

The St. John Standard

VOL. XI, NO. 219.

TEN PAGES

ST. JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 11, 1919

CLEARING—COLDER

THREE CENTS

Chicago Woman Loses In Fight For 'Baby Irene'; State Duty To Provide

Court Decides Famous Baby Irene, Over Possession of Whom Legal Battle Was Waged, is Child of Margaret Ryan.

CHICAGO WIDOW LOSES BATTLE

Must Now Face the Court on Charge of Kidnapping, She Having Taken the Child from Hospital.

Toronto, Dec. 10.—Margaret Ryan, a Carleton county girl, is declared the mother of the famous "Baby Irene" in a judgment handed down yesterday afternoon by Mr. Justice Lennox. At the same time the judge directed that the baby be not removed from the jurisdiction of the Ontario courts until the time has elapsed for the appeal of the case, and then not until further orders.

Ottawa, Dec. 10.—Mrs. Dolly Ledgerwood matters is the widow of the late Frederick Ledgerwood, a Chicago contractor, who left a fortune of upwards of a quarter of a million dollars. Matters died on January 4, 1915. Mrs. Ledgerwood came to Ottawa in June of the same year and returned to Chicago, claiming to have given birth to the female child she brought home with her. As matters had died without leaving a will, she sought administration of the estate on behalf of herself and child as the sole heirs. Relatives of the dead man contested the claim, bringing up the question of the motherhood of the child and claiming Mrs. Ledgerwood was outside the jurisdiction of the Ontario courts and the widow's share under the laws of the state. A charge of conspiracy was laid against Mrs. Ledgerwood in the Chicago criminal court and after a lengthy hearing Mrs. Ledgerwood was acquitted. Then Margaret Ryan of Ottawa appeared on the scene and was successful in claiming possession of the child under a writ of habeas corpus in the court of Federal Judge Landis, and brought the child to Ottawa. Mrs. Ledgerwood later appealed Judge Landis' decision and the United States court of appeal decided in her favor. How the child was outside the jurisdiction of the United States courts and the Ryan girl refused to give it up.

Then followed Mrs. Ledgerwood's sensational attempt at kidnapping of this summer, the laying of a charge still pending of attempted kidnapping and her subsequent institution of the habeas corpus proceedings in the supreme court of the province of Ontario, finally concluded by the judgment of Justice Lennox.

FIRE ENGINES WERE OUT OF ORDER

Investigation in Connection With Fire at Laval University Reveals Imperfections in Montreal's Fire Fighting Equipment.

Montreal, Dec. 10.—Points brought out today in the investigation into the fire that caused a million dollars' damage to Laval University here recently, were that from ten to fifteen per cent of the motive power of the first alarm contingent of the fire brigade was lost through imperfection in two of the three engines and that one of the most powerful engines of the department was at the time of the fire in the repair shop. These facts were ascertained in evidence by Mr. James Leslie of the Canadian Fire Underwriters Association, in examination of Fire Chief Joseph Chevalier. The investigation was adjourned indefinitely.

OIL PRODUCTION IN MEXICO CEASED

Washington, D. C., Dec. 10.—Production of oil in Mexico practically has ceased as a result of decrees promulgated by President Carranza and the general attitude of the Mexican Government toward foreign oil companies. Chairman Payne, of the Shipping Board, was told today by a delegation of American oil men headed by F. R. Kellogg, of New York.

First Serious Anti-Kaiser Outbreak Occurs In The Dutch Parliament

The Hague, Dec. 10.—(By The Associated Press).—"If previously we have not regarded him as a danger to our country, he is now proving to be a danger," said Deputy Sannes in the Chamber of Deputies referring to former Emperor William of Germany. The Deputy was dealing with a book written by Carl Kautsky, a German Socialist, which Sannes declared showed that the former Emperor was the cause of the world war. The data in Kautsky's book is said to have been obtained from archives in Berlin.

Deputy Sannes, asked the Government to reconsider the question of the seizure of the former Emperor, and seriously to consider the question of his extradition. This incident constituted the first serious anti-Kaiser movement to occur in the Dutch parliament.

