

The Evening Times-Star

DO YOU KNOW

First mayor of St. John to be elected by Common Council was Thomas Harding, in 1861

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PAGES ONE TO EIGHT

ST. JOHN, N.B., SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 1924

SIXTEEN PAGES—ONE CENT

Proposed Civil Service Cut Arouses Keen Interest Here

SPLIT IN IRISH OFF STATE CABINET

Speech From Throne Is Criticized

GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES WATCHING

Veterans are Asking Preference in Case of Staff Reductions.

300 EMPLOYED HERE

About Half of Them are Returned Men, Nearly All Married.

Keen interest is being manifested by local civil servants in the proposed reductions in the number of men and women employed in various Federal departments.

It is estimated that there are more than 300 civil servants on the local rosters, and the proportion of returned men and women in this number is said to approximate 50 per cent.

Agitation Has Started

In Ottawa an agitation has been started in an effort to have returned veterans retained in preference to married men appointed since August, 1914, but it was said today that this feature would have little effect in St. John, as the great majority of the employed veterans were married.

It was reported today that the returned men were well satisfied with the preference given to appointments made since the war, as only in rare cases were others than veterans appointed.

Soldiers Take Stand

Ex-service men, members of the civil service, at a mass meeting here last night, organized to oppose any curtailment of the promises made them on their return from "overseas" that the Government would provide them with occupation in the service and give them preference over non-combatants.

They ask for permanency of all veterans in the service, and ask for preference for veterans in filling vacancies. They ask that no disabled men be dismissed and that active service men and women be retained in preference to married men appointed since August 4, 1914.

The ugly head of patronage was showing itself in a new light, Frank Grierson, former member of the civil service commission, indicated. He feared favoritism was being shown in dismissals. Mr. Grierson was convinced that the service was greatly overmanned, and had been so for many years, but now was not the time to mend it, nor should it be mended at the expense of men who had worn the King's uniform in war years.

He believed in merit and higher education, but he believed merit should be waived temporarily in the interest of the ex-service men.

The Government owed it to the country and to veterans to think hard before it added to the army of unemployed veterans, Mr. Grierson added.

Ottawa, March 1.—Reductions in the inside and outside civil service in Ottawa to the number of several hundred are to be made at the end of March, which marks the termination of the fiscal year.

In many of the departments notifications were sent out this week or before to many temporary and some permanent employees that their services will not be required in the fiscal year which begins the first of April.

In the trade and commerce department about 70 are being laid off, while other branches, which are affected are the public works, militia, D. S. C. R., interior and marine departments. In fact, in every department of the public service, reductions are being made to meet the demand for national economy.

This year's civil government estimates are likely to be the leanest for many years.

The clerks who are being laid off are of both sexes, and both the higher and lower grades are being affected. What is taking place now is the first result of the census taken of all Government employees. The work will be continued on page 4, second column.

Prison Ring Makes Auto License Plates

Columbus, Ohio, March 1.—Prisoners in the Ohio State Penitentiary have been secretly manufacturing duplicate automobile license plates and smuggling them out through confederates and paroled prisoners, so Warden P. E. Thomas admitted. All the state's auto tags are manufactured at the institution.

MINUDIE COAL CO. PROPERTY IS SOLD

N. S. Government Buys it For \$10,500.—Several Claims Against Plant.

Amherst, March 1.—The Minudie Coal Company property at River Hebert was bid in at sheriff's sale yesterday by the Mines Department of the Provincial Government for \$10,500. The sale was to satisfy the claims of the miners who had liens against the property for \$14,000.

The Government has a preferred claim against the property for more than \$9,000 for keeping it in repair, and there are legal and other expenses in the vicinity of \$2,000. In addition to its preferred claim, the Government has claims for royalty and workmen's compensation levies totalling about \$100,000.

League Council In Genoa March 10

Geneva, March 1.—Alberto Guani Uruguayan minister to Belgium, has been selected to preside at the 29th session of the council of the League of Nations, on March 10. A report on Memel, will be one of the outstanding features.

Wire Briefs

Rome, March 1.—Henry Ricciotti Garibaldi, last surviving son of the Italian patriot Garibaldi, is gravely ill with a bronchial affection and complications.

