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MARITIME PROBE COMMISSION NAMED

SIR A. R. DUNCAN, WHO HEADED N. S. COAL INQUIRY, MEMBER

Dr. McGill, Winnipeg; Judge W. B. Wallace, Halifax; Hon. Dr. W. E. Foster, Saint John, Also On Board

OTTAWA, March 27.—It was learned here today on the highest authority that the personnel of the commission to investigate conditions in the Maritime Provinces will be as follows: Sir Andrew Rae Duncan, Kent, England; Dr. McGill, of Winnipeg; Judge W. B. Wallace, of Halifax; Hon. W. E. Foster, of Saint John.

The Nova Scotia Government is at the present preparing its case and it is presumed that the Governments of New Brunswick and P. E. I. will take immediate action to get ready their cases for the commission.

The work which this Royal Commission is to do was outlined in the Speech from the Throne made public at the opening of Parliament on January 1st.

AUTHORITY OF COMMISSION.

The paragraph in the Speech relating to the Maritime Provinces was as follows: "With a view to affording such remedies as may be practical and appropriate, the Government proposes to appoint a Royal Commission to inquire fully into the claims that the rights of the Maritime Provinces, in regard to the operation of the Intercolonial Railway, have not been observed, and that in regard to transportation, immigration and other economic factors, these provinces have suffered prejudicially in their position under Confederation."

The mandate given this Royal Commission was in addition to the Government's action in referring to the Railway Commission the whole question of the diversion of traffic from Canadian to American ports.

PERSONNEL IS STRONG ONE.

The personnel of the new Commission will strike Maritime Province people favorably. It has been suggested on several occasions that the investigation should be under the chairmanship of an experienced and able public man from Great Britain, who, because of his detachment and training, would view all the issues judicially.

Sir Andrew Rae Duncan has all these qualifications. He was chairman of the commission of investigation which a few weeks ago completed its inquiry into the mining situation in Nova Scotia, and his ability and impartiality, as well as the character of the report submitted, have been the subject of no little complimentary publicity. Sir Andrew was Coal Controller in Great Britain in 1919-20.

Hon. Dr. W. E. Foster, former Premier of New Brunswick, needs no introduction in the Maritime public. His fitness for the work will be generally recognized.

Judge W. B. Wallace, of Halifax, is an able and public-spirited citizen with a penetrating knowledge of Maritime conditions, a man trusted and respected by the public.

Dr. McGill is secretary of the Grain Exchange of Winnipeg, and formerly was a professor at Dalhousie University. He is known as a well-equipped student of public affairs and of economic questions, and he has special knowledge of Maritime problems.

N. Y. POLICE DRIVES SCARE CRIMINALS

Percentage of Convictions Since Jan. 1 Highest in Court History

NEW YORK, March 27.—New York criminals are in a panic as the opinion of recent Police Attorney Banton. "The roundup of several 'night club' gangs, including the Whittemore band, and the rapid disposition of cases in the courts since the first of the year have frightened the criminal element, he believes.

"The percentage of convictions since January 1, has been higher than at any time in the history of the criminal courts," he asserted. "Jurors have awakened to the excesses of the criminal and the result is that pleas of guilty are predominant.

There are only 862 indictments pending against 699 a year ago. Of 1,638 cases tried since January 1, 1,375 resulted in convictions.

FEWER FAILURES

Increase of Eleven in Dominion During Past Week, Dun Reports

TORONTO, Ont., March 27.—Commercial failures in Canada and Newfoundland as reported by R. G. Dun and Company, during the past week, totaled 42 as compared with 38 during the corresponding week of last year. This week's failures by provinces were as follows: Quebec 21; Ontario 7; Manitoba 2; Alberta 2; Saskatchewan, British Columbia and Nova Scotia 2; Newfoundland 1.

Pelletier Sentenced To Fifteen Years

OTTAWA, Ont., March 27.—Louis Pelletier, who on Thursday was found guilty of manslaughter in connection with the death of Miss Mary Killroy, was today sentenced by Mr. Justice Lacombe to 15 years imprisonment.

Germany To Be Isolated Under Franco-Italian Direction

Bavarian Judge Is Newest Rival To King Solomon Settles Dispute Between Two Contestants and Gets Cheap Goose For Gift

United Press. RACHEL, Bavaria, March 27.—In this little village with its biblical name, King Solomon has found a rival. A bicyclist rode down a goose. The farmer to whom the dead goose belonged promptly appeared and demanded damages. The cyclist offered 50 cents heart broken, as he put it, to settle the matter. The farmer demanded \$150 in return for which the cyclist was to keep the goose.

