The St. John Standard

VOL. XIII., NO. 46. | TEN PAGES | ST. JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY MORNING, MAY 18, 1921 | FAIR AND WARMER | TWO CENTS

MEIGHEN HAS LIVELY CLASH WITH CRERAR

Farmer Leader Claims Gov't Making Religious Appeal in York-Sunbury.

PREMIER DENIES CABINET OFFER

No Approaches to the "Catholic Minister of Public Works in New Brunswick."

Ottawa, May 17—Hon. T. A. Crerar, leader of the Progressives, today made his awaited speech on the budget. For the last couple of parliamentary days, the debate has dragged along with all the monotony of the thrice-told tale and, on occasion, without even a quorum. Mr. Crerar's contribution aroused attention and filled the House. In his speech on Friday the Prime Minister made some biting comments on the party "angularly opposite"—in reference to the geographical position which Progressives occuy in the House. Today, Mr. Crerar retorted by referring to Mr. Meighen's speech as "an exhibition of cheap political vaudeville occupying two and a half hours."

Some Sharp Passages

Mr. Crerar's criticisms led him into some sharp passages at arms. As he was attacking the "alchemy" of mergers under protection, Hon. C. C. Ballantyne, Minister of Marine, sharply interposed the query whether Mr. Crerar was still in favor of increasing the British preference to fifty per cent and, after five years, to free trade. "I have no hesitation in saying," Mr. Crerar warmly replied, "that we are still in favor of increasing the British preference to fifty per cent."

Clashed With Premier

Again, while referring to the York-Sunbury by-election, Mr. Crerar broke lances with the Prime Minister. He first claimed that the Government candidate was appealing to religious prejudices. "Are you going to vote for the man Catholics are voting for?" Mr. Crerar quoted the candidate as saying. Mr. Meighen demanded quotations. Mr. Crerar retorted that the Prime Minister could secure a score of witnesses. He then accused the Prime Minister or his agents with having approached the "Catholic Minister of Public Works in New Brunswick with a view to his coming into the cabinet."

"That is absolutely false as far as I am concerned," the Prime Minister flashed back, "or as far as anyone is concerned with my authority" He added that the Government candidate categorically denied ever having made any such appeal to prejudice.

Mr. Crerar claimed that the Government had produced a surplus by charging to capital what should have been charged to revenue. The Finance Minister had promised to reduce the debt but had increased it; and Mr. Crerar urged that a conference of provincial premiers be called to discuss the co-ordination of financial policies.

Economy for Five Years

Mr. Crerar also suggested that the Government should consider a policy of rigid economy for five years; that expenditures of a local nature be dispensed with—local needs should be taken care of by local taxation; that expenditures on roads and housing be discontinued for the time being, the municipalities and provinces to perform such work along these lines as they considered necessary.

(Continued on page 3.)

STEEL WORKERS DEMAND PROBE

Dominion House of Commons Will be Asked to Investigate Steel Situation.

Sydney, N. S., May 17.—As a result of the proposal of the Dominion Iron and Steel Company to make a ten per cent wage cut as a means of obtaining rail contracts, the Sydney steel workers will ask for a federal investigation into the steel industry of Canada, similar to that which is now being conducted in the coal industry. The formal request for an inquiry will stipulate that the probe be conducted by a committee of the Dominion House of Parliament, it is learned here tonight.

Decision to accept or reject the proposed wage cut will be finally reached at a mass meeting of the metal workers to be held here Wednesday night.

Lloyd George Silent About De Valera

London, May 17.—When Mr. Lloyd George was invited to say something concerning the statement printed in the Dublin Freeman's Journal, Monday to the effect that he had offered to meet Eamonn De Valera or other Irish leaders without conditions, the following statement was issued from No. 10 Downing street, the official residence of the Prime Minister:

"Mr. Lloyd George has made no statement on the subject of Mr. De Valera beyond what he already has stated in the House of Commons."

Year In Prison For Aiding Coward

Mother of Millionaire Draft Evader Bergdoll Goes to the Penitentiary.

Philadelphia, May 17—Mrs. Emma C. Bergdoll was today sentenced in the Federal District Court to one year and one day in the Atlanta penitentiary for conspiracy to aid her sons, Grover C. Bergdoll and Erwin R. Bergdoll to desert the United States army, and was fined a total of $7,000. Judge Dickinson, in imposing sentence, announced the prison sentence would be remitted if the fine is paid within the present term of court ending, the second Monday in June.

ALL COAL MINE WORKERS UNITE IN WAGE FIGHT

Half Million Hard and Soft Pitmen Join to Present Solid Front.

