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The Courier

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VOLUME 12

12 PAGES

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1918.

12 PAGES

NUMBER 4

Sir Wilfrid Laurier is Asking for Liberal Conference

OTTAWA, Nov. 29. — Shortly after his defeat in 1911, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, nominated a committee for campaign purposes, composed of ex-cabinet ministers, and a few members of the house of commons and senators, but this body, over a year ago, got into divisions and practically dissolved itself. As new conditions have arisen, it is officially announced on behalf of the Liberals that this old committee will never be revived even as depleted or otherwise, as it is evident Liberals in every section of Canada are giving expression of their approval of the holding of a National Liberal convention. It is, however, felt that much spadework will be required before that event becomes an actual fact.

The recent meeting at London, when the Liberals in thirty-one electoral districts organized an association for the more efficient development of public opinion and the promotion of Liberal principles and ideals will very early in the new year be taken as a guide for other portions of the province of Ontario to similarly confer for a better understanding of the needs of the country. These are but first steps to be taken in all the provinces.

The next important step is to be taken during the session of parliament, for Sir Wilfrid is communicating with the Liberal association of each province, asking them to select representatives to consult and confer with him, and the other Liberal members of the house of commons. It is expected that delegates will be present to the number of 120, about as follows:

Prince Edward Island, 4; Nova Scotia, 10; New Brunswick, 10;

Quebec, 24; Ontario, 32; Manitoba, 10; Saskatchewan, 10; Alberta, 10, and British Columbia, 10.

The number designated for each province may not be so large as this, but the proportions will be about as here indicated. Sir Wilfrid will ask that these delegates consult and advise with himself and the other Liberal members of the house for a number of days, so as to make a survey of the immediate and pressing conditions of the country, and set out plans to deal with these as well as submit an outline of the procedure to be followed in assembling the National Liberal convention at a date to be settled after the delegates and members of parliament have opportunity to consult the local associations.

Wilson Will Sit at Peace Table

WASHINGTON, Nov. 29. — President Wilson personally will head the American delegation to the peace conference. This was announced officially tonight at the White House. The other members of the delegation will be: Robert Lansing, secretary of state; Colonel E. M. House, Henry White, former ambassador to France and Italy; General Tasker H. Bliss, former chief-of-staff of the army and now American military representative on the supreme war council at Versailles.

Laying Plan to Extradite Kaiser

LONDON, Nov. 28. — The actual procedure to be followed in demanding the surrender of the former emperor of Germany to the Allies will be discussed in London, according to the Daily Express. Premier Clemenceau of France will arrive here Sunday, with Marshal Foch. The British and French governments, the newspaper adds, have reached a decision regarding their right to make the demand on Holland.

NEWCASTLE, Eng., Nov. 29. — In a speech delivered here this evening, Premier Lloyd George, dealing with the question of the responsibility for the invasion of Belgium, said the British government had consulted some of the greatest jurists of the kingdom, and that they unanimously and definitely had arrived at the conclusion that in their judgement the former German emperor was guilty of an indelible offence for which he ought to be held responsible.

From Paris it is reported that Professor Barthelmy is also of the opinion that the former German emperor can be extradited.

British Premier Speaks of Punishing Germany

LONDON, Nov. 29. — David Lloyd George, the British prime minister, in his speech at Newcastle today, said the victory of the entente allies had been due to the ceaseless valor of their men and that it would be a lesson to anybody who in the future thought that they, as the Prussian war lords hoped, "could overlook this little island in their reckoning."

"We are now approaching the peace conference," the premier said. "The price of victory is not vengeance nor retribution, it is prevention. First of all what about those people whom we have received without question for years to our shores; to whom we gave equal rights with our sons and daughters, and who abused that hospitality to betray the land, to plot against its security, to spy upon it and to gain such information as enabled the Prussian war lords to inflict, not punishment, but damage and injury upon the land that had received them as guests? Never again."

Mr. Lloyd George said the interests of security and fair play demanded that it should be made perfectly clear that the people who acted in this way merited punishment for the damage they had inflicted.

The second question was the question of indemnities, the premier added. In every court of justice throughout the world the party which lost has had to bear the cost of the litigation. When Germany defeated France she established the principle, and there was no doubt that the principle was the right one. Germany must pay the cost of the war up to the limit of her capacity.

