The St. John Standard

VOL. XIII., NO. 254. | TEN PAGES | WEDNESDAY MORNING, MARCH 8, 1922 | FAIR AND MILD | TWO CENTS

LORD LEE OF FAREHAM RAPS MRS. ASQUITH

Declares Her Statement Re Prohibition in U. S. Was Ludicrous, Cruel and Untrue.

PRAISES WORK OF ARMS CONFERENCE

Regards His Participation in Parleys as Greatest Honor of His Life.

London, March 7.—Lord Lee, of Fareham, First Lord of the Admiralty, addressing the English-speaking Union today at its luncheon, welcoming him home from the Washington Conference, said he had not planned to mention prohibition in the United States or the English Coalition. In view, however, of the reported utterances of one of his famous country women in New York, that the drunkenness was prevalent among both sexes in the United States, he desired to state, he said, that, after thirty years of observation in America including the pre-prohibition as well as the prohibition era, the English woman's statement was "as ludicrous as it was cruel and untrue."

Her Statement.

Lord Lee's reference was to Mrs. Margot Asquith's comments on returning to New York the other day from her Western tour. She was quoted in the English press as saying she had not herself seen drunkenness among the young women of the United States, but had been told of it everywhere, while her secretary declared she herself had seen many young women under the influence of liquor at a party in Chicago.

Lord Lee said the greatest honor in his life was his participation in the Washington Conference. He could not believe there was any serious likelihood of any of the treaties being repudiated, for the United States Senate, in the end, would be convinced that the Conference, initiated by the United States, held in the United States and guided by the United States, would result as beneficially for the United States as for any other country.

As a result of the Washington gathering, continued Lord Lee, Great Britain for the first time in centuries had admitted equality with another naval power, but inasmuch as that power was America the equality was welcomed, for he was confident that in any future conflict if the United States was not fighting with the British, it certainly would not be fighting against the British.

Lord Burnham introduced Lord Lee, who he said, had built up the British Navy and had now returned to demobilize it and reduce to pounds, shillings and pence for the taxpayer the results of the Washington gathering.

PARTY POLITICS WILL SAVE THE COUNTRY

Hon. Robert Rogers Sees Country's Good in Co-Mingling of Its Greatest Minds.

Toronto, March 7—"The only thing that can save this country," said Hon. Robert Rogers, former Dominion Minister of Public Works, "is the return to party politics. 'The science of government' is the true definition of politics. When we say 'party politics' we have in mind the co-mingling of the best minds for the country's good. It's all twaddle for certain farmers to say party politics must be a menace to the country. How can it be a menace to have men gather and confer in a country's affairs?"

Mr. Rogers didn't like any reciprocity revival. "If you get reciprocity," he said, "you endanger British preference, and besides you impair commercial independence and run the risk of departing from imperialism to continentalism. I don't think that the people of Canada want anything like that."

Mr. Rogers reiterated his belief in the restoration of the Conservative party by means of a national convention to be held in Ottawa, Toronto or Winnipeg.

STILLMAN DIVORCE CASE CONTINUED

Hearing Scheduled for Montreal March 13 Has Been Postponed.

Poughkeepsie, N. Y., March 7—It was learned here today that the Canadian hearing on the Stillman divorce case, scheduled to be held at Montreal March 13, has been postponed pending the decision of the Appellate Division on the appeal made by James A. Stillman's attorneys against the appointment of the commissioner.

Supreme Court Justice Morschauser recently appointed Eugene Godin as commissioner to hear the testimony. He has not yet rendered his decision on the application for $6,600 defense fund.

WILL HAND CREW OVER TO BRITISH

Mate Held for Murder of Captain Chute, to be Tried Under British Flag.

Key West, Fla., March 7.—United States Commissioner Knowles, it was understood here today after a preliminary hearing in the case of V. Bracklehurst, charged with the murder of Captain H. Chute, of the British schooner Lewis Brothers, will recommend to the State Department that request of the British authorities for the extradition of Bracklehurst to Nassau for trial in a British court be granted.

MEXICO SEEKS CLOSER TRADE WITH CANADA

Possibilities of Trade Between the Two Countries Discussed by New York Sun.

