

SICILIAN PRINCE STEERAGE FOOD FOR CRITICISM

Halifax Immigration Official Finds Facilities Inadequate on North-western S.S. Co.'s Ship.

Steamer Allowed to Proceed to New York, But Ottawa is Communicated With.

Special to The Standard.

Halifax, N. S., Dec. 19.—Dr. Hawkins, Dominion Immigration Inspector at Halifax, investigated the condition of the north-western Transportation Company's steamship Sicilian Prince from Rotterdam to this port which arrived on Saturday. His attention was called to the steamer's condition by reading in the newspapers of the horrible condition that prevailed on board a sister ship of the Sicilian Prince, the Neapolitan Prince, belonging to the same line.

Inspector Hawkins made a thorough examination of the stowage of the Sicilian Prince and the result of his investigation he communicated in a report to the Canadian Immigration Department. On the strength of the conditions found he states that he concluded to do nothing beyond lodge his report as to the stowage conditions. The steamer was allowed to proceed to New York.

In the first place Inspector Hawkins reports the absence of proper ventilators in the hold. Then he proceeds to say there is no proper heating, passengers are served with food in their sleeping apartments in the stowage, and it is eaten there. The lavatories for men and women and children are on the upper decks exposed to the weather, and are filthy in the extreme, the lavatories are exposed to the weather and are supplied only with salt water. The report also states that the floors of the different departments and companion ways are encrusted with dirt and are dangerous to walk upon. The regular ventilators are obstructed with rags and paper.

The Sicilian Prince had 410 passengers, 28 were for the Canadian Northwest, the remainder were for New York. She left Saturday night for New York.

COMPLICATED STRUGGLE AHEAD IN OTTAWA

Liberals Divided As To Nominee In Approaching By-Election—Laurier's Candidate Not Anxious To Run.

Special to The Standard.

Ottawa, Dec. 19.—There is every prospect of a singularly complicated struggle at the approaching by-election. It has been guessed that the date will be January 11, but upon this there is no certainty. The Liberals are greatly divided. Mr. Auguste Lemieux and Dr. Chevier are determined to run, and now that they will be candidates, Mr. Lemieux has announced his positive intention of running, whatever happens, on the platform of championing the idea of a dollar contribution to the royal navy and opposing the idea of a Canadian navy. He already is prosecuting an active campaign, publishing daily arguments on the subject in the newspapers. No steps have been taken yet to hold a Conservative convention and the situation will be difficult, as the unwritten law is that this seat should be the property of the French Canadians.

COBALT FRAUD SUSPECTS ARRAIGNED IN COURT

Toronto, Dec. 18.—Jacob Cohen, 19 Agnes street, Morris Rodchinsky, 93 1-2 Elizabeth street, Wm. Jansen and Jacka Heikkin, the latter two of Cobalt, four of the eight men arrested in connection with the theft of ore from the Crown Reserve and Kerr Mining Companies, appeared before Magistrate Ellis this morning. They all pleaded not guilty and were remanded till Friday next without bail. The eight prisoners will all come up on that day, when it is expected the crown will be ready to proceed with the investigation.

SUBJECTS PAY LAST RESPECTS TO DEAD KING

Imposing Ceremony Witnessed At Brussels Yesterday—Episcopate Issues Statement Eulogizing Leopold.

Socialists Declare For Republic

Brussels, Dec. 19.—The body of King Leopold lay in state in the royal palace today, while thousands who had patiently waited their turn to be admitted filed silently before the catafalque and paid homage to their late sovereign.

In the presence of Prince Albert and the officers and dignitaries of court and Government, the coffin had been borne to the mortuary chamber, while priests chanted the Miserere and a procession of nuns with bent heads told their requies for the dead. Passing through the garden and courtyard, up the broad marble staircase, banked with magnificent floral pieces and across the vast reception hall, those who had come to the palace found themselves in a room of state the draperies of which were black with silver fringe. It was lit up by the glare from electric globes and the softer glow of hundreds of candles. The mahogany casket in which the king lay was half draped with colors of the old Grenadier Regiment and surrounded by his daughter's floral wreaths. It was guarded on either side by three officers in uniform, glittering with gold and swords brought up to the royal salute.

Against the walls and between the tall columns, the king lay in state. The standards of the kingdom. In front of the coffin were kneeling nuns and priests. For three hours the stream of people passed through the palace, witnesses of the impressive scene. The Belgian Episcopate today issued a pastoral letter eulogizing King Leopold as the apostle of peace and justice, the glorie of the Catholic faith and the promoter of Christian civilization, through the foundation and development of the Congo Independent State.

