NEGOTIATIONS WITH SINN FEIN LEADERS MAY RESULT IN PEACE

Premier Smuts of South Africa Doing His Utmost to Promote Settlement Backed by British Press — De Valera May Abandon Demand for Republic.

A despatch from London says:—The Congress of Empire Prime Ministers is, for the time being, eclipsed by the peace negotiations being conducted with the Sinn Fein leaders. Premier Jan Christian Smuts of South Africa has thrown the full weight of his great eloquence and his prestige on the side of an honorable settlement. The British press of all shades of politics are standing behind him, and this, aided by the favorable atmosphere created by the presence of the Dominion Prime Ministers in London has unquestionably brought the Irish problem nearer to solution than has been the case in the last quarter of a century.

It would be idle and wrong to pretend, however, that vast difficulties do not still stand in the way of an agreement. So far Premier Smuts has been successful, but those who know what is transpiring behind the scenes realize that real obstacles will be encountered when the three parties to the dispute—the British Government, North Ulster and the Sinn Fein—meet face to face in conference.

From an Irish Nationalist source closely in touch with Premier Smuts and the British Government in the negotiations proceeding, the correspondent has been able to learn what Eamonn de Valera is likely to propose in the event of his coming to London. Briefly and roughly, it is this: He will abandon the claim for an Irish republic, but will insist upon a measure of dominion home rule, with separate Parliament for North Ulster, vested with powers similar to those enjoyed by Canadian provincial legislatures. He will also ask that the central or Dublin Parliament be vested with a wide measure of fiscal autonomy. The Sinn Fein leader, it is said, desires also that the Irish Parliament shall have the right of controlling its own army and navy, if these should be found necessary.

It is believed, however, that he will advance this demand merely for the sake of bargaining and can be induced to abandon it. He will demand that the Irish control the police and post-office departments and will ask for full recognition of the unity of the Irish nation. Prof. de Valera will maintain that the Irish Parliament should be given the right to decide its own taxation policy and the manner in which its revenue shall be expended, holding that the power of controlling the taxation of its constituents is inherent in Parliament.

This, of course, involves giving Dublin a free voice in regard to income tax, customs, excise, and also the right of withholding any contribution towards the defence of the Empire, and it is likely to prove the shoa pire, and it is likely to prove the shoal split. It is almost certain that Premier David Lloyd George will insist upon an Imperial contribution seeing that the Imperial Parliament would remain responsible for defence and foreign affairs, although, in a last resort he may agree that the Irish Parliament should have some voice in the amount to be contributed as well as in the method by which the actual contribution would be raised from its constituents.

University Extension.

The Workers' Educational Association of Ottawa has asked the Provincial University for assistance in conducting classes in that city next winter in economics, history, and English, and the request has been cheerfully granted. The University of Toronto is most anxious to develop outside classes of this kind so far as its finances and the size of its staff will permit. During the past winter W. E. A. classes have flourished in Toronto and Hamilton.

The W. E. A. is a voluntary organization of men and women engaged in industrial pursuits and is largely composed of trades unionists. These men and women are eager to secure the advantages of higher education and cheerfully devote an evening a week to the study and discussion of present-day economic problems, of English literature, history, psychology, and allied subjects. In England the W.E.A. has grown to immense proportions, having a membership of over 25,000.

To extend its activities into the rural districts and among industrial workers is one of the most important aims of the University of Toronto. In anticipation of the Government's adoption of the Report of the Royal Commission on University Finances, plans had been made to inaugurate evening tutorial classes in various rural communities throughout the Province and to organize Workers' Educational Asociations in several towns and cities. When the Government laid the Report over and instructed the Provincial University that it must spend no more money this year than it did last year these plans had to be cancelled and the education for which various communities in the Province are asking, had to be, for the most part, postponed. It is hoped, however, that the Government will yet adopt the Commission's Report and so enable the University to give the Province the service so many people in town and country are requesting.

Insurgents Leave Upper Silesia

Upper Silesia Freed of Rebels

A despatch from London says:—The evacuation of Upper Silesia by the insurgent forces was officially completed at midnight Wednesday, according to a London Times despatch from Kattowitz.

