

The St. John Standard

VOL. VIII. NO. 198

TEN PAGES

TUESDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 14, 1916.

WEATHER—UNSETTLED

PRICE TWO CENTS

BRITISH SMASH GERMAN LINE ON SOUTH BANK OF ANCRE

SIR SAM HUGHES RESIGNS HIS CABINET PORTFOLIO

Resignation of Minister of Militia and Defence Followed Request Sent to Him by Rt. Hon. Sir Robert Borden.

SPECTACULAR FIGURE WHO HAS DONE MUCH IN SERVICE OF EMPIRE BECAME TOO AUTOCRATIC AND DISREGARDED COUNSELS OF PRIME MINISTER AND OTHER CABINET MEMBERS—SKETCH OF HIS VALUABLE SERVICES IN BOER WAR.

SPECIAL TO THE STANDARD.

Ottawa, Nov. 13.—General Sir Sam Hughes has resigned the portfolio of Militia and Defence. In response to the request of the Prime Minister sent to him on Friday he handed his resignation to Sir Robert Borden today. His successor has not yet been appointed and it may be some time yet before a new minister of militia is named. Meanwhile the affairs of the department will be looked after by F. B. McCurdy, M. P., parliamentary under-secretary of state for Militia and Defence. The Premier will be the acting minister.

Spectacular Figure Passes.
Thus passes from the government one of the most spectacular figures in Canadian political history. His tenure of office since 1911 has been one long series of episodes mostly vivid. Since 1914 when the hostilities with Germany began he himself has been constantly in the limelight. It is said that he had differences at times with every member of the cabinet except the Premier, and now he is out of office on the very day of the arrival of His Grace the Duke of Devonshire, the new governor-general.

Sir Sam Has Nothing to Say.
General Hughes was asked today if he had any comment to make. He replied that he had none at present, that Sir Robert Borden would say all there was to be said, and that probably when parliament meets there would be some further facts laid before the house.
The former Minister of Militia looked cheerful and chirpy as usual and was ready with his wonted smile when questioned about his future movements. He would not say, however, what his plans were. He has probably not made up his mind. He only reached the city on Saturday morning after a ten days' holiday and he found the Premier's request for his resignation awaiting him on his arrival. He has much business to complete, however, before he can leave the city.

Reason For Dismissal.
The reason for the dismissal of the Minister of Militia is an accumulation of disobeisances and other things, and for a long time the relations between him and the government have been very strained. It could not be said, however, that matters reached a climax until the recent visit to England of General Hughes. It is stated that the former minister was given specific instructions regarding the establishment of an overseas portfolio of militia and defense with headquarters in London, but that he did not carry out the orders. His arrangements were countermanded by the Premier, and instead of accepting the situation General Hughes is credited with having assumed such an antagonistic and virulent attitude in letters addressed to the Prime Minister that it was found impossible to continue him in office.

It is unlikely that this correspondence will be made public until the house meets in January.

Appointment Unwise.
The appointment made by General Hughes to which the most objection was taken that of overseas deputy minister. He gave that important office to Col. A. D. McRae, whose name is connected with certain land deals in the west, notably the Saskatchewan Valley Land Company. From the Ottawa point of view that appointment was an impossibility. However, the other nominations to the overseas militia council were also unsatisfactory to the authorities here, and the result was that nothing of this nature done by General Hughes during his last trip to England was approved and Sir George Perley was appointed minister of overseas forces to clear up these matters. He is in process of carrying out the instructions of Sir Robert Borden. That General Hughes is resentful of the

Washington Considers Submarine Craft Situation Serious

No Response from German Government Regarding the Sinking of Marina—Secretary Lansing States Evidence not Yet Sufficient to Warrant Drastic Action.

Washington, Nov. 13.—Secretary of State Lansing laid before President Wilson a summary of information regarding recent submarine attacks carrying Americans, but reported that sufficient evidence was not yet at hand on which to base action. He said no information had been received from the Berlin government in response to an inquiry, sent through the American embassy there, concerning the sinking of the Marina when six American lives were lost.

