

# Wages Reduced in The Cotton Mills

**Reductions in Most Cases Amount to 20 P. C., Effective Feb. 13, and Will Affect Some 50,000 Operatives in New Hampshire, Massachusetts and Maine.**

Boston, Feb. 3.—Cotton manufacturers employing approximately 50,000 operatives in New Hampshire, Massachusetts and Maine today notified their employees of wage cuts amounting in most cases to 20 per cent., effective Feb. 13. New Hampshire plants also gave notice of an increase from 48 to 54 hours in the weekly working schedule.

The announcements brought northern New England manufacturers into line with those of Rhode Island and Connecticut, who recently put lower wage schedules into effect.

Several strikes have followed the reductions in the latter states. The important centres at Fall River, New Bedford and Lawrence were not affected by the day's announcements, and only two of the mills at Lowell had announced the cut today.

The principal centres involved in today's readjustments were Manchester, N. H., with virtually all the rest of the cotton mills in that state following the lead of the Amoskeag and Stark Mills; and Lewiston, Me. Some 17,000 workers are employed in the two mills named and the Lewiston plants employ 18,000.

W. P. Straw, agent of the Amoskeag mills, explained the action as necessary to meet the competition of southern mills. Other agents asserted it would assure continuous operation of the mills for at least several months.

## Situation in Maine.

Portland, Feb. 3.—The twenty per cent. reduction in the wage scale of thousands of textile workers in Maine when it becomes effective on Feb. 13, will still leave an advance of nearly 100 per cent. over 1918, a prominent official in that industry stated here today. He said a workman who then received \$10 a week will now get \$19.24.

Sharp competition with southern cotton mills, where a decidedly lower wage scale and longer working hours are in effect, has forced this move, he said, explaining that with this in their favor, southern mills come into the northern market with their finished product at a price with which northern manufacturers, even with the smaller transportation charge, cannot compete.

## Work Longer, Less Pay.

Manchester, N. H., Feb. 3.—A wage reduction of twenty per cent. and an increase in working hours from 48 to 54 per week, effective Monday, Feb. 13.

## BULGARIA NEEDS REPAIR SHOP BAD

100 Locomotives and Thousands of Freight Cars on the Shelf

Sofia, Feb. 3.—Christo Manoloff, Bulgarian Minister of Railways, is anxious to have American locomotive manufacturers and railroad supply houses look into the possibilities of business in Bulgaria.

He says that one of the greatest present needs is a plant in Bulgaria for the construction and repair of locomotives and freight cars. He has on hand nearly 100 locomotives and several thousand freight cars awaiting repairs, and the country had no facilities for this purpose.

"Although our country is going through a period of great financial and economic distress," said Mr. Manoloff, "we are preparing actively for the extension and reconstruction of our railways. We would like to have the help of your resourceful and experienced American railway men and contractors in this direction."

"We are planning the construction of more than 500 miles of new railroads in which we will need foreign technical skill and capital. Americans will have the preference because I think they lead the world in these two requirements."

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## A QUEBEC NOTARY GONE WITH \$300,000

Disappears With Life Savings of Scores of Inhabitants of Chateauguay

Montreal, Feb. 3.—The Herald today publishing a story to the effect that the disappearance two weeks ago of Fort unat Laberge, Notary and Secretary Treasurer of the municipality of Chateauguay, is causing a great deal of consternation as it is alleged that with him there disappeared as well the life savings of scores of inhabitants amounting to about \$300,000.

Mr. Laberge's insolvency was made public a few days ago in the bankruptcy court. Ten days prior to that the notary is alleged to have disappeared. The little town of Chateauguay, which is situated about 12 miles from Montreal, on the southern side of Lake St. Louis, is greatly agitated over its treasurer's affairs. Many citizens have discovered that they hold spurious mortgages, or rather alleged carbon copies of mortgages with typed signatures. The Herald states that the loss of so much money will set the town back several years. It also declares that the missing notary was highly respected and implicitly trusted and that his signature would be accepted in lieu of a receipt for an insurance premium.