VIEWS SITUATION WITH SOME ALARM

Canada Could Secure Crude Petroleum, Cotton and Copper in Exchange for Products.

New York, Mar. 7—(Canadian Press)—Indications that Mexico is seeking closer trade relations with Canada are seen by the New York Sun which, today, discusses the possibility of trade development between the two countries with particular reference to its possible effect on the export trade of the United States.

After noting that at the present time the bulk of the commerce of both Mexico and Canada is with the United States while their trade with each other is negligible, the Sun states:

"Whether it is practicable for these two nations to develop an extensive inter-change of goods over our heads, as it were, remains to be seen."

The Sun declares that United States exporters "need not be unduly alarmed at this attempted approachment, for the United States must remain both her neighbors' best purveyer and best customer."

Difficulties in the way of extensive trade between Mexico and Canada, as seen by the Sun, are summed up by the statement that "probably the long distance, the matter of credits, the fact that each country is unacquainted with the other's special requirements, will make the establishment of any extensive commerce a matter of years."

Goods which Mexico could supply Canada in exchange for Canadian products the Sun gives as principally crude petroleum, cotton and coffee.

BLOCKADE HAS BEEN THROWN AROUND FIUME

None Allowed to Enter City But Fiume Citizens—Disarming Private Persons.

Fiume, March 7—A virtual blockade was thrown around Fiume today by Italian Commissioner Castelli, who issued orders forbidding the entance into the city of any but Fiume citizens and odering the disarming of all private persons.

Those who participated in the recent conflicts which led to the overthrow of President Zanella's Government, together with all strangers having no legitimate business in the city, will be sent out en masse, according to Commissioner Castell's orders, so that Italy can redeem the pledge given to the Jugo-Slavs in the treaty of Rapallo, declaring Fiume a free state.

WEAVERS QUIT THEIR LOOMS

Cotton Mills of Otis Company, Ware, Mass., Closed Down.

Ware, Mass., March 7—The weavers employed in the cotton mills of the Otis Company, walked out this afternoon because of dissatisfaction with the wage reduction which went into effect on February 13. The entire cloth department of the mills, employing about a thousand operatives, was closed down, and company officials said tonight that it would remain closed until further notice. The mills employ about 2,000 operatives.

STEAMER SISTO REMAINS ICE-BOUND

St. John's, Nfld., March 7—The steamer Sisto, coal laden for this port, is still stuck in the ice eighty miles off Cape Race. Three steamers have tried to extricate her from her icy prison without success, and now the ice-breaking mail steamer Kyle has been instructed to make a fourth attempt on her way to St. John's from Louisburg, within the next couple of days.

DR. FRANKLIN PRINCE READY FOR SPOOKS

Arrived Yesterday Afternoon at Alleged Haunted House in Caledonia Mills.

EXPECTS MUCH FROM HIS MAGIC BELLS

Has Them Arranged About the House for Spooks to Play "Jazz" on.

Halifax, March 7—Dr. W. Franklin Prince, director of the American Institute of Scientific Research, and his party arrived at the alleged haunted house in Caledonia Mills, N. S., late this afternoon, according to a telephone message received tonight by W. H. Dennis, of the Halifax Herald, from a member of his staff. The party was accompanied by Alex. MacDonald, owner of the house, and a team bearing equipment and provisions for a short stay in the house.

If the mysteries are not at once solved, Dr. Prince will have MacDonald restore his furniture to the house, return his cattle to the barn, and otherwise reproduce the situation on the homestead as it was before the mysterious manifestations drove the MacDonald family away.

Arranges His Bells.

After making their sleeping arrangements for the night, Dr. Prince got busy winding in a strange pattern about his sleeping quarters the string of magic little bells which will be attached to his fingers when he seeks slumber. Even a successful ghost-layer guards some of the mysteries of his craft, and though the photographer accompanying the expedition aches to make a flashlight picture of the doctor apparently weaving spells with his magic bells, he had to be content with a lecture on the ability of bells to detect "spooks." The artist member of the party, however, thoughtfully studied the performance.

