

MEIGHEN HAS MAJORITY OF 38 IN DIVISION ON NATIONAL RAIL ISSUES

HARDING SPENDS DAY ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Washington, March 22.—A general survey of foreign relations occupied the attention of President Harding and his Cabinet today during most of a two hour session.

VINCENT DOES NOT REPRESENT SINN FEINERS

De Valera States So in Written Communication to Public Ledger.

WILLING TO MEET SIR JAMES CRAIG

Anxious to Discuss With Any Irishman Matters Pertaining to Welfare of Country.

(Copyright 1921, By Public Ledger.) Dublin, March 22.—Eamon De Valera, President of the Irish Republic, replying today to two questions which I submitted to him placed responsibility for peace in Ireland clearly upon Lloyd George. I submitted to Mr. De Valera two questions through one of his confidential aids, known to me personally and today I received the following written answer from De Valera:

"I am, Ackerman, at liberty to publish the following questions and answers providing he undertakes to publish them in full exactly as they are:

Not Acting Officially.

"I saw a representative of the Sinn Fein who promised that he would forward the following questions to Mr. De Valera and if possible get his answers. I have just had them returned to me.

"Question one—Is Mr. Vincent acting officially or unofficially for the Sinn Fein in his conversations with the British government?"

"Answer: No neither, officially or unofficially neither for the Sinn Fein nor for the government of the republic. We place no hope in nor do we trust the ways of secret diplomacy. The question of issue is one between the peoples of Ireland and Britain. Both peoples have elected their responsible representatives. Hides and such methods are not necessary. The Irish people have indicated quite clearly what their claim is and Britain's answer has been the partition act and a campaign of murder to make it acceptable. When Britain has made up its mind to revise its answer, it can express it in an equally definite way. When Mr. Lloyd George is seeking other ways he is simply demonstrating that he is insincere."

Would Meet Craig.

"Question two—Would you meet Sir James Craig to discuss and devise a scheme of fiscal autonomy presumably on the lines of the Home Rule Bill?"

"Answer—I am ready to meet Sir James Craig as I would meet any other Irishman to discuss any question that affects the welfare of our country and to consider any scheme promoting the prosperity, security and happiness of any section of our people. I shall however, never be a party to any conference the purpose of which is to devise means for rendering more palatable the act of a foreign parliament partitioning our country and attempting to divide our people permanently into hostile sections.

"Moreover the primary question to be solved is not one between different sections of the Irish people, but one between the Irish nation and Britain. When this primary question is solved our domestic difficulties will be easy of adjustment."

Mackerel Fishermen Ready.

Boston, March 22.—Mackerel fishermen are to make an early start for the Southern fishing grounds. The Helena now being fitted at Gloucester, will get away ten days ahead of the usual time, Captain John Matheson, said today. A score of other seiners preparing to follow shortly.

Bullet Through Brain.

Toronto, March 22.—Because of the remarkable circumstances of Robert Howland having sent a bullet through his brain without apparent permanent injury, he was allowed by Col. Denton, police magistrate to go free yesterday although convicted on a charge of attempting suicide. Howland said he wished to go to Chicago.

Seven Mines Open.

Sydney, N. S., March 22.—Seven collieries of the Dominion Coal Company resumed operations today after a complete shut-down of three days which began on Saturday. The remainder of the company's mines are still idle.

Gen. Wood to Quit.

Washington, March 22.—Major General Leonard Wood will retire from active service in the United States Army to become the head of the Pennsylvania University after he returns from the Philippines. It was announced today at the War Department.

Shackled Prisoners Brought From South

Allege Five Were Involved in the Wall Street Explosion Where Thirty Were Killed.

