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# COMMISSION TO REPORT ON REVISING ONTARIO'S SCHOOL SYSTEM U.S. Railwaymen Take Firm Stand Against Bill to Reorganize Roads

# FINAL DECISION ON PEACE TREATY

Pact to Be Called Up Again Thursday, and Remain Before Senate Till Disposed Of

#### DEMOCRAT CAUCUS OFF

Washington, Feb. 24.-Plans to hasten a final decision on the peace treaty were made by senate Republicans today, while the administration leaders were taking counsel among their divided colleagues as to what should be the final Democratic stand on ratifica-

The Republican determination to bring the question to a conclusion was announced on the senate floor by the party leader, Senator Lodge, who said while today and tomorrow had been allotted to consideration of pressing legislation, he would call up the treaty again Thursday and would ask that it remain the business of the sen-

ate until disposed of. Meantime, the Democratic leader, Senator Hitchcock, vetoed for the present the proposal for a party caucus, sponsored by Democratic senators, who want to end the long controversy by taking the Republican reservations as they stand. Senator Hitchcock said he had talked to those who differed with him as to the course to be adopted, and had about decided that to call a caucus would be inadvisable.

In some quarters it was predicted that under the program outlined by Senator Lodge the treaty would be brought to a ratification vote within a week or ten days. The irreconcilable opponents of ratification are expected, however, to insist that there be no hasty action, and no one could predict with certainty how much time they might consume in debate.

No Democratic Caucus.

some sort of a party get-together yet tion.

would be held before the ratification Decisions of the union officials to

blican reservations still stood at 22 many insure ratification. The administra-tion leaders continued to insist that the figure was exaggerated, but they said they had made no recent canvass

# ON FARMERS' BARNS

Unique Bill Before Legislature-Fire Marshal Seeks

Underwriters' Association of Ontario sesterday afternoon when he gave details of a bill to be named "The lightning rod act." and which is to be presented at the forthcoming meeting of the legislature by the Hon. Peter Smith if he can be persuaded to father at thru the house, According to Mr. Lewis, the pro-

posed bill is unique, the very first of its kind in the world, and if passed Judge H. A. Robson Tenders will help to cut down farm fires to a minimum in a very short time.

Fire Marshal's Powers.

The new act will give the fire mar-

shal very wide powers. It will enable him to require any farm building, valued at \$2,000, or containing that value in food, to have a lightning rod and any buildings adjacent to said barn also to be provided with rods. The act will also apply to grain elevators, flour storage warehouses, mills, spires and smoke shafts over 60 feet high. The penalty for non-compliance with the provisions of the act will be \$20 per day for each day the rod is not in its proper place and the fine will be recoverable on conviction be-

fore a magistrate.

To make the measure complete the act provides that the materials used in the erection of lightning rods shall by the fire marshal. The erectors and BOLSHEVIKI CAPTURE cellers of rods will also require a license from the marshal and anyone selling or erecting a lightning rod license is subjected to a fine of \$200, or six months in prison All the fees collected for the licenses will be paid to the provincial treasurer, but the act asks that they transferred to the fire marshal for the

appointment of inspectors to carry out the provisions of the act. Altho the act will apply to only new quite \$8,000 per annum will be collect. in fees. Should a farmer make alterations or additions to an old barn the act treats that old building as a new structure and a rod will be necessary.

ULSTER DELEGATION SAILS

TODAY. from the Province of Ulster, which has been in the United States for nelly. some time speaking in opposition to

### Erzberger Resigns Portfolio, Engaged in Questionable Deals

Berlin, Feb. 24.-Mathias Erzberger, minister of finance, voluntarily re-Signed from the cabinet today.

Erzberger's resignation came as a climax to a day of sensational testi-

monies in his libel suit against Dr. Karl Helfferich, former minister of the treasury. The nature of this testimony, it was considered, left Erzberger no other choice than to relinquish his portfolio.

According to the testimony of States Attorney Messerschmidt, which was given with the utmost reserve and caution. Erzberger had smuggled large amounts of his private funds to Switzerland. Previously, testimonies adduced from Dr. Helfferich involved Erzberger in numerous questionable transactions in connection with the involved. transactions in connection with the issuance of import and export permits, and otherwise misusing his official position and influence in the furtner-

ance of ventures in which Erzberger was alleged to be interested.