"It was apparently his custom," the newspaper continues, "to drive the supposed mortgages about in his limousine and give them a panoramic view of the residences and grounds covered by these mortgages. But recently, when these mortgages visited the houses which were supposed to be so encumbered, the residents opened their eyes in surprise and wondered what the big idea was."

## A Provincial Income Tax

[Winnipeg Tribune.]

The proposal of Hon. Edward Brown, the Provincial Treasurer, to impose a provincial income tax has nothing whatever to commend it. There are, on the other hand, many very solid reasons against such a tax. An income tax is in its nature a federal tax in the first place. A province is not a sufficiently complete and separate circle for either the origin or enjoyment of income, to make such a tax easily collected except from those who can least afford to pay it, and who are already feeling the burden of taxation very heavily.

We already have a federal income tax which yields a very large revenue. The bulk of it comes, not from the capitalist who lives on the income of investment, but from the hardest worked men in the community who earn every dollar they get, and the fixed charges on whose incomes are at once so heavy and so little capable of reduction that they are actually poorer so far as possessing free money to spend is concerned.

Invested capital can dodge a provincial income tax even if necessary, by dodging the province in which it is imposed. The farmer, quite properly, is to be expressly exempted for the purpose of encouraging his production. But the wage-earning man, the individual business man and the salaried man, because they are an easy prey and possessed of little resisting power, are the fish to be caught in the net.

Such a tax on the part of a province is obviously unfair and inequitable. It is simply an impounding of money or credit that seems to be in sight in the hands of the part of the people of the province, without reference to any economic principle of revenue production except that the money is in sight, and that the tax gathering can bring it down on the wing with a good shot.

To the credit resources, upbuilding and service to the "vast territory" of the city of Winnipeg, the consequences of such a tax imposed by the province of Manitoba will be ultimately disastrous. Winnipeg is the goose that lays the golden egg for Manitoba. Its advantages as the metropolis of the West are enormous. But if people are to be penalized who desire to utilize these advantages by making Winnipeg the headquarters of their business, they will look before they leap.

This is what Mr. Brown should do: look into the future before he leaps at what looks like some easy money. The extension of business enterprise is being throttled by taxation now, and if he is going to invent special

penalties for Manitoba and for Winnipeg in particular, this income tax, like some other of his financial experiments, will be a worse than failure even if he succeeds in having it imposed.

## COMMUNICATION WITH FAR NORTH

B. C. Member Advocates Wireless Stations at Atlin and Yukon

[Canadian Press by Leased Wire.] Prince Rupert, B. C., Feb. 4.—Establishment of wireless stations at Stewart, Atlin and Alice Arm, B. C., and Dawson and Whitehorse in the Yukon, will be urged upon the government by Frederick Stork, Liberal member-elect for Skeena riding, he announced recently.

In an interview, Mr. Stork stressed the need for better communication with the north country. He said the existing Yukon telegraph line is in such bad shape that its complete rebuilding is necessary. This would be costly, it is stated, because the upkeep of the line would be out of all proportion to the revenue to be derived from it.

As the government now owns the Canadian National telegraph lines, Mr. Stork said he intended to press for the enlarging of Digby Island (Prince Rupert) wireless station and the establishing of wireless stations in northern British Columbia and the Yukon.

This would not cost anything like the amount required to put the line in order, he declared, and would ensure a service that would be "in operation at all times and unaffected by weather conditions. The present government line was built 25 years ago.

## OIL PROSPECTORS FOR NORTH COUNTRY

[Canadian Press by Leased Wire.]

Vancouver, B. C., Feb. 4.—With more oil prospectors than ever before preparing to go into the northern country, the true nature and extent of the Fort Norman oil field will be fairly accurately determined during 1922, according to Willis J. West, of Edmonton, manager of a transportation company operating a fleet of steamers on rivers of the Far North. Steady development is what is most desired and there will be a steady stream of people into the new empire of the north next summer, but nothing in the nature of a rush is looked for nor do the people of the country want any terrific influx at this time, Mr. West stated.

