

## G. T. SHAREHOLDERS TO NEGOTIATE MORE

Chairman Smithers Wants  
Same Deal as C.N.R.  
Got.

### OFFER INADEQUATE

Friendly Settlement Impossi-  
ble Unless Dominion Bid  
is Higher.

London, March 23.—At the meeting of Grand Trunk shareholders, Saturday, Alfred Smithers, chairman of the system, gave an exhaustive review of the negotiations with the Canadian government. While there were occasional cries of "confiscation, shame, scandalous" and the like, there was no great display of bitterness.

The meeting declared the government offer inadequate and also asked the directors to appoint a committee of shareholders to assist in further negotiations.

Chairman Smithers had much to say about the government's dealings with other railways.

"The Canadian Pacific was allowed to build branches and extensions right into new territory which the Grand Trunk Pacific was designed to serve. The Canadian Northern was not only allowed but actually subsidized year after year to build lines competing with the Grand Trunk Pacific. Our contention is that the Grand Trunk Pacific should at all events be treated by the government with the same consideration they have shown the Canadian Northern."

"We have offered to sell the Grand Trunk at practically the average earnings of the last ten years so that if the government took us at the price we ask they would be obtaining the railway on a basis nearly repaying them what we ask and the government thus paying next to nothing for the whole reversion of the future which in a country with the resources and wealth of Canada must be of untold value."

Only Railway Unaided.  
"The Grand Trunk is the only railway in Britain, America and Canada left to bear unaided the impossible strain caused by the unparalleled war conditions."

"Why should such hard and unmerciful terms be dealt to the Grand Trunk compared with the liberal assistance given the Canadian Pacific and the Canadian Northern? Must not the impression be created that in the Canadian Pacific and Canadian Northern, Canadian credit and money were involved whereas in the Grand Trunk it is only British investors' money that is jeopardized? I have the most heart-rending appeals from thousands of investors in the Grand Trunk. It surely ought not to be a question how cheaply, under the guise of legal forms, the Grand Trunk can be bought. We are as always anxious for friendly settlement," concluded Mr. Smithers, "but unless the government is prepared to increase its offer, such friendly settlement is impossible."

## TRIUMPHAL MARCH IN LONDON STREETS

British Troops Who Fought in  
Flanders Reviewed  
by King.

London, March 23.—The first triumphal march on a large scale of British troops, which fought in France and Belgium, took place in London Saturday. Fourteen battalions of the Guards, representatives of all units of Great Britain's "crack" corps, accompanied by their bands, proceeded from their barracks to Buckingham Palace, where they were reviewed by King George. The line of march thence led thru the main streets of the city.

Despite the gray skies of the day great crowds assembled to cheer the men, many of whom belonged to the "Old Contemptibles," and had fought from August, 1914, until the signing of the armistice.

The procession was led by the Earl of Cavan, the first commander of the Guards' division, with his staff, which included the Prince of Wales. The city was gaily bedecked and the troops received a tremendously enthusiastic welcome.

## TROTSKY MOBILIZES MEN TO DEFEND PETROGRAD

Paris, March 23.—The Estonian-Lettish offensive against the Bolsheviks is menacing Petrograd so seriously that Leon Trotsky, Bolshevik minister of war and marine, has ordered the general mobilization of all men up to the age of 46, according to a Zurich despatch to The Matin.

## NEW REVOLUTION BREWS IN SIBERIA

Growing Unrest Forebodes  
Trouble Between Conser-  
vatives and Radicals.

By W. E. PLAYFAIR.  
Vladivostok, March 23.—The ever-growing uneasiness in Siberia is taken by the allies as an indication that a revolutionary attempt will be made shortly. The ultra-reactionary party is using repressive measures which arouse bitter feeling among the radicals and peasants and serve to fan the flame already kindled.

A meeting between Semenov and Kulmikov, Cossack leaders, at Pograd is believed to forbode further trouble. The general rumor is that interested parties, including some who are not Russians, are trying to precipitate a political crisis. The allied commanders here are preparing to defend life and property without taking an active part in any political movement.

## ITALY'S ULTIMATUM STIRS CONFERENCE

Threat to Withdraw Over  
Adriatic Question Causes  
Apprehension.

### SECRET TREATIES UP

Undertaking Signed at Lon-  
don Four Years Ago  
Affected.

