

WEATHER FORECAST.

MARITIME PROVINCES.

Moderate Winds; Fine, Not Much Change in Temperature. Temperature at 3 A. M. 24 Degrees Above Zero.

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TWELVE PAGES

MINERS ARE WILLING TO ACCEPT PRIME MINISTER'S INVITATION

But Taboo the Minimum Wage from the Discussion OWNERS YET TO BE HEARD FROM Those in England, However, Likely to Fall in With Proposal—Government May Take Definite Action Thursday

London, Mar. 11.—The National Miners' Federation unanimously decided to accept the Prime Minister's invitation to meet the coal owners and the representatives of the government at a round table conference, at which Premier Asquith will preside. The acceptance was coupled with the reservation that the principle of a minimum wage will be excluded from the discussion. It is understood that this means that the granting of a minimum wage will be assumed to have been conceded, but it does not imply that the schedule of minimum wages drawn up by the Miners' Federation will not be discussed. The coal owners have not yet accepted the Premier's invitation. They will meet tomorrow morning to decide this question. Even if the Welsh and Scotch owners stand aloof it is taken for granted that the English owners will accept. The conference will be held tomorrow afternoon, but the miners' representatives are not authorized to agree to any reduction of the Federation's schedule of rates or to any scheme determining the rates without a new ballot of the miners. Therefore a settlement of the strike at the joint conference can be attained only if the owners agree to accept the miners' schedule, which is very improbable. The most hoped for from the conference is that some basis of agreement will be reached for the fixing of a minimum rate which will be submitted to a ballot of the miners. That the strike will continue for at least another week is now regarded by the most optimistic as inevitable. It has practically been determined that the coal strike must be ended by agreement or immediate legislation will be invoked to bring about compulsory peace. A time limit for the negotiations is imposed on all sides, and Thursday is expected to see parliamentary action unless the extremists on both sides relax in the meantime sufficiently to enable a settlement by consent. At present almost the entire nation is under noisome to quit work. Including the miners there are probably nearly 2,000,000 persons already idle, and should the strike be prolonged throughout next week perhaps half of Great Britain's workers will be unemployed. The distress is widespread now, and the drain on funds is so great that some of the unions are already showing distress signals. The courts are refusing to grant judgments and summonses on the ground that the common necessities of life are beyond the reach of many of the poor.

THE CITIZENS' CANDIDATES CARRY POLLS

So Called "Good Government" Ticket Hadn't a Look in Capital.

Fredericton, March 11.—The civic elections today resulted in a sweeping victory for the citizens ticket, and once more they have full control of the council for a year. The election was one of the most bitter fights of recent years. The so-called good government ticket which put up opposition in every ward, and also had their candidate for mayor, had the assistance of the city ministers, Rev. Dr. W. H. Smith, pastor of St. Paul's Presbyterian church, taking a prominent part in the fight. The decision of the electors today, so the winners say, is an answer to the ministers from the people that they believe their duties do not include the conducting of political campaigns. Dr. Smith in a letter in the newspapers today attacked Ald. Guthrie, chairman of the administration of justice committee, and in after election speeches, Ald. Guthrie said that Dr. Smith had received his answer from the people in their vote. Mayor-elect W. S. Hooper had a majority of 171 over his opponent, and his election did not come as a surprise. He is a native of Fredericton, has served a number of years as alderman and has been prominent in fraternal societies, having several years ago been grand master of the Independent Order of Oddfellows in the maritime province. Ald. Hugh Calder led the poll in today's fight, polling a total of 670 votes out of a total of 1122 being cast. There will be two new faces in the city council this week. Ald. Michael Ryan, who takes Mayor Hooper's place; Ald. Hugh Calder, who succeeds W. E. Farrell in Queens ward, and Ald. Robert Scott, who succeeds Thomas Allen in Kings ward. Mr. Cruikshank is a former St. John man, and had been here for the past two or three years as assistant to the deputy receiver general in the provincial government offices. There will be celebrations about town this evening, bonfires blazed in front of the homes of the successful candidates, and at City Hall when City Clerk McCready conducted the declaration proceedings about 8 o'clock a large crowd gathered and cheered lustily.

Table with columns: Name, City, Court, Total. Lists candidates for Mayor and Aldermen across various wards.

