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TUESDAY MORNING, MARCH 24, 1914

PROBS.—FAIR

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## AMENDMENT TO HOSPITAL BILL

Vote of Four of Five City Commissioners For Project.

HYDRO-ELECTRIC BILL COMES UP TODAY.

St. John Members Agree to Change Making Four of Five Commissioners' Votes Necessary in Addition to Two-thirds of Municipal Council.

Fredericton, March 23.—The legislature this evening put the bill respecting the new General Public Hospital at St. John through the committee stage, and it is now ready for a third reading.

The members for St. John city and county agreed to have the bill amended so as to provide that in addition to the two-thirds vote of the municipal council being necessary to bring the project into effect, there would also need to be four of the five commissioners of the city of St. John voting in its favor, thus giving the committee a majority.

The light over the St. John River Hydro-Electric Company's bill will be on before the corporation's committee tomorrow morning, starting at 10 a. m. The morning for and against the bill are gathered here tonight, and there will be a big array of legal talent on each side.

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## RIOTERS AND POLICE CLASH; FOUR SHOT

Mob of Strikers Tried to Put Obstructions in Front of Train Carrying Workmen.

Buffalo, N. Y., Mar. 23.—Four men were shot, one fatally, and several were injured today in two clashes between rioters and special deputies guarding the plant of the Gould Coupler Works at Depew, where a strike has been in progress for some weeks.

Silvanus Stonski, claimed by his friends to be an innocent bystander, was shot in the head during a half-hour pitched battle with the deputies. He died at the hospital. A Lackawanna train of eleven coaches, bearing about 300 workmen, was within a mile of the plant when a mob of about 500 threw obstructions on the rails, and when the train came to a standstill poured a fusillade of revolver shots and stones into the windows of the cars. Half a dozen special deputies returned the fire and it is claimed that several of the mob were hit and once carried away by others in the crowd.

Reinforcements from Depew and Buffalo arrived at the scene of the battle after the shooting had been going on about twenty minutes, the mob firing from behind trees and sign boards and the several deputies shooting from the windows.

Under Sheriff Kieck's men, armed with their riot sticks, charged the crowd, which broke quickly and fled.

## FORTY-ONE HORSES DIE IN FLAMES

Were all Thoroughbreds Belonging to Service School of U. S. Militia—Being Trained as Jumpers.

Fort Riley, Kansas, Mar. 23.—Forty-one blooded horses, belonging to the service school on the United States Military Reservation, were burned today in a fire that destroyed the school stables. The mounts were being schooled as jumpers, and a number of them were to enter the military contests to be held in Madison Square Garden, New York city.

## REMANDED.

Fred Harriety was arrested Sunday night at his home in Indiantown on suspicion of stealing from the sheds at Sand Point where he was employed. He was arrested by Sergeant Smith and Policeman Briggs and Garnet and brought before the court yesterday morning and remanded until Wednesday. E. S. Ritchie is his counsel.

## RELIGION IS BROUGHT INTO DISCUSSION

Kyte and Proulx Break Traditions of the House.

ANNOUNCEMENT ON BOTH SIDES OVER AFFAIR

Resort to Petty Tactics Over Appointment of A. J. O'Brien—Increased Salaries for Judges Discussed.

## Special to The Standard.

Ottawa, Mar. 23.—It has been the practice at Ottawa to keep religion out of politics. The leading men on both sides of the house adhere strictly to this custom, but sometimes some silly back-bencher raises the issue. Geo. W. Kyte, of Richmond, and R. E. Proulx, of Prescott, two of the Catholic members transgressed this unwritten law tonight and made an attack upon the government's treatment of A. J. O'Brien, former law clerk of the Commons. Mr. Proulx put it bluntly that if O'Brien did not get another appointment when he was dismissed as law clerk, there would have been trouble with all the Orange lodges in the country. Mr. Proulx also described O'Brien, who happens to be an Orangeman, as a "big fellow" and "a big fellow" as he was mentioned in the house this evening as a fanatic and a bigot.

The affair has caused a good deal of annoyance on both sides of the house, the general regret being that religion should be introduced into the debate.

There was absolutely nothing in it, of course, and Mr. Proulx made the appointment of O'Brien to his own department, is a Catholic himself.

## King Favored Compromise?

The part the King played in the crisis has not been disclosed. Army officers address their resignations to the monarch, and the report is that the King insisted that the resignations in the present instances should not be accepted and used his influence to get the cabinet for a compromise with the army.

The Unionists firmly believe that the government has participated in a fiasco. They think that the two most enterprising spirits of the cabinet, David Lloyd-George and Winston Churchill, were the ones who made the plan, and that the government proposed a wholesale movement of troops into Ulster to overawe the covenanters and demand the demoralisation of the army and the arrest of their leaders, and that the plan was frustrated only by the opposition of the officers.

