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PECULIAR POLITICAL SITUATION IN BRITAIN

Only One Man in the Field for Premiership

No Concentrated Opposition to Lloyd-George, but Asquith Opposes Election as Untimely, and Labor Party Has Programme of Its Own

London, Nov. 18.—(By the Associated Press)—In normal times the country would be in a fever of excitement over the election. Interest in politics, however, is now submerged under the greater interest in the closing events of the war.

The political situation is peculiar, because there is only one man in the field and there is no concentrated opposition to him. All factions approve of Premier Lloyd George's reconstruction plans, as far as they go. What opposition exists is divided into two sections.

The first is the old Liberal organization, led by former Premier Asquith, which opposes the election as untimely, principally because only forty per cent of the soldiers, according to their estimates, will be able to vote. They say the soldiers have the greatest claim to a vote in the settlement of the war.

The other section is the Labor party, which has its own programme, including the nationalization of railways, mines and other public works, with compensation to the owners.

Lord Northcliffe's papers and the leading Liberal organs invite the premier to be more specific in the statement of his plans and ask him to tell how he proposes to secure land for the soldiers, which is one of the chief planks in his platform. They ask how he will pay for this land and how he will finance his proposal for the extensive building of workmen's houses. Lloyd George partially answered these questions on Saturday last and says that the cabinet has not had time yet to prepare bills.

(Continued on page 3, first column.)

JUDGE'S TRIBUTE TO SUCCESS OF ALLIED ARMIES

Eloquent Address at Opening of County Court—Three Theft Cases on the Docket

At the opening of the adjourned sitting of the November Circuit of the county court this morning, His Honor Judge Armstrong paid a glowing tribute to the success of the allied armies. "It seems proper," said His Honor, "that at this opening day of the first court of justice held in this court house since the signing of the armistice, that some reference should be made to that great event. Over four years ago the greatest war in the world's history was forced upon unprepared and unwilling peoples by the unscrupulous Kaiser, lustful for world domination. For nearly four years it appeared as though the fate of the world was hanging in the balance. In the early summer of this year the enemy had advanced with alarming rapidity and Paris was bombarded by the big guns of the hateful Hun. Had Paris fallen and had the Channel ports then in great danger been lost to us, then indeed the outlook would have been black. But suddenly there came the change. Victory followed victory to Great Britain and her Allies until at last the Hun was beaten to his knees. Ten days ago our enemies cried for an armistice and the ex-Kaiser fled his country. The armistice signed, as it is, in terms dictated by the Allies, though not a present declaration of peace, contains such guarantees as will ensure to the victors the carrying out of such just terms as may be imposed by the Allies.

"In this great achievement the chief burden has been borne by Great Britain whose arms have won brilliant victories in no less than seven different and far distant campaigns in Europe, in Asia and in Africa. Her glorious navy has patrolled the seven seas searching out and destroying the enemy when it could be found, conveying troops and supply ships, keeping the food avenues open to the Allies and closing them to our enemies, thus contributing vastly to the successful outcome.

"We in Canada are to be thankful that we have taken our part in common with the other Dominions and with India in upholding the arms of the latter Country in this just cause, a part no more than was our due, cast upon us not only by our heritage but by the preservation of our own liberty and that of the world. Now that the end is in sight, now that the mightiest of a world wide domination and servitude is past, let us all join in the sentiment: 'Thanks be to God who has given us the victory.'

"The city of Saint John and the province at large are to be congratulated on having largely over-subscribed their allotment of the second victory loan, so the men who so generously and ably avoted their time and their talents to its end the best thanks of the country are due.

The criminal docket consisted of three cases as follows: King vs. Ackinson, McLellan and Durbin; King vs. Whitman; King vs. Garland; theft; Attorney-General Byrne was present, and will prosecute in the cases of the King vs. Ackinson, McLellan and Durbin. In these cases the defendants are charged with stealing from the C. P. R. Daniel Mullin, K.C., is appearing on be-

MANY SOON WILL SHED THE KHAKI

Some of Soldiers Here to be Discharged Before Sunday—Depot Battalion and Artillery the First

Before Sunday of this week some of the boys living under the strict routine of military life will shed their khaki clothes and be back in civilian attire.

This information emanates from military and the overseas section of the army office which will thus be the first to enjoy the privileges of demobilization will not be large at first the squads will gradually increase in size as the days pass.

Every preparation and facility is being afforded for the early disintegration of the Depot battalion, the 9th Siege battery and the overseas section of the artillery depot. All draft-giving units in Canada will be the first to demobilize as the others may be required for a while yet.

Harvest leave, upon which many draftees are now out of barracks, has been extended indefinitely. The men will later be notified to assemble for formal discharge.