British forces, it is added, now occupy the Polish frontier as far as Beuthen, while the French are in control of Konigshutte, Kattowitz and the southern region.

The Dominion forest reserves in Western Canada comprise an area of approximately 27,500,000 acres and consist of tracts of land unsuitable for agriculture, which have been set apart permanently for forest production.

THEIR MAJESTIES GIVE COURT BALL IN HONOR OF BELGIAN ROYALTIES

A despatch from London says:—The first court ball since 1914 was given at Buckingham Palace on Thursday night in honor of the King and Queen of the Belgians. It was the only function of the present London season which recalled the splendor and gaiety of the days before the war. There were 2,000 guests, and the old aristocracy of England, many of whom now belong to a class known as the "new poor," came out of their enforced retirement for the occasion.

Their women folk came decked in those jewels which are family heirlooms and which have been treasured despite present hard times in hopes of happier days to come, and as full uniform or court dress was de rigeur for men, the scene was one of dazzling brilliancy. By Queen Mary's orders long trains and feathers in the hair, which used to be distinguishing characteristics of court dress for women, had been done away with, and the general feminine view was that the innovation was "all to the good."

Most of those whom Queen Victoria called common Duchesses, to distinguish them from members of the Royal family who have Ducal title, were present, and among them the American-born Duchess of Roxburgh attracted special attention by her dress and ornaments. Of the young girls present no one looked more charming that Miss Megan Lloyd George, daughter of the Premier, in a frock of white satin and silver lace.

A VISIT TO THE NIAGARA PENINSULA

The Garden of Ontario—A District Sacred to Canadian Hearts and Replete With Interest Alike to the Historian and the Industralist—Nature's Masterpiece and Man's Engineering Feats.

By Frances Lee

There is a great diversity of landscape in Ontario. We noticed it particularly the other day when we saw the Niagara district for the first time. Our native soil, Hastings County, is hilly and rocky, with chains of pretty little lakes and streams; winding roads show beautiful vistas which we love. But the beauty of Niagara has a charm and fascination entirely different.

We are visiting friends in Toronto and took the C.N.R. boat one morning for Port Dalhousie. There the electric car stood waiting to convey us to Niagara Falls.

It was a marvel and a joy, that ride. The roadbed is so smooth—and the countryside! Level pastures broken by acres and acres of peach orchards and vineyards. Low and branchy are the peach trees with long, graceful, light-green leaves. The grapevines are trained over wire fences, in rows about ten feet apart, the ground carefully cultivated, not a weed to be seen. Some of these orchards and vineyards extend as far as the eye can reach. Leaning back in the comfortable seat beside the wide window, the rush of scented air against our faces, we revelled in the beauty of the scene.

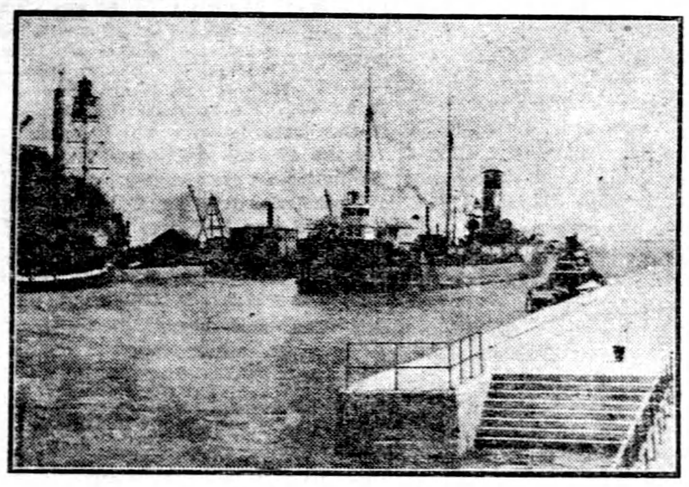
The first town we reached was St. Catharines, famed for lovely gardens. Roses everywhere, larkspur and hollyhocks; they bloom earlier here than down east. Roses also at the farm houses; the wire fences were covered with them.