On the other hand, the general Socialist organization has issued a proclamation in favor of a republic and condemn the king's death. The proclamation on the country the costly burden of the Congo. The Socialists decline to swear allegiance to Albert, who is now here, is bound to "represent the oppression of those who labor by those who fatten on the fruits of labor."

Princess Louise, who has commenced an active legal contest for the estates of King Leopold and Baroness Vaughan, has not yet arrived here. It is reported that the new complications have arisen which will result in her coming to Belgium alone and rejoin her family. Count Lonyay, husband of Princess Stephanie, is now here. The Soci publishes a despatch from Rome that King Leopold and Baroness Vaughan were married both by a civil ceremony and a religious ceremony at San Remo and that the king pardoned his daughters; otherwise he could not have been absolved. According to newspapers, the emperor's widow of the late Maximilian of Mexico has not yet been informed of her brother's death.

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LLOYD GEORGE ON OPPONENTS POLICY

Declares That Tariff Reform Will Not Fill England's Bill Where England Leads The World.

London, Dec. 18.—Mr. Lloyd George addressing a meeting at Walworth last night, said: "Neither the colonies nor foreigners would buy our goods, except for two reasons, either their quality is better or the price cheaper for the same quality. They are not buying them because they love us. You go to the colonies with any article, whether it comes from the French, the Russian, German or American and if it is a better article for a cheaper price they are not going to buy a British article which is inferior at a bigger price. They would be fools if they did it. That is not the way to do business. Our goods are beating them all. Why, we are able to put them in every market in the world more cheaply than any other country."

Fifty thousand people from western Canada will spend the holiday in their old homes in the east this year, according to local railway men. The railways will collect about \$2,000,000 in fares.

CORNTHIAN ASHORE IN HALIFAX HARBOR

Allan Liner Piled Up on George's Island Attempting to Make Open Sea—Sea Calm at Time of Accident, and Fishing Schooner Is Held To Blame for Disaster.

Fleet of Tugs Fail in Attempt To Get Steamer Off and "Cruiser" is Sent For—No Serious Damage is Reported, and It Is Likely That Ship Will Be Floated Today.

Special to The Standard.

Halifax, N. S., Dec. 19.—Standing on the Northwest point of George's Island half way out of Halifax Harbor is the big Allan Liner Cornthian, which ran ashore last night while outward bound for Glasgow. The Cornthian is there because Captain Rennie, who was in command, was the least of two evils and would have got away earlier but that the schooner ran his ship aground. The Cornthian arrived from St. John Saturday afternoon to complete cargo and take on passengers before sailing for Havre and London. She was loaded with over 7000 tons of coal, grain, apples and general merchandise, and she had to wait for the C. P. R. express from the West. The Cornthian steered out from the deep water at ten forty five Saturday night and twenty five minutes later was aground, within two hundred feet of the island and fifty feet of George's Island light. The water was clear and bright and the mishap was due to a strange accident which apparently could not be provided against. Had Capt. Rennie been six feet to the westward he would have escaped.

Strong Wind. When the Cornthian left her dock there was a strong wind blowing from the north and at least half speed she proceeded down the harbor. When off Plant Wharf, Captain Rennie noticed a schooner directly ahead. The sails obstructed the schooner's lights and nothing but the white sails could be seen. A minute or two more and the steamer steel bow would have been cutting its way through the schooner and the lives of its crew, Capt. Rennie starboarded his helm. He knew George's Island was there but he believed he could

steer clear of the schooner, port the helm and bring her back on her course clearing the island. The steamer speed was not fast enough to make her easily managed and she responded too slowly to the helm to clear the island.

Had she been going full speed she would not have touched. The captain knew he had a close shave and it proved too close for he struck the point that comes out from the Northwestern part of the island.

A Standard representative boarded the Cornthian tonight. Naturally Captain Rennie felt his position keenly and was not in the humor for talking. His statement frank and brief was as follows:

"When off Plant wharf I saw a schooner ahead, we starboarded the helm to avoid running her down, thinking we had time to port our helm and clear George's Island, but unfortunately we grounded on the northwestern point."

High Tide. It was high tide when the Cornthian struck or it might have been possible at the next high water to get her off. Capt. Rennie tried as hard as he could to move the ship, but without result. She was hard and the real resting on the bottom ten or fifteen feet abait the bridge. An examination showed she was making no water and that there was absolutely no danger to the passengers.

The harbor is calm, not more than a ripple disturbing the surface of the water, and whether the schooner risk rest on such a solid place definitely. It was only a question of getting her off and falling to do this was the most serious matter.

It but to wait for the next high tide, which came at 12:30 yesterday afternoon. Not a passenger left the ship.

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AUTUMN TAKES HAND IN FIGHT OF HALIFAXIAN

Jerome K. Jerome Lined Up With Liberals In England's Budget Fight—Socialist Leader's Action In Contest.

