

## BUSINESS MEN SEEN AS HOPE FOR IRELAND

### Sir Horace Plunket Urges Commercial Organization to Push Home Rule Plans.

### NOW IS TIME TO MAKE INFLUENCE FELT

### Can Only Make Impression on Politicians by a Proper Organization.

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Dublin, Aug. 11.—Sir Horace Plunket in an article in the Irish Times says:—

"If the gravity of the present Irish situation be partly due to the too great reluctance hitherto manifested by our business men to take any part in controversial politics, the recent pronouncement of the Dublin Chamber of Commerce is surely of hopeful augury. It is well known that similar bodies are taking similar action, and that there is coming to be a general consensus of opinion among them that the fullest dominion self-government offers the only possible compromise between the two extreme demands."

"Of all the suggested solutions for the Irish problem, none raises so many of those issues which men actually engaged in important commercial and industrial affairs, are best qualified to decide, but there is another and more immediate practical consideration I desire to place before the practical men who, at present moment, are preparing for the service which they alone can render. Public opinion, no matter how well reasoned, will not affect the deliberations—much less the decisions—of Parliament, unless it is organized. It has, therefore, to be organized for one or two purposes either for violent extra-parliamentary action, as used with tremendous effect both by the northern minority and the southern majority, or for influencing Parliament and public opinion in certain well-known ways—the preparation and the wide-spread distribution of pamphlets and leaflets, contributions to the press, supply of speakers for meetings, correspondence with the members of Parliament, deputations to ministers, and so forth. In the present case, we need only to consider the latter course, and the sole purpose of this letter is to point out that the necessary machinery is already in being and only needs more financial support from the right quarter to make it more fully effective."

"The Irish Dominion League was started more than a year ago, and, with the very small funds at its disposal, has produced an amazing effect upon public opinion in Ireland, Great Britain, the United States and the Dominions. If it is now adequately supported by those who either individually or through influential but non-political bodies have pronounced in favor of its policy, its organization can be strengthened and extended and at the same time be made more than fully representative."

"In the immediate future a meeting of the league will be necessary if only for the purpose of adding to the executive committee representatives of the several elements which are finding themselves compelled to take action to avert ruin from Ireland and to decide upon the practical working out of its policy. That meeting must be perfectly free to appoint new officers for the league—new president, new treasurer, new secretary and the like—and speaking for myself, I shall gladly stand aside from the office of president, which I have occupied to the best of my ability during the period of initiation, and will support the appointment of some outstanding figure from the ranks of commerce, industry or finance who shall be in a more intimate touch with the business community, its leaders, its opinions and its requirements."

"It would be a thousand pities if the splendid opportunity now offered by the serious attention being given for the first time by so many political statesmen to constructive policies were to be lost through inattention to the dull but essential business details of effective political action."

## GERMANS ATTACK FRENCH OFFICERS

Paris, Aug. 11.—Two French non-commissioned officers were stabbed at Mayence last night by Germans who were intoxicated, according to a dispatch to the Petit Parisien from that city. The injured men were taken to a hospital, it is said.

If you don't get your paper on time, every day, and in good condition Kick Like a Bay Steer. If any of our subscribers are not getting their paper as they should we shall deem it a great favor if they will call Mr. Fenton at The Standard office, as we are determined that they shall have the very best service possible.

The Standard's Phone is Main 1910. Get the Habit of Calling up.

## MYSTERY MURDER AT GLACE BAY

### Body of Daniel Beaton Found in Street by Auto Party—Robbery Not the Motive.

Sydney, N. S., Aug. 11.—Mystery of the most complicated sort surrounds the murder of Daniel M. Beaton, 31, who was found by an auto party lying in South street, Glace Bay, at 1 o'clock this morning. The man had been engaged in a row at the Striding earlier in the evening. From this he was rescued by the police and sent out for home accompanied by his brother and brother-in-law. All three had been drinking. The police are working on the case but cannot decide whether the man was killed by some one who followed him from the Striding or other persons. Robbery was not the motive, as Beaton's purse with over two hundred dollars was found near the body. The victim was 36 years old, and had been in Glace Bay, His wife resides at New Glasgow.

