

LLOYD GEORGE GAINS GROUND IN CONFERENCE TO SETTLE ENGLAND'S INDUSTRIAL CRISIS

Hears Violently Critical Speeches and Listens to Threats from Some Leaders Who Hint at Dire Happenings if Labor Doesn't Get All it Asks for—Labor Leader Henderson Presents Resolution That Receives Premier's Hearty Support—Forecasts Substantial Reduction in Cost of Living to Laboring Man—Urges Patience and Co-operation.

Bulletin—London, Feb. 27.—The Industrial Conference called by the government today adopted a resolution moved by Arthur Henderson, the labor leader, that a joint committee consider the question of hours and wages of working men and women, and general conditions of employment. An amendment, offered by Premier Lloyd George, that the committee investigate causes of unrest and report to the conference, not later than April 9, also was adopted.

The committee will be composed of an equal number of employers and employees, including men and women, with a chairman appointed by the government. The committee also reports on the steps necessary to safeguard the best relations between capital and labor. It will be made up of thirty representatives of labor, and thirty representatives of employers.

As head of the government, the premier said he very much wished the committee to report on the present unrest and its causes. For that reason he welcomed Mr. Henderson's suggestion. If Great Britain stood still in meeting this problem, the premier added, France and America would stand still and catastrophe would follow.

Premier Lloyd George said that he hoped a preliminary peace would be signed within the next few weeks, and declared that the blockade of Germany would not be raised, until Germany had signed a treaty which would make war impossible.

Concerning the industrial situation, there were faints on both sides, the premier said. The workers should feel that they had an interest in industry and the employers must place more trust in the workman. He hoped that by summer the cost of living in the working man's household would be reduced four shillings a week. It was his hope half of that reduction would occur by the end of March.

The premier said that the workers, naturally, were determined to secure a better standard of life. This was a natural aspiration, which would make war impossible.

AFGHANISTAN LOYAL TO BRITISH

Lord Curzon Reviews Circumstances Surrounding Assassination of Amir. London, Feb. 27. (Canadian Press from Reuters)—In the House of Lords, replying to Lord Londonderry, Lord Curzon stated that, apparently, while the Amir of Afghanistan was camping near Cabul his tent was entered in the morning of February 29. He was killed by shots and stabbed, his body being later taken to Cabul by members of his family.

It is unknown whether the assassination was due to religious or fanatical reasons, or to reasons of politics or domestic intrigue. Lord Curzon paying a high tribute to the Amir's loyalty to Great Britain, Lord Curzon added that, apparently, he was succeeded by his brother, Nazrullah Khan, who immediately sent a letter to the government of India, couched in the friendliest and most loyal terms. A suitable reply had been sent. There was no reason to suppose that there would be any interruption of the friendly relations between Great Britain and Afghanistan, whose independence we desire to maintain.

FRANCE FIXES WAR DAMAGES

Paris, Feb. 27.—(By The Associated Press)—The budget committee of the Chamber of Deputies has drawn up a report fixing the damages by the war in France, the total reaching 119,901,000,000 francs, of this amount 96,559,000,000 is entailed by direct damages, and 23,342,000,000 by indirect damage through loss of income or the impossibility of carrying on work.

SWISS TROOPS ON FRONTIER REINFORCED TO COMBAT UNREST

Situation in the Bavarian Capital is Somewhat Confused—Central Congress is Demanding a Soviet Government—All Aristocratic Officers in Munich Have Been Arrested.

Geneva, Feb. 27.—Swiss troops on the Bavarian and Baden frontiers of Germany have been reinforced to combat unrest across the boundary. A despatch to the Geneva Journal from Munich says the situation in the Bavarian capital is confused. The central congress, the despatch adds, is demanding a soviet government.

Dr. Wilhelm Muller, former director of the Krupp works, at a conference with the central committee declared that he would only work with parliament. It had been reported that he was to visit Munich and negotiate with the socialist leaders with a view to forming a new Bavarian cabinet.

All the aristocratic officers of the cavalry regiments in Munich have been arrested. A list has been released. Prince Joachim, the youngest son of former Emperor William, and Prince Leopold of Bavaria, who are under arrest as alleged leaders of an anarchist movement.

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ST. JOHN PORT FEATURED IN AN ANTI GRAND TRUNK SPEECH FAVORING THE CANADIAN PACIFIC PIER PLAN

Large Public Meeting Held in Portland, Me., Yesterday When Speeches Were Made Advocating the Adoption of the Site for the State Pier Most Favorable to the Canadian Pacific Railways Interests.

Claim St. John Hasn't a Well Protected Harbor and Its Entrance is Best With Disadvantages—Quote Pres. Beatty's Statement That St. John is Rapidly Becoming One of the Most Expensive Ports on the Atlantic Seaboard.