While state department officials considered the submarine question as serious no decision has been reached as to whether Germany has violated its pledges.
Cortuna, Spain, Nov. 13, via Paris.—Captain Frederick Curtis, of the American steamer Columbian, who arrived here with the rescued crew of the ship, declared to a representative of the Associated Press today that he was a prisoner on board the German submarine U-49 for six days after the destruction of his vessel. Captain Curtis said the Columbian was warned before she was torpedoed and sunk by the U-49. The crew was left in lifeboats and the captain was taken on board the submarine.
All of the 109 members of the Columbian's crew were saved, Captain Curtis stated.

Successful friction of a similar nature continued to fester. It is now ended. The general feeling in Ottawa is that the severance of relations between the administration and Sir Sam is in the interest of Canada and the Empire, although some of his political friends may feel that the premier should have overlooked certain things because of Sir Sam's past services.

Long and Honored Career.
Sir Sam Hughes was born at Darlington, Ont., January 8, 1855. He is a graduate of Toronto University and when a young man took a course in a military school. He was editor of the Lindsay Warbler from 1885 to 1887. He has been member of parliament for North Victoria since 1892. He became minister of militia and defense in 1911. He was present at the coronation of King George. In early life he entered the volunteer militia, and served in the Penan raid in 1870. He also took part in the South African war and performed valuable service, holding various positions, including that of chief of the intelligence staff to Lieut. Gen. Sir Charles Warren in Bechuanaland, West Africa, and in the command of a mounted brigade and led in the attack on Douglas and Orpen's Heights, which were captured. For his gallantry in these actions he was mentioned in the dispatches. He served with further distinction in the campaign.

Sir Sam was a military man from the time he left school, and it was largely because of his fighting spirit and his custom to command that he found himself in difficulties with his friends and superiors in the government. Sir Sam has many friends in Canada and the old country and they regret that he has placed himself in a position where it was necessary for him and many of these self same friends to agree to disagree, especially at a time of the world crisis.

Started at Valcartier.
The troubles with General Hughes began shortly after the opening of the war when the first contingent was at Valcartier. There was there a magnificent muster of men to fight the battles of the Empire. General Hughes had put forth a tremendous effort and he was about to send across the sea the first great force of Canadians. But there was friction in the process of making the great army and there was no doubt that the Minister of Militia had ridden roughshod over a number of officers and civilians. Even clergymen were said to have come under the lash of his tongue. The complaints reached the Prime Minister and he with Hon. Martin Burrell and Hon. Robert Rogers went to Valcartier and investigated every charge that was made against Sir Sam Hughes. The Prime Minister stated afterwards that most of the charges were true, but they were so small in comparison with the big things that General Hughes had accomplished for the Empire that they had made an effort to patch up the troubles and in this they had been

successful. Friction of a similar nature continued to fester. It is now ended. The general feeling in Ottawa is that the severance of relations between the administration and Sir Sam is in the interest of Canada and the Empire, although some of his political friends may feel that the premier should have overlooked certain things because of Sir Sam's past services.

Charlotteown, P. E. I., Nov. 13.—The schooner W. Parnell O'Hara, with produce for New Brunswick, capsized during a heavy gale in Malpeque Bay on Saturday night. Captain Dunn and an unknown man were aboard at the time and both are supposed to be lost.

KAISER'S FORCES IN UTTER ROUT

Army of Britain in Gallant Mile Drive Surprise Huns, Capture Beaumont-Hamel and St. Pierre Divion and Two Lines of Trenches, Taking More Than Three Thousand Prisoners.

LIEUT.-GOV. MACKEEN IS DEAD

Nova Scotia's Chief Executive Passed Away at Eleven O'Clock Last Night—Long and Honored Career.