## SOUGHT PEACE THROUGH AID OF BELGIUM

### Germans Made Approaches to French Statesmen Early in 1917.

### KAISER WAS QUITE WILLING TO QUIT

### French Ministerial Crisis Which Developed Stopped Further Negotiations at That Time.

Paris, Aug. 11.—The negotiations of Prince Sixtus of Bourbon and the offer of mediation from the King of Spain were not the only advances in favor of peace made in 1917.

There was an even more direct approach from Germany to France, through Premier Briand. Briand had ceased to hold office in March, 1917, during the spring of that year he was informed of the King of Spain's conversation with the French military attaché, and he had also known of the affairs of Prince Sixtus.

In June, 1917, when M. Briand was only a private citizen, he received a visit from a Belgian, Countess de Merode, who declares that Baron von Lanscken, chief German military attaché in Belgium, had said to her: "If the Entente is willing to make peace, my master—that is, Kaiser Wilhelm—sees no objection. But it is necessary that he should be certain of success, for if he tried to make peace and failed, he would certainly be overthrown by the pan-Germans."

M. Briand judged that this statement by the German Emperor represented his reaction to demands for an immediate peace made by Emperor Karl of Austria. He replied that no Belgian statesman could speak without consulting the Allies, and that, anyway, France could not entertain a conversation of such importance through a woman intermediary, and that, moreover, it must be understood that France made three conditions as a sine qua non—first, evacuation of the invaded departments; second, restitution of Alsace and Lorraine, and, third, reparation by Germany for war damages.

The Countess de Merode agreed to transmit this reply to Germany. M. Briand communicated the full details of the matter to the French Government, whose opinion was that the offer represented a German move analogous to that of Prince Sixtus.

## SIX HUNDRED DEATHS IN KOREA FROM CHOLERA

Seoul, Korea, Aug. 11.—Six hundred deaths have resulted from the epidemic of cholera in Korea, and 3,128 cases have been reported.

## SENSATIONS FOLLOW RAPIDLY IN PONZI CASE

### The Spectacular Financier Admits He Served Terms of Imprisonment in Montreal and Atlanta.

## MONTREAL CAREER READS LIKE NOVEL

### Claims to Have Been Convicted and Sentenced for a Crime Committed by Another.

Boston, Aug. 11.—Sensation followed sensation in the Ponzi case, today. Charles Ponzi, who recently jumped into notoriety as a speculative financier, admitted that he was the Charles Ponzi who served terms of imprisonment in Montreal and Atlanta some years ago. At the moment that he was making a formal confession of his past, the Hanover Trust Company, in which Ponzi was a director, was closed by Bank Commissioner Joseph C. Allen. Mr. Allen declared that the reports of his agents indicated that the bank was doing business in an unsafe manner. Ponzi resigned from the directorate of the bank this afternoon.

The admission of Ponzi and the closing of the Trust Company were quickly associated in the minds of hundreds who had been waiting anxiously in the downtown streets for developments that had been hourly expected. A crowd soon gathered in front of the Hanover Trust Company, at the corner of Washington and Water streets, and presently the street was filled almost to the exclusion of traffic.

Ponzi, who organized the Securities Exchange Company and took in millions for investments from thousands of clients, said in this statement, today, that he took the blame for another person in Montreal. He also insisted that he was still solvent and could pay all notes now outstanding against him.

Montréal, Aug. 11.—Information received today from St. Vincent de Paul penitentiary confirms the report that Charles Ponzi, Boston's wizard of finance, had served time for forgery in that institution. The Italian colony in this city were convinced that he is the same man who was working as a clerk in an Italian bank here some twelve or fifteen years ago.

Antonio Cordasco, local Italian banker, stated today that the picture of Ponzi talked with the man who worked here.

