



here to St. John over the Valley Railway, as they would have marvelled at the rare beauty of the scenery along that route.

THE OROMOCTO FIRE.

The sympathy of the entire province will be freely extended to the stricken people of Oromocto. Yesterday a shivering and prosperous community, today a blackened mass, with heavy losses, if not financial ruin, staring many families in the face. Relief measures will be necessary, and the generous public will likely be called upon to aid those who have lost their homes in this disaster. It is unfortunate that the people of a prosperous village like Oromocto, with important commercial interests, should have been entirely without fire protection of any sort, particularly after the warning of a year ago, when the village was burned in a fire similar to that which it met yesterday.

THE BRITISH RAILWAY STRIKE.

The strike of railway employees in Great Britain is more than a severe blow at the social and commercial life of the nation; it is an assault upon the Government which has taken over the operation of the transportation system. It is a defiance of constituted authority. Possibly it may become a test of strength between industrial anarchy on the one hand and orderly methods of settlement on the other; between compulsion and conciliation. As an exchange points out, the injury wrought by a local strike, or a general strike in a particular trade, is not usually far-reaching, but the cessation of railway transportation blights business of every description, stops the wheels of industry, and may, if long continued, produce extreme privation, if not actual famine, in many parts of the country. One other step only is needed to utterly prostrate the commerce of Great Britain; a stoppage of coal, or of iron, or of steel, or of any other essential commodity, and the tools and all transport workers cease to serve.

Two facts in the situation stand out, both of which condemn the conduct of the men. One is that these have violated an agreement in respect of wages which was not to terminate until the end of the year; the other that it is sought to stifle the industries of Great Britain in a time when they are with difficulty endeavoring to recover from the prostration of five years of war. There is a limit to the burden which even the back of a patient public can bear. The British people, according to all testimony, are dancing a dance of industrial death, indulging orgies of extravagance and dissipation made possible by a redundant currency and the profits of war work, while all the time taxation mounts and production declines. The spirit of riotous living infects all classes, labor not the least, and the notion prevails that the limit of wages is fixed by economic law, but by the power of compulsion of workers. The end of these things is unemployment, penury, want and distress. History teems with examples of the fatal folly of seeking prosperity by destroying the means of production of wealth, or of finding welfare in the elevation of wages beyond the point of the profitable use of labor.

The railway employees' strike will, of course, come to an end, either in the surrender of the Government, through the distress of the men, or by a compromise of doubtful duration, for it is impossible that the means of transportation indispensable to the trade and social life of the country should long be suspended. It has been said that timidity in high places leads to audacity in low. The Government presents a bold front and professes determination not to yield to men who have broken their agreement, and whose demands will impose a great burden on the national revenue. In any event, grave harm will be done, the period of recuperation be prolonged, it may be the day of acute commercial depression hastened; and, should the strike extend to coal miners and all transport workers, the end, however calamitous, cannot be far off.

It is all an old-told tale in the country where trades unions first received the sanction of law nearly a century ago, where strikes have been prolific during that period, and where untold loss has been the price of coercive measures.

B. C. FOREST FIRES.

Vancouver, Oct. 1.—A steady down-pour of rain, which has been falling since shortly after midnight, has checked all bush fires on the mainland and eliminated danger of further damage to timber and logging camps. A great many outbreaks in the coast districts had assumed various proportions and considerable damage had been done to property, but with the advent of rain no further danger is anticipated.

Tender Novelty Shower. On Monday evening, Sept. 29th, the young ladies of Canterbury gathered at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Price and tendered Miss Nellie M. Clark a novelty shower in honor of an interesting event which took place Wednesday. The many presents were served and the evening very pleasantly spent. Miss Beaulieu London, rendering appropriate music for the occasion. Mrs. Harry Sisco, of York street, has returned from St. John, where she was visiting friends.

PREMIER ATTENDS CABINET COUNCIL.

Tomorrow It is Expected a Full Caucus of the Unionist Party Will Be Held.

(Special despatch to The Daily Gleaner.) Ottawa, Oct. 1.—Sir Robert Borden attended a cabinet council today and a full caucus of the Unionist party is expected to be held tomorrow, though up to this morning no notices of it had been sent out. Yesterday's gathering of the Liberal Unionists is a source of much discussion in the corridors, and some of those present take exception to the official statement issued indicating entire approval of a scintillation of the Unionist but hope that a policy would be initiated suitable to the conditions of peace. The caucus, of course, approved what the Government has done, but as to the wisdom of consolidating the party now there were divided opinions. It is said to have been urged strongly by Messrs. Calder, McWhir and Guthrie, while Messrs. Rowell, MacLean and Sifton were inclined to be more cautious and not to rush matters. In any event, as indicated, there is no disposition on the part of any Liberal Unionist, whatever his views as to the question of permanency, to do anything calculated to make trouble at this juncture. A break in the ranks will be, therefore, a decision to carry on, but probably it will be a considerable time before the idea of a permanent party is approved other than on the bald principle.