OPEN SUBSCRIPTION FOR THE NORWEGIAN POLAR EXPLORER

Christiana, Mar. 11.—It is announced that Capt. Roald Amundsen's debts on account of his south polar expedition amount to approximately \$18,000. A special committee which has been appointed has sent out an appeal to Norwegians to subscribe this amount and enable the committee to cable Amundsen at Hobart that his debts have been paid. Later a national subscription for the benefit of the explorer will be opened.

COMPANY ORGANIZED TO DEFAUD

Bill Introduced to Appoint Receiver for Fruit and Sugar Co.

Boston, Mass., Mar. 11.—The appointment of a receiver for the International Fruit and Sugar Company is sought in a bill introduced in the superior court today by Charles O. Whitmore of Hartford, Conn. The company was organized under the laws of Arizona and has its business offices in this city. The petitioner asks for an injunction to restrain the officers and directors from disposing of certain real estate, bonds and stock of the company and to restrain the International Trust Company of Boston from releasing any land subject to the mortgage that it holds thereon. The defendant officers and directors named were George F. Davis, of Toronto; Ira G. Ross, of Boston, and E. Rice and Charles F. Hill, both of Brookline. The complaint further asks that the trust company be directed to foreclose its mortgage of \$400,000 and that the bonds held by the individual defendants be declared void because issued without valuable or adequate consideration. It is alleged that the company was used by the individual defendants in a scheme to defraud. They were officers in that company and the Canadian-Cuba Land Company. It is charged that the individual defendants caused the Canadian company to transfer to the Fruit Company at a grossly excessive price, 40,000 acres of land in the province of Pinar Del Rio, Cuba. It is alleged that \$400,000 was the price paid, of which \$350,000 was in cash and \$50,000 in bonds of the Fruit Company. The land was placed with the Trust Company as trustees to secure a mortgage executed, to secure the issue of bonds by the Fruit Company. The latter was capitalized at \$1,900,000. It is charged in the petition that the land was worth only \$50,000. It is alleged that the Fruit Company offered the stock and bonds to the public and falsely represented that the property was worth \$2,000,000; that the business was that of a going concern. The petitioner charges that defendants diverted money raised from the sale of stocks and bonds to their own use. An order of notice returnable Friday was issued.

TOO MANY ENTRIES FOR COMPETITION TO BE HELD OTTAWA

Eleven Dramatic and Five Musical Productions Wish to Compete and Four Must Be Eliminated.

SALARIES OF QUEBEC CIVIL SERVANTS ARE TO BE AUGMENTED

Quebec, Mar. 11.—A special commission has been formed by the provincial government to establish divisions of the present employees of the civil service according to the bill that is now before the legislature. The salaries will be increased by about 10 to 25 per cent. Which will mean an increase of about \$150,000 a year. The members of the commission will be: Sir Lomer Gouin, prime minister; Hon. Mr. McKinnon, provincial treasurer; Hon. Mr. Decarie, provincial secretary; Hon. Mr. Taschereau, minister of public works, and M. J. Morin, auditor general of the province.

150,000 Cotton and Woolen Mill Operatives to Share Increase.

Advance of at Least Five Per Cent. Will Become Effective in New England Before April First. Boston, Mass., Mar. 11.—It was estimated that 150,000 cotton and woolen mill operatives in northern New England would share in an advance in wages at least five per cent. before April 1. Advances received here indicate that manufacturers in Fall River and elsewhere in southern New England are considering the advisability of meeting the increase decided upon by mills having their head offices in Boston. Should the 30,000 operatives in Fall River and a like number in New Bedford be given higher wages, manufacturers at other southern New England points feel that it would be policy for them to take similar action. An advance in all New England textile districts would directly affect 250,000 to 300,000 persons. In New Bedford the textile council held a meeting tonight to consider a plan of communicating with the manufacturers' association regarding higher pay. Otis N. Bruce, president of the association, expressed his personal opinion that the present market was not a bad one to consider a firm to warrant an advance at this time. Considerable unrest exists among the mill employees of Fall River. The mill foremen there had a meeting tonight to discuss a demand for an increase in wages. The demand has already been granted to the foremen by the Fall River Iron Works, Cotton Works, and American Printing Company, owned by J. D. Broden, of New Bedford. The wage question is to be discussed during the week at meetings of the carders, spinners, slaters, and weavers' unions. There has been no change in the weekly Fall River mill pay since 1908 and some of the manufacturers say they expect privately they will decide to grant an increase of five per cent. April 1. John Golden of Fall River, president of the Union Textile Workers of America, in an interview today, said: "It looks as though there would have to be a general increase in all textile centres of the country. An increase is needed in this city just the same as anywhere else, and I have no reason to believe but that the manufacturers will take the proper view of conditions and give the operatives what they deserve." Notices of a five per cent. wage raise were posted today in Maine and New Hampshire cotton mills employing 35,000 hands, the increase dating from today. Mills in various Massachusetts towns advanced the pay of about 11,000 employees.