Atlanta, Ga., Aug. 11.—Records of the Federal Penitentiary here show that a Charles Ponzi served a two years' sentence in that institution from 1910 to 1912. He was convicted at Buffalo, N. Y., of smuggling aliens into this country.

In his formal statement, prepared in conference with his attorneys, he said:

"The statement I am about to make should have been made before in view of the fact of the notorious nature of the press, I felt that the past had very little bearing on the present situation. Several years ago I committed a sin, I made a mistake and paid for it, I had every reason to believe that society owed me another chance.

"I am not the first one to have committed a sin and not the only one, not even in the city of Boston. When I see others who have made the same situation years ago and now today occupy prominent positions, I do not see why I should be made the exception to the general rule and become the object of persecution on the part of the authorities, press and the public.

"Charles M. Morse, at one time a prominent banker, was also convicted in United States Courts and sentenced to 10 years in Atlanta, Ga. I know, he was there with me. He was released after serving a year or so, and I am occupying for years a position still greater than before. He is a banker, still today and deals with the United States Government and associates with the most respectable men in the United States. I do not mean in any way to imply that he is not deserving respect of the public, but I merely ask, if he is deserving why should not I be? "Montreal records show that a man of my description was convicted of forgery in 1908 and sent for three years to St. Vincent de Paul and served about twenty months. This is all that the public in general cares to know. I feel that it is also very important for the people at large to know that although I am the man who was convicted and sentenced for that crime I am not the man who perpetrated the crime. What is occurring today to me happened then in Montreal, the only difference being the object of persecution was my employer."

## D'ANNUNZIO'S SOLDIERS ATTACK CONSULATE

Paris, Aug. 11.—Soldiers under command of Captain Gabriele D'Annunzio have attacked the Norwegian consulate at Fiume, according to a dispatch from Rome.

## THIRTY KILLED IN EXPLOSION

Florence, Italy, Aug. 11.—Thirty persons were killed and several wounded in the explosion of a munition depot here, yesterday. The explosion resulted from a fire.

## THIRD PARTY CONDEMNED BY PREM. MEIGHEN

### In a Militant Speech Hon. Arthur Meighen Throws Down Gauntlet to Gov't Opposition.

## OUTLINES POLICY OF NEW GOVT

### Censored Those Who Professed to Be in Favor of Free Trade for Party Advantage.

Stirling, Ont., Aug. 11.—(Canadian Press)—Vigorous condemnation of the Agrarian Party and the Liberal opposition, emphatic pronouncement in favor of the continuance in force by Canada of its present fiscal system, and warm praise for the war and general record of the Union Government, characterized Hon. Arthur Meighen's speech at Stirling village, West Hastings County, this afternoon. It was from first to last militant, the Prime Minister having evidently decided to throw down the gauntlet to all and sundry opponents in his first pronouncement of governmental policy since assuming the mantle of government leadership. The present administration in this connection he described as "the direct and legitimate successors of the government that retired with Sir Robert Borden."

Out of the Union of parties which formed the Union Government, he declared, "has grown the new National Liberal-Conservative Party. No political party in the world was ever better born or better bred. It was born out of the war, and it is national because its care is the nation."

Defending the present fiscal system the Prime Minister emphasized the need for its continuance, both the maintenance of the industrial life of the nation and the provision of necessary revenues. It was only by making more goods that could be sold in the United States, that the value of the Canadian dollar could be maintained on the other side of the border. In support of this contention he quoted a member of a Western Liberal government as saying: "Put the tariff of the Farmers into effect and you would immediately reduce the value of the Canadian dollar in the United States to fifty cents."

Mr. Meighen commended the tariff platform on which the Australian government was elected, and which declared for the production of industries during the war, the encouragement of others that are desirable, and the extension of existing ones. He quoted the platform of the Labor Party of the Commonwealth in support of adequate protection and declared that the first people who would suffer by the adoption of any policy approaching free trade would be the laboring classes. He denied that the tariff had been oppressive to agriculture and the industries of Canada. "The tariff never has been oppressive to agriculture under any government, and it never will be so long as I have anything to do in determining the tariff policy of Canada," the Prime Minister asserted, and the remark was greeted with vigorous applause.

