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PREMIER ARSENAULT RETURNS FROM OTTAWA

The Conference Most Successful Yet Held The Premier and Mr. McKinnon Obtain Number of Concessions for the Province from Different Departments.

Premier Arsenault returned on Friday night from Ottawa, where he had been attending the conference of Provincial Premiers. All the premiers were present at the conference, except Mr. Norris of Manitoba, who was represented by Hon. Mr. Johnston, the Manitoba Legislature being at present in session at Winnipeg.

Premier Arsenault, interviewed on the result of the conference, said that a great deal of important business had been discussed, much of which could not be referred to publicly.

Sir Robert Borden opened the conference with an address setting out the present situation regarding the war. Much of the information was of a confidential nature and went to impress the conference with the absolute necessity of the United States and Canada making a supreme effort for increased production in 1918-1919. Too much stress cannot be laid on the absolute necessity of the conservation of food and greater production, as it means the saving from starvation of millions of people in Europe. Of such vital importance was this considered to be that a number of different conferences have been held with the labour men, with the agricultural representatives, with the different Premiers, while others about to be held in the provinces with women from different sections of Canada, the object being to impress the whole Canadian people with the absolute necessity of conservation of food on the one hand and increased production on the other.

After Sir Robert's address, the Hon. Mr. Calder acted as Chairman. The conference was presided by a number of the Ministers, among others Sir George Foster, Hon. Mr. Mewburn, Hon. Mr. Rowell, Hon. Mr. Crehan, Hon. Mr. Meighen and Hon. Mr. Sifton.

Among the questions discussed under the chairmanship of the respective Ministers under whose departments the various subjects came, were: Increased Production, Immigration, Rehabilitation of Returned Soldiers and their settlement on Lands, the Sale of Western School Lands, and other subjects of equal importance.

The conference had the effect of bringing more forcibly home to the Provincial Premiers, the great questions and great difficulties which the Dominion Government has to solve. It has also created a more sympathetic understanding between the provinces of the East and of the West.

Hon. Mr. McKinnon, who was in Ottawa at the time on other business, attended the conferences with the Premier. Both he and the Premier had separate conferences with different departments and had a very satisfactory interview with the Land Settlement Board. The scheme for the settlement of soldiers in this Province was laid before the Board and the members were very much impressed with it and considered it one of the best proposed by any province, and assured the Premier and Mr. McKinnon that it would receive their sympathetic support.

They also had interviews with the Food Control Board, of which Mr. Thompson is Chairman, assisted by Mr. McGregor and Hon. Mr. Dunning. Arrangements were made by which it is hoped assistance will be given towards greater distribution of musel mud and other fertilizers among our farms.

The Premier and Mr. McKinnon interviewed the Ministers of different departments relative to matters of importance. They received the Minister of Militia's assurance that General Lessor would proceed to the Province at an early date with a view to placing military matters on a more satisfactory basis. If we cannot get a separate military district it is confidentially expected that enlarged powers will be given to the Province in military matters.

The Premier also made arrangements with the Pension Board, by which a paid secretary will be supplied to this Province. He will also be able to undertake other matters pertaining to returned soldiers. The Secretary of the Pension Board, Mr. Kerr, will make a visit to the province at an early date to complete arrangements. In the matter of this province is receiving special consideration as offices of this kind were abolished in places where there were ten times the number of pensioners that there are here.

The Minister of Railways was also interviewed with reference to the ferry "Leonard" which is advertised for sale. It was urged upon the Minister that this ferry should be put on the P. E. I. service. It turns out, however, that the Leonard is not suitable for this service. To make her effective the docks at Tormentine and Borden would have to be widened and otherwise altered. Under the circumstances the proposition is out of the question. The Minister gave the assurance, however, that one of the Scotias was being fitted up to take the place of the "Prince Edward" at any time she should have to go in dry dock.

The contract for the building of four additional engines for the railway has been let, delivery to be made at as early a date as possible.

An amount is also being placed in the estimates for a continuation of the Newfoundland service.

As to the Northumberland, strong representations were made to the Minister that she should be retained in the service between P.E.I. and the mainland. The Minister, however, replied that it was not the question. A number of necessary services in Canada have to be abandoned for want of steamers, and the Northumberland is required for other absolutely necessary services.