WAGE SCHEDULE IS THE TROUBLE

Big Conference to Decide New Rates Will be Held Next September.

New York, May 17.—The anthracite mine workers will join forces with the bituminous miners in formulating policies which will govern the negotations of new wage agreements with the coal operators, to take the place of the present contracts which expire March 31, 1922.

This action, which will consolidate the ranks of the 500,000 organized miners of the United States so that they will present a solid front to the coal operators, was decided upon today at a conference between international officers of the United Mine Workers of America and the presidents and international board members of the three union districts comprising the anthracite coal regions.

Frame Wage Proposals.

The conference decided that the anthracite tri-district convention which is usually held in August for the purpose of drawing up the new wage demands, should be postponed until after the international convention of the United Mine Workers, which convenes at Indianapolis September 20. At this international gathering the bituminous workers frame their wage proposals.

SHIP COLLISION OFF CAPE SABLE

Freighter "Holtby" Hits Unidentified Vessel Thought to be "Lady of Gaspe."

Halifax, N. S., May 17.—The British steamer Holtby collided with an unidentified steamer in a dense fog off Cape Sable Island shortly before midnight, according to a radio message picked up by a wireless station at Glasgow Head, Guysboro County, N. S., at one o'clock this morning. A second message stated that both vessels were proceeding. The Holtby gave her position as latitude 45.34 north, longtitude 58.56 west.

The steamer which collided with the Holtby is supposed to be the Lady of Gaspe which sailed from Halifax today for St. Johns Nfld.

The Holtby, a vessel of 2,262 tons, was enroute from Pireaus via Algiers to Louisburg, Cape Breton.

College Graduates' Duty To Dominion

Those Not So Fortunate Have a Claim Upon Them Says Mgr. Foley.

Antigonish, N. S., May 17.—Eloquently setting forth the duties of the college man toward his fellow who had not enjoyed the same opportunities and advantages. Right Rev. Monsignor Foley, rector of St. Mary's Cathedral, Halifax, today addressed the largest graduating class in the history of St. Francis Xavier University at the annual commencement exercises of that institution here. Twenty-seven young Nova Scotians received the degree of Bachelor of Arts.

VETERANS WILL PROTEST

Toronto, May 17—Following a special meeting of the Dominion officials of the G. A. U. V. at headquarters here tonight, a telegram was sent to Premier the Rt. Hon. Arthur Meighan, stating that the unemployment situation had reached such serious proportions throughout Canada that it warranted the suspension of the routine business of the Ottawa House until a remedy was provided for.

BIG BLIZZARD BRINGS DEATH TO SIX SAILORS

Eight Inches of Snow Upon Lake Superior Results in Marine Tragedy.

BODY SIGHTED ON CABIN ROOF

Lost Barge Was in Tow of "Myron" That Figured a Year Ago in Disaster.

Sault Ste. Marie, May 17—Six men, members of the crew of the barge Miztec, are believed to have lost their lives when the Miztec, with a smaller craft, the barge Peshtigo, broke loose from the steamer Zillah, of the O. W. Blodgett Line, off Whitefish Point, Lake Superior. The barges broke loose during a terrific snow and wind storm.

The Miztec is believed to have been broken up. The Zillah was six miles above Whitefish Point when the barges broke away, the steamer getting in the lee of Whitefish Point.

Body on Wreckage

Officers of the steamer Renown, report seeing the body of a man on the roof of a floating cabin, believed to be from the Miztec. As the Renown was approaching the wreckage, the body was washed into the water and sank. No other bodies were sighted.

The Miztec carried a cargo of salt and was bound for Superior. The barge Peshtigo was going up light and was to have been dropped at Munising.

The Miztec was in tow of the steamer Myron when that vessel sank off Crisp Point, November 22, 1919, with a loss of 18 men.

The storm came with little warning to shipping men. About eight inches of snow fell and the wind blew a gale. All other craft on the lakes is believed to have weathered the storm safely.

GIOLITTE HAS THE MAJORITY

Ministry of Italy is Apparently Sustained by Appeal to the People

Rome, May 17.—The National Coalition Party, supporters of the ministry of Signor Giolitti, have elected 266 members in the new parliament, according to the latest compilation on returns from the elections held throughout Italy on Sunday. The latest figures also show that the Socialists have elected 134 members, the Catholics 101, the Republicans ten, the followers of former Premier Nitti 15, the Slavs 6 and the Germans 4.

Arthur Ecrement Is Not Guilty

Former M. P. is Acquitted on Charge of Misappropriating Funds Loaned.

