

## HANNA REPEATS "NO POLITICS" IS C. N. R. POSITION

Re-affirms Former Position of  
Road in Reviewing Find-  
ing of Board.

## WILLING TO REINSTATE FORMER WORKERS

But This is Due to the Fact  
That a Semblance of Ap-  
proval Had Been Given.

(Continued from page 1)  
"In view of the above the acceptance of the men's proposal would be merely agreement on the part of the management that cases might arise where the policy laid down could be departed from. This would be leaving open the very door it is desired to keep shut.

"The board of directors with a desire to do justice to the individual employees affected is prepared to reinstate in the service with wages for lost time, the two employees, Messrs. Palmer and Moore, who were elected to the Manitoba Legislature and Mr. Higgins the employee from Lesauville. It will require investigations to see just what actual loss had been sustained. The directors will also authorize the management to grant leave of absence without pay to the first two mentioned employees to attend their parliamentary duties during the life of the present legislature.

### Why The Concession.

"The management is prepared to take this step in view of the contentions made by the men that the individual employees concerned had acted in ignorance of the views of the management in this question and that a semblance of official approval had been given to their political candidature by the fact that they had been granted leave of absence with the knowledge of officers that they were to be candidates in the elections. The management, however, is only prepared to take this action upon the distinct understanding that the question of policy involved is not in any way affected. The management merely withdraws its retractive effect insofar as three men are concerned.

"That there may be no misunderstanding, let me again re-affirm our position that no employee can continue in the service and accept nomination from any political party, Federal or Provincial. This is the policy laid down by the directors in this matter and our officers will be advised accordingly."

## BRITISH OIL MEN BELIEVE REDS THROUGH

Reported to Have Sewn up  
Russian Oil Fields  
Tight.

## BOUGHT FROM FORMER OWNERS OF PROPERTY

Understood Millions of Francs  
Involved in Deal—Negotia-  
tions Carried on in Paris.

Special to The Standard.  
Paris, Feb. 13.—The Shell and Royal Dutch oil interests are reported on good authority to have concluded a rather remarkable political commercial bargain, which amounts to betting that the Bolshevik regime in Russia will fall within ten years.

Under this arrangement, which it is understood was consummated in Paris, British oil interests have bought from Russians who held title to the property under the Czar's regime, rights to oil from the Grosny district in the Caucasus. The basis of the agreement is the payment now of 5 to 10 per cent. of the estimated value of production from these fields, in return for which the British interests are assured exclusive rights. There is a time limit of ten years to the agreement—in other words, if at the end of ten years the old owners are unable to regain their property the deal is off. Naturally if the Bolsheviks fall this year and are replaced by a regime which recognizes oil property rights, British interests may get oil quickly.

Considerable secrecy surrounds the deal, but it is learned that it is of such magnitude that the lawyers who handled the deal here got a commission of several million francs. Payments made by the Shell and Royal Dutch are said to run into many millions of francs.

A number of Russians owning property in the Grosny fields are refugees in Paris, and are engaged directly in the negotiations, it is said. It is common report in the Russian colonies here that a number of Russians have recently had much money to spend—men who did not have so much a short time ago.

Negotiations are said to be under way by both British and French oil interests to make a similar arrangement for the control of oil in the Bakou district. This district is now under doubtful control, being held by the Soviet organizations of Azerbaijan, whose subservience to Moscow is open to the time doubt.

The railroad line from Bakou to Batoum, on the Black Sea, built by the Czarist Government, runs through Azerbaijan and Georgian territory. This is the richest oil district in the Caucasus.

## HUNDREDS SAW FIGHT IN RUM- RUNNERS' FUED

Man and Woman Were Shot  
Down Outside Police  
Headquarters.

## MAN ARRESTED WAS MAULED BY CROWD

Victim of Shooting Denies  
Knowing Man Charged  
With the Deed.

New York, Feb. 13.—A feud among bootleggers spreading on the whole sale whiskey "cub market" near police headquarters is believed to be responsible for the shooting of Alberto Alterio, 31 years old, who said he lived at 347 East Thirty-eighth street, and Mrs. Ada Perotti, 33, of 82 Mulberry street.

Alterio, who said he was an importer, was shot in the head by Mrs. Perotti, who was carrying her seven-month-old child, was wounded in the leg.

Alterio was taken to police headquarters after more than fifty men and women joined in an attack on Antonio Mancini, 33, who said he lived in Providence, R. I., and who was accused of having done the shooting. Mancini was being kicked and cuffed when rescued by detectives.