"But I must use one word of warning," said Mr. Lloyd George. "We have to consider the question of Germany's capacity. Whatever happens, Germany is not to be allowed to pay her indemnity by dumping cheap goods upon us. That is the only limit in principle we are laying down. She must not be allowed to pay for her wanton damage and devastation by dumping cheap goods and wrecking our industries.

"There is a third and last point. Is no one to be made responsible for the war? Somebody has been responsible for a war that has taken

the lives of millions of the best young men of Europe. Is not anyone to be made responsible for that? If not, all I can say is that if that is the case, there is one justice for the poor wretched criminal and another for kings and emperors."

Mr. Lloyd George declared that there were two offences against the law of nations that had been committed.

"One," he said, "is the crime against humanity in the deliberate plotting of the great war; the other is the outrage upon international law. It is a crime, a brutal crime, to devastate the land of another. Whoever did that ought to be responsible for it.

"The submarine warfare did not mean only the sinking of ships, but it was a crime against humanity, in that it sank thousands of harmless merchantmen. In the whole history of warfare between nations that had never been sanctioned. It is rank piracy and the pirates must receive the punishment.

"I mean to see that the men who did not treat our prisoners with humanity are to be made responsible. I want this country to go to court with a clear conscience, and she will do so. There is not a stain on her record. We will not be afraid to appear before any tribunal."

"Now these are the things which we have to investigate. We mean that the investigation shall be an impartial one, a perfectly fair one. We also mean that it shall be a stern one, and that it shall go on to the final reckoning.

"We have got so to act that men in the future who feel tempted to follow the example of the rulers who plunged the world into this war will know what is waiting them at the end of it. We shall have to see that this terrible war, which has inflicted so much destruction on the world, which has arrested the course of civilization and in many ways put it back, which has left marks on the minds, upon the physique and the hearts of myriads in many lands that this generation will not see obliterated—we must see by the action we take now, just, fearless and relentless, that it is a crime that shall never again be repeated in the history of the world."

Hon. Robert Rogers, Guest at Toronto Banquet, Addresses Conservatives

Colonel J. A. Currie Delivers Fighting Speech, and Recommends Reorganisation.

TORONTO, Ont. — Hon. Robert Rogers addressed the Conservatives of Ontario at the banquet tendered him on the evening of Nov 28th at the King Edward hotel. The feature of the proceedings was the fiery effort of Col. John A. Currie, M.P., who called upon the Conservatives to reorganize.

If any strong, clear call was expected from the Hon. Mr. Rogers—and indications were not lacking that such was the case—the more than 800 Conservatives mostly from Toronto, but a fair representation from the province and a few from the maritime provinces, were disappointed.

Col. John A. Currie, who sat at the head table at the right hand of Mr. Rogers, declared the party truce was over and called upon Conservatives to reform their ranks. "The party truce is at an end," said the Colonel. "We have that on the word of Sir Wilfrid Laurier—who did not make the truce—Hon. W. S. Fielding and Walter Scott says the truce is at an end."

The organizers of the banquet were not made known, except that they were chiefly Toronto Conservatives, with Lieut.-Colonel Boyd Magee as the chairman of the

"committee" having the matter in hand. Colonel Magee was referred to in a complimentary manner by the chief guest. Col. Currie was responsible for the statement that every constituency in the province of Ontario was represented at the banquet. He himself wore a committee badge.

One senator, Hon. W. H. Bradbury, of Selkirk, Man., seven members of the house of commons, one ex-M.P., Lieut.-Col. J. J. Carriek, of Port Arthur, three members of the Ontario legislature and one M.L.A. from Nova Scotia, Frank Stanfield, of Truro, were present.

The welcome to Mr. Rogers was enthusiastic, but little more so than

Revolutionary Ideas in British Labor Party

LONDON, Dec. 1. — The British Labor party held a big meeting at Albert hall last night to discuss labor questions and the league of nations. The "Red Flag" was sung and revolutionary sentiments were expressed. A large proportion of the singers were Russians from the east end. The meeting was the sequel of a quarrel between laborites and the managers of the hall at a similar meeting held during victory week. The management cancelled the contract for last night's meeting which had been arranged a week ago, whereupon the electrical workers' union threatened to cut off the lights from the hall during the ball on Wednesday night. The underground railway workers and taxi-cab men threatened to go on strike the same night, so the management decided to allow the contract for last night's meeting to stand.

