

57TH YEAR. NO. 23000

HEAVY REFERENDUM VOTE BEING CAST

LONDONERS FLOCK TO POLLS TO CAST REFERENDUM BALLOT; BOTH CAMPS ARE CONFIDENT

Many Citizens Have Hard Time Finding Out Where They Vote — "Wets" and "Drys" Working Overtime — Women Scrutineers Keeping Watchful Eyes On Polling Booths.

Today will decide whether Ontario will go "wet" or "dry." In London there is distinctly more interest being taken in the referendum than there was in October, 1919, when the last vote was taken. The fact that on this occasion the issue is more clearly defined, and is better understood by the people, may account for the fact that popular lethargy is conspicuous by its absence, and that the taking of the vote is the most fruitful topic of conversation around the city today. On street cars, on the street itself, in workshops, and in offices, the chances of the respective parties are eagerly discussed.

One feature of these conversations is that citizens as a rule do not commit themselves in giving an opinion as to how the vote will go, but the man in the street, with a wisd and far away look in his eye, seems to visualize a dry spell of indefinite duration.

On the other hand, those whose tastes in regard to the weather lie in the direction of a "Scotch mist," have an air of confidence which may possibly be born of faith, but is, as far as can be judged, more probably founded on hope.

If the Spracklin meeting on Sunday night is to be taken as a criterion of public opinion on this atmosphere, the atmosphere of today ought to be sufficient to "dry up every little stream" that trickles from the hills, as a prominent citizen recently expressed it. For undoubtedly at the Spracklin meeting the optimistic spirit was distinctly in the ascendant. But, all the same, the other side cannot bring themselves to believe that the weather is showing more or less spasmodic, which have kept their little outlook on life from becoming an arid, but will be forever cut off at their source.

Then, again, there is the citizen who, like that famous Irishman, Paul Pry, carries his umbrella of indifference, and does not care whether the prospects are "wet or dry."

At the headquarters of the opposing camps the utmost animation has prevailed since the opening hour in the morning. A visit to the offices of the referendum committee in the Bank of Toronto Chambers at once demonstrated that the staff were having all their telephone calls, and good many citizens seem to be quite at sea

regarding their polling subdivisions, and the location of these does not seem to have been sufficiently advertised. The result has been that one of the most frequent causes of inquiry arises from this source.

Numerous calls. City Clerk Baker and his staff have had to answer innumerable telephone calls in connection with today's voting, and so persistent did these inquiries become at the city hall that the mayor's phone was placed at the disposal of the referendum offices if they were prepared to send someone to the city hall to answer the calls.

Both Rev. T. D. McCullough, the secretary of the London referendum committee, and J. E. Pack, secretary of the county of Middlesex association, have been on duty since an early hour directing the work within their respective territories.

Also busy. At the offices of the Citizens' Liberty League one of the officials was told off to answer the phone and the most casual observer could see that his job was no means a sinecure. Inquiries as to the whereabouts of the polling places were pouring in from all directions, and as the man at the phone explained he had got had time to the amount of interest that is being taken in getting things right, as far as information is concerned, the partisans of the Liberty League feel sure that the vote in their favor is bound to be a large one.

At the various polling places the scenes are of quite a lively nature, and the lady scrutineers attached to the organization of the referendum committee are being kept on the alert all the time. It is already evident that the vote will be of considerable dimensions, but it is generally conceded that if information regarding the position of the polling places had been more widely supplied the percentage of voters who exercised their privilege would have been much greater.

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11,000,000 TONS OF SHORTAGE IS DUE TO STRIKE

Every Effort Being Made To Make Supplies Last.

TRAIN SERVICE CUT Campaign Is Inaugurated to Provide Financial Aid to Miners.

LONDON, April 18.—Government authorities were anxious today to reopen negotiations between the miners and the owners of collieries throughout the United Kingdom with the hope of bringing about a permanent settlement of the wage question which caused the strike of miners on April 1 and came near involving Great Britain last week in an epochal industrial crisis. There seemed little probability, however, that members of the miners' federation of Great Britain would take any steps to meet Government officials or mine owners before next Friday when representatives of British miners will confer on the situation in this city.

In the meantime Great Britain is facing a serious shortage and every effort is being made to eke out present stocks until some adjustment of the situation can be made. Beginning today train services were curtailed and steps taken to bring to the people a realization that the coal shortage was really serious.