A long, fruitless argument ensued and both finally agreed to appeal to the local mayor as arbitrator. "YOU, sir," the mayor told the bicyclist, "you want to pay 50 cents and you want the farmer to retain his goose."

"And you, my neighbor," he said to the farmer, "you want \$150 and are willing to let your adversary keep the goose."

The mayor turned to the cyclist. "Give me fifty cents," he commanded. He turned to the farmer. "Give me the goose," he ordered. Both complied.

THE MAYOR polled \$100 from his own pockets and handed the farmer \$150. Then he carefully wrapped up the cheap goose and tucked it under his arm. "Now, my neighbor," he told the smiling pair, "and what's more, I am, too."

BEER LICENSE FEES IN N. B. INCREASED

Scales For Cities Raised From \$25 to \$50; Others From \$10 to \$35

Canadian Press. FREDERICTON, March 27.—Licenses for beer shops are to cost more and thus swell the revenue of the province from the Prohibition Act. Notices have been sent by Chief Inspector W. L. McParlane to all holders of licenses for beer shops stating that the new licenses to be issued on May 1 will be on the following scale of fees:

In cities and towns of 4,000 or over, \$50. In communities of less than 4,000, \$35. The old rates were \$25 and \$10, respectively.

LIVES ARE LOST IN JAPANESE STORM

Blizzard Sweeps Islands of Yezo and Kuriles—60 in Train Buried

United Press. TOKYO, March 27.—Blizzards today swept the islands of Yezo and the Kuriles north of Japan, and according to first reports received here, caused considerable loss of life. A passenger train containing 60 passengers was buried in the snow near Utsunomiya and railways throughout the area are blocked.

LABOR WINS SEAT

Joseph Sullivan is Elected in Three-Cornered Fight at Bothwell

Canadian Press. GLASGOW, March 27.—Joseph Sullivan, the labor candidate, was elected for the House of Commons in the by-election in the Bothwell division of Lanarkshire yesterday. The seat was previously held by Leith, the by-election being due to the death of John Robertson, Labor M. P.

It was a three-cornered contest in which the vote was as follows: Joseph Sullivan, Labor, 14,880; Alexander M. Mackay, K. C., Conservative, 8,740; Ernest Young, Liberal, 1,276.

YOUTH CONVICTED OF THEFT AT HALIFAX

HALIFAX, N. S., March 27.—Shirley Connors Earle, a youth of 19, wanted in Cambridge, Mass., on a charge of theft, was convicted here today on a similar charge. At the suggestion of the Crown, sentence was deferred one week, in order to permit communication with the Cambridge authorities.

PHONE CO. MANAGER AT DOAKTOWN DEAD

William C. Cumming Had Accident at That Post Since Service Started

Special to The Times-Star. FREDERICTON, N. B., March 27.—William C. Cumming of Doaktown, died suddenly at his home at 2 o'clock this morning after a brief illness of heart failure. He had been exchange manager for the N. B. Telephone Company at Doaktown ever since the establishment of the telephone service there. A widow survives. The deceased was widely known and was very popular. He also conducted a general store at Doaktown.

Girl Finds Mother Slain And Her Father Fatally Wounded

DETROIT, Mich., March 27.—When Stella Elton, 12 years old, returned home from school yesterday she found her mother, Anna, 40, dead, and her father, Nicholas, 38, fatally wounded, with a revolver lying on the floor. He died shortly afterwards in hospital.

GETS RELEASE FROM MUNICIPAL HOME AT CAPITAL

Louis Vogel Says He Should Have Gone To Hospital ONCE LIVED HERE

Fredrick Mayor Orders He Be Given Transportation To Woodstock

Special to The Times-Star. FREDERICTON, N. B., March 27.—Louis Vogel, who has been an inmate of the Municipal Home of Fredericton for some time, is in a fair way to get back to Woodstock, where he says he belongs. Vogel wrote a letter to His Worship Mayor Clark. As a result of his representations, the Commissioner of the Municipal Home, T. A. Niles, will be instructed to furnish Vogel with a ticket for Woodstock.