CABINET UPHEAVAL IN U. S. THREATENED

Two Secretaries at War Over Control of Forest Reserves—Bitter Feeling Exists.

Washington, March 7—(Canadian Press)—The controversy between Secretary of the Interior Fall and Secretary of Agriculture Wallace, over control of the United States forest reserves, is becoming bitter, and tonight political observers here declared a Cabinet upheaval, with one or the other of the rival secretaries resigning, is not improbable in the near future.

Secretary Fall is endeavoring to secure control of the Forestry Division and all Forest Reserve matters. He is anxious to dominate the forest policy in Alaska. Mr. Wallace, backed by many officials interested in a policy of woodland conservation is determined that the Alaska reserves shall remain under the control of the Department of Agriculture. Forestry officials, who have been working under Secretary Wallace, have assailed Mr. Fall sharply and the latter has called upon President Harding to put a stop to these attacks.

It is claimed by forestry officials that, should Secretary Fall get control of the Alaska forests, he may be expected to take steps to have them cut and exploited.

PIONEER AIR FLIGHT TO LABRADOR COAST

Major Sidney Cotton Has Accomplished Feat With Apparent Ease.

St. John's, Nfld., March 7—(Canadian Press)—Major Sidney Cotton has made the pioneer air flight to the Labrador coast. A few days ago he took a mail north from Botwood as far as St. Anthony, in the Northern peninsula of Newfoundland. Instead of coming right back south, as per schedule, he carried on across the Straits of Belleisle, reaching Battle Harbor, Labrador, in a blizzard. The success of the flight seems to have whetted the major's appetite for adventure, for news from Botwood today states he made a flight northward along the Labrador coast to the Hudson Bay post at Cartwright. Hitherto the Labrador settlers have had to depend for communication with the outside world on mails carried by way of Quebec.

SUICIDE LEAVES PLAINTIVE NOTE

Philadelphia, March 7—Charles Murdock, of Miami, Fla., who committed suicide in a local hotel a week ago, left a note in which he said:

"I have one body 53 years old, false teeth, bad eyes, bum feet, bad shoes, no job, no friends nearer than 1600 miles away. I can't beg, I can't steal and I will not become a bum."

AMAZING SPECTACLE IN JOHANNESBURG CITY

Streets Filled With Mounted Police and Strikers Carrying Formidable Looking Bludgeons.

London, March 7—(Canadian Press Cable)—Reuter's correspondent at Johannesburg cables that the centre of that city presents an amazing spectacle. The streets and market square are constantly filled by moving squadrons of mounted police, carrying rifles, and commandoes of strikers carrying red flags and banners, and armed with formidable looking bludgeons, like pick-handles. The whole aspect of the city is reminiscent of preparations for battle and getting a position behind the front line.

One commando paid a visit to the Johannesburg Star office, but the crowd was dispersed by a squadron of police. Commandoes have started a campaign of intimidation by ordering the large stores to close, but the police are on the alert and will, it is believed, be able to afford complete protection.

SITUATION IN LIMERICK IS PERILOUS

There is a Suggestion of Mexico There About the Whole Affair.

STRUGGLE NOW SEEMS INEVITABLE

Citizens View the Outlook With the Utmost Apprehension and Fear Bloodshed

London, March 7—Telegraphing from Limerick, the correspondent of the Evening News says:

"There is a suggestion of Mexico about the situation here."

Detailing the happenings from a fortnight ago—when the Mid-Limerick Brigade repudiated the authority of the Irish Free State Ministers, down to Sunday's coup d-etat, the correspondent says the general situation in Limerick is perilous in the extreme, and that the menace of the moment lies in the fact that possession of the seven barracks will not be given up without a fight. "They are all strongly held for the Free State," he adds, "and in case of an assault could make a good defense."

The question of provisioning the garrisons, in case of a prolonged siege, would be somewhat serious, the correspondent continues, but Brigadier General Brennan, commanding the Free State troops, is described as a resourceful man, who saw a great deal of fighting in the European war.

