineers and incineration department employees came to an end tonight at 9 o'clock, the men agreeing to arbitrate. Director of Public Safety Tremblay, his assistant, Arthur Mann, and chief of detectives, J. A. Belanger, will not continue in their present capacity.

Big Civic Strike Now Over. Lawless Element Caused Considerable Damage.

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Result of British Elections Not Known Before December 28.

LONDON, Dec. 14. — The vote in the British elections, which are being held throughout the United Kingdom to-day, will not be counted until December 28, and until that date all statements about the result will be surmise. The general opinion is that if the vote is heavy it will be an indication that it is favorable to the government. The chief doubtful element is the strength of the Labor party. There are political observers who say it will be greater by fifty per cent. than the expected estimate. If the combined strength of the Labor, Liberal and Irish representation much exceeds 300 the government's position will be weak. Apparently six million women will vote today throughout the United Kingdom.

was the strength shown by the Sinn Fein. It is reported here that Cardinal Logue and Archbishop Walsh both supported the Sinn Fein. The defeat of John Dillon, Irish Nationalist leader, in East Mayo, is anticipated when the final count is completed. The Sinn Feiners polled a heavy vote in the County and City of Dublin and in Cork. The northwest Ulster Sinn Feiners will carry the city of Derry, three seats in Donegal and Northwest Tyrone. The Unionists expected to retain all their seats in the north. Joseph Devlin, Nationalist for West Belfast, has been re-elected by several thousand majority. A close analysis of voting shows that the Nationalists have been hopelessly beaten by Sinn Feiners even in places supposed to be Nationalist strongholds.

Will Abolish Positions.

At a meeting of the aldermen this afternoon, it was resolved on a majority of 17—or what practically amounts to a two-thirds vote as is required by the city by-law to be of effect—that the salaries of Director of Public Works Joseph

Sugar Ban Will Be Removed On Jan. 1, But Meat Regulations Stay

OTTAWA, Dec. 13. — The ban on the use of sugar for making French pastry, iced cakes or biscuits, for candy for private consumption, as well as in the manufacture of icing sugar, has been removed. The wartime restrictions on the method of serving sugar in public eating places are also withdrawn. On and after January 1 white or granulated sugar may be used in making bread, etc. So, too, the restrictions on the use of sugar in the manufacture of canned goods, biscuits, cake, dough products, candies, chocolate, table syrups and the like, pharmaceutical and medicinal preparations, beers and soft drinks, dessert and jelly powders, ice cream, and even on chewing-gum will not be in force. For the manufacturer, sugar may be purchased without the regular permit, but it must be noted that the restrictions in public eating places on the use of beef, butter and fats, and for the use of all animal fats by manufacturers still remain in force.

News in Brief

—It is intimated that there are a million cases of influenza in the Dutch East Indies. —Prince Max von Ratibor et Corvey, German ambassador to Spain, has been recalled to Berlin, according to the newspaper El Sol. —Hewickaw, a town in Bohemia just south of the border of Saxony, has been occupied by Czecho-Slovak troops. Dresden, the Saxon capital, is 40 miles northwest of Zwickau. —The Hungarian minister of finance has announced that Hungary would endeavor to meet all its financial engagements to its nationals, as well as to foreigners. —The supreme military tribunal at Vienna has announced that 11,400 persons were sentenced to death by Austrian military tribunals during the war and executed, according to a Berlin despatch. (Continued on page 5.)

Saskatchewan Legislature

Corporation Taxation Revised—Legislative Assembly Act Amended—Several Bills Receive First Reading—Private Bills Introduced—Public Revenues Act Amended—Assembly Went Into Committee of the Whole.

Bill To Amend School Act Not Yet Introduced By Premier

On Monday, December 9th, after the formal opening of the legislature the members got down to business in earnest and following the moving of the address in reply to the speech from the throne by Rev. M. L. Leitch, Morse, seconded by G. W. Sahlmark, to which Donald Maclean, Saskatoon, and Premier Martin also spoke, notice of motion in connection with government bills was given.