In police headquarters Alterio said he did not know who shot him nor why he was shot, nor did he know Mancini.

An ambulance surgeon then examined the wounded man, announced he was in a serious condition and took him to Gouverneur Hospital. Mrs. Perotti also was taken to the hospital, but was permitted to return to her home later.

The shooting was witnessed by several hundred men and women, some of them employed in police headquarters, a block away. Jacob Leavitt, a police headquarters clerk, said he saw the prisoner sneak up behind Alterio and fire two shots. Alterio fell. Mancini then, according to Leavitt, backed a few feet away and fired again.

Calmly Walked Past.  
The bullet, the police said, glanced off Alterio's head and lodged in Mrs. Perotti's leg, as she was walking a few feet ahead of Alterio. In falling she managed to protect the infant in her arms, keeping it from striking the sidewalk. Mancini then calmly walked past the prostrate couple, Leavitt said.

Policeman Hunt, attached to the headquarters clerical force, said he saw Mancini throw a pistol in a nearby basement. He re-examined the pistol before he could arrest Mancini, the crowd had attacked him.

Alterio, who is said to be wealthy, has a police record, but although arrested seven times in the last ten years, never has been convicted. In 1916, the police said, he was detained several weeks in the "Tombs" in connection with slaying of Michael Gharri, a politician, at the corner of Madison and Chestnut streets. Michael A. Rofrano, formerly deputy street cleaning commissioner, was indicted for the murder, but was acquitted.

Stolen Cigarettes  
Hid In Bloomers

Matron Found Pilfered Goods  
and Mrs. McGurdy Lost  
Her Plumpness.

Special to The Standard.  
New York, Feb. 13.—A lot of those horrible things that make Miss Lucy Gaston Pige roar like a lion have been missed recently from the plant of the Helmar Cigarette Company in 438 West Fifty-fifth street, and yesterday afternoon the manager of the plant, Charles J. Webb, stationed himself by the exit door so he could see everybody that left. He was attracted by Mrs. Stella McGurdy, 18, of 648 Tenth avenue. It seemed to him that she was looking at the cigarettes and plumper than usual, so he called Patrolman O'Neill and had her arrested. She was taken before Lieut. Callahan in the West Forty-seventh street station.

"What's the charge?" asked the Lieutenant.  
"Stealing cigarettes," said the policeman.  
"Where's the evidence?"  
"She's got it somewhere about her," said Mr. Webb. "She isn't that fat naturally."

Admitted Theft.  
Lieut. Callahan scratched his head a bit, looked thoughtful and then turned to Mrs. McGurdy, who is very small.  
"Did you take any cigarettes, little girl?" he asked.  
"Sure," the police say she said. "I took a lot of them."

"Where did you hide them?"  
"In my bloomers," said Mrs. McGurdy promptly. "What are you going to do about it?"  
"Why? Me?" said Lieut. Callahan, blushing. "I'm not going to do anything. I'm going to send you down to the West Thirtieth street station, where there is a doctor."

So Patrolman O'Neill and Mr. Webb and Mrs. McGurdy went to the West Thirtieth street station and Mrs. McGurdy was not quite so plump. Thereafter she was locked up charged with petty larceny and will be arraigned this morning in West Side Court.

SCOTCH TEAM COMING.

It is definitely announced that the Dominion Football Association is arranging to bring out from the Old Country, Connell's famous Scottish football (soccer) team this spring, to play a series of games with Canadian soccer teams, between Halifax and Vancouver. Further information regarding the date and arrangements for the trip will be made later.

## Spiritual Message Of Modern Painters

First Sermon of Series Preach-  
ed by Rev. F. S. Dowling on  
"The Cross in Modern Art."

## SNOW FROZEN HARD IN GREAT DRIFTS

Situation is One of the Worst  
Newfoundland Has Faced  
in Years.

St. John's, Nfld., Feb. 13.—An express train was fighting its way through snowdrifts twenty feet high tonight 100 miles from this city and doubt was expressed that it would be able to reach St. John's before the middle of the week. On board are a number of passengers from Canada and the United States, besides the mail for the continent.

The point where the worst obstacles were encountered was the twenty-mile long neck of land averaging two miles in width, which connects the main part of Newfoundland with the irregular southeastern peninsula on which this city is located.

