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The Daily Mail

The Weather.

Maritime: Fresh westerly
winds. Fair and much cold-
er tonight and on Sunday.

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FREDERICTON, NEW BRUNSWICK, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1917

TWO CENTS PER COPY

SAYS THERE IS NO HALF WAY HOUSE BETWEEN VICTORY AND DEFEAT

Important Speech by Premier Lloyd George---Read Lord Lansdowne's Letter With Painful Amazement--- A Precise Statement of Policy

(By Canadian Press direct wire.)

LONDON, Dec. 14.—David Lloyd George, British Prime Minister, tonight before the benches of the Grey's Inn, pronounced his last word in the new phase of the peace discussion which was launched by the Marquis of Lansdowne's letter. Former Premier Asquith had followed the Marquis of Lansdowne with an utterance which coupled the policy of the Marquis with that of President Wilson, and found agreement between the two.

The Premier's statement of his platform had been awaited with great expectation and heralded by eager discussion. His speech was pointed as all his words are. He also endorsed President Wilson, but found no common ground in the paths of President Wilson and the Marquis of Lansdowne toward peace. It was with "painful amazement," the Premier said, that he had read the Marquis of Lansdowne's letter.

He declared that the danger to the country was not from the very active minority of extreme pacifists, but from "men who think there is a half-way house between victory and defeat." The Premier gave warning against making terms with the "triumphant outlaw," and against "peace overtures to Prussia at the very moment when the Prussian military spirit is drunk with boastfulness."

DESTINY OF THE WORLD DEPENDS ON WHAT BRITAIN AND U. S. CAN DO IN SHIPBUILDING

Mr. Lloyd George said he saw no prospect for world safety in a league of peace in which lawlessness was stronger than the law. The critical stage of the war, at the time when Germany is straining to strike between the withdrawal of the Russians and the entrance of the American democracy, and said that the destiny of the world depended on what Great Britain and America could accomplish in shipbuilding during the next year. "Great Britain's will is as tempered steel, and will bear all right to the end," the Premier said. "There must be a further drain upon our man power in order to sustain the additional burden until the American army arrives. There is no ground for panic. Even now, after we have sent troops to Italy, the Allies have a marked superiority in numbers in Flanders and in France, and considerable reserves at home.

"Much greater progress has been made in man power in the last few months than either our friends or foes realize, but it is not enough to enable us to face new contingencies without anxiety. The problem of man power, however, does not end with the army.

ADVENT OF THE UNITED STATES INTO WAR HAS ENORMOUSLY INCREASED TONNAGE PROBLEM

"Victory now is a question of tonnage. Nothing can defeat us but the shortage of ships, and the advent of the United States into the war has increased the tonnage problem enormously. Germany has gambled on America's failure to transport her army to Europe. The Prussian claim is that autocracy alone can do things. The honor of democracy is at stake, and I do not doubt that the Prussians will be disillusioned; but both America and Great Britain will have to strain their resources to the utmost to increase their tonnage. The fact that American tonnage will be absorbed in the transport of their own armies compel us to increase our responsibilities in assisting France and Italy with the transportation of essential commodities to their shore.

"In order to obtain the necessary men for this object, we must interfere to even a greater extent than heretofore with the industries not absolutely essential to the prosecution of the war."

Must Strip Even Barer.

Premier Lloyd George, in concluding, emphasized how the country could add by further economizing and in the increase of home production. "We must strip even barer for the fight," he declared.

The speech generally was more restrained than Mr. Lloyd George's utterances usually are. The Premier was silent as regards a new and specific statement of war aims, which the Marquis of Lansdowne had urged, and for which pacifists are making demands.

Baron Rothermere, the new air minister, in speaking after Premier Lloyd George, said:

In Favor of Reprisals.

