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TWELVE PAGES—ONE CENT

ALLIED PREMIERS MEET TO PAVE WAY FOR PRESENTATION OF TREATY

Special Interest Attaches to To-day's Conference as it is Expected Agreement Will Be Reached Regarding the League of Nations as an Integral Part of the Treaty—Want Lloyd George to Stay

Paris, March 18.—(By the Associated Press)—An important conference with Premier Lloyd George, Orlando and Clemenceau will be held at President Wilson's residence today. This gathering of premiers, representing the supreme directing force of the peace conference, takes the place of the session of the supreme council, which has been postponed until tomorrow to permit the meeting.

The question to be discussed is the large one of securing accord between the great powers on all phases of the peace treaty and its early presentation to the Germans. It is expected an agreement will be reached as to the inclusion of the league of nations as an integral part of the treaty in accordance with the resolution which has been already accepted by the peace conference.

Special interest attaches to today's conference, in view of recent reports of divergences between the powers as to the inclusion of the league plan in the treaty. The meeting is looked upon as an earnest, decisive effort of peace in a comprehensive form, including military, naval, economic and financial terms, as well as the league of nations.

Want Lloyd George to Stay.

Paris, March 18.—A letter signed by Premier Clemenceau and Orlando and President Wilson was handed to Premier Lloyd George yesterday afternoon, strongly urging him to postpone for a fortnight his return to England, in view of the urgency of the problems before the peace conference. Mr. Lloyd George will submit the letter to the British cabinet and it is understood will act in accordance with its views.

No Agreement.

Paris, March 17.—(By the Associated Press)—Points which were introduced at today's session of the supreme council, but on which no agreement was reached, proposed leveling the fortifications of the Kiel Canal and the disposition of the German warships.

On Aeronautics.

Paris, March 17.—The supreme council today appointed a commission on aeronautics.

The council named Belgium, Greece, Portugal, Brazil, Cuba and Roumania to represent the small nations.

Must Be Discontinued.

Paris, March 18.—The fortifications on the island of Heligoland, Germany's formidable base in the North sea, must be dismantled. This decision was reached today by the supreme Allied war council.

It was decided also that the Kiel Canal should be internationalized and made available to the ships of all nations on even terms.

NATIONALIZATION OF BUENOS AIRES PORT OF ORIGIN

Buenos Aires, March 17.—Transatlantic shipping agents have accepted the government's demand for nationalizing the port and announce that transatlantic steamers will be brought in from the Roads tomorrow for loading and unloading. The workmen have agreed to resume work under the government's decree, and it is hoped that about normal conditions will obtain in a few days.

No Aliens Employed On The Valley Railway

Premier Assured that Returned Soldiers Are Given the Preference at All Times — Debate on Reply to Speech From Throne Likely Over This Afternoon

(Special to the Times-Star) — Fredericton, N. B., March 18.—It is expected that the debate on the reply to the speech from the throne will end this afternoon. Dr. J. Roy Campbell, K. C., of St. John, will speak and as the government is quite willing to forego the prerogative of having the last word, it is anticipated that the debate will end there and thus enable the house to get down to the business which the government has awaiting attention.

In accordance with the resolutions adopted recently by the G. W. V. A. requesting the premier to use his influence to see that alien labor is not employed on the construction of the Valley Railway, Hon. Mr. Foster wrote to the Nova Scotia Construction Company drawing their attention to the matter. He has received a reply from the company in which they assure the premier that they are giving every preference to returned soldiers. The letter concludes: "We have not an alien among the laborers in our employ and it is not our intention to employ any laborers unless assured that they are allies."

In response to a telegram from Premier Foster to the dominion minister of labor, he has been advised by the department in Ottawa that they are arranging

HAMILTON-GAULT IN THE CITY TO-DAY

Commander of Princess Pats Went on to New York—American Red Cross Members Pass Through

A special civilian train, known as the first section of No. 9 from Halifax, arrived in St. John this morning. It had on board members of the American Red Cross and several of the British Flying Corps that enlisted in the states.

The most distinguished member of the passenger list on the train was Lieut. Colonel Hamilton-Gault, commanding officer of the Princess Pats, who thought that he would accompany the battalion by way of Moncton to Ottawa, but instead he is going to New York and probably will proceed from there to Ottawa. It was a through train from Halifax to New York. The regular train arrived in the city about 8.30. The mail train did not arrive here till after twelve o'clock.

WALL STREET UNCERTAIN

New York, March 18.—The uncertain conditions which characterized yesterday's dealings in the stock market were again in evidence at the opening of today's session. Gains of one to three points in such specialties as Industrial Alcohol, California Packing, United Cigars, Harvester and Atlantic Gulf were balanced by recessions of similar extent in several of the leading motors and their subsidiaries, also Hilde and Leather Preferred and minor metals. United States Steel moved within restricted limits and rails registered only nominal changes.