Paris, March 23.—What amounted to an ultimatum by the entire Italian delegation, directed to the supreme council, declaring that the Italians would not approve of any peace treaty not including a settlement of the controversy between Italy and Yugoslavia over the title to Fiume and the Dalmatian Coast Islands, gave great concern to other delegations. Although the supreme council was occupied with a consideration of the western Polish boundary, the premiers themselves were engaged in trying to find some solution to the very difficult problem presented by the action of the Italians.

It has been known for some time that Italian delegates were apprehensive that any program adopted by the supreme council, which contemplated the relegation of the Italy-Yugoslavia controversy to the league of nations, when it is formed, or even its consideration by the supreme council after the completion of the peace treaty with Germany, would seriously jeopardize Italian claims.

The state of mind of the Italian public is declared to be such that the failure of the Italian delegation to return from Paris speedily with title to Fiume and the Dalmatian coastal islands might easily have grave internal results.

The Italian claim, of course, is that, racially, historically and economically, the port of Fiume and the immediate vicinity is Italian. They claim that the eastern Adriatic coast must also go to Italy.

## BID FOR BRUSSELS AS LEAGUE CAPITAL

Belgium Presents Official Re-  
quest to the Peace  
Conference.

Paris, March 23.—The official request of the Belgian delegation to the chief of the delegates of the five powers that Brussels be selected as the capital of the league of nations, is the first offer of the kind to be made to the peace conference. There has been talk of Versailles, Bern, Geneva and The Hague, but the possible seat of the league, but Versailles and Brussels appear to be the favorites. After mentioning the concrete argument offered by Belgium, in the shape of the donation to the league of the Egmont Palace, formerly the property of the Duke d'Arenberg, as the seat of the league, M. Rolin-Jacquemyns, general secretary of the Belgian delegation, said in an interview:

"We have the greatest respect for the claims of neutrals in this matter, and do not wish to make our application in behalf of Brussels stand merely on sentimental grounds, but upon the practical advantages."

"In addition, we are establishing a powerful wireless station in Belgium, on a site adapted to such a purpose, and are permitting the erection of a station which will be able to be heard at any and all points along the western Atlantic seaboard. In the event of a future war, an attacking country also might demur from violating Belgium when that country was the seat of capital of the league of nations."

"I intended to refrain mentioning the sentimental side of the question, but must ask whether you do not think that Belgium does not fully deserve the honor?"

## BURLESON RETIRES POSTAL PRESIDENT

Other Officials of Company  
Besides Clarence H.  
Mackey Removed.

Washington, March 23.—Clarence H. Mackey, president of the Postal Telegraph and Cable Company, was removed Saturday by Postmaster-General Burleson. The postmaster-general issued an order relieving besides Mr. Mackey, W. W. Cook, general counsel, William S. Deegan, secretary and the board of trustees or directors and the owners of the Mackey companies operating the postal systems from all duties appertaining to the control and operation of service under government control. A. F. Adams, president of the Kansas City Home Telephone Company, and a member of the general telephone and telegraph operating board, was appointed by the postmaster-general to supersede the postal chief in the management of the system. Mr. Adams presented the order today to Mr. Deegan and immediately took over control.

## REMARKABLE FLIGHT BY BRITISH AIRSHIP

London, March 23.—The first account is now officially published of a remarkable long distance flight over the North Sea, which was performed by a British non-rigid airship, the U. S. Eleven, during the past few days. The voyage took the form of a circuit, clockwise, coasting Denmark, Schleswig-Holstein, Heligoland, North Germany and Holland. The trip was characterized by extremely unfavorable weather, and therefore it ranks as the most notable flight ever undertaken. The total length of the round trip was 1285 air miles and the time taken was about 40 1-2 hours.

# FAIR PLAY FOR SALARIED PEOPLE

Agriculture and industry have prospered during the war. Farmers have secured better prices than ever before. Workers in many industries have enjoyed high wages. The burden of the last four years has fallen on salaried people and those possessing only limited incomes.

Teachers, ministers, professors, clerks have enjoyed no proportionate increase in income, while food prices have soared to the benefit of the farmer; and higher rentals, higher prices for clothing, higher living cost have lowered the purchasing power of money and reduced the relative value of earnings. Any immediate radical revision of the tariff downward, with vital disturbance of industrial conditions, will prolong such hardships.

National co-operation with increased production of farm and factory are essential to carry Canada safely through the reconstruction period. Only under such a policy can the war debt be paid and the country saved from depression which will injure farm and factory and accentuate the sufferings of hundreds of thousands of salaried men from coast to coast.

Under Free Trade—Where Will the Revenue Come From?