Volke Zeitung Sees Change In Tone Of Entente Notes

Berlin, Dec. 10.—The Entente notes are more conciliatory in tone than has been previously assumed," says the Volke Zeitung. "They contain tangible concessions. The final clause of the protocol providing that the Entente could at any time take military action against Germany, has been dropped. Negotiations also can take place regarding certain modifications in the protocol concerning the surrender of dry docks."

New Yorkers Are Opposing Scheme Of Development

Object to United States Aid in Deepening St. Lawrence River on the Ground It Will Injure Erie Canal Commerce.

New York, Dec. 10.—Proposed assistance by the United States in deepening the St. Lawrence River was criticized today by the executive committee of the New York Board of Trade and Transportation in a futile and wasteful attempt to divert New York's Erie Canal commerce to Canada. Referring to the Lennox resolution, passed by the House of Representatives last March as part of the rivers and harbors bill, and calling for participation by the United States with Canada in deepening the St. Lawrence to thirty feet from Lake Ontario to Montreal to permit ocean going vessels to reach the Great Lakes, the report of the committee says: "The present active advocacy of this measure by the business interests of the West and Northwest, as well as the evidence of hostility to New York, are both based upon a misunderstanding of the facts."

"It is futile to look to the St. Lawrence River for a cheaper route of transportation to and from the Great Lakes and the ocean than now exists via the Erie Canal. The St. Lawrence route would have to be built and operated commercially successful lines of ocean steamers between lake ports and foreign ports."

CAN'T KNOCK OUT SURFACE SHIPS, SAYS JELICOE

Tremendous Advance Made in Aerial and Undersea Navigation Not to Lessen Advantages of Surface Navy.

Montreal, Que., Dec. 10.—Surface ships will not be knocked out by reason of the fact that there have been such wonderful advances during the past five years in aerial navigation and submarine vessels, declared Admiral Lord Jellicoe, before the Canadian Club in the Windsor Hotel this afternoon. He said that he had every respect for the enthusiasm of aircraft and submarine officers. It was a very tempting thing for those who held the purse strings to listen to their arguments and then say: "Let us spend no more on a navy." He saw a s-s in the London Times, written by its naval correspondent on this very thing. The correspondent saw in the news that the battle cruiser Indomitable is going to be held the fact that the Admiralty has in mind that surface ships are no further use. The Admiral said he himself would suggest that in reality the Admiralty thought the Indomitable was out of date.

ST. GEORGE WOMAN KILLED BY AUTO

Visiting Daughter in Medford, Mass. for the Holidays and Received Injuries Causing Death.

Special to The Standard. Medford, Mass., Dec. 10.—A woman, who was identified as Mrs. Emma Kay Libby, 55 years of age, of St. George, New Brunswick, visiting her daughter, Alice Newell Madison of Warshaw street, this city, for the holidays, was almost instantly killed early this afternoon at Main and Hazard streets, Medford, when she was struck and knocked down by an automobile driven by Joseph H. Dion, of 24 Bow street. Dion was rounding up votes before the polls closed, and was arrested after the accident for manslaughter. When arrested Dion admitted that he was driving his machine about 25 miles an hour.

FARMERS HEAR HON. T. A. CREEK AT WOODSTOCK

Takes up the Planks of the Farmers' Platform and Holds Them to the View of the Large Audience.

THINKS FARMERS SHOULD ORGANIZE

Thinks it Necessary That Farmers be United for Commercial Protection, as Well as Political.

Special to The Standard.

Woodstock, Dec. 10.—Notwithstanding most severe wintry weather, the Opera House was crowded, tonight, to hear Hon. T. A. Creekr and other United Farmers' speakers explain the farmers' platform, or what they call the new national policy. G. L. Smith, the father of the United Farmers' party in New Brunswick, was chairman and delivered a speech. He was followed by T. W. Caldwell, M. P., who had a majority of 5,500 votes in the recent election in this riding. George F. Chipman, who was born in the Annapolis Valley and is now editor of the Grain Growers' Guide of Winnipeg, was the next speaker, and the last speaker was Hon. T. A. Creekr, who was introduced by Mr. Smith as the next Premier of Canada.