"Reinforcements have arrived for his garrison," the despatch states. "If an attempt is made to seize the Barracks there certainly will be heavy casualties, probably on both sides, but certainly among the attacking forces. The air in the city is electrical and the citizens, mostly Free Staters, view the situation with the utmost apprehension as it is felt that Republicans cannot consistently refrain from following up their challenge to the Free State authorities by decisive action.

Dublin, March 7—The situation at Limerick continued tonight the cause of grave anxiety. A message received from Tipperary says that two motor ambulances passed that town today and it was reported they were bound for Limerick, where, it was rumored, serious developments were pending, although normal conditions prevailed at the time the telegram was despatched.

Other advices received today asserted that Captain O'Shaughnessey, Mason officer at Limerick, who was arrested Monday night by armed men of the mid-Limerick brigade of the Republican Army, had been removed to Clonmeins.

OPERATORS TO DISCUSS WAGES WITH MINERS

Honest Effort Will be Made to Prevent Strike in Coal Fields April 1.

Pittsburg, March 4—Operators of the Pittsburg district, the most important bituminous field in the United States, will meet their miners, "union or non-union," to discuss a working scale, W. K. Fields, president of the Pittsburg Coal Company, said in a statement made public today.

"We are not fighting the union," he said. "We are simply trying to put our business on a basis where it will be better for all concerned, and the public as well, than the basis which has prevailed for a number of years."

Nominally there are between 45,000 and 50,000 men employed in the mines of Western Pennsylvania.

Union leaders said that the strike vote now being taken would be completed about March 13, and while disclaiming any knowledge of exact figures, predicted there would be a suspension of operations beginning April 1.

SCIENTISTS PETITIONED GOV'T TO ACT

Demand Rigid Investigation Into Organization of Stefansson Southern Expedition.

CLAIM TO HAVE BEEN SLANDERED

Want the Truth or Falsity of Stefansson Charges Determined—Four Sign Petition.

Ottawa, March 7—(Canadian Press)—Four scientists with the southern party of the Stefansson expedition have forwarded a petition to Hon. Charles Stewart, Minister of Mines, asking that a commission be appointed to investigate the organization, conduct and events of the expedition and to determine the truth or falsity of charges made by Mr. Steffansson. The petitioners are Dr. R. M. Anderson, acting chief biological division, Department of Mines, Ottawa, and formerly chief of the Southern party of the expedition; K. G. Chipman, topographical engineer, Geological Survey, Ottawa, and formerly chief topographer of the Southern party; J. J. O'Neill, acting assistant professor of economic geology, McGill University, formerly geologist with the Southern party, and D. Jenness, associate ethnologist, Division of Anthropology, Ottawa, formerly ethnologist with the Southern party.

Claim They Were Slandered.

The petitioners declare that they were members of the Southern party of the expedition, while at the same time holding positions on the staff of The Geological Survey of Canada. They claim that, since his return from the Arctic in 1916, Mr. Stefansson has slandered the members of the scientific staff of the expedition and, indirectly, the Geological Survey of the Department of Mines.

They charge that Mr. Stefansson accused them of conspiracy, insubordination and mutiny. They also claim he used the expedition for his own personal profit.

ST. JOHN MAN DEFENDANT IN COURT ACTION

Now Being Heard Before Justice Chandler, in Chambers, at Moncton.

Special to The Standard

Moncton, N. B., March 7—This morning, at chambers, before Mr. Justice Chandler, without a jury, in the Supreme Court, King's Bench Division, an action, brought by the Record Foundry & Machine Co., against Frank O. Garson, of St. John, was commenced. This is an action brought by the plaintiff to recover from the defendant $1,804.26 for money paid on account of scrap iron delivered. It is alleged, not according to specifications and contract. The defence counter claims to the amount of $2,239.88 in damages sustained by defendant for a breach of contract on the part of plaintiff. The plaintiff's case was completed this afternoon, after four witnesses were heard.

The defence had two witnesses during the afternoon when the court adjourned until tomorrow morning at ten o'clock.

M. G. Teed, and H. A. Reilly, K. C's., for the plaintiff; H. A. Powell, K. C., and M. B. Innes, St. John, for the defendant.