Colonel Bishop Operated on

A. Bishop, famous Canadian aviator, was operated upon for leading and unloading last night. He was stricken as he was preparing to deliver an address. Early today his condition was reported to be satisfactory.

To open a dominion provincial labor bureau in Campbellton.

The premier has received a large number of resolutions from churches, associations and other organizations arguing that no amendments to the prohibitory law be made which would tend to weaken it, and several ask for amendments to further strengthen the law. Most of the resolutions agree in their opposition to the proposal to permit stronger beer being sold.

In view of the probable large increase in the number of voters when the next election comes round, many requests have been made to the government that the number of polling places be increased, in order to make it more possible and more convenient for the women voters to reach the polls. Present conditions have made it practically necessary for the political parties to provide transportation in some districts, if they wish to get the vote out and there are strong objections to this as savoring of improper practice. With the women included among the voters the desire to eliminate anything of that nature is growing stronger than ever.

The provincial department of public works is calling for tenders for the construction of the White Bridge in the parish of Springfield, Kings county. Tenders are to be closed on April 9.



LLOYD GEORGE: "This is a nice thing to find left on our doorstep. Shall we adopt it or not."

MONCTON MAN BURNED TO DEATH AT C. N. R. SHOPS

(Special to the Times.)
Moncton, N. B., March 18.—David Robichaud, an employe of the C. N. R. shops, was burned to death in an explosion at the shops this morning, just before going into an oil tank which was being repaired. He was helping to straighten out an iron bracket on the side of the tank. Soon after he entered the tank an explosion occurred and the man was seen crawling out from the dome of the tank with his clothes a mass of flames. He was screaming with agony, and his hands had to be rescued by fellow employes. A small shell which he was holding on to before he could be brought down. It is believed he is a match which landed in the tank. L. Balford, M. D., corner, is holding an inquest this afternoon. Robichaud was about fifty years of age and is survived by his wife and ten children. He had been employed in the shops about three years.

FORMER KILTIES GREETED ON THEIR RETURN TO ST. JOHN

Party Arrives Here Today After Crossing Ocean on the Carmania—Served With Breakfast at Depot

A party of St. John men arrived in the city this morning about 6.30 o'clock. There were about thirty men in the party and about fifteen others for other points. These men are of the original 29th New Brunswick Kilties formed in this province by Lieut.-Colonel P. A. Guthrie, but when getting to England some of the battalion were transferred to the 42nd Highlanders and went to France in that unit. They were not met at the station by a reception committee or a band, but Mrs. G. A. Kurling, in command of the V. A. D.'s, served their breakfast in the C. N. R. restaurant at the station and cigarettes and oranges were distributed. They seemed very much pleased with the treatment they received and every one of them liked the idea of getting their breakfast at the station without having to march down to the armory after having the long trip on the train. They also seemed very much pleased at being waited on by the V. A. D.'s and being so well attended to by Mrs. Kurling and Mrs. Tilley. They expressed themselves as being completely satisfied with the arrangements. They expect to leave for the province tomorrow afternoon or evening. The spirits of the men were to be remarked on, every one of them seemed very pleased to get back.

ST. JOHN PRESBYTERY

Matters of Importance Considered Today—Officers Elected at This Morning's Session

The quarterly meeting of the Presbytery of St. John was held this morning, there being a large attendance. The moderator, Rev. W. M. Townshend, of Fairville, presided, and Rev. Frank Baird of Woodstock acted as clerk. Many matters of a formal character were considered. The most important was the election of officers for the ensuing year who will take over their respective duties in July. The officers are: Rev. M. J. McPherson of Stanley, moderator; Rev. Frank Baird of Woodstock, clerk; and Peter Campbell, treasurer.

The work of the forward movement was presented to the Presbytery and it was decided to form into groups so that the rights of each congregation shall be respected and the work done in this respect carried out satisfactorily.

A statistical report was read this morning showing that there are fifteen self-supporting congregations in the Presbytery; twenty congregations have received support from the home mission fund and eighteen received summer support.

The report further showed considerable increases in various features of the church work. The question of co-operation with the Methodists so as to prevent overlapping was introduced and considerable advance was made in respect to this matter.

This afternoon the Presbytery met again and matters of importance came before the session.

Permission was granted to sell the West St. John manse.

