

WEATHER FORECAST
MARITIME PROVINCES
Winds Shifting to Southerly Today,
Higher Temperature by Friday.
Temperature at 3 A. M. 30 Degrees
Above Zero.

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SAINT JOHN, CANADA, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1911.

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"WHEAT STEAL I WILL STEAL FOR MYSELF"

Is Statement Made by Mr. Merritt—Bitter Testimony Heard in Yesterday's Evidence.

ROCKEFELLER TO BE SUMMONED.

Merritt Says He Wouldn't "Steal" So Was Called On To Pay Loan of a Million Dollars.

Washington, D. C., Nov. 22.—John D. Rockefeller and his almoner, Rev. F. D. Gates, of Montreal, N. Y., will be invited by the house committee of inquiry into the United Steel Corporation, to reply to testimony given yesterday and today by Alfred and Leonidas Merritt, of Duluth, Minn., charging that Rockefeller, through Gates as his agent took from them in 1903, \$10,000,000 in Mesaba Iron Mine and Duluth Mesaba and Northern Railroad securities to satisfy a call loan of \$20,000. These securities were afterward sold to the United States Steel Corporation and are today a part of that corporation's vast holdings.

After Leonidas Merritt had testified today that he had gone to New York with \$40,000,000 in securities had met Mr. Rockefeller, and that he had later had nothing except a "chance to walk from New York to Duluth on the ties," the steel committee had an executive session. Previously Chairman Stanley had announced that Mr. Rockefeller would be subpoenaed. The committee decided, however, merely to ask Mr. Rockefeller and Mr. Gates if they wished to appear, and to give them an opportunity to be heard.

With a bitterness that lent emphasis to his utterances, and at times fairly beside himself with pent-up rage, Leonidas Merritt told the Stanley Steel Trust committee today a personal narrative of his dealings with John D. Rockefeller, and how the latter had forced him out of the copper business in Minnesota.

CO-OPERATION FOR VALLEY RAILWAY

Ottawa, Nov. 22.—That the federal government will relieve the Province of New Brunswick of the cost of expensive bridges on the St. John Valley Railway, which were to cost \$1,200,000, is the result of a conference between the government and Hon. J. K. Fleming, premier of New Brunswick, who has left Ottawa for home after a successful mission.

FOURTH SQUADRON ARRIVES AT BERMUDA

Hamilton, Bermuda, Nov. 22.—The British fourth squadron arrived here this morning, 24 hours late owing to a heavy gale which was encountered off the islands. Rear Admiral Bradford, who is in command, headed and received by officers of the corporation and a guard of honor from the Bedfordshire regiment. There will be a big reception at the government house on Saturday. Bermuda will otherwise entertain the best during its stay here. It has been five years since the British Rear Admiral had been at the station.

DECISIVE BATTLE OF CHINESE REBELLION NOW SEEMS TO BE IMMINENT

Rebel Forces are Advancing Towards the Enemy.

Government Prepared to Make Good Foreign Obligations -- American and European Fleet to Safeguard Foreign Interests.

San Francisco, Cal., Nov. 22.—The Chinese rebels engaged outposts of the Nanking defenders at the village of Goo Shee, near the beleaguered city driving the imperialists back with a loss of several hundred killed and wounded, according to a Shanghai cable today to the Chinese Free Press here. It is believed that the fight occurred last night. Gen. Chu commanded the rebel troops.

A big detachment of rebel troops is reported to be hastening from the small town of Tung Tan near Nanking, to reinforce the attacking force.

Foreign Debtors Safeguarded.

Washington, D. C., Nov. 22.—Determined to avoid giving any pretext for foreign intervention for financial reasons, the Chinese government has ordered all receipts from maritime customs including the 1901 Boxer indemnity to be deposited with the foreign banks to the credit of China's foreign debtors.

The official explanation of the purpose of the Chinese government is to live up to its foreign obligations, came today from the Chinese legation, which reported it to the state department.

Authorities Ready.

The military authorities are ready to meet any reasonable demand for troops to be used in China and whether the organization selected shall be the 10th infantry, now en route from Yunnan to Assam, or the 7th or the 20th infantry, will depend entirely upon the order received from the president for the despatch of troops.

Reports Decline Battle.

Advances of the rebel forces both naval and land toward Nanking where it is expected, the decisive battle of the present rebellion will be fought. Reports reported to the navy department today by Rear Admiral Murdoch, commander in chief of the United States Asiatic fleet which is looking after foreign interests in Chinese territory.