Hon. Mr. Creekr, who is about 45 years of age and was rather modest, means, said he was born in Ontario and, when he was only a lad, his father removed to the Canadian West. This was the first time that he had spoken to a New Brunswick audience and, in fact, the first time he had spoken to an audience in the Maritime Provinces. He was born on a farm and spent practically all his life on a farm, and as he was rather modest, he did not expect to be the next Premier of Canada as the chairman had prophesied. The farmers throughout Canada are organizing, he said, and why not? Agriculture is the basis of the country. They must organize to mould public opinion for themselves commercially and to take their part in the political life of the country. They have not had a fair show at Ottawa, he claimed. They form 50 per cent of the population and have about 10 per cent of the representation.

TO INVESTIGATE PACKING PLANTS OF ONTARIO

The Flotation of William Davies Co. Shares in New York Causes Action on the Part of Dept. of Justice.

Toronto, Ont., Dec. 10.—W. E. Raney, Attorney-General for Ontario, has instructed J. S. Lansy, K. C., to inquire into the Canadian Packing situation and make a report on the combination of packing houses or plants of this Province which have lately become allied with United States concerns. The investigation promises to go further than the Board of Commerce did.

ENGLAND, FRANCE AND ITALY MAY FORM ALLIANCE

Clemenceau's Forthcoming Visit to London Gives Rise to Speculation on Possibility of Triple Alliance.

Paris, Dec. 10.—Premier Clemenceau's approaching visit to London, which will place him in the British capital at the same time with Foreign Minister Scialoja, of Italy, has given rise to speculation here of the possibility that questions of importance to Great Britain, France and Italy will be discussed there. These would have to do, it is suggested, with the taking of measures for the protection of the common interests of these three nations in case the United States does not ratify the Peace Treaty, or the League of Nations does not begin functioning shortly.

There is even talk of the possibility of the forming of an alliance with the object of securing the execution of the German Peace Treaty and effecting other objects on the League of Nations' programme.

Turkish Situation Will Be Discussed By The Premiers

London, Dec. 10.—The Turkish situation will be put in the forefront at the conference between Premier Lloyd George and the French Premier, M. Clemenceau and coupled therewith the British request that the peace conference with the Turks shall be held in London. It is declared in diplomatic circles that the conference should be held here and are prepared to insist upon this.

Nova Scotia Miners And Operators Try To Agree On Wages

At Suggestion of Conciliation Board Hold Conference in an Effort to Get Together on Differences.

Sydney, N. S., Dec. 10.—At today's meeting of the committee of United Mine Workers of America and representatives of the Dominion Coal Company, the question of a levelling up of wages for mines in Nova Scotia was discussed. A schedule had been prepared, but it was agreed that a new scale be drawn up, which will be submitted at a meeting to be held on Saturday. The conciliation board comprising Dr. McKinnon, J. C. Waters and Col. Thompson will meet the men and operators on Tuesday next and hear a report of their conclusions. Relations between the men and mine owners are most cordial and a amicable settlement of certain phases of the wage difficulties is highly probable. A gratifying feature of the conference in this consideration of labor grievances between organized labor and corporation employers is the substitution of business methods for the customary militant controversy. As there seem to be sensible, level-headed business men in charge of the negotiations on both sides, it is not too much to hope that a satisfactory settlement may be reached, without recourse to the judicial authority with which the board of conciliation is vested.

SMALL MARGIN FOR U. F. O. CANDIDATE

In North Ontario By-Election Farmer Wins Over Unionist by 131 Majority.

Cannington, Ont., Dec. 10.—While this morning's telephone and mail messages to the supporters of Nell MacKinnon, Unionist, defeated yesterday in the North Ontario Federal by-election by R. H. Halbert, U. F. O., brought news of minor changes in the figures from outlying points, those changes were not sufficient to make it should go out on the reported unofficial majority of 131 for Mr. Halbert. Pending the official count by the returning officer next Monday, Mr. MacKinnon's supporters concede the election of Mr. Halbert by that majority.