Closing his remarks to the tariff for the third party in Parliament, no member of that party had ever taken the trouble to move the farmers platform by way of resolution. I have challenged them to do it, but never a man of them got up, he said.

## CENSURES FREE TRADERS

The Prime Minister was inflexibly inclined to censure those, who, he said, professed to be in favor of a policy of free trade for party advantage, thus the people who really believe a cure for all our ills is to be found in the adoption of that policy. In a reference obviously aimed at the Liberal Opposition in Parliament, he characterized such advocates of free trade as "bumblers." The trouble was that in the event of the Government being defeated, those who would go the farthest in advocacy of free trade would be in absolute control of the situation. Closing his references to the tariff the Prime Minister said that the Cabinet Tariff Commission, which commences its labors in September, will thoroughly inquire into the question to determine what is absolutely necessary to secure the ends aimed at by the Government, and the chief of these are: to get revenue to carry on the work of government and to pay our debts; to give Canadian industries just enough advantage in the Canadian market as to enable them to expand and to keep Canadian working-men in Canada.

In a forceful and eloquent closing, the Prime Minister said he planned for the adoption of sane counsels in the conduct of the affairs of the nation. After painting a dark picture of conditions in many European countries, he said:

"I stand for unity in Canada, for solidarity of conditions and freedom of enterprise within our borders. The lesson for Canada and the free peoples of the British Empire is to avoid the pitfalls which have sunk into oblivion other nations, and of those that are writhing now in chaos and suffering, I shall strive with all my power for national unity, embracing all races, languages and creeds. I shall fight with all my energy for national solidarity; for moderation of thought and action; for orderly progress for the maintenance of law and order, and for the policies which have brought us to where we stand." (Applause.)

## CUNNINGHAM LAD CAUGHT AT MONCTON

Special to The Standard. Moncton, Aug. 11.—John Cunningham, a Chatham boy, who escaped from the Industrial Home at St. John last month, was apprehended by C. N. R. section men at Coal Branch today. The lad was serving a three-year sentence in the Industrial Home for breaking into Chatham stores. Before being caught at Coal Branch, Cunningham had stolen a pocket book from a resident of that place. The prisoner was brought to Moncton this afternoon and will be taken back to St. John.

## RY. PRESIDENTS SHOW CAUSE FOR HIGHER RATES

### Claim Costs of Labor and Material Are on the Up Grade and Going Fast.

## HON. MR. CARVELL STARTS SOMETHING

### Thinks It An Imposition That Public Should Be Asked to Pay \$100,000,000 for Working 5 Hours a Day.

Ottawa, Aug. 11.—(Canadian Press)—Two railway presidents appeared before the Dominion Railway Commission this afternoon to support the application for increased rates for passenger rates. They were D. B. Hanna, President of the Canadian National Railway system, and Howard G. Keeley, President of the Grand Trunk Railway and also of the Canadian Railway Association which is making the application. Their arguments were substantially the same. Costs of labor and material were on the up-grade and going fast. The railways could not exist on a paying basis if their rates were not advanced.

Mr. Hanna made it clear that the lines under his jurisdiction were not asking for increases in order to pile up profits. He insisted, however, that the national roads, even though regarded as "poor relations" of the government, should be permitted to earn enough to make ends meet.

He was opposed to a system which would compel them to go to Parliament year after year to ask for money to meet deficits. He gave a number of instances to illustrate how costs had advanced, stating that spikes to nail had increased in cost from half a cent in 1914 to 4 cents in 1920 and that the ties themselves had risen from 45 to 90 cents.