The Commissioner of Agriculture has made arrangements for the purchase of a number of Ford Tractors. These tractors are being sold and delivered at less than cost price. The Ford Company has numerous applications for these tractors from parties who would be willing to pay two or three times the amount they are being sold at. The Ford Company however, has engaged to deliver 4,000 to the British Government and the next order is 1,000 to the Dominion government. They are being sold under a guarantee that they will be placed with farmers at actual cost. Already a number of applications from farmers have come in and as there are only a limited number for this province any farmer desirous of purchasing one should send in immediate application. They are considered to be the best tractor manufactured and will operate on an expenditure of one-and-a-half gallons of kerosene to the acre. They will also do almost any work capable of being done by horses.

An enquiry being made as to a newspaper report that the Western provinces had put in a claim for the transfer of natural resources, Mr. Arsenault said such application had been made. The Maritime Provinces had received the assurance, however, that before any settlement was made the Eastern provinces would be heard. It will be remembered that some years ago P.E.I., New Brunswick and Nova Scotia made a presentation of their claims before the Privy Council for compensation by reason of the public lands of Canada having been transferred to the provinces of Quebec, Ontario and Manitoba. A like claim would arise in favour of the Maritime Provinces should the natural resources be transferred to the Western provinces.

The Prime Minister would express no opinion as to what is likely to be made of the application of the Western provinces until such time as correspondence in the matter was forwarded to the provinces interested. It is understood this will be done at an early date.

The Premier was accompanied by the other of ministers and the gathering at Ottawa was probably the largest and most important ever held there. The sentiment created between the different provinces was a most favourable one and cannot but lead to a better understanding both as between the Dominion and the Premiers and the provinces themselves.

The weather in Ottawa was quite mild until after the rain, and then it turned very cold in North New Brunswick the temperature was down to 22 below zero on Friday night. The railways are having continual difficulties and Premier Brewster of British Columbia, left Victoria with flowers in bloom, but was twenty-four hours late in arriving at Ottawa owing to snowstorms in Ontario.

SUDDEN DEATH OF MRS. W. S. LOUSON

In the passing of Mrs. W. S. Louison whose sudden death on Saturday morning came as a severe shock to her many friends, Charlottetown loses a lady of many charming qualities, whose kindly deeds will always be a pleasant memory to those who knew her. Mrs. Louison was apparently in her usual health on Friday, except for a slight cold, when she was suddenly stricken with paralysis about 10.30 p.m., and did not regain consciousness, passing gently to rest at 10.30 Saturday morning. The centre of her home, Mrs. Louison lived for her family, and while not going out to any great extent socially, she was always actively engaged in church and Y.M.C.A. work and many will look back to the recent Y.M.C.A. tea her last public work, and drop a tear of sympathy for the bereaved husband and family—Bessie, Jean, William and John, who are left to cherish her memory. Mrs. Louison was a daughter of Mrs. Slater, of Montreal, who survives, and who had the pleasure of seeing her daughter only last month, when she accompanied her husband on what she said was the most enjoyable trip she had had for some time. Mrs. Slater, who is a lady of 88 years is a sister of Sir James Grant of Ottawa. Three sisters also mourn. Mrs. James Scooch, who has visited here on several occasions; Mrs. David Lewis, Mrs. Vernon Tucker, all of Montreal, and Mrs. Gilbert Ogilvie of Ottawa, and one brother Mr. Alex. Slater of Los Angeles. The funeral takes place today and will be private. The Guardian extends sincerest sympathy to the bereaved family.

EMBARGO RAISED ON POTATOES TO U.S.

Food Controller's Prices For Potatoes.

(Special to the Guardian)
OTTAWA, Feb. 23.—The Food Controller advises that the Washington embargo has been raised and no permit will now be required for potatoes entering the United States. Following are the wholesale prices of potatoes:
Hamilton, New Brunswick, Delawares \$2.30 to \$2.40; Ontario \$2.25; Toronto-P. E. Island stock \$2.25 to \$2.30; Ontario \$2.25 to \$2.40; New Brunswick \$2.45 to \$2.50 per 90 pounds without bag.

