GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY SHAREHOLDERS ACCEPT GOVERNMENT TERMS

Sir Alfred Smithers Says Company Could Not Carry on Under Circumstances—Judging by Protests the Bargain is Good One For Canada.

A despatch from London, says:—The shareholders of the Grand Trunk Railway, after listening to heated criticism, on Thursday assented to the terms of agreement with the Dominion Government. A dozen dissentients held a meeting afterwards and passed a resolution protesting against the terms.

"We have fought hard for nearly two years, and we earnestly and unhesitatingly recommend you to accept the agreement."

This was the final sentence of Sir Alfred Smithers' speech to the Grand Trunk shareholders. The meeting was crowded and at times there were strong ejaculations. The shareholders, however, were entirely cordial toward the Chairman and his colleagues.

Sir Alfred Smithers decalred that he had always been most careful to express himself with all possible restraint regarding the Canadian Government, but, unfortunately, the bare recital of this case was sufficient to cause considerable feeling.

"I knew there were influential men in Canada who thought that the policy the Government should pursue was to let us alone, and that the weaker we became the easier we could be dealt with. They knew that we were being forced by the Government to carry on under impossible conditions over which we had no control. I felt we were being held up." (Cries of shame! and one voice, "Swindlers!"

Sir Alfred, continuing, said: "I received figures showing the profits were swallowed up in increased wages, without the company being granted increased rates, which meant the loss to shareholders of at least one and a quarter to one and a half million pounds in each of the last three years."

The Chairman said that they thought in regard to the Grand Trunk Pacific at least they were entitled to be shown the same consideration as the Canadian Northern.

This map shows Italy's latest suggestion regarding the Dalmatian Coast. She would make Fiume and its environs a buffer state with its Italianity recognized. Zara would be a free port. The newspapers of Italy are bitterly hostile to President Wilson's attitude on the Adriatic question. They claim that he is trying to impose his will upon all Europe.

Weekly Market Report

Breadstuffs.

Toronto, Feb. 24.—Manitoba wheat—No. 1 Northern, $2.80; No. 2 Northern, $2.77; No. 3 Northern, $2.73, in store Fort William.

Manitoba oats—No. 2 C.W., 96¾; No. 3 C.W., 93¾c; extra No. 1 feed, 93¾c; No. 1 feed, 92¾c; No. 2 feed, 91¾c, in store Fort William.

Manitoba barley—No. 3 C.W., $1.74½; No. 4 C.W., $1.45½; rejected, $1.34½; feed, $1.34½, in store Fort William.

American corn—No. 3 yellow, $1.90; No. 4 yellow, $1.87, track, Toronto; prompt shipment.

Ontario oats—No. 3 white, 98c to $1.00, according to freights outside.

Ontario wheat—No. 1 Winter, per car lot, $2.00 to $2.01; No. 2, do., $1.98 to $2.01; No. 3 do., $1.92 to $1.93, f.o.b. shipping points, according to freights.

Ontario wheat—No. 1 Spring, per car lot, $2.02 to $2.03; No. 2 do., $1.98 to $2.07; No. 3 do., $1.95 to $2.01, f.o.b. shipping points, according to freights.

Peas—No. 2, $3.00.

Barley—Malting, $1.77 to $1.79, according to freights outside.

Buckwheat—$1.55 to $1.60, according to freights outside.

Rye—No. 3, $1.77 to $1.80, according to freights outside.

Manitoba flour—Government standard, $13.25 Toronto.

Ontario flour—Government standard, $10.80 to $11, Montreal; $11 in Toronto, in jute bags. Prompt shipment.

Millfeed — Car lots— Delivered Montreal freight, bags included—Bran, per ton, $45; shorts, per ton, $52; good feed flour, $3.60 to $3.75.

Hay—No. 1, per ton, $27 to $28; mixed, per ton, $25, track, Toronto.

Straw—Car lots per ton, $16 to $17, track, Toronto.

Country Produce—Wholesale.

Butter—Dairy, tubs and rolls, 43 to 44c, prints, 48 to 50c. Creamery, fresh made solids, 60 to 61c; prints, 62 to 63c.

Eggs—New laid, 64 to 65c.

Dressed poultry—Spring chickens, 32 to 35c; roosters, 25c; fowl, 25 to 32c; geese, 25 to 28c; ducklings, 32 to 35c; turkeys, 45 to 50c; squabs, doz., $4.50.

Live poultry—Spring chickens, 22 to 28c; roosters, 20c; fowl, 25 to 32c; geese, 22 to 25c; ducklings, 30c; turkeys, 35c.