Special to The Standard. Portland, Maine, Feb. 27.—At a large public meeting, held at the Knights of Columbus Hall, this afternoon, prominent local speakers voiced their opinions regarding the proposed site of the new State Pier, strongly advocating the adoption of the site most favorable to the Maine Central lines, with the view of securing the entrance of the Canadian Pacific to this city. The comparison between the ports of St. John and Portland were well brought out through the remarks of David E. Moulton, of the Portland Water Commission, who said in part:

"Canada means much to Portland, and if this city had been in the Dominion, she would, without doubt, be one of the greatest American ports today. Canada has made a very patriotic endeavor to do as much Canadian business through her own sea ports as possible, but has had to work under a serious disadvantage for, as large as her country is, her Atlantic sea ports are not arranged to handle her export trade in an economical manner. While Halifax is one of the finest harbors in the world, the Dominion's most convenient port, St. John, N.B., has most serious disadvantages. While much has been done there it is not a well protected harbor, its tides are tremendous. It suffers greatly from impure water, and its entrance, through the mouth of the Bay of Fundy, is beset with untold dangers. Then, again, as President Beatty stated, in his reply to the newspaper correspondents, 'St. John is rapidly becoming one of the most expensive ports on the Atlantic seaboard.'"

"There is every reason why we should welcome the Canadian Pacific to this port and, if we can only produce the proper pier facilities we shall be able to do so. "Portland is the logical port for Canada's shipping, and it is only because of our many natural advantages, justified."

the short haul to the great Canadian producing centers, the ease of access and freedom from ice, tides and other danger, as compared with the disadvantages of the ports of the Dominion, especially St. John, that give us the immense amount of Canadian business we have. Maine cannot progress without some public pier that shipping may come to, and receive the articles of commerce which she raises or manufactures. She has no such public landing place at the present time. It may be argued that the Grand Trunk serves this purpose, but long experience shows that this is abundantly untrue. The Grand Trunk property is strictly private property. It is operated for the direct business of the Grand Trunk Railway, and very properly so, and other than Grand Trunk steamer lines are not welcomed there. In fact, during the winter months, the Grand Trunk can accommodate nothing more than its own lines, and it has all it can do to take care of them. During the summer months it could be utilized for other purposes, but no steamship lines, especially the Canadian Pacific with her wonderful fleet, will come to a port for two or three months in each year. She must be guaranteed continuous twelve months' service, and the stand in this particular is abundantly justified."

AMHERST MAN DECORATED WITH MILITARY CROSS

Lieut. Rogers Did Valiant Work as Scout Officer—Halifax Being Pressed to Pay Riot Damages.

Special to The Standard. Halifax, Feb. 27.—Lieut. Governor Giesse today presented the Military Cross to Lieut. Arthur Wychoff Rogers of Amherst, conferred on him in recognition of conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. The official report is that, as scout officer, he was eminently in the most forward positions, gaining early and accurate information of the enemy's movements. He twice warned his commander of impending counter-attacks, and was wounded while leading a party to outflank a machine gun.

J. Cutbertson Doyle, secretary of the Retail Merchants' Association, today presented to the city board of control claims for riot damages amounting in all to \$8,502.35. He said the claims were those of members, directly or indirectly, of the restaurant section of the association, and he submitted there was with the city a moral, if not legal, responsibility to make good the losses, and he accordingly presented the statements as submitted to him. He referred particularly to the amount of money actually stolen, amounting to \$600 from two of the cafes alone. The total claim is from five of them.

BOLSHEVISM THRIVES ONLY IN OPPRESSION

Representative of U. S. Bureau of Public Information Returns from Russia and Gives Light on Bolshevism.

Seattle, Wash., Feb. 27.—"People of America or any other real democracy need have no fear of the Bolshevist campaign being waged throughout the world," said Arthur Bullard, a representative of the United States Bureau of Public Information, who was here today on his way from Vladivostok to Washington.

"Bolshevism," he continued, "can never thrive except in a state where the people are pitifully oppressed and where the masses have no other hope of fighting their wrongs."

Mr. Bullard upheld the testimony of John Reed, writer and socialist, given recently before the Senate committee investigating lawless propaganda in this country, that there had been no massacres in Moscow during Reed's stay there.

"Reed left Moscow early in 1918," said Mr. Bullard, "I was there several months after his departure. There is no question he is right in stating there were no massacres up to that time, but I am convinced there were many innocent people murdered later in the name of the government."

He expressed the belief that the real democratic people of Russia finally will control the situation.

CANADIAN PACIFIC STEAMSHIP EXPECTED TODAY AT PORTLAND

Portland, Me., Feb. 27.—The Canadian Pacific steamship Empress of Britain is due to arrive at Portland tomorrow, according to an announcement tonight. She will be the first of the Canadian Pacific ships to come here since the announcement that the system would use this port for part of its trans-Atlantic business.

RESERVE JUDGMENT IN POTATO CASE

Ottawa, Feb. 27.—The Maritime Provinces list of appeals is being argued in the Supreme Court, hearing of the appeal of O'Leary vs. Smith involving a dispute over the sale of potatoes at Newcastle, was argued today and judgment reserved.

