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The Toronto World

FRIDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 28 1919

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CAPITAL AND LABOR UNITE TO PROBE UNREST IN BRITAIN

ROWELL-HEARST PACT HAS A LOOK OF CONTINUANCE

Conservative Caucus Longest in Records of Administration.
 Flood of Non-Committal Verbiage Characterizes Day's Outpouring.

The Conservative caucus which lasted till the opening of the house yesterday, was the longest in the records of the present administration. The government must have managed to enforce the discipline of silence on the principle of the least said is soonest mended, but the ensuing session was thinly attended by Sir William Hearst's followers. They may have absent themselves from the chamber to nurse their sore feelings, but the Liberal benches for the greater part of the afternoon were also empty. Evidently the Liberal caucus did not restore either harmony or cheerfulness to the opposition members. Both party gatherings were called for the purpose of drawing up clearer lines of policy, with respect to the temperance issue, the duration of the legislative session, and the attitude to be taken up towards labor and agriculture. So far as the speeches of the leaders in the chamber indicated, the no clearer lines had been drawn and that the Rowell-Hearst pact holds with undiminished force for the session.

An innumerable Conservative described the position of the government to the world in this way: The Hearst government is an overhanging tenant with the U. P. D. built in possession. Must Write.

Indefinite disconnected verbiage marked both speeches. Mr. Proudfoot spoke once on the necessity for unity, but the rest of his remarks got to what the audience was waiting to hear. Premier Hearst kept to the open sea of non-committal oratory for an hour, and the floor still at six o'clock. While they were talking, a flashlight photographer had them in focus, but if he could get what was in his mind, he would have not have been profitably engaged.

Immediately before resuming the debate, Mr. Proudfoot had a consultation with Sir William Hearst. Mr. Proudfoot, on rising, was received with Liberal cheers. He felt that the present session is important, because, the the the the the the deal remains to be done connected with the war. He made sympathetic references to the late Mr. Hoyle of North Ontario, and to Dr. Jessop of St. Catharines. From these memorial tributes, he turned to felicitating Dr. Pyne on his translation to a life position, and then to a eulogy of Mr. Wilford Laurier. He said the late Liberal chief had always worked for the betterment of Canada, but time alone can tell how far he succeeded in his efforts.

Imperishable Name. Reference to the deeds of the soldiers of Canada on the battlefields of France and Flanders in the annual of the world.

In regard to the work of repatriation, he quoted Col. Mulloy on the needs of the soldier who returned during demobilization. The conditions of the day appeared to the government to do its utmost to prevent.

(Concluded on Page 9, Column 4)

PROFESSIONAL INDEMNITY IS BEING INCREASED

special to Toronto World.
 Ottawa, Feb. 27.—It seems to be generally understood that the seasonal indemnity for members of parliament will be increased from \$2500 to \$3500. An announcement to this effect may be made by the acting prime minister in the near future.

HOMER CONTROVERSY IS STILL SHROUDED IN DEEP MYSTERY

No Explanation for Sending Two Tons of Liquor to Homer.
 A LEGAL OPINION

Conservative Lawyer Says Entire Affair Has Decidedly Suspicious Look.

Having ventured one weak tackle as his contribution to the Homer controversy, the Globe seems to have thereby exhausted the wells of its wit. Yesterday it went back to the plain plodding style of discussing prohibition, leaving Chief License Inspector Ayeaert's own resources. The inspector, for his part, appears to have wrapped himself in stubborn silence. That attitude can avail him but little.