MANITOBA LIBERALS TO MEET THURSDAY; TORIES THIS WEEK

WINNIPEG, Dec. 15. — The Liberals of Manitoba will hold a convention here Thursday and next week the Conservatives of the province are tendering a banquet to Hon. Robert Rogers. At each organization work concerning Dominion matters will be undertaken. It is significant that the members of parliament from either side have not been invited. It is said that the Liberal managers have received more than one thousand favorable replies to invitations from all parts of the province and several hundred Conservative banquet officials of their acceptance. The Liberal organization has created a sensation by specifically badgering members of the Norris government from their convention but no explanation for this action is given. This convention it is claimed is an insurrection against those ministers in the province who supported the Union government even after the December 17 election. At the Liberal convention it is said an announcement will be made of the place and date of the Dominion-wide Liberal convention some time in January.

President of Portugal Assassinated.

Killed in Lisbon Railway Station — Assassin Lynched by Crowds.

LONDON, Dec. 15. — Dr. Sidonio Paes, president of Portugal, was shot and killed by an assassin shortly before midnight Saturday while he was in a railway station at Lisbon, waiting for a train to Oporto. Advice from Lisbon reporting the assassination said that he was struck by three bullets. The president's assailant, named Jestre, was killed by the crowd. President Paes died within a few minutes after he was shot.

Daring Daylight Robbery.

Two Killed—Savings Bank Robbed of \$13,000—Desperados Used Revolvers Freely

NEW YORK, Dec. 13. — Two officials of the East Brooklyn Savings Bank were killed late today by two daring highwaymen, who escaped in a taxi with \$13,000 after shooting a detective, who tried to stop them and holding a crowd at bay with their revolvers. The robbers chose the busiest time of the day for their purpose. Entering as if to make a deposit, one advanced to the paying teller's window and suddenly thrust a revolver through the bars, while his companion, making his weapon look formidable as a whole battalion of machine-guns, covered other persons in the bank. When Daniel C. Peal, the teller failed to "come across" as ordered he was shot through the heart. His slayer then took his turn at covering the crowd, while his companion ran to another window, forced a clerk to retreat to the rear of his

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Donald Maclean, leader of the opposition, said he was not in a critical mood and that the government would receive general support to the principles of the minimum wage, welfare bureau and livestock marketing. He hoped that the Premier would bring down legislation requiring English to be the only language in the schools, and noted the omission of any reference to legislation arising out of Dr. Haig's report on taxation, in the speech from the throne. Premier Martin, discussing reconstruction problems, said that Saskatchewan had suffered comparatively little dislocation from the war but there might be some unemployment which he did not think would be at all serious compared with other provinces. Rev. M. L. Leitch (Morse), after expressing his thanks to the government for the high honor conferred upon him in asking him to move the address in reply to the speech from the throne, dealt with the war and that part which Saskatchewan had played in making the world safe for democracy. Pointing out the fact that a period of reconstruction would have to be faced, the speaker said

that the task called for men of great vision and broad sympathies and the time was approaching when we would have to do our part, not only in the way of greater production, but there were many other responsibilities with which the people of the country were charged. What was required was a united country and anyone who should be guilty of raising a racial or religious cry should be sent out of the country as an undesirable. One of the great needs during the coming years was immigration, the speaker continued. Canada was a fairly well equipped plant with three transcontinental railroad systems and a wonderful asset in an immense acreage of cultivable lands, but before these could be put to the best use an increased population was necessary in order that there may be greater production and greater prosperity in the future. With reference to future railway development, Premier Martin expressed the opinion that it might be necessary to point out to the Federal government the necessity for branch line extensions in certain sections of Saskatchewan. Some (Continued on page 8.)

Assailant Lynched

PARIS, Dec. 15. — According to a HAVAS agency despatch from Lisbon the assassin of the president was lynched by the crowds. Tamagnini Barboza, minister of interior, has assumed the presidency. Dr. Sidonio Paes was proclaimed president of Portugal last June 9.

World's Fair in Japan.

TOKYO, Japan, Dec. 14. — It is reported that Tokyo municipal authorities have decided to commemorate the restoration of peace in a substantial form next spring by holding a grand exposition at an outlay of \$2,000,000 to \$2,500,000. The plan meets with the hearty approval of the leading business men.

SERIOUS FIRE TAKES PLACE AT WYMARK

WYMARK, Sask. — Fire at 11.15 Sunday night resulted in the complete destruction of the Wymark restaurant at a loss of \$3,000, with no insurance. H. Seack, general merchant, lost \$9,000, with \$5,000 insurance; H. S. Nickel, implement warehouse, lost \$3,000, insurance \$500. The fire apparently originated in a bedroom of a general store. Owing to the absence of any fire fighting apparatus combatting the flames were difficult.

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