Strike of Bituminous Coal Miners Settled On Plan of President

Plan Provides That Miners Shall Return to Work at Once at an Increase of Fourteen Per Cent in Wages; That Commission of Three Shall Investigate and Determine Basis for New Wage Scale.

OPERATORS PREDICT RESUMPTION OF WORK FRIDAY, SHIPMENTS MONDAY

Wednesday's Action Ends a Tie-up in Coal Industry of More Than Five Weeks' Duration and One More Far Reaching in Its Effects Than Any Other in History of United States.

Indianapolis, Ind., Dec. 10.—With but one dissenting vote the general committee of the Mine Workers of America, in session this afternoon, voted to accept President Wilson's proposal for immediate return to work pending final settlement of their wage controversy with operators by a commission to be appointed by him. Telegrams were sent out tonight to the four thousand locals of the union, by international officials of the Mine Workers, instructing the men to return to work immediately. Full instructions with regard to the agreement will be sent out tomorrow morning.

Shipments Monday

Operators tonight predicted full resumption of operations Friday and shipment of coal from the mines beginning Monday morning. Miners, operators and government officials alike, were highly gratified over the settlement tonight and all sides appeared confident of a final satisfactory settlement of the fight by the Commission.

The action today ends a tie-up of the coal industry of more than five weeks' duration, and one which was more far-reaching in its effects than any other in the history of the country. As a result of the strike the country was fast approaching a complete shut down of industry and widespread suffering among its 100,000,000 inhabitants.

Radical Element Bucked

The decision of the miners came after many hours of debate in which the radical element in the general committee made inflammatory speeches against operators and others interested in settlement of the strike, and for a third time threatened to defeat efforts to settle the strike at this time. The conservative element, led by Acting President John Lewis and Secretary Treasurer William Green, gained control of the situation this morning and succeeded in putting down practically all opposition by the time the question came to a vote.

One concession was made to the radicals. The convention agreed to the calling of a general convention of the miners at a future date, at which time the action of and reason for the general committee will be fully explained. The opponents of acceptance of the President's plan made their fight principally on the theory that only a general convention of the miners had power to call off the strike. Members of the general committee tonight steadfastly refused to make public the name of the delegate who cast the one dissenting vote. Two statements were given out, following adjournment of the conference. The first, submitted by the President's proposal to Acting President Lewis and Secretary Treasurer Green at a conference in Washington last Saturday and came to Indianapolis Monday to await the outcome of consideration of the plan by the miners' general committee. Mr. Palmer's statement expressed his gratification at the decision of the United Mine Workers and commended Mr. Lewis and Mr. Green for their wise and patriotic action.

A supplemental statement issued this evening follows: "The miners at their meeting this afternoon accepted the President's proposal exactly as written, and I understand the operators committee have announced their acceptance of it. It provides for the immediate general resumption of operations in all districts upon the basis which obtained on October 31, 1919, except as to wages, which are to be fourteen per cent higher than at that date. This means that the men shall be taken back to work in all mines in the positions and upon the terms of their contracts of employment then existing, and it is confidently expected that the mine owners will accede to the government's earnest request that the status quo of October 31 be promptly re-established in order that peaceful relations between employer and employee may be restored."

Witness subpoenaed to appear before the Federal Grand Jury called for last Monday to investigate the charges of violation of the Lever Act and Antitrust Laws by both miners and operators, were discharged today. It was stated that this did not mean that the investigation would be dropped, but that the Grand Jury session which was postponed until next Wednesday, would be held as scheduled and witnesses recalled.

Dominion Steel Co. Not To Spend Large Amount On Plant Improvement

Montreal, Que., Dec. 10.—Denial is made of a claim cabled from London that the Dominion Steel Company plan to spend \$10,000,000 on improvements in its plant now (but British capitalists have invested \$35,000,000 in it. The claim was credited to Colonel Grant Morden, who was mainly responsible for interesting the British capitalists. The denial was made by a responsible official on behalf of the steel company here.

Discussing Colonel Morden's announcement that the Canadian Steamship Lines would co-ordinate its operations with the Dominion Steel Company, J. W. Norcross, general manager of the former company, said that the corporation would be made through the use of the dry dock the steamship line owns at Halifax.