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GENERALLY FAIR

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BRITISH REPEL GERMANS IN SEVERE FIGHTING IN FRANCE

HON. J. A. MURRAY UNCOVERS ABSOLUTE INCOMPETENCE OF THE FOSTERITES

Artisanship Run Rampant Has Played Havoc with Public Service of Province—More About That Peculiar Bond Deal—Will the Government Cause Its Restitutory Legislation to Go Back Far Enough to Take in Central Railway Steal of \$134,435?

(SPECIAL TO THE STANDARD.)

Fredericton, March 8.—In the light of today's proceedings unless there is a change in the administration of affairs in the Province of New Brunswick, the welfare of the people is fraught with menace. This is the finding of an impartial and charitable mind after listening to the speeches delivered by Premier Foster and Hon. J. A. Murray, leader of the opposition, who addressed the assembly this afternoon. The present condition will inevitably destroy financial prestige, if it has not already done so, wasting the resources of the province, and will result in the imposition of direct taxation upon the people to satisfy the obligations brought on by an incompetent, reckless group of politicians.

That Bond Issue. There was issued in the province recently bonds to the extent of \$1,000,000, and the bonds instead of being sold directly over the counter to the public or tendered for by brokerage houses, were sold to one favorite broker at the unreasonable figure of ninety-six in the face of the fact that at least one other house was willing to pay 97.5. The firm which stood in the good graces of the government re-sold the bonds for 92.2 in the remarkable short period of three days. It was contended by Mr. Murray yesterday that there was every reason to believe, and he felt convinced, that the bonds would have brought par had the public been given the offer to purchase them. He charged the government to name one single brokerage house outside of the firm which received the bonds, which had placed a tender for the marketing of the bonds. The \$1,000,000 was raised for carrying on the administration of the government in the coming year, but as yet no information is available as to what departments this amount has been applied.

The absence of men of business ability, broad national views and statesmanlike conduct in the government has been previously made manifest, but this negative quantity was supplemented today by the premier's address, which must go on record as the weakest and most disappointing speech delivered by any premier in New Brunswick since Confederation. It lacked force, coherence and conviction. For over an hour and a half Mr. Foster dealt in generalities and avoided announcing any concrete policy for the coming year. In the meantime the opposition and members of the government and opposition sat wearily throughout the attempt, evincing relief when he asked that the debate be adjourned until Monday night at 8.30.

Hon. Mr. Murray. Contrasted with the effort of Premier Foster, was the strong, logical and statesmanlike speech of the leader of the opposition, Hon. J. A. Murray. Mr. Murray was accorded a grand reception, evidencing the high esteem in which he is held by all members. At different periods of his address applause punctuated his forcible remarks. A public-spirited man, convinced that on him rested the responsibility of fair criticism, as representative of the people of New Brunswick, the leader of the opposition tore asunder the barriers of indifference and deception, and in a masterly fashion pointed out that in the speech from the throne the government was not executing the trust imposed upon it; but was attempting to evade some definite line of action by releasing commendable legislation passed by the former government. His was a powerful and yet fair review of the government's inactivity, incompetence and slothfulness. New Brunswick has reason to feel proud of the opposition at Fredericton, and although unable to proceed with the progressive policy commenced, and make provision for future exigencies, the members of that opposition will by their presence in the house obstruct any legislation introduced by radical politicians to the detriment of the people and province.

Government Dependence. It is the intention of the opposition,

HUN MENACE TO SIBERIA IS SERIOUS

Lord Robert Cecil Urges Japanese Intervention in Far East.

GERMAN PRISONERS BEING ORGANIZED

Certain Elements of Bolsheviki Decidedly Anti-British.

MANY RUSSIANS WELCOME JAPS

Japan Has Been Ever Faithful As An Ally of the Entente.

London, Mar. 8.—Lord Robert Cecil, minister of blockade, in a statement today pointed out the seriousness of the German menace in Siberia and urged Japanese intervention there.

"We have information today," said Lord Robert, "that German prisoners in Siberia are being organized and that a Prussian general has been sent to take charge of them."

In trans-Caucasus, said Lord Robert, certain elements of the Bolsheviki, acting in collusion with German and Turkish agents, had adopted openly an anti-entente attitude and barred out the British mission which was going to help the Armenians, and had cut British wire communications through North Persia with British and South Russia.

Lord Robert said he had received assurances that many Russians would welcome a Japanese expedition to prevent the Germanization of Siberia.

"In fact," he said, "I cannot conceive any patriotic Russian who would not prefer the assistance of a friendly power, aiming at the restoration of order, to conquest by a ruthless and unprincipled enemy. The Japanese alone can act effectively in the present crisis. If they are entrusted by the Allies with the duty of going to the assistance of Russia against Germany I am sure they will carry out the task with perfect loyalty and great efficiency."

MONTENEGRO FIRM

London, Mar. 8.—Niko Radoulovitch, Montenegrin minister of war and interior, who is now in London, denies that Montenegro will make a separate peace with the Central Powers.

TWO KEYS TO WORLD WAR SITUATION

These Are Command of Seas and Western Front, Declares Asquith.

TRAGEDY IN RUSSIA REVEALS DANGERS

But These Dangers Do Not Give The Allies Apprehension.

GERMAN DULCITY IS NAKEDLY REVEALED

Only Peace Worth Having Not of Rulers But of Peoples.

Capar, Scotland, Thursday, Mar. 7.—There are two keys to the world war position, said former Premier Herbert H. Asquith in an address to his constituents here today. These keys are the command of the seas and of the western front. Both, he said, after all vicissitudes, still remain in the hands of the Allies.