The official statement announcing Erzberger's retirement from the cabinet bases his action on his desire to have an investigation concerning his income tax, without reference to on in consideration of his official position. The resignation was tendered to President Ebert, who ordered an investigation of the income tax incident conducted with all possible promptness.

# TWO MILLION RAILWAY MEN TO ASK PRESIDENT TO VETO THE REORGANIZATION BILL

Decision of Union Officials to Present Demands Arrived at Suddenly-If Bill is Approved, Constitutionality Will Be Tested -Awaiting Wilson's Action.

Washington, Feb. 24.-Railroad abor decided tonight to ask President Wilson to veto the railroad reorgan-

ization bill.

In a memorial to be submitted probably late tomorrow, the representatives of the 2,000.000 union workers will request the president to withhold his signature from the measure until they can present a brief of their rea-sons why it should not have execu-tive approval.

might consume in debate.

No Democratic Caucus.

The decision of Senator Hitchcock not to call Democratic senators into a conference caused considerable surprise among those who had advanced the suggestion, and they predicted that some sort of a party get-together yet to the constitutionality of the law. Various methods of bringing this about were suggested but all will be held in abeyance pending the president's action.

The next step in the union program, which will not be developed definitely unless the bill is approved, is to test the constitutionality of the law. Various methods of bringing this about were suggested but all will be held in abeyance pending the president's action.

vote was reached.

Republican claims as to the number of Democrats ready to accept the Republican reservations still stood at 22

Decisions of the union officials to present their views to Mr. Wilson was reached suddenly. There had been insistent clamoring for such action by many of the local committeement.

Commerce Poord Mark Commerce Poord M today, with a dozen more needed to insure ratification. The administration wage settlement proposal. The course was not decided on, however, it was said, until it appeared no other plan would be generally accepted by the rank and file. The sentiment among

the government." The dividend pro-vision of the law will also come in for condemnation, it was indicated.

As a result of the decision to ask for a presidential veto, consideration of the proposal for settlement of the Extensive Powers.

Controversy, submitted by the president and Director-General Hines, will be largely perfunctory at tomorrow's meetings of the labor representatives.

Many of the delegates and some of the general chairmen planned tonight to leave Washington immediately.

The proposal for settlement of the jurisdiction of the board, and would contest the point in the supreme court.

Mr. Geoffrion declined to submit any arguments in the case, except that his clients questioned the right of the board to enforce its order of Feb. 6, suming the controversy submitted by the president and not recognize the jurisdiction of the board, and would contest the point in the supreme court.

Mr. Geoffrion declined to submit any arguments in the case, except that his selections of the board and would contest the point in the supreme court.

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## **COMMERCE BOARD CHAIRMAN RETIRES**

Resignation—Say Work Was Hampered.

Ottawa, Feb. 24.—Judge Robson to-night handed to the government his resignation as chairman of the court of commerce. For some time it has been expected that Judge Robson would do so to bring to a climax the conflict which has been waging between the board and the civil service commission. There have been other unsatisfactory conditions surrounding law or not. and hampering the work of the court of commerce. The court of commerce

# CITY IN TURKESTAN ing or not.

London, Feb. 24.—A Bolshevik BARRISTER IS SOUGHT communication received here today announces that the Bolsheviki occupied the town of Khiva in Turk-

#### House Debates Pershing's Clothes Declared to Be Too English

Washington, Feb. 24.-Cut of Gen-

"Gene: al Pershing's coat is split up

"He kept his American head," Rep-

BANKS TO BLOCK LOANS

FOR FOREIGN PURCHASES Ottawa, Feb. 24.—(Special)—An arrangement has been reached by Canadian banks after consultation with Sir Henry Drayton, to prevent the dumping in Canada of foreign-held Canadian securities which is now being done owing to the exchange situation. The present exchange permits of Canadian investors securing foreign-held Canadian securities at a discount and also gives a handsome held Canadian securities at a dis-count and also gives a handsome profit to the seiten. It is be-ileved that for a time at least it will be found difficult for Can-adian investors to secure loans from banks to purchase Canadian securities held abroad and which are being placed on the market.