Halifax N. S., Nov. 13.—His Honor Lieut. Gov. David MacKeen died at eleven o'clock tonight of paralysis. He had been critically ill for several days and the end had been expected since Saturday.

Sketch of Lt. Gov. MacKeen.
The Hon. David MacKeen was born at Mabou Cape Breton, in September, 1839, the son of the Hon. William MacKeen, member of the legislative council of Nova Scotia. When young he entered the offices of the Caledonia Coal and Railway Company and later became agent and treasurer of the corporation. With Henry M. Whitney of Boston he was instrumental in forming the Dominion Coal Co. and became general manager of the corporation, a position he held until 1896. He was for some time president of the Halifax Electric Tramway Co., and was heavily interested in the banking business. He was United States consular agent, sub-collector of customs and warden of the County of Cape Breton before he became actively identified with politics.

He represented Cape Breton County in the House of Commons from 1887 to 1896 and was a staunch supporter of the administrations of Sir John Macdonald and Sir John Thompson.

In 1896 he was appointed to the senate of Canada and continued in the upper chamber at Ottawa until his appointment as governor of Nova Scotia.

Prominent Presbyterian.
Lieut. Gov. MacKeen was a governor of Dalhousie University and was prominent in Presbyterian church circles.

Lieut. Gov. MacKeen was married three times. His first wife was Miss Isabel Derby, daughter of Henry Poole Derby of England, with whom he was united in 1867. He was married a second time to Miss Frances M. Lawson daughter of William Lawson of Halifax in 1877. His third wife was Miss Jane K. Crerar daughter of John Crerar of Halifax with whom he was united in 1888. He was a member of the Halifax, Rideau, Country (Ottawa), and St. James' (Montreal) Clubs.

The Hon. Mr. MacKeen lived in Halifax for several years before he became chief executive of the province.

VAN HORN'S CASE STILL DRAGS ALONG

Washington, Nov. 13.—Earlier news than would be customary in the case of Werner Van Horn, who claims to be a German army officer, and who is held in Boston charged with attempting to dynamite the international bridge at Vanceboro, Maine, seemed assured today, when the department of justice concurred in a motion to the supreme court to advance it. Van Horn is appealing from a lower court order dismissing his request for a writ of habeas corpus.

FIELD MARSHAL VON MACKENSEN'S TROOPS STILL RETREATING IN DOBRUDJA—SERBIANS CAPTURE VILLAGE OF IVEN AND DRIVE BACK ANTAGONISTS—THIRTEENTH AN UNLUCKY DAY FOR CENTRAL POWERS.

Once again the German line in France has been hard hit. Starting an offensive running from the southern bank of the Ancre river northward over a front of about five miles—from St. Pierre Divion to the north of Serre—the British have captured the towns of Beaumont-Hamel and St. Pierre Divion and first and second line trenches at various points.
Between 3,000 and 4,000 men were made prisoners in the attack. The Germans apparently offered slight resistance to their adversaries, although their positions were extremely strong. A gain to a depth of one mile maximum over the five mile front was made by the British. Hard fighting continues to the north of Serre.

Straightening Line.
The new drive probably has as its objective the straightening out of the British line from the region of Serre across the Ancre, and the pushing forward by the British left wing toward Achiet-Le-Petit, the junction point of the Arras-Bapaume and Arras-Miraumont railroads.
Except in the Roumanian and Macedonian theatre there has been little fighting of any importance.

Mackensen Still in Retreat.
In Dobrudja according to Petrograd advice, received by wireless at Rome the troops of Field Marshal Von Mackensen are still in retreat, and that the Russians have crossed the Danube from the western bank and reached two points south of Tchernada on the eastern bank. Berlin asserts, however, that the Teutonic allies have defeated the Russians and Roumanians who were coming down the western bank of the river.

The Serbians east of Monastir have scored another victory over the Germans and Bulgarians, having captured the village of Iven, to the north-east of Polog, and forced their antagonists to fall back. About 200 men were made prisoners in this fighting, and large numbers of guns and quantities of ammunition were captured.

