

GIANT MERCHANT MARINE COMBINATION IS CLAIMED

Shippers Tell Committee Of Being at Mercy Of Trust

FIGHTING SHIPS TO LOWER RATES

Managers of British and German Lines Control Ocean and Direct Trade --U. S. Combine also.

Washington, Jan. 8.—Testimony about "a shipping combination" that controlled the commerce of the seas with a stronger grasp than any combination which ever existed in trade between the States was presented today before the House Merchant Marine Committee.

W. H. Douglas of the New York exporting firm of Arkell and Douglas, declared that a combination of German and British lines existed controlling the ocean, and that the steamship managers in London were able to direct the course of trade at their will.

Allerton D. Hitch, secretary and treasurer of the Hagenmeyer Trading Company of New York, trading with Brazil, declared that the only independent line to South America was the Lloyd Brasileiro Line and that while his firm used that and its officers, governmental appointees were not trained to the desire of the trade.

John C. Seager, was the former representative of a conference line to testify. For several years he was agent of the Prince Line at New York. He stated that his line, the present Hamburg-America Line, and the Lamport and Holt Line were in a combination.

"When did the combination start?" inquired Representative Alexander, chairman of the committee. "About 1895 or 1896," was the reply. The witness explained that the combination had a system of deferred rebates and pooled the freight and commissions.

"You mean it pooled the profits?" inquired Representative Humphreys. "Yes, sir," Mr. Seager replied. "We frequently got instructions to put the boats in my yard and even to build a boat with rates so low as to drive a competitor out of business. The loss was divided pro rata among the lines."

Mr. Seager also stated that a gentleman's agreement existed between the Booth Line was given the trade in the territory between Pernambuco and the Amazon and the conference lines, territory south of Pernambuco. The policy was "you must not play in my yard and I won't play in yours, but if you do I will bring down my family and break up your yard."

TEN THOUSAND MORE GARMENT WORKERS OUT

Women and Girls Who Sew Kimonas and Wrappers Join Strikers—Mob and Police-men Fight.

New York, Jan. 8.—The striking garment workers today prepared to put 60,000 men and women in line for a street parade next Monday. Mayor Gaynor and the police have not decided yet whether they will permit the parade and the manufacturers are trying to have them withhold their consent.

The garment workers were joined in their strike today by 10,000 girls and women who sew kimonas and wrappers and who are members of the International Ladies' Garment Union. They demand a working week of fifty hours, a minimum wage scale, the abolition of child labor and sanitary and fire proof shops.

It took sixty policemen and detectives to disperse a mob that gathered on University Place today when strikers attacked a strike breaker and a policeman who tried to protect him. Many of the rioters were women. Three policemen were put on trial today charged by the strikers with brutality. Similar charges were made against other members of the force today after the riot on University Place.

NEW MINE IN SPRINGHILL

Expectation is that Coal Output Will Be Increased to 2,000 Tons Per Day in Few Weeks.

Special to The Standard. Halifax, Jan. 8.—It is learned that a new mine will be started at Springhill in the course of a few weeks, when the output there will be increased to two thousand tons a day. J. H. Plummer, president of the Dominion Iron & Steel Co., will likely announce the date when the mine will be started and also whether the new colliery will be a shaft or a slope. The average daily output from the Springhill mines is about 1,500 tons and the daily average should not lessen while the new pit is being developed. The Amherst Harbor will be improved by dredging this spring and the Donaldson line of steamers will make the place a regular calling station.

ARMY OF MEN FIGHT HIGH SNOW DRIFTS TO CLEAR RAILROAD

Northern Pacific and Milwaukee R. R. in Cascade Mountains is Successfully Kept Open During Blizzard.

Seattle, Wash., Jan. 8.—All day an army of men with huge locomotives and rotaries struggled successfully to keep the drifting snow from burying the tracks of the Northern Pacific and Milwaukee Railways through the Cascade Mountains. Tonight and tomorrow the same work must be repeated, for snow is falling again. The trains of these railroads pass between banks of snow higher than the tops of the cars. It is doubtful if there ever was so much snow in the mountains early in January since the construction of the railways.

FRUIT PRICES JUMP FOLLOWING BIG FROST

Los Angeles, Jan. 8.—Twenty-five million dollars was the amount fixed today by consensus of opinion regarding the loss sustained by citrus fruit growers in the three days freeze ending this morning.

Oranges advanced fifty cents a box on the Los Angeles wholesale market today. This was a direct result of the freeze. Grape fruit, which also suffered heavily during the last three days, went up twenty-five cents a box.

DUCHESS OF CONNAUGHT IS TAKEN SERIOUSLY

Her Royal Highness Rushed to Montreal For Treatment

OTTAWA SHOCKED AT HEARING NEWS

Peritonitis the Cause of Illness—Royal Patient's Condition Regarded as Serious.

