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'Clearing Rapidly,'  
Washington Hears

Paris Advances Cause Relaxation of Tension Over the Italian Situation; Premier, Meanwhile Warmly Acclaimed in Italy

Washington, April 26—The Italian situation in the peace negotiations is "clearing rapidly," according to advices from Paris received today at the White House.

It was stated that the action taken by President Wilson was "endorsed everywhere." But what developments were taking place were not disclosed, but it was evident that the message, the tension which has prevailed in administration quarters for the last three days was considerably relaxed.

INTERESTING BITS FROM THE INSIDE

Paris, April 26, 5:35 p. m.—(By the Associated Press)—The peace conference has been severely shaken by the Italian crisis and the extent to which its work will be affected is receiving the anxious attention of the delegates. The American storm has broken and the air has cleared in that quarter, but in other quarters a less optimistic view is taken, the feeling being that an element of confusion has been introduced which will result in more or less delay at the moment the German delegates are arriving.

In French and Italian circles the situation is regarded as serious and some quarters even represent it as desperate, but this extreme view is not generally held.

Several of the committees met today with the Italian members present, and the secretary of the American delegation said no notice had been received of the withdrawal of Italian participation. Pending formal action, no break in relations would be assumed, it was said. But the departure with the Italian delegates and announcement of the departure of Foreign Minister Sonnino and former Minister Salandra, to occur on Saturday, creates an anomalous situation, as it is not known whether Italy will be represented at the plenary session of the conference on the 28th or 29th of the treaty, including the League of Nations covenant, will be finally signed upon.

French reports represent the final meeting between President Wilson and Premier Orlando before the latter's departure as highly dramatic in character. One version is that the Italian prime minister in addressing the American president, said:

"You have contested the authority of the Italian government before the world and this is my duty to go before the representatives of the Italian people and say to them: 'Decide between Mr. Wilson and me.'"

To this President Wilson is reported to have replied:

"That is certainly your right." In American quarters it is said that the foregoing version of the incident is probably a reflex of Premier Orlando's public statements in which he referred to the president addressing directly to the people.

It is also said that the chances of reaching an accord at the final meeting were good if Premier Orlando had remained a half hour longer. But the approach of the probable result worried his train and his feeling that he should consult the Italian people finally caused him to withdraw while the plan that might have brought an agreement was still under discussion. The basis of this presumptive accord is said to have been the partial internationalization of Fiume, like Dalmatia, the Jugo-Slavs occupying the Dalmatian mainland and the Italians the outlying islands.

The territorial issue is now felt to be less important than the personal issue which the Italian premier has raised by his plan for going before parliament and asking a vote of confidence. Should this be done it is thought probable in some quarters that it would renew the Italian issue before the council in a more pronounced form than either President Wilson or the council as a whole has thus far been willing to admit. Should it not be given, the probable result would be cabinet changes, bringing a new delegation, with a new policy, to the conference.

There are evidences that President Wilson has avoided using anything which might be construed as economic pressure upon Italy, although some quarters suggested that he should have done so.

Opinions in Austria.—Vienna, April 24—(By the Associated Press)—The withdrawal of the Italian legation from the peace conference was received here with elation, the people generally being glad to see the Allies in conflict with each other. The Neue Freie Presse says:

"Premier Orlando is bluffing, probably in order to square his position in Italy toward the interventionists. It is impossible for Italy to withdraw, as she is still by the Americans."

The newspaper adds: "President Wilson's position is based on the idea of right and justice, and it is hoped he will stand in the same way toward Bohemia and Tyrol, where the people will be drawn to desperation if subjected to Czech or Italian control."

Appeal to Clemenceau.—Rome, April 25—(Havas Agency)—Professor Luigi Ezzetti, former premier and minister of the interior, has sent a telegram to Premier Clemenceau of France, appealing to his friendly sentiments toward Italy and asking him to exert his best efforts to obtain satisfaction of Italy's demands. The telegram concluded: "All Italy, in this hour of passion, trusts in you."

Will Back Orlando.—Rome, April 26—Senators are reaching Rome on all trains and show confidence that the cabinet will approve Orlando's action in leaving the peace conference.

Not Wilson Street Now.—Rome, April 25—A demonstration today at Genoa in protest against President Wilson's attitude, culminated in the changing of the name of the street that had been named after the American president to "Fiume street."

