

## THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN UNCERTAINTY

Gov't Amazingly Successful in Concealing Any Idea it May Have of Its Future.

### NEW LEADERS ARE FAILURES

Mackenzie King and Mr. Crerar Have Proven Most Successful in Game of "Pussyfooting."

Special to The Standard.

Ottawa, June 28.—The session is coming to a close with the political situation in a state of uncertainty and muddle. If the government has any definite ideas about its future it is amazingly successful in concealing them. The prime minister, so far as is known, has reached no decision as to his course of action in regard to the leadership; his colleagues and followers, left completely in the dark, and pursuing a policy that is little short of negation and drift; while, as for the Unionist rank and file, the only question to which it appears to have given much attention recently was the matter of getting an increased indemnity. During the past few days members have acted as a lot of captious men who realize that such chaos as now prevails is both bad and dangerous, but they are in a sad minority. The overwhelming bulk of all parties, seemingly oblivious to the storm that is gathering in the country, are poking their heads in and rushing vital legislation through at a rate that prohibits consideration.

In the dying days of the session more legislation has been brought in to the house than was considered in the first three months of the session. Supplementary estimates to the enormous amount of \$62,000,000 were tabled in a half-awake house at three o'clock in the morning, but although the cry is for retrenchment and economy, and although this will bring expenditure up to \$600,000,000 for the year (more than \$200,000,000 more than last year's revenue) hardly a voice is raised against a tinkering with the budget. A bill is being brought in to bonus shipbuilding to the extent of tens of millions. But Mr. Mackenzie King, professed antagonist of such things, does not even rise from his place to speak upon it, and so right through a process of the most vital legislation. The only question that the opposition thought worth while discussing today was one for which the public, outside of a few politicians, does not care a tinker's curse, and until late in the night the house remained listening to a series of dull and seemingly interminable speeches, and voting upon a half score of trifling amendments. It was only after the house was wearied by its own foolishness, and when the atmosphere and temper of the chamber was such as to make judicial or clear consideration of a major question well nigh impossible, that the leading issue of the day, namely, the report of Mr. James Murdoch, came in for some attention. Looking down upon the spectacle one wondered what an already restless public would say were it possible to assemble it all in the galleries of the house to watch how its representatives played the part of trustee of its interests.

#### Parliament Tired

The truth is that this Parliament is tired and out of touch with public thought. Its action in digging down into the public treasury for a half a million of dollars was not, as many believe, a matter of cynicism; it was simply one of many outward manifestations of ignorance of what the public is saying and thinking. This House of Commons does not know what its being said about it in the factories and on the farms of this country. It does not know that the country does not care in the slightest for its children bickering over a Franco-British Act, but does care very greatly, about social, financial and political problems of which members seem to have but dim and incoherent ideas. As for the Opposition, it is not too much to say that it has all but abdicated its functions. Mr. King, in truth, is not the Captain of his own soul, he is not leader of his party. This was as much as demonstrated in one illuminating incident the other night when Mr. Jacques Bureau, a power with the Quebec vote, practically assumed the leadership of the Opposition on the Shipping Bill, and when Mr. King, who had a duty to perform for the country, kept his seat, apparently afraid to commit himself either one way or the other.

#### Mr. Crerar a Failure

Nor can a great deal more be said for Mr. Crerar. Boomed as one who would build a new Jerusalem upon the ruins of the old politics, Mr. Crerar is making a surprising progress in the old game of "pussyfooting" and evading disagreeable or hazardous facts. Thus this great leader of the vanguard of a new army apparently lacked the courage to stand up in the House against the indemnity grab; this because his own followers were just as anxious as the old-line politicians to participate in its benefits.

What is to emerge from all this chaos and indifference and incapacity no one can tell. The best minds in the House are already secretly admitting that Fall election would, perhaps, be the best way out. They admit that it might bring in a Parliament that would be crude and inexperienced, but as against this, it would be more in touch with public sentiment, would

## RIOTERS CAUSE MUCH DAMAGE

Fermoy, County Cork, June 28.—Damage amounting to hundreds of pounds was caused by rioters and window smashers here last night. The inhabitants attribute the demonstration to soldiers who left their barracks on hearing of the kidnapping of Brigadier-General Lucas on Saturday night. Attempts to burn houses were frustrated.

