

RAILWAY EMPLOYEES' STRIKE CAUSES FRANCE TO INVOKE WAR TIME RESTRICTIONS

Reports of Railroad Directors Show the Situation, as a Whole, to be Rather Favorable With Provisioning Now Assured.

ECONOMICS IN USE OF FUEL ORDERED

Cafes and Public Establishments Obligated to Close at an Early Hour, and Street Car Service Greatly Curtailed.

Paris, Feb. 29.—Premier Millerand this morning convened the heads of the Ministers affected by the railway strike and the directors of the companies who submitted reports of conditions on their lines. The director of the Paris, Lyons and Mediterranean system announced that there had been a marked relaxation in the situation since Friday, especially on the Paris-Marseille line. He said the strike was accentuated yesterday, notably at Dijon, where 25 trains were in service. The director claimed that this number could be increased to 30 today.

The director of the Eastern line said that the road's suburban service was in a restless condition but showed signs of improvement. The director of the Northern line said that, contrary to press reports, freight service on his road was not delayed and goods sent to the markets were arriving regularly. He asserted that the Northern carried five thousand persons yesterday to the coast at English.

The Orleans system, according to its director, ran eleven trains between Paris and Bordeaux yesterday and food supply trains are being moved satisfactorily. Isolated strikes on the damage the lines have been foiled, he declared. The director of the state lines reported that service at Lons-le-Saunier was normal on the main lines, while the situation was stationary at St. Lazare. Men quit work at some provincial centres like Charles and Brest, but the situation at Dieppe and Havre, he said, was good. The personnel at Rouen refused to strike and on the southern system, except for the workshops at Bordeaux, the situation was favorable. The personnel at Toulouse also refused to strike. The conferees were agreed that the reports of the directors of the railroads showed the situation as a whole to be rather favorable with provisioning assured.

In order to maintain the present stocks of coal several economies in the use of fuel have been ordered. Cafes and public establishments will be closed at 10 p.m. with the exception of theatres and moving picture shows, which are permitted to remain open until 11 o'clock. The street car other restrictions in effect during the war will again be put into force.

FUEL CONTROL WILL BE CONTINUED BY UNITED STATES

Situation Regarded So Serious as to Warrant Continuance of Control by Government Agency.

Washington, Feb. 29.—President Wilson, Saturday, by executive order, continued the fuel administration, lodging his power in a committee of four. The functions of the Fuel Administration have been exercised by the Railroad Administration which, going out of business March 1. The fuel situation was represented to the President as so serious as to warrant the continuance of control by a governmental agency.

RY. EMPLOYEE STRUCK BY TRAIN, DIES IN HOSPITAL

Moncton, N. B., Feb. 29.—Thomas Loblanc, while hauling sand across the C. N. R. track at Rogersville, Saturday morning, was struck by a train and so badly injured that he died shortly after being taken to the hospital at Newcastle. He was in the employ of the railway and leaves a widow and large family.

Ontario Government Will Be Asked To Fix Minimum Wage For Girls

Toronto, Feb. 29.—A deputation of Toronto residents, who are interested in social questions, will wait on the Government, Tuesday, and suggest that minimum wages for girls be made \$14 a week. Rev. Gilbert Agar, who will be one of the members of the deputation, said on Saturday: "Through the law young women should receive such wages as will insure decent living. It has been found that \$14 a week is the least amount necessary to cover the cost of board, clothing and other necessary incidentals." The Government will be asked to appoint a permanent committee, with power to fix, from time to time, to adjust, as it may be found necessary, the minimum wages and conditions of labor for women and girls in Ontario.

Press Comment Varied On Irish Home Rule Bill

Belfast, Feb. 29.—Reserved comment is made on the Irish Home Rule Bill by the Belfast Unionist press. The Northern Whig hails the bill's recognition of the distinction between Ulster and the remainder of Ireland as a considerable step forward and says it is one likely to influence any further legislative attempts in Ireland. The Irish News condemns the measure as not having "a single redeeming feature."

Australia Must Make Loans To Meet Obligations

Mandate for the Commonwealth to Administer Territories Captured Has Been Delayed by Postponement of Ratification of Treaty.