"My advisers have asked me to make a precise statement of our air policy. The question of reprisals comes first and foremost. At the air board we are wholeheartedly in favor of reprisals. It is our duty to avenge the murder of innocent women and children. As the enemy elect, there-

fore he it; an eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth, and in this respect we shall strive for a complete and satisfactory relation.

"Von Ludendorff proclaims this a war of the nations, suggesting that the civil population is equally a mark for the bombs along with the fighting men. We detest this doctrine, holding it to be grossly immoral, but, fighting for our lives and the lives of our women and children, we will not consent to its one-sided application. The enemy must learn in this as in larger things, that outrages on the civil population of this country do not pay."

Baron Rothermere's statement was loudly cheered.

FIVE VESSELS LOST IN STORM

(Canadian Press direct wire.)

Boston, Dec. 15.—The loss of one steamer and four sailing vessels during a week of exceptional storms which culminated last night in a 75 mile blizzard was reported tonight. Ten men were reported in imminent danger on the wreck of the four masted schooner Horace A. Stone, pounding to pieces on Stone Horse Shoal, three miles off Cape Cod, with the sea too rough for a rescue to be attempted. From an Atlantic port came word that the British steamer Knight of the Thistle had foundered at sea and that 54 of her crew had been picked up. Whether this included the ship's full complement was not announced.

Aside from the sinking of the 6,000 ton steamer, the most serious loss was that of the two four masted schooners loaded with coal, the Stone and the Edward F. Briny. The Briny was pounding heavily on Great Point and it was feared she would go to pieces.

EASTPORT, ME., HAS OUTBREAK OF SMALLPOX

Grand Manan and Canadian Islands in Danger of Infection
—General Situation in N. B. Favorable.

The Provincial Board of Health has been notified that Eastport, Me., contains a number of cases of smallpox of the type which has been prevalent in the state of Maine for some months. The situation makes Grand Manan and other Canadian islands adjacent to the American town liable to infection. The authorities are taking steps to guard against the introduction of the disease.

Throughout New Brunswick the disease is under control. At Minto the condition is not dangerous. Four secondary cases resulted from the original case. Two new cases are reported in Carleton county one of them being at Bristol. At Rogersville, Northumberland county, three houses are under quarantine.

SIR GEO. FOSTER IN ACCIDENT

(Canadian Press direct wire.)

Toronto, Dec. 15.—Sir George Foster, Minister of Trade and Commerce, and Unionist candidate in North Toronto, was reported "improving" this morning at the Toronto General Hospital, where he was taken last night after being struck by a locomotive and narrowly escaped death while crossing the passenger tracks at the Toronto union station. It was stated that Sir George passed a good night, but no intimation was received as to when he will be able to leave the hospital.

MESSAGE FROM SOUTH AFRICA

(Canadian Press direct wire.)

Halifax, Dec. 15.—Lieut. Governor Grant has received the following message from the Mayor of Pretoria, South Africa:
"Citizens deeply grieved at your deplorable calamity. They tender their profound sympathy to the bereaved and suffering."

LAURIER ADDRESSED FINE MEETINGS IN VANCOUVER

One Gathering was Composed Exclusively of Women---Denies an Alliance With Bourassa---Sifts the Temptor.

(Canadian Press direct wire.)

Vancouver, B. C., Dec. 14.—Sir Wilfrid Laurier today brought his election message to the Pacific coast. In his first visit to Vancouver since 1910 he stayed less than nine hours, but spoke to five gatherings of the electors, one of them exclusively for women, admission to all them being by ticket.

Women filled the ball room of the Hotel Vancouver, where, at 4 o'clock, the Liberal leader delivered his first and longest address. From there he went to several theatres, all filled to the limit of seating capacity. He spoke in all to about 8,000 people, it is estimated. He was received everywhere with very hearty cheers, and he was heard with close attention. At eight o'clock tonight he and his party left for the east. They reach Winnipeg on Monday and will receive the election returns in that city.

