

FIGHT POLITICAL BATTLE IN ROME

Lemieux Commissioned by Laurier to Counteract Bourassa's Representations to the Vatican.

Conference of Party Leaders at Quebec and Toronto Respectively Presages Election

Special to The Standard. Ottawa, Ont., Jan. 4.—The conflict for power in Canada between Laurier and Borden has begun in deadly earnest.

A Canadian political battle is being fought at Rome. As soon as Sir Wilfrid Laurier learned that Mr. Bourassa, the Quebec Nationalist leader, had gone to Rome to see the Pope, presumably to endeavor to secure the interest of His Holiness in the movement against the present premier of Canada, the government instructed Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux, who was on his way back from South Africa, whether he had gone to represent Canada at the opening of the first parliament of the new Dominion, to go also to Rome and plead the cause of Sir Wilfrid Laurier at the Vatican.

Both are now in the Italian capital, but Mr. Bourassa is understood to have the advantage of the sympathy of the clergy of the Roman Catholic Church in the Province of Quebec. The success or failure of either Bourassa or Lemieux means much to the political party each represents. Quebec is the dominant factor in Canadian politics today as hitherto. Quebec is almost entirely Catholic and if the efforts of the clergy are to be openly used in the interests of Bourassa and the Nationalists at the next general election two years hence, Sir Wilfrid Laurier will certainly be defeated.

Hon. Mr. Fielding and Hon. Mr. Paterson, who leave for Washington tomorrow, to continue reciprocity negotiations, state that on this occasion they will deal directly with Secretary Knox, and if occasion arises President Taft will also join the conference.

It was remarked when the conference was held in Ottawa some months ago that the United States did not send delegates of the same rank as the Canadian Commissioners. Two other Canadian Ministers, Sir Allen Aylesworth, minister of justice, and Mr. Brodeur, minister of marine and fisheries, will also leave for Washington tomorrow to discuss the question of the fisheries on Treaty Coasts which was left by the Hague Tribunal to be mutually arranged. With the ministers will go their wives and daughters, who with secretaries and chief officers of the departments will constitute a regular Canadian descent upon Washington.

VAGRANCY FAILS TO CONVICT GAMBLERS

Chief Carpenter Loses His Test Case Before Judge Bazin—Must Prove Gaming As Means Of Livelihood.

Montreal, Jan. 4.—A few days ago Chief Provincial Detective Carpenter declared that he could drive all the gamblers out of this city on charges of vagrancy. In a test case today Judge Bazin acquitted the defendant, Jack Maloney, who, according to the charge had been a vagrant for four months and had been convicted of having kept a gambling house during that time.

Judge Bazin held that Maloney had already pleaded guilty and been condemned on that charge and said: "I might be a gambler, and still I might carry on my profession of law as a judge. If you arrest me you would have to prove in order to succeed on a vagrancy charge, that gambling was my only means of livelihood. The only proof we have in this case, is the record in the case some time ago when Maloney pleaded guilty and was fined for keeping a gambling house. That is not enough."

N. Y. SLEEPING CAR RATES REDUCED

Albany, N. Y., Jan. 4.—The public service commission today granted permission to the Pullman Company to revise its tariff of sleeping car charges within the state of New York. The result of this order reduces the

SEN. ELKINS PASSES AWAY



THE LATE SENATOR ELKINS.

Leading Republican in West Virginia Died at Midnight—Neice's Name Linked With Duke D'Abuzzi.

Washington, Jan. 4.—Senator Stephen B. Elkins, of West Virginia, died at 12 o'clock tonight after a lingering illness. Members of his family were present when the end came.

Senator Elkins was one of the wealthiest men in West Virginia, owning large lumber and mining tracts. The family came into prominence through the persistent efforts of the engagement of the neice of a cousin of the King of Italy, Senator Elkins was a Republican.

MONTREAL PRIEST SUES MAYOR GUERIN

Objection Taken To City Attorney Appearing For The Chief Magistrate In Action For Slander.

Montreal, Jan. 4.—Mayor Guerin is represented by the city attorneys in his defence to an action brought by Rev. Father Philippe Giroud to recover \$199 damages for slander. Mr. Desaulniers, K. C., on behalf of Rev. Father Giroud today indignantly protested against the city attorneys acting for the Mayor, as it was purely a personal action.