Melbourne, Feb. 29.—Sir Ronald C. Munro-Ferguson, the Governor-General, in opening the Commonwealth Parliament Thursday said that early decision by the United States to share the responsibilities of the League of Nations was earnestly to be hoped for. A mandate for the Commonwealth to administer the territories captured by the Australians had been delayed by postponement of the ratification of the Treaty with Germany, he added, but its early issue was expected, and legislation will be provided for adoption of the mandate.

The Governor-General said that provision and enterprise within the Commonwealth was vigorous but that much money was required to meet obligations arising from the war. He foreshadowed fresh loans, the issue of notes of smaller denomination, revision of the customs tariff, future defense measures, revision of the national constitution and for the department of home industries.

MARINE MINISTER READY TO DON THE BOXING GLOVES

Willing to Demonstrate to Man Who Says He is Ill That He is Quite Active and Lively.

Montreal, Feb. 29.—Seen at Ottawa on Saturday by Mr. Bernard Ross, a lawyer of this city, Hon. C. C. Ballantyne, Minister of Marine, expressed some indignation over the fact that a Toronto newspaper had referred to him as though he were suffering very bad health. "As a matter of fact," said the Minister, "I am ready to ride a race on horseback with the man who sent that despatch, or put on a pair of gloves with him, or play a game of golf."

HIGH COST HITS NOVA SCOTIA COURT

Halifax, Feb. 29.—Because of the high cost of printing, the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia has decided to temporarily suspend some of the regulations regarding printing of appeals cases, it was announced at the session of the court on Saturday.

FIRE DESTROYS STORE AT CANNING, N. S.

Canning, N. S., Feb. 29.—(Canadian Press)—Fire this afternoon destroyed the general store, owned by A.P. Burt. The building was one of the largest in the town. The loss on the buildings is \$30,000. The stock was badly damaged.

NEW ALLIANCE TO DEFEAT THE PEACE TREATY

Mild Reservationist Accuses Irreconcilables and Democrits of Conspiring to Block Treaty Agreements.

MORE DEMOCRATIC VOTES REQUIRED

To Swing Treaty as Lodge Followers Want it to Go Vote to be Taken Within Ten Days.

Washington, Feb. 29.—Another new element was brought into the Senate debate on the Treaty of Versailles, Saturday, by Senator Kellogg, of Minnesota, one of the mild reservationists, when he congratulated Senator Hitchcock, of Nebraska, the administration leader, and Senator Broder, a leader of the irreconcilables, on their "new alliance to defeat the treaty." The two Senators, a short time before, had been in consultation on the Senate floor, and Senator Kellogg, referring to reports that they were working together to prevent ratification, declared he had believed for a long time that it is the purpose of the Senator from Nebraska to defeat the Treaty, with Republican votes, if he can, but, if not, with Democrat votes. Both sides in the Treaty fight claimed greater strength as the result of information concerning the Russian affairs.

Republicans went so far as to say that only a few more Democrat votes were needed for the requisite two-thirds, but this was contested by Democratic leaders, who declared ratification would fall unless the Article IV reservation was modified.

When the Senate takes up the Treaty again tomorrow it will have to settle the resolution relating to settlement of domestic questions under the League of Nations.

By unanimous consent an agreement was reached Saturday that a vote on the plans of the leaders necessary, it will be adopted in the same form as at the last session of Congress.

FRIENDS OF IRISH FREEDOM WILL REMAIN ACTIVE

Montreal's Sinn Fein Organization to Continue in Spite of Canadian National League.

Montreal, Feb. 29.—The Michel Davit branch of the friends of Irish Freedom, which is stated to be Montreal's Sinn Fein organization, will remain active in spite of the fact that there has just been created a national league, the purpose of which is to consolidate the Irish unity in this country. The chairman of the former body, at a meeting this afternoon, stated that it was the only body in existence here that supported the plan of complete independence for Ireland while the new body had not declared itself.