Snow Frozen Hard  
The blizzard, which swept the island during the first half of last week and terrific gales whirled over this narrow barrier between Trinity Bay on the east and Pictou Bay on the west and piled up huge banks of snow. Yesterday it rained and severe cold today formed a hard crust on the snow, making it difficult to remove the block.

No passenger train has left St. John's since noon last Sunday, and it is probable that none will be sent out before Wednesday.

Services Were  
Well Attended

First Sunday in Lent — Ex-  
changes Made Among the  
Anglican Churches.

Yesterday's services in the Anglican churches were particularly well attended as it was the first Sunday in Lent. Exchanges are being made among many of the churches for the morning service, Rev. W. P. Dunham preaching at St. John's (Stone) and Rev. Canon Kilbride at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Fairville. Rev. Dean Sampson, D.D., was at St. Luke's, Rev. R. P. McKim preaching at St. George's.

At Trinity, the new curate, Rev. A. E. Gabriel took the service, the Rector, Rev. Canon Armstrong preaching the first of his Lenten series of sermons on "The Character of Christ," referring especially to the strength of the Master. In the evening the opening address on the Church Catechism was given, the creed and the questions on it being the subject.

At the Mission church last evening the sermon was preached by Rev. J. V. Purdy, who spoke in the interests of the Maritime Home for Girls at Truro.

Poles And Soviets  
To Sign A Peace

Russia Complains That Poles  
Have 212,000 Men on  
Polish-German Frontier.

London, Feb. 13.—The permanent peace treaty between Poland and Soviet Russia, negotiations for which have been underway at Riga for some time, with probably be signed within a few days, according to a wireless despatch from Moscow received here yesterday.

A Helsinki despatch received February 11, quoted a Moscow wireless message as stating that the Russian-Polish peace treaty already had been signed, the exact date of the Helsinki despatch embodied an erroneous rendering of the Moscow radio announcing the probability of the early signing of the pact.

Huge Polish Army.  
Berlin, Feb. 13.—The German Government has informed the governments in London, Paris, Rome and Warsaw that 212,000 Polish troops are concentrated on the Polish-German frontier according to latest information reaching the government. The communication gives details of the distribution of the troops and maintains the information proves the Polish army is not being demobilized.

DIED.

HAMM — Suddenly, at the General Public Hospital, on Sunday, Feb. 13, 1931, Charles T. Hamm, aged 56 years, son of the late William D. and Julia L. Hamm, of Grand Bay, leaving three brothers and three sisters to mourn.

Notice of funeral hereafter.

PRICHARD — At Halifax (N.S.) on Sunday, Feb. 13 in his 82nd year.

Funeral from his late residence 178 Sydney St. at 2 p.m. Service at St. James church at 2:30 p.m. the 15th.

To Cure a Cold in One Day

Take GROVES' Laxative BROXO QUININE Tablets. The genuine bears the signature of E. W. Groves. (Be sure you get BROXO.) 20c.

## TWENTY FEET OF SNOW COVERING N.F.L.D. RAILROAD

St. John's Has Had No Train  
Service for a Week Now  
and None in Sight.

## Claims British Want To Cancel War Debts

Treasury Department of U. S.  
Refuses, However, to Make  
Any Changes in Terms.

Washington, Feb. 13.—More than one suggestion that Great Britain's war debt to the United States be written off has come from British sources, a member of the Senate foreign relations committee said yesterday, after Secretary Houston had been closeted with the committee for two hours discussing the status of the United States Government foreign loans.

Committee members, said Mr. Houston, had confirmed that the British Government had made a formal proposal to cancel the debt and that the treasury department had refused. First intimation that such a proposal had been made was given by J. Austen Chamberlain, British Chancellor of the Exchequer, in a recent address in Birmingham, England.

Satisfied With Course.  
Some Senators said the course of Secretary Houston in dealing with such suggestions had been "eminently satisfactory."

Mr. Houston was said to have reiterated that the only course open to him was to follow the law authorizing the treasury department to exchange the present allied certificates of indebtedness for long term notes. The secretary read a long prepared statement to the committee detailing all points on "The Character of Christ," referring especially to the strength of the Master. In the evening the opening address on the Church Catechism was given, the creed and the questions on it being the subject.

At the Mission church last evening the sermon was preached by Rev. J. V. Purdy, who spoke in the interests of the Maritime Home for Girls at Truro.

France And Italy  
Are Drifting Apart

Italy Wants German Debts Re-  
mitted to Avoid a World  
Catastrophe.