In Conservative circles some criticism is heard of Liberal holdings, namely, that if the party is a Unionist, it should act as one undivided unit. On the other hand the fact is noted that the Western Unionists have been holding caucuses by themselves, and it is contended anyway that as the Liberal Unionists came in as a body, it is quite proper for them to meet in that way and consider whether they will before yesterday's meeting of the Liberal Unionists it was intimated that members of the Government to be present would give an intimation of the general lines of policy proposed, but not a word was said on the subject. If there is to be any announcement on that score it will be by Sir Robert Borden, before the full caucus tomorrow, or whenever it is held.

The need of clearing the air is much emphasized in the discussions over the situation and with the Prime Minister forced to go away to regain his health, some decision, however tentative, seems very much to be desired. The need of it is intensified by the fact that eight Federal bye-elections are impending and that some announcement is necessary for the advice of the electors and also to enable candidates to declare where and on what they stand. The war being no longer an issue, save in a retrospective way, something to take its place is called for.

The Premier's intention to go away will have the effect of further delaying the future reconstruction of the cabinet which, for one reason or another, has been delayed now for fully a year.

CUSTOMS RETURNS SHOW INCREASE.

Collector of Customs L. C. Macnutt has given out the returns for the month of September for the port of Fredericton, and they show an increase in value of imports and duty over the corresponding month last year. The returns are as follows: For the month of September, 1919—Free goods, \$29,938; dutiable, \$23,461; total value, \$53,449; duty collected, \$10,178.97. For the month of September, 1918—Free goods, \$29,938; dutiable, \$27,787; total value, \$57,725; duty collected, \$9,216.51. Increase in value of imports in September, 1919, as compared with same month last year, \$11,890. Increase in duty collected in September, 1919, as compared with same month last year, \$922.96. For the quarter ending Sept. 30th, 1919—Free goods, \$86,108; dutiable, \$897,121; total value, \$1,043,229; duty collected, \$244,928.75. For the quarter ending Sept. 30th, 1918—Free goods, \$29,070; dutiable, \$194,684; total value, \$223,754; duty collected, \$32,769.94. Increase in value of imports for quarter ending Sept. 30th, 1919, as compared with same quarter last year, \$729,858. War excise tax for quarter ending Sept. 30th, 1919, \$1,078,871. Customs duties for quarter, \$54,698.75; total customs revenue for quarter, \$55,776.52.

The Stock Market.

New York (Wall Street), Oct. 1.—(By the A. P.)—Stocks were active and strong at the opening of today's session, the buying movement embracing an unusual variety of issues. The most conspicuous feature was United Retail Stores, of which one block of nine thousand shares changed hands at a maximum bid of six cents. Another noteworthy feature was Worthington Pump, three thousand shares being taken at an advance of almost seven points. Crucible Steel was inclined to react at the outset, but immediately reversed its course, rising nine points to a new high of 253. United States Steel forfeited its one point gain by noon and Crucible fluctuated midway between the high and low. Impetuous buying of investment and speculative issues marked the irregularities of the second hour.

The Quotations. (By private wire to J. A. Robinson & Sons.) New York, Oct. 1.—Today's quotations follow: American Beet Sugar 84 1/2, American Sugar 144 1/2, American Smelting 7 1/2, American Soda 27 1/2, American Steel Foundries 41 1/2, American Car Foundry 197, American Can & Tin 65 1/2, American Wool 115 1/2, American Cotton 52 1/2, Alcoa 52 1/2, Bethlehem Steel B. 108 1/2, Baldwin Locomotive 147 1/2, Canadian Pacific 158 1/2, Crucible 253, General Electric 125 1/2, General Motors 154, Great Northern preferred 38, Industrial Alcohol 144 1/2, Marine preferred 112 1/2, Marine common 27 1/2, National Lead 22 1/2, Nitrate Steel 52, Northern Pacific 105 1/2, Residual 22 1/2, Southern Pacific 105, United States Steel 253, Union Pacific 105 1/2.

Montreal Market. Bralton 61 1/2, Brompton Pulp 61 1/2, Canada Car 61 1/2, Dominion Iron & Steel 61 1/2, Dominion Paper 61 1/2, General Electric 125 1/2, General Motors 154, Jordan Pulp 61 1/2, Shawinigan 61 1/2, Spanish River common 61 1/2, Steel 61 1/2, Smelters 61 1/2, Western Pulp 61 1/2, Victory Bond 1927 100 1/2, Victory Bond 1928 100 1/2, Victory Bond 1929 100 1/2.

Miss Nora Hawkes, of this city, left last evening with Miss Barry for New York, where she will spend the winter. Louis J. O'Leary, of Chatham, is a guest at the Barker House.

