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MONDAY MORNING DECEMBER 15 1919

39TH YEAR—ISSUE NO. 14,278

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# The Toronto World

## BORDEN'S EARLY RESIGNATION UNOFFICIALLY ANNOUNCED Minister of Militia Foreshadows Compulsory Service in Canada

### ALL OVER EGYPT A LARGE MEASURE OF SELF-GOVERNMENT

Curzon Explains What Milner's Mission Will Do to Satisfy All Parties.

Washington, Dec. 14.—Great Britain's plans for establishing a constitutional form of government in Egypt are set forth in an official statement made by Earl Curzon, the British minister of foreign affairs, which has been received here. The objects of the Milner mission are to arrange the proposed new government as described in the statement.

The British foreign secretary announces that it is the intention of the British government to establish the largest measure of self-government for which Egypt is believed capable at this time. He states that the Milner mission is not authorized to impose a constitution on Egypt, but rather to study the situation and confer with the native leaders.

In part Earl Curzon's statement follows: "It was in 1914 after we had been compelled to declare war upon Turkey that the British government over Egypt was declared. So far from this being intended or indeed regarded at the time as a high-handed act, aimed at the oppression of Egyptian liberties, it was decided upon by Mr. Asquith's government as a much milder and more generous policy than that of annexation, which at that time was strongly advocated by some. Cyprus, which had long been administered by the colonial office as part of the British Empire, was annexed to Egypt, and the opportunity of incorporating Egypt in the empire was deliberately and I think wisely rejected because it was intended, in a wide latitude of opportunity which the formulae of a pro-tem affords, to give free scope to the political aspirations and the self-governing capacities of the Egyptian people."

Not complete independence. "I need hardly elaborate the reasons for which Great Britain is compelled to do this. It is a matter of common knowledge that the Egyptian people are not yet ready for complete independence. It is necessary to secure a measure of self-government which will be a step towards the goal of independence, but which will be such as to be in accordance with the present state of the Egyptian mind and the needs of the country."

(Continued on Page 4, Column 7.)

### HYDRO RADIAL WORK STARTS IN SPRING

Begin on Toronto-Niagara Line—To Be in Operation the Following Year.

Special to The Toronto World. Hamilton, Dec. 14.—Hamilton's railway entrance problems will probably be solved early in the New Year—before February is ushered in. This question, it is expected, will be one of those settled at a conference between the Dominion Railway Board and the Ontario Hydro-Electric Power Commission, to be held in the very near future. These are some of the assurances brought to the attention of the Toronto Controller of the Hydro radial work which is being started in the early spring of 1920, and that the railway from Toronto to the border would be in operation during the following year.

The connection to be made with the Grand Trunk line either across a bridge or fill at Carroll's Point, or back on the Grand Trunk level at the west end of the bridge, will not be necessary, was another bit of information gleaned by the local representatives at the conference.

### PAYS \$400,000 INTEREST ON PIECE OF DISUSED RAILWAY

By Foolish Duplication of Lines and Roundabout Routes  
---Private Exploitation Has Fastened Heavy Deficits on Public Ownership.

Every day's delay in signing the Grand Trunk nationalization agreement costs Canada thousands of dollars. Sir Alfred Smithers, the stockbroker chairman of the Grand Trunk, reached London with it the other day, and began at once to make a sore mouth over its hardships—from the shareholders' and stock brokers' point of view. His friends in Montreal have been making very wry faces about the agreement's generosity to those same shareholders. Both representatives are intended to discredit government direction of the greatest of public utilities, and to disgust the shareholders with the idea of nationalizing the railway.

Chamber of Horrors. The contention that Canadian railway troubles are all due to the inauguration of private enterprise, through directors of corporations, is carefully avoided by the Smitherses, the Atholstans, The Gazette, and their kind. To them a parliament that boldly assumes the financial duty of the hour has become a chamber of horrors.

### SERVICE IN MILITIA TO BE COMPULSORY

Announcement by General Mewburn--Hon. C. C. Ballantyne States Definite Plan For Canada's Naval Defence Also About Ready.

Canadian Press Despatch. Montreal, Dec. 14.—An intimation of some form of permanent compulsory service for Canada, both in the permanent force and the Canadian active militia, was given Saturday evening at the banquet tendered Major-Gen. E. W. Wilson, C.M.G., on the occasion of his retiring from the post of general officer commanding military district No. 4, which he held during the whole war period until demobilization with conspicuous success. This announcement was made by Major-Gen. Mewburn, minister of militia, and was immediately followed by a definite statement from Hon. C. C. Ballantyne, minister of marine and naval defence, that he was considering a definite scheme on naval defence for Canada, along the lines of the advice given by Admiral Viscount Jellicoe during his recent visit to Canada, when the famous admiral had many conferences with Hon. Mr. Ballantyne.

### GOVERNMENT CHANGES TARIFF ENQUIRY PLAN ANNOUNCES DRAYTON

Instead of Commission, Will Secure Written Opinions, Then Hold Public Inquiry—Expect General Tariff Revision Within One Year.