Special to The Standard.

Halifax, N. S., Dec. 19.—John E. Butler, harbor master of this port died very suddenly this afternoon. He passed away while riding on a tram car which left Richmond about 4:30 o'clock. Mr. Butler seemed to be in good health. He attended 11 o'clock mass at St. Patrick's church as was his custom for the past thirty-seven years and assisted in taking up the collection. In the afternoon he left St. S. Campbell and Company's wharf in the Togo to board the Cairndon, and proceeded with the freight laden steamer to pier No. 8 at Richmond. After the Cairndon had been docked he immediately left for the street where he took an electric bound south, intending to return home. He died on the car.

Mr. Butler began business life as a dry goods clerk in a Water street shop. Leaving this employ he went with his uncle, George Butler, apur and maker. Here John E. learned the business and on the death of his uncle conducted it on his own account, and proceeded with the freight laden steamer to pier No. 8 at Richmond. After the Cairndon had been docked he immediately left for the street where he took an electric bound south, intending to return home. He died on the car.

SANTA CLAUS TO HAVE HIS HANDS FULL

Washington, D. C., Dec. 19.—Santa Claus this year apparently has on his books the names of many more children than heretofore and means to remember the good little boys and good little girls, doubtlessly with toys of all descriptions. Uncle Sam has been keeping a watchful eye on the records of toys for Christmas and his latest figures indicate a great increase in the value of playthings from the toy-makers of Germany and elsewhere making the United States, which have been accumulating for distribution Christmas Eve.

SUDDEN DEATH OF HALIFAXIAN

Harbor Master Of Halifax Dies On Tram Car—Was Well Known As Successful Yacht Builder.

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STIFF SENTENCES FOR MAIL ROBBERS

Winnipeg, Dec. 18.—Police Magistrate Daly this morning sentenced the two self-confessed mail robbers, Barnett getting 7 years and Rowe 3 years. Barnett broke down yesterday and confessed he was the author of the plot and Rowe was only an accomplice. E. L. Howell, for the crown, asked for a severe sentence on Barnett who was a post office employee, and shorter term for Rowe, who was not in the post office service, having been discharged. It was on his homestead in Springdale district near Yorkton that some of the money was found.

MADRIZ HAILED AS THE SAVIOUR OF NICARAGUA

INDEPENDENCE LAURIER'S AIM SAYS HAULTAIN

Leader Of Opposition In Saskatchewan Legislature Brands Premier As Separatist.

Lively Session At Regina

Regina, Dec. 19.—In the naval debate in the legislature, D. J. Wylie's resolution which called for an immediate contribution of a Dreadnought to the Imperial Government, was defeated. Premier Scott began the trouble by charging that the resolution had been introduced on the proposal of Winnipeg Conservatives and that it had been done in gratitude to Hon. Robert Rogers.

This unfounded statement was indignantly denied by F. W. G. Haultain who replied in scathing terms to the premier's remark. Mr. Scott's statement, that so far as he was concerned, everyone in Canada, was of the opinion that British connection should remain forever, was not the opinion of his leader at Ottawa. "He is a separatist," continued Mr. Haultain. "He has on more than one occasion stated that the ultimate goal of his ambition or aspiration, the ideal to be attained, is that of independence. That was his attitude and that was the attitude which suggested the policy which had been pursued."

Immediate Contribution. Mr. Haultain concluded by saying that as far as he was concerned, realizing his duty and privilege as a British subject, he proposed that an immediate contribution be made to the Mother Country of something which would be necessary in moment of need and which a great many other people, who knew more about the subject than he did, held to be immediate and near at hand.

Mr. Wylie's resolution was defeated on a straight party vote. Premier Scott moving in amendment that the Dreadnought be struck out and a great deal of the Ottawa resolution of March 29 added.

Mr. Wylie's motion was: "That this house affirms its belief in the integral relationship of Canada to the British Empire and that while participating in the great and numerous benefits resulting from such relationship Canada should for the defence of the Empire assume her right responsibility and is of the opinion that the Dominion parliament should, without delay, offer to the Imperial Government at least one Dreadnought."

BELMONT MANSION AS SECURITY FOR BAIL

Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont Comes To Rescue Of Striking Shirt-Waist Workers—Goes Bail For Four.

New York, N. Y., Dec. 19.—Mrs. G. H. P. Belmont, demonstrated in the small and early hours of today that she has the interests of her sex of the working class at heart and is willing to give not only of her time, but of her fortune to assist them. Three o'clock this morning found her in the night court awaiting the disposition of the cases of four women, shirtwaist workers, charged with disorderly conduct in connection with the strike. Several lawyers had been retained by Mrs. Belmont to defend the strikers, but with the approach of morning they had disappeared and when the girls were called to the bar, no one was present to appear for them.

