QUIET REIGNS AT SYDNEY MINES WHILE TROOPS GATHER FROM VARIOUS PARTS

Residents of Strike Zone Stay Indoors and All is Calm—Pickets Permit Food Supplies for Officials to Enter Mine Property.

A despatch from Sydney, N.S., says:—Throughout Thursday and up until a late hour at night the Cape Breton strike area was so quiet that one might almost hear the proverbial pin drop. Steel helmeted soldiers guarded the property of the British Empire Steel Corporation, local and mounted policemen roamed about the streets in the immediate vicinity of the plant, but residents of the affected district kept indoors for the most part and no untoward incident developed. The band of H.M.S. Wistaria, anchored off the Royal Cape Breton Yacht Club, played gaily to the evident enjoyment of hundreds lining the shore.

An inspection of the colliery districts Thursday afternoon revealed conditions similar to those prevailing in Sydney. At Glace Bay a baseball game drew a slim attendance. The miners for the most part stayed about their own doorsteps and the streets were practically deserted. Only at Dominion No. 2, the heart of the colliery district, supplying as it does the electrical energy required to operate the ventilating systems of nine other mines, was there any evidence of a struggle. Here the plant is being picketed by 250 strikers working in four relays on six-hour shifts. Earlier in the present strike coal cars en route to the boiler plant were dumped on instructions of the pickets, but on Thursday there was no interference of this nature, and food supplies for the officials operating the machinery required to protect the property were permitted to enter.

A despatch from Fort William says:—Shortly before noon on Thursday a military train passed through Fort William, carrying 170 men of the Princess Pats and the Fort Garry Horse en route for the scene of the strikes at Sydney, Cape Breton. Six stock cars of horses are also in the special, which had, in addition, seven passenger cars, baggage car and diner. Another military special will shortly pass here, with a complete machine gun corps from the far West, en route for the same place.

A despatch from Kingston says:—About 150 members of the Royal Canadian Artillery of Kingston, under orders from Militia Headquarters at Ottawa, have left Petawawa for Sydney, N.S.

A despatch from London, Ont., says:—Five officers and thirty-one men who had been left when the Royal Canadian Regiment was ordered to Sydney on strike duty were early on Thursday notified to depart for the East, and they left London for Sydney about 4 a.m. They were in charge of Lieut.-Col. W. T. Lawless, D.S.O., of the local headquarters staff. Other officers in the detachment included Col. T. J. F. Murphy, Senior Medical Officer; Major D. J. Corrigan, D.S.O., M.C., Major P. DeL. D. Passey, and Captain S. V. Cooke. Tecumseh Barracks are now practically deserted save for the women and children.

KEMPTVILLE PROVIDES A PREMIER FOR ONTARIO

Kemptville, Ont., is the home of the new Premier of Ontario, Hon. G. Howard Ferguson. The picture shows his home and inset are Mrs. G. Howa rd Ferguson, and the new Conservative Premier.

U.S. IS BRITAIN'S ONLY CREDITOR

All Other Foreign Debts Paid, Says Sir W. Joynson-Hicks—Stringent Economy Practised.

A despatch from London says:—Speaking in the House of Commons on the third reading of the budget, Sir W. Joynson-Hicks, Financial Secretary of the Treasury, made out a good case for the present and preceding Governments' efforts to stem the tide of national expenditure. He said the present year's expenditures of only £875,000,000 was modest in comparison with the expenditures made the year following the war. The Financial Secretary told the members that he was unable to report as to whether the staffs of the Government Departments had reached pre-war levels, but added that after allowing £23,000 to those employed in the Pensions Department, the figures were only £3,000 above normal.

Speaking in connection with the debt problem, he stated that £49,000,000 had been paid off since 1920. All the foreign debts, he added, were liquidated, with the exception of the United States debt and certain sums due Canada, which were approximately balanced by money which Canada owed Great Britain.

For the future the Minister promised to continue along the lines of most stringent economy. He stated that the reduction in revenue which he anticipated next year would have to be met by a reduction of expenditures, not by taxation.

President of Mexico

Alvaro Obregon, who is endeavoring to increase the trade relations with Canada, and to this end has secured a large exhibition space at the Canadian National Exhibition for the display of Mexican goods.

Accounts of showers of fishes, according to one scientist, are not necessarily "fish stories." e says such falls of fishes from the sky may be caused by high winds, whirlwinds and waterspouts that draw up the fishes from the water and then let them drop as their force is spent.

Sir Robert Kindersley

Head of the Hudson's Bay Company, who declared, at the annual meeting of the famous company, that Canadians must reduce taxation and the cost of living, to achieve real prosperity, for which the country is waiting.