A lazy stream meanders through the rich meadows; it is the oldest of the Welland canals. We crossed the present ship canal also and the third one, now in course of construction, that famous waterway which will afford passage to ocean liners and connect up the whole of the Great Lakes system with the Atlantic Ocean. There is a drop of 326 feet from Lake Erie to Lake Ontario and the new canal will have only seven locks instead of twenty-five as in the present system. The Canadian National Electric Line runs to both terminals, Port Colborne on Lake Erie and Port Weller on Lake Ontario. The new canal will be twenty-five miles long, shortening the distance between the lakes by five miles.

We stop at some good-sized towns on our way, Merritton and Thorold are two names noticed, bustling centres of activity in the midst of the lovely fields and orchards. Near Thorold was fought the Battle of Beaver Dams, where the British withstood the attack of American troops, and won a victory on June 24th, 1813. Every foot of ground down to Niagara-on-the-Lake echoed to the tramp of marching men in the troublous days of 1812-1814, when our heroes fought and died that Canada might remain a part of Britain.

As we near the Niagara River we see another and more wonderful industrial project. It has the appearance of an enormous ditch in which men, who look like small black beetles, are at work, operating a mighty electric shovel lifting eight cubic yards of earth with one scoop and loading it on a car seventy feet above the level on which the shovel stands. It is the Chippewa-Queenston Power Canal. This amazing engineering enterprise is 12¾ miles long with the intake at Hog Island, Chippewa, about two miles above Niagara Falls and the tailrace on the Niagara River about a mile above Queenston. The power house to be located at the bottom of the gorge will be the greatest in the world. Seven thousand men are at present engaged on this gigantic work, the number at times has reached nine thousand. The canal is expected to develop 300,000 horse-power and is costing between forty and fifty million dollars. It will be in full operation next year.

Presently the car reaches the railroad bridge at the head of the Whirlpool Rapids and turns north towards the Falls. A few minutes of eager expectation and the boom of the mighty cataract sounds in our ears. Then we see white clouds of spray ascending in a giant mist, the rainbow arched above; the Falls in all their grandeur and majesty before our wondering eyes.



Shipping on the Welland Canal.

As Fanny Kemble says:

"I saw Niagara. O God! Who can describe that sight?"

One recalls also what Tom Moore wrote in 1804: "I have seen the Falls, and am all rapture and amazement. I felt as if approaching the residence of the Deity; the tears started to my eyes; and I remained, for moments after we had lost sight of the scene, in the delicious absorption which enthusiasm alone can produce. It is impossible by pen or pencil to give even a faint idea of their magnificence. Painting is lifeless, and the most burning words of poetry have all been lavished upon inferior and ordinary subjects. We must have new combinations of language to describe the Falls of Niagara."

We spent the day viewing the Falls from different aspects and at six o'clock took the C.N.R. radial again for the hour's return ride to Port Dalhousie and the Toronto boat.

Maj.-General Sir Wm. Heneker
Commander-in-Chief of the British Forces in Upper Silesia. He said he went there to fight, but finding no war he gave a garden party which was the biggest social event ever held in Upper Silesia.

Canadian News in Brief

Victoria, B.C.—It is estimated that gold production in British Columbia this year will aggregate $3,500,000, or nearly one million better than last year. The Rossland Mines, which yielded gold to the value of around $600,000 last year, will have an output this year of $1,500,000. The next largest producer will be the Surf Inlet Mine, of Princess Royal Island, with a production of about $1,000,000.

Calgary, Alta.—The United Farmers of Alberta, the premier agricultural society of the province, has of late years increased in its membership by leaps and bounds, now numbering, with women and children, more than 32,000.

Regina, Sask.—The first Better Bull train to be operated in Canada will be run by the Livestock branch of the Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture in connection with the campaign for the improvement of sires used in herds and flocks of this province, according to an announcement made by J. G. Robertson, livestock commissioner. This experiment of carrying purebred bulls to the farmer is being tried out on a fairly small scale this year in Saskatchewan, and if it proves successful, it is expected that Better Bull specials will operate in all parts of the province next year.

