

# PURCHASING PUBLIC MUST CARRY EXTRA HEAVY TAXATION LOAD

### Minister Fielding's Budget Fails to Produce Any Particular Cure for the Depressing Effects of the High Cost of Living—Sales Tax Increased 50 Per Cent and Few Articles Imported from Britain Are Cut Two to Five Per Cent.

#### It Imposes Heavy Additional Taxes on Cigars and Cigarettes, Heightens Taxes on Stock Transfers, Telegrams, Cables, Cheques and Automobiles, and Levies One Per Cent on Note Circulation of Banks—Benefits That Might Have Come from Few Reductions Choked Off by Increase in Sales Tax.

Ottawa, May 23—Mr. Fielding's anxiously awaited Budget Speech, the sixteenth which he has delivered to Parliament, was made to the Commons today. Briefly summarized, it reduces the duties on fifty articles imported from Great Britain (there are one or two exceptions in the case of the United States and other countries) by from two and one half to five per cent; imposes heavy additional taxes on cigars and cigarettes; increases the sales tax by fifty per cent; heightens taxes on stock transfers, telegrams, cables, cheques and automobiles; and levies one per cent on the note circulation of banks.

Imports of the fifty articles affected total in value not more than sixty millions per year. Thus, by reducing the duty on the majority of these articles by but two and one half per cent, the total lifted from the burden of public taxation will be but a million dollars at most. Against this Mr. Fielding has imposed an increase of fifty per cent in the sales tax which, seeing that this tax amounted to about seventy millions last year, means that he has decreased taxation by a million with one hand and increased it by about thirty-five millions with the other. In other words, so far as the purchasing public is concerned, it is more than thirty millions worse off than it was on this one transaction alone.

#### Possible Benefit Killed

Even in the case of the articles included in tariff reductions, the benefit derived is practically cancelled by the increase in the sales tax. For example, if a Canadian farmer, hereafter, buys an American made plough valued at, say, one hundred dollars, he will save two dollars and fifty cents by the two and a half per cent reduction in the duty, but, inasmuch as he will have to pay two cents of a sales tax more than heretofore, his net saving will be but fifty cents. Finally, as he will have to pay sales tax on everything he buys, and scores reduction of duties on but a few articles, the sum of his total taxation is considerably increased.

Nor is it only by an increase of the sales tax that Mr. Fielding has set out to get revenue. In addition to the twenty-five to fifty millions that he expects to get by this method, he has levied taxes on cigarettes that, according to his own estimates, will bring him additional five million, has put a one per cent tax on the note circulation of banks that will, he ought to bring him two millions at least; and has increased taxes on stock transfers, telegrams, cables, cheques and confectionery to such a severe extent that it ought to net him an additional several millions. Whatever, therefore, his budget may be designed to do, it certainly is not designed to reduce the cost of living, business, or even the cost of living.

#### Ignores Party Platform

Nor can it be said that Mr. Fielding has attempted to carry out his party's fiscal programme. To realize this it is necessary to recall what the programme was, as declared at the national Liberal 1919 convention. The plank of the party, adopted then declared:

"That the best interests of Canada demand that substantial reductions of the burdens of customs taxation be made with a view (1) to diminishing the high cost of living which presses so severely on the masses of the people; and (2) reducing the cost of the instruments of production in the industries based on the natural resources of the Dominion.

"That to these ends, wheat, wheat-flour, and all products of wheat, the principal articles of food; farm implements and machinery; farm tractors, mining, flour and saw mill machinery, and repair parts thereof, rough and partly dressed lumber, gasoline and illuminating, lubricating and fuel oils, cement and fertilizers, should be free from customs duties, as well as the raw material entering into the same."

#### Foodstuffs Untouched

Under today's pronouncement, not one of these articles has been made free, except tractors, which were already free; wheat, wheatflour and foodstuffs are not only not made free, but are left absolutely untouched, and the others, instead of being made free, are reduced by but a paltry two and a half per cent.

#### The 1919 Convention of the Liberal Party Also Said:

"That a revision downward of the tariff should be made whereby substantial reductions should be effected in the duties on wearing apparel and footwear, and on other articles of general consumption (other than luxuries) as well as on the raw material entering into the same."

Under today's proposals the substantial reductions thus promised

### THE NEW TAXES ANNOUNCED IN BUDGET SPEECH

New taxes were announced as follows:—  
Sales tax increased by 50 per cent.  
Passenger automobiles, 5 per cent, up to \$1,200; 10 per cent, above \$1,200.  
Confectionery, 5 per cent.  
Ale, beer, etc., 15 cents per gallon.  
Mineral waters and other soft drinks, 10 cents per gallon.  
Cheques, 2 cents up to \$50.00; 2 cents on each additional \$50.00.  
Insurance, 5 per cent on premiums paid unlicensed companies.  
Telegrams and cables, increased from 1 cent to 5 cents.  
Transfers of stock, increased from 2 cents to 5 cents per share.  
Best sugar, 40 cents per 100 pounds.  
All the foregoing are under the special War Revenue Act.  
Cigars, excise from \$6 per thousand to \$9 per thousand.  
Banks, 1 per cent on circulation.

