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ST. JOHN, N. B., MONDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 22, 1919

FINE AND WARMER

THREE CENTS

TWENTY-THREE PERSONS KILLED AND THIRTY-FOUR INJURED AS RESULT OF COLLISION AT ONAWA

Most of Those Who Lost Their Life When C.P.R. Freight, Bound East, Crashed Into Boat Special from St. John, Were Killed Instantly—A Number Lingered to Die En Route to the Hospital—Failure of the Freight Engineer to Count Number of Specials Passing Him Was Direct Cause of the Collision—Scene Described by Passenger on Train from Montreal to This City.

Sherbrooke, Que., Dec. 20.—One of the worst railroad tragedies which has ever occurred in this district took place at seven fifteen this morning when some twenty persons were killed and thirty-four injured on the Canadian Pacific line at what is known as Badfish siding, a mile and a half west of Onawa, Maine. The passenger train, which collided with a freight, was a special bringing sturgeon pass-engers from the Empress of France, which landed at St. John, N. B., and was bound west. It is stated the engineer received a notice to hold his train at Badfish siding but receiving notice of the arrival of another section of the special, he proceeded.

The engines telescoped, the engine crews of both trains being killed. Engineer Bailey, of the passenger special, and Engineer Wilson, of the freight, both meeting their fate, in addition to the firemen.

The two coaches behind the engine were smashed to splinters, and it is uncertain just how many were killed and injured. Early reports from Lake Umbagog said that the entire number of occupants of the two coaches were killed, but this was later reduced to approximately fifteen, which does not include the crews of the engines.

Onawa, Maine, Dec. 20.—The bodies of eleven persons were removed from the wreckage and laid in a row on the snow covered embankment awaiting identification.

The passengers who were turned or injured are known to number thirty-five, and they were taken to a hospital at Brownville Junction by a special train which was sent with doctors and nurses from that point.

Later information from the wreck, which is a mile from this little village, was that the dead trainmen were the engineers of two trains, rather than the conductors as first reported. The collision was reported to have been due to the failure of the freight train, which was east bound, to obey orders to stop at Badfish, a small siding near here, but this was not confirmed.

The B. & A. assisted in the transportation of C. P. R. passengers between Greenville and Brownville Junction, while the track was blocked, conveying them by way of Derby.

C.P.R. Statement.

Montreal, Dec. 20.—The Canadian Pacific Railway Company issued the following statement this morning: "At 7:15 o'clock this morning, east of Onawa, a freight train collided with a special train from St. John with sturgeon passengers landing from the Empress of France and bound west. The freight train went through the engine and two coaches of the special train. Wires are all down as a result of the accident, so that the number of casualties cannot yet be ascertained here. Relief trains left at once from Brownville and Mesanic with doctors, nurses and relief supplies of all kinds."

Six Unidentified.

Montreal, Que., Dec. 21.—Failure to count the number of C.P.R. passenger specials from the liner Empress of France which docked at St. John, N. B., by the engineer of the eastbound freight, was apparently the direct cause of the collision which took place at Onawa on Saturday morning, when twenty-three persons were killed and thirty-four injured. The freight engineer let three of the passenger specials pass him and did not wait for the fourth. This was the direct cause of the collision, which resulted in the death of twenty-three persons and the injury of thirty-four.

The freight engineer was reported to have been taken in at the box office, was also reported to have been destroyed.

The theatre was formerly a tenement house and was purchased by the late David M. Richards more than ten years ago and remodelled. He afterwards conducted the Gem Theatre there for some years and then leased the building and business to Mr. Spencer, who estimates the amount he had spent on the building in improvements, renovations, extensions and equipment at about \$10,000. Mr. Spencer's fire insurance amounted to \$4,000 and \$5,000, but he also is further protected by "use and occupancy" insurance, which means his losses will be continued for a period, at the conclusion of which he will doubtless have plans for re-establishing his business in Fredericton. Mrs. Richards, who owns the building, carried some like \$5,000 insurance, while the value of the theatre was probably twice that amount. The films destroyed were said to be valued at not less than \$2,000, but responsibility as to that loss is uncertain and it is not believed they are insured.

Mrs. Richards is out of town, having been at Boiestown recently visiting friends, but she is expected to return here on Monday morning. It is not believed, however, that she will undertake the building of a new theatre, as the site is leasehold, being owned by the University of New Brunswick.

Moves Under Way Toward Effecting Coalition Government in Alberta

Calgary, Alta., December 21.—"Moves toward effecting a coalition government in the Province of Alberta are under way, involving prominent members of both sides," the Calgary Herald says today. It goes on:

"According to accurate information in the possession of the Herald, the services of a prominent Albertan, who is personally very friendly to Premier Charles Stewart, have been enlisted to ascertain what sort of a cabinet line-up would be acceptable to Opposition members, according to this information three of the present Cabinet have signified their willingness to drop out of the Government in order to effect such a coalition.

"These three ministers are said to be Hon. Archie McLean, of Taber, Minister of Public Works; Hon. A. G. McKay, of Athabasca, Minister of Health and Municipalities, and Hon. J. L. Cole, of Grubard, Provincial Secretary."

PREMIER TO OUTLINE POLICY FOR SETTLING IRISH QUESTION IN HOUSE OF COMMONS TODAY

Press Comment Varied as to What Premier Should Do in View of the Recent Attack on Viscount French—Archbishops and Priests Condemn the Attempt on the Viceroy's Life.

London, Dec. 20.—Commenting on the question as to whether the attack on Viscount French would influence the proposals for settling the Irish question, which the Premier has promised to outline in the House of Commons Monday, the Daily Chronicle, which is a staunch supporter of Mr. Lloyd George, says that it ought not to affect the government's plans at all. "The real case of Irish Home Rule is in no wise affected by such outrages," says the Chronicle, "and the government will be taking necessary precautions to suppress murder, and the attempt to assassinate the Viceroy should be of no more use now than it has ever been.

"The Daily News, which strongly deprecates the attempted assassination and recalling how the Cavendish murder helped to wreck the settlement in the '80s' traces the other recent crimes to the government's policy since 1917, and declares that coercion would be of no more use now than it has ever been.

"The Daily Mail, under the caption, 'Ireland is Boiling Over,' denounces the government's 'insane policy' and says that the only worst thing that has happened since the Viceroy would be 'that the crime should be seized upon as an excuse for prolonging the era of repression and deferring a liberal measure of self-government such as all Irishmen of good will would accept.'

"The opposite view is expressed by the Morning Post, which, under the heading 'Let it be War,' says: 'There is no alternative for the government but submission or repression.'

"The Post demands repression, says 'Murder and outrage flourish in Ireland because they enjoy immunity from the law. Let us therefore let it suffer the consequences of being at war. Let its leaders and members be held responsible for the deeds done in the show.'

Act Condemned

Dublin, Dec. 21.—A letter from Archbishop Walsh, condemning the attempt on the life of Viscount French, was read in all the Catholic churches in the Dublin diocese today. In his letter the archbishop says: "The attempt by assassination of the Viceroy, which started and shocked the city yesterday, calls for the melancholy protest of every Irishman who loves his country and who hopes to see the present rule of coercive government in Ireland brought to a final end."

Cardinal Logue, Archbishop of Armagh and primate of all Ireland, telegraphed to Viscount French hearty congratulations on "his close escape from a dastardly attempt."

In a message denouncing the crime, Cardinal Logue says: "We have been treated like children our nurses dangling toys and taxing their ingenuity to keep us quiet by devising some shadowy distraction. But our people should be patient, knowing that any unnatural and violent state of things cannot last. Above all there should be no reprisals in that way like the 'Bloody Sunday' of 1920."

Force Newspaper Office

Dublin, Dec. 21.—Unknown persons tonight forced their way into the building of the Daily Independent and smashed all the machines of the newspaper with crowbars. The raiders are said to have been Sinn Feiners.

Before smashing the machinery some of the men entered the editorial room and overawed the staff there at work with revolvers. When leaving they said: "You can consider yourself suppressed for some time."

The incident is attributed to an unfriendly comment on the Sinn Fein movement by the Independent.

Ottawa Dispensary Radicals Banned From America

Did Land Office Business Sat.

Three Prescriptions a Minute Filled for Liquor During Four Hours Office Was Open.

Ottawa, Dec. 21.—Moving picture fans of the capital, especially those inclined to "gossip" are in line for an absolutely up-to-date and original eye full. An enterprising moving picture camera man caught the line at the government liquor dispensary Saturday when a real land office business was being done. About three prescriptions a minute for liquor for "medical purposes only" were filled in the four hours the dispensary was open. The attitude of the staff toward the moving picture man showed that they were of the opinion he was not needed as an additional remedy for their ills.

British Schooner Complete Loss

Wallis, Mass., Dec. 21.—The 36-ton British schooner James Slater, bound from Liverpool, N. S., for New York, went ashore here early today and will be a total loss. Captain J. L. Publicover and his crew of seven men were taken off by the Caboon's Hollow coast guard crew by means of the breeches buoy. The vessel had a cargo of wood pulp.

AMNESTY FOR ALL CANADIANS HELD UNDER M. S. ACT

Release of All Imprisoned for Offences, and the Suspension of Proceedings Against Others is Provided for.

GENERAL JAIL DELIVERY TODAY

Minister of Justice Holds it Expedient That, for Purposes of Re-establishment, Amnesty Should be Granted

Ottawa, Ont., Dec. 21.—Release of all Canadians imprisoned for offences under the Military Act, and the suspension of all proceedings against others, is provided for in a proclamation which will appear in an extra of the Canada Gazette to be issued on Monday. An Order-in-Council signed late on Saturday by His Excellency the Governor-General makes provision for this general amnesty to military offenders.

The Order-in-Council is based upon a report of Hon. C. J. Doherty, which sets forth the reasons which actuated the Government in deciding upon this important step.

"The Minister observes," says the report, "that it is in his opinion expedient, in view of the restoration of peace and for the general purposes of re-establishment, that amnesty should be graciously extended to all such present military offenders so that those now undergoing imprisonment may be discharged; so that pending prosecutions for the offences aforesaid may be discontinued, and so that all offences heretofore committed and the penalties incurred and not actually enforced and paid shall be generally pardoned, forgiven and remitted. The Minister therefore recommends that a proclamation of amnesty be issued for offenders be issued in pursuance of the powers in that behalf vested in your Excellency."

The adoption of this Order-in-Council means that, unless delay occurs in connection with the issuance of the necessary proclamation, there will be a general jail delivery of offenders under the Military Act on Monday. Exact figures of the number of prisoners to be released are not available tonight, but as the terms of the majority of those imprisoned under the Act have expired, the number is not large. The majority of the offenders paid fines and were not imprisoned.

LIBERAL LEADER TO VISIT HERE JANUARY 13TH

His Trip is in Connection With the Proposed Plan of Organization and Education as Outlined by National Liberal Committee.

Ottawa, Dec. 21.—Arrangements have been almost completed for the tour which Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King plans to make after the New Year, in connection with the proposed plan of organization and education as outlined at the recent meetings here of the National Liberal committee. On January 6th, Mr. King will attend a banquet being given Newmarket in his honor by the Liberals of North York, and he will afterwards speak there.

From Newmarket Mr. King will go direct to the Maritime Provinces, speaking at Halifax on Saturday, January 10; Charlottetown, P. E. I., on Tuesday, January 13, and St. John, N. B., on Thursday, January 15.

He will then return to Ottawa and, if time permits before the opening of the House, will make a similar brief tour of the Western Provinces, probably speaking in Montreal and Quebec on his return from the west.

It is expected that Mr. King will be accompanied on his tour by Mr. Andrew Hayden, general secretary of the National Organization Committee and by one or two other Liberal speakers.

PHYSICIANS BUSY WRITING "PERS" IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

Curb Put on Their Activities in Writing Prescriptions Calling for Spirituous Liquors.

Victoria, B. C., Dec. 21.—In the eight months from July to October, inclusive, doctors in British Columbia issued 188,120 prescriptions for liquor. Of these totals 113,273 were issued by Vancouver doctors; 27,340 came from Victoria; and 47,507 from the balance of the Province, according to figures issued today by Attorney-General Harris.

Doctors are now limited to two hundred prescriptions each month. Before this regulation was in effect one doctor prescribed four thousand cases in one month.

War Time Restrictions Under War Measure Act To Be Removed Jan. 1st

Importation, Manufacture and Inter-Provincial Trade in Alcoholic Liquors, and Race Track Betting Are Two of Chief Prohibitives to be Abrogated — In Making Announcement Government Holds That, Although No Proclamation Has Been Issued, War Conditions Long Ago Ceased to Exist.

Ottawa, Dec. 21.—With the first of January Canada practically comes to a peace basis. Wartime restrictions imposed by order-in-council under the War Measures Act, will, with some exceptions, be removed and in the case of the exceptions the Orders-in-Council terminate at the end of the next session of Parliament.

The war time restrictions which will cease to be operative on New Year's Day include those on race track betting and on importation, manufacture and inter-provincial trade in alcoholic liquors. The orders-in-council remaining in force include, pulp and paper control, coal and sugar control, silver coinage, trading with the enemy, exportation of gold, interment operations, greater production in Indian reserves, censorship. Abrogation of the Federal orders-in-council regarding liquors does not affect the restrictions on the sale imposed by the various provinces, but with the close of the present year there will, apparently, be no restrictions on the importations for personal use of liquor from one province to the other. At present there is a Federal statute which prohibits importation for sale of liquor into a province in which such sale is prohibited.

In making the announcements the government expresses the view "that although no proclamation has yet been issued declaring that war no longer exists, war conditions long ago ceased to exist."

"Consequently the rescinding orders read: 'Existence of war can no longer be urged as a reason for maintaining these extraordinary regulations so necessary for the security, defence, peace, order and welfare of Canada.'"

The amnesty, which concluded hostilities, became effective November 11, 1918. The expeditionary force has since been withdrawn and demobilized and the country generally is devoted to its energies to re-establishment of the ordinary avocations of peace."

MEMBERS OF THE PROVINCIAL STAFF RECEIVE BONUSES

Memorial Fund of U. N. B. Receives Donation from Daughter of Former Chancellor.

Special to The Standard.

Fredericton, Dec. 21.—Mrs. R. B. Fraser, who formerly was Miss Jack, daughter of the late W. R. Brydson Jack, for many years president and chancellor of the University of New Brunswick, has donated seventy-five dollars to the Memorial Fund of U. N. B. in memory of her son who enlisted while an undergraduate, and who was killed at Vimy Ridge.

Cheques for a bonus for the year 1920 were distributed among members of the provincial staff today. The bonus varies from \$100 to \$300, according to the positions occupied. Last year a bonus was given to some of the departmental employees.

Ted McGrath, brother of Dr. R. H. McGrath, of this city, who has been in Toronto for some time past, underwent his fifth operation during the past week and a affected portion of the spine was removed.

Entente To Prepare List of Germans Wanted For Trial

Paris, Dec. 21.—Under Secretary of State for Military Justice Ignace left for London this morning to take part in the making up of list of Germans charged with war crimes, and whose delivery to the Entente will be demanded. A conference will be held during the week in London to determine upon a plan for July action by France, according to the Echo de Paris, has a list of five hundred names ready to be submitted. Among these names is that of one of the former German Emperor's sons, and also those of former Crown Prince Rupprecht of Bavaria, and several generals and commanders of prison camps in Germany.

In all, according to this newspaper, about fifteen hundred persons will be arraigned before military tribunals of each of the three nations, or by mixed tribunals in cases where the persons are accused of crimes against peoples of various nationalities. It is said that even if culprits are tried by German courts they, nevertheless, must appear before the Allied tribunals.

The case of Emperor William will be dealt with separately by the London conference.

KEEPING WATCH ON LIQUOR IN SYDNEY WAREHOUSE

Social Service Worker Determined \$20,000 Stock Shall Not Get Away from Him.

Sydney, N. S., Dec. 20.—Determined not to lose sight of their prey, Rev. H. R. Grant and three temperance act inspectors spent last night camped in a Glace Bay warehouse where they yesterday afternoon attempted to seize liquor estimated to be worth twenty thousand dollars.

Fred Ross, owners of the warehouse, resisted seizure on the ground that the liquor was theirs and the warehouse belonged to any one it was the government. Rev. Mr. Grant, who is head of the social service work in this province, then telephoned Hon. Newton W. Rowell for information and instructions, and announced his intention of staying where he was until a reply is received. Up to noon today there was no reply from Mr. Rowell, but Mr. Grant and his assistants were still on the job. The reason they are so anxious not to lose sight of the liquor is that several times recently in Cape Breton, the scriptural miracle of changing the water into wine has been reversed with the result that barrels which contained liquor when seized were found a few weeks later when brought into court to contain nothing but water.

HEAVY FIRE LOSS BY MARITIME TEL. AND TEL. CO.

Halifax, N. S., Dec. 21.—A major fire in the warehouse of the Maritime Telegraph and Telephone Company in this city kept the firemen hard at work for several hours today and caused a loss estimated at anywhere from \$100,000 to \$150,000. The fire started in the rear of the building, but from what cause is not stated. It may have been from an overheated furnace. Tremendous volumes of dense smoke impeded the work of the firemen, who were able, however, to prevent its spread to other buildings. The entire building was gutted and enormous quantities of water had to be used.