The case will probably last the greater part of tomorrow.

TRUE BILL RETURNED AGAINST MORIN

Charged With Having Attempted to Murder Dr. Walter and Family.

Montreal, March 7—A true bill was returned by the grand jury in the Court of King's Bench here this afternoon against Professor Joseph L. Morin who last year taught at McGill University as Assistant Professor of Modern Languages, charging him with having attempted to murder Dr. Herman Walter and his family by poisoning the water in a well in the latter's country residence near Montmagny, Quebec. Dr. Walter is at present head of the Department of Modern Languages at McGill.

Professoir Morin pleaded not guilty. Assurance was given that the trial would proceed without fail during the present term of the King's Bench.

MILL DESTROYED AT DEERVILLE

Special to The Standard.

Hartland, N. B., March 7—The Hatfield Lumber Company met with a heavy loss last night when their mill at Deerville, Carleton County, was totally destroyed by fire which started from some unknown origin during the night, and, fanned by a strong breeze it was impossible to save anything. The loss is about $6000 with no insurance.

VISCOUNT GREY UNDER THE KNIFE

Underwent An Operation for Ulcer—Patient in Serious Condition.

London, March 7—Viscount Grey of Falloden, former Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, underwent an operation tonight for ulcer. Grave symptoms connected with this long-standing affection necessitated the operation, and although the operation was declared to be successful, the patient is considered to be in quite a serious condition. Viscount Grey is also suffering from a disease of the kidney, which it is announced will need to be dealt with later.

GRACE AND RUBY WHISKEY CARGO MAY BE GIVEN UP

Federal Authorities at Boston Believe the Schooner Will be Released.

THREE MILE SAFETY ZONE FOR A TIME

Officials to Await Adjudication in Case of Schooner Andrew Marshall.

Boston, March 7—The half a million dollar cargo of whiskey and gin, carried by the British schooner Grace and Ruby when she was stopped by a shot from the coast guard cutter Tampa outside this port recently, probably will be returned and the vessel released, Federal authorities have said today. Final decision has not been made as yet, but United States Attorney Robt. O. Harris, said he "would not be surprised" if that action was taken.

Involved in the Grace and Ruby case is the broad question of the policy of the authorities in the matter of liquor laden vessels hovering off the United States coast beyond the three-mile limit. Officials at Washington now have under consideration an agreement not to seize such vessels until the issue has been adjudicated in the case of the schooner Andrew L. Marshall, it was said here.

Evidence Against Schooner

The Grace and Ruby, however, according to testimony at the trial of members of her crew, and others, for conspiring to land liquor, had actually transferred contraband to another vessel, which attempted to land it before the schooner herself was apprehended. The second vessel was the motor boat Wilkin II., which was seized at Salem with a cargo estimated at more than $100,000 when she grounded in the mud.

Arguments were being made today at the trial, in which M. J. (Subsie) Sullivan, of Salem, a boxing promoter, and W. D. Sweeney, of Yarmouth, N. S. alleged owner of the schooner, are joined as defendants with members of the crew.

SEALING FLEET TO GET AWAY ON TIME

Compromise Agreement Reached Between Marine Engineers and Steamer Owners.

St. John's, Nfld., March 7—(Canadian Press)—Under a compromise arrangement, made between the striking marine engineers and most of the sealing steamer owners, all the ships will get away to the ice fields on schedule time. The only firm taking action, independent of the Engineers' Association, is Bowring Brothers, Ltd., who, when the strike started, made special arrangements and had their engine rooms fully staffed. Nine steamships will go to the ice for seals this year, and their crews total slightly over 1,300 men. Major Sidney Cotton, who is now on an air trip to Labrador with mails, is expected back in time to do aerial observation for the sealing fleet.

POLICE DISCARD NEW "CONFESSION"

Taylor Murder Mystery Still Unsolved and Police No Nearer Solution.

Los Angeles, Cal., March 7—Police detectives assigned to the William Desmond Taylor murder mystery, tonight, announced they had discarded the "confession" recently mailed here from Atlantic City, N. J., as the work of an unsound mind. They declared that the hand writing of the man whose name was signed to the "confession" said to be a prominent figure in the motion picture industry, in no way corresponded to that in which the document was written.