RESTING COMFORTABLY. Royal Victoria Hospital, Montreal, Jan. 8, 11.30 p. m.—Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Connaught has stood the journey from Ottawa very well and is now resting as comfortably as could be expected. (Signed) E. S. Worthington.

Special to The Standard. Ottawa, Jan. 8.—A special Canadian Pacific train left Ottawa shortly after five o'clock this afternoon bearing H. R. H. the Duchess of Connaught to Montreal where she will be taken to the Royal Victoria Hospital for treatment for peritonitis.

News of the illness of the Duchess came as a great shock to the people of Ottawa this afternoon. Col. H. C. Lovther, military secretary to H. R. H. the Duke, was at the Chateau Laurier and the Duke and Duchess, with the Princess Patricia were to have been present at the Royal Highness's home in the city. The Duchess made necessary the cancellation of the dance and practically the whole Rideau Hall household accompanied the sufferer to Montreal. Her Royal Highness has not been well since Monday. An official statement from the government house this evening stated that the Duchess of Connaught was taken ill on Sunday evening with symptoms similar to those of her previous attack of peritonitis. Dr. Garrow met Major Worthington in a consultation at this time which was much more satisfactory and continued so until early Wednesday morning when there was a further rise in temperature and pulse rate and an increase in abdominal pain and other symptoms.

An official bulletin signed by Drs. E. S. Worthington, A. E. Garrow and W. W. Chipman, stated: "After a further consultation between Major Worthington, Dr. Garrow and Dr. Chipman, it was decided to move Her Royal Highness to the Royal Victoria Hospital at Montreal for further treatment."

H. R. H. the Duchess of Connaught, on being informed this afternoon of the illness of the Duchess, left a cabinet council and proceeded at once to Rideau Hall to enquire as to Her Royal Highness's condition. Mr. Borden was also at the station when the special bearing the Duke and Duchess and members of the viceregal household left for Montreal. The special was made up of an engine and three cars, two coaches and a baggage car. Her Royal Highness being placed in a bed in one of the coaches.

(Canadian Press.) Ottawa, Jan. 8.—The special train left Central Depot at 6.15 and consisted of an ordinary first class coach and baggage car. Four seats had been removed from the car and a brass bed installed. The Royal patient was brought to the station in an ambulance and the train left immediately she was comfortably installed on board.

His Royal Highness the Duke and Her Royal Highness the Princess Patricia accompanied the Duchess to Montreal, where she will be taken to the Royal Victoria Hospital. Dr. Garrow the eminent Montreal surgeon, Major Worthington, M. D. A. D. C., Capt. Bukleley, equerry and controller, and Miss Pelly, lady-in-waiting, were also on board the train, which is expected to arrive in Montreal about nine o'clock.

YOUTHFUL ROBBER TO PENITENTIARY. Toronto, Jan. 8.—As a result of their habit to roam around the country holding up people at the point of a gun, robbing stores and post offices, Frank Brown, aged 19 and his brother Albert, aged 17, will spend the next four years and three years respectively in Kingston penitentiary. This was the sentence they received from Magistrate W. H. Clay, in the county court this afternoon, after being convicted on four charges.

BANKING SYSTEM CRITICIZED BY MONEY TRUST COMMITTEE

Growing Evil of Bank Officers Accepting Tips From Borrowers Should be Made Criminal Offence.

Washington, Jan. 8.—Faults in the National Banking Laws were discussed today before the House Money Trust Committee by a group of the most powerful masters of finance in Wall street. The connection between these three men, the institutions in which they are interested, and the funds controlled by these institutions will form the basis of Mr. Baker's examination. He arrived in Washington today with his counsel, Fisher A. Baker, former Senator John C. Spooner, and several other attorneys.

Mr. Murray condemned without reservation the practice, which he said was a growing evil, of directors or officers of National Banks accepting "personal compensation" from borrowers to whom the funds of the bank are loaned. He said that legislation should be passed providing for "criminal prosecution" of the practice.

LIE GIVEN TO CANARD IN LONDON

Report that Rt. Hon. R. L. Borden Had Reached Agreement with Unionist Leaders is Promptly Denied.

Special to The Standard. Ottawa, Jan. 8.—A newspaper in London published several days ago, a story to the effect that when the Rt. Hon. R. L. Borden, was there last summer, an agreement had been reached between Unionist leaders and himself in respect to the preferential policy. On this side of the water no credence was placed in the report at any time, but to set the matter at rest, the following official statement was issued tonight:

"With regard to the recent press despatches respecting the visit of the Canadian ministers to London last summer, the prime minister states, understanding of any kind with respect to preferential trade was made or arranged at between himself and any other member of the government and the leaders of the Unionist party."