ADVOCATES AN 8 HOUR DAY

British Labor Leader Communicates with Lawrence Strikers with View to Movement in Anglo Saxon Lands.

BILL WILL ALLOW THE FISHERMEN TO DROP ENGINEERS

Ottawa, Mar. 11.—Mr. Hasen is introducing a bill to amend the Fisheries Act. It will enable fishermen who operate with power boats to run them themselves by exempting them from the obligation to carry certificated engineers.

SWEEVEY FAILED TO ARRIVE FOR SPEECH

So Address in Reply to Speech Adopted Without a Division. LOOKS LIKE FUNK Bill for Further Development of Coal Areas Introduced by Premier—Gibson and Minto

Special to The Standard. Fredericton, March 11.—When the House adjourned on Saturday afternoon the address on the debate was in full swing. Mr. Bentley of St. John, who had spoken at greater length than usual, was followed by Mr. Tweeddale, who occupied what was left of the afternoon. As none of the government side seemed anxious to be heard Mr. Sweeney moved the adjournment of the debate, which was made the order of the day for this afternoon. After making this motion Mr. Sweeney left for his home in Moncton, and when the House met this afternoon had not returned. It was decided to wait until eight o'clock to give Mr. Sweeney an opportunity of making his speech, but as he was not in his place at that hour, and no one else on either side of the house desired to be heard, the motion was put and the address passed. Why Mr. Sweeney did not return has not been explained, but judging from editorial utterances of the local organ of the opposition he has at least been guilty of the worst kind of political cowardice. This local newspaper, after denouncing the government and its supporters for not responding more fully to the oratorical efforts of the opposition says: "Under former governments it was the custom to debate the speech, and why should this rule be departed from on this occasion? Why should Premier Fleming and his colleagues act like a lot of children in the opposition? Why should they shrink in face of the enemy?" Why Did He Stay? Some people may be cruel enough to ask of what Mr. Sweeney was afraid. What worth he feared to disturb when he remained in the quiet precincts of Moncton instead of turning to Fredericton? If Mr. Sweeney and his friends of the opposition were not ready to go on with the debate on the address the government is ready to place its important measures before the House for consideration. Continued on page two.

PUGSLEY ADMITS THE BORDEN GOVERNMENT WILL BOOM ST. JOHN

Prospects of Harbor Improvements Assured, he Says, and Development of the City Will Follow.

AGED COUPLE ARE VICTIMS OF FATAL FIRE IN FARM HOUSE

Mrs. John McCumber Aged 85 Cremated and Husband Aged 92 is Not Expected to Live. Erie, Pa., Mar. 11.—Mrs. John McCumber, aged 85, was burned to death today and her husband, aged 92, was fatally burned at their farm house, two miles from Cranestown. Mrs. McCumber was ill in bed, and her husband was preparing breakfast when the fire was discovered. Before neighbors could help, McCumber had been overcome with smoke and the roof had fallen in on the old couple. The man was later dragged from the ruins, but his wife was incinerated in her bed.

AMENDMENTS TO GRAIN BILL VOTED DOWN

The Opposition Dallied With Details and Sought to Waste Time. Carvell Hears How Liberals Dismissed Preventive Officer and Confiscated His Contributions.