In Parliament Monday.—Paris, April 25—Premier Orlando and his colleagues on the Italian delegation (Continued on page 2, sixth column)

THE STORY OF THE DUMBBELLS,  
THE FAMOUS CONCERT PARTY  
OF THIRD CANADIAN DIVISION



Top row—John McCormack, William Redpath, Elmer A. Belding, Frank Brayford. Second row—Bertram Langley, A. W. Plunkett, Ivo E. Ayns, A. W. Murray, George Thorne, jr., Ross D. Hamilton, William L. Tennent. Seated—E. G. Charter.

Drawn From All Branches of Service—Maritime Provinces Well Represented—Appeared Before King Albert and Queen Elizabeth—Made Great Hit in London Theatres and in Mons and Brussels—Every Performance in France Free to the Soldiers—Gen. Lippe's Tribute.

Much has been said and written about the contribution to the morale of the troops overseas by the concert parties whose entertainments were such a welcome diversion for the men when they came out of the trenches. The most famous of the Canadian concert parties was that of the 3rd Division known as the Dumbbells. Its members were selected from all branches of the service and all its expenses paid by the 3rd Division. It was the only divisional party whose performances were always free to the soldiers.

WILL BRITISH WEST INDIES COME INTO  
CANADIAN FEDERATION?

Kingston, J. B., April 26—Harry J. Crowe of Newfoundland addressed a gathering here last night relative to a commercial and political union between Canada and the British West Indies. He said the Canadian premier was willing to receive a deputation from the islands to discuss the matter.

WOMEN'S COUNCIL  
Annual Meeting Begun—Eloquent Address by Mrs. A. E. Smith

The annual meeting of the Local Council of Women was begun in the lecture room of the Natural History Society at 11 o'clock this forenoon. Mrs. E. Atherton Smith, the president in the chair and Mrs. Amelia Haley in the secretarial position with Mrs. Alfred W. Estey as corresponding secretary. The session was opened by the recitation of the Lord's Prayer and the reading of the minutes.

The holding of a morning session was a departure and an outcome of experience of former years when congestion of business in one afternoon session proved very unsatisfactory. The attendance was fairly large but this afternoon the lecture room is packed with representatives.

The secretary's report stated among other things that the Local Council of Women is made up of twenty-eight affiliated organizations, representing a membership of close to 4,000 women. The treasurer's report showed a cash credit balance and told of the various money-raising activities in which the council engaged last year, notably the effort for the Children's Aid Society, the gift for Princess Patricia, etc.

A WARNING TO CYCLISTS.—Commissioner Thornton remarked this morning that the revival cycling in St. John has been brought to the attention of the police by the number of young folk who are using the sidewalks as speedways. This is contrary to the law and reports, arrests and fines are among the possibilities for offenders.

Not Coming to St. John.—New York, April 26—A deputation of fifteen Liverpool city council men and engineers will leave England on May 1 on the steamship Caronia to study electric railways, lighting equipment and improvement in Canadian and United States cities, Toronto and Montreal are included.

BY-LAW MATTER.—A case against Nelson Geldart, charged with driving under the gates at the Mill street railway crossing when they were being closed, was resumed this morning. The defendant said the gates were at an angle of about forty-five degrees and were not moving. He said he has often seen them standing at that angle. He told the court that the gateman did not give him a signal to stop, Fred Akery, a lad who was on the team with the defendant at the time, gave corroborative evidence. The case was postponed until a week from Monday.

THE TWENTY-SIXTH.—A Canadian soldier writes to The Times-Star from a camp in England, under date of April 14:

"I just want to remind the people of St. John through your paper that the 26th Battalion will soon be home and they don't want to forget how other cities in Canada are receiving the boys. So give them a rousing welcome. Think of what they have been through."

TENDERS FOR CONCRETE.—Tenders for a carload of concrete for the public works department closed at city hall this morning. Commissioner Fisher attempted to get a special meeting of the council to deal with them but they don't want to forget how other cities in Canada are receiving the boys. So give them a rousing welcome. Think of what they have been through."

MEN'S LUNCHEON.—William Ward, of London, addressed a men's luncheon largely attended at Bond's today on the Brotherhood movement.

Maritime—Fresh southwest winds, mostly fair; Sunday, strong westerly winds, cooler with occasional showers of rain or snow.