MURDERER OF WOMAN MAY RECOVER FROM ATTEMPT TO SUICIDE

Walter Eves Who Eloped from England with Married Woman Lies at Death Door in Hospital.

Winnipeg, Man., Jan. 8.—Walter Eves, who this morning shot and killed Mrs. Hancock, is likely to survive the injuries he inflicted upon himself after the murder. Tonight he shows great improvement at the hospital. The man is a son of the late A. Eves, who kept the White Hart Hotel at Brighton, England, for many years and the victim was a native of Ashley Kent. The pair met at a dance in England and, though both were married, they eloped to Canada, arriving together last March. Since then they placed his property so that in case of his death, his real wife in England would not benefit.

REVELSTOKE TOWN MEETING LIVELY

Revelstoke, B.C., Jan. 8.—At the annual meeting held in the Empress Theatre this evening to submit the yearly financial statement, presided over by Acting Mayor Hector McKinlay, Constable C. Leland was ordered by the chairman to arrest J. M. Kellie, former member of the legislature, who was present and insisted on an explanation of the financial items relating to the restricted district. Kellie's freedom and the constable finally let him go.

ADRIANOPLE IS NOW AT MERCY OF THE BALKANS

Great Fortress Expected to Fall in Few Days --Heroic Defense

AMBASSADORS HOPE DIFFICULTY IS OVER

Powers May be Forced to Intervene to Retain Prestige--The Austro-Servia Situation Grave

London, Jan. 8.—The capitulation of Adrianople will, in the opinion of the Balkan plenipotentiaries, take place within a few days either directly to the besieging forces or through European pressure. Pending some fresh development the Balkan delegates are keeping in closest touch with the Ambassadors, because they are aware that some of the questions they have most at heart depend almost entirely on the will of the powers.

Meanwhile the Ambassadorial Conference is doing little, hoping that the Adrianople difficulty will solve itself in some manner, and thus make interference by the powers unnecessary, moreover, this action of the Ambassadors is hampered by the previous agreement that they must be unanimous in any decision requiring active interference. Should the fall of Adrianople still be delayed, now that the conference is suspended, it might become imperative for Europe to intervene. Otherwise Europe would lose the prestige entitling her to dictate her will in smaller matters, such as creating an autonomous Albania and partitioning the Aegean Islands.

STAR LINER GROUNDS IN HEAVY FOG

Kronland Runs Ashore in New York Harbor and Remained Fast in Mud for Six Hours.

New York, Jan. 8.—The steamer Kronland of the Red Star Line, ran aground today in the fog at the edge of Ambrose Channel in the outer harbor and tonight after six hours of effort by tugs to drag her free, she remained fast in the mud. The sea was rather rough, but with a westerly wind prevailing her position was not considered dangerous. Tugs will stand by until morning, when at another high tide fresh efforts will be made to release the liner. About 500 passengers are on board.

The Kronland, bound for Antwerp, left her pier at 10 o'clock this morning. Five hours later a wireless message was received telling of the ship's plight. Signals displayed by the vessel and tugs went to her aid. On tonight's high tide it was hoped to free her, but this was not accomplished.

SERIOUS FLOODS IN MIDDLE WEST

Rapid Rise of Rivers and Small Streams—Much Low Land Under Water and Hundreds Driven from Home.

Pittsburg, Pa., Jan. 8.—Portions of western Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia are facing a serious flood situation tonight, owing to a steady and rapid rise of the various rivers and small streams. A wide area of low land is under water. Hundreds of their homes, many buildings are partly flooded, a number of transportation companies are crippled, and several thousand men employed by industries in the flooded zone, have been thrown out of work.

WILL BUILD LOCKUP AT M'ADAM JUNCTION

Fredericton, Jan. 8.—The York county council today heard a delegation from McAdam asking for a grant for the equipment of McAdam with a lockup. It was pointed out that the location of McAdam was such that there was a constantly increasing amount of criminal business to be dealt with and consequently it was intended to place the provincial government to create a police district in McAdam and appoint a police magistrate. The erection of a police building and lockup would cost it was estimated \$1,500, and of this sum the people of McAdam were prepared to raise \$1,000, asking the York county council for the balance. It was decided to make a grant of \$500 for the purpose.

HUNGARIAN LAWMAKERS FIGHT DUEL

Count Stephen Tisza, President of the Hungarian Parliament, the Victim in Two Fierce Encounters.

Budapest, Jan. 8.—Count Stephen Tisza, president of the lower house of the Hungarian parliament, fought another duel today and succeeded in wounding his man. Count Tisza's opponent was Count Aladar Szechenyi. The weapons were sabres and Count Szechenyi was wounded in the head. Count Tisza was not hurt.

The duel arose out of a declaration made in writing by Count Szechenyi that it was through an error that he recently acknowledged Count Tisza's salute. The latter promptly sent a challenge.