Mr. Kelley also went into the question of costs. He said that in the year 1913 the average wage paid on the Grand Trunk Railway was \$98.00, in 1919 it had more than doubled and stood at \$131.00. If the Chicago award was adopted by the Canadian railways, the average wage paid on the Grand Trunk per annum would be \$178.84, or an increase of 87 per cent since 1913. When the afternoon sitting period, the stand was taken by Mr. Hills, assistant to Mr. Hanna, who submitted charges—increasing costs of railway labor with the revenue from freight charges.

## MR. CARVELL GETS BUSY

In the course of his evidence, Mr. Ellis stated that, under the new wage award, the increase would mean \$10,000,000 to the Canadian National Railways. A further statement that passenger trainmen were working for five hours a day caused Mr. Carvell to exclaim, "If the railways want to charge the Canadian public \$100,000,000 in order to pay trainmen for working five hours a day, I should like to know something more about it. The trainmen should be here." He added that before he granted the application he would require to be supplied with the fullest facts. Witness, continuing, said that the wages worked out at \$5.50 for five hours a day, passenger engineers receiving overtime at the rate of time and a half for five hours' work, and freight engineers the same rate for overtime after an eight-hour day.

Some passenger engineers made their run in five hours, but there was a great deal of overtime. Mr. Carvell caused considerable laughter by saying that he knew railway men in Canada where the trains were always late and nobody seemed to know why. He wondered whether the railway hands could tell him. When it came to paying wages such as he had been told of, he thought it was time that not only the people of Canada should do a little thinking but the railway companies themselves.

## HEARST STARTED BALL ROLLING

### New York, Aug. 11.—A special despatch to the "World" says that the merger of Canadian Pulp and Paper Mills into a large combine was contemplated when William Randolph Hearst made an offer of \$750 a share for the stock of Price Bros and Co., and the Canadian Manufacturers recognized the danger of the Canadian newspaper supply falling into anti-British hands. The merger has been delayed by Sir William Price holding out for \$1,000 a share. It is expected that the merger will include, Laurentide, Wagsmack, Brompton, and other Canadian companies. It is estimated that \$1,000,000 a year could be saved through pooling of logs.

## FRANCE TO BE READY TO MEET HER WAR DEBTS

### Country Exhibits Marvelous Recuperative Power Once Again.

## TRADE FIGURES SHOW BIG GAIN

### Ready to Pay Full Share of \$500,000,000 Anglo-French Loan from United States.

Special to The Standard. New York, Aug. 11.—Maurice Caseneuve, Minister Plenipotentiary and Director-General of the French Service in the United States, issued a statement last night announcing that France is ready to meet in full her share of the \$500,000,000 Anglo-French loan which is due the United States in October. To repay this debt, M. Caseneuve said, France will not have to rely at all upon any part of her indemnity from Germany. She will be able to meet the obligation because of the industry and energy of her citizens and their determination to put France as quickly as possible upon her pre-war basis of industrial and financial prosperity.

"Up to the present time, on account of economic and political obstacles to the enforcement of the Treaty of Versailles, France has not received any cash payment by way of indemnity from Germany. Certain deliveries of coal were made last year by Germany to France, but these did not approach the quantity stipulated in the treaty. "So far this year, Germany has been prevented by difficulties in the Ruhr region from meeting her obligations, but the French Government, realizing that coal must be procured at all costs to increase the output from the reviving industries of the devastated regions, has gone so far as to authorize loans to the German Government at the rate of 200,000,000 francs a month for six months, so as to assure delivery of the necessary fuel from the Ruhr district.

"In the first five months of 1920, France improved her trade balance by nearly two billion francs, increasing her exports during that period by 3,364,466,000 francs as compared with the figure for the corresponding period of 1918. New figures for exports and imports, covering the month of June also, have just been received. These show that during the first six months of 1920 France improved her trade balance to the extent of 3,188,000,000 francs, which reduces the difference between her imports and exports by 28.97 per cent. If this improvement is maintained at the same rate, the exports and imports of France will balance before the end of 1922.