Even if Force Be Necessary.

### REFUSE AN APPEAL

said they had made no recent canvass of the situation, and declined to give any estimate of the number that might be defected on a ratification roll call.

I CUTNING PARC

Tank and file. The sentiment among the chairmen appeared almost unanimous in favor of formal presentation of the case to the president.

Labor provisions of the bill admittedly will be the most bitterly assailed by the unions but the plan also contained to show cause why that firm should to show cause why that firm should to show cause why that firm should the exclaimed amid cheers: "What by the unions but the plan also contemplates attack on the financial sections, which labor holds to be "unions, which labor holds to ton at the mill to certain consumers in Montreal. The board ordered that one of the Price Brothers be brought

Had they not a pretty record?"

Appeals for Reform.

Lady Astor concluded with a fer-

clients questioned the right of the She was warmly cheered on reand after some lively passages with ing round and congratulating her. the board he challenged that body to The Rees motion was talked out. prove that he was wrong. The board appeal in the supreme court of Canada from the order under discussion, because and while Price Brothers remain in contumacy and entire dis-obedience to the said order. Upon proof of compliance with said order and undertaking given to continue compliance therewith until the proposed appeal is heard and determined, the requested leave to appeal will be

Claim No Law. Mr. Geoffrion stated that his clients were willing to obey the order if it really was a law of Canada, but the board took the attitude that Price Brothers' disregard of the order could be interpreted as a determination on their part to ignore the order to suit

Upon the statement of government counsel, that the notice of today's has complained for some months that hearing, as served upon Price Brothits work was blocked by the delay in ers, had not specified the appearance the civil service commission in furnishing satisfactory experts to carry on its investigations.

of one of the partners in the firm, the board decided to adjourn until Saturday to permit of such an appearance, and Mr. Geoffrion was informed that one of the Price Brothers would have to appear then, whether he was will-

# ON CHARGE OF THEFT

Detective-Sergt, Taylor, who went be London Monday to bring back D. J. Swanson, barrister, on a warrant charging him with theft, returned to last night without his prisoner. Swanson was acting as prosecueral Pershing's coat and trousers was ducted in London of the Hospital for debated today in the house. He and the Insane. He was arrested for the other American army officers were Toronto police, and when Taylor archarged by Representative Connelly. Democrat, Texas, with having "aped" man back the detective was told European fashions in their uniforms Swanson had been released and said

New York, Feb. 24.—The delegation the back and his trousers bagged like It appears that in 1918 Swanson was arrested, charged with absconding with \$35 from the firm of Richard



## LADY ASTOR MAKES HER MAIDEN SPEECH

Puts Forth Strong Appeal for Reform of the Liquor Traffic in England.

London, Feb. 24.-Lady Astor made her maiden spech in parliament tonight during the course of a debate on the subject of liquor control.

on the subject of liquor control.

Sir John Res, Unionist for East Nottingham, it a brilliant and witty speech, urged he removal of the existing war reductions on the liquor trade.

"I know that strong forces are arrayed against me," he said, "and that there is a roo in pickle for me. But I shall be prepared to kiss the rod."

Lady Astor followed Sir John, and, altho at first showed nervousness, she was soon spaking with confidence and in a clear voice, which rang thruthe house to the large and friendly audience.

Lady Astor supported control of the

country does not desire prohibition. And I am not working for that. I am certain that the country is ripe for drastic drink reforms, and I want to see that the drink submarine does not

before it, by force, if necessary, after vent appeal for reform, saying: Aime Geoffrion, K.C., counsel for the "Drink promises everything, but gives firm, had announced that his clients nothing, and I beg the house not to did not recognize the jurisdiction of look upon me as either a crank or a ters to Hon. T. A. Crerar, but this the board, and would contest the point in the supreme court.

Mr. Geoffrion declined to submit any the speak for thousands of women and children who cannot speak for them
of the third party. This afternoon J.

board to enforce its order of Feb. 6, suming her seat, the members crowdthe course of the subsequent debate chamber with supporters of the govdenied Price Brothers' permission to Lady Astor was warmly complimented ernment to the right of the speaker. by both Sir Donald MacLean and the He announced that the Farmers would Right Hop. Herbert A. Fisher, of the move across the floor and sit in a

considered by the house.