NEW COURT ROOMS IN MASONIC BUILDING

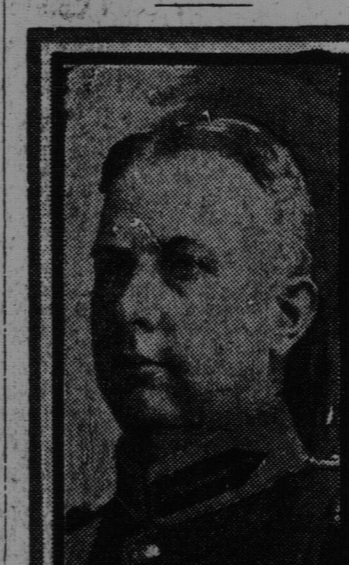
Everything Ready Now for Use—Finishing Touches Added and Rooms Should Prove Satisfactory

The new court rooms which are being temporarily arranged for in the Masonic building has been in the hands of the masons for some time, and according to Commissioner Thornton. The former premises used by the military people for their headquarters will now fill another important need in the life of the city's affairs. For several weeks the lower floor of the Masonic building has been in the hands of carpenters and now the painters are busy adding the finishing touches.

The temporary quarters should be suited for the holding of the sessions of the court. The long room on the left will be used as the court room. Directly off this at the extreme end is the anti-

HOPE CURRIE WILL RETURN TO WEST AS GOVERNOR OF B. C.

Victoria Senator Indicates That People of Western Province Would Give General Royal Welcome



SIR ARTHUR CURRIE

Toronto, March 18.—That General Sir Arthur Currie, commander of the Canadian army in France, may return to his home province of British Columbia as its next lieutenant-governor, is the general hope of the province, in the opinion of Senator Hon. G. H. Burnard, four times mayor of Victoria and for seven years member of parliament, who arrived in this city yesterday from New York on his way to Ottawa.

THE GOVERNMENT PRINTING BUREAU

Important Development in Connection With Strike There—Mr. Burrell Says it May be Closed Soon

Ottawa, March 18.—There is an important development in connection with the strike at the government printing bureau, as a result of a conference held yesterday afternoon between a committee of the striking printers and Hon. Martin Burrell and Hon. J. A. Calder.

After going into conditions at the bureau, as represented by the report of the expert committee, Mr. Burrell told the committee that he was prepared to pay the premium the twenty-six dollars per week which they are asking, but on dating from April 1. He stated he was not prepared to put the increase in effect at once, as asked by the men, as he claimed that with their present scale of wages, and the bonus, which would count in as wages until April 1, the men were now receiving twenty-six dollars per week. He intimated that unless the offer was accepted by the men, they could take it for granted the bureau would have been paid to the men by the government.

PHILIP AND PHERDINAND WEATHER REPORT

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

Synopsis—The disturbance is now centred over the Ottawa Valley and rain has occurred in Ontario, Quebec and the maritime provinces. In the western provinces the weather has been fair, rather cold in Manitoba and mild in southern Alberta.

Gulf and North Shore—Strong winds, with occasional snow or rain tonight and on Wednesday.

Maritime—Strong winds or moderate gales from southeast and south, with occasional rain; Wednesday, westerly winds, showery in east portion at first, but mostly fair, not much change in temperature.

EIGHT HOUR DAY AND SALARY INCREASES FOR EXPRESS CO. EMPLOYES

Board of Conciliation and Investigation Makes Report to Minister of Labor—1,300 Employes Involved and Award Affects All Points Between Halifax and the West

Ottawa, March 17.—The board of conciliation and investigation to inquire into the dispute between the Canadian Express Company and its employes, being messengers, helpers, drivers, clerks, porters and other depot employes, filed its report with the minister of labor today.

There are about 1,300 employes involved and all the points on the system between Halifax and Prince Rupert are included in the award. By the award the employes obtain an eight-hour day. The great majority are now working a ten-hour day. Time and a half is to be paid for overtime, overtime including legal holidays.

Salary Increases.
Increases in wages are granted as follows: "Employes receiving between \$60 and \$70 per month to receive 15 per cent increase; between \$70 and \$100, 12 per cent increase; over \$100, 10 per cent. Female employes are included in the schedule on the same basis as male employes. The committee of employes to take up any dispute may be assisted by an officer of the Canadian Brotherhood of Railway Employes, if the committee and officers of the company are unable to adjust any grievance."

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CONGRATULATED BY CONNAUGHT

Pleasing Message to the Royal Canadian Regiment From Its Honorary Colonel-in-Chief

Halifax, March 18.—Just before its departure from England, the Royal Canadian Regiment sent a message of farewell to the honorary colonel-in-chief, H. R. H. the Duke of Connaught. The following reply has just been received by Lieut.-Colonel Hill, D. S. O., the present commandant of the regiment:

"Buckingham Palace.
"To the O. C. Royal Canadian Regiment, Halifax:
"I have received your very kind telegram with much gratification. I am well aware of the excellent services rendered by the regiment both in Bermuda and during its three years' service in France. I warmly congratulate the regiment on the fine record of its service in France, which I am sure will be appreciated by all Canadians. Nothing but the doctor's orders would have prevented my coming down to inspect you and bid you farewell. My best wishes accompany you all on your return to the dominion. Rest assured that my interest in the Royal Canadian Regiment will continue in the future as it has done since I have had the honor of being its colonel."
(Signed) "ARTHUR,"
"Colonel Royal Canadian Regt."