Cheese—New large, 30 to 31c; twins, 30½ to 31½c; triplets, 31½ to 32½c; Stilton, 34 to 35c; old, large, 32 to 33c; Do., twins, 33 to 33½c.

Margarine—33 to 38c.

Beans—Canadian, hand-picked, bushel, $5.50 to $6.00; primes, $4.50 to $5.00; Japans, $5.50 to $5.75; California Limas, 17½ to 18½c; Madagascar Limas, lb., 15c; Japan Limas, lb., 11c.

Honey—Extracted clover, 5-lb., tins, 27 to 28c; 10-lb. tins, 25 to 26c; 60-lb. tins, 25c; buckwheat, 60-lb. tins, 18 to 20c; comb, 16-oz., $6.00 to $6.50 doz., 10-oz., $4.25 to $4.50 doz.

Maple products—Syrup, per imperial gal., $4.25; per 5 imperial gals., $4.00; sugar, lb., 29 to 30c.

Provisions—Wholesale.

Smoked meats—Hams, medium, 35 to 37c; do., heavy, 29 to 30c; cooked, 48 to 51c; rolls, 30 to 31c; breakfast bacon, 42 to 47c, backs, plain, 50 to 52c; boneless, 54 to 58c.

Cured meats—Long clear bacon, 31 to 32c; clear bellies, 30 to 31c.

Lard—Pure, tierces, 31 to 31½c; tubs, 31½ to 32c; pails, 31¾ to 32¼c; prints, 32 to 32½c. Compound tierces, 28½ to 29c; tubs, 29 to 29½c; pails 29¼ to 29¾c; prints, 30½ to 31c.

Montreal Markets.

Montreal, Feb. 24.—Flour, new standard grade, $13.25 to $13.55. Rolled oats, bag, 90 lbs., $5.15 to $5.25. Bran, $45.25. Shorts, $52.25. Hay, No. 2, per ton car lots, $26. Cheese—Finest easterns, 30 to 30½c. Butter—Choicest creamery, 64 to 65c; seconds, 61½ to 62½c. Eggs—Fresh, 75 to 77c; selected, 62c; No. 1 stock, 53 to 54c; No. 2 stock, 45 to 50c. Potatoes—Per bag, car lots, $3.50.

Live Stock Markets.

Toronto, Feb. 24.—Choice heavy steers, $13.50 to $14; good heavy steers, $12.75 to $13.25; butchers' cattle, choice, $11.75 to $12.50; do., good, $11.25 to $11.50; do., medium, $9.75 to $10.25; do., common, $7.50 to $8; bulls, choice, $10.50 to $11; do., medium, $9.50 to $10; Do., rough, $6.75 to $7; butcher cows, choice, $10.50 to $11; Do., good, $9.50 to $10; Do., medium, $8 to $8.50; Do., common, $7 to $7.25; stockers, $7.50 to $10; feeders, $10 to $11; canners and cutters, $5.25 to $6.50; milkers, good to choice, $110 to $165; Do., com. and med., $65 to $75; springers, $90 to $165; sheep, $6.50 to $11; lambs, per cwt., $17.50 to $21.50; calves, good to choice, $18 to $23; hogs, fed and watered, $18.50; do., weighed off cars, $18.75; do., f.o.b., $17.50; do., do., country points, $17.25.

CONTRIBUTION OF LAKE SHIPS TO WAR

149 Steamers Passed Out of St. Lawrence For Ocean Service.

A despatch from Detroit, says:—The war cost in tonnage of Great Lakes shipping is readily figured now that Canadian and American lake fleets have been restored practically to a pre-war basis. It is now known that 149 lake steamers passed out of the St. Lawrence River primarily for the purpose of helping to win the war. Figures show that the war cost in lake tonnage consisted of 297,103 gross tons, and that carrying capacity loss amounted to 482,400 gross tons for a single trip.

Such well-known Canadian carriers as the Chemung, Carleton, A. D. Davidson, Donnacona, Dunelm, W. H. Dwyer, Geo. L. Eaton, Empress of Fort William, Empress of Midland, C. A. Jacques, Midland Queen, Northmount, Port Dalhousie Schuylkill, Scottish Hero, Stormount, Strathcona and many more were victims of submarines and now rest on the ocean floor.

The lake steamers Algonquin, Castalia, German, Georgetown, Fairmount, Meaford, Maryland, John Lambert, Tuscarora, Rutland and Pere Marquette No. 5 were also lost in Government service.

The steel bulk freighters that went to salt water numbered 36 American and 44 Canadian steamers, representing in gross tonnage 157,366 tons and a carryig capacity of 244,500 gross tons on a single trip. Other transfers of lake bulk tonnage consisted of 13 wooden steamers, which, with two or three exceptions, went into the Atlantic coastwise coal trade.