A leading member of the bar, who is a prominent Conservative, has signed an opinion upon Ayeaert's signed statement to the Globe, which Hon. Mr. Lucas in his official capacity of attorney-general says is a satisfactory explanation. The Conservative jurist's opinion is as follows:

"Mr. Ayeaert declares in The Globe that this large quantity of whiskey was actually in Toronto when he received information concerning it. He admits his instructions were issued for its purchase and it was upon those instructions that he shipped it to Homer, in a very close election contest was drawing to an end. The conclusion in my opinion is unavoidable in the absence of plain and convincing proof of some entirely innocent motive for sending the liquor to Homer, that it was intended to be used for illegal election purposes. Until an entirely innocent reason for sending liquor into the St. Catharines riding a few days before the election has been established to the satisfaction of the public, no other reason than an improper one connected with the election should be suggested. It is even worse to suggest that some motive of the license inspector that cannot be made public was involved. There should not be any motive that cannot be made public. If there be such a reason the chief official of the license board cannot on public grounds defend it or depend upon it as some-thing that is his own secret, or the secret of the board, because such a secret would amount to a grave offence against public policy, and of the magnitude of the offence by reason of its secrecy as to smash the government."

The White Denial. The words in receipt of a great deal of carefully elaborated information concerning the Employers' Detective Agency as being connected with the license board and its affairs. For the present, however, The World is dealing with the Homer episode alone and a week ago it interviewed Mr. White of the Employers' Agency. Mr. White and his manager denied any knowledge of Clyde and McPhail and positively denied that these men have ever been employed at White's Detective or as detectives of the Employers' Agency. If the replies were correct, they excluded the Employers' Agency from the scope of our enquiry.

From sources near the parliamentary buildings, it is learned that no definite action is being taken on occasions in catching bootleggers are charged against the license commissioners, and must come out at any severe investigation of the board. The World is not concerned with this. The object appears to be to represent the license commissioners as easy marks for rogues and crooks. Inferentially they were victimized by crooks in the Homer case.

Why to Homer? This idea might be a good one, but unfortunately it falls to offer any reason for sending the liquor into Homer. That is the knotty point which Ayeaert has not even attempted to explain beyond saying to an evening paper that he had nowhere else to store it. In the same statement, as in the statement to The Globe, he said the liquor went from Toronto to Homer. Therefore in sending it to Homer, he came up against the cold logic of the statement of counsel learned in the law which is quoted above.

In the face of all this, we challenge The Globe notwithstanding its blind championship of the Rowell-Hearst pact to call for a royal commission or other competent tribunal to bring out the facts of the Homer liquor scandal, to which the public is most unquestionably entitled.

SUDDEN RISE IN SEINE.
 Paris, Feb. 27.—A sudden rise in the River Seine occurred today as a result of floods in the streams which flow into it above Paris. The river showed a rise of nearly nine inches in the last twenty-four hours.



Large numbers of people now in England are eager to get away to their homes beyond the seas. This queue was photographed outside the London passport office, and nearly all of those seen in it were waiting to get their passports for Canada. It has been estimated that considerable difficulty will attend the shipping of passengers from England to this country for some months, on account of the rush of traffic.

RADICAL MEASURES BY MUNICH SOVIET

Housing Commissioner Given Dictatorial Powers for Seizure of Buildings.

Berlin, Feb. 27.—The soviet congress in Munich has not yet reached an agreement regarding the proposal to proclaim a soviet republic in Bavaria, to which the regular Socialists are strongly opposed. According to reports received here, the prospects for the adoption of this measure by the Munich proletariat, which would signify a complete breach with the national government, are not as strong as formerly.

The Munich congress, however, has adopted several radical measures, including one providing for dwellings for working men, and one for the regulation of the non-Socialist press. The housing commissioner is given dictatorial power to seize palaces, villas and barracks and convert them into lodging for the working people. The non-Socialist papers are compelled to publish proletarian propaganda, and the clerical organ, The Baierische Volkszeitung, has been selected to publish a series of articles preaching atheism.

One speaker before the congress proposed that the churches be taken over by the people and converted into temples where all dogmas and beliefs could be preached. It is believed here that the effect of such proposals in a strong Catholic country like Bavaria will bring the differences between the radicals in the cities and the churchmen in the country to the explosion point.