Lord Morley, Blackburn, explained that Andrew Bonar Law recently received a letter quoting one of the highest officers in Ireland as saying: "By Saturday there will be hundreds of dead in Ulster."

The Unionists also accuse the government of making a scapegoat of "Gall steam" for their own "colossal blunder."

The future of the home rule bill is "rapped in clouds. No meeting place of the cabinet has been decided, but the "meeting force" were heard from the Liberals in the debate in the House of Commons today. The cabinet, according to the Unionist view, and the covenanters of Ulster have won their fight.

No one will be surprised if the government soon relinquishes the power of arms, as its action had the immediate result of striking a shower of sparks of discontent among the ranks. Liberal newspapers of high standing and influence, like the Daily Chronicle and the Daily News, print bitter denunciations of the officers as part of the Tory aristocracy which insists upon the prerogative of ruling the country against the will of the people, and demand the demoralisation of the army and the arrest of their leaders.

The labor papers are equally bitter and demand to know why privates should not have the same privilege of returning to fire upon workmen when called upon to suppress strike riots.

## Seventy P. C. of Officers Would Refuse Belfast, March 23.—Reports received by the officials of the provisional government would seem to indicate that at least seventy per cent. of officers of the infantry battalions of regulars now quartered in Ulster would refuse to serve in a campaign against their own province.

Major-General Sir F. F. N. Macready of the Adjutant-General's staff of the 1st division, at Holywood this morning. He came for the purpose of making a tour of the barracks and to explain the situation in such a way as to prevent the resignation of officers. He was informed that nearly all the officers of the Norfolk Regiment quartered at Holywood Barracks, four miles from Belfast, had expressed their readiness to resign rather than accept orders to take part in a campaign against their own province.

More Money for Judges.

The House then went into committee of supply on the estimates of the Department of Justice.

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## Defection of Army a Closed Incident, Officers Return to Posts Satisfied.

REPORTED THE KING FAVORED COMPROMISE.

Misunderstanding is Cleared Away—Future of Home Rule Bill Nebular—No Surprise if Government Relinquishes Power of Arms.

London, March 23.—The defection of the army officers who refused to serve in Ulster is now a closed incident, but its consequences are likely to prove far-reaching. Premier Asquith and Col. Seely, secretary of state for war, made explanations today that the whole affair was the result of a misunderstanding. This misunderstanding, it was inferred, although they did not directly say so, was due to misconstruction of the government's plans by the commanding general, Sir Arthur Paget, whereby he informed the officers in Ireland that they were to be sent to Ulster for a repressive campaign.

General Paget and three senior officers from the Curragh camp—General Gough, Col. McEwen, and Col. Parker—were summoned to London for a conference. According to official statements the misunderstanding has been cleared away and these officers returned to Ireland tonight. Prior to their departure, they said they were entirely satisfied with the results of their visit. The terms on which the officers remain at their posts were not disclosed, but the general belief is that they were assured that they would not be compelled to fight against the Ulstermen. "This is considered a distinct surrender by the government."

Lord Morley, Blackburn, explained in the house that he did not think, in the interests of the efficiency of the army, that all that transpired in the army council should be made public, and that the King approved the orders to the officers to return.

## Special to The Standard.

Ottawa, Ont., Mar. 23.—What is likely to prove the most prolonged and bitter debate of the session will begin tomorrow, when Hon. Dr. Reid, acting Minister of Railways, delivers his Intercolonial Railway budget for the year, and following this, makes a statement regarding the investigation into the affairs of the National Transcontinental Railway, the report of which states that the huge sum of forty million dollars has been wasted.

## STOCK MARKET IS REASSURED BY STATEMENT

Asquith's Announcement Over Military Movements Had Calming Effect on London Exchange.

London, March 24.—The Premier's statement concerning military movements had a calming effect on the stock market yesterday with the result that the general atmosphere is more cheerful showing an improvement in Consols and Home Railways as well as a rally in Mexicans.

The easy course of Consols was affected somewhat by the failure of a Tasmanian loan which the underwriters take at 81 per cent. The announcement of the underwriting of the Winnipeg loan of £1,100,000 also gave a slight check but there was a good recovery.

The disappearance of labor troubles on the Great Eastern added beneficially to Home Railways and Metropolitan which are showing special strength. Canadian Pacific started well but ground later while Grand Trunk closed higher. Consols closed 7-6 higher at 74 5-16. A recovery of two points occurred in Bank of England stock.