NEW EXPEDITION TO THE POLAR SEAS

Ship "Arctic" Goes Again to Canadian Islands of Far North.

A despatch from Ottawa says:—The ship "Arctic," which made a trip to the Canadian islands of the Arctic circle last year is going again this year and took its departure July 7, from Quebec. J. D. Craig, engineer of the International Boundary Commission, is in charge of the expedition, which has been formed for the purpose of carrying supplies to two Royal Canadian Mounted Police posts and also to establish a new post at the north end of Ellesmere Island at Cape Sabine. A party of surveyors, naturalists and engineers are going on the ship for the purpose of investigating the natural resources of the Canadian far north. Captain Bernier is again in command of the ship. Incidentally, the "Arctic" will carry the machinery of justice to the north. Among the passengers are Judge L. A. Rivet, of Montreal; F. X. Biron, Crown counsel; Leopold Tellier, defence counsel, and other court officials and interpreters. They will proceed to Pond's Inlet for the purpose of trying a number of Eskimos being held there by the R. C.M.P. on the charge of murdering Robert Janes, a native of Newfoundland, at Cape Crawford, Baffin Island in 1920. On board the "Arctic" there will also be parties from the Geological and Geodetic Survey Departments of the Dominion Government. Including the crew and scientists, the ship will carry in all about forty people to the North.

AIRPLANE AND CANOE IN NORTH ONTARIO VOTE

Five Hours by Air and Five Weeks by Canoe in Recent Elections.

A despatch from Cochrane, Ont., says:—It cost the Province of Ontario approximately $20 for each vote polled at Moose Factory in the recent election. The ballot boxes had to be taken in and out by airplane, officials made their visits by the same method, while enumerators went in and out by canoe. The total cost was about $1,000.

Of the 47 ballots cast, only one elector, the Hudson Bay factor, had ever voted before, but despite this, and although most of the other voters were Indians, there were no spoiled papers.

The airplane with the boxes made the round trip in five hour actual flying time, while the enumerators took five weeks by the river route.

French Wheat Crop Failure, Purchase from Canada

A despatch from Paris says:—The Canadian Press learns that the French Government has instructed its Chicago agencies to buy a three months' supply of wheat, all hopes of a bumper crop in this country having been dissipated. It is understood that the largest orders for the wheat will be placed in Canada, on account of the exchange.

Eggs to be Bought and Sold According to Grade

A despatch from Ottawa says:—"Mr. Consumer" is again to receive consideration at the hands of the Dominion Government. He is to be sure that the "fresh" eggs he buys are fresh, even though the grocer says they are. Next Monday the new legislation providing that eggs be bought from the producers according to grade and that they also be sold to the consumer according to grade will become effective.

A pile of protests from the middlemen lies upon the desk of Dr. J. H. Grisdale, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, against the proposed law. The commission dealers complain that they have bought large quantities ahead of the market and on the ungraded style, and they demand that they have the opportunity of disposing of them in the same manner.

The attitude of the department, however, is that Parliament has decreed that grading shall be universally observed in Canada and no exceptions to the law will be made. So the commission merchants, though they bought ungraded eggs, will have to sell graded eggs.

Foreign Countries Will Yield 750,785,000 Bushels Wheat

A despatch from Washington says:—The foreign wheat crop this year will be larger than it was last year, according to radiograms received by the Department of Agriculture from the Internationale Institute of Agriculture at Rome. The crop in eight foreign countries, which last year produced more than one-fifth of the total world crop, is forecast at 750,785,000 bushels for 1923, as compared with 656,988,000 bushels in 1922.

The 1923 wheat crop in Spain is forecast at 142,070,000 bushels as compared with 125,469,000 bushels in 1922. The rye crop is forecast at 30,309,000 bushels as compared with 26,252,000 bushels last year; barley at 91,731,000 bushels as compared with 77,533,000 bushels last year, and oats at 36,991,000 bushels as compared with 31,214,000 bushels in 1922.

The 1923 wheat crop of Bulgaria is forecast at 38,783,000 bushels compared with 27,925,000 bushels last year; the rye crop at 8,480,000 bushels as compared with 7,204,000 bushels last year; barley at 12,281,000 bushels as compared with 9,824,000 bushels, and oats at 10,053,000 bushels as compared with 19,802,000 bushels harvested in 1922.