Lower St. Lawrence, Gulf and North Shore—Strong westerly winds, cold with snow buries today and Sunday.

New England—Local snow tonight, followed by generally fair weather; Sunday, continued cold, fresh to strong west winds.

V. C. Winner In  
St. John Today

Sergt. Good of Bathurst Here For Discharge

Arrives Unheralded and Hopes to Get Quietly Away on Train for Fredericton This Evening—He and Two Others Captured German Battery

One of this province's greatest heroes, Sergeant Herman J. Good, V.C., arrived in St. John from Bathurst last night. He was in the city all today, the most of which time he spent in getting his discharge which was an exceptionally lengthy procedure, as everybody, everywhere, wished to have the honor of shaking his hand and congratulating him.

When a Times reporter first met him this morning he was in the midst of an amusing gathering at the armories. Officers, men and lady clerks all crowded around the distinguished, though rather embarrassed hero. The coveted V. C. was passed around for inspection. It was handled very reverently, though as Sergt. Good said, it costs about sixpence to make. It certainly is the plainest of all decorations, but this very simplicity of design which accentuated it and makes it appear what it is, the highest of all decorations. Sixpence, the cost of its manufacture, but who, except those who have earned it, by their devotion and bravery, can tell what a price must be paid before any man can call it his.

Sergeant Good was gradually, though reluctantly led to talk of how he won the Victoria Cross. It was hard to withstand the questioning hail. He spoke very modestly, merely mentioning in a matter of fact way that he had captured an artillery battery with the aid of a couple of men. Just imagine! Three men capturing a battery of German artillery! This same battery of five nine-inch guns had been storming our lines all through the Amiens show. On August 8, Sergeant Good, who was then a corporal, called two men to him, and the three of them rushed the battery, scattering the garrison and killing many by his directed bombs.

Those who were able to get away unscathed followed, but the determined assaulters followed and bombed the dug-out, until the terrified Germans fled into the open, crying "Kinnard!" There were in all about fifty them, and Sergeant Good was proceeding to take them prisoners when a machine gunner farther back, not inclining to so much leniency, swept the whole fifty with machine gun fire. What were left were prisoners.

Good's two brave comrades were awarded the D. C. M. and M. M., but later on they made the supreme sacrifice. A little while before this stirring episode, the New Brunswick hero had already captured three German machine guns, single handed, so one may be already certain that the Victoria Cross he has won represents for him wonderful courage, absolute fearlessness and magnificent devotion to duty.

New Brunswick can claim Sergeant Good as her own, although he belongs to the 13th Battalion from Quebec. He was born and reared in this province, and Bathurst is the proud place of his birth. He went over originally with the 53rd Battalion from New Brunswick, a regiment which was broken up in England, and was drafted to the 13th Royal Highlanders early in 1916. He has been through the battles of the Somme, Hill 70, Passchendaele, Vimy Ridge and Amiens. In the battle of the Somme, in 1916, his brother, Ernest, who was in his own platoon, was killed.

Re returned to England from France in October last year and was invested with the V. C. by the King at Buckingham Palace on October 29.

A Times reporter had the honor to conduct him from the Armories to general headquarters, where he was warmly received by General McDonnell and the staff, and had an audience with him of more than half an hour. From there he went to the pay office, where he received his first month's gratuity. Everywhere he was effusively welcomed. He also honored the Times office with a visit, and the staff expressed their appreciation and congratulations.

Sergeant Good was embarrassed by the attention he everywhere received, and said that he wished to forget all about the last few years because he had seen terrible sights and gone through awful experiences, which he would not begin to describe.

He will leave for Fredericton tonight and then he will settle down to ordinary everyday life on the farm. He was delighted at the reception accorded him by the Bathurst people, but it is in hopes they will soon forget him and let him be a hardy person who has seen his picture in the V. C. will always be about him and for many years he will probably never pass a person who has seen his picture without saying "There goes Good, the V. C."

FOR BALKAN HOSPITALS.—Mayor Hayes had an interesting visitor this morning when Mrs. H. O. Aldridge called upon him in connection with her campaign in the interests of hospital work in Serbia, Montenegro and Macedonia.

Mrs. Aldridge, who is a native of England, served as a nurse through the heart-breaking retreat which marked the conquest of that unhappy country. Now that peace conditions permit the hospital work has been revived and an effort is being made to do as much as possible to alleviate the misery which still marks the trail of the Hun and their southern confederates.