City of Montreal scrip improved one-quarter and Vancouver lost one-eighth. Canadian Pacific reached 214 1/8 but receded at the close and was one-quarter down at 214. Grand Trunk hardened and gains of one-quarter were marked on the ordinary at 21 7-16, guaranteed at 86 and third preference at 49 3/4. Mexican five per cents. were one-half better at about 86 1/2. Among the Brazilian issues there was a slight improvement in the five per cent. 1913.

## BOYS BLOWN TO PIECES BY DYNAMITE

Wheeling, W. Va., Mar. 23.—Frank Earlwine and John Stackhouse, 15 years old, were blown to pieces at Proctor, twenty miles from here today, by a can of nitro-glycerine on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad and exploded it. A section of the track was blown up and a fast passenger derailed just in time to avert a wreck.

## THE REBELS OPEN SIEGE ON TORREON

BENTON MET HIS DEATH IN VILLA'S OFFICE

INQUIRY COMPLETED AND RESULTS LAID BEFORE AMBASSADOR.

LAST SEEN ALIVE AT REBEL LEADER'S HOUSE.

No Immediate Action by British Government but Reckoning to Come When Peace is Restored in Mexico.

Washington, March 23.—The inquiry into the death of the Scotchman, Benton, five weeks ago in Juarez, directed by the British Foreign Office, has been concluded and today the results were laid before the British ambassador here for transmission to London. The investigation was conducted by C. E. S. Percival, the British consul at Galveston, whose district includes the town of El Paso, opposite Juarez.

Originally ordered to El Paso to cooperate with the commission appointed by Secretary Bryan to inquire into the Benton case, Mr. Percival, finding that the American commission was helpless to act as the result of the refusal of the rebel leaders to allow them to exhume and examine the dead body, conducted an investigation on his own account. He employed such agents as he thought necessary, and secured a mass of testimony bearing upon Benton's death. Much of this was collected in secret, because of the fear of the witnesses of punishment at the hands of the Constitutionalists leaders, and for the reason not even given publicly at this time.

Necessarily the evidence as to what actually took place in Villa's headquarters at Juarez, where Benton was last seen alive, was meagre. Most of them are men whose names were given in the first report on Benton's death by Villa's office, that there was a tremendous scuffle, followed by perfect quiet. No witness could be found who heard the sound of a shot. Benton did not emerge from that office alive, but where and when his body was removed the report does not disclose.

According to the British view nothing further can be done in the case at this stage.

No immediate action is expected at the British embassy as a result of the report, but it was recalled today that Sir Edward Grey in his last statement to the House of Commons upon the Benton case made it plain there must be a heavy reckoning for this killing of a British subject and that the debt would be that future permanent government of Mexico.

## THE TRANSCONTINENTAL DEBATE TO BEGIN TODAY

Special to The Standard.

Ottawa, Ont., Mar. 23.—What is likely to prove the most prolonged and bitter debate of the session will begin tomorrow, when Hon. Dr. Reid, acting Minister of Railways, delivers his Intercolonial Railway budget for the year, and following this, makes a statement regarding the investigation into the affairs of the National Transcontinental Railway, the report of which states that the huge sum of forty million dollars has been wasted.

London, Mar. 23.—Is Dr. Rudolf Diesel, inventor of the Diesel heavy oil engine, in Canada, is the question raised by the Berlin correspondent of the Daily Citizen. Dr. Diesel was reported lost while crossing from Antwerp to Harwich on September 30 last. "A body was found by some Dutch fishermen on October 13 and this was identified as the missing inventor by the jewelry in the body. Now it is alleged that Dr. Diesel is in Canada, that his wife has received correspondence from him and has also disappeared from Munich. Representatives of the Consolidated Diesel Engine Company here believe the identification of the body found was reliable."

## WINNIPEG VISITED BY SERIOUS FIRE

Total Loss Placed at \$250,000—Elevator Collapsed, Several Have Narrow Escape.

Winnipeg, March 23.—Fire broke out late this afternoon in the Scott block, Main street, valued at \$115,000 carrying insurance of \$55,000. The whole interior of the building, which is a six story brick structure divided into office suites, was destroyed, bringing the total estimated loss up to \$250,000. Among the tenants were several departments of the Canadian Northern Railroad.

There were several narrow escapes owing to the fact that the elevator in the building collapsed at the first descent, loaded with passengers. No one was injured, however, Dr. Moffatt, dentist, was badly injured in the back as the result of jumping 45 feet from the fourth story into a life net. At midnight the fire was practically under control, although one or two were reported missing. It was believed, in view of the fact that the firemen had not seen any bodies, that these may have remained in the crowd of spectators.

## GEORGE W. FOWLER, M. P. HONORARY LT. COLONEL

Ottawa, March 23.—George W. Fowler, M. P., has been granted the honorary rank of Lieutenant Colonel in the Militia.