### U. S. ORDERS HEAVY CUT IN FREIGHT RATES

Regard It As Menace of Stabilizing Conditions of All Businesses.

Washington, May 24—Reduction in freight rates on United States railroads averaging about ten per cent, were ordered today by the Interstate Commerce Commission in a decision resulting from its enquiry into the general rate structure of the nation.

### Advantage to Germany

One feature of the budget is of more importance than that at first appears. It is a feature that affects Germany. Before the war the German mark was worth about 23 cents. Today it is worth about one-third of a cent. As a consequence the Canadian tariff against German goods became no tariff at all; paid in Canadian currency, the German manufacturer could surmount any tariff he could devise, no matter how high. Last year the Meighen Government endeavored to meet this situation, it met it by passing a regulation by which foreign currency was stabilized at not less than fifty per cent of par value for customs purposes. In this way unfair competition of German goods was prevented.

### HEAVY RUN OF SPRING MACKEREL

Halifax, N. S., May 24—The spring run of mackerel which usually means a harvest for Nova Scotia fishermen of \$1,000,000, has now reached the coastal waters and good catches are being taken by the shore fishermen. Mackerel here today were selling for 40 cent as piece retail.

### DYNAMITE EXPLODED

Berlin, May 24—An explosion occurred in a dynamite factory in Schleichach, near Cologne, today. Five workmen were killed and one was injured.

### BRITISH GOVT TO PROVIDE FOR MEN DISPLACED BY NEW ECONOMIES

London, May 24—(Canadian Press Cable)—At a question time in the House today, Austen Chamberlain, Government leader, in answer to enquiries, said he trusted that the passage of the Empire Settlement Bill would enable schemes, shortly to be framed, for co-operation with the Dominions which would secure the future subsistence of ex-servicemen and members of the Irish Constabulary who had been displaced by financial retrenchment, or the Irish Government, meantime, the utmost was being done to assist those desiring to proceed overseas forthwith. Temporary arrangements are being made with some overseas governments to find them employment.

### TO FLY AROUND THE WORLD IN NINETY DAYS

Major Blake and Companions Took Off at Croyden Yesterday.

### PARIS FIRST LANDING PLACE

First Day's Trip Made in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes.

Croyden, England, May 24—Major W. T. Blake and his companions started from the airbase here at 3.05 o'clock this afternoon on their attempted thirty thousand mile aeroplane flight around the world. The Croyden aerodrome, which is London's terminal for journeys by air to Paris and other Continental points, was packed this morning with sight-seers eager to witness the departure of Major W. T. Blake and his companions on their attempted 30,000 mile flight around the world. Major Blake's collaborators in the dangerous venture are Captain Norman MacMillan and Lieut. Colonel L. E. Broome. The purpose of the flight was said by the aviators to be to demonstrate to the world that aviation is able to accomplish. Conditions favorable. Brilliant sunshine, with a light breeze made the weather conditions perfect for the take-off. An official was given to the event by the presence of Major General William Braker, director of civil aviation. The machine the aviators are using is a DH-9, capable of making 115 miles an hour. It has the very latest equipment for comfort and special attention has been paid to the petrol systems. A thorough test was given to the machine yesterday and it was taken up again this morning by Pilot MacMillan for the final spin prior to the great flight which is expected to last ninety days.

### Regard It As Menace of Stabilizing Conditions of All Businesses.

Washington, May 24—Reduction in freight rates on United States railroads averaging about ten per cent, were ordered today by the Interstate Commerce Commission in a decision resulting from its enquiry into the general rate structure of the nation. The cut in freight rates was fixed by the commission at fourteen per cent in Eastern territory; thirteen and one half per cent in Western territory; and twelve and one half per cent in the Southern and Mountain Pacific territories. All reductions ordered to be effective July 1 and constitute a greater cut than was generally expected. The commission in ordering the decreases—which are on a horizontal basis—held that the nation's railroads are entitled to carry 5 to 4 per cent on the value of their property rather than the approximate six per cent fixed as a reasonable return in the Transportation Act of 1920. Passenger rates and Pullman car surcharges were left unaffected by the decision which applies to freight rates exclusively. The commission in its decision, declared a general reduction in rate levels "as substantial as the condition of the carriers will permit, without a sacrifice of stability conditions" of all business.

### FORCED TO JUMP FROM WINDOWS

Edmundst in Family Trapped in Burning Home Had Narrow Escape from Death.