## CANADIAN RECONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATION

WESTERN OFFICE  
510-11 Electric Railway Chambers  
Winnipeg

HEAD OFFICE  
Royal Bank Building  
Toronto

EASTERN OFFICE  
603-4 Drummond Building  
Montreal



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## EX-EMPEROR CHARLES REQUESTED TO GET OUT

Copenhagen, March 23.—The Vienna government has once more notified former Emperor Charles that it is desirable that he quit the country, but no pressure has been brought to bear to force him to leave, according to telegrams received here from the Austrian capital. It is declared that the maintenance of a court at Eckartsau, which it has been expected the former Emperor Charles would hold, is contrary to the new constitution adopted by the national assembly. Some commentators insist that the former emperor convert his renunciation of the throne last November into an abdication for himself and the House of Hapsburg.

## Immediate Repatriation Of Schleswig-Germans

Paris, March 23.—In conformity with the attitude of the British government the French war office has consented to the immediate repatriation of German prisoners of war born in Danish Schleswig. The first group will be sent to Denmark from Dunkirk on a Danish ship.

## SEES SPARTACAN PLAN TO DISRUPT GERMANY

Berlin, March 23.—The socialist Vorwaerts, in discussing the refusal of Hamburg seamen to serve on vessels to be handed over to the allies, says:

"The behavior of the Spartacans in Hamburg is only part of the general Spartacan scheme to disrupt Germany so completely that she will be unable to resist their demands. One would be justified in suspecting that Russian machinations are behind the movement in which the German Spartacans are only accomplices. The conclusion of the Brussels treaty was highly displeasing to the Spartacans, and the action of the Hamburg seamen is the last desperate attempt to frustrate it. German workmen shall go hungry—that is the sum total of Spartacan politics."

## SITUATION IN EGYPT IMPROVING.

London, March 23.—Reuters' Agency says that it learns that telegrams received up to Sunday evening show a continued improvement in the situation in Egypt, but that the Delta region is still disturbed. Bedouins attacked a detachment of British troops in the province of Fayum, middle Egypt, but were repulsed with losses.

## OVERSEAS PRESS MEN COVER BRITISH HOUSE

London, March 23.—A limited number of overseas press correspondents are at last to be admitted into the lobby of the house of commons, one representative each for Canada, Australia, South Africa, New Zealand and India, being allowed to enjoy the same privileges as already possessed by the leading English papers. The Canadian Press will represent Canada.

## CANADA ASKED TO START SEA SERVICE TO JAMAICA

Kingston, Jamaica, March 22.—The Canadian government has been asked to establish a direct steamship service with Jamaica, it being understood that a subsidy will be provided in case such a project is carried out. The legislative council has excluded shipping companies from the payment of taxes under the income tax bill which has just been passed. Insurance companies will, under the bill, pay one and one-half per cent. on their gross incomes.

## GERMANS REFUSE TO LET POLES LAND AT DANZIG

Copenhagen, March 23.—At a meeting of the armistices commission on Thursday, General Baron von Hammerstein, according to a despatch from Berlin, transmitted a note to General Nudant, Marshal Foch's representative, saying that the German government could in no case permit Polish troops to land at Danzig and pass thru the country, "as it would lead to an attempt to bloody oppress the undoubted German majority in West Prussia." The note also said that the government also refused to permit allied and Polish officers to travel unrestrictedly without supervision in the territories west of the Vistula.

General Nudant, remarking that the note categorically rejected all the proposals and demands of the associated governments, said he would transmit it to Marshal Foch.

## U. S. CONGRESS TO MEET ON WILSON'S RETURN

Paris, March 23.—A special session of both houses of the American congress will probably be called to assemble about the middle of May, the date when President Wilson hopes to return to the United States. It is possible that if the treaty of peace is sufficiently advanced to warrant such a course, a special session of the senate may be called even earlier to afford it opportunity to deal with this subject before being called upon to direct its attention to other important matters, chief of which will be financial affairs.

## LIABILITIES OF BELGIUM NINE BILLION FRANCS

Brussels, March 22.—Liabilities of Belgium total more than \$500,000,000 (francs, eight billion of which are war expenses). This announcement was made by Premier De la Croix in the chamber of deputies Friday in giving out figures for the annual budget. He said that the budget would henceforth be 1,100,000,000 francs. The premier also informed the deputies that the increase in liabilities would have to be met by new taxes, including an income tax and taxes on inheritance, tobacco, beer and alcohol.