Montreal, May 17.—Arthur Ecrement, ex-member of parliament for Berthier was today acquitted by Judge Bazin on a charge of misappropriating $5,250 loaned him in his capacity of lawyer by Captain Oliver Patenaude.

Arthur Ecrement's name was brought into prominence at the time of the theft of $5,000,000 bonds in Wall Street, but he proved to the New York police he was not concerned. Ecrement was also acquitted in the Montreal courts on a charge of conspiracy connected with the fleecing of Michael Connolly, a local contractor, out of $125,000 by a fake horse race gambling scheme operated in Buffalo.

Court House At Halifax Robbed

Halifax, N. S., May 17.—Twenty-eight dollars and some cents is missing tonight from the cash drawer of the county treasurer in the court house here as the result of a theft which is thought to have occurred at an early hour this morning. A "jimmied" window near the judge's entrance, and a broken desk lock told the tale to the detectives who are investigating.

PRESIDENT TO SEND TROOPS TO VIRGINIA

Washington, May 17.—The situation along the Kentucky-West Virginia border was talked over by President Harding and his cabinet today, and it was indicated that the decision was affirmed to send Federal troops into the region only as a last resort. It was indicated that the governors of the two states would be advised that the army would be employed on police work only where states failed to maintain order.

World News Today

CANADA

Premier Meighen and Hon. T. A. Crerar in lively clash in the House of Commons over York-Sunbury by-election.

Mount Allison University convocation at Sackville, N. B. last evening.

Eight inches of snow fell over Lake Superior and leads to marine disaster

Sydney steel workers want a parliamentary probe of steel profits.

UNITED STATES.

All coal miners of the United States unite to resist wage reductions.

General cut in pay of railway workers is predicted by United States' Railway Board.

BRITISH ISLES.

Soldier football team in Belfast is fired upon by machine gun manned by Sinn Feiners.

EUROPE

Fifty killed in election riots in Italy.

Germans are ready to pay 150,000,000 gold marks at once to the Allies.

DOCTOR ADMITS PARTIAL BELIEF IN FAITH CURE

Cancer, However, Not One of the Diseases That Can be Healed That Way.

HON. DR. ROBERTS AT TORONTO MEETING

Health Convention Discusses Advisability of Public Officials on Municipal Branches

Toronto, May 17 — In connection with the National Public Health Convention being held in this city, the National Council for combatting venereal diseases deprecated the chairmanships of provincial councils of the organization being occupied by government officials, and also deprecated municipal health officers being chairmen of municipal branches.

A resolution to this effect was proposed by Justice W. R. Riddell, the chairman, but it was withdrawn upon the advice of Hon. Dr. Roberts, of New Brunswick, who said that while the discussion would have a good effect the passing of the resolution might negative this. Mrs. Richard J. Hooper, St. John, N. B., was added to the executive of the National Council for combatting venereal diseases.

Admits Faith Cure

The association discussed the question of a cure for cancer. Dr. Adam Wright, Toronto, said he believed in the faith cure in many cases, but not for advanced cancer. In his opinion the knife was the only way to a cure in the early stages of the disease.

Speaking before the hygiene section of the Ontario Health Officers' Association, Dr. C. K. Clarke, of Toronto, said one way to deal with the problem of mental defectives was to go into the schools and make an examination and classification of all the children and treat those who required it. Greater care should be taken with immigrants at the port of entry, he said.

Dr. J. D. Page, of the Federal Health Department, said that thousands of mentally defective ex-imperial soldiers were coming to this country.

Lively Election

Rome, May 17.—According to figures published by the newspaper Il Paese, forty persons were killed in conflicts between factions on election day, last Sunday.

British Colonel Boxed Rebel Ears

Then He Took Rifles from Fifteen Poles and Drove to Headquarters.

Beuhen, Silesia, May 17.—Colonel Cockerill, British control officer lectured, disarmed and sent home fifteen Polish insurgents who halted him at three o'clock in the morning and attempted to examine his papers and give him orders. The Colonel jumped out of his automobile and shouted:

"What are you boys doing out at this time with guns? Give me your names."

The insurgents who were mostly youngsters were non-plussed. The leader finally handed over his rifle and the colonel boxed his ears. He then made the others give up their guns and advised them all to go home. Loading their fifteen rifles into the machine, he proceeded to British headquarters.

The Colonel's chauffeur, a Prussian soldier, said afterwards:

"I have been through four years of the war, but that was the nerviest thing I ever saw."

GERMANS HAVE FIRST PAYMENT READY IN GOLD

Bluff Game at End and Cash is Being Paid the Allies.

ALL READY WITHIN THE TIME LIMIT

One Hundred and Fifty Million Gold Marks Available at Present.