The country is so vast as to be almost beyond the power of people who have never been there to visualize it. One of the ships operated by his company makes a journey 1,000 miles long on every trip. Mr. West, while admitting it is cold in winter, declared it was not nearly so cold as some parts of New York state nor as cold as the Cariboo country. Vegetables can be grown in all parts of this north country, he says, potatoes of great size being raised as far north as Fort Good Hope, within 100 miles of the Arctic Circle.

Howard W. Blanshan, of North Adams, Mass., lost \$70 in three different places and recovered it all within a short time. Thirty dollars was found with a deposit slip on State street by Joseph Koron, 420. Was found by John Mulcahy, who advertised his find in a newspaper, while the last \$20 was picked up by a young man named Tatro, who turned it over to a police officer.

## POLAND TO HAVE SUMMER ELCECTION

Joseph Pilsudski to Be One of the Presidential Candidates

[Associated Press by Leased Wire.]

Warsaw, Feb. 4.—Poland, politically, is eagerly looking forward to the summer elections when the first president of the new republic will be chosen by a national assembly composed of representatives of both chambers of the diet.

Joseph Pilsudski, who was appointed chief of state just after Poland was declared a republic late in 1918 and has held office ever since under a provisional constitution, is understood among politicians to be one of the presidential candidates. Several other names have been mentioned, but the newspaper editorial writers appear reasonably confident that the chief contenders will be Pilsudski, Vincent Witos, former Premier and the present leader of the peasant party in the Diet, and Wojciech Trampczynski, speaker of the Diet.

There has also been much speculation among politicians as to whether Ignace Jan Paderewski, pianist and formerly Premier, would enter the presidential race, but no definite announcement has been made one way or the other. For nearly a year Paderewski has been in America, spending most of his time in Paso Robles, California.

Ignace Paderewski was recently quoted as saying at Paso Robles that he probably would return to Poland

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## GOOD RELATIONS WITH THE NEAR EAST

Constantinople, Feb. 4.—Dr. William W. Peet, who was recently appointed League of Nations Commissioner here has been elected president of the Association for Friendly Relations in the Near East, just organized in this city.

Dr. Peet has long been one of the chief representatives of American missionary interests in Turkey.

Rear Admiral Mark Bristol, American High Commissioner, is honorary chairman of the society. In an inaugural address, he expressed the hope that this movement marked the beginning of an effort that might result in great good in this part of the world. He said that the association would be dedicated to a study of the art of cultivating friendly relations, social, religious, commercial and political between individuals, communities and nations. It was a big task, he added.

Robert C. Evan, of New Britain, Conn., a Yale student, was home for a few days' vacation. His mother asked him if he had read the Bible she gave him when he went to college last September. Of course, he had. He had read it most faithfully. His mother opened the book and took from it a \$50 bill which the boy had not found.

Within four or five months, that he considered himself at the service of his country and always ready for a call, but he did not think he would accept the presidency if it were offered to him. He added that he had no intention to take part in governmental affairs.

## HUN COMPETITION IS FELT IN INDIA

British Manufacturers of Dyes Being Undersold by Germans

[Canadian Press by Leased Wire.]

London, Feb. 4.—German competition in India is at present being most severely met with in aniline and alizarine dyes, according to official advice from the British Trade Commissioner in India. Notwithstanding the footing gained by British makers during the war and an excellent distributing organization which they have built up they are being undersold by the German article. In the difference in price in most cases is as much as forty to fifty per cent. This is attributed largely to the depreciated German mark. German imports of dyes in India during recent months have exceeded the British shipments.

The same state of affairs is found in the machinery trade, the official report says. Many instances have recently occurred where orders for rice mills, sugar plants, etc., have been placed in Germany owing to a fifty per cent. lower quotation than was obtainable from British makers. Germany is also making inroads into China, according to advice from the British consular agent at Peking. Her exports to that country in some commodities far exceeding those of Great Britain and the United States.

A woman is clever when she makes a man think he knows a great deal more than she does.

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