A few lake steamers of American registry have been brought back but vessels of Canadian registry which went away to aid Great Britain in supplying her armies are still in the ocean trade, filling the void in British tonnage created by submarines.

In addition to bulk freight carriers, 32 American package freight steamers and 20 Canadian package freighters were sent to salt water during the war, and none of this fleet has been returned.

Prince to Begin Trip To Antipodes in March

A despatch from London says:—The Prince of Wales will leave on his trip to the Antipodes on March 8, on which date his ship, the Dreadnought Renown, will depart from Portsmouth, according to the official itinerary just published. He will arrive at Barbadoes on March 19 and at Colon on March 23. The next day will be occupied in the progress through the Panama Canal, and then the Renown will turn northward, touching at San Diego, Cal., on March 31. From this point the trip across the Pacific will be begun, and the schedule provides for reaching Honolulu on April 6, the Fiji Islands on April 13 and Auckland on April 17.

NEWFOUNDLAND HIT BY SEVERE FROST

Every Bay Frozen For First Time in 100 Years.

A despatch from St. John's, Newfoundland says:—The Liberal Reform Government, now consolidated by the election in the district of St. John's West of R. A. Squires and H. J. Brownrigg to the offices of Prime Minister and Finance Minister respectively, is faced with industrial problems unprecedented in the history of Newfoundland.

Owing to continuous snowstorms, the Reid Newfoundland Company was unable to run any trains in January, and it is certain that all railway traffic will be abandoned until spring begins. The intense frost, reaching 38 degrees below zero, has made matters still more serious, the whole island being, for four weeks, in a state of natural blockade by ice.

Every bay is frozen over sufficiently to drive horses from side to side, a state unknown for 100 years. Coastal service has collapsed and sealing steamships are powerless to carry food and coal to sections suffering from the hardest privations.

The steamships Prospero, Diana and Eagle, carrying foodstuffs north, are frozen in off Fogo, and will be unable to prosecute the seal fishery this year. This means that only seven ships will endeavor to face the Arctic floe. Sealing crews must walk from the Northern Districts to St. John's, distances ranging from 120 to 200 miles.

A serious coal shortage intensifies the situation, with trains snowbound, food shortage is so great in the lumber camps that horses have been killed for want of food.

The railway problem is the most serious the new Government must face. The railway has become unsafe for travel, lacks rolling stock and motive power, and only the expenditure of many millions can remedy the situation. Under the Reid Railway Contract the Reids are supposed to repair the line, but it is evident they are not in the financial position to do so, the railway, they contend, being a losing concern. A Government expenditure of $10,000,000 to repair railway will place a heavy financial burden on the country.

To ease the situation the Government has issued tenders for four large steamships for the North and West coasts, and the press urges that the present bay service be doubled.

Have Until July 10 To Reduce Army

A despatch from London, says:—Germany has been allowed a concession from the terms of the Treaty of Versailles with regard to the speed with which her military forces must be reduced. Premier Lloyd George has notified Dr. St. Hamer, the German envoy, that the date when her army must be reduced to 200,000 men has been fixed as April 10, while she is allowed till July 10 to bring it down to the limit.

MOTHERS' PENSION PLAN ANNONUCED

Basis For Legislation Submitted to Drury Govt.

A despatch from Toronto says:—The basis upon which the Drury Government will draft the mother's allowances legislation to be introduced at the coming session of the House, is set out in the final report on the subject submitted by Dr. R. W. Riddell, Deputy Minister of Labor to Hon. Walter Rollo. The report, which is an important compilation of information upon the problems of looking after pennilless mothers, is the second made by Dr. Riddell, the first, an interim report, having been laid before Sir William Hearst just before the late Government retired.

The scheme as recommended by the Deputy Minister may be summarized as follows:

Allowances to be paid the mother of two or more children under the age of 14 years of age and in the immediate care of the parent, who is (a) a widow, (b) the wife of an inmate of a Provincial Hospital for the Insane or (c) the wife of a man who is totally disabled. In every case where the allowance is given the mother must be a suitable guardian for her children.

Allowances only where the father is a British subject or the mother a British subject before marriage.

The mother and children must be resident in Canada at the time of the death or total disability of the father. The mother must be a resident of Canada for three years prior to the application, for two years a resident of Ontario and must reside in the Province while in receipt of an allowance.

To become entitled to an allowance the mother and children must not own property valued at more than $2,000 or have more than $500 in cash or securities convertible into cash (other than household goods, etc.) The children must be dependent upon the mother.