He said: "As a citizen of Montreal I want to know by what right the Mayor has the city attorneys to appear for him in an action which is in no way concerned with municipal affairs."

The action in question was recently instituted by Father Giroud who claims that within the precincts of the City Hall, Mayor Guerin had told him that he ought to be in jail or an asylum, that he did not pay his street car fare, and made other remarks of a nature which the priest considered slanderous.

TURN YUKON GOLD TO CANADIAN CASH

Assay Office At Vancouver With Completion Of Royal Mint At Ottawa Removes Necessity Of Export.

Ottawa, Jan. 4.—Dr. Haanel, director of mines, has returned from an inspection of the new assay office at Vancouver, and says the completion of the refinery in connection with the Canadian branch of the royal mint, will enable the placer miner of the Yukon to convert his gold readily into Canadian cash and not as heretofore send it to Seattle.

He does not think the better plant now established there will interfere with the work of the mint at Ottawa except that the miner would be able to get value for his metal about 14 days sooner than if assayed at the capital. There is also a move to take off the assay charges at Vancouver to encourage Canadian enterprise.

charge for upper berths from \$1.50 to \$1.25; from \$2 to \$1.60 and from \$2.50 to \$2. The reduction in rates becomes effective Feb. 1, 1911.

C. P. R. AND ALLAN LINE INCLUDED IN SUIT UNDER SHERMAN ANTI-TRUST ACT

Federal Government Takes Action Against Thirteen Principal Trans-Atlantic Steamship Companies—Charge Unlawful Combination for Restraint of Commerce—Control 90 p.c. of Steerage Traffic

Bryce J. Allan, One of Directors of Canadian Company, One of 12 Individual Defendants—Alleged Conspiracy Dates from Conference at London, England, on Feb. 5, 1908.

New York, Jan. 4.—The Federal Government brought suit here today under the terms of the Sherman anti-trust law in the United States Circuit Court of the southern district of New York, against thirteen of the principal trans-Atlantic carriers, estimated to control ninety per cent. of the steerage traffic, worth to them \$55,000,000 a year. Twelve officers of the defendant companies, all resident in America are also named as co-defendants.

These thirteen companies, the Government charges, entered into an illegal contract on February 5th, 1908, at London, England, by which they constituted themselves the Atlantic Conference, with power to apportion all traffic pro rata, impose heavy fines on members of the conference for violation of any of the articles of agreement, and vote out-of-pocket competition against all lines outside the conference. As a result, it is alleged, the Russian Volunteer fleet, plying between New York and Libau, was driven out of business and the Russian-American Line was forced to make terms with the conference and enter its membership.

Suit was brought by Henry A. Wise, United States District Attorney, acting under instructions from Attorney General Wickesham, and in its petition the Government prays the court to "enjoin the defendants from further agreeing, combining, conspiring to injure or destroy the business of any person or corporation engaged in the business of carrying steerage passengers between the United States and Europe." Further that each, every and all of the defendant steamship lines be forbidden either to enter or clear their vessels from the port of New York or any other port of entry in the United States, or any of its possessions so long as they shall continue to operate under the aforesaid alleged unlawful combination or conspiracy.