New Orleans, March 22.—Five men, said to be wanted in connection with the Wall Street bomb explosion last year, were brought here today from Rio de Janeiro on the shipping board steamer Rensville. The men are sailors and give their nationality as German or Russian. They are shackled hand and foot. The five captured men were arrested late in February on the shipping board vessel City of Alton where they were working as members of the crew. According to Captain J. B. Weidern, of the Rensville, under charter to the New York and Cuba Mail Line, a terrific fight ensued on the City of Alton when word was received by wireless from United States authorities as to the identity of the men, accompanied by instructions for their arrest. They were finally overpowered, shackled and a strong guard placed over them.

ENROLLMENT OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS REACHES 72,988

Increase of 2,400 Scholars in Year Reported by Chief Superintendent.

NEARLY 200 SCHOOLS WITHOUT TEACHERS

Province Spent \$193,671 in Grants, An Increase of \$51,000.

Special to The Standard

Fredericton, N. B., Mar. 22.—The annual report of the Chief Superintendent of Education, which was tabled in the Legislature this afternoon, shows that the number of pupils in attendance at the various schools in the province during the previous year had increased 2,400. The first term the increase was 2,408 while in the second term the increase was only 130 pupils. The total attendance for the year had been 72,988.

Shortage of Teachers

From the reports of the inspectors it was shown that there was an estimated shortage of from 150 to 200 teachers; this had been overcome by the pupils without teachers attending schools where possible in the adjoining districts.

Some Things Advised

Dr. Carter's recommendations are revision in the course of instruction with many better text books; four years' course in high school; a revised pension plan; a better compulsory act; free text books; more school consolidation; trustees conventions; and community centre with co-operation on the part of the parents.

The amount paid to teachers for pensions for the school year ending June 30th, 1920, was \$19,477,600 of which \$5,241,555 was paid for the half year ending December 1919 and \$5,236,045 for the half year ending June 1920.

Case of Pensioners

Dr. Carter referred to the delegations from the N. B. Teachers' Association which waited upon the Government asking that the pensions be increased and that no pension less than \$250 per year be given teachers. The teachers themselves offer to contribute a percentage of the Government allowance to assist in the increase asked. Among the recommendations he included the loans by the Government to prospective teachers to enable them to take the Normal School course, an Act to empower school districts to borrow up to twenty per cent of their valuation and a better assessment law.

Health Hurts Cemetery

Sydney, N. S., March 22.—"The unusually good health of the city as a whole has been hard on the cemetery companies during the past year," declared Rev. J. G. Angwin, secretary-treasurer of the Hardwood Hill cemetery, in announcing a big deficit to the stockholders.

Four More Killed

Dublin, Mar. 22.—Two policemen were killed and one wounded in an ambush in Keady, County Down on Monday.

A bomb was thrown in the Dundrum residential suburb of Dublin last evening, wounding two constables. Two men were shot dead, three houses burned and several wrecked during a general Sinn Fein attack in Dublin, County Fermanagh, according to official advices received here today.

WORLD NEWS TODAY

CANADA

On a division in the House of Commons on the C. N. R. deficit issue, Premier Meighen had a majority of 38 last night.

After address from Premier Foster, the New Brunswick Legislature adopts the speech from the Throne without a division.

Richard Berry, Forest Hill, N. B., accused of murdering his wife is sent for trial on the charge.

Trial of John Doughty, held in connection with the theft of bonds from missing theatre magnate, Ambrose J. Small, starts at Toronto with startling evidence.

Nearly 73,000 scholars were enrolled in the schools of New Brunswick last year.

UNITED STATES

President Harding spends the day with his advisers in a discussion of European policy.

THE BRITISH ISLES

Four more soldiers and policemen are shot down in streets of Dublin.

CONTESTANTS SHOULD START WORK AT ONCE

New Contestants Should Enroll Now and Get the Early Start for the Maxwell.

FOUR TIMES THE REGULAR VOTES

Biggest and Best Vote Offer of Standard's Contest Announced for This Week.