Attempted Assassination.

Peking, Nov. 22.—According to a Chinese report an attempt was made to assassinate the premier, Yuan Shi Kai on Monday last. There have been various rumors that the premier's life was threatened and he has been going about escorted by a guard.

An edict was issued today giving Yuan Shi Kai freedom from a detailed audience with the throne, thus permitting the premier to proceed with his attempts to bolster up the administration without interference. The former minister of posts and communications, Tang Shao Yi, has returned to Peking. He has urged Yuan to employ peaceful methods in restoring order.

THE LONDON POLICE ARE IN DANGER

Mrs. Pankhurst on the War Path to Avenge Arrest of Her Lieutenants—May Proceed to Front.

TRUCE IS OVER.

Kansas City, Mo., Nov. 22.—The action of the London police courts in sending suffragettes to prison this morning, is the enemy's declaration of war, declared Mrs. Emmeline Pankhurst, a leader of the militant suffragettes in England, in this city today. "It means that the truce which has been on for a year is ended and a more desperate struggle than ever before is to begin."

Mrs. Pankhurst, mother of Sylvia and Crystal Pankhurst, the latter one of those imprisoned today, is touring this country in the interest of women suffrage.

"Another 12 hours' development may show the situation grave enough to call me home," Mrs. Pankhurst said. "The putting of my lieutenants in jail may make it necessary for me to go straight to the front without collecting any more supplies."

"It is the government's late military thing in trousers, which has precipitated the latest developments. A year ago we accepted the conciliation bill and granted a truce. It was the best we could get at the time."

"Then came the treacherous action. The government presented its military suffrage bill, enfranchising ten million of the lowest types of men who live off their wives, who prey on the honest women and have so little political respect that they will not even be registered as a voter."

Mrs. Pankhurst eagerly welcomed numerous interviewers during her term here and anxiously sought news from London.

PERSIA ACCEPTED BRITAIN'S ADVICE

Will Accordingly Comply With Russian Demands and Make Apology—New Cabinet Has Been Formed.

London, Nov. 22.—The Persian government has accepted the British government that acting under the latter's advice it would comply with the demands of the Russian government.

POIRIER VS. KING IN SUPREME COURT

Ottawa, Nov. 22.—In the Supreme Court today the appeal was heard in the case of Poirier vs. the King. The appellant was a contractor to supply hay to the government to be sent to the east of operations during the late South African war. The hay was delivered at St. John, N. B., and was subject to inspection and rejection by officers appointed for that purpose by the department of agriculture.

A quantity of the hay was rejected by the department and a suit was filed. The hay was sold by the officers of the department at auction and the price received for it was accounted for to Poirier, who refused to accept this as settlement and sued in the Exchequer Court to recover the contract price. The trial judge dismissed the claim and Poirier appeals, contending that the sale of rejected hay constituted acceptance of the hay on the part of the crown. Judgment was given for the appellant, K. C., for appealant, A. Lemieux, K. C., for respondent, C. Smith, K. C., for respondent.

The court adjourned till December 9th.

EVIDENCE ALL HEARD IN THE SPENCER CASE

Fate of the Defendant Will Probably be Known Within Week—Evidence Points to Insanity.

NOW MORE PEACEABLE.

Springfield, Mass., Nov. 22.—When adjournment was taken late today in the trial of Bertram G. Spencer charged with the murder of Miss Martha B. Blackstone, a school teacher, the fate of the defendant had been submitted, and the prosecution had introduced considerable rebuttal testimony. In less than a week, it was predicted, the case would be closed.

The defence ended its direct evidence before the taking of the noon recess with the testimony of prominent alienists. Three physicians, Drs. Edward B. Lang, Joseph W. Courtney and L. V. Briggs, all of Boston, testified that after thorough examinations they were of the opinion that the accused man was insane at the time he killed Miss Blackstone.

With the closing of the direct case for the defence, the State called a score of witnesses to the stand. All were acquaintances of the prisoner, and they testified largely to the effect that they never saw anything unusual or eccentric in his actions or habits.

The fire then went south to the building owned by S. M. Murchie and occupied on the lower floor by Frank Logan, a meat market, and on the second floor as a dwelling by Mrs. Logan.

From this building the fire went to the adjoining building owned by T. F. McKenna and on the lower floor as a warehouse. The building was also occupied by the Murchie Wrapping Company.

