

The St. John Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY MORNING, APRIL 16, 1919

UNSETTLED.

PRICE TWO CENTS.

HON. LEMIEUX'S BLUFF CALLED BY SIR THOMAS; SHARP FORWARD STRIDE TOWARD EARLY PEACE; MINISTERS DISREGARD ORDERS OF PREMIER

CHEAP ATTEMPT AT POLITICAL CAPITAL FAILS

Hon. Mr. Lemieux Endeavors to Start Something Over Allegations of Gen. Smart Against Canadian Med-Servicemen Overseas.

WILLING TO WOUND, AFRAID TO STRIKE

Had to Seek Cover When Sir Thos. White and Others Took up Defense of the Overseas Service.

Special to The Standard.

Ottawa, April 15.—An attempt by Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux to manufacture cheap political capital out of the recent allegations of Brigadier General Smart against the administration of the Canadian Medical Service overseas, met with no success in the House today. Although willing to wound, Mr. Lemieux was afraid to strike, and declined, although challenged, to take responsibility for General Smart's assertions. Instead, he contented himself with merely repeating what General Smart has said, urging upon the government that this constituted sufficient reason for the institution of an investigation. The government's reply, spoken by General McEwen, was pointed and frank. General McEwen, while warmly defending Sir Edward Kemp, and repudiating many of the reckless statements and insinuations repeated by Mr. Lemieux, told the ex-postmaster general that, if he cared to take the responsibility of framing specific charges as a member of the House, the government would be pleased to grant the fullest and fairest inquiry, but that it could not and would not grant an investigation in response to mere imputations of a general character, made by irresponsible parties outside of parliament or by disgruntled military officers. Col. Peck, V. C., who followed, said that he was glad to see the opposition making charges, but sorry that the soldiers overseas, but sorry that this solicitude was so belated. He held no brief for Argyll House, and there were some matters connected with it that he might feel called upon to bring before the House, later on, but he bitterly resented the reckless, unqualified insinuations against the men who had fought and toiled and sacrificed overseas.

Sir Thomas' government, produced a powerful witness against Mr. Lemieux, when he read a letter from Sir Alexander MacPhail, the eminent Canadian physician and publicist, who served with, and has intimate knowledge of, the Canadian Medical Service overseas, making a devastating analysis of General Smart's charges. Sir Andrew, dealing with General Smart's main charge, namely, that "there is a scheme or schemes of Canadian soldiers wounded throughout the British Isles," wrote that "the exact contrary is the truth," adding "the whole policy of the administration is, and has been for years, to collect Canadian patients as far as possible in Canadian hospitals in well defined areas. Not for years have any Canadian patients been so scattered, none in Scotland, Ireland or even to the North of England."

After Sir Thomas' speech, and when it became apparent that the opposition were not prepared to back up Smart charges by a formal demand for an inquiry, the debate lost interest.

NEWCASTLE TURNS OUT SMALL VOTE

Civic Elections Held Tuesday and Only a Third of Electorate Went to the Polls.

Special to The Standard.

Newcastle, April 15.—In the civic elections today only 249 electors voted, as compared with 352 last year. The weather was very bad, and many could not get to the polls. There was no majority contest, which also tended to decrease the usual vote. The first eight being elected: Ald. W. L. Durbin, 186; Ald. Chas. Sargeant, 155; ex-Ald. Alex. H. Mackay, 150; Ald. Walter Rossell, 150; ex-Mayor Chas. L. Fish, 146; Ald. R. W. Crocker, 143; Ald. Allen J. Ritchie, 136; Thomas J. Deane, 125; John J. Wilson, 124; Ald. John Russell, 107; Ald. H. H. Stuart, 99; Ald. D. P. Doyle was on Friday elected mayor by acclamation.

Wharfage Bill Under Discussion

Some Legislators Indicated Belief That They Did Not Think City Commissioners could Look After City's Interests.

PREMIER CALLS DOWN MINISTER FOR DELAY

Despite the Slam Two New Bills Were Presented by Recalcitrant Members of Government.

Special to The Standard.