## **EXPECT A BATTLE** ON FRANCHISE ACT

ment Over This Bill in Commons.

Ottawa, Feb. 24.—In the opinion of any three members of parliament reaching the election. city within the last couple of days to attend the opening ceremonies on Thursday there is a hard fight ahead

when the government introduces the ed by Judge D. D. McKenzie, A. B. franchise act in the commons.
At the present time nothing definite as to the contents or provisions of the bill has been made known, but opposition members declare that any attempt to force a duplication of the work of enumerators by using a Dominion voters' list instead of following the provincial lists will be bitterly.

Matter of Redistribution There is also the matter of the tour was only saved from failure redistribution if such is proposed and by the speeches of Ernest Lapointe, the limitation as to who shall or shall M.P., who fourneyed with him thru not be eligible to vote in the Domin- the maritime provinces. ion elections. Several members have declared that anything less than giving the vote to every Canadian man and woman over 21 years of age will Swanson had been released and said he was going to Toronto to settle matters up.

It appears that in 1918 Swanson was arrested charged with abscord-

BRITISH BANK MERGER.

# EVENTS IN FIUME HAVE CHANGED BASIS OF ADRIATIC ISSUE

Wilson, in Note to Premiers, Refuses to Agree to Settlement Proposed.

#### HIS REPLY DESPATCHED

Washington, Feb. 24. - President Wilson's reply to the entente premiers on the Adriatic question was despatched tonight by the United States state department. It is expected to be in the hands of Amabassador Davis at London tomorrow, and will be delivered as soon as it has been decoded.

Orficials still declined to discuss the contents of the communication, but it is known that in the exchange with the premiers the president has made an nequivocal statement of the American governments position, especially with regard to the forming of agreements without the participation of this

It is understood that in this latest note the president does not return pre-cisely to the arguments and decision announced in the note of Dec. 9, which formed the basis of the Adriatic agreement, to which the United States subscribed, as important events which have occurred in Fiume since that time are said to have necessitated modifications in some respects to meet

the changed conditions. However, the president is said to

Allot Crerar Spacious Rooms on Main Floor-Farmers May Change Seats.

### DISLIKE "FRILLS"

Ottawa, Feb. 24.-(Special.) - The

government this morning waked up to the fact that the Farmers' party has a place in the house of commons. They had assigned a room on the fifth floor immediately under the rafmorning a more spacious room on the of the third party. This afternoon J. P. Reid, of Mackenzie, Sask., a leading member of the Farmers' party. vigorously against the members of his party being assigned seats in the war ministry, for her courageous and brilliant speech.

Mr. Fisher, in behalf of the government, explained the impossibility of returning to conditions before the war, and said that the only alternative was a new bill which must be carefully considered by the house.

Mr. Fisher, in behalf of the government. We are entitled to a new bill which must be carefully considered by the house.

Mr. Reid, "have no authority to place us among the supporters of the government. We are entitled to a new bill which must be carefully considered by the house.

Mr. Reid, "have no authority to place us among the supporters of the government. We are entitled to a new bill which must be carefully political carries of the Sanderson Pearcy estate, and the moving spirit in the government. We are entitled to a manager of the Billie, Walter Harland Smith and have none of it. Tho kept from public knowledge most carefully, political carries of the Sanderson Pearcy estate, and the moving spirit in the government. We are entitled to a manager of the Bilmore of New York.

Mr. Reid, "have no authority to place us among the supporters of the government. We are entitled to a manager of the Bilmore of New York.

Mr. Reid, "have no authority to place us among the supporters of the same of the Sanderson Pearcy estate, and the moving spirit in the government. We are entitled to a manager of the Bilmore of New York.

Now in New York. one, he will have to be given the same accommodations in the way of an office and clerical assistance as are given the whips of the government and opposition." Crerar Due Monday.