Sir Wilfrid devoted the greater part of his time to the Conscription Act. He declared his belief that, by persuasion and not by coercion, he could bring the province of Quebec into line with the other provinces, in the matter of enlistment. He held the Borden government responsible for Quebec's showing, and charged that there had been an alliance between the Conservatives and the Nationalists which had spent Conservative money in teaching Quebec not to fight the Empire's wars.

Will Stay in War.

"If Laurier wins the election," he said, "Canada will stay in the war, and in it to the finish."

Sir Wilfrid denied that he was in any alliance with Bourassa to win the present election. "Conservative papers," he said, "are shocked and scandalized and shed tears over the alliance of Laurier and Bourassa. I can understand that they would be happy if they could show that I am just as unpatriotic, as craving for office as their own leaders were in 1911. Thank the Lord that I am not built that way.

Canadian Soldiers Greatly Interested in the Election

GOVT. SLOW IN CONDEMNING ROSS RIFLE

(Canadian Press direct wire.)

Montreal, Dec. 14.—Hon. Sydney Fisher declared at a Liberal meeting in Victoria Hall, Westmount, tonight, that the British government had condemned the Ross rifle more than a year before the Borden government put it aside. "During the year," he said, "thousands of young Canadians were slaughtered in the trenches because they could not fire against the attacking Germans."

Senator Dandurand, in refutation of the Unionist charge that Sir Wilfrid Laurier had not done what he could in encouraging recruiting in Quebec province, said Sir Wilfrid's speech at Sohmer Park alone had resulted in 4,000 or 5,000 men coming forward, and out of these the 22nd Battalion was formed. He said an honest government would not have kept 118,000 men kicking their heels in England for the past six months. Senator Dandurand also found fault with Sir Robt. Borden for having called for 100,000 Canadian soldiers after the United States had entered the war.

RELIEF FUND GROWING.

(Canadian Press direct wire.)

London, Dec. 15.—The Mayor's Fund for the relief of Halifax sufferers is now over quarter of a million pounds. Among subscribers yesterday were Lady Strathcona, \$10,000; Lord Mount Stephen, \$5,000; Lord Rosebery, 100 guineas.

Building Party Left Today.

The party of carpenters, glaziers and other artisans selected to assist in the erection of buildings in Halifax to afford temporary accommodations for the homeless people, left this morning. Mr. W. J. R. Carten is in charge of the party, which includes twenty-one all told.

Mr. I. Archibald of Boston, is in the city. Major C. H. McLean of St. John, is a guest at the Queen.

Voting is Being Carried on Right up in the Firing Line---Wounded Men Are Exercising the Franchise---One Poll Clerk Seriously Wounded.

(By Canadian Press direct wire.)

(W. A. Willison, Canadian Press correspondent.)

Canadian Army Headquarters in the Field, via London, Dec. 15.—No less than 37 per cent. of the total vote of the Canadian Corps had been polled by 8 o'clock last night. Some units have already polled 100 per cent. of the ballots, while the general experience to date is that the number of men refusing to exercise the franchise is almost negligible in specific units, though the aggregate may be appreciable.

As I cabled some days ago, voting has been extended right into the firing trenches, while the gunners have voted beside their guns. The most dramatic of all the incidents of the war election to date has been the securing of votes of men wounded in action, while fighting for the Dominion, the Empire and the great cause which has brought them voluntarily to this most bitter and tragic struggle in the world's history.

WOUNDED MEN IN ADVANCED DRESSING STATIONS VOTED AS THEY LAY IN BED WEAK AND SUFFERING

The deputy presiding officers, scrutineers and poll clerks have brought their ballot boxes with them to the advanced dressing stations and voted men as they lay in bed, men so weak from suffering that it was all they could do to mark their ballots. In one station alone ninety men were voted and they welcomed the opportunity to cast their ballots in what they regarded as the most critical political contest in the history of the Dominion.