U.S. AND NORWAY IN AGREEMENT

No American Products to Go Through Norway to Central Powers.

(Special to the Guardian)
WASHINGTON, Feb. 23.—A complete economic agreement in which Great Britain and the other Allied nations are in accord has been reached between the United States and Norway. These conditions among others were agreed to by Norway. That it would permit no American products to go to the Central Powers. That it would not export to the Central Powers any of its own products replaced by imports.

PRINCESS PATRICIA HONORARY COLONEL

(Special to the Guardian)
LONDON, Feb. 23.—(Via Reuters' Ottawa Agency)—The appointment of H.R.H. the Princess Patricia as Honorary Colonel in Chief of the famous Princess Patricia Canadian Light Infantry is gazetted.

SUCCESSFUL RAID BY BRITISH TROOPS

(Special to the Guardian)
LONDON, Feb. 23.—A successful raid was carried out last night by Scottish troops in the neighborhood of Monchy-Le Preux, says today's War Office report. "We captured 100 prisoners. Prisoners were also brought in by our patrols east of Wytschaete. The hostile artillery was active during the night in the neighborhood of the Menin Road and south of Houtholst Forest."

NO SINKINGS LAST WEEK.

(Special to the Guardian)
PARIS, Feb. 23.—No French merchantmen and no fishing vessels were sunk by German submarines or mines during the week ending February 16. Three merchantmen successfully escaped submarine attack. Steamers entering French ports totalled 619 and departing 876.

Laurier's Right Hand Man Defeated

HOME SOLDIERS' VOTE PUT HON. FRANK OLIVER DOWN AND OUT

OTTAWA, February, 24.—Hon. Frank Oliver, Laurier's right hand man in the late election, has gone down to defeat. Brigadier-General Griesbach, his unionist opponent, being elected by the home soldiers' vote. Oliver got only 15 soldiers' votes, as against 187 for Griesbach, so that Mr. Oliver, who had a majority of 80 on the civilian vote, is now in a minority of 90.

NONSINKABLE SHIP

(Special to the Guardian)
A GULF PORT, Feb. 23.—The former Australian steamer Lucia, equipped with a new "non-sinkable" system, has sailed from here with a cargo. The steamer is equipped with more than 12,000 air and water tight cells, which the inventor claims will keep the vessel afloat even should it be torpedoed.

COMING EVENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, MEETINGS, ETC.

- **Reserve Wednesday evening 27th inst. for entertainment and pie social at North Milton. Proceeds in aid of Red Cross. 2645-220M3ipd.
- **Reserve Wednesday evening, Feb. 27th for bean supper at Alex. D. McLean's, Rice Point. Proceeds in aid of Red Cross. If stormy first fine night. 2703-2-23M2ipd.
- **The Strathcona Farmer's Institute will hold an entertainment at the Consolidated School on Monday evening, Feb. 25th. Admission 35c. Proceeds for Prisoners of War Fund. This entertainment will take the place of the annual banquet, if weather unfavourable, following evening. 2735.

AMERICA'S NEED AND WAR PERIL

BY CONGRESSMAN GEORGE HOLDEN TINKHAM

Interesting observations from the front by Congressman George Holden Tinkham, of Massachusetts, who recently visited the war fronts.

Mr. Chairman, it seems to be my duty to address the House upon my return from war-torn Europe and to submit to it some conclusions and impart information which I hope will be of some value.

I have spent most of the last two months there, and during that time visited the American headquarters and some of the American camps in France. I travelled the English front from Calais nearly to St. Quentin, and along the French front from St. Quentin to Verdun. I travelled along the Italian front from Venice and the mouth of the Piave to the Asiago plateau. I also visited Paris and Rome. Many of the places to which I went I had visited often before this great war.

My information has been gathered from many sources; from personal observations and from conversations with men of various nationalities in military, naval, diplomatic, political and other employments.

America wants the truth, and it is vital that America have the truth. The picture of the military situation in Europe as reproduced in America is often not true particularly in relation to America's military efforts there and the conditions in Germany. The truth in Europe, where America is to play her great and victorious part, is that today the central powers have achieved all of their greater military objectives, with the exception of the taking of Paris, the attempt to take Verdun being part of that purpose.