Mrs. Belmont here stepped into the gap and offered bail for the girls tendering her home in Madison Avenue as security. "Is your home worth \$300?" inquired Magistrate Butts, in routine manner and tone. "I think it is," replied Mrs. Belmont. "It is valued at \$400,000, but I think there may be a mortgage upon it for \$100,000 which I raised to help the shirtwaist strikers and the woman suffrage movement."

The security was accepted.

MONTREAL IRISHMEN CONTRIBUTE \$1000

Montreal, Dec. 19.—In response to a cablegram from John Redmond, asking for the assistance of Montreal Irishmen for the Nationalist cause in the present British elections, a meeting of Irishmen was held this afternoon under the auspices of the United Irish League, when the sum of \$1,000 was subscribed.

Zelaya's Proposed Successor Accorded Great Welcome by Citizens of Home City. Country Ablaze With Enthusiasm at New Order of Things—Zelaya's Offer Is Declined.

Managua, Dec. 19.—Jose Madriz, justice of the Central American court of justice at Cartage, who has been put forward as a candidate for the presidency to succeed Zelaya, received an enthusiastic reception on his arrival here today. Long before he reached the capital he was the object of cheering crowds. He was met by delegations from various departments, and acclaimed all along the way from Corinto to Managua.

At this place, the crowds awaiting the appearance of the candidate were extraordinary. Police and troops were out in force for the protection of Madriz, who proceeded on foot to a hotel through an almost inextinguishable mass of people, the soldiers and detectives breaking a way for him through the solid ranks, pushing and throwing aside the frantic populace. In front of the park there were hostile cries against the attempt by the soldiers to clear the street and immediately fifty civilians, all of them residents of Leon, which is the home of Madriz and the stronghold of Liberals who favor his candidacy, whipped out revolvers, forming a compact mass around him, acting as his bodyguard and escorting him to his quarters.

Situation Critical. For a moment the situation was critical. There were shouts of "viva Leon; to Leon with Managua." No shots were fired, however, and the procession went on its way. The presidential candidate's face was flushed and wore a look of anxiety. He was accompanied to the hotel by the Mexican minister and from that place the crowds were shut out.

Dr. Madriz arrived at nine o'clock this morning at Corinto and the steamer Acapulco from Punta Arenas, Costa Rica. He was received by commissions, representing congress, the supreme court and the municipalities of Leon, Managua, Chinandega and Masaya. A salute of 101 guns was fired in his honor. Soldiers lined the pier at attention and enthusiasm marked the greeting of the crowds along the waterfront. Dr. Madriz, though seemingly well pleased at his welcome, made no speech. Soon after he landed he said in an interview: "I shall accept the honor which has been offered me. I am not the candidate of Leon, but of the entire republic. My chief concern will be to appease the ancient hatreds which have divided certain localities."

Dr. Madriz said that he was not certain how the revolutionists would receive him. He sent a delegate to Bluefields, he said, to confer with the revolutionary leaders there, but his representative was not permitted to land. General Estrada sent word that if he came to treat for peace, it was useless. Madriz was hopeful, however, that he would succeed in making peace with the revolutionists.

Promise Co-operation.

He conferred at Punta Arenas with Adam Cardenas, the former president of Nicaragua. The head of the Conservative party, and a mutual promise of co-operation was exchanged. Cardenas was deposed from the presidency by Zelaya in 1891, and recently he was reported as having taken the field against his old enemy, heading an expedition preparing in Costa Rica for an attack upon Nicaragua. It also was asserted that the former president bound himself to support the candidacy of General Estrada.

Dr. Madriz declined to comment upon Zelaya's administration, nor would he discuss the question of intervention by the United States, but he expressed the hope that an amicable settlement would be reached, for he had trust in the justice of the American people. The candidate was met at Chinandega and Leon by almost as great crowds as gathered at Corinto and they shouted "Long live the saviour of Nicaragua." The snow was, however, a remarkable absence of cries hostile to Zelaya. The people of Leon were wild in their demonstration of friendliness. Flowers were hurled upon Madriz, as though he were a hero returning from the wars. Cannons were fired and sky-rockets shot into the air, despite the daylight. The band played the Marseillaise, while many joined in the singing of the 'anthem. Conspicuous in the breeze were two American flags.

In a speech of welcome, a Leonese journalist, perched upon the shoulders of friends at the station platform said: "This is no time for a policy of conciliation or pardon. It is the time for a policy of punishment for the offenders against the public good." In Managua, the situation is tense. Zelaya has offered the American consul a guard of soldiers for the consulate, but his offer has been declined.