Fredriktion, April 15.—Before the Corporation Committee this morning Premier Foster rebuked the legislators for not introducing bills early in the session, but when the House met this afternoon, two of his ministers presented new bills. Hon. Mr. Veniot introduced a private bill to incorporate the New Brunswick Trust Company, and the provincial secretary introduced a bill to provide for temporary loans. Mr. Dymart, in consequence of news from Ottawa, withdrew his resolution protesting against the actions of Dominion police in Kent County where they have been hunting defaulters under the Military Service Act.

The St. John wharfage came up again, and some legislators expressed opinions, indicating that they did not think the city's commission government could be trusted to look after the interest of St. John. Mr. Sweeney said St. John was not the whole province but it was a part, and he was keenly interested in all the parts. He did not intend to allow St. John to injure itself, or his friends who shipped lumber there either.

Mr. Peck wanted the bill stood over for a year, being afraid Halifax would get the lumber trade. However, the bill, with an amendment by Dr. Baxter providing that wharfage on lumber should not be more than 15 and on general cargo not more than 35 cents, was adopted.

ANOTHER STRIKE IN NEW YORK HARBOR

Marine Workers Declare Everything Will be Tied up Thursday.

New York, April 15.—The Marine Workers' Affiliation declared tonight a renewal of the general harbor strike, which will involve sixteen thousand workers. A new walk-out will go into effect at six a. m. Thursday, and efforts will be made to tie up "everything afloat," including ferries, coastwise and trans-Atlantic shipping.

SACKVILLE ELECTS TOWN OFFICIALS

Special to The Standard.

Sackville, April 15.—The town elections were held today and resulted as follows: Col. Frank B. Block, mayor, by acclamation. North Ward—Dr. Record and F. B. Doncaster, by acclamation. South Ward—J. L. Nelson, 155; C. C. Award, 151, defeating Fred Tingley, 148; Dr. J. W. Sangster, 107. East Ward—Edward Babcock, 209; Edgar B. Smith, 160; defeating Geo. Y. Estabrook, 157; Charles McKenna, 147. West Ward—Frank Phinney, 225; Frank W. Cole, 186; defeating David H. Fraser, 139; G. G. Stoddman, 136. "All pre-arranged?" asked the

The Corporation Committee Adopts Currier Base Rate

Fredriktion, N.B., April 15.—The Corporation Committee was in private session till nearly midnight, and it is an open secret that it adopted the Currier base rate of \$2,800,000. However, it is said the committee imposed conditions on the company which will go a long way to camouflage the deficit sustained by the City of St. John. It is also stated that the committee adopted the city's proposals in regard to the upkeep of the streets used by the St. John Street Railway. These, it is said, include provisions for snow removal, paying \$500 per mile, and require the Company to put six inches of concrete under its tracks.

Representatives of the Power Company say that the conditions imposed by the committee will cost the company about \$40,000 a year, and that they will not be able to pay interest on the first preferred shares unless they get permission to raise rates. The matter has yet to be brought before the House, but there is little doubt that the House will adopt the bill as amended by the committee. The committee's decision, to adopt the Currier base rate, means the overthrow of the principle on which the City made its main fight. It is said the legislators were mainly influenced by the argument that the Legislature, having appointed the Currier Commission to investigate the dispute between the City and the Power Company, was morally bound to accept and act on the report.

SENSATIONAL CHARGES MADE AGAINST ANTI-CONSCRIPTIONISTS

Alleged That Speeches in Bonaventure County, Quebec, Were of Such a Nature That Young Men Were Driven to Exasperation and Even to Insanity.

Quebec, Que., April 15.—Testifying under oath at the trial of certain defaulters of Bonaventure County before court martial here today, Mr. Philippe Fourie made some sensational statements regarding the speeches delivered in that county by Hon. Charles Martel and Hon. John Hall Kelly. The case before the court was that of a draft evader named LeBlanc, for whom his lawyer, Mr. Muguste Brois, pleaded insanity.

HALIFAX MAYOR STILL WEARING FIGHTING TOGS

Tells City Controller He is No Gentleman Who Flings Back the Compliment.