Autocracy in Europe has democracy by the throat and is strangling it. The reason for the success of autocracy is that democracy is organized, deals more in deeds than in words, and modern autocracies are masculine and not feminine. Democracy to be successful in this, the greatest struggle in arms of all times, must organize better than autocracy, drop rhetoric for deeds, and become masculine. America, the greatest and most representative democracy, does these things democracy will be successful.

I found the French soldier and people courageous and unwavering in their dauntless loyalty. There is no avoiding the truth, however, that France is worn and has passed her meridian of man power and effort. She has plenty of food, with the exception of wheat and sugar. She has excellent military and political leadership.

I found England's war efforts splendidly organized and her equipment complete. The British Army is cheerful and confident. Large losses, such as 200,000 men in the last two months, I heard criticized as unnecessary. The truth, however, is that England is at the height of her power, but it is a height which she can maintain, undoubtedly, for one or more years. Under these circumstances of war, it seems possible for France and England to obtain a military decision, and France and England frankly admit the absolute necessity of a colossal effort on the part of America.

Much evidence shows that although Germany is very short of food she is not starving, and that the food situation in Germany is not as bad in some essential particulars as it was a year ago. There is also much evidence that Germany today has a larger number of men under arms than at any other time during the war, although their quality is not as good as formerly. The real social and political conditions in Germany are not much known, but it is not thought that there will be a revolution until after the war.

The results in France of American efforts up to the 1st of December in a strictly military way have been disappointing. The number of men there is much smaller than the American public believe, and although food and clothing were good in amount and quality, the lack of general supplies has a most demoralizing effect up on all preparations and efforts. I am not speaking of Italian guns, ammunition, about which the American public now knows, but of all other general supplies such as auto trucks, machinery, tools, wood, nails, camp kitchens, and many other absolutely essential things. Neither France nor England have these supplies in sufficient quantities to spare them to America, and unless with any new troops that are sent across, general supplies accompany them in sufficient amount, their presence in France will be a burden rather than a help. France and England have furnished general supplies, so that a further drain upon them will be a source of much weakness.

I saw some of the finest trees in France being cut for lumber. Modern war can not be carried on without lumber in large amounts, yet there was not sufficient lumber to be used by the French and English troops in France. It is my fixed opinion that the sending of more American troops without adequate general supplies will be a disastrous blunder.

The situation in Italy on the economic side is very perilous. All of the people north of Rome live on wheat and corn meal, and on the 1st of December there was only three months' supplies on hand. Unless America is able to supply wheat and corn meal to Italy in sufficient quantities before it is too late, a revolution such as occurred in Russia will not be unlikely. The Italian soldiers are fighting with great valor and skill, but their supplies, hospital service, and food are not such as a modern army absolutely requires.

The submarine situation is much more acute than the people are allowed to believe. The total allied and neutral tonnage sunk per month, which is not totalled for publication, exceeds the new tonnage launched, and this has been so for many months and will exceed the new tonnage launched until July 1, even if the plans of the allied and neutral governments are all carried through successfully. The Mediterranean is practically controlled by the submarines, and their efficiency seem to be increasing, although the American and British efforts against the submarines have been crowned with much success.

It is thought by those best informed on military matters that a supreme commander of all military efforts of the allies should be chosen and given full power and authority. From the North Sea to the Adriatic is one front, and the immense advantages of a central command are uncontested.

CONFERENCE WITH GERMAN SOCIALISTS

Labour Leaders in England Say Only Way to Peace is Through German Socialism.

(Special to the Guardian)
LONDON, Feb. 23.—At a luncheon today in connection with the inter-allied national allied labor conference, determined not to accept a German Arthur Henderson, former member of peace under any conditions. It had War Council and James Ramsay Macdonald decided to employ conciliatory methods in bringing about peace. But of Commons, urged the holding of a conference with German Socialists, the olive branch so long as Germany Mr. MacDonald said the only way to peace was to clutch the sword with both hands and to abandon the sword with both hands.

THE GERMANS BLAME THE BOLSHEVIKI

Dr. Herman Paasche Says the Teutons Will Continue the War. Blames Bolsheviki For War in Russia.