Ottawa, March 1.—Notice of 49 assignments under the bankruptcy act appears in this week's issue of the Canada Gazette.

Boston, March 1.—Statements issued by union leaders and manufacturers declare that the strike of 2,000 garment workers called ten days ago, has become a test of endurance.

Washington, March 1.—Rates on grain moving into the southeastern quarter of the U. S. from the Mississippi Valley to the Atlantic coast are reasonable as they stand, it was decided today by the Interstate Commerce Commission.

Ottawa, Mar. 1.—Sir Henry Thornton, president of the C. N. R. announces that C. J. Smith of Montreal, general manager of elevators and warehouses, will also act as executive assistant to the president.

Newark, N. J., March 1.—A heavy explosion which shook the surrounding territory for many miles occurred at the Russian Arsenal between Metuchen and New Brunswick this morning. The blast protruded wire communication.

Washington, March 1.—Continued disorders at Ceiba, Honduras, where U. S. marines were landed yesterday, have prompted Rear Admiral Dayton to send ashore 33 additional men.

Columbus, O., March 1.—George L. Berry, president of the International Pressmen and Assistants' Union of North America, today filed his application with Secretary of State Brown as a candidate for the office of vice-president on the Democratic ticket.

Boston, March 1.—The first blow was struck at the rum fleet stationed eight miles east of Thatcher's Island when the harbor police early today seized a motor launch making its way ashore from the liquor line.

New York, March 1.—"Cheeks" Luciani, confessed denizen of the underworld, and star witness for the prosecution in the recent conviction of four men for the murder of two Brooklyn bank messengers, was released from custody yesterday. He had been held as a material witness.

REDUCTION OF TARIFF AWAITED

Montreal Gazette Says Hope for Better Balance Sheet is Expected.

PLAN DEBATABLE

Herald Says Charges of Extravagance are Met by Balanced Budget.

Montreal, March 1.—Discussing the speech from the throne delivered at the opening of the Dominion Parliament, the Gazette today in an editorial, has the following comment: "It would be unfair to call the speech which his advisers have put in the mouth of the Governor-General, length without breadth, for there are many subjects of importance alluded to, and promise given of much legislation. The uppermost thought of the people is of the opinion that, when the budget whether taxation is to be reduced, towards which end the Government appears to trend, 'My ministers' runs the speech, are strongly of the opinion that a reduction of taxation is of first importance, and the comforting assurance is given that 'they are further of the opinion that, when the budget of the ensuing fiscal year is introduced, it will be found that the relation between public revenue and public expenditure is such as to justify some immediate reduction of taxation.' Statement is Gratifying.

"This statement is gratifying. It holds out hope of a better national balance sheet, a hope supported for several factors. The Government seems to reduce expenditure and some progress in this direction is being made, while, in respect of revenue, the income surpasses all preceding years.

The desirable point, however, is the manner of tax reduction. Many there are who believe such reduction should apply to sales tax, stamp tax, and income tax, but such seems not to be the policy of the Government. These imposts are to remain so far as one can judge from the speech in the throne. Not so with the tariff. The intent to revise the tariff downward is the outstanding feature of the seasonal programme, and not less, as announced in the hope of keeping the Progressives in line.

"There are indications that the Government party is fairly sick of the defensive role which it has assumed since it came to power and is now determined to carry the war into the enemy camp. This session of parliament is usually the crucial session. For two sessions the present Government has been feeling its way. The general attitude now is that unless bold action is taken the party is doomed to oblivion for many years to come.

"Consequently the speech from the throne yesterday was a document which was more notable for what it did than for what it did not contain. 'Charges of extravagance were met by the announcement of a balanced budget, of increased revenues and decreased expenditures and of a decided betterment in the operations of the Canadian National Railways.

Judgment Against Halifax, \$60,920

Halifax, N. S., March 1.—Judgment against the City of Halifax for \$60,920.18, was handed down in the Supreme Court yesterday. It was an action for damages brought by the Canadian Bituminous Hauling Company, of Toronto, against the city for breach of contract in connection with street paving work, the city having failed to carry out its part of the agreement. The damages were assessed by a special referee appointed by the court.

Lot of Beer On Olympic Seized

New York, March 1.—One and a half dozen bottles of ale and beer were seized by treasury agents last night in the storerooms of the White Star liner Olympic. Last week 3,900 bottles of ale and liquors were seized on the Adriatic.