Special to The Standard. Halifax, N.S., April 15.—There is constant antagonism between Controllers Murphy and Finlay, and a good deal of this between Mayor Hawkins and Finlay. The latter developed anew at the Board of Control meeting today.

EMPLOYEES RETURN TO TEXTILE MILLS

Many Have Again Taken up Their Work at Biddeford and Saco.

Biddeford Maine, April 15.—The textile mills here and in Saco were in operation today for the first time since February 3, when some of the operatives walked out in support of a demand for a working schedule of 48 hours a week. According to mill officials, the number of returning employees was "very encouraging."

CORK JOINS ARMY OF STRIKERS

Quit Work Yesterday as Protest Against Martial Law.

Cork, Ireland, April 15.—The working men in Cork were idle today as the result of a proclamation of a strike by the trade unionists as a protest against martial law. Electric and gas supplies of the city have been cut off, and traffic is at a standstill. Workers committee is issuing permits for the sale of provisions at reasonable prices.

SHARP FORWARD STRIDE TOWARD AN EARLY PEACE

Adriatic Situation as it Affects Italy and Jugo Slavia is Now Point Under Consideration by Big Four.

GERMANY TO HAVE RAW MATERIALS

Associated Press Presents General Summary of the International Situation as it Exists Today.

Austria-Hungary, Bulgaria and Turkey Are Poor Debtors

Paris, April 15.—(By the Associated Press)—Austria-Hungary, Bulgaria and Turkey are not particularly promising debtors, but the Reparations Commission, with the problem of German compensation for damages on its mind, is investigating the financial responsibility of these states or the remains thereof, along the same lines as in the case of Germany.

New York, April 15.—The Associated Press tonight issued the following summary of the international situation: A sharp forward stride toward an early peace has been taken.

The Council of Four in Paris has formally invited Germany to send delegates to Versailles, April 26, to hear the verdict of the Entente Allies and Associated powers, and the sentence they have imposed upon her for having set the world at naught. The general opinion in Paris seems to be that Germany may endeavor to buckle over the hard terms, and try to secure a diminution in their severity, but that within a relatively short time, the delegates will bow to the inevitable and sign the compact. Advice from London are to the effect that the terms of the peace treaty will not be made public until they have been delivered to the Germans.

London Excited Over the Trans-Atlantic Flight

London, April 15.—With the knowledge that Harry G. Hawker has been waiting for flight for the last two days to start on his trans-Atlantic flight, interest in that venture has jumped to fever heat in London. People talk of little except the chances of the flight, and bets are freely made. Odds are against success of the flight, and there are plenty of takers.

MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS SHOWN UP IN BAD LIGHT

B. F. Smith Proves to Assembly That Mr. Veniot Was Past Master at Fabrication, or Didn't Know His Business.

Special to The Standard.

Fredriktion, April 15.—In the Public Accounts Committee today, B. F. Smith proved that Hon. Mr. Veniot did not know what he was talking about, or was deliberately fabricating, when he told the House that the ex-minister quitted office without leaving any records for the department of a carload of wire stored in Fortescoville. On demand of Mr. Smith the deputy minister produced the bill of lading, an invoice and some correspondence from the Department of Finance. These documents showed that the department had bought 115 rolls of wire, and that there were 113 rolls, when the present minister took over the lot. Mr. Smith said he believed it had been issued to road supervisors.

WANT LEGISLATION WHICH WILL PERMIT ALL RETURNED SOLDIERS TO VOTE IN MUNICIPALITIES OF WHICH THEY ARE BONAFIDE RESIDENTS.

Special to The Standard. Frederikton, April 15.—A delegation from the New Brunswick Provincial Command G. W. V. A. waited upon the legislature today and asked for legislation which will permit all returned soldiers, whether discharged or still on the strength of the C. E. F. to vote at any election in the municipality, of which they are bona fide residents, upon production of the same proof as required from a soldier voting in provincial elections, until such time as they have been re-established in civilian life, and have their names placed upon the voters list in the regular way. The delegation stated that many soldiers returning to the province were finding themselves disfranchised in municipal and town elections. The Premier promised it possible to deal with the matter this session.