On January 2nd Count Tisza and Count Michael Karolyi a prominent member of the opposition, fought a duel with sabres, the latter being very seriously wounded. A third duel is scheduled for tomorrow between the president of the lower house and Count Aladar Zichy, an opposition deputy; while Deputy Polonyi, whom Count Tisza said he would not recognize in the street, sent a challenge to Count Tisza today.

ABANDON FOOD TAX

Unionists Decide to Abandon this Plank in Tariff Reform Campaign Next Election — Petition Bonar Law.

London, Jan. 8.—Tariff reform, so far as it involves the taxing of food is on the eve of final disappearance as a plank in the Unionist policy. A representative meeting of Unionists yesterday with the object of hearing, if at all possible the dissensions in the Unionist party created by the recent proposal to impose tax on food imported into the British Isles, and restoring the unit of the party.

A memorial was drafted and addressed to Andrew Bonar Law, leader of the opposition in the House of Commons advocating the policy of abandoning food taxes at the next general election.

PROMINENT RESIDENTS OF NORTH SHORE DEAD

Thomas Foley, Hotel Proprietor of Newcastle, Passed Away Yesterday — Well Known Renous River Farmer Dead.

Special to The Standard. Newcastle, N. B., Jan. 8.—Thomas Foley, one of the best known hotel keepers on the North Shore died this morning after a brief illness, was forty-four years old. He was a native of Pokesaw, Gloucester County, and had resided in Newcastle for the last thirteen years. About nine years ago he built the Miramichi Hotel here and conducted it very successfully until two or three years ago when he leased it to Jas. P. Whelan and temporarily retired from business. Chasing, however, at his comparative inactivity, Mr. Foley did not wait for the lease to run out but recently acquired and improved the Commercial Hotel, and began to build up another flourishing business.

He leaves his mother, his widow, formerly Miss Fitzgerald, sister of Rev. Father Fitzgerald, and three children, Gerald and Barry, students at St. Thomas College, Chatham, and Miss Gladys at home.

The funeral takes place from his late residence, Pleasant street, to St. Mary's Catholic church, Friday morning at ten o'clock.

John Singleton, a respected farmer of Renous River, died today aged eighty. He leaves a widow, formerly Elizabeth Hughes of Nelson Reserve and the following children: William, in Minnesota; Edward, at home; Hayes of Renous River. The deceased was a native of Renous River and will be buried in the Catholic cemetery there on Friday.

WARNS AGAINST A CENTRAL BANK

Washington, Jan. 8.—An emphatic warning from former secretary of the treasury Leslie M. Shaw, that a central reserve bank such as proposed by the National Monetary Commission, would be controlled absolutely by Wall Street and a technical discussion by Prof. J. Laurence Laughlin, of the University of Chicago, of the operation of proposed divisional reserve banks featured today's hearing before the Glass sub-committee of the House Banking and Currency Committee.

One suggestion is, that falling a better solution Adrianople might be ceded to the powers who could transfer it to the Allies after permitting the Turkish garrison to depart with the honors of war, and guaranteeing other conditions, as the reservation of religious and property rights to the Turks and the creation of special courts for the trial of civil disputes arising between the Mussulmans.

Some of those among the advanced section of the allied delegates are of the opinion now that they have paved the way for the expulsion of Turkey from Europe, the powers ought to complete the work by removing Islam from Constantinople and transforming the Turkish capital into an autonomous city under European control, and that they should study some system with the object of giving a real civilized government to Asia Minor. If such steps were not taken, they declare that there will be a repetition in Asia Minor of what has just occurred in the Balkans.

One of the gravest aspects of the situation as unbiased observers view it is the failure of Austria to give any sign of demobilization in spite of Serbia's sacrifices for her liberation. Serbia even going so far as to evacuate the Adriatic coast.

A French Opinion. Paris, Jan. 8.—It is learned here that the great powers have practically reached an agreement to advise Turkey to cede on the question of Adrianople, but the powers are not in harmony concerning the disposition of the Aegean Islands.

The triple entente, Great Britain, France and Russia, are inclined to back the desire of the allies for the cession of the islands to Greece, but the triple alliance, Germany, Austria and Italy, favor leaving to Turkey those islands near the Turkish coast, particularly those close to the Dardanelles.

Difficulty is being experienced in the settlement of the question of Albania, as Austria shows no disposition to modify her attitude. Austria is especially anxious to include Scutari within the limits of the new Albania. It is understood that the powers will make no representations to the porte before the end of the week.

The impression prevails in France that Austria will not demobilize until all the delicate Balkan questions have been definitely settled. The presence of Serbian troops on the road to Durazzo and other Albanian points has been a source of irritation to Austria, which shows no signs of retiring the Austrian forces from the Serbian and Albanian frontier.