An interesting though not important question has been asked by some of the soldiers, as to the disposition of their uniforms and accoutrements. The Times has been informed that overseas men will probably be allowed to retain their regimentals as souvenirs, but some of the newly drafted draftees may be returned to the government.

MORE THAN SIX AND A HALF MILLIONS WITH QUARTER-MILLION COMING.

Figures compiled at the central office of the Victory Loan committee last night showed that the provincial total amounted to \$102,811,000. This does not include the city and county of St. John, which aggregated \$6,437,400. It is estimated that there is about \$200,000 more to be added to the provincial figures, and several thousand more to the city total. According to these figures one out of every seven of the entire population of the city and county of St. John purchased a bond. The number of applications in the city and county totaled 114,727.

CONDENSED NEWS.

The direct cost of the war for all belligerent nations to last May 1, was \$178,000,000,000, and the cost will amount to nearly \$200,000,000,000 before the end of this year.

Unless food and medical supplies in large quantities are sent to Persia, with workers to conduct relief measures, deaths will stalk through the country during the coming winter, threatening the entire population.

half of Ackinson and McLellan and William M. Ryan in behalf of Durbin.

THE OTTAWA CONFERENCE



Nova Scotia will be represented at the conference between the provincial governments and the Federal government which is in session in Ottawa by (left to right), Hon. G. H. Murray, premier; Hon. R. M. McGregor, minister without portfolio, and Hon. O. T. Daniels, attorney-general.

WORST TIDAL WAVE IN THE HISTORY OF THE ST. LAWRENCE

Houses and Railway Lines Are Swept Away
DAMAGE IS GREAT

Part of Quebec City Flooded—Trains Wrecked—Men Blown From Trestle—Schooner Wrecked—Other Vessels in Precarious Position

Quebec, Nov. 18.—The worst tidal wave that ever was recorded in this district struck the lower section of the water front yesterday. Thousands of dollars worth of damage was caused in the business section of the lower town, where cellars and even first storeys of wholesale business houses were flooded.

Along the line of the Q. R. L. H. & P. the tracks between the city and Saint Anne de Beauport were wrecked on various stretches. Traffic will be suspended for at least two days. At Bois Chatel summer houses were carried away a considerable distance from their foundations, piling up on the track.

On the C. N. R. a passenger train from Shawinigan was wrecked at six-thirty this morning, the engine tumbling down an embankment. The crew jumped and escaped injury.

Two men were blown into the river from a trestle over the Quebec and Lake St. John Railway. They were carried down stream, but were rescued and taken to the hospital.

Vessels in Danger. Quebec, Nov. 18.—Caught in the terrific gale of last night, two vessels are in a precarious position down the Gulf. A schooner, the identity of which has not yet been ascertained, was swept ashore at Fox River, Gaspé. She will be a total wreck. The crew swam ashore. The steam barge J. A. Tremblay is flashing danger signals somewhere in the Gulf. Her message reads:—"Help, need immediate assistance."

Fire and Flood. Quebec, Nov. 18.—Advices reaching here say that Bécancour is in flames. One side of the village is under tidal wave. Immense property damage is reported. No lives have been lost.

STORM, RAIN-FALL AND HIGH TIDES PRODUCE SEVERAL LOCAL FLOODS

After thirty-eight hours of continuous rain fall the probabilities today do not hold out much of better weather conditions. Up to two o'clock this afternoon 3.10 inches of rain had fallen. The tide during the storm reached its maximum velocity between eight and nine o'clock this morning, when it was blowing forty miles an hour, but since that time it steadily decreased and was blowing ten miles an hour early this afternoon.

The water today was exceptionally high, due to one of the usual spring tides, coupled with the heavy rain fall and high winds. Many of the streets in West St. John were partially submerged and pedestrian travel was greatly impeded.

At the Marsh bridge the water flooded the street, making it almost impassable. It flowed up near the branch of the Bank of British North America on one side and at a point beyond Cooper's corner on the other. The marshes in that district were entirely submerged.

The tide in the harbor today was quite high and for a time caused considerable inconvenience to traffic on the Great Lakes to the maritime provinces, attended by rain which has now turned to snow in northern Ontario and in Quebec.

Occasional Showers. Maritime—Strong breezes and moderate local gales southeast to southwest, occasional showers today and on Wednesday.

Order Maintained With an Iron Hand; Berlin Is Quiet

Robbers Punished with Immediate Execution; Dr. Solf. Wants Opportunity for Economic Intercourse with Territory on Left Bank of the Rhine

Amsterdam, Nov. 18.—A Berlin telegram under date of Nov. 13, which has been received here, says that during the twenty-four hours before its despatch, not a shot had been fired in Berlin and that the physical crisis appeared to be over. Order, it is said, was maintained with an iron hand and robbers were punished by immediate execution. At that time the life of the city was returning to normal.