AMSTERDAM, Feb. 22.—During a short session of the Reichstag yesterday, according to Berlin despatches, Dr. Herman Paasche, the vice-president, discussed the Ukrainian peace and German intentions in the east, and concluded by declaring: "However much we desire peace, we are firmly resolved to hold out with genuine German loyalty until a peace is attained which guarantees us a free country, washed by a free ocean, the certainty of healthy development."

The Ukrainian peace, Dr. Paasche said, showed that the Central Powers were in earnest agreement with the emperor's declaration that they were waging no war of conquest as that peace was made without indemnities or cession of territory and was a peace honorable to both parties and mutual advantage.

Blame for the resumption of the war with Russia could not be placed upon the Central Powers, he asserted. The Bolsheviki, when the found the Germans could not be enticed to destroy the foundation of civic liberty, he said, broke off the negotiations. "We now shudder at the contemplation of the cruelties of the lawless band which support the present so-called government of Russia," he continued, "and we hope that energetic action on our part will help the races which severed themselves from old Russia, according to the principles of the right of self-determination, to return to peaceful work, freed from the terrible scourge of the Bolsheviki border hordes."

The honest desire for peace expressed by Chancellor Von Hertling, continued Dr. Paasche, had been rejected.

120,000 CZECHS AND SLAVS NOW IN FRANCE

Being Joined by Hundreds of Their Friends in U.S.

(Special to the Guardian)
NEW YORK, Feb. 23.—The statement that the army of Czechs and Slavs training in France to fight with the Allies now numbers 120,000 men was made at the closing session here today of the convention of the Slovak League of America. It was stated that the Czechs and Slovaks are leaving this country on every available ship by the hundred to become members of the new army.

BERLIN BOASTS OF PROGRESS IN RUSSIA

(Special to the Guardian)
BERLIN, Feb. 23.—The war office reports in Esthonia we are pressing eastward. In Livonia, Walk has been occupied in Ukraine the forces advancing southward from Lulis reached Dumbo. Elsewhere our operations are taking their course. The number of prisoners brought in has been increased to two generals, twelve colonels, 432 other officers and 8,770 men.

In the other theatres of war there is nothing to report.

CONDENSED SPECIALS

- Minard's Liniment Cures Rheumatism
- THE WEATHER, TEMPERATURE, TIDE, MOON, ETC.
- TODAY IS THE 1301st DAY OF CANADA'S PARTICIPATION IN THE WAR.
- TORONTO, Feb. 25.—Fresh south to southwest winds, mostly fair. The highest temperature recorded yesterday was 24 above. At 9 a. m. it was 15 above. At 9 p. m. it was 24 above. The lowest the previous night was 14 above.
- The tide will be high this morning at 11:05 and tomorrow at 11:36; it will be high tonight at 10:40 and tomorrow at 11:25.
- The sun sets this afternoon at 6 and tomorrow at 6:01; it rises tomorrow morning at 6:01 and Wednesday at 6:02.
- The moon rises this evening at 6:30. The first quarter of the moon was on Sunday Feb. 17th at 7:57 p. m. The moon will be full on Monday Feb. 25th at 4:35 p. m. The length of today will be ten hours and fifty eight minutes.
- **HEAVY BROWN PAPER FOR sgle, excellent for putting under oilcloth or carpets. Apply at The Guardian Office. 732-10-20Mtr.
- **HIGHEST PRICES PAID FOR ALL kinds of Raw Furs. B. R. Holman, 156 Richmond Street, Charlottetown. 2671-2-21Mtr.
- **EXPERTS SAY CAPLIN IS the best feed for foxes. Get it at 32 per 100 lbs. P. C. Brown, Revolver Hotel. 2659-2-20Mtr.
- **GIRL WANTED FOR GENERAL housework. Good wages to reliable party. Apply to Mrs. P. C. Brown, 196 Richmond St. 2660-2-20Mtr.
- **WANTED—TO RENT THREE unfurnished rooms for family of two. Apply at this office. 2687-2-16Mtr.
- **WANTED TO RENT AT ONCE house centrally located. Apply at this office. 2623-3-19Mtr.
- **FARADOR MACHINE TO LET by week or month. Apply to 224 Buxton street. 600-10-12Mtr.
- Minard's Liniment Cures Diphtheria