Three-quarters of Wrecked Belgian Homes Restored

A despatch from Brussels says:—Belgium is solving her reconstruction problem rapidly. Statistics show that 600 out of 950 houses have been rebuilt in Nieuport and 500 out of 930 at Dixmude. Out of a total population of 3,700 in Dixmude before the war, 2,000 have returned.

In Ypres 2,488 houses have been rebuilt out of a total of 3,780. Throughout Belgium 75,000 out of 100,000 homes destroyed have either been rebuilt or made habitable at a cost of 685,000 francs, and only sixty public buildings out of 1,200 remain to be restored.

U.S. Woman Establishes New Altitude Record

A despatch from St. Louis, Mo., says:—Mrs. Bertha Horchem, professional aviatrix of Ransom, Kas., established a new altitude record for women by ascending 16,300 feet at St. Louis Aviation Field on Thursday. The previous record was 15,700 feet and was made by Andree Peyre, French woman flier, in California, last May. Officials at the field announced that the flight was official. Mrs. Horchem was in the air two hours and eight minutes. When she descended she had to be lifted from the cockpit of her plane, her hands and feet being frost-bitten, despite her winter clothes.

Weekly Market Report

TORONTO.

Manitoba Wheat—No. 1 Northern, $1.19½.

Manitoba oats—No. 2 CW, 53½c; No. 3 CW, 50½c; No. 1 feed, 49c.

Manitoba barley—Nominal.

All the above, track, Bay ports.

Amer. corn—No. 2 yellow, $1.01½c.

Barley—Malting, 59 to 61c, according to freights outside.

Buckwheat—No. 2, 68 to 69c.

Rye—No. 2, 76 to 78c.

Peas—No. 2, $1.40 to $1.45.

Millfeed—Del., Montreal freights, bags included. Bran, per ton, $25 to $26; shorts, per ton, $27 to $29; middlings, $33 to $35; good feed flour, $2.15 to $2.25.

Ontario wheat—No. 2 white, $1.20 to $1.22.

Ontario No. 2 white oats—50 to 51c.

Ontario corn—Nominal.

Ontario flour—Ninety per cent. pat., in jute bags, Montreal, prompt shipment, $5.10 to $5.20; Toronto basis, $5.05 to $5.15; bulk, seaboard, $4.95 to $5.

Manitoba flour—1st pats., in cotton sacks, $6.90 per barrel; 2nd pats., $6.85.

Hay—Extra No. 2 timothy, per ton, track, Toronto, $15; No. 3 timothy, $13; mixed, $12.50 to $13.50.

Straw—Car lots, per ton, track, Toronto, $9.50.

Cheese—New, large, 19c; twins, 20c; triplets, 21c; Stiltons, 22c. Old, large, 32c; twins, 32½c; triplets, 33c; Stiltons, 33½c. New Zealand old cheese, 30c.

Butter—Finest creamery prints, 35 to 36c; ordinary creamery prints, 33 to 34c; dairy, 24 to 25c; cooking, 22c.

Eggs—No. 1, 27 to 28c; selects, 31 to 32c; cartons, 33 to 34c.

Live poultry—Spring chickens, 40c; hens, over 5 lbs., 22c; do, 4 to 5 lbs., 20c; do, 3 to 4 lbs., 17c; roosters, 15c; ducklings, over 5 lbs., 30c; do, 4 to 5 lbs., 28c; turkeys, young, 10 lbs. and up, 25c.

Dressed poultry—Spring chickens, 45c; hens, over 5 lbs., 28c; do, 4 to 5 lbs., 24c; do, 3 to 4 lbs., 20c; roosters, 17c; ducklings, over 5 lbs., 30c; do, 4 to 5 lbs., 29c; turkeys, young, 10 lbs. and up, 30c.

Beans—Can., hand-picked, lb., 7c; primes, 6½c.

Maple products—Syrup, per imp. gal., $2.50; per 5-gal. tin, $2.40 per gal.; maple sugar, lb., 25c.

Honey—60-lb. tins, 10½ to 11c per lb.; 3 and 2½-lb. tins, 11 to 12½c per lb.; Ontario comb honey, per doz., No. 1, $4.50 to $5; No. 2, $3.75 to $4.25.

Smoked meats—Hams, med., 26 to 28c; cooked hams, 41 to 44c; smoked rolls, 26 to 28c; cottage rolls, 25 to 28c; breakfast bacon, 30 to 34c; special brand breakfast bacon, 34 to 38c; backs, boneless, 37 to 42c.

Cured meats—Long clear bacon, 50 to 70 lbs., $18; 70 to 90 lbs., $17.50; 90 lbs. and up, $16.50; lightweight rolls, in barrels, $36; heavyweight rolls, $33.