Rad Guards Not Wanted.

Amsterdam, Nov. 18.—Delegates from all the soldiers' councils met in the Reichstag chamber in Berlin on Friday to discuss the institution of the Red Guard, according to advices received here. The proceedings were enlivened by divergencies of opinion, some advocating the Red Guard as civil protection and others opposing the plan as implying a lack of confidence in the soldiers. Premier Ebert frankly declared in an address that there was no necessity for the Red Guard, remarking: "If the enemy sees anarchy amongst us he will dictate conditions which will entirely destroy German economic life. Therefore, go forward to common work for the future."

Amid prolonged applause resolutions were unanimously adopted that the representatives of the garrison of Greater Berlin should employ all means to maintain order, achieve a social republic and increase soldiers' pay.

Sixteen Politicians Executed.

Berlin, Nov. 14, via Amsterdam.—(By the Associated Press)—As a result of the arrest on police headquarters and resistance by the police to soldiers, sixteen members of the police force have been executed. The police complained that they had been kept in ignorance of the progress of the revolution by higher officials, who deserted or hid when the headquarters was attacked.

Modification of Armistice.

London, Nov. 18.—Germany wants the terms of the armistice modified so that she can have economic intercourse with the territory on the left bank of the Rhine, as before the armistice, Dr. Solf, the foreign secretary, says in a wireless despatch received here. The message is addressed to governments of Great Britain, Italy, France and the United States.

To Summon Assembly.

Amsterdam, Nov. 18.—Friedrich Ebert, the German premier, told the Vossische Zeitung on Friday that the government was firmly determined to summon the constituent assembly, but that it was impossible to effectively hold the elections before January, by which time the troops will have returned home. He considered untenable the objection that delay would hinder the gathering of the peace delegates.

Marseilles by German Band.

Berlin, Nov. 14.—(Via Amsterdam by the Associated Press)—For the first time since the founding of the German empire the "Marseillaise" was played by German bands heading a procession down Unter den Linden today.

Present Indications are that saner counsils will dictate governmental policy in Germany.

RESTORING THE WIRE SERVICE

Reports from the Western Union and C. P. R. Telegraph Companies today bring the cheering news that they are making fair progress in restoring their service east of Salisbury, which was completely cut off by the havoc caused by the recent heavy wind and snow storm. The Western Union have four wires through to North Sydney, and the C. P. R. have one through to Halifax and expect to have three more up today.

An idea of the tremendous damage caused can be gleaned from the fact that the Western Union have about 150 men employed making repairs. In addition to the regular linemen, forty men from Sackville went to work to rush temporary lines through, and this staff was augmented by seventy-five employees the company rushed to the scene from Bangor, Me., in a special train, which passed through the city on Sunday. Twenty experienced wiremen will leave Boston this evening to assist in restoring the service on a permanent basis.

It is impossible at the present time to get an estimate of the damage done, as every bit of spare material has been sent to the scene, and as it is not known how much new copper wire will have to be used. A large quantity of the old wire is said to have been so badly bent and broken that it will not be fit for use again.

At normal times the Western Union has twelve wires running through to North Sydney and the C. P. R. have nine going through to Halifax. The temporary wires are fairly burning with delayed messages and everything possible is being done to catch up in the work. Owing to the wet weather the wires are not acting as well as they would under more favorable conditions, but despite this fact work is progressing.

The C. P. R. have a large crew of men working along the Tantramar marshes and despite the handicap of wet weather they are making good progress. The work is being supervised by A. C. Fraser, local superintendent of the company.

TO EXECUTE HIS PROGRAMME BUT WITHOUT FORCE

Socialist Leader in Dutch Parliament Makes an Announcement of His Policy

London, Nov. 18.—A despatch to the Central News from The Hague says Pieter J. Troelstra, Socialist leader in the Dutch parliament, has made an announcement in parliament that he did not intend to carry out a coup d'etat or use force to execute his programme.

A despatch from The Hague last week said that during a debate in the lower house of parliament during which the premier announced an increase in ration and successful negotiations with the Allies for securing better food supplies and appeals for the people's support by avoiding excesses, Troelstra accused the government of lack of frankness in dealing with the chamber and asserted that the people no longer would tolerate secret wire pulling. The Socialist leader declared that the militarist influence emanated from the queen and her entourage and asserted that the government, instead of rejoicing at what had occurred abroad "rather gives the impression of a careful housewife afraid of her china cupboard."