Mrs. Aldridge is aiding in the work of organizing the women of Canada to help carry on this humanitarian enterprise. The mayor referred her to some of the leaders of the women's organizations with whom she will confer.

BANG IN POLICE COURT.—In the police court this morning while a witness was giving evidence an amusing incident happened. A bottle of two per cent beer was on the window sill in the court room and suddenly it blew the cork to the ceiling. Considerable commotion was caused and comments were made.

PANTRY SALE.—A pantry sale under the auspices of the Windsor Chapter of the I. O. D. E. was held in the Imperial Theatre last night for the purpose of raising funds for patriotic purposes. The sale was in charge of the regent, Miss Lawson. The tables were loaded with a large assortment of dainties and home-made candy.



SERGEANT HERMAN J. GOOD, Bathurst man who won the Victoria Cross, and who spent today in St. John.

SPIRITED HOUR IN  
COMMONS OVER  
THE RAILROADS

McKenzie and Michael Clark Cross Swords

SIR THOMAS WHITE TAKES PART

Charges That Opposition Listens to Promptings of Private Ownership—Lemieux Replies—Looked Like Closure

Ottawa, April 25—Daniel D. McKenzie was enthusiastically cheered by his followers when he crossed swords with Dr. Michael Clark in the House of Commons this afternoon and when the members took recess for dinner they were acclaiming him as the son of that old-time minister who made a name for himself in the House of Commons this afternoon and when the members took recess for dinner they were acclaiming him as the son of that old-time minister who made a name for himself in the House of Commons this afternoon.

It all happened when "Red Michael" started out to give Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux a rousing. Mr. Lemieux has been saying that the government was acting like a lot of drunken sailors with regard to the building of new railways in the west. He added that it would not earn enough money to buy axle grease. He was just as wrong in his day as they were in theirs, and he was just as wonderful in his possibilities, would give solid support to a government which was making an honest attempt at government ownership of a great railway.

Mr. McKenzie observed that Saul of Tarsus has become Paul the Apostle "for the interests of science," dry on a speech made by Dr. Clark two days ago in which he warned the government that every ten cents spent must be absolutely necessary. Of course the member for Red Deer was able to grasp the gravity of a \$500 salary increase to a deputy minister but when it came to spending millions on railways he "is at sea and falls into the current and goes along with it." It was no use to economize on ten cents pieces and plunging in expenditure of millions. The Grand Trunk Pacific was located in the glorious west in which Dr. Clark prided himself so much and it was in the hands of a receiver. Dr. Clark was a Conservative Englishman, Conservative in the sense of being careful when he came to this country, but it was only recently that he had become a Conservative in politics. (Laughter.)

Dr. Clark interjected with a remark to the effect that the railway policy would be all right if Mr. McKenzie were prime minister.

"The member for Red Deer cannot phrase me on this question by a sneering reference to what might happen if I were premier," shot back Mr. McKenzie. "I may never be premier but I will be premier before he will be!" (Opposition applause.)

Dr. Clark—"I want to assure my hon. friend that if I seemed to sneer it was just for fun." (Laughter.)

Dr. Clark—"If it will remove his impression that I sneered I can say quite sincerely that he is by far the nearest approach to a prime minister that I can see when I am looking at the faces of the men on his side of the house."

"Hon. Jacques Bureau—"So say we all."

Dr. Clark—"With regard to his prophecy that I will be prime minister before I am I can only fall back upon the saying of the well known Mrs. Malpas, giving it, however, improper emphasis, that comparisons are proverbially odious."

(Continued on page 6, second column.)

WEATHER REPORT  
Issued by Authority of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, R. F. Stewart, director of meteorological service.

Synopsis—The area of low pressure has moved northward from Maine to Northern Quebec, while the high pressure has moved southward from Manitoba to the upper Mississippi Valley. The other has been fine and moderately warm in the western provinces and cold with snow in Ontario and Quebec.

Maritime—Fresh southwest winds, mostly fair; Sunday, strong westerly winds, cooler with occasional showers of rain or snow.

Lower St. Lawrence, Gulf and North Shore—Strong westerly winds, cold with snow buries today and Sunday.

New England—Local snow tonight, followed by generally fair weather; Sunday, continued cold, fresh to strong west winds.