Resolutions were adopted at the meeting demanding the immediate release of all political prisoners and calling the attention of President Wilson to "the urgent need of justice" in the case of Thomas J. Mooney, the Labor leader at San Francisco.

Another resolution adopted demanded the creation of a democratic league of peoples based on the abolition of conscription, disarmament, self-determination of all peoples, including Ireland, and other subject peoples in the British empire; the withdrawal of the allied armies from Russia; the immediate restoration of the workers' international and the inclusion of international labor charter in the peace terms.

James Ramsay MacDonald, former chairman of the Labor party, and Mrs. Philip Snowden, a woman suffrage advocate, were the principal speakers.

It was announced at the meeting that £100,000 had been received for the establishment of a daily Labor paper.

that given to Colonel Currie. The ex-minister's speech was lengthy, and he read it. At the conclusion he was cheered.

In introducing Mr. Rogers, the chairman, Mayor Church, stated that the dinner had been tendered as an expression of regard for Mr. Rogers as a former minister of the government, and he paid tribute to the ex-minister of public works for what he had done in the matter of improvements to the harbor here.

Mr. Rogers in his address paid a tribute to the gallant soldiers of the Dominion and touched on the necessity of quick and businesslike demobilization. He also voiced the pride of Canada in the achievements of the British navy. In speaking of reconstruction and Canada's future, he touched on the manufacturing interests and labor as follows:

"With real efficiency Canadians will be quite as able as Europeans or Americans to manufacture—and just as cheaply—the articles we require. We have abundance of raw material, abundance of natural products, abundance of cheap power and we also have an abundance of capable labor in Canada. There is nothing too difficult or too intricate for us to undertake."

On the question of the Canadian National policy, Mr. Rogers said:

"I will be told that a progressive national policy is just that same old policy. Believe me when I say, that no community in any part of Canada will be safe in future, unless it knows and fully understands what the value of a progressive Canadian National policy means for our country. Today, more than ever before, Canada's future depends on the safe and sound exercise of our inherent right to regulate our own affairs."

(Continued on page 5.)

ELEVEN HUNDRED JEWS MASSACRED IN LEMBERG

LONDON, Nov. 29. — Eleven hundred Jews were killed during the recent massacre in Lemberg, according to despatches in the Berlin newspapers, transmitted by the Copenhagen correspondent of the Central News. Hundreds of Jews are said to have barricaded themselves in a synagogue, which was set afire. Those who attempted to escape from this refuge were fired upon.

STOCKHOLM, Nov. 29. — At the office of the Jewish News Agency it was announced that the programs which took place last Friday and Sunday in Lemberg the Jewish suburbs and other parts of the city were destroyed. Bombs were thrown on 600 Jewish houses and several thousand persons were killed.

News in Brief

—The German government will invite President Wilson to visit Germany while he is in Europe, says the Berlin Lokal Anzeiger.

—The German post-office department has suppressed the postal privileges of the German ruling princes who have not yet abdicated, according to a telegram from Dresden.

—The minister of war of Wurttemberg has resigned, according to a despatch from Stuttgart. He has been replaced by First Sergt. Fischer.

—The Von Ketteler monument erected under compulsion of the German government in Peking, China, is being removed. The monument cost about \$500,000.

—All the German soldiers in Holland have been disarmed and sent to Germany, according to a Berlin despatch to the Rheinisch Westphalian Gazette, of Essen.

—One of the most serious cotton fires in the history of Bombay took place a few days ago. Seventeen thousand bales of cotton warehoused on the docks were destroyed and the damage is estimated at 250,000 pound sterling.

—The Telegraph states that iron crosses, bestowed by the kaiser in such large quantities during the war are now being sold in Germany for five pfennig (one cent) each.

—The Hungarian government has decided that the official title of Hungary from now on shall be the "Hungarian Peoples Republic."

—Two hundred persons were killed by an explosion in a factory in Cologne, following the failure of revolutionaries to induce the workmen to strike, it was announced by the Taegliche Rundschau.

—A fatal panic occurred in a rotation picture theatre in Madrid, Spain, when an unidentified person cried "fire." The theatre was crowded, most of the audience being children, and twenty children and one soldier were trampled to death. Twelve children were injured severely.

—The Politiken's Helsingfors correspondent reports a three-hours' bombardment of Vitikalla, Finland, by three Russian warships, flying the red flag of Kronstadt. The despatch adds that the Finnish government has ordered the evacuation of the frontier district fearing hostilities.

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