Coal Porters' Decision. A mass meeting of the members of the Coal Porters' Union was held in Canningtown, a suburb of London and yesterday resolutions were adopted stating that, in view of importation of United States and German coal, the union would refuse from tomorrow to bunker any fuel loads and also would decline to tranship imported coal. The first decision was taken because since the beginning of the coal strike vessels have been hunkered only for outward voyages taking in foreign coal for their return trips.

The meeting adopted resolutions of sympathy for the miners, but it is noteworthy in this connection that the coal porters belong to the National Union of Dock Laborers, the secretary of which, James Sexton, member of Parliament, ridiculed in an interview yesterday talk about the miners having been "betrayed." He declared the

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IMPERATIVE TO TAKE FURTHER ACTION TO ENFORCE GERMANY TO COMPLY WITH THE TREATY

Lloyd George in House of Commons Announces That the Germans Are Showing No Inclination To Carry Out Obligations With Respect to Reparations; Disarmament or Trial of War Criminals.

LONDON, April 18.—The German Government, said Premier Lloyd George in the House of Commons today, is still in default with regard to reparations, the trial of persons accused of offences against the laws of war, and disarmament.

The Germans, continued the prime minister, have not thus far shown any inclination to advance practical proposals for carrying out the treaty of Versailles in these respects. Therefore, it was imperative for the Allies to confer with regard to the further steps which might be necessary to enforce compliance with the treaty.

Mr. Lloyd George's statement was in answer to a question by Commander Kenworthy, Independent Liberal member from Hull, as to whether the prime minister's attention had been called to the pronouncement of Premier Briand of France that France, as the questioner construed it, intended to use force against Germany after May 1, and whether the British troops should be involved in a new demonstration.

TROOPS MISTAKE COMRADES FOR SINN FEINERS; TWO SHOT

Limerick, April 18.—Two members of the crown forces were killed and one wounded in a hotel at Castle Connell, County Limerick, last evening when soldiers mistaking the position of their comrades in civilian clothes already at the hotel for Sinn Feiners and began firing.

600 ARRESTED IN N. Y. FOR VIOLATIONS OF PROHIBITION ACT

New York, April 18.—Ten days of police activity in enforcement of the new state prohibition laws have resulted in more than 600 arrests in Manhattan, or enough time if each prisoner is indicted and given trial by jury, to occupy the court of general sessions for two years, Chief Assistant District Attorney J. H. Barton declared today.

The court of general sessions, before which the position of the indicted persons must be given trial, normally handles only 200 jury cases a year, Mr. Barton said.

CIVIL POPULATION IN ASIA MINOR IS ARMED

Constantinople, April 18.—Greek forces in Asia Minor appear to be divided into three groups, none of which is able to communicate with the others, except by sea. These groups are located at Ushak, east of Smyrna; Behram, near the shore of the Sea of Marmora; and Isnik, almost directly east of this city.

Official statements issued from Turkish and Greek headquarters indicate considerable fighting is in progress, but for the most part small units are engaged. Each side is reported to be arming the civil population, instigating the burning of villages and planning ambushes.

BURIAL AT AYLMER. Springfield, Ont., April 18.—The funeral took place from the family residence here to Aylmer Cemetery this afternoon of Wm. G. Lindsay, aged 81. R. H. Lindsay of Aylmer is a brother.

CHURCHILL TO RECEIVE DEPUTATION. London, April 18.—Winston Churchill, colonial secretary, has announced his willingness to receive a deputation urging cheaper press cable rates between Great Britain and Canada.

RACING MEETS CANCELLED. London, April 18.—(Canadian Associated Press).—Racing, by governmental order, has been abandoned until further notice. This decision has been reached on account of the labor trouble.

One Million Ontario Voters Are Expected to Go to Polls Today; Both Sides Are Working Hard

FRANCE CALLS OUT CLASSES OF 1918, 1919

Preparations Are Made For Expected Advance Into Ruhr Region.

Paris, April 18.—Orders calling to the colors the military classes of 1918 and 1919 have been received in Lille, says a report from that city. This step was forecast last week, when steps to be taken by France against Germany, in case the Berlin Government refused to meet reparation payments, were discussed. Men belonging to the first army corps will undergo a period of training before being called upon to advance into the Ruhr district of Germany, should such a drastic step be finally decided upon by this country.