Lard—Pure tierces, 15¼ to 15½c; tubs, 15½ to 16c; pails, 16 to 16½c; prints, 18c. Shortening, tierces, 14½ to 15c; tubs, 15 to 15½c; pails, 15½ to 16c; prints, 17 to 17½c.

Choice heavy steers, $8.35 to $8.75; butcher steers, choice, $7.75 to $8; do, good, $7 to $7.50; do, med., $6.50 to $7; do, com., $6 to $6.25; butcher heifers, choice, $7 to $7.50; do, med., $6.50 to $7; do, com., $6 to $6.50; butcher cows, choice, $5 to $5.50; do, med., $4 to $5; canners and cutters, $1.50 to $2; butcher bulls, good, $4.50 to $5.50; do, com., $3 to $4; feeding steers, good, $7 to $7.50; do, fair, $6 to $6.75; stockers, good, $5 to $6; do, fair, $5 to $5.50; milkers, springers, each, $60 to $80; calves, choice, $8.50 to $9.50; do, med., $6.50 to $8; do, com., $4.50 to $6; lambs, spring, $14 to $15; sheep, choice, light, $6 to $6.50; do, choice, heavy, $4 to $4.50; do, culls and bucks, $2.75 to $3.50; hogs, fed and watered, $8.35; do, f.o.b., $7.75; do, country points, $7.50.

MONTREAL.

Flour, Man. spring wheat pats., 1sts, $6.90; 2nds, $6.40; strong bakers', $6.20; winter pats., choice, $6.05 to $6.15. Rolled oats, bag, 90 lbs., $3.05 to $3.15. Bran, $26. Shorts, $29. Middlings, $34. Hay, No. 2, per ton, car lots, $13 to $15.

Cheese, finest easterns, 16⅝ to 16⅞c. Butter, choicest creamery, 29½ to 29¾c. Eggs, selected, 30c. Potatoes, per bag, car lots, $1.20 to $1.25.

Com. cows, $3.75 to $4.50; bologna bulls, $3.25 to up; cows of cutter quality, $3 to $3.50. Calves, fair to med., $5.75 to $6.25; do, picked ones, $6.50; drinker calves, $3 up; sheep, $3 to $4.50; lambs, $10 to $12 per cwt. Hogs, ungraded, $9.50 to $9.75; packers took several lots at $9 for thick smooths with a ten per cent premium for select bacon hogs selected under Government grading; sows, $6.25 to $6.75.

Girls who remain at elementary schools till the age of fourteen are more apt to develop round shoulders than are boys, as they grow faster and do not take as much exercise.

St. Kilda, Britain's most remote island, with a population of eighty souls, is cut off for about eight months in the year by the stormy seas on its rocky shores.

LONDON MILLERS HAVE ONLY SEVEN TO TEN DAYS' SUPPLY OF WHEAT

A despatch from London says:—The dock strike continued to spread on Thursday until 40,000 men are idle in British ports, 18,000 of them on the Thames. London millers have only seven to ten-days' supply of wheat, but no meat famine is likely because of the quantities of frozen meat in storage. However, meat prices have gone up.

Labor leaders all oppose the strike and are confident the leaderless movement must collapse within a few days owing to lack of funds. They are doing all they can to get the men back to work.

At a meeting of the dock workers' section of the Transport and General Workers' Union, held in London on Thursday, a resolution was adopted ordering the outlaw strikers to resume work by Monday. It is doubtful, however, that the order will be obeyed.

One result of the strike is likely to be an official investigation into the methods the Board of Trade uses in fixing the index of commodity prices. This index was used as the basis for the shilling a day wage cut against which the dockers are striking. They claim the cost of living has not fallen as the index shows.

Under wage agreements made last year, the men in many trades besides the dockers agreed to accept less pay as the cost of living fell, the Board of Trade index to be the basis for the scheme.

The index is based on statistics gathered from retailers all over the country. It covers food, rent, clothes, light, fuel and a miscellaneous group that includes soap, soda, household fittings, brushes, pottery, tobacco, car fares and newspapers. The prices of these items are combined in accordance with their estimated relative importance in the average pre-war working class expenditure—7½ units for food, 2 for rent, 1½ for clothes, 1 for fuel and light and ½ for other items.

This index now indicates a fall in the cost of living from 84 per cent. above the pre-war level last year to 69 per cent. Labor leaders do not defend the action of the strikers in breaking their agreement to accept this index, but they do agree the index is unreliable. They want the method of compiling it changed and this view is winning considerable public sympathy.

IN RABBITBORO