Dry Law Advocate Termed 'Spigot-Bigot'

Cambridge, Mass., Mar. 1.—The best term for a prohibition law advocate is "spigot-bigot," the Harvard advocate, a monthly college publication decided in awarding its preferred \$25 prize for day. The recipient was Miss Katherine Greene Welling of New York city.

Not Dry Reading In This Volume

New York, March 1.—The contents of an elaborately bound volume of the Anglo-Saxon Review for December, 1923, were found to be a half-pint of whiskey yesterday when the Post Office authorities confiscated and opened the little volume addressed to J. B. Kelly, 71 Grove street, by a friend in England. The container of Scotch whiskey was encased in a square space made by cutting out the reading matter and leaving only the margin of pages. A letter accompanying the package read: "Dear Kelly: 'BOBBY.' The contraband and the letter were turned over to the customs authorities.

ONLY TWO OPPOSE Church Union Bill Passes Second Reading in Alberta Legislature.

Edmonton, March 1.—W. H. Shield, Farmer member for McLeod, in sponsoring a church union bill which passed the Alberta Legislature here yesterday, declared that the majority of which are without bread, for there are many subjects of importance alluded to, and promise given of much legislation. The uppermost thought of the people is of the opinion that, when the budget whether taxation is to be reduced, towards which end the Government appears to trend, 'My ministers' runs the speech, are strongly of the opinion that a reduction of taxation is of first importance, and the comforting assurance is given that 'they are further of the opinion that, when the budget of the ensuing fiscal year is introduced, it will be found that the relation between public revenue and public expenditure is such as to justify some immediate reduction of taxation.' Statement is Gratifying.

WILL PUT 40,000 MEN OUT OF WORK Danish Lockouts Serious—Textile Workers Give Notice That They'll Strike.

London, March 1.—Extensive lockouts, affecting about 40,000 men, are to be declared soon by the Danish Employers' Union, according to special dispatches from Copenhagen. The lockouts, the majority of which are set for March 8, involve the metal workers, bricklayers, masons, lithographers and many branches of unskilled labor. A declaration issued by the employers' union says that, notwithstanding the renewal of many trade agreements, they find it impossible to continue operations in the face of persistent threats against the labor peace.

"The textile workers have given notice of a strike to begin next Monday, involving 10,000 persons.

SEEK CAUSE OF DEATH OF BABE

Maine Officials Probing Case in Which Student and Young Wife Are Held.

Brunswick, Me., March 1.—Charged with manslaughter as a result of the death of their infant daughter, Kenneth Ross MacLean of Tacoma, Wn., a sophomore at Bowdoin College and his 21-year-old wife, Nettie May, were returned to jail after arraignment late yesterday. Mrs. MacLean was arrested on Thursday after she had traveled 26 miles from Brunswick to Portland with the dead child in her arms and had attempted to arrange with an undertaker for burial. An examination of the child's internal organs is being made and a continuance of the case until March 8 was granted.

Mrs. MacLean said she came to Brunswick Friday to visit her husband. Upon awakening Thursday morning she said that the infant was dead. She said that she was married to MacLean in Tacoma.

Although it was not known at the college that MacLean was married, he said that his parents were aware of his marriage. Word was received here yesterday that the parents of the young couple were on their way east.

Could Place More People on Farms

Toronto, Mar. 1.—When addressing the Toronto League of Women Voters today, H. C. Hudson, general superintendent of the employer service of Canada, said the bureau was now placing 80 men on the farms every week, and could place 100 each week if men were available. He announced that all the British harvesters who remained in Canada were now employed except 200 who had declined to take farm jobs.

LOWER TAX IN CANADA IS ASKED

Montreal M. P. Points Out to United States Advantage of Scheme.

FAIR PLAY ASKED

Sales Tax Law, and Duty to Support It, is Claim.

Montreal, March 1.—Emphasizing that the U. S. is Canada's great competitor and that "we cannot keep our backs up and they put theirs down, because, if we do that, the dollar will be going there for investment," Walter G. Mitchell, K. C., M. P., advocated lower taxation in Canada at the fourth annual banquet of the Rubber Association of Canada here. Citizenship responsibilities were dealt with by Rev. Canon Cody of Toronto, who also urged fair play for those who declared the minority would be able to carry on as at present.