ALSACE AND LORRAINE WANT NO PLEBISCITE

Paris, Feb. 27.—The superior council of Alsace and Lorraine at its first meeting in the French war office, adopted a resolution declaring against the German proposals for a plebiscite in Alsace-Lorraine. The council was created to adjust various matters connected with the provisional administration of the two provinces. The resolution reads:

"We refuse to stand for any foreign interference in our national affairs such as those attempted at Weimar (the seat of the German national assembly) and elsewhere, with the object of making the future of Alsace and Lorraine depend on a plebiscite. We most energetically deny to all Germans the right of manifesting solicitude for us which comes forty years too late. We are, and will remain, French without any plebiscite, thru the restoration of the rights violated in 1871."

MINERS TO POSTPONE STRIKE NOTICES

London, Feb. 27.—The conference of the National Federation of Miners decided today to postpone the strike notices, which were to become effective March 15, for one week.

ST. JOHN POLICEMEN WIN OUT IN DISPUTE

St. John, N.B., Feb. 27.—The report of a conciliation board appointed in the police dispute here was made public today. It recommends that the Police Protective Association of St. John be permitted to retain its charter issued by the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada as affiliated therewith, provided by laws, etc., be approved by a joint committee of police and city council with independent chairman to guard against affiliation that might conflict with police duty. Financial reimbursement for the city for those policemen dismissed some months ago because of the union also is recommended. The ruling is unanimous. The common council today accepted it.

ITALY PRESENTS LIST OF LOSSES

Amount in Men to 1:10 Per Cent. of Her Population and That of Colonies.

Paris, Feb. 27.—Dr. Silvio Crespel, Italian minister of food and transportation, has presented to the reparations commission of the peace conference a statement showing Italy's losses, also she entered the war ten months after the beginning.

"Killed, 462,391; wounded, 953,886, half of whom are permanently disabled. Naval losses show 3,159 killed and 5,252 wounded. The total number of men incapacitated during the war is shown to be 4,314,425, which includes over two million sick."

The statement concludes by saying: "These losses amount to 1:10 per cent. of the population of Italy and her colonies. The Italian navy lost eight dreadnoughts, eight submarines and 25 smaller ships. Italy also lost 880,000 tons of merchant shipping, or 57.5 per cent. of her total tonnage. Her total money output was \$13,000,000,000, figuring exchange at par."

QUEBEC EXPECTS LIQUOR PLEBISCITE

Before First of May People to Vote on Prohibition Measure.

Quebec, Feb. 27.—While no official outline has been given yet of the Quebec license bill which has been presented in the house by the Hon. Walter Mitchell, and which is expected any day now, it is understood that measure provides for a referendum throughout the province which would be taken before the first of May, next, to have the people choose between absolute prohibition and beer and wine.

In Two Sections. The bill, it is intimated, is divided into two sections, the first conferring the act passed at the last session effecting absolute prohibition to take effect on May 1, 1919, and the second providing for the legalizing of the manufacture and sale of beer containing not more than 2.1-2 per cent. of its weight in alcohol, and wine not containing more than 8 per cent. alcohol over-proof. The second section provides for the referendum.

CLEMENCEAU ATTENDS MEETING OF POWERS

Expects to Return Next Week to Resume Presidency of the Council.

Paris, Feb. 27.—Premier Clemenceau today attended the meeting of the great powers, the first time he had met his conferees since the attempt against his life a little more than a week ago. The premier remained for half an hour discussing various great questions in which France is rightly interested. He told his colleagues he would return next week to resume the presidency of the council.

The premier looked well and vigorous and gave no sign of the recent ordeal he had undergone and jokingly referred to his experience. David Lloyd George, the British prime minister, has made arrangements so that he will arrive in Paris March 8, when it is expected that all the commissions will have reported, that M. Clemenceau will again be presiding and that action will be begun on the preliminary peace treaty.

REVOLUTIONARY LEAGUE FORMED IN BARCELONA

Madrid, Feb. 27.—The situation in Barcelona has grown worse and the authorities there have requested the Madrid government to send forces of men necessary to meet the situation. It is reported that a revolutionary league has been formed in Barcelona with the purpose of cutting the water mains and electric cables. Wednesday night troops patrolled the city, which is in complete darkness.