## INCREASES ITS COAL PROFITS 500 PER CENT.

Charges of Profiteering and Monopolistic Control in Anthracite Coal Made by Economist.

Scranton, Pa., June 28.—Charges of profiteering and monopolistic control in the anthracite coal industry were made before the Anthracite Coal Commission, today, by W. Jett Lauck, former Secretary of the United States War Labor Board, and now consulting economist of the United Mine Workers of America.

Mr. Lauck appeared in hearings of the demands of the anthracite workers for wage increases that will bring their earnings to a level with those of the bituminous workers, with a minimum wage of six dollars a day. "A survey of the anthracite industry," said Mr. Lauck, "shows an increase in net profits of the principal operators for the period 1916-1918 over 1912-1914 of nearly 90 per cent, as compared with an increase in production during this period of less than 12 per cent. The net income earned by these companies on their capital stock outstanding during the period 1916-1918 ranged from 20.4 per cent to 26.6 per cent, as compared with a net income in 1912-1914 ranging from 14.2 per cent to 18.9 per cent.

"The actual increase in profits during the war years of the coal companies which market their own product is indicated by the income account of the Philadelphia and Reading Company. This company, which had no selling device for concealing its profits, increased its production only 11 per cent during the war years, but increased its profits nearly 500 per cent, and its profits per ton of output 435 per cent."

## OPPOSITION ENDEAVORS TO FORCE GOV'T'S HAND

Would Have Great Britain Reveal Its Complete Financial Proposals for Ireland.

London, June 28.—With a view to forcing the government to disclose its complete financial proposals for Ireland, the opposition leaders in the House of Commons today moved amendments seeking postponement of the clause in the Home Rule Bill repealing the 1914 Act. The amendments, however, were rejected. Premier Lloyd George, taking part in the debate, was again conciliatory toward Ireland, but insisted that no body now would be satisfied with the 1914 Act, and that it was impossible to grant the demands of the Irish extremists. He was convinced that things would improve in Ireland when the genius and common sense of her people realized that the British people would never consent to the extreme demands of the Sinn Feiners and that the United States would not support the demand for an independent Ireland.

## HEAVILY FINED FOR EVADING INCOME TAX

Hamilton, Ont., June 28.—For attempting to evade the federal income tax Coroner W. B. Hodgkins, well known Hamilton physician, was heavily punished today. The department doubted the doctor's returns and put an inspector on the books. The evidence showed a return in 1917 of \$1,500, while receipts were \$8,905; \$4,000 in 1918, with actual receipts of \$13,600, and \$3,000 last year with receipts of \$12,000. It was estimated that nearly \$10,000 of last year's profits came from liquor prescriptions. The magistrate delayed for a time about sending the physician down for six months, but finally imposed a fine of \$3,000.

## PRAIRIES WANT 50,000 HELPERS

Winnipeg, June 28.—Fifty thousand farm laborers will be required to harvest the 1920 crop of the Prairie Provinces, it was estimated today by J. A. Bowman, provincial commissioner of colonization.

Bumper crops in all three provinces warrant the increases, which is one third greater than the number of men engaged in farm work last year. Mr. Bowman said.

carry greater moral authority, and would bring more vitality and realism to bar upon public affairs. The decision, however, rests with the Prime Minister. Until he lifts the curtains, the present uncertainty will prevail.

## STUDENTS IN GERMANY ARE STARVING

Conditions Are Just as Bad in Austria According to Report of Commissioner of Friends.

### RELIEF WORK BEING RUSHED

Noted Professors Are Destitute and Salaried Class is Showing Every Sign of Hunger.

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London, June 28.—Hundreds of German and Austrian students are starving to death in their desperate struggle for education, according to Dr. Jesse Holmes of Swarthmore College, who was in London for a short stay recently after touring the continent in the interests of the Friends' war-victim relief work of which he is American commissioner.