The report does not suggest definite amounts, but recommends that the amount shall be determined in each case by the administrative commission subject, however, to an established maximum per family.

To Repair Church Hit by Big Bertha

A despatch from Paris, says:—Work of restoring the Church of St. Gervais, which was struck by a "Big Bertha" shell on Good Friday, 1918, killing 54 persons, will commence on March 1.

Such was the extent of the damage done by the long distance shell that the work will take from five to six months to complete.

It is expected that restoration of the church will be finished by next October in time to celebrate the five hundredth anniversary of the consecration of the edifice, which occurred in 1420.

Lady Astor Coached By British Premier

A despatch from London says:—The maiden speech which Lady Astor has threatened to make in the House of Commons has not yet materialized. Meanwhile she is gaining reputation as a speaker at public meetings. She made a great impression when she spoke recently on the League of Nations. She has much dry humor and presents her views in clear, understandable language. She will speak at the mass meeting to be held soon to demand more women members of the House of Commons.

Some of the mystery of her eloquence may be explained, perhaps, by the fact that she is being coached by that most astute British parliamentarian and speaker, Premier David Lloyd George, who passed the last week-end with Lord and Lady Astor at Cliveden, their beautiful riverside residence near London.

Spend Vacations in Canada This Year

A despatch from Montreal, says:—It is stated by R. H. Gould, Secretary of the Montreal branch of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, that the association was preparing to launch a Dominion-wide campaign to induce Canadians to spend their vacations and do their motoring tours within the Dominion this year.

It was stated that the idea originated at Toronto, at the headquarters of the association there, and the step is taken to escape the unfavorable rate of exchange against Canada and the heavy head tax.

The campaign will start as soon as the various branches have joined with the head organization in formulating the scheme, and it will be accompanied by a campaign, supported by the Canadian railways, to attract citizens of the United States to this country in lieu of going to Europe.

Cost 50 Millions To Keep U.S. Dry

A despatch from Washington says:—It will cost $50,000,000 a year to "make this a prohibition country," Senator Warren told his associates on Thursday. He asserted this great outlay may not be necessary for an indefinite period, but must continue until intemperance has been eradicated.

A bill "for enforcement of the national prohibition act by establishing Government warehouses" was introduced by the Senator.

French Peace Loan Has Attractions

A despatch from Paris, says:—France on Thursday opened her big Peace Loan, which is to be unlimited in amount. The loan is at five per cent., with the additional attraction of a fifty per cent. premium to be given with every bond at maturity.

Roumania King to be Crowned in Spring

A despatch from London, says:—The coronation of Ferdinand as King of Greater Roumania will take place at Alhajulia, Tran-sylvania, next spring. Great Britain will send a special envoy to represent King George, and the name of Earl Haig already is being mentioned here in this connection. Queen Marie, of Roumania is expected to visit England too.

King Ferdinand undoubtedly is the only living monarch who will enjoy the unique position of being crowned twice.

May Be Canada's Next Governor-General.

Lord Byng of Vimy. The Essex County Standard, an important English paper, claims that Lord Byng will be next Governor-General of Canada. As Sir Julian Byng, he was for a time Commander of the Canadian Forces on the Western Front.

DISCOVERER OF NORTH POLE DEAD

Rear-Admiral Peary Passed Away at Washington.

A despatch from Washington says:—Rear-Admiral Robert Edwin Peary, retired, Arctic explorer and discoverer of the North Pole, died at his home here on Friday from pernicious anaemia from which he had suffered for several years. Arrangements for the funeral have not been completed, but he will be buried with full naval honors.

Admiral Peary submitted to a blood transfusion at a hospital here ten days ago. He later was removed to his home and his condition then was reported as somewhat improved. He gradually grew weaker, however, and the end came early Friday morning. Dr. H. F. Strine, the admiral's physician, disclosed that the transfusion this month was the 35th to which Admiral Peary had submitted within two years.

Governing Body of Royal Mounted Police

A despatch from Regina says:—According to information from reliable sources, the governing body of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police will soon be announced as follows:—

Commissioner Perry, General Officer Commanding the force, with headquarters at Ottawa; Assistant Commissioner Stearns, Ottawa; Assistant Commissioner Wroughton, Vancouver; Assistant Commissioner McGibbon, Regina; Adjutant Superintendent Newson, Ottawa.

Bringing Back Bodies of Americans

A despatch from Washington, says:—The bodies of seventeen American soldiers who died in England have been disinterred in English cemeteries and are ready for shipment to the United States, the War Department announced. This is the first definite step taken in the plan to bring back the bodies of American soldiers who died overseas.

BRINGING UP FATHER