The announcement yesterday of the Standard's contest for the Maxwell Touring Car, and the Quadruple Votes in The Standard's Automobile and Movie Star Contest created a furore among the contestants who have been busy enough to enroll in the biggest and most liberal prize distribution ever offered in this province.

A magnificent new five-passenger 1400 Maxwell Touring Car is being offered to the contestant who turns in the greatest amount of subscription money during a three week period which began yesterday and ends at 6 p. m. Monday, April 12th.

New contestants have an equal opportunity with those already enrolled to capture the special prize Maxwell. Everyone starts with a "clean slate" for the special prize Maxwell.

Big Vote Schedule

Four times the regular schedule of votes is being given for all subscriptions turned in this week—during the first week of the special Maxwell offer. The big multiple vote offer is given to aid contestants in getting the early start for the special Maxwell. See the \$1000 Guarantee on the contest page in this issue that the best offers of the contest are now on.

AT THE IMPERIAL TODAY—House Peters and Marjory Daw in "The Great Redeemer."

AT THE QUEEN SQUARE TODAY—Marshall Neilan's "Go and Get It" with all-star cast.

AT THE UNIQUE TODAY—Mae Marsh in "The Little 'Fraid Lady."

OPERA HOUSE TODAY—A suggestive and feature picture.

Two of the prizes to be given away in The Standard's big contest are operated by the Universal Film Company, Filmora's largest and most important Moving Picture Company.

Big Dam Breaks Near Parry Sound

Parry Sound, Ont., March 22.—Nearly thirty-six hours after the wing dam at the electric light and power plant here burst its bounds and threatened to utterly destroy the power plant, and within the rush of waters this evening was even greater than was the case yesterday, though the power house still stood intact and apparently little damaged. A torrent that was about sixty feet in depth was raging through the broken dam tonight, and finding its way into the power house through doors and windows, and fears were expressed that the Government dam at Maniwaba Lake, seventeen miles up the Sequan River had broken away.

Used All For Guns

Sydney, N. S., March 22.—Every cent of the \$14,000 donated by Sydney steel workers for the machine gun fund was expended on rapid-firers for the Canadians during the war, Hon. Hugh Guthrie, minister of militia, informs J. C. Wattles, secretary of the steel union, in a telegram today.

Cardinal Very Ill

Baltimore, Md., Mar. 22.—Physician attending Cardinal Gibbons announced tonight that his illness had taken an unfavorable turn.

Fireworks Blaze Starting Outbreak

Terrific Outburst When Fifty Houses Are Destroyed and Several Warehouses Burned

Cincinnati, March 22.—A series of explosions that shook houses within a radius of two miles, and the hauling of skyrocket, bomb and other pyrotechnics over a wide territory marked a fire which today virtually destroyed the plant of the A. L. Dugdale Fire-works Company at Reading, a suburb.

The plant covers seven acres and comprised 85 houses. At 1:30 p. m. fifty of the houses were destroyed and it did not seem possible to save the remainder.

Two employees, John Smith and Ben Schwind were injured, but only slightly.

DOUGHTY'S PLAN TO SECURE CASH FROM A. J. SMALL

Printer Claims Startling Scheme Was Outlined to Him by Secretary.

SUGGESTED \$250,000 AS LIKELY AMOUNT

Mrs. Small Knew of No Trouble Between Husband and Doughty.

Toronto, March 22.—Considerable progress was made today in the trial of John Doughty in the County Criminal Court here on a charge of stealing Victory Bonds to the value of \$106,000, the property of his former employer, Ambrose J. Small, wealthy theatre owner, who has been missing from Toronto since the evening of December 2, 1919. Doughty was Small's secretary, and he is also under indictment on a charge of conspiring to kidnap Small. The trial on the theft charge will probably be concluded tomorrow afternoon. Seven witnesses were examined in the trial today, including Mrs. Ambrose Small, one feature of today's trial was the evidence of a printer, Fred T. Daville, who testified that he had called at the Grand Opera House to see Mr. Small in connection with the printing of programmes. He was annoyed, he said, because Small had not kept an appointment with him, and used profane language to Doughty about the theatre owner. He said he told Doughty that he would like to "smash" Small because the latter was always breaking appointments. Doughty replied that the witness that there was another way in which he could get at Small. When asked what it was, Doughty, according to the witness, said that Small could be kidnaped.