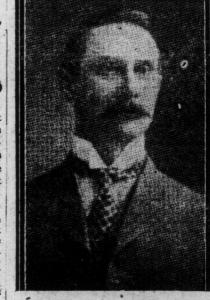
Mr. Reid said that Messrs. Crerar, Maharg and other members of the Farmers' party would be here by Monday, when the real work of the interested, he said, in the social frills that fritter away the first few days of the session. They would present their policy and views during the session and would divide the house whenever they saw fit, undisturbed by any threat of dissolution or a general adjoining store. any threat of dissolution or a general

A number of maritime province Liberal members came in today, head-Copp, of Westmoreland and Mr. Tur-geon, of Gloucester, N.B. They seem to be in good spirits and to look for-ward to a lively session. They claim successful tour in the lower provinces. On the other hand, some of the Unionist members from that part of the country say that Mr. King's speeches were a great disappointment and that the tour was only saved from failure

#### For First Time in 75 Years, Weekly Witness Not to Appear

Montreal, Feb. 24-For the first time in seventy-five years The Weekly Witness will not publish this week. The cause of its suspension is

# COMMITTEE WILL REPORT ON PLAN FOR RECONSTRUCTION OF PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM



GEO. H. LOCKE, LL.D. hief librarian of Toronto, mentioned as chairman of the commission which will recommend the recon-struction of Ontario's school system.

#### HEADSHIP OF C. N. R. NOT GOING TO MR. KELLEY

Inadvertently the heading of an Ottawa despatch in yesterday's World gave a wrong impression of what will happen when the Grand Trunk board of management is appointed. The despatch named the coming appointees and santhey were likely to choose President Kelley, of the Grand Trunk, as their chairman. This was erroneously taken to mean that Mr. Kelley will head the Canadian National Railways system.

The Grand Trunk board of management will have nothing to do with what are now the National Railways, except to fit in the Grand Trunk services with the larger system, of which Mr. D. B. Hanna is the president. The final fusior of the G. T. R. with the C. N. R. cannot take place until after the arbitration, which will determine the value of the Grand Trunk as a going concern in relation to certain hitherto weak securities of the company. That arbitration will not likely be completed for some months.

Meantime, for all administrative purposes, the present board of directors will be superseded by the temporary board of still a matter of negotiation between Inadvertently the heading of an Ottawa

Meantime, for all administrative purposes, the present board of directors will be superseded by the temporary board of management, which will consist of two members of the present Grand Trunk and Grand Trunk Pacific executives, two from the Canadian National executive, and the chairman chosen by the four. The act of parliament which assures Grand Trunk nationalization directs that, without waiting for the arbitration result, the Grand Trunk shall be operated by the board management as far as possible as part of the national system, without any way affecting the control of the National Railways, which remains at Toronto, and is likely to remain, in every way.

Was informed that the scheme about to be advanced by a commission is still a matter of negotiation between the Massey Foundation of Toronto University and the government.

Mr. Massey added that he was unaware the matter had got to the press and personally he would prefer to wait a few days till an official annuncement was made.

Other inquiries made in political circles read.ly brought to light in a remarkable degree the achieved progress of the Massey Foundation plan for the public schools of Ontario.

In the first place, the negotiators

## **LOCAL MEN PROJECT BIG MODERN HOTEL**

Syndicate Formed for Three-Million Dollar Building at Bay and Adelaide.

A syndicate of Toronto and New York men has been formed to promote the erection of a three-million-dellar hotel on the southwest corner of Bay and Adelaide streets. The

last night that Mr. Smith was now in the States, and before returning would confer with Mr. Bowman about the financing of the proposition. He would return to Toronto about March 1. Mr. Bowman, said Mr. Hallenby, has charge of the preparation of plans. Which have already been begun and control to the personnel, which is as follows: Chairman, Dr. G. H. Locke. Toronto librarian; secretary, Prof. C. B. Sissons, Victoria College; J. H. H. Ballantyne, labor candidate; Mrs. G. A. Brodie, U.F.O. (women's association); C. V. Corless, Mond Nickel Co.; Prof. J. A. Dale, social service which have already been begun, and expert. Toronto University; W. C. a start will be made on construction Good, U.F.O.; Prof. W. L. Grant,