Vogel's letter stated that he came to Fredericton in December and stayed a week at each of two hotels. He then was attacked by illness and summoned medical attendance. He expected to be placed in the hospital and instead was sent to the Municipal Home where he has remained ever since. The letter intimated that the writer believed that he had been committed to the Municipal Home by the police magistrate and was incarcerated there.

It transpired that Vogel had been a protectionist in the past and being in need of care was sent to the Municipal Home as the only suitable institution.

Vogel has been a resident of New Brunswick for the greater part of his lifetime and is now about 60. He in a log cabin and was but in the early days of the war was under arrest as a spy although he had lived in the province for years and had been in various militia regiments. He was a resident of Saint John for some years and worked the plant in April for overhauling. An average season's run during the year is expected.

ICE BREAKUP NOT DUE BEFORE APR. 15

Frasers Mill in Capital Expected to Close Run April First

Special to The Times-Star. FREDERICTON, March 27.—Lumbermen in this section are not anticipating a breakup in the streams and lakes until after the middle of April. No logs from last winter will be on the opening of the river will be able to get kings at once in addition to those having been in the mill during the winter. The planing mill will continue to operate. There will be a shut down of the plant in April for overhauling. An average season's run during the year is expected.

FRENCH FINANCIAL CRISIS DISCUSSED

Brind and Cabinet Meet to Consider Means of Averting Chaos

PARIS, March 27.—Premier Brind met his cabinet today to consider means of averting chaos from the financial catastrophe which threatens here. The cabinet council considered the current proposals of the Chamber of Deputies budget committee to Finance Minister Peret's financial project. "The situation is most critical," Peret told the United Press, following the conference.

"The slightest blunder might cause a catastrophe. The government is unanimous that urgent measures must be taken to save the franc from collapse. He will demand a vote of confidence in the Chamber."

BOY IS ACQUITTED

Halifax Youth, Who Shot Chum on Golf Links, Found Not Guilty

Canadian Press. HALIFAX, N. S., March 27.—Garnet Giles, the 18 year old youth charged with manslaughter in connection with the shooting of Cyrus Little, a 14 year old boy on the golf links of the Gorsebrook Golf and Country Club last fall, was acquitted by the petit jury last evening in the Supreme Court.

New Pastor Coming For Capital Church

FREDERICTON, March 25.—Col. T. G. Leggie left for Saint John this morning to meet Rev. J. Garvey Barrie who is arriving from Scotland this evening, to assume pastorate of Saint Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Fredericton.

Unexpected Guests Drop In

O. N. Hirsch, of Warm Springs, Calif., had some unexpected guests when Benjamin Torrey and W. A. Gray, in an airplane piloted by Torrey, dropped in on his ranch, wrecking both house and plane. The flyers, however, escaped without a scratch.

TWO DROWNED, SEVEN TERRIBLY INJURED AS SPONGE BOAT BURNS

Survivors of Tragedy Off Florida Coast Hardly Able to Tell of Awful Experience—Drifted Eight Days in Derelict Vessel

CEDAR KEY, Fla., March 27.—A drama of the sea came to light here today, when a launch chugged through the inlet bringing seven survivors of a fire that some days ago destroyed the Great sponge fishing boat "Tarpon Springs." The crew of eight men jumped into the sea to escape the flames, but paddling they would drown, were rescued to the boat. The other two are believed to have been drowned. Terribly burned, some of them were unable to see or talk, the survivors were hardly able to give any intelligible account of their experiences.

They were dispatched by fast boat to Tarpon Springs, whence they had set forth on the fateful voyage some three weeks ago. Two of the injured were not expected to live until medical aid, summoned by speed boat, reached them during the journey home.

All were members of the picturesque sponge fishing colony at Tarpon Springs. In their native tongue they related to Greeks here fragmentary accounts of the disaster.

The vessel caught fire in 15 fathoms of water on the evening of March 17. The blaze was extinguished just before the boat burned to the water's edge and for eight days the seven survivors drifted in the gulf. They had a little hardtack salvaged from the fire, to eat, and their water supply, though scanty, was intact.

The greatest suffering came from the burns for which they had no remedies.

World News In Short Metre

ST. JOHN'S, Nfld.—Latest reports from the sealing fleet show a catch already in excess of that of last year. The total for all ships is given at 126,000 pelts. Yesterday alone 25,000 were secured.

BUCHARST.—Premier Bratianu was expected to dissolve Parliament this afternoon and thereafter hand his resignation to the King.