Weather Retarding Oceanic

Neither the Australian or British Fliers Were Able to Get off on Trans-Atlantic Trip Yesterday.

BOTH NOW READY FOR THE "HOP-OFF"

In Event of a Simultaneous Start Aviators Agree to Toss a Coin to Determine Which Should Carry the Mail.

Bulletin—St. John's, April 15.—Unfavorable weather conditions again held up today the attempt of Harry G. Hawker, Australian aviator, to make the first flight across the Atlantic and save his rival, Captain Frederick P. Raynham, the British flyer, virtually an even chance to "hop off" at the same time.

While Hawker chafed at the elements, which have held up his hop with two-seater for five successive days, Captain Raynham's hastily assembled party, which went up for a trial flight was upon its return was pronounced ready for the long trip. Captain Raynham, apparently convinced that, despite the late arrival, he would start on even terms with Hawker, discussed with the latter today the question of which should carry the first official Atlantic aerial race, several days ago, when it appeared certain that he would first attempt the flight.

It was virtually agreed that, in the event of a simultaneous start, the two aviators would toss a coin to determine which should carry the mail. After a conference with Lieut. Lawrence Clements, R. A. F., who submitted weather charts indicating the weather would not be proper for flying for several days, the birdmen diverted the rivalry, temporarily, to a billiard table. The drizzling rain of this morning turned during the afternoon to a swirling snow fall, which continued to fall in the evening. It was after the snow fall started that Captain Raynham's plane was taken up for its trial flight by Captain Raynham's navigators.

The weather charts, compiled from reports received from both shores, and from vessels at sea, indicated that, in addition to the local snow storm, there were areas of low atmospheric pressure on both sides of the Atlantic, and a belt of cross winds in between.

Although both flyers are ready for the "hop off" it was learned tonight that plans for the flight of a large Handley-Page bombing plane from Harbor Grace were being made. The plane was reported to be either on the way from England, or about to be shipped. Major Arthur Patridge, R. A. F. referee of the flights, said he had received no notification of the entry of the Handley-Page, and was not informed as to who its pilot would be.

G. W. V. A. APPEALS TO GOVERNMENT

Want Legislation Which Will Permit All Returned Soldiers to Vote in Municipalities of Which They Are Bonafide Residents.

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PEACE CONGRESS PROCEDURE IS BEING PLANNED

Preliminary to Arrival of German Plenary Session of Peace Conference Will Be Held at Foreign Office.

FINAL COURSE WILL BE DETERMINED THERE

Treaty Portion of Document Will Not be Given to Public Until After Its Presentation to German Envoys.

Formal Invitation Sent To Germans To Attend the Congress

Paris, April 15.—A formal invitation was sent by the Council of Four today to the German Government to send representatives to Versailles for the meeting of the Peace Congress on April 25. No reply had been received up to tonight, but it is expected that the German delegation will reach Versailles about April 24.

The complete German peace mission probably will number about 200 persons. Paris, April 15.—(By the Associated Press)—Precise details of what is to be done on the arrival of the German delegates at Versailles on April 25, are being worked out. Preliminary to their arrival, a plenary session of the Peace Conference is to be held at the Foreign Office, for determining the final course to be pursued by the Allies before entering into relations with the German plenipotentiaries. Whether the final peace and covenant will be presented has not yet been decided, but it is probable that the treaty portion of the document will not be made public until after its delivery to the Germans.

The procedure with the enemy plenipotentiaries is also receiving attention. One plan under consideration, is for the Council of Four to hold a first meeting with the German plenipotentiaries and deliver the document. This would not be a public session, and its main purpose would be to arrange an effective disposal of the business, without prolonged discussion.

An alternative plan is for the entire membership of the Peace Conference to proceed to Versailles for a formal session, at which the treaty would be delivered. The members of the council and officers of the protocol are working out these details. Premier Clemenceau on Sunday, and President Wilson last night, gave out statements showing the progress realized, and voicing their first official assurance that the end was in sight. It is noted that the Clemenceau and Wilson statements were very generally lacking specific details.

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