The condition of the university students in these countries, said Doctor Holmes, is as critical as that of the most wretched poor families. Few of the students have one good meal a day. Books are out of the question and most of the men wear their old uniforms buttoned up to the neck to conceal the absence of a shirt. Men students have gone to bed exhausted from hunger and have been found dead days later. Both men and women are forced to work to support themselves even in this wretched manner, the men sawing wood or doing other forms of manual labor and the women doing domestic or office work.

#### University Professors Given Food.

Professors at Vienna University, many of whom had a world-wide reputation before the war, are living on the aid provided them by English and American. An aged professor, world famous lived for three months on tea and soup.

Twenty thousand men and 1800 women, said Doctor Holmes, are enrolled in the universities of Vienna. An even larger number is attending the schools in Germany.

Germany's condition is critical, according to the Friends' commissioner. People are dying quietly in their homes of hunger. Nobody has enough food but the people who became rich through the war and the people show a despair and apathy that makes them unfit to cope with conditions.

The food problem was declared to be one of the problems in Vienna. Food peddlers, among them thousands of discharged soldiers, go out in the country and buy up the food and then bring it into the city to be sold at an exorbitant price.

"Professors and people show the signs of starvation in Vienna," said Dr. Holmes. "Working people do not look so bad, but teachers and professors, educated employes, show every sign of wretchedness and hunger. Union workers are comparatively well paid; wages have increased 600 to 1000 per cent, while salaries have been only doubled."

In Poland and Serbia, which were also visited, the problem was stated to be chiefly that of disease and undernourished children. Typhus is raging in Poland, while in Serbia, though food is more plentiful, the number of the bereaved children constitutes a grave problem.

#### Friends Feed School Children.

At present 200 men and women are working under the Friends' relief commission abroad. In Vienna food depots are maintained and 110,000 school children are fed by the American, while the English look after the younger children. Hotels have been opened both in Vienna and Berlin to provide the university students with a warm breakfast.

An American unit of twenty is at work in Serbia doing farm work, helping build houses and giving medical aid. American Friends have also taken charge of the food distribution in Germany under the direction of Mr. Hoover. Only a few Americans are at work in Poland, the majority of the unit of seventy being English Friends. The work in France, where 550 Friends, chiefly Americans, were employed, has been ended.

Fifteen thousands tons of milk, fat, drugs and clothing have been sent to Russia, and three English school teachers, Arthur Watts, Gregory Welsh and Hinman Baker, have been permitted by their government to undertake relief work in Russia. During the recent visit of Krassin, the Bolshevik trade envoy to London, members of the Friends' foreign relief committee conferred with him concerning conditions in the country.

#### CHICAGO RECEIVES SUGAR FROM CANADA

Chicago, June 28.—Four million pounds of sugar arrived here from Canada this month, customs reports show. It was purchased in Cuba by English merchants, sold to Canadian consignees and re-sold in this country.

## NEW MOVE PLANNED BY SINN FEINERS

Preparing for Possible Stoppage of All Railway Traffic and to Commandeer Motor Cars.

Dublin, June 28.—The Sinn Feiners are preparing for a possible stoppage of all railway traffic and arranging to commandeering motor cars and organize food transport systems. Up to the present the trains are running regularly, except when police, soldiers or munitions are known to be aboard. At a meeting of the Corporation of Dublin, today, the Labor members, who had the general approval of the other members, declared that the railwaymen would remain steadfast in refusing to operate trains carrying munitions or soldiers.

## RIORDON CO. ISSUE OVERSUBSCRIBED

Pleasing Feature of the Issue is That \$8,000,000 Were Taken up by Canadians.

#### Special to The Standard

Montreal, June 28.—Subscription lists for the \$8,000,000 issue of Riordon Company limited 3 per cent cumulative preferred shares, public offering of which was made on June 18th last by Royal Securities Corporation, were closed yesterday. It is understood that subscriptions for the issue total well over \$9,800,000, more than \$8,000,000 having been taken up by Canadian investors. A feature of the issue is the fact that there were more than 2,000 individual subscribers to the offering, a distribution that should tend to establish a strong market for the new securities. It is believed that the Riordon issue is the largest single industrial issue yet made in Canada, and the successful flotation of so large a volume of securities in the face of what are generally accepted as restricted money conditions, may well be regarded as something of an achievement. It would seem to indicate a strong underlying investment demand as well as an attractive representative of the Canadian pulp and paper industries.