Winnipeg, Man.—Last year 10,279 tractors were sold in Western Canada, distributed as follows: Manitoba, 3,671; Saskatchewan, 4,229; Alberta, 2,379. The number of tractors sold in the West during the past four years is as follows: 1917, 5,000; 1918, 7,000; 1919, 9,000; 1920, 10,279. It is estimated that there are 33,000 tractors now in use and sales for 1921 will probably reach the 7,500 mark.

Ottawa, Ont.—A total of 268,000,000 young whitefish were liberated in the Great Lakes and the Lake of the Woods by the Dominion fisheries branch during the past year. This is an increase of 50,000,000 on the number liberated by the hatcheries in 1920. A large proportion of the eggs are secured from the commercial catch of fish, which, but for the activities of the Department, would be wasted.

Montreal, Que.—An optimist forecast of the possibilities of Canadian trade with Italy is contained in a report from the Canadian government agent in Milan, Italy. Writing to the establishment of the new service to Naples and Genoa by the Canadian Pacific he points out that conditions are particularly favorable for Canadian traders and urges personal visits as well as exports of goods.

Fredericton, N.B.—Interest has been aroused here over the report that the Anglo-Persian Oil Company, of which the British Government is the controlling shareholder, will develop the oil-shale deposits in this province. It is understood that large sums have been spent on these deposits, and that capital is available to undertake large-scale production should markets appear favorable.

Yarmouth, N. S.—Approximately twenty thousand crates of live lobsters have been shipped from this point to Boston during the past season, where they have been disposed of at an average price of $25 per crate. The fishermen netted on this operation after deducting transportation charges and commission about $400,000.

What Napoleon Forgot.

In the Napoleon Supplement of the London Times there appears an estimate of the greatest soldier of the nineteenth century by the greatest of the twentieth, Marshal Foch.

The principles of strategy and tactics that Foch applied in the direction of armies of the Allies in the World War he derived in the main from his unwearying study of the campaigns of Napoleon. He calls Napoleon "beyond compare, the military genius of modern times." Yet with the perspective that is one mark of Foch's own consummate capacity for leadership, the marshal sees the limitation that brought Napoleon at last to grief.

This is his way of putting what he calls "the deep reason for the disaster":

> He forgot that a man cannot be God; that above the individual there is the nation; that above men there is the moral law, and that war is not the highest goal, since above war there is peace.

It is because of this clarity of vision that Marshal Foch was fit not merely for a gigantic military responsibility but for the leadership of an embattled civilization against defiant powers of darkness. It was Foch and not the Kaiser who understood the lesson of the career of Napoleon.

Crown Prince Hirohito of Japan has left France for a short visit to Italy and will then sail for Japan.

Weekly Market Report

Toronto.

Manitoba wheat—No. 1 Northern, $1.82½; No. 2 Northern, $1.80½; No. 3 Northern, $1.77½.

Manitoba oats—No. 2 CW, 47c; No. 3 CW, 44⅛c; extra No. 1 feed, 44⅛c; No. 1 feed, 42c; No. 2 feed, 41½c.

Manitoba barley—No. 3 CW, 76c; No. 4 CW, 71½c; rejected, 66c; feed, 65c.

All the above in store Fort William.

American corn—No. 2 yellow, 75c; nominal, c.i.f., Bay ports.

Ontario oats—No. 2 white, 40 to 42c.

Ontario wheat—No. 2 Winter, $1.48 to $1.55, nominal, per car lot; No. 2 Spring, $1.41 to $1.43, nominal; No. 2 Goose wheat, nominal, shipping points, according to freight.

Peas—No. 2, nominal.

Barley—Malting, 65 to 70c, according to freights outside.

Buckwheat—No. 3, nominal.

Rye—No. 2, $1.25, according to freights outside.

Manitoba flour—First pats., $10.50; second pats., $10, Toronto.

