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# The Daily Mail

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The Weather.  
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Light to moderate winds, fine today and Friday, becoming milder.  
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FREDERICTON, NEW BRUNSWICK, THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 1919

TWO CENTS PER COPY

## GOVERNMENT AUDITORS REPORT ON THE COST OF PRODUCING NEWSPRINT

**Finds That Manufacturers Charged Up Gifts to the Patriotic Fund and Halifax Disaster to the Cost of Production — Commissioner Pringle Found to Have Been in Error on Some Points — The Booth Mill at Ottawa Had the Advantage of Cheaper Grade of Wood.**

Ottawa, April 10.—The report of government auditor G. T. Clarkson, on the deductions which the publishers claim from the costs of producing newsprint as used in prices fixed by Commissioner Pringle was referred to Mr. Pringle at today's hearing.

With regard to such items as charging patriotic fund and the Halifax disaster contributions to cost of operation of mills instead of treating them as gifts out of profits, Mr. Clarkson merely says that amounts deducted by the publishers are correct if these items ought to be eliminated from costs. In connection with the charge of the Laurentide company included in its costs to Canadian companies the cost of defence against prosecution in the United States for violation of the Sherman anti-combine law, Mr. Clarkson said:

### ONE COMPANY CHARGED UP COSTS OF DEFENCE

#### IN AN ACTION UNDER SHERMAN ANTI-TRUST LAW

The costs of criminal proceedings were written off in the eight months ending February 28, 1918. If the claim is allowed, the deduction to be made will be thirteen cents per ton of newsprint paper. Mr. Clarkson apparently accepts the publishers contention that Commissioner Pringle was in error when he arrived at a basis for price-fixing by actual averages of various months instead of using actual production as a basis. Regarding the Booth mill, Mr. Clarkson reported: "The deduction is correct, net average costs for the period of basis of production having involved a reduction of twenty nine cents from the amount employed by the commissioner."

One of the interesting points at issue between manufacturers and publishers is as to whether the Booth mill, with a large stock of a cheaper grade of wood on hand from earlier years should be permitted to charge the costs of wood cut recently in arriving at its cost per ton of newsprint. Mr. Clarkson says:

### AUDITOR THINKS SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES IN

#### THE BOOTH CASE SHOULD BE GIVEN HEED TO

"Inasmuch as low cost wood in the normal course of events comes into use by the Booth company in the months following June 1918, the publishers clearly entitled to draw attention to the condition as providing special circumstances which would tend to lower costs to Mr. Booth in the months succeeding June and to ask that those circumstances be given heed to. "If it should be held in view of the circumstances obtaining that all wood used during 1918 should be averaged, the deduction to be made would be \$4.19 per ton of newsprints for the six months."

The Clarkson report is clear on the point that a wrong method was used in arriving at cost per ton of Booth newsprint by Mr. Pringle when he divided the total cost by weight of newsprint production instead of newsprint plus wrappers, since the total cost included the cost of wrappers. His report on the Booth mill's says:

The production weight shown in cost statements on which unit costs are ascertained should be increased to include weight of wrappers, giving a deduction of \$1.18 per ton of newsprint."

The govt. auditor expresses no opinion on the practice of charging Canadian publishers with commission on sales, in the United States regarding the Booth mill: "If the contention of the publishers is upheld and commission on American sales be allowed to American buyers, the deduction to be made will be \$1.30 per ton of newsprint."

## SOLDIERS WHO CROSSED ON THE S.S. SATURNIA LANDED AT ST. JOHN

St. John, April 10.—The steamship Saturnia landed some 1,600 returned soldiers here today and they were given quick despatch westward. At 9.20 o'clock the first train got away, taking Montreal, Kingston and Ottawa men; at 9.45 o'clock the train for Toronto pulled out from the pier; at 10.15 another train carrying more Toronto men as well as many for Hamilton and London started on its journey and at 10.45 the last train was on the way, taking with it the men for the coast. The record established for quick and efficient work in handling the troops from the Empress of Britain was equaled.

## GOOD MAPLE SUGAR CROP

Quebec, April 9.—Reports from the various sugaring districts state that the maple production this year will beat all records for ten years back. Sugar was selling at 20 cents per lb. here today and syrup at \$1.60 to \$1.70.