Companies In Detail. The defendant companies, their capitalization, and the ports to which they chiefly ply are as follows:— Allan Line S. S. Co. Ltd., plying between Liverpool, Boston and Philadelphia, and Glasgow and Montreal, capital, \$3,250,000. International Mercantile Marine Company, a holding company, capital, \$120,000,000. International Navigation Company, a holding company. The Anchor Line (Henderson Bros.), Ltd., plying between New York and Glasgow, capital \$2,875,000. Canadian Pacific Railway Company, plying between Montreal and Liverpool, capital \$200,000,000. Cunard S. S. Company, Ltd., plying between New York and Boston and Liverpool, capital \$10,000,000. British and North Atlantic Steam Navigation Co. Ltd. Hamburg-American Line, plying between Hamburg, New York, Boston, Philadelphia and Baltimore, capital, \$3,250,000. Holland-American Line, plying between New York and Rotterdam, capital, \$2,500,000. North German Lloyd, plying between New York and Bremen, capital, \$2,500,000. Red Star Line, plying between New York and Antwerp. White Star Line, plying between New York and Liverpool. Russian East Asiatic S. S. Co. Ltd., plying between New York and Libau, capital, \$2,500,000. Of these lines the International Navigation Co., the British and North Atlantic Steam Navigation Co., Ltd., the Red Star Line, the White Star Line, are subsidiaries of the International Mercantile Marine Co. Individuals Named. The individual defendants, all officers of the defendant companies, but not all of them possible to identify here tonight, are:— Philip A. S. Franklin, vice-president of the International Mercantile Marine Co. Emil L. Baas, general manager in America and director of the Hamburg-American Line. Gustav H. Schwab, general manager in America and director of the seagoing lines of the Anchor Line. Charles P. Sumner, American agent of the Cunard Steamship Co. Alexander E. Johnson, passenger agent for the Scandinavian American Line. Bryce J. Allan of Boston, director of the Allan Line. H. C. Vose, vice-president and director of the North German Lloyd Dock Co. William Coverly, president of Henderson Bros., general agents Anchor Line. John Lee, Adrian Gips, Max Straus, The complaint charges that the defendants for some time past have been engaged in the United States, and particularly in the southern district of New York, in an unlawful combination to restrain a part of the commerce of the United States with foreign nations.

New York, Jan. 4.—All the competitive devices of the conferences are alleged to be in full force at the present moment against the Uranium Steamship Co., which plies between New York and Rotterdam, touching at Halifax.

TRANSCONTINENTAL NOT READY BEFORE 1913

Chief Engineer Grant Speaks Of Difficulties Encountered On Headwaters Of Gatineau River. Ottawa, Jan. 4.—The hardest section of construction on the eastern section of the Transcontinental Railway is at the headquarters of the Gatineau river, according to a statement made last night by Gordon Grant, chief engineer. The actual construction may not be any harder than the rest, but the section No. 13 is the hardest to get at. As a consequence the work is retarded. It is very difficult to get in supplies and this section will be the last finished. By the end of 1912 with the exception of this stretch of 100 miles, rails will be laid, according to Mr. Grant's estimate. The following year will be taken up in ballasting and finishing up, and the line will be ready for operation in 1913.

LABOR ALDERMAN AT PORT ARTHUR

Port Arthur, Jan. 4.—The labor party which elected one of four candidates to the city council, namely Fred Urry, has called a meeting for Thursday evening to discuss the advisability of asking him to resign as he alone is powerless to advance the interests of the labor party or the working man and also as a protest against secrecy in the board of control meetings.

JORDAN RIVER MAN DROWNED AT SEA

New York, Jan. 4.—On her arrival at City Island today, on her way from Restigouche, N. B., with lumber, the schooner Rothesay reported that on December 21, during a heavy northeast snow storm, seventy miles off Cape Cod, Arthur Johnson, aged 22, of Jordan River, N. S., fell overboard and was drowned.

PROPOSE NEW CANAL ROUTE IN ONTARIO

Toronto, Jan. 4.—Petitions are being circulated asking the Dominion government to consider the feasibility of a canal across western Ontario from Goderich to Hamilton. The petition points out that this would give an all-Canadian canal route to the upper lakes, while the fall of 200 feet would furnish immense water power. The scheme is a variation on other plans projected in the past by visionary promoters.

INQUIRY TODAY. Frederick, N. B., Jan. 4.—The Police Commission at a special meeting this afternoon decided to commence the investigation into the charges against Special Policeman A. D. Gunter tomorrow afternoon.

SERIOUS FIRES IN CANADIAN TOWNS

Explosion of Wood Alcohol Endangered Lives at Ottawa—Pembroke Theatre Total Loss. Business Block at Lake Megantic, Valued at \$30,000, Destroyed—Fatalities Feared.

Montreal, Jan. 4.—St. Joseph's College, Granby, Que., was burned to the ground at 11 o'clock tonight, and it is feared that some fatalities have occurred. One of the teachers, a Christian brother, jumped from the third story and lies in a dying condition with a broken back. There were only 40 boys in the building at the time; the balance, nearly 300, being away for the holidays.

The inmates were rescued only with the greatest difficulty. The temperature was 25 below zero in the excitement tonight, it could not be ascertained whether the missing boys were in the building, but there are hopes entertained that they were visiting friends.