## MASONIC TEMPLE BURNED.

Elmhurst, N. Y., Mar. 23.—Fire from an overheated chimney destroyed the Masonic Temple in this city this afternoon. The loss will be \$100,000.

## THE REBELS OPEN SIEGE ON TORREON

VILLA'S ARMY BEGAN ATTACK YESTERDAY AFTERNOON ACCORDING TO DESPATCH

AMERICAN TROOPS AND FEDERALS CLASH.

Constitutionalists Attacked by Federals Sought Refuge on American Side—U. S. Cavalry Troop Returned Fire.

Juarez, Mar. 23.—The battle of Torreón opened at one o'clock this afternoon, according to an official despatch received here by General Chas. military governor of the state of Chihuahua, and signed General Francisco Villa.

"I have just begun attack on Gomez Palacio and will take it tonight," was the substance of the message. It was filed at El Verjel, a village five miles north of Gomez Palacio. The latter city is a suburb of Torreón three miles distant and connected by a street car line.

The message made no mention of an attack on Lerdo, a nearby manufacturing city.

Gomez Palacio, a railroad center of importance, lies on a plain, but it is commanded by a mountain called Cerro La Pila. The heights, according to recent reports, were fortified by the Federals, and it is assumed General Villa's attack opened with a shelling of the Federal position on its rugged slopes.

American and Federal Clash.

San Antonio, Texas, Mar. 23.—The army authorities at Fort Sam Houston today received reports from the reports of firing across the Rio Grande yesterday between American soldiers and the Mexican Federals, near Del Rio, Texas. Officers at Fort Sam Houston assert that while they have no details of the encounter, a brief bulletin was received late today from Del Rio, Texas, officers at Fort Eagle Pass. Whether any Mexicans were killed was not known, and details will not be received until late tonight, they said.

Eagle Pass, Texas, Mar. 23.—American soldiers and Mexican federals engaged in a battle yesterday at McGee Crossing, three miles above Del Rio, on the Rio Grande, in which several federal soldiers are reported killed. A patrol from E troop of the Fourteenth Cavalry returned the fire of the Mexicans across the Rio Grande and for ten minutes the shooting continued. One of the American men was injured.

Forty Constitutionalists soldiers had been cut off by the federals on the river bank. After fighting for nearly an hour the Constitutionalists tried to cross the river and surrender to the American troops. The federals continued firing at the Constitution One in the night and even after they had reached the American bank and surrendered.

The commander of the American cavalrymen signalled repeatedly for the federals to cease firing but his signals were disregarded. Finally he ordered his men to return the fire. A number of federals were carried away after the firing ceased. Col. Sibbey has ordered one troop of cavalry from Fort Clark and the machine gun platoon from Eagle Pass to proceed to Del Rio.

Washington, Mar. 23.—According to the official report, about forty-five Constitutionalists attacked by two hundred and fifty federals sought refuge on the American side of the river, and as they came upon American soil were met by a detachment of E troop, Fourteenth United States Cavalry. The pursuing federals were pouring their fire upon the fugitives and as the Constitutionalists reached the Texas side the shots were deliberately directed at American soldiers. The report was added that the fire was returned.

Mexico City, March 23.—The War Office announces that the Federal forces are holding their own in the fighting around Torreón, but refuses to give out details.

Juarez, Mexico, March 23.—It was reported at 11 o'clock tonight that General Velasco came out of Torreón in force and that Gomez Palacio was being made the point of contention. Villa was said to have captured three hundred prisoners.

Another Liebel Suit Against Edw. Beck

Ald. Morgan Starts Action and Ald. O'Connell Completes Preliminaries for Arrest of Publisher.

Montreal, March 23.—Developments have come quickly on the heels of the charges of civic graft published in Beck's Weekly. Today Alderman Victor Morgan entered a suit against Mr. Edward Beck before the civil tribunal, whilst Alderman Thomas O'Connell completed all preliminaries providing for the arrest of Beck charging him, with criminal libel.

Mr. Beck is demanding in the public inquest the appointment of a royal commission to investigate his charges. The truth, he says, cannot be arrived at any other way.

## SENTENCED FOR FRAUD INVOLVING TWELVE THOUSAND POUNDS

London, Mar. 24.—On charges of fraud involving £12,500 Peter McIntyre McLaren has been sentenced to Edinburgh to five years penal servitude. During a period of ten years he accepted various amounts for investment in South African mining schemes which he appropriated to his own use. Counsel for the defence pleaded that the prisoner himself was duped by others and after going to Canada last year had voluntarily returned with a view to making reparation. The Lord Justice was unable to accept this excuse and sentence was given as stated.

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