The fire was stopped there by a very hard fight, and other buildings in the vicinity were saved. The McKenna building, however, was saved by the testimony of Dr. Joseph Courtney, in charge of the wards for the insane at the Carnegie Hospital, Milton.

Another Boston expert on mental diseases, Dr. L. Vernon Briggs, followed Dr. Courtney on the stand. Dr. Briggs testified that Spencer could not distinguish between right and wrong, and was insane at the time of the murder.

BRITISH SWORDS FOR CANADIAN TROOPS

Ottawa, Nov. 22.—The militia commission last week already is bearing fruit. There is reason to believe that before long steps will be taken for the active encouragement of the cadet movement by the militia department. It is expected that Lieut. Col. R. Gwynne, Grenfell, Sask., commanding officer of the 16th Light Horse will be appointed to superintend the movement in the western provinces.

Col. Gwynne, who is the organizer of the famous mounted cadets, made a great impression at the conference held at the conference. Captain S. H. Hill, 8th Royal Rifles, Quebec, who has been remarkably successful with the movement in that city, probably will receive temporary employment in connection with the work in the Province of Quebec.

At the conference Col. Gwynne remarked that one effect of the forcing of militia officers to pay duty on their uniforms had been that vendors of cheap German-made swords, which were being sold by the department have been procured from continental Europe. They are nominally made in Great Britain, but in reality are only put together there. The minister had cancelled the orders pending, and has ordered that none but swords of genuine British make be purchased.

CUMMINGS CONFESSES TO MURDER OF WIFE

Montreal, Nov. 22.—John Cummings, the man who was arrested this morning for the murder of his young wife, who he categorically denied any knowledge of the murder and otherwise accounted for his movements.

Not once during his confession to the night did Cummings show any trace of emotion and told of the murder as if it had been any ordinary event.

ST. STEPHEN BUILDINGS IN FLAMES

Fire Broke Out There Last Night—Seven Horses Burned—Calais and Milltown to Rescue.

ST. CROIX SOAP FACTORY THREATENED.

Damage Amounts to About \$60,000—Streams of Water Poured on Blaze—Finally Under Control.

Special to The Standard.

St. Stephen, Nov. 22.—One of the worst fires that this town has experienced was discovered at midnight in the stables conducted by Archie Johnston, near the corner of King and Prince William streets and despite the hard work of the St. Stephen fire department with that from Calais Me., Milltown, Me., and Milltown, N. B., it was 2:30 o'clock this morning before the fire was got under control.

At this time seven buildings had been destroyed along with seven horses, and the loss is estimated at about \$60,000 and only partially covered by insurance. Adjoining the Johnston stables was John Manuel's blacksmith shop and carriage store and this was soon at the mercy of the flames from the Johnston stables, which is better known as the Hardy and Bridges' stables.

The fire went north to Fred Rose's general store, which is adjoined by a grist mill for his own use. From the mill the fire went to the Lawlor house, which is a country boarding house, owned by James McGrath. This building and a large stable in the rear were burned.

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HOW HOLD OF LIBERALS ON QUEBEC WAS BROKEN

Laurier Posed as a Protector of French, but Failed to Act the Part -- Is Now in Bad Humor

Minister of Public Works Opens Fire, but Adjournment Interrupts What Promised to be Hot Debate

Special to The Standard.
Ottawa, Nov. 22.—The one real event today was Mr. Monk's getting to his feet. He did not, however, get down to business. Adjournment came at 6 o'clock on Wednesday, and the minister of public works had only begun to feel for his subject when time was up. He paused, indeed in the very act of a smart interchange with Sir Wilfrid Laurier.

For the rest, there was a desperate but wearisome speech by D. D. McKenzie, of Cape Breton, a remarkably promising speech by A. DeW. Foster, the defender of Sir Frederick Borden, and a clever speech by Dr. Michael Clark, of Red Deer.

Mr. McKenzie's speech fell into three parts, reciprocity, tariff commission and navy. On the first of these he merely repeated such Liberal arguments as had taken his fancy in the campaign. As for the tariff commission he feared that it would dominate the government and in turn be dominated by the "big interests."

Mr. Foster was amusing, pointed and brief. He called Mr. McKenzie's speech a "man's speech" on the tariff issue. He rapped E. M. McDonald for his unblushing use of bribery by public works. He protested against the blue ruin cry now being raised in Nova Scotia, incidentally speaking generally of the west. He dwelt to some extent on the reciprocity issue.