P. E. I. VETERANS ASK PREFERENCE IN APPOINTMENTS

Charlottetown, P. E. I., Feb. 29.—At a meeting of five hundred returned soldiers here Friday night it was decided to make a special effort to increase the membership of the G. W. V. A. It was stated that there were 500 returned men on the island and a resolution was passed asking that the G. W. V. A. be notified of any vacancy in the local government offices before appointments are made, and that they get the preference.

MASTER MIND IN WALL STREET THEFT TO SURRENDER

New York, Feb. 29.—Nicholas Arzetti, said today to be the "master mind" in the \$5,000,000 Wall Street theft, will return to New York, Monday, from his hiding place in Pennsylvania and surrender to justice. One of his lawyers left yesterday with a copy of police to New York. The "master mind" is thought to be in Erie or Pittsburgh.

MANY RUMORS REGARDING LIFE OF UNION GOVT

Expected Question of Leadership Will Not be Decided by Caucus Until After Conference in New York.

MEIGHEN REGARDED AS LOGICAL CHOICE

Should an Election be Precipitated by Defeat of Gov't on Any of Its Proposals Situation Would be Interesting

Ottawa, Feb. 29.—(Canadian Press.)—The departure of Hon. J. A. Calder, Minister of Immigration and Colonization for Washington, and the fact that Hon. J. D. Reid, Minister of Railways and Canals, was waiting in that city to meet Sir Robert Borden on his arrival from England, have raised gossip as to the continuance of Union Government and the leadership. It is still expected that these two questions will come before a caucus to be held very soon, but the date of that has not been set. In some circles it is intimated that it will not be decided until the return of Mr. Calder from his conference with the Premier and Dr. Reid. The latter is returning to Ottawa after spending some weeks in Florida for the benefit of his health. The question of leadership is freely discussed. It is intimated that if a choice is made of a House leader by caucus, the man chosen will be the one likely to succeed Sir Robert when he returns to the cabinet. It is intimated in these circles that the man named by Sir Robert as his choice to succeed him was Hon. J. K. Calder, formerly the king pin of Saskatchewan Liberals who is now conferring with him in New York.

Other contenders for the premiership, it is now stated, are narrowed down chiefly to Hon. Arthur Meighen, Minister of the Interior, and Sir Henry Drayton, Minister of Finance. There is also Hon. N. W. Rowell, president of the Privy Council, to be considered. In the case of Mr. Meighen, it is felt that, while he is the logical man for the post, he has too many enemies for him for past alleged offenses of omission and commission. Sir Henry Drayton, on the other hand, is without a political past, and if the choice of a leader can be delayed until he has had time to prove himself in the House, there might be a brief in his favor. The return of Sir Thomas White is hardly being hoped for by his friends, who are expected to consider the idea, it is stated, even if he were assured of the premiership, though if he had been a member of the Government at the time Sir Robert Borden announced his plan of resigning he would have been the successor.

Should an election be precipitated by the defeat of the Government on any one of the questions coming before the Commons, the situation would be even more interesting. Sir Robert would have to return, or a successor be chosen on the spur of the moment, or the formation of a new Government would have to be left to the parties defeating the Government. The call from the Governor-General might then be given to Hon. Mackenzie King to form a Government, and go before the people for their approval.

INTERCOLLEGIATE AIR RACE TO BE HELD MAY 7TH

Leading American Colleges to Enter Two Planes Each to Contest Over a Course of 600 Miles.

Boston, Feb. 29.—An intercollegiate air race, with flyers from six colleges competing will be held on May 7 and 8. The course will be approximately six hundred miles long, from Mineola to Boston and return, with stops at New Haven, Newport, Worcester, Hartford, Newark and Princeton.

INTRODUCED BY MACKENZIE KING

Yonug Man from New York, With Letter of Introduction from Prominent Canadian, Arrested on Suspicion of Forgery.

Quebec, Feb. 29.—(Canadian Press)—With cheques in his possession totalling a sum of \$58,000, signed in the name of Van Ripen and payable at the First National Bank of New York, a young man giving his name as Francis Payzan, was arrested here Saturday afternoon on suspicion of forgery. The arrest was made in the jewellery store of S. Elfort & Sons, Fairbairn street, at the request of the Banque Nationale de Quebec. Payzan produced letters of introduction from a Montreal bank manager, and also from prominent Canadians including Hon. MacKenzie King.