"While it is impossible to avert our eyes from the tragedy in Russia and the formidable dangers that tragedy has revealed," he said, "these dangers do not give us apprehension. There are two important factors in the situation. First, Russia, as an effective military factor has been wiped off the map; second, the German procedure in the so-called negotiations with Russia and the light they have thrown upon the minds and methods of Germany's present rulers. There rarely has been a more instructive contrast between pretention and intention."

Referring to the speech of Imperial Chancellor Von Hertling, Mr. Asquith said: "The very moment he was making his address, his subordinates were mustering in harsh and humiliating terms, not of peace, but of capitulation, as harsh and humiliating as could be found in the annals of history. Districts on the Black Sea and in the Caucasus were to be handed back to share with Armenia the horrors and desolation of Turkish rule. Could anyone doubt after that the fate of Belgium if Germany was ever able to dictate to the western powers after the pattern set at Brest-Litovsk."

"It is not by such roads that a clean peace is attainable. The so-called treaty at Brest-Litovsk was everything that an international compact should not be. The only peace worth having must be a peace, not of rulers or parliaments, but of peoples. One thing seems to be of paramount importance in the world's best interest and that is that the people with whom in the long run the issue rests should be brought to understand that, so far as the Allies are concerned, we have but one governing end, to which everything else is subordinate, namely, to build upon that foundation the fabric of the future world."

ALLEGED CATTLE POISONER HELD

German Subject Arrested in Los Angeles on Charge of Killing Livestock.

Los Angeles, Cal., Mar. 8.—John Frederick Meys, held here, federal officials said today, was arrested in connection with the alleged systematic poisoning of livestock near Fresno. Hundreds of cattle, mules and chickens, according to United States District Attorney O'Connor, were found dead from the same poison which was found in grain in Meys's barn. The authorities said they were investigating the theory of ranchers, who suffered losses, that a stream had been poisoned. Meys, according to O'Connor, admitted he was a German subject. He denied all charges.

THE TEUTONS PLAN A BIG MOVEMENT

Italians Look for Simultaneous Drives in France and Italy.

ALL PREPARATIONS BELIEVED COMPLETE

Bonar Law Far From Sure Germans Will Make General Attack.

THE ALLIES MAINTAIN THEIR SUPERIORITY

Washington, March 8.—Italian official despatches today transmitting "reliable" messages from Switzerland say it is evident that the "Central Powers have completed their military preparations and that the beginning of the offensive against the Entente is imminent."

"Everything goes to indicate that the operations of Germany in France will be simultaneous with the offensive of Austria against Italy," says the despatch. "From the same sources it is learned that Austro-Hungarian troops have already been concentrated in very large numbers along the entire Italian line and that strong contingents are still moving to our front."

Prepare the People. "The Austrian press keeps repeating to its own people that the Italian front is weak and that their offensive against Italy being surely successful, peace will be concluded in the near future. These statements of the enemy press constitute the usual psychological and political preparation of the German public preparatory to a new offensive."

"In reply to the bombardment of Venice 15 Italian hydroplanes raided the naval base of Pola. All returned safely. During the last enemy air raid over Venice two enemy airplanes which seemed to be determined to destroy the Rialto bridge, were struck by our anti-aircraft guns and fell into the Adriatic. On the next day our hydroplanes bombarded successfully the enemy hangars at Motta Di Livensca and Parenzo."

Not So Sure of Advance. London, March 8.—In the House of Commons Right Hon. Andrew Bonar Law discussed the situation on the Western front as follows: "It is obvious that the Germans, having captured so many guns, have a great superiority in guns; but the power of their artillery has been limited to a great extent by the supply of ammunition, and I believe it is needless to fear danger of a superiority in guns any more than in men on the western front. Moreover, our overwhelming air superiority will go far to neutralize the superiority in guns."

Remember the Dead Son. In referring to the air service, Mr. Bonar Law momentarily broke down, remembering that his own son had been killed in the flying service. The House cheered in sympathy with the chancellor. Quickly recovering himself, Mr. Bonar Law resumed. He spoke of the splendid organization of the Entente Allied forces on the western front. He professed some skepticism concerning the much advertised

TEUTONS ATTACK BRITISH ON FRONT OF OVER A MILE IN FLANDERS

Serious Fighting in Dixmude Sector—British Advance Posts Fall Back But Later a Counter-Attack Re-establishes the Entire Line—Huns Use Flammenwerfer—Enemy Sustains Heavy Losses, But British Casualties Not Great—Activity in Italy.

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CONCESSIONS TO CANADIAN FISHERMEN

Important Reciprocal Arrangement with United States Reached by Hon. Justice Hazen and Commission.

Special to The Standard. Ottawa, March 8.—An important reciprocal arrangement affecting the fishermen of the Atlantic coast has been concluded between the United States and Canada. Advantages accrue to the fishermen of both countries.

Under the new regulations what have been promulgated by Canada and the United States as a war measure Canadian fishermen will have the privilege of landing their catches in American ports and clearing directly for the fishing grounds.

Up to the present American fishermen with sailing vessels could on payment of \$1.50 per ton enter Canadian ports, ship their catch in bond and take on crews and supplies. This fee has now been abolished and the privilege has been extended to steamers and power boats. The Canadian commission which carried out the negotiations with Washington was composed of Hon. J. D. Hazen, Chief Justice of New Brunswick; G. J. Desbarats, Deputy Minister of Naval Service, and W. A. Found, Superintendent of Canadian Fisheries.