The election officers have taken their boxes with them on the tramways behind the lines and have voted men as they worked. In the same way they have gone through the front line trenches, giving men in the firing line their opportunity to exercise the franchise.

OFFICIALS HAVE RISKED THEIR LIVES AND ONE POLL CLERK HAS BEEN SERIOUSLY WOUNDED

Officials have worked all day and far into the night, have risked their lives in order to secure to every possible man adequate opportunity to exercise the franchise. One poll clerk has been seriously wounded, a presiding officer has been sent down to the base as a casualty, while one gunner, voting beside his gun, was hit by shrapnel.

But there has been no serious interruption to the election work and above all no interference with actual war operations.

MANY DIFFICULTIES HAVE BEEN OVERCOME SUCCESSFULLY IN GETTING THE VOTE POLLED

As far as your correspondent can learn, the elections have been conducted with surprising smoothness. The representative of the deputy clerk of the crown in chancery and his fourteen assistants have worked steadily and successfully to insure an adequate voting opportunity to every soldier. Roughly, 600 polls have been opened for the Canadian troops alone.

Officers have co-operated splendidly, while the men have welcomed the opportunity to cast their ballots. Many difficulties have of course been encountered, but they have been overcome to date and the expectation is that when the polls close on December 1 the total poll will be very large.

OFFICER OF MONT BLANC SAYS FOLLOWED RULES OF NAVIGATION

(By Canadian Press direct wire.)

HALIFAX, N. S., Dec. 15.—When the inquiry into the Mont Blanc-Imo disaster was resumed before Mr. Justice Drysdale today, the cross-examination of First Officer Glokin, of the Mont Blanc, was continued. He stated that in conversation with French Consul Gobeoury he gave as his impression that the Mont Blanc had followed the rules of navigation throughout the whole happening. He said that he was surprised at the signals given by the Imo, on the morning of the disaster, as he considered them contrary to the rules of navigation. The blast signal given by the Mont Blanc indicated that the ship was going to the right in accordance with the rules of navigation. He told of the signals given before the collision and their meaning. He noticed that the two ships were on intersecting courses after the first blast of the whistles.

The witness indicated by chart the position of the Mont Blanc when she gave the first blast, and also that of the Imo. After the collision every one of the crew left the Mont Blanc. He could not account for a man being seen on deck after the boats left, or for two men getting ashore from the ship at Pier 6. He discredited these stories. He declared the ship was not on fire before the collision. The vessels struck at an angle of over 90 degrees. The witness was on the starboard side of the ship until after the collision.

Is the Borden government now. There is no change of government until there is a change of premiership. It is very true that the Liberals who have gone into the government made a wry face and prayed the Lord to be saved by the king from the old cralice. They were ready for union, but not under Sir Robert Borden. But there was a tempter behind. Who was the tempter? Sir Robert Borden? Not at all. Sir Robert Borden is but a passive agent in all this. The tempter's name was Clifford Sifton."

MAY HAVE BEEN A PRO GERMAN

(Canadian Press direct wire.)

Halifax, Dec. 15.—An interview with a lawyer of Philadelphia, sent out from that city and published in New York newspapers, has been furnished counsel in the Mont Blanc-Imo collision inquiry here and probably will be discussed in court. The investigation stated that Capt. Fron, master of the Imo, when at Philadelphia, refused to pay bills contracted at that port and when forced by the government authorities to pay same, acted "like a maniac" and in a manner unfriendly to the United States. Captain Fron lost his life in the disaster and his body has not yet been found.

A BIG CLAIM FOR SALVAGE

(Canadian Press direct wire.)

Halifax, Dec. 15.—An action for \$200,000 for salvage and damages has been brought in the Admiralty Court here by the Canada Steamship Lines, Limited, against the steamer Northern King, her cargo and freight.

The plaintiffs are the owners of the ship and the claim is for damages in collision and salvage services rendered in Halifax harbor on Dec. 7th.