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Negro Is Slashed

Gloucester, N. S., March 22.—James Jones, a negro, is in a serious condition at a local hospital, as a result of razor slashes and other injuries received during an affray here today.

TYPHUS IN BROOKLYN

New York, March 22.—Two cases of typhus in Brooklyn were reported to Health Commissioner O'Connell today. Both were middle-aged women, and neither showed evidence of vermin or was known to have mingled with immigrants, immigrants said.

LATCH STRING LEFT OUT FOR FARMER PARTY SAYS PREMIER OF THE PROVINCE

NO GRATUITIES FOR GREAT WAR VETERANS

Ottawa, March 22.—The special parliamentary committee on soldiers' civil re-establishment has re-affirmed its stand, taken last year, not to reopen the question of further cash gratuities for the re-establishment of soldiers. This decision was taken at an executive meeting of the committee today.

RUSSIANS AND GERMANS MAKE TRADE TREATY

Expect to Sign Formal Agreement in Course of a Few Weeks.

FULL CONSULAR SERVICE PLANNED

Commercial Experts Will be Sent from Petrograd to Berlin.

(Copyright 1921, By Public Ledger.) Berlin, March 22.—The success of secret negotiations that have been carried on between Russia and Germany for several months was revealed today by the announcement that a tentative agreement had been signed by representatives of the two governments at Moscow on February 18, and that a completed trade treaty was expected to be given official approval within the next few weeks.

CONSULAR SERVICE CONTEMPLATED

The treaty in many respects is similar to the Anglo-Russian trade agreement, and practically the same as those now being arranged with Sweden and Italy, according to statements by a member of the Russian delegation in Berlin today.

The contracts are divided into three main sections. The first provides for the establishment of complete consular services in the two countries, with consular general in Berlin and Moscow, and consuls in all principal cities.

The second section outlines in detail the plans to facilitate trade relations and the third settles misunderstandings that had arisen over repatriation and prisoners of war.

On the supposition that the final agreement with Germany will not differ from the original draft, the Russian delegation here already has been considerably increased by the arrival of new representatives from Moscow.

Victor Kopp, according to reports will remain in a semi-official diplomatic capacity. Consuls under the terms of the agreement, are empowered to issue passports, grant visas and perform the usual duties of consular agents. A special courier service also will be established.

To Send Commercial Experts.

The second part of the agreement provides for the sending to Berlin of a staff of commercial experts, who will be instrumental in overcoming the difficulty that all dealings must be with the Russian government and not with individual manufacturers or merchants there. German business men will be permitted to enter Russia and deal directly with the government.

The Russian imports are not subject to confiscation in Germany and citizens will be permitted to bring out of the country currency equal to the value of property they possessed there previous to the war.

Repatriation of refugees and prisoners of war is dealt with in the third section. If the agreement is signed as it now stands, the work of repatriation will be speeded up, so that all persons will be returned to their homes this coming summer.

Predicts Canada Separate Nation

Montreal, March 22.—Hon. L. A. David, provincial secretary, speaking today before the Women's Canadian Club, as a representative of the French-Canadians in Canada, declared his belief that Canadians would eventually possess complete autonomy as a nation, and that they would be dominated by a purely "Canadian mentality," compounded of the mental attitudes of the inhabitants of all her provinces, but quite free from imperialistic leanings or racial prejudices.

NO POLITICS ORDER.

Winnipeg, March 22.—H. E. Barber, chairman of the Canadian National Railway conductors union, announced today that the joint committee of the C. N. R. employees will meet in Toronto April 1st to discuss the Hamilton "no politics order." He said the meeting would last three or four days.