## PROVINCIAL GOV'TS TO SETTLE QUESTION

Pertaining to Main International Labor Convention to Which Dom. Gov't Assented.

Ottawa, Ont., June 28.—The main International Labor Conventions, to which Dominion Government representatives assented at Washington, November last, are to be referred for action to nine Provincial Governments. Decision to follow this course has been reached following a ruling by the Department of Justice. Principal among conventions to be referred are: The eight-hour day; the children charter (limiting the age of employment of children in industrial establishments to 14 years); prohibition on the employment of young persons under 18 years, and of women in industrial establishments during the night.

Assent to the international conventions has aroused constitutional problems and it is held that the Dominion Parliament does not have the necessary jurisdiction, and the conventions are, therefore, being referred to the Provincial Governments for such assent as they may deem proper. There has been a suggestion of an inter-provincial Conference for discussion of the situation, but such a course is not now considered necessary.

## SEVEN DEATHS IN RELIEF ASSN.

Moncton, N. B. June 28.—Only seven deaths are reported in the C. G. R. Employees Relief and Insurance Association during the month ended June 25. This is an unusually small number. Three of the deaths were retired employees. Those who died during the month were Ex-Con. John A. McLaren, Engineer, Moncton; James R. Hayward, retired, Moncton; George McKay, brakeman, New Glasgow; Bliss Smith Ward, Chief Train Despatcher, Moncton; Jos. P. A. Bonchard, brakeman, River Du Loup; Ex-Con. James W. Henderson, retired, Moncton.

## QUIET RESTORED IN CENTER ANCONA

Rome, June 28.—Quiet was restored, today, in the centre of Ancona, according to despatches from that city, the anarchists, who have been creating serious disturbances there, retiring to the suburbs. The central part of the city was cleared when a detachment of carabinieri, protected by artillery, marched through the quarter where the anarchist forces had been in possession.

## SPEEDING UP BUSINESS IN PARLIAMENT

Business of the House Being Rushed Through in Hope of Ending Work by Thursday.

### WHEAT BOARD BEFORE HOUSE

Several Amendments Introduced by Opposition Members Were Lost When Put to Vote.

Ottawa, June 28.—(Canadian Press)—Speedy progress was made with the business of the House of Commons today. Shortly after the opening, Sir Robert Borden introduced his resolution which vests the Board of Railway Commissioners with powers to handle the fuel situation in Canada. With comparatively little discussion this resolution carried and the bill based on it was pushed through all three readings. Next the House took up the measure providing for increases in the salaries of judges, which met with considerable opposition, but finally received final reading.

#### Wheat Board

Sir George Foster's resolution providing for the extension of the time of the Canadian Wheat Board, if the Government considers that it is necessary to the marketing of this year's crop, caused some discussion. The Minister of Trade and Commerce outlined to the committee the work accomplished in the past by the Wheat Board, claiming that it had earned the approval of the Canadian people. Finally a bill, based on the resolution, was introduced and given third reading.

#### Franchise Bill

When the Franchise Bill made its appearance what is expected to be its last in the House, Hon. W. S. Fielding introduced an amendment which provides that by-elections be held on the same day. He pointed out that vacancies occurred in East Elgin and St. James, Montreal Divisions, about the same time. The amendment was lost by 19, the vote standing 48 to 77.

Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King immediately introduced another amendment which would do away with the employment of enumerators in rural constituencies. The leader of the Opposition claimed that the system of employing enumerators would cost the country a million dollars. This amendment was also lost on division by 63, the vote standing, for 48, against, 101. Twelve Progressives voted with the Government.

## SERIOUS CHARGES AGAINST LIQUOR INSPECTOR

Commissioner Appointed to Investigate Complaints Laid Against Officer of Law.