Berlin, May 17.—A semi-official note issued today announces that in compliance with the terms of the Allied ultimatum calling upon Germany to pay 1,000,000,000 gold marks to the Allies in reparations within a period of twenty-five days, the German Government has offered the reparations commission the first payment, on this amount to be made at once, amounting to 150,000,000 gold marks in the shape of foreign currency. Payment, it is stated, will be made at a place to be designated by the reparations commission, and the balance of the sum due will be paid within the period prescribed.

Pay This Week

Paris, May 17—The Tempts says it is probable Germany will remit this week 150,000,000 gold marks in specie on account of the one billion gold marks due May 31 at the latest, failure to pay the latter sum entailing automatic occupation of the Ruhr.

The newspaper adds that a sitting this afternoon of the reparations commission, on which Sir John Bradbury, the British representative, has resumed his seat, questions relating to distribution of the remittance among the Allies were destroyed.

A London despatch of May 13 said that Sir John Bradbury, in a personal statement issued on that date, admitted he had desired to resign as British representative on the reparations commission, but that his government had pressed him to remain, which he considered it a public duty to do.

EDDY PAPER MEN BACK IN MILLS

Return to Work on Old Terms But Agree to Accept Majority Award.

Ottawa, Ont., May 17.—The strike of the paper makers at the E. B. Eddy mills Hull, Que., which started two weeks ago and which has resulted in nearly 400 employees of the company being kept out of work, came to an end this afternoon.

The paper makers, will return to work under the same conditions and with the same rates of pay which prevailed prior to May 1, on the understanding that if a reduction in wages is decided upon by the majority of the big mills in Canada and the United States the reduction will go into effect in the local mills. These terms are the same as those agreed upon at the J. R. Booth plant recently.

Merchants Object To Budget Proposal

Many Trade Bodies in Montreal Are Sending Protests to Ottawa.

Montreal, May 17.—In connection with protests against the proposals of the minister of finance, as outlined in the budget, for the imposition of sales taxes, various branches of the local board of trade have been busy passing resolutions of dissatisfaction and forwarding them to Sir Henry Drayton. In addition to the Wholesale Grocers' Guild and the Produce Merchants' Association, the Montreal Wholesale Drygoods Association also held a meeting today and adopted a resolution supporting the principle of setting out on invoices the amount of sales tax apart from the costs, and directed their secretary to send copies of this resolution to the drygoods sections of the Boards of Trade of Toronto, Winnipeg, Quebec and Halifax for further consideration and action.

A meeting of the lumber association to consider similar questions will be held tomorrow.

NO RECOGNITION FOR RUSSIAN SOVIETS

Washington, May 17.—Definite though informal notification has been served on Soviet Russia by the United States State Department that so long as United States citizens are held prisoner in Russia there exists no chance of the recognition of the Soviet government in any form by the United States.

Senate Will Adopt Naval Holiday Plea

Borah Amendment to be Accepted; Calls Upon President to Make Proposal.

Washington, May 17—The Borah amendment to the naval appropriations bill requesting the United States President to call a naval disarmement conference will be adopted under an agreement reached today in the Senate between the opposing factions.

IRISH TURNED MACHINE GUN ON BALL GAME

Football Match Interrupted by a Battle Lasting Over An Hour.

BOMB OUTRAGE IN BELFAST NOW

Shipyard Workers Hold Belfast Hall to Stop Sinn Fein Meeting.

Belfast, May 17—For the first time a bombing attack on Crown forces, so familiar in Dublin, occurred in Belfast tonight in the Falls district. The bombs were successfully directed and the police fired on the attacking party who fled. It is believed several were hit.

Held Ulster Hall

A huge crowd of workers from the shipyards, headed by a band and the Union Jack, seized Ulster Hall tonight and filled every seat, in anticipation of an attempt by the Sinn Feiners to hold a meeting there. Three Socialist agitators had already arrived, but noting the state of affairs, slipped quietly away, and the Loyalists held a counter-meeting. Large forces of police and armored cars were present, but everything was good-humored and orderly.

Permission to use the hall by the Sinn Feiners for an election meeting tonight had been refused by the Belfast Corporation earlier in the day.

Soldiers Are Ambushed

Dublin, May 17—A motor load of soldiers was ambushed this morning near Inchicore, one soldier being killed and one wounded. The soldiers returned the fire, but the results are not known.

While soldiers were playing a football match in Bandon, County Cork, yesterday, armed civilians began firing with a machine gun. Several of the spectators were wounded. A military patrol engaged the attacking force and covered the retreat of the football players to the barracks, where a fight that lasted half an hour ensued. It resulted in one soldier being killed and three of the attacking party wounded.