BALFOUR THE CHAMPION OF LLOYD GEORGE

Alludes to Premier as One of Greatest Figures in the World's History.

URGES CONTINUANCE OF COALITION

Never, He Declares, Was There a Time When Cooperation Was More Desirable

London, March 7—"He is one of the greatest figures in the world's history—what is the use of abusing him," said Sir Arthur J. Balfour, alluding to the Prime Minister, David Lloyd George, in a speech at the Carlston Club today. The speech, which was expected to give some clarity to the situation, threw no new light on the crisis, however, and Sir Arthur, like his Unionist colleagues, Austen Chamberlain and Sir Laming Worthington-Evans, far from reproaching Sir George Younger, who was the real provoker of the crisis, did not even mention his name.

Plead for Coalition.

Balfour made a powerful plea for continuance of the coalition system as opposed to a return to the two party system which, he declared, was only a fair weather system, totally unsuited to the present abnormal times when the nation was still laboring under the aftermath of the war. Never, he said, was there a time when the co-operation of the Unionists and Liberals was more desirable than now, and declaring that he had spent many years politically fighting Mr. Lloyd George, and therefore ought to know something about him. Mr. Balfour paid a more glowing tribute to Lloyd George than had ever been heard from the Prime Minister's most enthusiastic supporters. The whole importance of the speech lies in the influence it is calculated it will have on the rank and file of the Conservative party as coming from the oldest and most respected leader of that party. The extent of this influence cannot immediately be calculated.

Throughout his political career, including the period of his Premiership, it was always made a reproach against Mr. Balfour by the extremists that he was disinclined to take a strong line on any given policy; it is, therefore, open to surmise that his plea in behalf of the coalition will have but little effect upon the supporters of Younger.

Premier's Plans Unknown.

No announcement was made in the speech of the Premier's future plans, and in this way the speech was disappointing, and Mr. Balfour only repeated in heightened terms the eulogy of the coalition and the assurances of support already conveyed to Mr. Chamberlain and the Secretary for War, and other ministerial colleagues, it leaves the situation unchanged.

While the crisis has subsided, the problem has not been solved. The Prime Minister has acceded to strong representations and will remain to see through the Government's Irish and Genoa policies. He is retiring to the seclusion of his home in Wales for a period variously mentioned as a fortnight to six weeks, leaving active charge of the situation to Mr. Chamberlain and other Cabinet Ministers. His condition tonight was so far improved that he was able to get out of bed. He hopes to preside over the Cabinet Council at noon tomorrow, and will start Thursday morning for Cricoieth.

Dissolution in Autumn.

The general view is that the crisis will not recur until autumn, when Parliament will be dissolved. But the activities of the dissentiest Unionists have by no means ceased, as seen by their determined attacks of the Free State Bill in Parliament yesterday. Sixteen of their leaders, eight in each House today issued a circing manifesto to their followers in a sound Conservative policy, including "efficiency of the second chamber, so gravely impaired of late years," which is a claim for restoration of the Lords' veto and declaring that "the ambiguous language and consistent action of the past must in the future be scrupulously avoided."

This, while not mentioning the Coalition administration, is a clear condemation of what the "die-hards' 'consider the defect in the Coalition policy. It has been reported that Mr. Chamberlain would send a letter to Sir George Younger admonishing him to conform to the policy of the Coalition Chiefs and keep the party machine in harmony with the ministerial intentions, but there is no public announcement that such a step has yet been taken. The Government is receiving ample tokens of support from the rank and file and members outside the "die-hard" group. Two meetings were held today, one composed of Conservatives alone, the other of both Liberals and Conservatives. Both adopted resolutions to give full support to the Coalition, but no general meeting of the whole Unionist party has been called, undoubtedly because it is feared it would show serious differences of opinion.

CANADIAN NEWSPRINT.

Montreal, March 7—The first British order for Canadian newsprint, received here since the war, has been secured by a Quebec pulp and paper company. It is for the use of the London Daily Express.