Ontario flour—$7.40, bulk, seaboard.

Millfeed — Delivered, Montreal freight, bags included: Bran, per ton, $23 to $25; shorts, per ton, $23 to $27; good feed flour, $1.60 to $1.75 per bag.

Hay—No. 1, per ton, $17 to $19; mixed, $8 to $10; straw, car lots, per ton, $10.

Cheese—New, large, 21 to 21½c; twins, 21½ to 22c; triplets, 22 to 22½c; old, large, 33 to 34c; do, twins, 33½ to 34½c; triplets, 34½ to 35c; new, Stilton, 23c.

Butter—Fresh dairy, choice, 25 to 26c; creamery, prints, fresh, No. 1, 33 to 35c cooking, 22 to 24c.

Dressed poultry—Spring chickens, 40c; roosters, 20c; fowl, 30c; ducklings, 35c; turkeys, 60c.

Live poultry—Spring chickens, 30c; roosters, 16c; fowl, 22c; ducklings, 30c; turkeys, 50c.

Eggs—No. 1, 39c; selects, 41 to 42c; cartons, 43 to 44c.

Beans—Canadian, hand-pick, bus., $2.85 to $3; primes, $2.40 to $2.50.

Maple products—Syrup, per imp. gal., $2.50; per 5 imp. gals., $2.35. Maple sugar, lbs., 19 to 22c.

Honey—60-30-lb. tins, 19 to 20c per lb.; 5-2½-lb. tins, 20 to 21c per lb.; Ontario comb honey, at $7 per 15-section case.

Smoked meats—Hams, med., 36 to 38c; heavy, 30 to 31c; cooked, 54 to 58c; rolls, 27 to 28c; cottage rolls, 28 to 29c; breakfast bacon, 33 to 38c; special brand breakfast bacon, 45 to 47c; backs, boneless, 42 to 47c.

Cured meats—Long clear bacon, 17 to 19½c; clear bellies, 19½c.

Lard, pure tierces, 14½ to 15c; tubs, 15 to 15½c; pails, 15½ to 16c; prints, 16 to 17c. Shortening, tierces, 11½ to 12c; tubs, 12 to 12½c; pails, 12½ to 13c; prints, 14½ to 15c.

Good heavy steers, $7.25 to $7.75; butcher steers, choice, $7 to $7.50; do, good, $6.50 to $7; do, med., $5 to $6.50; do, com., $3 to $4.50; butcher heifers, choice, $7 to $7.50; do, med., $6.50 to $7; butcher cows, choice, $4.50 to $5.50; do, med., $3 to $4.50; canners and cutters, $1 to $2.50; butcher bulls, good, $4.25 to $5.25; do, com., $3 to $4; feeders, good, 900 lbs., $5.50 to $6; do, fair, $5 to $5.50; milkers and springers, choice, $40 to $60; calves, choice, $7.50 to $8; do, med., $6 to $7.50; do. com., $3 to $5; lambs, yearlings, $7 to $8; do, spring, $11.50 to $12.50; sheep, choice, $4.50 to $5.50; do, good, $4 to $4.50; do, heavy and bucks, $2 to $3.50; hogs, fed and watered, $11.50; do, country points, $10.50; do, f.o.b., $10.75.

Montreal.

Oats, Can. West., No. 2, 59½ to 60½c; Can. West. No. 3, 54½ to 55½c. Flour, Man. Spring wheat pats., firsts, $10.50. Rolled oats, bag, 90 lbs., $3.05. Bran, $25.25. Shorts, $27.25. Hay, No. 2, per ton, $22, in car lots.

Cheese, finest Easterns, 20 to 20½c. Butter, choicest creamery, 34½ to 35c. Eggs, selected, 40 to 42c.

Common thin cows, small bulls, $2 to $3; calves, $2 to $6; choice milk-fed calves, $7; good lambs, $8 to $8.50; common light stock, $5; sheep, $2 to $4.50. Young hogs, med., $12.50 to $13.50; sows and heavies, $6 to $7.

REGLAR FELLERS—By Gene Byrnes