SHANGHAI.—Communications between Tien Tsin and Peking have been cut since yesterday. This is believed to indicate that fighting is proceeding in the vicinity of Yangtsun.

PARIS.—The ministerial council today unanimously approved Finance Minister Peret's declaration, in which he voiced optimism over finding an agreement with the Chamber of Deputies finance committee on measures for overcoming the budget deficit.

NEW YORK.—An earthquake, with an initial disturbance of severe intensity, was recorded today on the seismograph of Fordham University. It lasted almost an hour and a half. The record showed the disturbance to be 6,500 miles of New York.

AMHERST, N. S.—The tax rate of the Town of Amherst was last night set at \$3.90 on \$100, an increase of 20 cents over the preceding year. In 1922 the rate was 4 per cent.

HAVANA.—The Norwegian steamer Vika, bound for New York with a cargo of sugar, is aground at the mouth of the Cayo Mambi River, Oriente province. The cargo is being transferred to lighters.

Confession Exposes Plot To Kill European Leaders

LONDON, March 27.—Another Central European sensation rivaling the Hungarian bank note forgeries is threatened should the confession of an accused orderlies in jail at Budapest be corroborated.

Theodor Okoliosany is awaiting trial for the killing of a Budapest demagogue, Amelias Leizer. He has signed a statement that he and another man who has since committed suicide were entrusted with a "patriotic mission" to assassinate Dr. Bene, the Czech-Slovakian foreign minister. Amelias is also alleged.

CHAIN OF PACTS TO BE SIGNED IN FEW WEEKS

Jugo-Slavia and Czechoslovakia In Negotiations UNABLE TO MOVE

French Believe Alliances Will Tend To Stabilize Peace Conditions

LONDON, March 27.—Within a few weeks Germany will be isolated in Europe and surrounded by a chain of powerful alliances under the direction of France and Italy. This is the outcome of recent negotiations which Foreign Minister Nitschich of Jugo-Slavia has conducted in Rome and Paris, and an alliance between France and Jugo-Slavia similar to that between France and Czechoslovakia is expected to be signed within the next few days.

The policy at which France has consistently aimed since the close of the war is taking definite shape and supported by Italy. France hopes that the chain will be completed by an agreement between Jugo-Slavia and Greece. The effect of this chain of alliances will be that Germany will be unable to move anywhere outside her own frontiers without swift and immediate action by these powers who have allied themselves together to prevent her from so doing. The French argue that such a series of alliances restricted by the terms of the Versailles treaty will stabilize peace conditions in Europe and prevent any changes being made, but this policy is arousing many doubts in British diplomatic circles.

The government is wondering what Germany's reply will be. If they try to link up with Russia so as to counter the new alliances with an overshadowing menace it is asked, and if she should take such a step it is contended that Europe would find itself back in the old tradition before the war except that Russia would be on the side of Germany's side of France.

BRITISH VIEWPOINT.—The British point out that the alliance would reflect on the strength and ability of the League of Nations guarantee of the peace status in Europe, so that Europe would be drifting back to the conditions which brought about the war. The British policy under these circumstances is to maintain close relations with Germany and friendship for Italy and France, and do all that is possible to remove any dangers for future war in Europe. Skeptical diplomats, however, are already predicting another war in Europe and the inevitable outcome of this attempt to isolate Germany.

GASPEREAU CAUGHT.—The first gasperneau to be caught in Saint John harbor this year was taken yesterday when the owners of No. 2 were captured 400 of this delicious fish. This is very early for them to be caught.

The Weather

SYNOPSIS.—A disturbance, which developed on the South Atlantic coast has moved quickly northeastward to Sable Island, while pressure continues high over the central and northern parts of the continent. Snow is falling in Nova Scotia and Southern New Brunswick. Elsewhere the weather is fair and rather cold.

FORECAST: Fair. MARITIME.—Strong northeast to north winds, probably gales near Cape Breton, snow in east, clearing in west. Sunday, north-west winds; fair; not much change in temperature. NEW ENGLAND.—Partly cloudy tonight. Sunday fair; not much change in temperature; moderate northeast winds.

Temperatures. TORONTO, March 27, 1926.

Table with 3 columns: Location, Highest, Lowest. Rows include Victoria, Calgary, Edmonton, Winnipeg, Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal, Saint John, Halifax, New York.