3 TO BE HANGED Hymns Are Sung as Three Ontario Murderers Prepare For Gallows.

London, Ont., March 1.—The grim old walls of Middlesex county jail are echoing every evening with the strains of the favorite old hymns—"Lead Kindly Light," "Rock of Ages," and "Onward Christian Soldiers." Three condemned men to be hanged leading the singing while other prisoners join in the chorus.

For more than a week Rev. G. Q. Warner, of the Croydon Memorial Church has been visiting the men in their cells and he speaks in the highest manner of the way in which they have received his spiritual ministrations. Death watchers continue to guard the prisoners day and night. Murrell and Topping receive occasional visits from relatives, but Williams has no relatives in this country and his callers are few.

One In Number Is Halifax Company

Ottawa, March 1.—Incorporations have been granted to the following joint stock companies: Roamer Motor Car Co. (Canada) Ltd., Toronto, capital \$1,000,000; the All Steel Wheel Co. of Canada, Ltd., Toronto, \$200,000; Algonquin Veneer and Lumber Co., Ltd., \$600,000; Stearns Canadian Knight Motors, Ltd., Montreal \$1,000,000; Automobile Legal Association (Maritime) Ltd., Halifax, \$50,000.

Stanley Man Is Jailed Nine Months

Fredericton, March 1.—Wm. Peacock of Stanley was taken to the York County Jail this morning to serve a sentence of nine months imposed by Judge Limerick in the police court today when he pleaded guilty to a charge under the Inland Revenue Act of having a still illegally in his possession and also to a charge under the prohibition act of selling liquor.

Peacock was brought here following a surprise raid upon his premises at Stanley.

Farmers Reap Profit From Wheat Pool

Calgary, March 1.—Chester Olcott, manager of the Alberta Wheat Pool announced that a distribution of part of the pool's surplus would be made during the month of March. Something more than \$2,300,000 will be issued to the farmers.

The distribution will approximate ten cents a bushel on wheat that has been delivered to the pool up to about the time of distribution of this interim payment.

Is Now Singing In London



Rose de Lima, who took as her last name that of her home town in Ohio, is now singing in London. She is a pupil of Jean de Reske, famous Parisian instructor.

Man Who Shot Policeman is Found Suicide, Ontario Wilds

Fort William, Ont., March 1.—About half way between Silver Mountain and the U. S. boundary was found, late yesterday afternoon, the dead body of Peter Tomack, section laborer, who shot and seriously wounded Sgt. F. B. Cressy, of the provincial police, a week ago.

The officers who started out on the search Thursday afternoon, came across the body lying in the snow under the root of a tree. It was frozen stiff and there were clear indications that Tomack had taken his own life, turning his gun on himself.

It was quite evident, they reported, that Tomack, after a week's wanderings in one of the most desolate parts of western Ontario, had abandoned his attempt to reach civilization south of the line and was making an effort to return to his former home. He had doubled back on his tracks and was found within fifteen miles of Silver Mountain.

PASSENGERS SHAKEN Sleeping Car Goes on Bumping Tour in South Station, Boston.

Boston, March 1.—Twenty-five passengers in a sleeping car were rudely awakened yesterday when the car crashed through a bumper and then through the gates at the South Station, coming to a stop on the platform about twenty feet from the dining room. No one was injured. The sleeper had been detached from a train which had just arrived from New Haven.

WILL NOT RESIGN Minister of Labor Announces Resignation From Cabinet is Only a Rumor.

Ottawa, March 1.—"I am not even thinking about it," said Hon. James Murdock, Minister of Labor, today when questioned regarding the rumor that his resignation from the cabinet could be expected soon.

"When I resign it will be about something real, not imaginary," he added.

Mr. Murdock stated that the rumor was quite without foundation. The rumor of Mr. Murdock's resignation arose in connection with his withdrawal of personal funds from the Home Bank shortly before the failure of that institution.

Germans Bid Up Price of Furs

Copenhagen, March 1.—At the Danish state yearly auction sales of furs from Greenland the prices averaged sixty per cent. higher than last year. This was chiefly due to the frantic bidding by German buyers. American buyers, however, secured the greater part of the first and second grade furs.