## BOXING BILL WAS PASSED

Albany, N. Y., April 10.—The Gibbs bill, designed to legalize boxing bouts in the state of New York, was passed without debate in the Senate last night by a vote of 27 to 18.

## SOLICITOR MOVES IN OWN APPEAL

**B. L. Gerow of St. John Appeals Against Verdict of Jury in Matter of Professional Services.**

Before the Appeal Division Supreme Court, this morning argument was completed in the case of Fairbrother, Administratrix, v. Egles Bellows Engineering Co., Ltd. in which F. R. Taylor K. C., for the defendant moved to set aside a verdict for the plaintiff and to enter verdict for defendant or for new trial. P. J. Hughes, contra. Court considers.

In Gerow vs. Webber the plaintiff B. L. Gerow, solicitor, appeared in person and moved to set aside verdict entered for defendant or to enter verdict for plaintiff or for new trial. D. Mullin, K. C. contra. The appeal is from a verdict of a jury at the St. John Circuit Court in January for professional services. The appeal is still before the court.

## ALL TROOPS WILL BE BACK BY AUGUST

Ottawa, April 9.—Major General Mewburn, Minister of Militia, at a "Vimy" dinner given by veterans of the 38th Battalion tonight, said he had accepted his present position in order to maintain a Canadian corps at the front, and to do what he could for returned soldiers. He had no other desires for political life.

Referring to the reorganization of the Canadian militia, he said the task would have been much easier if the C. E. F. had been organized differently. If the regiments formed at the opening of the war had been reinforced from the same districts, it would be easier to perpetuate them in the Canadian militia. He had given that mat-

## NAVIGATION IMPROVEMENT IN ST. JOHN RIVER DISCUSSED BY PUBLIC WORKS DEPT. ENGINEER

**Wing Dams Suggested to Overcome Difficulty at Oromocto**

**Shoals—Fred G. Goodspeed, Departmental Engineer, Securing Information—Dredging Produces but Temporary Improvement—Resolution of Regret on Death of the Late George Y. Dibblee.**

The regular quarterly meeting of the Board of Trade was held last evening with the following members in attendance: Dr. C. C. Jones, and Messrs. Belyea, J. J. Weddall, J. S. Neill, M. Mitchell, Frank Clements, H. S. Campbell, J. T. Jennings, C. F. Chestnut, G. W. Hodge, R. H. Simonds and Mr. W. J. Glen, representing Fraser Ltd. and J. S. Armstrong. Mr. H. S. Campbell occupied the chair. Two new members were received into the rights of membership. Fred G. Goodspeed of St. John engineer of the Public Works Department was present at the meeting in connection with the improvement of navigation on the St. John River.

### Communicants

A communication dated the 7th February last from the Minister of Public Works, Fredericton, was read with reference to the maintenance of roads and sidewalks upon which Provincial Government property fronts in the city, and the secretary was directed to call his attention to the matter as nothing since had been heard of the matter.

A circular letter from the secretary of the Dominion Association of Fire Chiefs, Woodstock Ont., dated 1st, inst. with reference to Fire Prevention and Cleanup Week, was read.

On motion the secretary was directed to refer the matter to the City Council, with a request to take action.

A circular letter, from the Dominion President of the Navy League of Canada, and accompanying Resolution regarding Empire Naval Defence was read, and was laid on the table for further consideration.

Two new members C. A. Kitchen and E. H. Clarkson were elected to take their places at the Board. It was decided that the same method of col-

## The Franco-Greek Troops Have Evacuated Odessa

### COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE IN SESSION

The Committee on Agriculture met again this morning with Mr. Mersereau in the chair. Mr. E. P. Bradt, Secretary for Agriculture appeared before the Committee and gave information concerning various matters.

School gardens were discussed to some extent by the committee and the opinion expressed in favor of such gardens in connection with public schools in order to promote and broaden agricultural training. Some attention was given to matters relating to potato culture and it was advocated that a uniform grade of seed potatoes should be adopted throughout the province. The Committee also discussed the importation of pure-bred rams and stallion registration.

Mr. A. W. Clogg of Montreal is in the city today.

Mr. Leon A. Keith of St. John is at the Queen.