ANOTHER SINN FEIN MEMBER GETS AWAY

Dublin, March 17.—Another Sinn Fein member of the House of Commons, Mr. Barton, representing East Wicklow, has escaped from the Mount Joy prison in Dublin. The warders found a dummy in his bed and the window bar saved through.

Mr. Barton is a large land owner. He is a member of the House of Commons. He was arrested on the 14th inst. and was held in the Mount Joy prison in Dublin. The warders found a dummy in his bed and the window bar saved through.

DOCTOR SUSPECTED OF WIFE MURDER

Long Branch, N. Y., March 17.—A warrant for the arrest of Dr. Walter Wilkins of this place, charging the physician with the murder of his wife at their home here Feb. 27, was issued tonight by Justice of the Peace Coleman at the instance of District Attorney Weeks of Nassau county. A general search is being made for Dr. Wilkins, who is said to have disappeared yesterday morning.

TWENTY-EIGHT DEAD IN TORNADO

New Orleans, March 17.—Twenty-eight dead, several score injured and property loss estimated at \$2,000,000 was the result of tornadoes which swept portions of Mississippi and Louisiana, reports from the two states received here tonight showed.

UNIONISTS AND THE TARIFF

Ottawa, March 17.—The statement that promises are likely to be made to the Unionist caucus in the matter of the tariff are, it is asserted, without foundation. The purpose of the caucus, it is explained, is to afford the government the opportunity of hearing the views of its followers upon the subject. The responsibility for tariff policy rests, and must continue to rest, with the government, and will be disclosed only when the budget has been brought down and not before.

BRITISH TRADE EXTENSION PLAN

London, March 17.—The Federation of British Industry, representing 15,000 manufacturers and £5,000,000,000 capital, is organizing a great system of trade ambassadors as pioneers for the extension of British trade overseas. By July the federation expects to have an ambassador in every important centre. It is already represented in Spain, Denmark, South America and the Near East.

Ministry of Transportation

Sir Eric Geddes Says Conditions Are Bad—With Exception of Street Railways Few Transportation Systems Are Paying Their Way

London, March 17.—Sir Eric Geddes, minister without portfolio, in introducing in the House of Commons today a bill to establish a ministry of transportation, said that, with the exception of the street railways, the transportation system of the country financially was in a semi-paralyzed state. Only the municipal street railways were prosperous. Before the war railway capital returned 4.2 per cent; to-day there was a loss of from two to three per cent. Before the war, canals were earning 1 1/2 per cent, while today they were worked at a loss and were barely subsidized. Roads which cost the country £20,000,000 a year were earning practically no income; while harbors and docks were earning three per cent.

Three Years Service On Battlefield

Halifax, March 18.—After three years' service overseas the 9th Field Ambulance of Montreal, under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Charles W. Vipond, D. S. O., returned to Canada on board the Carmania yesterday and left by special train shortly after 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon for Montreal.

Organized in Montreal the unit proceeded overseas in February, 1916, under the command of Colonel C. A. Peters, D. S. O. On reaching France it was attached to the third division and was with it when the armistice was signed. During its service at the front thousands of cases have passed the station conducted by the 9th Field Ambulance. Included were 24,000 Canadians, 12,000 Imperials and about 10,000 including French, Australians and Americans.

THE ABATTOIR AND GOLD STORAGE PROBLEM

The resolution adopted by the Farmers and Dairyman's Association relative to abattoir and cold storage, at their recent annual convention at Fredericton, have been forwarded to the local board of trade. There is a committee already appointed by the board here with reference to this and it is understood that it will follow up the matter and attempt at least to bring it to a head. It was pointed out this morning that cold storage and abattoir facilities, so far as the province is concerned, call for serious consideration. The immediate advantage would be a meat inspection which would tend materially to raise the standard and prove a wonderful asset in the export trade of meat from New Brunswick. While export trade is not extensive at present still with meat inspection enforced it would tend to create more trade and stand for the general benefit of the live stock outlook throughout New Brunswick.

Constance Crawley Dead.
Los Angeles, March 18.—Constance Crawley, actress, died here last night, following a short illness. Born thirty-nine years ago, near London, she played with Sir Henry Irving and Sir Herbert Beerbolm Tree before coming to America a few years ago. Mrs. Crawley was best known for her portrayal of Portia and other characters in Shakespearean plays.