CONFESES TO MURDER OF 12- YEAR OLD GIRL

Springfield, Mass., Feb. 29.—Phillip Taylor of this city, who has confessed to the murder of 12-year-old Virginia Walker on the night of February 20th, will be arraigned tomorrow. Taylor said he gagged the child with a glove and left her on a blanket in a wagon shed, believing that she had merely fainted. The man is a former inmate of an insane asylum.

FRENCH CANADIAN MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT INDIGNANT AT LIBERAL LEADER'S SPEECH

U. S. RAILROADS BACK TO PRIVATE OWNERSHIP NOW

Despite Protests of the 2,000,000 Railway Employees President Signs Bill That Relinquishes Gov't Control.

UNION EXECUTIVES REMAIN SILENT

All Who Are in Washington Will be in Conference Today to Agree on Public Expression of Railroad Labor's Attitude.

Washington, Feb. 29.—President Wilson signed the Railroad Bill last night, on the eve of the return of the roads to their owners and to private operation. In a proclamation issued at the time, the President vested in Walker O. Hines, Director General of Railroads, practically all the powers conferred on the executive by the Bill. The White House also made public the text of the letter written by Mr. Wilson to the representatives of the Railroad Brotherhoods who had asked him to name a commission, composed equally of employers and employees delegates, to consider wage demands. The President tells the Union men that the Railroad Bill itself provides for a bi-partisan board to act on wage questions.

The railway systems of the United States, operated as one great railroad since December 1, 1917, were again divided among the different companies. While arrangements for the restoration of the roads to their owners were completed Saturday, instructions were sent out today to operating representatives of the railroads informing them that they would report to the proper officials of the corporations, which possess control of the roads.

All the union executives, who are here, will be called to confer for the purpose of agreeing on a public expression of railroad labor's attitude. There was no indication tonight as to the sentiment among the leaders who had read the President's statement in answer to their requests that he withhold his approval of the bill. They said they had stated their cause and that, until a policy could be determined, they would remain silent as to future action.

BRUSSELS MINERS' STRIKE EXTENDS TO OTHER FIELDS

At Earnest Solicitation of Socialist Leader Miners in Central District Agree to Await Investigation Into Profits.

Brussels, Feb. 29.—The strike of coal miners, called a few days ago in the Bois field in protest against the new price and for higher wages, has extended to the Central District of Le Louviere, 147 miles west-northwest of Charleroi, where some disorders are reported.

The Socialist Labor Minister has had an interview with the leaders of the miners, with the result that the latter have agreed to await the results of an investigation into the profits of the owners.

BANISH THE TURK REQUEST OF NEW YORK CATHEDRAL

New York, Feb. 29.—Banishment of the Turk from Europe; the end of the Moslem Government's control over Christians and fulfillment of the Allied pledge to Armenia, were urged in a resolution adopted at a non-sectarian mission here today under the auspices of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine.

Fire Chief Plunges Into Burning Ruins To Save His Deputy

New York, Feb. 29.—Fire Chief O'Hara plunged into the burning ruins of a four-story brick shoe factory in Brooklyn yesterday and rescued Deputy Fire Chief Parry, who had been buried under a fallen wall and was badly hurt. The chief was not injured.

Increased Rates On Commuters' Tickets Suspended For A Time

Montreal, Feb. 29.—G. T. Bell, General Passenger Agent of the Grand Trunk Railway, received a telegram Saturday from Hon. F. B. Carvell, Chairman of the Railway Commission, instructing him that all proposed tariffs, providing for increased rates on commuters' and trip tickets were ordered suspended until after the session of the present investigation into the tariffs in this regard now being carried on by the Railway Commission. Similar instructions were sent to Mr. Flint, of the Canadian Pacific Railway, and instructions have been passed on to all passenger and ticket agents in the areas affected, notifying them that the old rates must stand. This is taken to mean that there will be no increase in commuters' rates for at least a month.

