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VOL. X. NO. 68. PRINCE RUPERT, B. C., FRIDAY, MARCH 21, 1919. PRICE FIVE CENTS

Grand Trunk Pacific Under Fire

DR. REID CONFIRMED IN RECEIVERSHIP AFTER MUCH DISCUSSION

GOVERNMENT MAKES STATEMENT REGARDING RECENT ACTION IN TAKING OVER G. T. P. RAILWAY

Says that Premier Borden made an Offer for the Grand Trunk as Well as Subsidiary Line but this was not Accepted; Finances of Road are Discussed by Acting Premier.

(Special to The News via G. T. P. Telegraphs.)
Ottawa, March 21.—In the House of Commons yesterday a resolution was carried which pledges the House to the confirmation of Hon. J. D. Reid, Minister of Railways, in the position of receiver for the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway and a bill was introduced to give effect to the resolution.
The matter was discussed in committee until a late hour in the evening, the general plea in favor of it being that public ownership should be given a fair chance.
Wanted C. P. R. Too.
W. F. McLean of South York expressed himself in favor of the acquisition, not only of the Grand Trunk and the Grand Trunk Pacific, but also of the Canadian Pacific Railway and all telegraph and express companies connected therewith.
Mr. Robb, chief opposition whip, feared that the policy of passing into national ownership of the Grand Trunk would result in the same effect in the west as the Intercolonial had in the east.
Sir Thomas Explains.
Discussing the Grand Trunk Pacific Sir Thomas White said there were outstanding securities guaranteed by the Dominion Government of \$54,000,000; \$33,000,000 were held by the Dominion Government, the balance being in the hands of bondholders. The Dominion Government as guarantor of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway Company was interested in the Grand Trunk Pacific to the extent of \$145,000,000. In addition to this, securities amounting to \$87,000,000 had been guaranteed by the Grand Trunk Railway.
Borden Offers to Purchase.
The Acting Prime Minister then went on to state that an offer had been made by Mr. Borden to the Grand Trunk for the purchase of the Grand Trunk Pacific. The proposal of the Government was that they should take over the Grand Trunk Pacific and its subsidiary lines, and the Grand Trunk Railway Company, to acquire the assets, and to assume all obligations of both companies, the Government to make annual payments of \$2,500,000 for the first three years, \$3,000,000 for the succeeding five years, and \$3,600,000 annually thereafter, such terms to be distributed by the Grand Trunk management among the holders of the four per cent guaranteed and other stocks. The Government also offered as an alternative to submit the entire question to a board of arbitration.
Company's Reply.
The reply of the Grand Trunk made no reference to the obligations of the company regarding the Grand Trunk Pacific, but asked the Government to pay annual rental to the Grand Trunk of \$5,000,000.
Sir Thomas said the Government would have found itself in a position, if this request was complied with, of shouldering the deficits of the C. N. R., deficits of the G. T. P., and paying Grand Trunk shareholders over \$5,000,000 a year.
No More Money.
Government notified Grand Trunk that Dominion Government would not again ask Parliament to vote any further sums for the purpose of meeting fixed charges or deficits on running expenses. The next thing that happened, said Sir Thomas, was a notice served on March 3 that on the following Monday the Grand Trunk Pacific in the west would close down. There was no discussion, no previous intimation. Immediate action being necessary.
(Continued on Page Six.)

CANADIAN CLUB TO ENTERTAIN NEWMAN ERB

Chairman of Board of Local Ship-building Concern to be at Lunch Here Tuesday.
Newman Erb, chairman of the Board of Directors of the Prince Rupert Drydock & Engineering Co., is to be entertained at lunch by the Canadian Club on Tuesday next at 1 p. m. at the Hotel Prince Rupert. As stated before in The News, he is expected to arrive on Sunday evening in order to look over the field where the activities of the company are to be centred. On this occasion only members of the club are asked to attend. Anyone may become a member, however, on applying to the secretary, J. D. McAuley, or at the Prince Rupert Hotel and paying the necessary fee.
Mr. Erb set out to come to this city once before, but was recalled when he reached Winnipeg. Now he is well on his way and it is confidently expected he will arrive Sunday.

GOVERNMENT SCORED FOR ACTION REGARDING G. T. P.