Dr. Clarke spoke cleverly, ascribing the whole prosperity of Canada to the Liberals and talking free trade.

Mr. Monk's earlier passages were marked by a fresh proof of Liberal complacency with his adversaries, his remarks not passing the bounds of parliamentary speech and some of the Liberals hissed. This very unusual demonstration has occurred twice this session.

The Minister of Public Works adverted to the peace-shaking, morose mood had humor, shown by the leader of the opposition. "Surely," he said, "he was developing the vanity which when a man reaches a certain age, leads him to think that he alone is right." He denied that Canadians in rejecting reciprocity had been moved by sentiment, there also had been all the conditions of the agreement.

Any prejudice which had existed had been due to the leader of the opposition, who had seen a diminution of his power in his own province.

Laurier's Pretenses.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier had started long ago a campaign in Quebec that he alone was in a position to protect the French element against the encroachments of the Conservatives. Mr. Monk's influence on the failure to enact remedial legislation for the Roman Catholics of Manitoba. The next shock was connection with the autonomy acts of 1905, when Sir Wilfrid Laurier had once more abandoned the minority.

Mr. Monk proceeded to deal with Sir Wilfrid Laurier's naval policy. In 1902 he said, Sir Wilfrid Laurier's attitude at the conference had been loudly applauded. So had his attitude in 1907 when he refused to co-operate in Imperial naval defence. Yet he inaugurated a naval policy before the people had an opportunity of expressing their views.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier insisted that in 1902 he had declared that Canada was willing to take up naval as well as land defence. And he and Mr. Monk disputed the point until the adjournment occurred.

SAILORS IN QUARREL ONE IS MURDERED

Special to The Standard.
Halifax, Nov. 22.—While returning to their ship about midnight two seamen of the steamer Waconast at North Sydney started a row on the pier which resulted in the older man being stabbed in several parts of the body from which he died a short time after. When the police arrived they saw a man lying on the wharf, but no one near, the others having apparently gone aboard the ship which was lying at the wharf ready to sail for Montreal.

Not once during his confession to the night did Cummings show any trace of emotion and told of the murder as if it had been any ordinary event.

IMPORTANT REPORTS ARE EXPECTED

American Federation of Labor to Consider Most Important Details of Work—Officers Sure of Re-election.

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED

Atlanta, Ga., Nov. 22.—When the convention of the American Federation of Labor meets tomorrow it will be with the expectation of hearing and passing on the reports of two of its most important committees, that on the adjustment of industrial disputes, and that on the President's report. The adjustment committee has in hand the long wage controversy between the carpenters and the sheet metal workers, which resulted last year in the expulsion of the former from the building trades department.

It is expected that the committee will recommend the reinstatement of the carpenters, if they will agree to abide by the decision of the department in future disputes.

All the recommendations made by President Gompers in his annual report have been considered by the committee, to which it was referred. Chairman Wilson declared today that the committee would make some recommendations of vital importance to the Federation.

The convention will adjourn on Saturday. President Gompers and the other officers probably will be re-elected easily as the socialists have not developed sufficient strength to make serious opposition. It is regarded as practically certain that the 1912 convention will be held at Rochester, although Richmond is waging a strong fight for the meeting.

The following resolutions were adopted today:

Favoring the construction of all government vessels in government shipyards.

Endorsing the strike on the Harriman lines.

Changing Memorial day from the second to the fourth Sunday in May.

Advocating compulsory education, free school books in public schools, and night schools.

Petitioning President Taft to recommend to the Governor of Porto Rico larger school appropriations, an eight-hour day and other beneficial legislation.

The older Beattie within the past few hours paid a secret visit to Governor Mann in a final despairing effort to gain the Governor's interference. It was in vain. The Governor will let the law exact its toll, unless within the few hours before younger Beattie is led to the death chair, he should experience a change of mind. This is regarded as almost outside the range of possibility.

Invitations have been sent to the 12 witnesses who will compose the jury in the death chamber Friday morning. Under the law the witnesses must present themselves at the prison before 7 o'clock on that morning. Shortly thereafter Beattie will be led from his cell to the chair. Within 10 minutes at the most, the jury will be trooping from the chamber of death.

The same mails that bore the invitations to the witnesses brought more than 100 letters to Gov. Mann, some of the writers commended his policy of non-interference with the mandate of the law. Other hysterically called upon him to intervene. To none of them was any attention paid.

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