(Copyright, 1921, by Cross-Atlantic.)  
Rome, Feb. 13.—The growing difference between Italy and France are reflected in the attitude of the Italian newspapers.

"France intends to annihilate Germany," writes (En. Bussac) in the Tempo. "Only sheer lunacy could suggest such a demand. Europe would today be in the throes of communist revolution if Germany had fulfilled all the terms of the Versailles treaty. Instead Germany saved the world from Bolshevism."

"The truth is that France feels the reawakening of Germany and perceives that Germany is the only power capable of restoring the world to peace. Therefore France intends to annihilate Germany and any step towards this end is welcome to her. The occupation of the Ruhr district is the first step on the road to Berlin. But the Allies who aided and abetted France in the making of the Versailles treaty will not follow her."

"Europe might be spared the horrors of the former Premier Nitte, 'if England, France and the United States would waive their claims against Germany.'"

He says that Germany can never pay the "absurd sums" demanded of her, but does not refer to the Italian claims against Austria.

Stole Necklace And  
Later Returned It

Owner Asked to Come to  
Altar of St. Mark—Man in  
Fur Coat Thief.

(Copyright, 1921, by Cross-Atlantic.)  
Rome, Feb. 13.—A curious story of a stolen necklace restored to its owner under romantic circumstances comes from Venice. For some time a lady belonging to a noble Venetian family has been living in one of the principal hotels of the town. A few days ago a magnificent necklace of Oriental pearls disappeared from the lady's jewel-case. Though the thief could have taken away many other precious jewels as well, and a sum of loose money, nothing was touched except the pearl necklace. The police set inquiries on foot; a reward was offered; but nothing came to light.

Later a registered letter arrived at the hotel addressed to the countess. The letter was sealed with a heraldic device, and contained an invitation to the old countess to come at a certain hour to the altar of the famous Niccolò Madonna in the Cathedral of St. Mark.

The letter stated that if the countess failed to come alone no more would be heard of the necklace.

The next day she went to St. Mark's, and kneeling before the altar named, "Adelaide," she felt herself touched on the shoulder and, looking round, saw a man in a fur coat, with gold-rimmed glasses and yellow gloves. "Adelaide," he said, "the necklace is here."

She would have taken it back if she could have seen the Madonna no to reveal the name of the person before her, but by bringing any action, the countess nodded her head, and repeated the oath after the mysterious stranger, who then drew from his pocket the necklace and gave it to her.

Kissing the old lady's hand, he left the church without saying a word.

## Burly Overcoats Zero for Weather At Half-Price

We will sell Winter Overcoats and Ulsters  
at half-price—we are giving away all that is left  
—after a busy season!

By selling home products of high quality be-  
low cost we help to bring back the Canada Dol-  
lar to par.

## OVERCOATS AT UPSIDE DOWN PRICES

GROUP 1—  
Overcoats and Ulsters in all sizes and many patterns velvet collar. Winter Chesterfields in sizes 34 breast to 44 breast; were \$40.00. Now \$20.00.

GROUP 2—  
Overcoats and Ulsters, all shades and patterns, dark grey and black Beavers, Meltons, Scotch Wool Ulsters; all sizes from 35 breast to 44; were \$45.00. Now \$22.50.

GROUP 3—  
Overcoats and Ulsters. Wool selected for its fineness and warmth—in Chesterfields, Canada Ulsters, English Slippers; exclusive designs; were \$55.00. Now \$27.50.

GROUP 4—  
Canada Ulsters in soft Botany wool weaves, rich mixture and rare patterns, all sizes 36 to 44 breast, genuine Semi-ready Tailoring. Label \$65.00. Now \$32.50.

GROUP 5—  
All Semi-ready Overcoats and Ulsters labelled to \$70.00 will be marked half-price regardless style or quality. Now \$35.00.

GROUP 6—  
Crombie Overcoats, worth \$75.00, values up to \$100.00 popular for warmth and vie with fur warmth, and out vote them for style and appearance; offer freedom from colds—were \$75.00. Now \$37.50.

GROUP 7—  
All \$80.00 Overcoats and Ulsters, a size for every man in some style or pattern. Now \$40.00.

GROUP 8—  
An Extra Special Overcoat Bargain  
A limited quantity of velvet collar Overcoats; worth, \$30.00. Now \$15.00.

SEMI-READY SUITS

Semi-ready Tailored Suits that were \$35 are now \$25.00  
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