On the Austro-Italian front quiet prevails, except for artillery duels. An Austrian aerial bombardment of Weodva killed at least sixty persons, including women and children, says a Rome despatch.
A violent artillery duel is still in progress in the Narayurka region of Galicia, and the Russians have repelled strong Austro-German attacks in the Carpathians.

Great British Drive.
London, Nov. 13.—What may become known as the battle of the Ancre opened today, when the British struck a fresh blow against the German front in the region of the Ancre river. There had been no serious fighting in this sector since the opening of the British push on the first of July, when the British line of attack extended five miles north of the Ancre to Gommeourt. But after a few days, no progress being made in this region, efforts henceforth concentrated further to the south.

Frequent trench raids during recent weeks indicated that some new move was contemplated, but the bad weather, which has prevented any serious operations since October 21, when the last big attack was launched on the Schwaben-Le Sars sector, delayed the blow.
Apparently the Germans were taken by surprise and they offered no serious resistance, except before Serre. The attack was carried out on a front extending five miles on both sides of the Ancre against positions which the Germans had held for two years, and which they considered impregnable. It resulted in the capture of Beaumont-Hamel and St. Pierre Divion, with a gain of new ground of a maximum depth of one mile and a large number of prisoners, between 3,000 and 4,000 having already been reported.

The positions north of the river are described as of extraordinary strength. The fighting continues north of Serre. This latest British advance, in conjunction with that on

the Schwaben-Le Sars line, threatens the envelopment of Miraumont, on the Albert-Arras railway.
French Take Rest.
Paris, Nov. 13.—There was only the usual cannonading during the night along the front in France, says today's announcement by the war office.
The text of the French statement reads:
"There was nothing to report on the front as a whole in the course of the night with the exception of the usual cannonade."
Nine bombing airplanes and seven escorting planes of the British royal naval air service, bombarded blast furnaces and foundries at Saint Ingbert northeast of Saarbrücken, in the basin of the Sarre. All the machines returned.
"Two German machines last night dropped bombs on Belfort. Five civilians were killed."
"Army of the east: In the Cerna region the battle which has been proceeding for the last two days continues with violence. It is increasingly apparent that the engagement is a brilliant success for our arms."
"Supported by intense fire from the French artillery Serbian troops in the loop of the Cerna gained a fresh victory over the Bulgarian-German forces who were obliged to abandon after a sanguinary fight the village of Iven, and to fall back for a distance of three kilometers to the north of that place under the victorious pressure of our allies. Five counter-attacks were delivered by the enemy, who defending himself obstinately, was unable to check our advance."

Aeroplanes Active.
London, Nov. 13, 4.35 p. m.—A squadron of British naval airplanes yesterday dropped a large number of bombs on German naval works in the harbor of Ostend and on war vessels there, according to a British official statement issued this afternoon.
The text of the statement reads:
"At noon yesterday a squadron of naval airplanes attacked the harbor of Ostend. A considerable number of bombs were dropped on the Ateliers De La Marine and on the war vessels in the harbor."
Amsterdam via London, Nov. 12.—The Telegram quotes German newspapers to the effect that an extraordinary sitting of the Reichstag is to be convened supposedly to pass a bill calling up civil servants for "service in the interest of the fatherland."
The newspaper says it is not intended to extend the age limit for military service.
London Nov. 13.—The Serbian official communication of today says:
"Yesterday in co-operation with the French, we continued the pursuit of the enemy northward and captured the village of Iven (on the Cerna, north-east of Polog). Enemy dead strewn the battlefield."
Petrograd, Nov. 13.—Austro-German forces are directing violent attacks against the Roumanian positions in the region of Campulung, says a Russian official statement issued today.
The Roumanians, after having been pushed back in the region of Oltuz Valley, attacked the Teutons north and south of Toivenoling and captured a series of heights. The text follows: