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WEATHER—MOSTLY FAIR

PRICE TWO CENTS

WILSON WANTS NEUTRALS TO SEVER RELATIONS WITH HUNS; REPUBLIC ON BRINK OF WAR

U. S. FACES WAR BUT IS STILL WORKING FOR WORLD PEACE

Bernstorff Given Passports and Ambassador Gerard Called Back from Berlin--Germans Sink American Steamer Housatonic -- Crew Saved -- Washington Making Hasty Preparations to Participate in War.

KING ALFONSO OF SPAIN MAY BE WORLD PEACE-MAKER NOMINALLY--AMERICAN AUTHORITIES GUARDING INTERNED GERMAN VESSELS TO PREVENT THEIR BEING DISABLED OR DESTROYED BY CREWS--LATTER ORDERED IN CONFINEMENT-- DECIDEDLY SERIOUS SITUATION CONFRONTS NATION.

Washington, Feb. 4.—Besides breaking off diplomatic relations with Germany President Wilson has made a bold stroke to range the moral forces of all other neutral countries along with that of the United States in the interest of peace.

The president has suggested to all other neutrals that they break off diplomatic relations with Germany, as the United States has done, and has instructed all American diplomats in those countries to report immediately how the suggestion is received.

The opinion in diplomatic circles here is that European neutrals on the very doorstep of Germany, threatened by her military power, will hesitate to take such a step. The effect of the suggestion in other countries is being eagerly awaited.

The Only Big Development Sunday.

This was the only known development of first importance which came out of a day of tense waiting which followed the actual announcement yesterday of the break with Germany.

News that the American steamer Housatonic had not been sunk without proper warning, and that no lives had been lost dispelled action which threatened the storm to follow the first overt action against the United States under the new war zone order.

Still hopeful that Germany will not ruthlessly sacrifice American lives or rights the administration is awaiting developments but leaving nothing undone to prepare the country for the eventuality of war.

Will Also Break with Austria.

The situation as to Austria is tonight unchanged. There is no doubt, however, that diplomatic relations will be broken with her when she announces her intention to adhere to Germany's course.

HUN GUNBOAT CREW FIRES THEIR SHIP HUN CREWS ATTEMPT TO SINK SHIPS

Honolulu, Feb. 4.—The interned German gunboat Geier is burning in the harbor here. She was set on fire by her crew, according to the local authorities.

The Geier, of 1604 tons, was interned here shortly after the war began. She was built at Wilhelmshaven in 1894.

ANOTHER STORM IS COMING THIS WAY.

The indications this morning were that another storm would reach here today. Strong southerly to yesterday

Washington, Feb. 4.—War-bound German crews at Philippine ports have attempted to disable some of their ships and appropriate steps have been taken by the island authorities.

winds or gales with snow or rain are predicted. The disturbance was centered near the middle Atlantic coast at midnight.

Another cold wave is expected to follow in the wake of the storm.

GOV'T. PARTY IN YORK CO. ORGANIZES

Association Choose J. D. Palmer well Known Manufacturer as President -- Will Nominate Candidates on Thursday.

Special to The Standard. Fredericton, Feb. 4.—York is ready to send four representatives to the Legislature supporting the platform as announced by Premier James A. Murray. At a largely attended and representative meeting of the York County Government Association on Saturday afternoon the preliminary arrangements for the campaign in this county were completed. The government party in this county was never stronger, as evidenced by the harmonious meeting held on Saturday. Every parish in the county was represented by a delegation and the greatest enthusiasm prevailed.

Thursday, Feb. 8th, was decided upon as the convention day, and four strong candidates will be placed in the field. The convention promises to be one of the largest held here in recent years. Government supporters are confident of the outcome. The opposition party is demoralized and there is talk of the government candidates being returned by acclamation. Organizer Carter has made numerous trips to Fredericton within the past several months in an effort to arouse some enthusiasm among the faithful, but all to no avail. A convention was called for Fredericton in August last, but it didn't materialize, and since that time Mr. Carter has been at his wits' end to have a convention and four candidates nominated.

His told Sunbury county that York was ready to support the opposition and the electors were just clamoring for a chance to get at the government candidates. Events of the past few months show that Mr. Carter as usual was far astray. The officers of the Liberal-Conservative Association were elected at Saturday's meeting as follows: President, John D. Palmer, Fredericton; vice-president, Warden A. B. Nell, Gibson; secretary, C. D. Richards, Fredericton; assistant secretary, Gregory T. Peeney; treasurer, R. B. Hanson. All the old members of the executive were re-elected. The situation in York never looked more promising from a government outlook and electors of this county are ready to endorse honest, prudent and business-like administration by Premier Murray.

CASUALTY LIST.

Ottawa, Feb. 3.—Casualty list. J. F. Carten, Fredericton, N. B. Infantry. Wounded—H. Comfort, Newcastle, N. B. Wounded Dangerously—

THE SPIRIT OF VICTORY PREVALENT AMONG THE GOVERNMENT SUPPORTERS

Reports from Various Sections of the Province Received Here Augur Well for the Triumph of the New Murray Administration -- Westmorland Convention on Wednesday -- York will Nominate on Thursday and Carleton on Saturday -- Other Conventions.

The spirit of victory for the Government party prevails in every section of New Brunswick. The striking message of the new Premier, Hon. James A. Murray, has impressed the electors of the Province with his sincerity of purpose, his realization of the advantages of the province, and his desire to develop the great resources of which New Brunswick can boast. The manifesto is indicative of strong, systematic and business-like control of affairs.

From the various parts of the province reports received last evening augur well for the triumph of the new Government at the polls. Each constituency is taking active steps to put a representative ticket in the field to support the Good Government party and the present week will see preparations for the contest well advanced. Westmorland electors will meet in convention at Moncton on Wednesday afternoon at 2.30 o'clock. The electors of Kings will assemble on the same day. The party supporters in

WESTMORLAND WILL NOMINATE ON WEDNESDAY

Nothing But Enthusiasm there for the New Murray Administration -- Moncton City Convention to Take Place at Once.

Special to The Standard. Moncton, Feb. 4.—The government party in Westmorland county will meet in convention in this city 2.30 o'clock on Wednesday afternoon to select candidates for the approaching provincial elections. A strong, representative and popular ticket will doubtless be chosen by the convention.

Nothing but enthusiasm for the new Murray administration is evident on all sides. The organization of the party was never in better shape than at the present time and all the old stalwarts of the party have stated their intention of putting their shoulders to the wheel to elect the complete government ticket. The temporary setback occasioned to the government's candidate in the by-election resulting in the election of Dr. Smith has only operated to further stimulate the party workers in their endeavors to make the victory a complete one. The trouble which resulted in the election of the Liberal candidate has been overcome and all indications point to the fact that the Shediack elector will have the unique experience of not sitting in the province in the provincial house after all.

A. B. Copp, M. P. has been hastily summoned from Ottawa and will be master of ceremonies of the opposition party, which is in a completely

York will meet at Fredericton on Thursday, while the party forces of Victoria county will meet at Andover on Friday to select a winning ticket.

Two conventions are scheduled for Saturday. The Government party in Queens county will assemble at Gasetown to choose a colleague for the Hon. A. R. Ship, minister of lands and mines. At Woodstock, the electors of Carleton county who gave such a magnificent victory in the recent by-election to Hon. B. F. Smith, minister of public works, and ex-Mayor Sutton will assemble on the same day.

In the other electoral constituencies of the province preparations are well advanced for the nominating conventions, and definite dates will be announced in the immediate future. Premier Murray, speaking with The Standard last evening, said that everything pointed to an overwhelming victory. He, himself, is inaugurating a vigorous campaign at Sussex on Wednesday, which meeting will be followed by meetings at Westfield Station, Greenwick and Kars. The other members of the Government are equally enthusiastic over the prospects for a big victory on February 24th.

ORDERS HUNS CONFINED TO THEIR SHIPS

Philadelphia, Feb. 3.—Upon instructions from Washington W. H. Berry, Collector of the Port, tonight ordered the officers and crews of the German liners Prinz Oskar and Rhaetia and the Austrian merchantman Franconia confined to their vessels. The guard about the ships was materially increased.

BERLIN GRANTS U. S. DEMANDS

Berlin, Feb. 4, via London, Feb. 5.—Germany today acceded to the American demands for the release of the seventy-two Americans taken from ships sunk by the raider in the Atlantic and brought to a German port.

Very favorable comment over the aggressive manifesto of Premier Murray is being heard. The consensus of opinion prevails that the manifesto is the most thorough and comprehensive that has been addressed to the electors for a long time. That the Murray government will live up to the numerous planks in the government platform is not doubted. While no definite date has been announced as yet for the convention of the government supporters in Moncton city, it is certain that it will take place in the immediate future.

WAR CLOUD MAY DELAY DEPARTURE OF PREMIER

Hon. Mr. Hazen and Hon. Robert Rogers Expect to Accompany Sir Robert -- Nova Scotia Grits Make Exhibition of Themselves in House of Commons Saturday.

PREMIER AND SIR WILFRID HAVE IMPORTANT CONFERENCE ON UNITED STATES - GERMAN BREAK--WHY N. S. GRIT PARTISAN LOST JOB --D. D. MACKENZIE REBUKED BY SPEAKER.

Special to The Standard. Ottawa, Feb. 4.—The war cloud which is hanging over the United States affected parliament at its short sitting on Saturday and there was very little interest in the routine proceedings. The most significant incident occurred after the preliminaries had been disposed of. The prime minister with a sheaf of official looking correspondence in his hand crossed over to the opposition side and sat down beside Sir Wilfrid Laurier, leaving Sir George Foster to lead the house. The two leaders entered into earnest conversation, and frequently there was a reference to the papers which Sir Robert had. They sat for a long time conversing and then left the chamber together. Their countenances were unusually grave, and the conjecture was that they were discussing the events of the day at Washington and the effect of these upon this country.

DR. O. B. PRICE GETS SPECIAL FOR EMPLOYEES

Member for Westmorland Shows Keen Interest in C. G. R. Employees and Secures Train After Others Failed.

Special to The Standard. Moncton, Feb. 4.—"It takes Dr. O. B. Price, M. L. A. to do things," said a well known employe of the Canadian Government Railways to your correspondent tonight.

The genial doctor's latest success in the interests of the railway employes has been the securing of a workmen's train between Moncton and Point de Chene. Since the adoption of the nine-hour day in the railway shops here, employes residing along the line of the railway between Moncton and Point de Chene have been endeavoring to secure a train that would take them to their homes immediately at the close of their day's work at five o'clock. Although several attempts were made to secure the train, nothing resulted until our active representative interested himself in the matter. Dr. Price took the matter up actively with the result that a workmen's train will leave Moncton daily at 5.05 o'clock. The new train will be put on the route on Tuesday.

During the winter months the men have experienced considerable hardships in having to wait around the depot until a late hour owing to the fact the other passenger trains had the right of way over the 6.15 o'clock train which the employes have been in the habit of patronizing. Needless to say the men are very grateful to Dr. Price for his successful efforts in their behalf. On other occasions he has shown himself the friend of the employes and his latest success is genuinely appreciated.

London, Feb. 4.—According to Reuter's Stockholm correspondent the Swedish government as a result of the torpedoing on January 29 of the Swedish steamer Edda, has instructed Berlin to demand an investigation of the case by Germany.

A stinging rebuke of Mr. MacKenzie's clownishness was administered by Mr. Davidson, who followed. The member for Annapolis pointed out that Schafner was removed from his position because he persisted in being "an offensive and obnoxious partisan."

Serious Problem.

There is no doubt that the new situation will entail serious problems and these may change the intention of the prime minister of proceeding to Great Britain at once. In fact it was stated authoritatively to The Standard on Saturday that Sir Robert had made no definite arrangements for his departure, and that he might not go for two or three weeks yet.

Hon. J. D. Hazen, Minister of the Naval Service, will accompany the prime minister to England. The naval question so far as Canada is concerned is now of the utmost importance, and Mr. Hazen's presence at the conference is absolutely necessary. It is expected that Hon. Robert Rogers will also attend, but the date of the departure will not be made known.

In Touch with Washington.

It was learned that the government through the governor general has been in constant touch with the colonial secretary at London and the British ambassador at Washington.

Loan Bill Passes.

Sir Thomas White's hundred million dollar borrowing bill passed the committee stage, and will be given a third reading probably tomorrow. But though the solemn issues of the United States-German crisis sobered parliament on Saturday the seriousness of the situation did not deter Nova Scotia Liberals from a disgraceful attempt to manufacture petty political capital.

The Windy One.

A. K. MacLean suddenly emerged with a long winded complaint over the dismissal from office of Commissioner of Customs Schafner at Middleton.

Mr. MacLean's calibre as a statesman was suggested by his threat that the dismissal might lead the opposition to refuse an extension of parliament, a suggestion that was greeted with derisive laughter by Conservatives and humiliated silence by Ontario and western Liberals.

E. M. MacDonald rushed in with a heated demand that Schafner's successor be promptly dismissed and the position given someone "not recommended by a patronage committee." MacDonald as an anti-patronage champion was the joke of the afternoon.

More Buffonery.

D. D. MacKenzie, North Cape Breton, followed and gave an exhibition of buffonery worthy of none but a clown. He was rebuked by the speaker and compelled to apologize to Mr. Davidson of Annapolis.

A stinging rebuke of Mr. MacKenzie's clownishness was administered by Mr. Davidson, who followed. The member for Annapolis pointed out that Schafner was removed from his position because he persisted in being "an offensive and obnoxious partisan."