"While France intends to obtain full payment of the indemnity which is due to her by Germany, she is now acting as though such payments would not be made. The budget for 1920 not only makes provision for balancing her ordinary expenditures—but also allocates, also out of ordinary receipts 9,400,000,000 francs for the purpose of interest on, and amortization of, the national debt. Moreover, the actual returns from indirect taxation during June, 1920, exceeded budget estimates by 277,894,300 francs, or 44 per cent. Finally the returns from indirect taxation during the first six months of this year were 180 per cent in excess of the returns for the same period in 1924.

"France is prepared to meet in full her share of the \$500,000,000 Anglo-French loan due to the United States in October."

## HUNGARY NOW ALLY OF FRANCE

### Magyar Government Obligated to Raise Army of 140,000 to Fight Russia.

## GRAVE FEARS FELT BY THE AUSTRIANS

### Much Anxiety Felt Over Possible Attempt to Revive the Dual Monarchy.

Berlin, Aug. 11.—The existence of a military convention between France and Hungary is assumed in Vienna to be unquestionable. It is reported to have been signed on June 27 at Codolet in Regent Horthy's residence and obliges Hungary to raise an army of 140,000 to take part in the war against Russia.

It has been reported there that both Romania and Hungary would join in the war against Russia, but those who are acquainted with Hungary's ambition to regain the important railway centres ceded to Romania by the peace of Neuilly are doubtful of the Entente's ability to satisfy both Governments.

The fact that Hungary has a strong army gives rise to great anxiety here in Austria and Czechoslovakia. It is feared here that Hungarians will march to Vienna, overthrow the democracy and proclaim a new dual monarchy. The Czechoslovaks anticipate an attempt to annex parts of Slovakia. All official press bureaus are coloring despatches so that it is difficult to obtain a clear picture of the actual situation.

The Hungarian press agency charges that Bolshevik propaganda has been successful in Slovakia, but the Czechs say the accusation is a pretext of Hungary to invade and occupy the province. Reports from Czechoslovakia indicate a troublesome mood among elements of the population. A general strike has been proclaimed already in parts of Bohemia because of certain military restrictions and there has been pandering in Slovakia.

Czechoslovakia's predicament is formulated in the Prague Ozecko Slovo as follows: "Either we must permit the use of the Carpathian region for the passage of troops to fight Russia, in which event we will have war with Russia, or should we refuse we will have, if not a bloody, at least a open, war with Entente. The consequences for us in either policy would be catastrophic."

## N. S. FARMER ANXIOUS TO SHOOT NIAGARA

### Able to Convince Authorities, He Says, That He Has a Barrel That Will Carry Him Safely Through Falls.

Halifax, N. S., Aug. 11.—William Barbrick, thirty-two years old, a farmer at Shubenacadie, is reported determined to make an attempt to go over Niagara Falls in a barrel if the authorities will permit him.

Barbrick has been working on a barrel for several months, he said, in an interview yesterday, and he asserted that he could convince the authorities that he could build a barrel that would carry himself over the falls.

To "shoot" the falls has long been an ambition with Barbrick and he has been secretly nursing, he said. He has read a lot about other attempts which have been made. He says that the fact that C. G. Stephens, the Bristol barber, was killed in the attempt a few weeks ago has not dampened his ardor to make the attempt.

Barbrick says his barrel will be different from any that has previously been used in the perilous attempt to navigate the great waterfall. Only two persons—a woman and a man, have been successful in the attempt.

The manner in which Barbrick hopes to make the trip safely is being guarded with great secrecy. Many friends of Barbrick have warned him against making the attempt, but the farmer said he was determined to have a fling at it, if the authorities will permit him. He is now preparing his "application which he will forward to Niagara in a few days.

## UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE THE STANDARD WILL CONTINUE TO PRESENT, FREE OF CHARGE, A THREE MONTHS' SUBSCRIPTION TO ANY NEWLY MARRIED COUPLE RESIDING IN THE PROVINCE OF N. B.

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