PROPERTY BURNED AT NEW GERMANY

Halifax, Feb. 27.—Fire today in New Germany, a junction point on the Halifax and Southwestern Railway,

THE GRADUAL AND UNCONSCIOUS FORMATION OF A DISTINCTIVE UNIONIST PARTY IS CERTAIN

France's War Losses Figure Tremendous; Total of \$20,000,000,000

Paris, Feb. 27.—(Canadian Press Despatch from Reuters Limited)—The Journal states that Louis Dubois has drawn, on behalf of the budget committee of the Chamber, a bill relating to France's war losses. The amounts involved come to the tremendous total of nearly \$20,000,000,000, consisting of damage to landed property, household effects, material, cattle and title deeds, raw materials and provisions, and loss to revenue or trade.

CONVENTION OF TRADES UNIONS AT HALIFAX

Sixty Fully Accredited Delegates Are in Attendance—Important Resolutions.

Halifax, Feb. 27.—The convention of the Trades Unions which began a conference in this city today, got through routine organization this morning. The credential committee reported sixty fully accredited delegates. Two resolutions were adopted this afternoon and ordered to be sent to the legislature. The first was one making the lawful hours of labor for those in the unions, unless at extra rates, 44 hours per week. Eight hours on five days, and four on Saturday, or some other day in the week that may be chosen.

The other resolution proposed law enacting that when women are employed on similar work to men, under equal conditions, that the rate of pay for each shall be the same.

CANADIAN BOOTS MAY FIND MARKET

Opening in This Line for Canadian Trade in Europe.

Ottawa, Feb. 27.—The Canadian Trade Commission has been asked in a cable from the Canadian Mission in London to secure information from boot manufacturers in the Dominion as to their production, facilities for delivery, and approximate prices in cheaper grades of boots for men, women, and children. The cable also requests approximate prices and deliveries in pulp, newsprint, and leather.

There is obviously an opening in these lines for Canadian trade in Europe, and as the Canadian Trade Commission in Ottawa has been established to facilitate this reconstructive work and to secure all the trade possible for the Dominion, it would be advisable for manufacturers and merchants to keep in close touch with the Commission.

IRELAND TO HAVE RECONSTRUCTION AID

Dublin, Feb. 27.—James Jan Macpherson, Chief Secretary for Ireland, is receiving a deputation of representative Irish municipalities today, dealt with the questions of reconstruction, housing and health. He said the government had allowed an interim grant of £250,000 to provide for reconstruction work for demobilized soldiers and war workers, but that this scheme was merely provisional. He assured the deputation that any national scheme of reconstruction adopted in Great Britain would be applied to Ireland, whose special needs would be considered.

Proposals for Ireland's housing scheme, said the Secretary, had been already far advanced by the Treasury, which might pay the difference between economic value rentals and the reasonable rents which the Local Government Board might fix for the people to pay. The government also, he said, was considering how to utilize the new British Ministry of Health bill so as to benefit Ireland.

SAVINGS DEPOSITS IN CANADIAN BANKS NEARS A BILLION

Ottawa, Feb. 27.—Unemployment has not so far made any serious drain on savings deposits in Canadian banks. They continue to increase in September, 1918, before the last war loan was placed on the market, savings deposits reached the high water level of \$1,009,500,000. Payment of war loan subscriptions brought the total down, but it is now again climbing towards the billion dollar mark.

During January there was an increase of \$1,500,000, bringing the total at the end of the month to \$940,000,000. During the whole war period, from August, 1914, to January, 1919, savings deposits increased about fifty per cent.

Bank returns for January also show a decrease in demand deposits; a decrease in deposits outside Canada and a decrease in call loans both in and outside Canada.

GERMAN INTRIGUES IN UNITED STATES REVEALED BY STATEMENT

It Discloses in Detail the Part Bernstorff and the Foreign Office Played—It Discloses Profligate Use of German Money With a Good Stock Always on Hand.

London, Feb. 27.—(British wireless service)—Study of the official statement containing a translation of the report from Count von Bernstorff, German ambassador to the United States, to Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg, on August 26, 1918, discloses interesting details of the part that Count Bernstorff and the foreign office played in German intrigues in the United States. The report gives further evidence regarding the use of Wolf von Igel, George von Thal and Dr. Heitzrich Albert by the German government, proof that the money used in their intrigues was paid with the acquiescence of the German chancellor, if not at his order, is contained in this report.

It is disclosed that Albert had charge of much German money and that von Bernstorff wished to keep him in the United States because "there is absolutely no one else at my disposal who is to be trusted with the matter referred to," which included compromising documents.

REFERRING DISPUTES TO ARBITRATION BOARD

London, Feb. 27.—(Canadian Press from Reuters)—The Ministry of Labor states that thirty-six labor disputes are being referred to arbitration this week, including the boiler makers, who claim a twenty per cent. advance, and disputes affecting the engineering and ship building trades.