Special to The Standard Edmundst, N. B., May 24—Fire of unknown origin broke out at one o'clock this morning in a house occupied by Michael Moran and wife, in the north-west section of the town. The occupants were trapped as the stairway was a mass of flames. They made their escape by jumping from windows in their night attire. Mrs. Moran was quite badly injured. The furniture and house were completely destroyed. The furniture was not insured. The house, which was owned by J. F. Rice, was partly covered by insurance.

### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS IN CONVENTION

All Councils of Province Represented at Big Gathering in Edmundston—Order Flourishing.

Special to The Standard Edmundst, N. B., May 24—Knights of Columbus met in annual convention here on Tuesday with Solemn High Mass at the Church of the Immaculate Conception. Rev. Father Martin, of Madawaska, Maine, preaching the sermon. Delegates are from all New Brunswick Councils, namely St. John, Chatham, Moncton, Bathurst, Fredericton, Campbellton, Grand Falls, Edmundston and Woodstock. State Deputy, Dr. W. F. Broderick presiding. Reports for the year were very encouraging. The election of officers resulted as follows: State Deputy, B. A. Bourgeois, Moncton; State Secretary, T. J. McDonald, St. John; State Advocate, Clavis L. Richard, Bathurst; State Treasurer, Henry J. Dube, Campbellton; State Warden, W. A. St. Germain, Chatham; State Chaplain, His Lordship Bishop LeBlanc, St. John. Delegates to the Supreme Convention at Atlantic City, this year are B. A. Bourgeois and Dr. W. F. Broderick; Alternates, Wm. E. Farrell and T. H. McAvoy. At the banquet held Tuesday night at the Royal Hotel, the state officers, past and present, Mayor Max D. Cormier, Grand Knight, presiding, Martin M. Theriault was toastmaster. In addition to speeches by state officers, past and present, speeches were given by Rev. Father Conway, Hon. J. E. Michaud and Dr. Laporte, Edmundston; District Deputy, J. J. Hennessey and Wm. Ryan, St. John; T. H. McAvoy and P. Shannon, Campbellton. The convention was closed early this morning, most of the members taking C.P.R. trains for their homes. It was pronounced the best convention thus far held. Campbellton is chosen as the next place of meeting.

### BOMB THROWERS ACTIVE IN TROUBLED AREA OF BELFAST

IRISH PROVISIONAL GOVT REPRESENTATIVES TO LONDON

To Confer With British Cabinet Concerning Agreement Reached by Two Political Factions.

LOYD GEORGE TO ANSWER CRITICS

Will Report on Genoa Conference and Reserves Right to Reply to Criticisms.

London, May 24—Representatives of the Irish Provisional Government are coming to London Thursday night for a conference with representatives of the British Cabinet concerning the agreement reached last Saturday between the two Irish political factions. This announcement was made this afternoon in the House by Austen Chamberlain, the Government leader. He did not wish to make a statement regarding the conference with reference to the Ard Fheis proceedings of yesterday, until he had conferred with members of the Provisional Government. Genoa Report. Relative to the proceedings of the economic conference at Genoa, Mr. Chamberlain said that Premier Lloyd George would most certainly defer to the wishes of the House, and accordingly, open the debate tomorrow on the Genoa Conference. He added that the Premier must, however, ask to be allowed to reply should criticisms directed against him render it necessary. In the House of Lords, Lord Birkenhead announced that Arthur Griffith and Eamon J. Duggan were coming to London for the week, and that Michael Collins would come later in the week if required, so the two sets of signatories could meet at the week end. The gravity of the situation was said to demand that there must be full discussion in Parliament next week. It is reported from Dublin that Mr. Griffith may wish to take the draft of the Irish Constitution with him to London.

### ANNUAL MEETING OF W. T. A. ALONNAN

Officers Elected for Ensuing Year—Alumni Association Held Annual.

Special to The Standard Sackville, N. B., May 24—Board of Regents in session here all day devoted about four hours of discussion of proposed federation of Maritime Universities. Finally following resolution was unanimously adopted: Whereas, the number of Universities at present serving the educational needs of these provinces is excessive; therefore, resolved that this Board would sympathetically consider any plan of University federation that would tend to increase the efficiency of the educational institutions concerned, provided satisfactory financial and other arrangements could be made to carry out the scheme.

### BRITISH FICER SHOT AND KILLED

Was Assistant Commander of Police at Cairo, Egypt, When Murder Was Made.

Cairo, Egypt, May 24—Wilfred Cave, a British Officer, assistant commander of police here, was shot and killed today while returning home from a bicycling trip. Six bullets of different kinds were found in the body of Mr. Cave, proving that no arrests have been made as yet. He was 60 years old and had been a member of the British Secretariat of the Colonies.