#### Special to The Standard.

Arroostook, June 28.—The community is most interested in the report that a commission has been issued to William Ryan, of St. John, authorizing him to investigate charges, R. W. Demmings, of this place, a liquor inspector. The charges are laid by Dr. Sprague of Woodstock, one of the most reputable and highly esteemed of medical practitioners, and whose word bears weight throughout Victoria and Carleton counties. In his charge Dr. Sprague alleges the giving of liquor to various persons, receiving money from persons engaged in the sale of liquor. He further alleges the inspector carried out his duties in a partial irregular and illegal manner.

## MONCTON READY TO PLAY PART OF HOST

Annual Convention of Chief Constables of Canada Convening in Railroad City Today.

Moncton, N. B., June 28.—The stage is all set for the opening of the sixteenth annual convention of the Chief Constables of Canada in this city tomorrow morning at ten o'clock in the City Hall. About thirty of the chief constables from western points, including the president, Chief Burton of Regina, arrived in the city today. A meeting of the executive was held this afternoon. After the opening of the convention tomorrow and an address of welcome by the mayor and some routine business, the visitors will be taken by automobile to the Maritime Penitentiary at Dorchester, where a banquet to be presided over by General W. S. Hughes, superintendent of prisons, will be held. On the return to Moncton the visitors will be taken to Point Du Chene for a clam bake, and at six o'clock they will be the guests of the provincial government at a banquet.

## DUBLIN NEARING STATE OF SIEGE

Dublin, June 28.—The Corporation of Dublin, today, passed a resolution creating committees in certain areas to meet the famine threatened by the stoppage of the railways. Alderman Macdonagh said Dublin was rapidly approaching a state of siege and that machinery must be created to meet the crisis.

## FUEL OIL FAMINE IS NOW FEARED

Should it Come the Paper Making Industry in British Columbia Will Be Hard Hit

Vancouver, B. C., June 28.—(Canadian Press.)—A famine in fuel oil faces the Paper making industry in British Columbia, and if the famine comes there may be no newspapers in Vancouver and Victoria, Seattle and Tacoma and other Pacific Coast cities as far South as San Francisco and San Diego.

Calgary and Edmonton, Alberta, are affected. For the most part all newspapers on the Pacific Coast are dependent on the great manufacturing plants at Powell River and Ocean Falls, B. C., for their great supplies of newsprint. These mills, are run by steam, generated by boilers heated with California fuel oil.

The Standard Oil Company in California, it would appear, has made up its mind that it can provide no more oil for export owing, it is said, to the great demand for oil arising from the coming of many new steamers to the Pacific Coast.

## POPULATION OF FRANCE DROPS

Invaded Parts of Country Show a Loss Triple That of Prussia.

(Special Correspondence, Copyright, 1919, by Public Ledger Co.)

Paris, June 28.—The comparative decrease in civil populations of France and Prussia has just been indicated in an official tabulation given to the press. From July 1, 1914, to June 30, 1918, the population of the uninvaded part of France (33,909,000 inhabitants) diminished by 993,440 and that of Prussia (42,900,000) diminished by 3,128,271.

Hence with a population 3,900,000 less than that of Prussia, France suffered a decrease three times as great. Considering the invaded departments, where the birth rate was almost zero and the death rate very high, the decrease of French population appears even much greater.

## CHATHAM TO HAVE BIG CELEBRATION

Labor Demonstration on Dominion Day With Parades, Band Concerts, Etc. to be Attraction.

#### Special to The Standard.

Chatham, June 28.—Preparations are almost completed for the big labor demonstration Dominion Day. The monster parade in which 2,500 men are expected to take part, will be held in the morning. Numerous splendid trade and other floats are being put in readiness for this main feature. In the afternoon an attractive programme of sports will be run off and a ball game will be played between Moncton and Chatham's best. Band concerts and a grand dance in the exhibition building will be the main attractions for the evening. Three outdoor organizations, including Perry's Peerless Band of thirty pieces Moncton, have been engaged for the big celebration.

## ENGINEER KILLED AT EDMUNDSTON

Bert Gardiner of Woodstock Fell from Car, the Wheels of His Engine Cutting Him in Two.