Explosion Starts Fire. Ottawa, Jan. 4.—Sixteen employees of the analyst and methylated spirits branches of the department of inland revenue, including two women, made wild dashes for safety about noon today, when a barrel, out of which was being pumped wood alcohol, exploded with terrific noise and impact, overturning an electric fan and causing a dangerous fire to break out in the building occupied by these two government departments at 377, 319 and 321 Queen street. The building was practically destroyed by fire with heavy loss.

The manufacture of the methylated spirits was in charge of Walter Armstrong. All were on the ground floor when the explosion occurred and at once gave the alarm to those in Mr. McCall's branch upstairs, and they made their escape. The fire got on with some difficulty, dashing right through a room enveloped in flames, but without any injuries.

The total value of the stock of wood alcohol, grain alcohol, methylated spirits and other ingredients for its manufacture was about \$15,000.

Library and Theatre Burned. Pembroke, Jan. 4.—Fire broke out in the People's Theatre this afternoon and before control was gained by firemen the building was completely gutted. The Pembroke public library, which occupied the upper floor of the building, and two story brick structure, is a total loss, several thousand volumes of books falling prey to the flames.

The loss to the theatre people is \$12,200, with insurance of half that amount, while the loss to the owner of the building, James Stewart is \$10,000, on which there is only insurance of \$5,000. The value of the books in the library was about \$2,000 and the damage cannot be estimated as yet.

Dr. Bromley, whose office building adjoins, had his premises damaged slightly, by smoke from the fire. The fighting of the fire was difficult, owing to the bitter cold weather that prevailed.

NEW SALVATION ARMY BUILDING AT CHATHAM

Brigadier Adby And Toronto Officer To Make Final Arrangements Friday—Pulp Mill Situation Promising.

Chatham, Jan. 4.—Major Miller of Toronto, Salvation Army architect, and Brigadier Adby, of St. John, will arrive here Friday and final arrangements will be made for the erection of the new hall for the Army in the spring. The new hall will be on the lot of land near the present Army headquarters and the new building will be of concrete.

The contract has been awarded to John McDonald and Company and the building when finished will contain a hall large enough to seat 400 people and will also form quarters for officers. Visiting officers will conduct a service 8 o'clock Friday evening.

The week of prayer services opened Monday evening in St. Luke's when Rev. J. M. MacLean gave the address. Last evening the service was in St. John's church. The pastor presided and addresses were given by Mr. Buckley and Walter Matthews. This evening in St. Andrew's church, Rev. G. E. Dawson will give an address.

Thomas Harling, of Montreal, has been looking over the pulp mill situation here and in conversation with a representative of The Standard Mr. Harling spoke very encouragingly in regard to the final outcome of the present difficulty. He said the property was too valuable to be allowed to remain idle and that it would assuredly be going again before very many months had passed.

BAD FIRE IN AERODROME

Breslau, Germany, Jan. 4.—Fire this evening destroyed three aeroplanes and five hangars at the Wilhelmshafen aerodrome. An explosion occurred in the benzene tanks. Incendiarism is suspected.

QUEBEC ARRESTS

Quebec, Jan. 4.—During the year just closed there were 1,291 arrests made by the police in Quebec. Of the total 456 were residents of the city and 835 strangers.



Joseph G. Robin

Man Charged With Stealing \$80,000 Without Dollar In The World—A Bootblack 16 Years Ago.

New York, Jan. 4.—Joseph G. Robin, banker, promoter and financial operator of large undertakings, was lodged in the Tombs today on an indictment charging him with stealing \$80,000 from the Washington savings bank, of which he was president. On his plea of not guilty, bail was fixed at \$40,000. Robin's counsel, former District Attorney Jerome, told the court that his client was without a dollar in the world. Jerome made no effort to delay argument on the indictment, and offered no defence, but strenuously resisted the raising of bail.

Hearing on the petition of Robin's sister to have him declared insane is set for tomorrow. The banker was subjected today to a trying mental examination by alienists employed by the prosecution.

Friends of the prisoner appeared after his commitment with offers of bonds for his release. The District Attorney announced that he would take the full forty-eight hours allowed by law to examine the security of the bonds. In the meantime, the man whose operations are alleged to have caused the suspension of the Northern Bank, will remain in prison awaiting action on his sister's petition to have him adjudged insane.