EDGECOMBE'S Garment Department. Another Lot of Stylish New Suits and Coats Just Received. These have been delayed by the labor strikes, but are just in time for the Ladies to select their outfit for the Fall and Winter. Also New DRESSES and SKIRTS. A Big Shipment also of Children's Coats and Dresses for which so many have been waiting. An exceptionally large stock of New and Stylish Furs will now be found in the Fur Department and everyone requiring these seasonable additions to their wardrobe should make an early choice. A number of Ladies have made their choice in the Fur Booth at the Exhibition. Those who have not will find just what they want in our Fur room.

Fred. B. Edgcombe Co., LTD. The House for Style, Quality and Value. NEW CHESTNUTS COCOANUTS. Sickle Pears for Preserving and Pickling. Tokay Grapes, American Delaware Grapes, Concord, Niagara and Red Roger Grapes. Imported Table Figs in Glass. Slipp & Flewelling's Ltd. G. T. WHELPLEY.

THE N. B. BROKERS, LTD. We want a two-roomed ground floor office, centrally located for possession Oct. 1st next. Office: 73 Carleton St., Fredericton. Telephone 713. WE HAVE AN EXCELLENT FOUNTAIN PEN FOR STUDENTS USE. It is of the same make as the SWAN and sells for \$1.25. Let us show you one of them. C. W. HALL. Agent for Ladies' Home Journal Patterns. GET IT AT HOLDER'S. Just Opened Another Lot of MIDDY BLOUSES With Blue Serge Collars. Price same as last lot—Only \$2.50. Get one. C. D. Holder. New Idea Patterns, 20c. each.

CLEVELAND BICYCLES. A full line now in stock in all sizes, fitted with Fracti-n-Tread, Dunlop Special or Nobby Tread Tires. Call and get our prices and terms before purchasing. MINTO & MacKAY - 306 QUEEN ST. D. D. D. Remedy. For Eczema and all skin diseases. Not a smeary salve, but a penetrating yet mild and soothing liquid. THE REXALL STORE. DIBBLEE'S DRUG STORE. OPPOSITE CITY HALL.

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JUST A STEP TO GEO. R. THOMPSON'S 83 to 87 Regent Street. Look for the concrete front building where you can get great bargains on Boots and Shoes and Clothing of all kinds. Ladies New Winter Coats, Fur Sets and Sweaters at Great Bargains. Remember the place—Opposite the Lorne Hotel. GEO. R. THOMPSON 83 to 87 REGENT ST. Get the Habit. Of calling on Buzzell's Dye Works when you have anything that requires cleaning or dyeing. We specialize in Dry Cleaning Ladies' Suits and Dresses and Men's Suits; also Gloves, Feathers, Ribbons, Curtains, Portiers, Headed Bows, Corsets, Hosiery, etc. Prompt and careful attention given to all work. Buzzell's Dye Works. A NEW SOLE. Having made an extra good buy of sole leather before the last few advances, we are in a position to give you a new pair of shoes at the old price. FREDERICTON SHOE HOSPITAL. REGENT ST. Orders left at Shepherd & Manning's two stores will have careful attention. FOR SALE. Springs, mattresses, pictures, etc. Two Oil Paintings, worth \$25, now only \$10 pair. Don't miss these bargains. Headquarters for Mattresses. Chapman & Lemont (Opp. Leacock & Sons), 613 Queen St.

1889 TOTAL RESOURCES, \$460,000,000. 1918. The Royal Bank of Canada. HEAD OFFICE, MONTREAL. LONDON, Eng., NEW YORK, Princes St., E. C., 88 William St. BARCELONA, Plaza De Cataluna 6. French Auxiliary: The Royal Bank of Canada (France), PARIS, 28 Rue de Quatre-Septembre. With our chain of 800 Branches throughout Canada, Newfoundland, the West Indies, Etc., we offer the public a COMPLETE BANKING SERVICE. Our Manager would be pleased to have you call upon him. FREDERICTON BRANCH - G. A. TAYLOR, Manager. FREDERICTON JUNCTION BRANCH - G. COOK, Acting Mgr. CANTERBURY BRANCH - H. W. FERGUSON, Acting Mgr.

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Oct. 1/1919 Pages Torn & Missing

REGAL Table Salt. Let it rain! Despite the dampness. REGAL FREE RUNNING Table Salt. Never cakes. Just open the aluminum spout and out comes Regal—running. The Canadian Salt Co., Limited. The package with the Handy Little Spout. 310 Queen Street. Orders will be delivered. For in sales combs and fully. Water. Fully. For sale. Springs, mattresses, pictures, etc. Two Oil Paintings, worth \$25, now only \$10 pair. Don't miss these bargains. Headquarters for Mattresses. Chapman & Lemont (Opp. Leacock & Sons), 613 Queen St.