Japanese Troops In Siberia Join The Bolshevik

London, Mar. 1.—Serious labor troubles have broken out in Japan, the Daily Mail says it understands. The newspaper does not know how far the government was able to cope with the situation, but says disturbances are frequent, and a report says that a detachment of Japanese troops in Siberia have joined the Bolshevik, causing uneasiness.

Mexican Bandits Continue To Shoot And Plunder

Kill One and Fatally Wound Another, Proprietors of a Store at Monta Camp, and Escape Into the Mountains

Nogales, Ariz., Feb. 29.—Deputy Sheriffs from Santa Cruz county and posse from Tucson with bloodhounds crossed the line into Mexico in pursuit of bandits who killed Alexander Fraser and shot his brother, J. A. Fraser, in a raid yesterday on their store at Monta Camp. Fraser was born in Canada. The body of Alexander Fraser was brought here last night. He was 58 years old, and one of the best known engineers in this country and Mexico. His brother is a tough dyer of his wounds. His wife and children are en route to his bedside from San Diego.

Fraser told the story of the raid on the store owned jointly by him and his brother. He identified one of the bandits as Lam, a former employee of the Fraser. Lam was accompanied by another Mexican. They entered the store and ordered hands up according to Fraser. Then, without warning, they began shooting. Fraser was shot down. The other bandit was shot down and the bandits took what they pleased and departed on horseback.

DISABLED COASTAL STEAMERS TOWED INTO HALIFAX

Halifax, Feb. 29.—Two disabled coastal steamers were towed to port tonight from Mahone Bay. They were the Kinburn and the Stella Maria, both of which had their propellers stripped in the ice. They were in tow of the steamer Sabie, and when Pennant Point at noon today the latter steamer commenced to drift towards the shoals, there being a strong southeast gale blowing.

Kinburn and Stella Maria Had Their Propellers Stripped in the Ice Fields.

The Sabie sent a wireless for assistance for the Kinburn, and the naval staff notified the life-saving stations at Herring Cove and Duncan's Cove to proceed to the aid of the disabled vessel. When within two hundred yards of the shoals the two hundred-ton and a tug from Halifax arrived on the scene later and brought to the Kinburn to port.

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Praises Work of the English Architect of Parliament Buildings But Fails to Mention Work of His French Associate Who Was Lauded by Sir Geo. Foster.

LIBERALS NERVOUS OVER LEADERSHIP

Little Concealing of Fact Among Liberals That the Recent Course and Conduct of Their Leader Has Not Impressed the Party.

Special To The Standard. Ottawa, Ont., Feb. 29.—Parliament launches upon its seasonal career to- morrow with an interest attaching to it such as has rarely attended a parliam- entary session of recent years. The address in reply to the speech from the throne will be moved by Mr. Edward Blake, and one of the finest characters in the house, and it will be seconded by Mr. Alexander McGregor of Pictou, who succeeded Mr. E. M. Macdonald as that constituency's rep- resentative. Then will come Mr. Mac- kenzie King, who will make his first big speech since becoming leader of the opposition. Mr. King's speech will deal of anxiety, as there is little con- cealing of the fact that his recent course and conduct have not greatly impressed his party.

Displeases French. His speech on the opening day when references were made by the various leaders to the new buildings, pro- duced an unfortunate effect upon his adherents. Sir George Foster, who French-Canadian adherents. Sir George Foster, who spoke first, ad- dressing the house in French, made special and very eloquent reference to Mr. Marchand, the Quebec archi- tect, who has been associated with Mr. Pearson in designing the build- ings.

Mr. King, however, who spoke in
English, and who was expected to
speak altogether to mention Mr.
Marchand, and this, coming after Sir
George Foster's tacit and graceful
reference, greatly angered the French
in the galleries afterwards, made no
concession of their anger. So in-
dignant, indeed, was the discussion,
hastened to the office of Hansard to
Marchand's name.

A small thing, yet it is such in-
cidents which, in the gross, make
leadership. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, a
past master of the art of handling
men, would never have allowed his
self into such a mistake, and Sir
George Foster, equally experienced,
must have been quick to notice Mr.
King's unfortunate beginning.

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