Canadian Press Despatch. Ottawa, Dec. 14.—International and economic conditions, which are not only far from normal but are much worse than one year ago, when the promise of a general tariff revision was made, or at any time during the war period, are responsible for a change in the government's plans regarding a general tariff inquiry, according to a statement given to the Canadian Press by Sir Henry Drayton, minister of finance.

"Inasmuch, however," says the minister of finance, in explaining why the change of plans is considered necessary, "as any general revision must be based upon as complete knowledge as possible of the conditions and relations one to another of our various national industries and productive agencies, and as it is also desirable to obtain the views of as many persons as possible whose practical knowledge and experience would be most valuable, it is considered advisable to begin the collection of information relative thereto."

Secure Written Opinions. Instead of a commission being named for the purpose of touring the country, as had been anticipated, it is proposed now to get the preliminary information together by means of secure written statements from all interested, and these will be made the basis for a general public inquiry to be held throughout the country later, as indicated by Sir Thomas White.

Paris Press Pleaded. Sir T. White, who is held in Montreal as a leading authority on Canadian railways, says the annual deficit of our "political" railways is from forty to sixty millions, and that, merely to make good the current losses on operation, the national system must increase its business by one and a half times as much as the whole of the present C.P.R. traffic.

(Continued on Page 7, Column 5.)

### IRISH CONSTABLES CAUGHT IN AMBUSH

Four Wounded When Conveying Arrested Sinn Feiners to Headquarters.

Londonderry, Ireland, Dec. 14.—Searching parties were out today looking for men who last night, near Dungloe, ambushed and shot and wounded four constables who were returning to headquarters at Dungloe after having arrested Sinn Feiners.

The constables had arrested two Sinn Feiners and taken them to the special criminal court at Letterkenney, where they were regarded and wase on their way to Dungloe when a score of concealed men opened fire on them with pistols. Sergeant Farrell, one of the principal witnesses against the Sinn Feiners, was wounded in the head and body. Inspector Wallace and another constable were also wounded.

### EGYPT TO BOYCOTT MILNER MISSION

Cairo, Dec. 14.—The local committee of the Egyptian National Union has decided to boycott the mission headed by Viscount Milner on the following grounds:

1. That the Egyptian question is international and to enter into purporters with the British commission would be to classify the question as domestic.  
2. That the commission wishes to conduct pourparlers based on a protectorate, which the nation does not accept.  
3. That the plebiscite must be held under martial law.

### AIR FORCE PLAN FOR BRITISH NAVY

Winston Churchill Has Prepared Scheme Based on Expenditure of Fifteen Million Pounds.

London, Dec. 14.—Winston Spencer Churchill, secretary for war, has prepared a scheme for the Royal Air Force organization in peace time based on the expenditure of £15,000,000 yearly. The main outlines provide for one flight squadron for each division of the army, to co-operate with the troops in all stages of their training, besides three general service squadrons and also one of more squadrons for co-operation with the artillery.

### BORDER QUARANTINE ON WHOLE OF CANADA

Detroit, Mich., Dec. 14.—More stringent regulation to prevent the spreading of the smallpox epidemic raging in Ontario were put into effect by immigration officials here yesterday. Hereafter, no person will be allowed to cross the border from Canada without submitting to vaccination or presenting a certificate showing vaccination within the last three years. The restrictions imposed several weeks ago applied only to persons coming to the border from the interior of the province.

### U. S. Authorities at Border Insisting on Revaccination

Sarnia, Ont., Dec. 14.—The American health authorities at the border now insist on revaccinating all persons entering the United States whose vaccination did not "take." Those who fail to comply are immediately returned to the Canadian side of the border. The ferryboat receipts now have divided to a very low margin, and the service has been reduced to about one trip an hour.

### CHRISTMAS SAILING.

St. John, N. B., Dec. 14.—The last steamer to sail from St. John in time to reach England for Christmas, the C. P. O. S. liner Corsican, got away on Saturday with a pre-war holiday passenger list, carrying six hundred in the cabin and seven hundred third-class.

### CLAIMS LABOR MEN WANT TO CONTROL ALL THE RESOURCES

Nova Scotia U.M.W. Official Says Workers Must Get Reins of Parliament.

Sydney, N. S., Dec. 13.—"The labor men want to own and control the mines and resources of this country," was the frank statement of William Livingstone, a provincial official of the U. M. W., at the organization meeting of the Cape Breton Labor party in Glace Bay last night. The way to achieve this end, he told his hearers, was not by revolution, which would get them nowhere, but by electing men from their own ranks instead of professional politicians to represent them in parliament.

W. A. Richardson, the first speaker, denounced the present political conditions in the Dominion, and said that we need a Wilson or a Garfield to handle the situation as it exists in this country. Higher pay for Nova Scotia school teachers, to offset the exodus of educators to the west, was urged by David Ryan, vice-president of the United Mine Workers. He impressed upon his hearers the importance of making early efforts to secure for the laborers the sympathetic support of the women voters.