40,000,000 Marks Damages Demanded for Berlin Uprisings

Berlin, Feb. 27.—Damages to the amount of 40,000,000 marks have been demanded for 4,930 souls fled up to the present time, for losses sustained as a result of the Spartacan uprising in Berlin.



Stoort: Heist an' Proudfoot has made another trace all no mention th' Homer whiskey affair in th' house as lang as nae yin e'se brings it up.

Stoort: It's their nickel shells that I fear most. Hoo lang, think ye, Th' Tely'll stan' for nickel?

JOINT COMMITTEE TO PROBE THE INDUSTRIAL SITUATION

Resolution Adopted at a Great Gathering of Employers and Employed in London--Restoration of Confidence the First Thing, Says Lloyd George--Committee to Report April Fifth.

London, Feb. 27.—After an all-day session devoted to airing the various phases of labor unrest, the industrial conference, called by the government and in which government ministers, labor leaders and representatives of the big employing interests participated, adopted a resolution presented by Arthur Henderson, laborite, for the appointment of a joint temporary committee, to be composed of thirty laborites and thirty capitalists to make a thorough investigation into the questions of hours, wages, general conditions of work, unemployment and its prevention and the best means for promoting the relations between capital and labor, and report back to the conference, which will reassemble on April 5.

ZIONIST CLAIMS ARE PRESENTED TO CONFERENCE

Minimum Demands Comprise Communities in Palestine. ITALY INSISTENT Armenia Claims New State Which Will Include Port of Alexandretta.

Paris, Feb. 27.—An official communication regarding the day's proceedings at the peace conference, issued tonight, reads as follows: "A meeting of the ministers and representatives of the allied and associated powers was held today at the Quai d'Orsay. It began at 3 p.m. and lasted until 5:30 p.m. M. Clemenceau came to M. Pichon's rooms in order to resume work with the delegates to the conference."

"On motion by the American delegate it was decided to organize a central commission for territorial questions. "Afterwards the Zionist case was presented by Dr. Weizmann and M. Sokolow, representing the Zionist organization; Professor Sylvain Levi, of the College of France and a member of the Palestine committee; Andre Spiro, representing the French Zionist organization, and Mr. Szyzvalkin, representing the Jews of Russia. The Zionist claims vary and the minimum comprise establishment of a Jewish state in Palestine and the guaranty of special rights and sovereignty for these communities. The maximum claims call for the creation of a Jewish state in order that the Jews may have a national home where they can live in peace. Several governments, especially England and the United States, have shown a special interest in the movement."

Italy insists on Shara. On representations made by the Albanian minister in the United States it is understood that Italy has consented to lift the embargo to permit the passage of food supplies to southeastern Europe.

Armenia's Claims Heard. The claims of Armenia, which were placed before the supreme peace conference yesterday, are understood to be as follows: "First—Liberation from the Turkish yoke. "Second—The formation of a new Armenian state to be made up of the six Armenian provinces of Turkey and the territories of the Armenian province in the Caucasus, including the port of Alexandretta, which is already claimed by Syria."

Third—Protection for twenty years by a great power under a mandate from the league of nations. The Armenian delegation, in presenting its case, stated that the Armenian republic and the adjacent sections inhabited by Armenians embraced 60,000 square kilometres, with 2,000,000 people and an army of 40,000, which took an active part against the Turks. The delegates asked the powers to recognize Armenian independence and proposed that the new Armenian state be placed under the care of the league of nations, which would designate a mandatory power to assist Armenia in its development to a self-sustaining basis.

STRUCK BY MOTOR CAR; YOUNG WOMAN DYING

While proceeding home late last evening, after a concert at the Hotel de Ville, Rose Wilcox, 24 years of age, a domestic employed on Palmerston avenue, was struck by an auto driven by John Warren, 14 Buchanan street, and sustained a fracture of the skull.

She had alighted from a westbound car at the corner of Bloor street and Palmerston avenue and apparently stepped behind it with the intention of crossing to the other side of the street when the auto came along and knocked her down. Warren states that he did not notice her until his car struck her. He is held on a charge of criminal negligence. At 2 o'clock this morning the girl was slowly sinking and she was not expected to live until morning.

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