adjoining stores on Bay, measuring arship circle in Toronto. Premier 96 feet frontage, with a depth of Drury proposed some changes, among 90 feet on Adelaide street, and also others the name of Daniel Quinlan, old Grand Repository property who is a friend of his, and a Catholic djoining, with a frontage of 68 feet n Adelaide street. Then comes the did partly burned building owned by the Sanderson Pearcy estate (Porter and Haldenby) with a frontage of 50

tween the Smith property and the Trust & Guarantee building, is owned by Sir Frank Baillie. The value of the Harland Smith land is placed at \$600,000, the Pearcy lot at \$159,000. and

he Baillie lot at \$200,000. Mr. Haldenby said the report in an evening paper that Mr. Bowman had secured an option on the site was not true. A company will be formed and was found in his store yesterday by the three pieces of land will be put in in exchange for stock at practically called to secure articles necessary for the figures above mentioned.

### LAUNCH FEDERAL SHIP.

Vancouver, B. C., Feb. 24.—The vestigation it was decided that an inquest would not be necessary, it bector, last of an order of four ships being quite clear that Mr. Kennedy London, Feb. 24.—Barclay's Bank also announcing that unless relief is si coessfully launched from the yards brothers had been in business here for the Sinn Fein movement, will leave for home tomorrow on the steamship for home tomorrow on the steamship that his tail was very English."

The solution to resentative Wingo, Democrat, Arkan; city. After being remanded for trial, london, Feb. 24.—Barclay's Bank also announcing that unless relief is successfully launched from the yards accused left the city and a warrant that his tail was very English."

The solution to resentative Wingo, Democrat, Arkan; city. After being remanded for trial, has secured a controlling interest in provided speedily it, too, must discontinue publication.

The solution to resentative Wingo, Democrat, Arkan; city. After being remanded for trial, has secured a controlling interest in the Anglo-Egyptian Bank.

The solution to resentative Wingo, Democrat, Arkan; city. After being remanded for trial, has secured a controlling interest in the London, Feb. 24.—Barclay's Bank has secured a controlling interest in the Anglo-Egyptian Bank.

Dr. G. H. Locke Appointed Chairman of Body of Educationists Which Will Make Exhaustive Inquiry Into Ontario's Present Method of Instruction-

Premier Drury has made yet anther reference to the appointment or selection of a commission of "leading educationists" to report upon a plan of reconstruction for the Ontario sys-tem of public schools. He has made various references of this kind since he first mentioned the subject in somewhat general terms at Wood-stock. It is known in educational and political circles, however, that the cabinet is in a hesitant state about embarking upon a re-charting expedi-tion of the educational waters that may run into trouble amid rocks and reefs that conservative navigators have been careful to steer clear of in

recent years.

The leaders of former days who settled what they called a safe, just and defensible system of public education have all passed away and a new school of thought is urgent to remold the existing fabric of "common education." It was a political rumor last week that Hon. R. H. Grant, minister of education falt dishere. ister of education, felt dubious about the wisdom of this enterprise and toat the prophets were telling of Nelson Parliament succeeding to his portfolio

remarkable degree the achieved progress of the Massey Foundation plan for the public schools of Ontario.

In the first place, the negotiators with Fremier Drury appear to have been Vincent Massey and Dr. James L. Hughes. Their suggestion was that the Massey Foundation appoint a commission to recommend reconstruc-tion of the entire school system, public, separate and bilingual, up to the doors of the university. The Massey Foundation would bear the cost the commission and its report would outline legislation giving the recom-mendations made definite form. No expense whatever would fall on the

government. Premier Drury is said to have first

Now in New York.

Mr. Haldemby told a World reporter nounce the personnel which is as fol-

# PASS ON SAME DAY

The vacant lot on Bay street, be- One Dies of Pneumonia-Undertaker Finds Other Dead in Hamilton Store.

> Hamilton, Ont., Feb. 24 .- (Special.) The dead body of James Kennedy, of the firm of Kennedy and Brother, merchant tailors, 99 West King street the funeral of John Kennedy, brother of James Kennedy, who had died of pneumonia early in the morning. The authorities were notified, but after in-

king

cturers

Floor.