Mr. George Livingstone of Montreal is registered at the Barker House.

ter a great deal of thought and had decided the problem could not be worked out until the whole of the troops had returned, an da conference was held of those who had been overseas.

"Demobilization is going on fairly well," said the Minister. "Since November we have actually returned and demobilized 167,000, including some troops in Canada. With the opening of navigation on the St. Lawrence we will be able to bring back 45,000 men a month from overseas. With ordinary good luck every soldier should be back early in August."

**Outposts Compelled to Withdraw and Evacuation of the City Became a Military Necessity—The Bolshevik Expected to Make Capital Out of it — Roumania Menaced by Bolshevik and Hungarian Troops and Will Need Assistance.**

PARIS, April 9.—The following in military and strategical quarters in Paris concerning the evacuation of Odessa is optimistic. Commandant Jean Miribel, a military critic who achieved fame in France by his intelligent anticipation during the last stages of the war, said to the correspondent this afternoon:

"The Franco-Greek troops commanded by General Anhelm has just evacuated Odessa. After severe fighting during the second half of last month the outposts fifty miles east of Odessa near Kherson and Nikolaiye had to withdraw and the evacuation of Odessa then became a military necessity."

Certainly it would have been better from the morale and political point of view to retain Odessa, as our retreat doubtless will be capitalized by the Bolshevik government; but considering the purely strategical question, the abandonment of the great city has only relative importance.

### HAD ODESSA NOT BEEN EVACUATED TROOPS

#### WOULD HAVE BEEN COMPELLED TO SURRENDER

"What matters above all is the fate of Roumania, which is menaced by the Bolshevik from the east and the Hungarians to the west and attempting to keep isolated troops in Russia was a tactical error. Had we not evacuated Odessa our troops would have been encircled and compelled to surrender. It is on Roumanian territory that Allied troops must be concentrated. The Polish troops to the north and centre, the Czecho-Slovaks to the south and Allied and Roumanian troops there will be the three barriers against which the Bolshevik push will be stopped.

### AN AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED BY THE

#### COUNCIL OF FOUR IN REGARD TO SAAR VALLEY

Paris, April 9.—The Council of Four reached an agreement this afternoon on the Saar Valley. The agreement leaves the sovereignty of the valley unchanged, but accords to France free of duty sufficient coal for the Lorraine mine industry and to replace the production of the mines destroyed in the Lens mining district, with the privilege to the Germans of restoring the Lens mines and thus relieving the Saar Valley of that charge. This agreement removes one of the most difficult obstacles to the conclusion of peace.

## FAVORED NATION TREATMENT DEMANDED FOR ALLIED NATIONS

**Provision for This Will be Incorporated in the German Peace**

**Treaty—Restriction to be Enforced for Five Years, After Which Germany May Increase Duties.**

Paris April 10.—Provision for the most favored nation treatment in the German customs tariff for the allied and associated countries and a single tariff, and no tariff discriminations based on the flag of the vessels in which goods are transported, or the route of importation or exportation will be incorporated in the peace treaty with Germany, according to the present provisional agreement. The restriction is to be enforced for five years after the conclusion of the peace, and it will probably include the provision that tariffs in force upon imports from the associated countries during that period shall be based on the most favored nations schedule of 1914. The obligation to maintain under a single tariff the 1914 schedules will be specified only for a limited period since there is a fairly general resolution that Germany will be able financially to raise the maximum of reparation payment and limit or exclude unnecessary imports only by the imposition of higher customs rates. And the proposal is under consideration to give Germany after the period which will be refused for the study and revision of tariffs, absolute freedom to increase all her duties.

## QUEBEC IS TODAY TAKING A VOTE ON THE PROHIBITION QUESTION

Montreal, April 10.—The province of Quebec is today voting on the referendum as to whether wine and beer licenses shall be issued, or whether the province shall go "dry." Both the liquor interest and temperance organizations have conducted vigorous campaigns and the vote is expected to be heavy. All the Protestant ministers have denounced the granting of wine and beer licenses but the Roman Catholic Churches in some cases have not declared their charges. Last night the wets organized a torch-light procession in their city. It marched through the city bearing such announcements as "Let's all go home; let Toronto run the show," "Home rule in old Quebec," "(Nive la France) long live its wine," (Look at bone dry Russia.)