Tax Paid on Autos May Be Refunded

Toronto, Mar. 1.—The automobile dealers will in the near future receive a refund of luxury taxes advanced by them to the Federal Government, was the opinion confidently expressed by J. R. Dixon at yesterday's session of the Retail Merchants' Association here.

COSGRAVE IS ATTACKED BY HIS ENEMIES

Split in Cabinet is Becoming More Glaring in the Free State.

OPPOSE PRESIDENT

Republicans are Reported as Gaining Strength in the Southwest.

BY HARRY N. MOORE (British United Press.)

London, March 1.—The split in the Free State cabinet which was noticeable first about three weeks ago is becoming more and more glaring. One party wants to develop Ireland along constitutional lines which afford the best hope of prosperity, while the others demand that Ireland be entirely self-supporting, want only Irish spoken, and seem to believe that it is possible to control the destinies of the whole world from Dublin.

Negotiations are now proceeding between the several factions who oppose President Cosgrave and who would prefer a leader chosen from among the irregulars.

It is not at all likely that there will be actual fighting between the several factions, but the ministers are in disfavor and all of them were howled down at the bye-election meetings that have been held in Dublin during the past few days.

Republicans Stronger

The Republicans are gaining strength in the Southwest of the Island chiefly as a result of the strenuous efforts of the ministry to place the country on a paying basis. The most interesting development of the last few days is the alliance of many old Unionists of the middle class with the irregulars in a new organization.

All parties, however, want peace, some realizing that this is centered all in hope of economic stability and some for political reasons.

FOR STRONGER BEER Fifty Members at Washington Unite to Present Bill in House Next Week.

Washington, March 1.—Ten more members of the House have joined a committee to present a bill to Maryland, a leader in the movement.

"At least fifty members of the House of Representatives will file the committee bill next Tuesday," Mr. Hill predicted.

Pigeon Blackmail Proves to be Joke

New York, March 1.—The mystery of the blackmailing pigeon delivered by a messenger to Wm. Borbeck, a Long Island City merchant on Thursday, was solved when detectives arrested Wm. Diebold, Borbeck's friend, who admitted he had played a practical joke.

Police held Diebold on a charge of blackmail, but Borbeck offered to furnish bail for his friend. The pigeon was delivered to Borbeck by a man in a taxicab. Attached to the bird's leg was a pouch containing a note demanding that \$1,000 be placed in the pouch and the bird released. The pigeon was set free late yesterday while detectives, with field glasses, followed it in an automobile to a coop in East Elmhurst. The bird's owner said he had lent it to Diebold.

Cow Shinbones For Mah Jong Games

Galveston, Texas, Feb. 29.—Three cartloads of selected shinbones from cows slaughtered at a Chicago packing house were reported from Galveston yesterday on the steamship Patrick Henry for Japan, where they will be re-exported to China for the manufacture of Mah Jong sets.

The popularity of the game in the U. S., Canada and South America is said to have caused a large demand for the bones.

WILL CONTINUE TO RULE THE WAVE

Britain to Remain Supreme on Sea, is London Comment on U. S. Fleet Call.

London, March 1.—British shipping circles were much interested in the announcement of the U. S. Shipping Board's intention to sell its fleet. Non-professed surprises, but some are skeptical over the appearance of buyers. The Daily News says: "Britain is to continue to rule the wave, or anyway the Union Jack is not immediately to be displaced by the Stars and Stripes."

Weather Report

Toronto, March 1.—Pressure is now moderately high from the Great Lakes westward with no disturbance indicated. The weather continues quite mild in the western provinces and rather cold from Ontario eastward.

Forecast: Fine on Sunday. Maritime — Moderate westerly winds, fair today and on Sunday, not much change in temperature. Gulf and North Shore—Moderate winds, cloudy and rather cold today and on Sunday.

New England — Partly cloudy tonight and Sunday; no change in temperature, moderate northwest winds. Toronto, March 1.—Temperatures: Lowest 8 a. m. yesterday, night.

Table with 2 columns: Location and Temperature. Locations include Victoria, Kamloops, Calgary, Edmonton, Winnipeg, Montreal, St. John, Halifax, and New York.