The National Veterans' Union held a meeting yesterday, at which were passed resolutions exhorting young men called to the colors to "respond as valiantly as did their elders in 1914."

R. A. FOWLER, M. P. P.

Austin Moran and Tim Hogan Each Fined \$1,000.

JAY JUNE ASSESSED \$500

W. H. Furlong, Counsel for Defence, Maintains Ship-ment Legal.

Austin Moran, Timothy Hogan, two of the carriers of 100 cases of whiskey, which were destined for Windsor, were each fined \$1,000 and costs of six months in jail by Magistrate J. H. Graydon in police court this morning. Jay June was fined \$500, with the option of spending three months in jail and Fred Bennett was allowed to go free. The fines were paid. The liquor was ordered confiscated.

W. H. Furlong of Windsor was present in court this morning, representing the owner of shipment. He said that the liquor had been acquired in a legal manner, and that the men could not have possessed the shipment as it was not their property. He said that the liquor was being transported in a legal manner, and that the men could not have possessed the shipment as it was not their property.

PARLIAMENT SUMMARY

TODAY IN PARLIAMENT. Ottawa, April 18.—Today is private members' day, and resolutions standing in the names of private members will be discussed when the House meets at 3 o'clock. Afterwards, if private resolutions are disposed of, the House is expected to continue discussion of estimates of the various departments. The Senate is adjourned until Tuesday evening.

Sinn Feiners to Make Another 'Touch' in U.S.

Convention Is Opening in Chicago Today.

Chicago, April 18.—Sinn Fein sympathizers from all sections of the United States were here today for the opening of the First National Convention of the American Association for the recognition of the Irish Republic. Leaders in the movement to spread Sinn Fein propaganda in the United States were on the program of the two days' assemblage.

Harry J. Boland, chief resident propagandist, in discussing the plans for the conference forecasts another Sinn Fein "touch," declaring they might require one hundred million dollars.

It was to this note that Secretary Hughes replied last April 5, at the same time sending similar notes to the governments of Great Britain, France and Italy. He declared that the United States was unable to agree with Japan's contention that in order to maintain its position it would have to "prove" not only that President Wilson made reservations regarding Yap, but also that the supreme council adopted those views.

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Good Weather Conditions Will Aid in Bringing Out Voters—Women's Ballots Will Be Big Factor in Today's Result—If Majority Vote "Yes" Importation Will Be Forbidden and Sandy Bill To Prevent "Short Circuiting" in Province Will Be Enforced.

Toronto, April 18.—From almost every point in Ontario came the report of "fair and mild" weather today for the referendum voting. In the country districts in the southern parts of the province the roads are sloppy. It is rather "hard sledding" for the motors of the modern farmer. However, on the whole, the weather throughout the province, in town, city and country, is one that should bring out a big vote of "Old Man Ontario," and his wife and sisters—and the wife and sisters are expected to be a big factor in today's result.

The vote is definitely and entirely on the question of importation of liquor into the province. If the majority vote is "yes," the Dominion act forbidding importation will become operative on the proclamation of the governor-general, and the provincial measure, known as the "Sandy bill," preventing delivery within the province of liquor manufactured in the province, will also become law. The sale of intoxicating liquor within the province is already illegal, so that the effect of today's balloting will be for a "bona dry" Ontario or with a "no" vote for conditions of importation as they are at present.

Voting Is Heavy. Early reports from various points indicated a heavy vote of the early morning vote. In the cities this was as might be expected, with the "nine o'clockers" voting their bona dry ballots before going down town. At the last plebiscite on prohibition about 1,300,000 votes were polled on the subject, but at that time there was also a provincial general election on. The opinion is that about 1,000,000 votes will be polled in today's balloting.

The unofficial and belated interpretation that workmen are allowed by law to work in the city streets this morning was expected to bring out an unexpectedly large vote of workmen from factories and other classes of work on specified hours of working time.

BOTH SIDES CONFIDENT. Windsor, April 18.—(Canadian Press).—Bright sunshine greeted the voters of the Border Cities this morning, and as a result the number of bona dry voters before going down town. At the last plebiscite on prohibition about 1,300,000 votes were polled on the subject, but at that time there was also a provincial general election on. The opinion is that about 1,000,000 votes will be polled in today's balloting.

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