Special to The Standard. Ottawa, Mar. 11.—The afternoon was spent on a private bill, the act nationalizing Queen's University. The point at issue was the clause prescribing the profession of the Christian faith as a qualification for officials and professors, a lively resistance being offered on behalf of the Jewish community. The debate was interesting and sharp at times. The evening sitting was absorbed by the grain bill which on its third reading was made to run the gauntlet of numerous amendments offered by the Liberals and pressed to a vote. Mr. Borden on being questioned by Mr. Martin, confirmed the report that the pay of the mounted police will be increased. The bill to nationalize Queen's University was discussed all afternoon. Mr. Bickerdike on behalf of his Jewish constituents resisting the clause obliging officials and professors to profess Christianity. The bill was carried by 70 to 7. Mr. Carvell asked about the dismissal of W. S. McLean, acting preventive officer at L'Etang, Charlotte county. He was informed that the services of this person had been dispensed with on account of political partisanship by order of the minister of customs based upon charges made in the usual course by the member of parliament for the constituency. George Chubb was appointed to replace him. Mr. Chubb was dismissed from office in 1896 and deprived of his superannuation contributions, to make room for W. S. McLean, a political partisan. In response to a question by Mr. Carvell, it was stated that Chubb on one occasion was fined under the Scott Act on account of three bottles of whiskey ordered by his son about Christmas time, for some neighbors, one of whom describes himself as a Liberal. Chubb's age is 70. His salary is \$150 a year, this being a preventive station only. Mr. Carvell also learned that D. I. Munde, preventive officer of customs at Richibucto has been dismissed for participation in cost of administration of the recommendation of the Minister of Customs, based on charges made in the usual course by the member for the constituency. Munde was paid \$400 a year. The amount contributed by him to the retirement fund will be repaid. Mr. Lamarche is giving notice that on the Manitoba Bill coming up for a third reading he will move to have inserted the clause guaranteeing existing rights moved by Mr. Moudou in committee of the whole and declared lost. The House spent several hours in the evening on the Grain Bill which came up for its third reading. The Liberals moved no less than six amendments; one was the six months' hold, and the others dealt with various points of details, such as the emergency distribution of cars, the hearing of cost of administration by trade, sample markets, etc. These were rejected. The vote on the first division that on car distribution was 89 to 47. Dr. Schaffner and William Sharpe voted with the opposition. The second division was a straight party vote 92 to 46 and the other amendments were declared lost on the same division.

MRS. PANKHURST MAY NOT APPEAR IN COURT ON THURSDAY

Hunger Strike Still Holds and It is Believed that Prison Authorities Have Resorted to Forcible Feeding.

MONOPOLY IS MADE EASY

Ruling of U. S. Supreme Court Will Make Patent on Every Household Article Possible—Congress Appealed to. Washington, March 11.—A far-reaching decision upholding the right of patentees to absolutely dictate whether patented articles may be sold by retailers and declaring legal the inventor's "monopoly" in his selling contracts was made by the supreme court of the United States. It was a divided court ruling, for against this, majority view, announced by Justice Lurton, three members of the bench, Chief Justice White and Justices Hughes and Lamar, dissented. Attorney General Vickersham, Solicitor General Loppman and a large assembly of lawyers were present in the court and apparently regarded the decision as epoch-making. Chief Justice White declared that Congress should act to head off "unholy evils" that would follow today's construction of the patent laws. He said that under the majority's ruling the patent laws could be stretched so as to include in a patent every conceivable thing used in every American household. The chief justice arraigned the majority's opinion as breaking all precedents, the court in its past history never having failed to do its duty to the whole people and to stand as the protector of every household.

SUFFRAGETTE LEADER IS IN POOR HEALTH

Mrs. Pankhurst May Not Appear in Court on Thursday. Hunger Strike Still Holds and It is Believed that Prison Authorities Have Resorted to Forcible Feeding.

London, March 11.—As the result of experiences in Holloway prison where she has defied the authorities and organized a hunger-strike, Mrs. Emmeline Pankhurst, chief of the British militant suffragettes, is in the prison hospital today. Her condition is said to be rather serious. Her illness, her friends allege is due to her being subjected to solitary confinement in a cell without heat. The prison officials refused to speak today or make any statement regarding Mrs. Pankhurst's illness, or to say whether it was likely to prevent her from being present in court next Thursday to be arraigned on a charge of conspiracy growing out of the suffragette raids on the retail district and the breaking of hundreds of windows. Her friends are anxious, as they say she will probably stick to her determination not to eat until she is released, and that she may also refuse all medicines. The hunger-strike among the followers of Mrs. Pankhurst in prison is still in force. No information regarding it is available, but it is believed that the authorities are resorting to forcible feeding.

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DUKE AND DUCHESS EXPRESS SYMPATHY FOR THE INJURED

Their Royal Highnesses Send Personal Messages to Each Victim of the Recent Hull Railway Accident.

MONTREAL BRANCH OF CANADIAN DEFENCE LEAGUE ORGANIZED

Montreal, March 11.—A Montreal branch of the Canadian Defence League was formed at a meeting held in the Chamber of Commerce today. Hon. A. Despardus was elected president.