#### Special to The Standard.

Woodstock, June 28.—The remains of the late Bert Gardiner, who was killed this afternoon at Edmundston are expected here tomorrow morning. Mr. Gardiner, who was 39 years of age, entered the employ of the C. P. R. when a young man and was rapidly advanced to an engineer. He was standing on a flat car, assisting some of the brakemen, when the engine bumped into the car and he was thrown between the tender and the car, the latter running over him and the wheels cutting him in two. He is survived by the widow and four young children.

## BRITISH SCHOONER STRIKES SHOALS

Chatham, Mass., June 28.—The British three masted schooner C. East with coal,

## QUAKERS ACT AS MEDIARIES IN IRISH TROUBLE

Attached to Neither Protestant or Irish Church They Retain Goodwill of All.

### "FRIENDS" FRIENDLY TO BOTH FACTIONS

W. C. Allen of Quaker Town Urges London "Friends" to Draw British and American Nations Together.

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London, June 28.—Two thousand Quakers stand as the only tolerated mediary between the antagonistic elements in Ireland. To the Irishman the Quaker is neither fish nor fowl of the matter of religion. Consequently the members of the Friends' Church have been able to hold the good will of both parties. The Irish Protestants do not consider the Quaker Church as a definite Protestant institution; but as it is not allied to the Catholic Church and as most Quakers in Ireland are of English or Scotch descent, the Ulstermen are on good terms with the Irish Quakers and have confidence in them. On the other hand, the Irish Catholics are friendly with the Quakers themselves as victims of persecution were at one time in a condition in which the Irish Nationalist compares to his own.

In Dublin a young Friend, who is at the same time an open pacifist and a supporter of the Nationalist cause, holds "open house" for Sinn Fein leaders where they may confer with each other and meet Englishmen and foreigners trying to get at the bottom of the Irish trouble. Although he is not a Sinn Feiner and is opposed to violent methods, he holds a position of influence with the national party and its chiefs. Down in the south of Ireland, a mild, kindly old Quaker is sought out by Ulstermen and Sinn Fein Catholic priests and Church of England vicars. All parties show respect for his counsel and his views are honored. Throughout the island members of the Friends' Church are urging peace and are heard quietly because their attitude is recognized to be impartial.

Recently the Quakers in Ireland issued a message to their countrymen protesting the violence on one side and injustice on the other.

English Quakers generally support the nationalistic claims of Ireland and condemn the militaristic measures used against the Sinn Fein by the government. They are strongly opposed, however, to the Sinn Fein "reign of terror."

"We've talked of self-determination for Ireland for years," said a prominent English Quaker. "It's just a question of keep your promise." Danger to the friendly relations between America and England was emphasized at the London yearly meeting recently held by William C. Allen, of Philadelphia, who was urged to do all in their power to counteract unfavorable influence and to draw the two nations closed together. The speaker said he had met much American propaganda in the British colonies.

## UNLIMITED POWER GIVEN BY COMMISSION

In Dealing With Real or Apprehended Scarcity of Coal or Fuel Supplies in Canada

Ottawa, Ont., June 28.—The House this afternoon went into committee on a resolution which provides for amendments to the Railway Act granting the Railway Commission power to take any action it sees fit to deal with a real or apprehended scarcity of coal or other fuel supplies in Canada. In moving the resolution, the Prime Minister stated that Hon. J. D. Reid, Minister of Railways and Hon. Gideon Robertson, Minister of Labor, had been looking into the coal situation which had become serious, especially during the past few days. These two Ministers had made a report which showed that, since the month of April, receipts of coal in Canada had been becoming very irregular. The provinces of Ontario and Quebec were practically dependent on outside sources for their supplies of coal, which were short by over a hundred cars every day.

The shortage and irregular delivery of coal, said the report, was due to a number of causes, one of which was the inadequate car supply, and another, the serious strike of railway employees in the United States. Industries in the United States were closing down owing to the coal shortage, and the control and direction of fuel supplies had been placed in the hands of the Inter-State Commerce Commission. This commission has placed an embargo on shipment of coal from Atlantic ports outside of the United States.

Maudie Gaskill, struck on the West side of Handerchief Shoal early today. The sea was smooth and the vessel was in no immediate danger, but an increasing South West wind and the change of tide threatened to make her position uncomfortable later. She is from New York, bound East with coal.