### DROWNED WHILE FISHING TROUT

Halifax, N. S., May 24—Ralph Pitcher, aged 36 years, of this city was drowned while trout fishing at Lewis Lake, fifteen miles from here today. He was fishing alone and it is presumed slipped off a rock into the lake. His body was discovered by his uncle soon after the accident. Pitcher was a war veteran and leaves a widow.

### BOMB THROWERS ACTIVE IN TROUBLED AREA OF BELFAST

Bombs Hurlled at Tram Cars Conveying Shipyard Workers to Their Homes.

### CARNEGIE LIBRARY SET ON FIRE

Mob Attacked Fire Brigade and Also Police Who Were Protecting the Firemen.

Belfast, May 24.—The Drumakill road, an important thoroughfare along the coast between Ballycastle and Larne, was blown up at one point it was reported in Belfast this afternoon. Brigadier General Zigginton, who recently was in command of the British Infantry brigade at Cork, was shot and wounded in two places while riding near Tipperary today. While large groups of shipyard workers were returning home from work tonight, bombs were hurled at the tram cars on which they were riding and sharp firing ensued. Several casualties resulted. Victims of Bombs. Ten victims of bomb splinters and gunshot wounds were taken to the hospital, one of them in a dying condition. A grave digger at Telford, while proceeding to his home from the cemetery, was attacked by a gang and shot dead. While police were returning from Ballymena from operations in the district, they were ambushed near Partmore. A fierce fight ensued and two of the attacking party were shot and killed. A young married woman, standing in the door of her home in the east end of the city last evening, was struck by a bullet and dangerously wounded. One of those wounded in Sunday's disorders, a sailor, died today in the hospital. The Carnegie library, in the heart of the Falls district, was set afire this evening. A mob attacked the fire brigade, and also the police, who tried to protect the firemen. In the same district thirty youths stopped a tram car and ordered the passengers to alight. They poured oil on the car and set it on fire. It was destroyed.

### SKIRMISH PELTED WITH ROTTEN EGGS

Polish Foreign Minister Badly Treated by Former Ukrainian Officers at Vienna.

Vienna, May 24—The Polish Foreign Minister, Constantine Skirmunt, was pelted with rotten eggs here last night as he was going into a dinner he had arranged for the representatives of the foreign press. His face was bruised and his clothes ruined by the attack. Three of the miscreants, who proved to be former Ukrainian officers, were arrested. They gave as their reason that they wished to avenge the Ukraine for "Polish oppression." Chancellor Schoeber called upon Mr. Skirmunt and expressed his regret at the incident.

### ULSTER'S BALANCE SHEETS SURPLUS

Minister of Finance Says No New Taxes Will Be Imposed.

Belfast, May 24—Among the features of Minister of Finance Pollock's financial statement to the Ulster Parliament today was that the Government's balance sheet showed a surplus of \$24,000. He said no new taxes would be imposed, and that satisfactory assurances had been received from the British Cabinet regarding the equipment and upkeep of the Ulster special constabulary.

### SUCCESSFUL FISHERMEN

Halifax, N. S., May 24—The Dighy schooner Clarke L. Corkum, Captain Ansell Snow engaged in fresh fishing, has struck \$22,500 since March 24. The crew's share for the two months being \$75.62 per man.

### DISPUTED POINT OF MARINE LAW TO BE RAISED IN HALIFAX ADMIRALTY

Sydney, N. S., May 24—What is said to be a disputed point of marine law will be raised in the Admiralty court at Halifax soon by the action of W. N. Macdonald, of Sydney, in libelling the S. S. Seneca, which was recently jammed for several days in drift ice off Gattara Island. Macdonald's tug, the Curlew, carried a new hawser to the Canadian Government Montcalm, at the Montcalm's request, while the Seneca was trying to tow the Seneca to Louisbourg. Macdonald claimed the Curlew was damaged by ice in reaching the Montcalm, and has libelled the Seneca, although no assistance was asked of the Curlew by her.

### TEN SAILORS KILLED ON TORPEDO BOAT

Resulted When German Boat S-18 Collided With Battleship Hanover.

Berlin, May 24—The German battle ship Hanover and the torpedo boat S-18 collided during night manoeuvres last night, near Saesnitz, ten sailors on the torpedo boat were killed. Not much was left of the German navy by the treaty of Versailles, but under the naval clauses Germany was allowed to have six battleships of a specified type, six light cruisers, twelve torpedo boats, or an equal number of ships constructed to replace them.

### DIED AS RESULT OF REVOLVER SHOT

New York, May 24—Monsignor Michael J. Phelan, rector of St. Cecilia's Roman Catholic Church in Harlem, who accidentally shot himself near the heart yesterday while cleaning an old pistol, died tonight in St. Vincent's Hospital today. He was 60 years old and had been rector of St. Cecilia's for 36 years.