D. D. MACKENZIE, LEADER OF OPPOSITION, OBJECTS TO USE OF WAR TIME ACT WHEN WAR WAS OVER—KELLY HURRIES TO OTTAWA
(Special to The News via G. T. P. Telegraphs.)
Ottawa, March 21.—D. D. Mackenzie, the new leader of the Liberal party in the House of Commons yesterday rose to the occasion on the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway policy, raked the Government fore and aft for using the War Measures Act after the war was over and stated that he was opposed to the proposal as outlined to the House and embodied in a resolution moved by Sir Thomas White. The resolution was one to confirm the appointment of Dr. Reid as receiver for the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway.
Mr. Mackenzie asked for all documents and correspondence between the Government and the company. He declared that the Government was usurping the functions of the courts.
Although no formal motion was made yesterday in the House, it is understood that the Railway Consolidation Act will be dealt with by a special committee of twenty-five members and not by a standing committee which includes a majority of members of the House. The Acting Premier said he believed a smaller committee could deal with the act more expeditiously.
Halifax, March 21.—Howard Kelly, president of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway, arrived here yesterday on the S. S. Baltic, leaving for Ottawa on a special train.

CAMPAIGNERS OBJECT TO LABOR'S ATTITUDE

Break Off Relations With Trades and Labor Council Until Action Taken.
Victoria, B. C., March 21.—The British Campaigners' Association has decided to break off all relations with the Trades and Labor Council until the latter disclaims all connection with the attitude of the British Columbia Federation of Labor convention recently held at Calgary. The campaigners have been acting with the labor council in the matter of soldiers' employment.

COMPANY FISHERMEN DECIDE TO ACCEPT TERMS SAME AS THOSE IN FORCE LAST YEAR

At a meeting of the Deep Sea Fishermen's Union held in their rooms last night it was decided to accept the ruling of headquarters and go to work on the 1918 terms, which were those set by the Canada Food Board and which the men at that time accepted in order to do their bit in providing food during the war.
Prices Set.
The prices which the men will get on the boats operated by the companies will be on halibut boats three cents for halibut, two cents for black cod and one and a quarter cents for all other kinds of cod.
On the beam trawlers which are operated here under agreement with the Canadian Government through the Canada Food Board the price to be paid will be three quarters of a cent a pound on flat-fish, and a cent and a quarter for any other than black cod, with the same prices for black cod and halibut as is paid on halibut boats, one and a quarter cents on flat fish.
Prices Asked.
The prices which the men were asking as set by the union headquarters at Seattle were halibut four cents, black cod three cents and all other cod two cents. On the trawlers the price asked was quarters of a cent a pound on flat-fish and others the same as in 1918.
A vote of the whole of the unions of the coast was taken a few days ago on the advisability of going to work and while the men here voted against accepting the three quarters of a cent on flat fish the union as a whole accepted and the local branch last night thought it their duty to adopt the ruling and go to work on the 1918 terms.
The last agreement ended on February 2 and since that time the men have been idle and the boats tied up. Now as soon as the boats are ready they will again be operated and the amount of fish coming to this port will be considerably increased.
It is pointed out by the men that prior to the agreement of 1918 they were getting one cent a pound for flat fish on the trawlers and they agreed to lower the rate in order to increase the consumption of fish as desired by the Canada Food Board.

STEEL PRICES TAKE A DROP

Steel Plates Now Sell at \$2.65 a Hundred Pounds and Basic Pig \$25.75 a Ton.
(Special via G. T. P. Telegraphs.)
Washington, March 21.—An agreement on a new schedule of steel prices providing for a reduction, has been reached by representatives of the steel industry and the Industrial Board of the Department of Commerce. The prices are for the year 1919 and are effective at once.
A partial list of the new prices follows: Basic pig iron reduced to \$25.75 a gross ton; four inch billets \$38.50 a gross ton; merchant bars \$2.35 a hundred pounds; plates \$2.65 a hundred pounds; and structural steel \$2.45 a hundred pounds.

BORDEN MAY STILL BE AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED STATES

(Special via G. T. P. Telegraphs.)
Paris, March 21.—Reuter's News Agency understands that the offer of the British Ambassadorship to Washington to Sir Robert Borden is still open.
Sir Robert has not yet made his decision, but it is thought very probable he will accept.

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THREATEN WITHDRAWAL.

(Special via G. T. P. Telegraphs.)
Paris, March 21.—The Italian delegation to the Peace Conference unanimously decided to withdraw unless Fiume is assigned to Italy contemporaneously with the conclusion of peace.

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* right thing. Also a few *
* coats in taffeta for two to *
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Yacht Club
The annual general meeting of the Prince Rupert Rowing and Yachting Club, Ltd., will be held in the court house tonight at 8. All members asked to attend to discuss plans for the coming season.

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This is an unusual comedy drama of Irish life.
An all star cast including Flora Finch, Kate Price, Wm. Shea and Hughie Mack in
Mr. Bingle's Melodrama
The story of a stage drama that was really a comedy and a tragedy to Mr. Bingle. This comedy is a side splitter.
Shows, 7.15 and 9 sharp: Admission 15c and 25c.
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