James B. McLaughlin, secretary-treasurer of the United Mine Workers' district, denounced the emergency legislation passed at the time of the Winnipeg strike, and made some radical statements in connection with it. He said that as a result "I haven't any faith in any government. The labor men of the country can't respect these laws, and they don't have to. The capitalist class has in the past made laws to disinherit the working class, and it is now up to the working class to organize to disinherit the disinheriters."

### START U. F. CAMPAIGN.

T. A. Crerar Launches Movement for Farmers to Gain Control of Federal Parliament.

Kentville, N.S., Dec. 13.—T. A. Crerar, formerly minister of agriculture in the union government, before a big meeting of the Farmers here this afternoon, launched a campaign for a Dominion-wide control by the Farmers for control of the next federal parliament. George F. Chipman, who divided the time with Mr. Crerar, said he was confident the Farmers would have 75 per cent of the vote of commons after the next general election, and he felt he was putting the estimate low. Hon. Mr. Crerar and Mr. Chipman each spoke for an hour.

### VOTE TO CONTINUE STEEL WORKERS' STRIKE

Washington, Dec. 14.—Continuation of the nation-wide steel workers' strike was voted today by the conference here of the 24 presidents of unions affiliated with the steel industry. It is said there were only two dissenting votes, most of the union leaders maintaining that victory in the controversy was in sight.

### AIRPLANE WRECKED; TWO CREW MISSING

Little Hope For Participants in London-Melbourne Flight.

London, Dec. 14.—The airplane of Capt. Cedric Ernest Howell, one of the British airmen in the London-Melbourne flight, was wrecked off St. George's Bay, island of Corfu, Dec. 10, and there is no hope that either Howell or his mechanic escaped, according to a despatch to Lloyd's from Corfu. The despatch adds that the log of the airplane has washed ashore.

### THE DAY'S CONUNDRUM

Where will the hired man wash his feet? Where will the Portfolloed Farmer get a seat?

### BORDEN TO RESIGN EARLY NEXT MONTH BY DOCTOR'S ORDERS

Conference of His Supporters in Commons and Senate Will Be Held in January to Receive His Resignation and Select a Successor.

Ottawa, Dec. 14.—Sir Robert Borden will resign the premiership within a month; his medical advisers have warned him that he must retire from public life. There will be a conference of his supporters in the commons and senate called early in January to receive Sir Robert's farewell message and to select his successor.

"I have nothing to say about the matter," was the reply today of Sir Robert when questioned as to the truth of the report.

At the same time, while the premier refused to either confirm or deny the report, it is felt in many quarters here that in view of the state of Sir Robert's health, it is quite probable that he may be compelled to relinquish his office.

### A STRANGE SITUATION

The report from Ottawa that falling health may compel the retirement of Sir Robert Borden as prime minister draws attention to the fact that we have in this country no adequate machinery for carrying on a general election. The war times election act, which established a federal franchise, lapsed on July 31 last. The election act now in force is based upon provincial franchises. Although parliament has declared in favor of a new federal franchise act, it could only vote at a federal election by virtue of a law federal franchise act. The provincial franchise in the western provinces would enable all naturalized citizens of enemy origin to vote, and everyone admits that there should be some restrictions in this regard by means of federal legislation.

If there is to be a change in the government at Ottawa the announcement should be made, not to a party caucus, but to parliament. The cabinet, or any other clique can name Sir Robert Borden's successor. He must be satisfactory in the first place to parliament.

### WILSON MAKE NO CONCESSIONS

Issues Statement That Republicans Must Bear Responsibility For Treaty Failure.

Washington, Dec. 14.—President Wilson today intervened in the peace treaty dilemma with the announcement that he had "no compromise or concession of any kind in mind," would make no move toward the treaty's disposition, and would continue to hold the Republican members of the senate responsible for results and conditions attending the delay. The president's position, regarded as peculiarly significant in view of the recent discussion in the senate of a compromise, was set forth in the following statement issued today from the White House:

"It was learned from the highest authority at the executive offices today that the hope of the Republican leaders of the senate that the president would presently make some move which will relieve the situation with regard to the treaty is entirely without foundation; he has no compromise or concession of any kind in mind, but intends so far as he is concerned that the Republican leaders of the senate shall continue to bear the undivided responsibility for the fate of the treaty and the present condition of the world in consequence of that fate."

The White House statement apparently had no effect in changing the treaty situation. Democratic leaders endorsing the president's views, declared that it did not preclude a senate compromise and that compromise efforts would proceed. Republican leaders reiterated that the president was responsible for the present status and must make the first move towards a solution. Senators hoping to kill the treaty alone expressed satisfaction. On one point only, apparently, were all senate factions in harmony—namely, that decisive action on the treaty probably would be deferred until next month, after the proposed holiday recess of congress, planned to end Jan. 5.

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