ALLEGES SENATE IS NEGLECTED

Members Claim Commons Overlooks Their Suggestions Concerning New Laws

Ottawa, Ont., May 17 — Refusal of the House of Commons to accept Senate amendments to the Judges' Act prohibiting judges from acting as commissioners or in other extra-judicial capacities, drew forth strong criticism of the lowe rhouse in the Senate tonight. The amendments were attached to a government bill passed by the Commons respecting the salary of the chief justice; and the ground upon which they were rejected was that they had no relation to the bill itself.

Complains of Neglect

Senator W. B. Ross complained that the Senate was not being fairly treated by the Commons. Bills were sent there and were never heard of again. In his opinion the minister of justice had assigned no real reason for rejection, and he favored adherence to their position.

Sir James Lougheed moved the adjournment of the debate until tomorrow, promising that in the meantime he would draw the attention of the minister of justice to the objections which had been voiced.

Capture Opium In Chinese Curio Store

Halifax, N. S., May 17.—Two small pots half filled with opium, a number of pipes and opium lamps were confiscated by police officers who raided a small Chinese curio shop, 25 Sackville Street here this afternoon. Five occupants of the premises were arrested and taken to the police station which was almost immediately besieged by Chinese Haligonians anxious to furnish bail for their countrymen. Four of them were finally released on $500 bail each and the fifth on $200.

AMERICA WILL REDUCE WAGES ON ALL LINES

Railway Board, Now in Session, Announces Cut Must be Made at Once.

EXTENT OF SLASH NOT KNOWN YET

Labor Was Not Expecting Such a Decision and is Caught Unprepared.

Chicago, May 17—The United States Railroad Labor Board announced late today that it had decided that "prevailing conditions justify, to an extent yet to be determined, a readjustment downward of the wages of the employes of the carriers, which are parties to the disputes already heard by the board."

The announcement which affects labor on practically every road in the United States was entirely unexpected, as the board only began formal consideration of the case yesterday.

An Early Decision

The board declared it would hand down its final decision in all wage disputes docketed prior to April 1 on June 1, to be effective on July 1.

Disputes filed since April 18 will be heard on June 6, "it being the purpose of the board to make its decision of the disputes heard June 6 effective on July 1."

The railroads completed their evidence May 7, and yesterday B. M. Jewell, president of the Railway Employes' Department of the American Federation of Labor, filed the employes' final statement.

Men Refuse Cut

Buffalo, May 17 — Efforts of New York Central Railroad officials to induce the company's employes to accept wage reductions, met with failure again today. General Chairmen and General Secretaries of the Conductors', Trainmen and Switchmen's organizations for lines east and west of Buffalo rejected wage decreases proposed by the railroad and also a proposal to join the railroad in bringing the salary adjustment question before the Federal Railway Labor Board.

(Continued on page 2)

Spoke Four Hours On Road Policy

Nova Scotian Moves Censure of Provincial Government for Highway Scheme.

Halifax, May 17.—Speaking to his resolution censuring the provincial government for its administration of federal aid highways monies, H. W. Corning, Yarmouth, spoke for four hours in the Provincial House of Assembly this afternoon and evening reviewing exhaustively the work of the highways department and the recent investigation by a Royal Commission into the affairs of that department and the highways board.

To Limit Practice.

Debate was adjourned at nine o'clock and the House went into committee of the whole to discuss a bill which would limit the practice of osteopathy, chiropractic and Christian Science in the province. The bill provides that these branches of the healing art shall not be practiced in Nova Scotia except by persons who are registered as medical practitioners.

Chief Justice of U. S. Dying

Washington, May 17.—Chief Justice White of the Supreme Court of the United States is not expected to live through the night, his physician said late this evening. "His pulse is weak and his heart is bad." Dr. Frances R. Hagner said after a visit to the bedside at Garfield Hospital. He probably will not survive the night. The Chief Justice submitted to an operation for bladder trouble last Friday and had improved steadily until late today, when he suffered a relapse.

EDITOR AN AMBASSADOR.

Washington, May 17.—Richard Washburn Child, the author and former editor of Collier's Weekly, has been selected by President Harding for Ambassador to Italy.

TODAY

IMPERIAL—Martin Harvey, Miss N. de Silva and London Company in "The Burgomaster of Stilemonde."

OPERA HOUSE—Milton Pollock and Company and four other acts.

QUEEN SQUARE—Charles Ray in "Peaceful Valley."

STAR—Clara Kimball Young in "The Eyes of Youth."

EMPRESS—Blanche Sweet in "The Girl in the Web."