EXPRESS TRAIN ROBBED

Muskogee, Okla., March 22.—The Missouri, Kansas and Texas railroad's Texas special, was held up and passengers robbed thirty miles south of Muskogee tonight.

Denies He Ever Attempted Any Negotiations With Agrarians.

SPEECH FROM THRONE ADOPTED QUICKLY

In Long Speech Premier Foster Outlines Work of His Government.

Special to The Standard

Fredericton, N. B., March 22.—The address in reply to the speech from the throne was passed in the legislature this afternoon without a division after one of the shortest debates in recent years.

Aside from the mover and seconder, there had been only three speakers, the leaders of the three parties now recognized in the legislature. Premier Foster concluded the debate today, speaking for somewhat more than an hour.

The premier, among other things, said that the Valley Railway should be taken over by the Federal Government, and Hon. J. B. M. Baxter, leader of the Opposition, said that in any such move he believed the Government would have the support of the entire House.

Regarding the Restigouche election, Premier Foster said he was ready to accept responsibility for the return which had been forwarded to the sheriff of Restigouche after the election having been sent back. He did that, he said, on his own responsibility because it was incomplete without the certificate of the County Court Judge, and he felt he had acted properly in view of the circumstances.

This evening the first caucus of the Government party was held for the election of whips and consideration of the sessional legislative programme.

Some Reports

Hon. Mr. Foster introduced a bill to amend the act relating to the education of the blind. He explained that under the present act assistance amounting to \$300 per year was provided for students, one-half by the province and the balance by the municipality. Under the proposed amendment the amount would be increased to \$200 from each. He had submitted the bill for consideration at the January council meetings, and had received no serious objection to the same.

Hon. Mr. Hetherington introduced a bill to amend the act to provide for the construction and improvement of highways under federal aid.

Hon. Mr. Robinson laid on the table of the House the sixteenth annual report of the Department of Lands and Mines.

Hon. Mr. Hetherington submitted the calendar of the University of New Brunswick for 1920, also the report of the Workmen's Compensation Board, the annual report on the schools of New Brunswick, and the annual report of the General Public Hospital of St. John.

Hon. Mr. Foster, the premier, resumed the debate on the speech from the throne by congratulating the speaker upon his office and the mover and seconder of the address. He referred to the new leader of the Opposition, the Hon. J. B. M. Baxter, and expressed the hope that he might continue in that place for the next four years at least. The Liberals would do all they could to keep him in Opposition.

He spoke of the difficulty in securing the best type of citizens to enter the political field of the province; this was done frequently to the moral less criticism made of men in public office. Then he recalled the general election last October with the consequent disappearance of many whom the legislature knew well.

Against Farmer Party

With reference to the Farmers' group, headed by the member for Westmorland, he would be frank in maintaining the position which he had taken during the campaign with regard to the group system. He had then maintained, and he still maintains, that the two-party system was the best for local legislatures that had yet been worked out. If a legislature was to be divided up in small groups, none having a decisive majority, he did not know how continuous and responsible administration could be carried on. He believed the object sought after could be carried out just as well by lining up with the Government party, which had more in common with the farmers than the members of the Opposition.

He claimed that the Government and legislature had at all times shown an eagerness and willingness to advance agriculture. If his friends were sincerely anxious to aid the cause of agriculture, they would no doubt find ample opportunity, but if they were secured control of the Government, they might find the proposition not as alluring as they now seemed to think.

(Continued on page 3.)

AGAINST PENSION SCHEME

Ottawa, Ont., March 22.—The proposition of placing contribution of pensions on a sound, actuarial basis was referred to the superintendent of the soldiers' insurance branch by the parliamentary committee on soldiers' civil re-establishment. This morning it was declared by C. G. Macdonald, dominion secretary G. W. V. A., that the present system of calculating contributions was unfair.