The speaker added that the government appealed for order "because the Social-Democracy sees that the moment has arrived to take over the power of the state." He declared that the workers would not abandon their rights for "a mess of pottage." The workers, he said, did not desire anarchy or violence, but "we should betray the workers if through fear of violence we allowed this historic moment to pass."

NEW REPUBLICS ARE PROCLAIMED

German-Austria Seeks Support of U. S. for Union with Germany Archduke Joseph Takes Oath of Allegiance

Basel, Nov. 18.—Foreign Minister Bauer, of the German-Austrian government, has sent an address to President Wilson confirming the proclamation of the German-Austrian republic and expressing the hope that President Wilson, in accordance with his principles, supports the efforts of Germans in Austria to effect a union with Germany. He points out that this is the same as supporting the rights of the Poles, Italians and Jugo-Slavs to unite with motherlands outside of Austria-Hungary.

The foreign minister also begs Mr. Wilson to bring about an early discussion of peace preliminaries and concludes by saying that his government is constituted of representatives from all parties and has succeeded up to the present in preserving order. This task, however, has been difficult because of the lack of food, the blockade being said to threaten Hungary, too.

Copenhagen, Nov. 19.—Formal proclamation of the Hungarian republic was made on Sunday, according to a Budapest despatch received here. Archduke Joseph took the oath of allegiance to the new government after Count Michael Karolyi, president of the Hungarian national council, had made a speech. He declared that personally he had great sympathy with the people's government.

TRAFFIC INTERRUPTED BY WASH-OUTS

Moncton, N. B., Nov. 18.—Traffic has been interrupted on the northern division of the Canadian Government Railway system by washouts in Quebec, according to reports received at C. G. R. headquarters here. Ballast has been entirely washed out for a distance of about 300 feet between Levis and St. Joseph. The high tide and gale resulted in washing out the C. G. R. track for half a mile on the joint section between Point Levis and Hallow. The culverts mileage 15.8 has been swept away. A large crew is at work repairing the track.

London Concerned Over William's Future Plans

PLAN IMPOSING SPECTACLE FOR END OF THE WAR

Paris, Nov. 18.—When Allied troops march under the arch of triumph at the close of the war, Allied sovereigns and chief magistrates will be present, says the Matin.

It is understood that the kings of England, Italy, Belgium and Serbia, Prince Alexander of Greece, President Wilson, and Japanese royal prince, representing the Mikado, and official representatives of China, Portugal, Roumania and the South American republics will be present.

It is said that each ally will be represented by a crack regiment which has fought in the most notable battles of the war.

NO NEW FACTS ABOUT KITCHENER'S DEATH

Government Has Nothing to Add to Story that Warship was Sunk by Mine—Reparation Question Not Settled

London, Nov. 18.—(Canadian Press despatch from Reuter's Limited)—In the house of commons today in answer to questions, Right Hon. T. J. MacNamara stated that it had not been possible to save or examine the wreck of the cruiser Hampshire on which Lord Kitchener was lost. The government will not publish the report of the official inquiry. The ship had been sunk by a mine.

Mr. Croft asked for a definite statement that the peace terms would include full reparation by Germany, including the cost of the war to the Allies. Mr. Bonar Law replied that the government had arrived at no decision.

Sir Richard Cooper asked if the commons would be given an opportunity to express an opinion before the appointment of the British delegates to the peace conference was confirmed.

To this Mr. Bonar Law replied in the negative.

NORTHUMBERLAND WEST WINS TWO CROWNS FOR VICTORY LOAN FLAG.

Newcastle, N. B., Nov. 19.—Northumberland, West, has gone over the top in the Victory Loan, winning two crowns to its flag. All parishes but Blissett win a flag. Derby wins seven crowns, Newcastle two and Blackville and North Esk one each. The amounts are: Newcastle, \$248,250; Derby, \$102,700; Blackville, \$69,300; Nelson, \$63,000; North Esk, \$20,800; Blissett, \$20,100; Ludlow, \$12,000; total, \$535,800. Number of applications: Newcastle, 433; Derby, 26; Blackville, 62; Nelson, 47; North Esk, 64; Blissett, 62; Ludlow, 61; total, 815. Last year's applications were 888.

HER EXPERIENCE.

In answer to a communication appearing in Monday's papers asking that V. A. D. workers be given more support in their diet kitchen labors and other engineering activities, a lady requests The Times to say that she had offered her services on three different occasions, but has not yet been called on. Therefore, the lady correspondent thinks it is hardly fair to suggest that the women of St. John are derelict in their duty towards this most worthy philanthropy.

WEATHER REPORT Issued by the Department of Marine and Fisheries. R. F. Stewart, director of meteorological service.