Sixteen years ago Robin, whose name was then Rabinowitz, came to America a penniless immigrant. He was a bootblack then.

MOURNING AT SYDNEY MINES

Manager Cannot Account For Explosion—Sad Scenes Enacted At Pit Mouth—Two Bodies Not Recovered.

Sydney Mines, Jan. 4.—There is mourning and sorrow here over the loss of the eight brave men in the explosion in No. 3 mine of the N. S. S. and C. Co. The rescuing party is working its way into No. 13 landing where it is supposed the deputies, Ferguson and Purchase started on their morning examination.

Big falls of stone have interrupted the progress of the search party, in fact No. 14 landing is completely closed and the work of removing the debris is puzzling the officials. Accompanied by Sgt. Brown, Thos. Cantley, vice-president of the company, visited the scene of the disaster.

"This is one of our un lucky moments," he said, "but we are not discouraged by this calamity. Our workmen have stood together manfully and fought the battle against great odds. Not your correspondent and in a flood of tears expressed her anguish and hope for the delivery of her husband. A small boy clung to his clothing and asked: "When will papa be home?" All day scores of men were trying to remove the walls of stone. Manager Hill, who is in charge of No. 3 colliery cannot account for the explosion.

Mrs. Ferguson with her six children, not your correspondent and in a flood of tears expressed her anguish and hope for the delivery of her husband. A small boy clung to his clothing and asked: "When will papa be home?" All day scores of men were trying to remove the walls of stone. Manager Hill, who is in charge of No. 3 colliery cannot account for the explosion.

PANIC OVER ANARCHISTS

London Papers Suggest Registration Of Aliens And Possession Of Fire Arms By License Only.

London, Jan. 4.—The newspapers are becoming almost panicky on the subject of anarchists. They are publishing suggestions, such as the strengthening of the Aliens Act, calling for international police to hold conferences with a view to united action against anarchists, and for similar purposes. Some of the newspapers are proposing the promulgation of new laws to prohibit any private citizen from purchasing a revolver except under high license and strict registration. These papers also demand that every non-naturalized alien should be licensed and compelled to take out police permits of residence, to be renewed annually, and that in consequence cases finger prints should be taken to prevent impersonation.

There have been no new developments in the Steptey affair. Wanted in Boston. Boston, Mass., Jan. 4.—Boston police officials are of the opinion that the descriptions for the anarchists burned in London, correspond to those of the men wanted for the theft of \$18,000 worth of jewelry from the store of Samuel Ullian, a jeweller, in Washington street, last March. The same men are said to have been wanted in Philadelphia and New Haven, the amount of their stealings according to some reports being \$75,000, according to the police.

TWELVE YEARS ON ASSAULT CHARGE

New York, N. Y., Jan. 4.—James J. Gallagher, who shot Mayor Gaynor last August, was sentenced today to 12 years imprisonment on his conviction in Jersey City, on an indictment charging him with assaulting with intent to kill Wm. H. Edwards, commissioner of street cleaning of New York. The jury was out 40 minutes and the trial lasted but one day. In addition Gallagher will have to stay in prison until the cost of his prosecution has been paid by prison service.

LIQUOR PEDDLER MEETS WITH LOSS

Moncton, N. B., Jan. 4.—A young man carrying a large box got off the Shediac local train this evening at one of the suburban stations about one mile from the city. He seemed to be somewhat under the influence of liquor, and in making his way towards the city, slipped and fell, and the box was broken open. The contents consisting of ten square faces of gin were spread about, several bottles being broken.

YOUNG MAN WHO TRIED TO ENTER MONCTON WITH TEN BOTTLES OF GIN FALLS BY THE WAYSIDE.

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MONTEAL BOARD JOINS IN PROTEST

Montreal, Jan. 4.—An "eight-hour day" bill introduced in parliament by Mr. Verreille, M. P., will be strongly opposed by the council of the Montreal Board of Trade. Mr. Verreille's intention is that the bill should govern all matters concerning public works.

The council today took the view that the provisions of the bill would shut out the majority of manufacturers from competing for government contracts, and by decreasing the working hours of available men, intensify the lack of work, where such already exists.