

The St. John Standard

VOL. VIII. NO. 153.

TEN PAGES

THURSDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 21, 1916.

WEATHER—FAIR

PRICE TWO CENTS

RUSSIANS STRIKE HARD AT TURKS IN PERSIA; DESPERATE COUNTER-ATTACKS BY HUNS ON SOMME

HUNS ROUTED WITH STEEL AFTER A FURIOUS BATTLE

French and Teutons Engaged for Hours on 3-Mile Front—Germans Gain Temporary Foothold in Bouchavesnes but Finally Driven Out With Bayonet.

FURIOUS ATTACKS ON PRIEZ FARM — GERMANS ADVANCE IN WAVES BUT ARE FORCED BACK LEAVING THE GROUND COVERED WITH DEAD

In an effort to retrieve, in part, their lost territory, the Germans on Wednesday, despite the bad weather, made violent counter-attacks against the French, over a three-mile front in the region of the Priez Farm and Bouchavesnes, north of the Somme.

In mass formation the Teutons threw attack after attack along the line from nine o'clock in the morning until dark, and at the end of the day the French were everywhere holding their positions, according to Paris, and the battlefield at points was covered with German dead.

Came on in Waves.

During the fighting the Germans penetrated the northeastern part of the village of Bouchavesnes, but here the French met them with the bayonet and dislodged them. Four assaults at the Priez Farm, in which the Germans came on in waves, were repulsed by the French, whose observers assert that the Germans at last withdrew in disorder, leaving many dead behind them. On the British front the inclement weather still prevails and holds the opposing sides to artillery duels.

In the eastern theatre, in Russia and Galicia, both Berlin and Vienna report the repulse of heavy Russian attacks in the Lutsk sector of Volhynia and southeast of Lemberg, in Galicia.

Berlin Admits Russian Successes in Carpathians.

Local successes for the Russians in the Carpathians are conceded by the Teutonic Allies, who say, however, that on the whole the Russian attacks in this region were repulsed.

Down in Transylvania, where the Roumanians have been fighting against the Austro-Hungarians, the invaders apparently have met with a serious reverse in the region of Hatzegad, whence they have been driven back by the Teutonic Allies to the Transylvanian Alps and the town of Petrozny and the Saurdug Pass, through which they entered Transylvania, in this region, recaptured from them.

In Dobruja, where the Russians and Roumanians have been heavily reinforced along the line south of the Constantza railway, from the Black Sea to the Danube, the tide of battle is fluctuating. Sofia reports successes for the arms of the Bulgarians at certain points, while Bucharest claims a victory for the Roumanians near Enlifa.

In Macedonia.

The western end of Macedonia is still the scene of violent combats. The Bulgarians according to Athens, have hastily evacuated Vagitsa, at the extreme end of the line, and fallen back upon Svedra for a stand in previously prepared entrenchments, which, if captured, will necessitate the evacuation of Monastir, Serbia.

Berlin reports that the Germans, who are co-operating with the Bulgarians, have repulsed Entente thrusts near Florina, Greece. Rome admits that the Italians on the southern slopes of the Monte Beles have been driven back by the Bulgarians. Artillery fighting predominates on the British and French fronts.

Aside from bombardments and isolated infantry attacks the situation remains unchanged on the Carso front of the Austro-Italian theatre, where the Italians are trying to reach Trieste. Constantinople records successes for the Ottoman forces over the Russians and British, respectively, in Persia and along the Tigris.

Artillery Fire on British Front.

London, Sept. 20.—The official statement from general headquarters is issued tonight reads:

"Heavy rain has again fallen today. The general situation remains unchanged. There was considerable hostile artillery activity on the battle front south of the Ancre. On the rest of the front there is nothing to report. During the last forty-eight hours over one hundred prisoners have been taken."

CZAR'S MEN DEAL TURKS EFFECTIVE BLOW IN PERSIA

Russians Strike Unexpectedly After Enemy Had Made Important Advance—Rear of Ottoman Army Menaced—Turks Fall Back and Czar's Forces Reach Kuridjan, 20 Miles from Hamadan.

Petrograd, Sept. 20, via London, (3.55 p. m.)—A brief sentence in the Russian official statement of yesterday shows that a very considerable success has been achieved by the Russians in Persia.

The Turks, after occupying Hamadan, advanced 60 to 70 miles northward in the direction of Kasvin.

Then, military advices say, a Russian blow from the direction of Tabriz fell.

The Turkish rear being seriously menaced, the Ottoman troops were compelled to fall back until eventually the Russians reached Kuridjan, 20 miles from Hamadan.

Man For Man Allies Superior.

"We are fighting the best organized nation in the world, and it would be a reflection on our own troops not to admit that the Germans are showing extraordinary bravery. Two years ago they had a great chance to win. They still are exceedingly strong in engines of destruction, but we at least are even in this respect now, and I cannot help feeling that our men individually are better. Soon we hope to have a distinct margin of superiority."

"We are able to continue to increase the arms, munitions and food of our troops, and we will get more men, if needed, but no concrete proposal has been made yet to increase the aid limit."

"I cannot say such suggestion finds me unprepared, as before I came to the war office I announced my policy was in favor of mobilizing every man in the country under the age of sixty, so that each could be placed in his proper place, either fighting, making munitions or carrying on the ordinary business of the country."

Boches Won't Get Chance To Hibernates.

"Recent raids of the military on stations and places of amusement pretty plainly have proved there are very few slackers left, and that the eligible men under the present conscription law either are in the army or are properly badged for other work."

"I found everyone at the front cheerful. You may rest assured the offensive will be continued. If there seems to be a lull it will be interesting to make a study of the German casualty list. Mr. Boche will not be allowed to go into winter quarters."

"In company with Joffre and Halg, I watched the trials of the famous 'Tanks,' a sight which provoked unrestrained laughter, despite the power they displayed, crossing trenches, butting their way through wire entanglements, and even through groves of trees."

German Statement.

Berlin, Sept. 20, via London, 5.20 p. m.—The official statement issued today by the German army headquarters follows:

"Western front: Army group of Prince Rupprecht: There were no events of especial importance on the Somme battlefield. Isolated enemy attacks were repulsed. We achieved some success in a hand-grenade attack near Fiers. Supplementary news states that during Monday evening a French attack from Clerly was repulsed."

"On the western slope of Le Mort Homme the French were driven out of a small position which they had retained. As a result of this operation 98 prisoners and eight machine guns fell into our hands."

"During the night of Monday our patrols in the Champagne, as the result of successful enterprises, captured 46 French and Russian prisoners. Last night they took a number of French prisoners south of the Rhine-Rhone canal."

PORTUGUESE TROOPS CROSS THE ROVUMA IN EAST AFRICA

Lisbon, via Paris, Sept. 20.—"Portuguese troops operating in Mozambique have crossed the Rovuma river" (dividing German East Africa from Portuguese East Africa) says an official statement issued today.

"The enemy, who is making feeble resistance, has abandoned arm-plated trenches. Our flag now flies four miles over the frontier."

Battle Raged for Hours.

Paris, Sept. 20, via London, Sept. 21.—Powerful counter-attacks launched by the Germans against the French in the neighborhood of Priez Farm and Bouchavesnes, north of the Somme, today, were beaten back, according to the official statement issued by the war office tonight.

The battle raged for many hours along a three-mile front, and the Germans succeeded in getting a temporary foothold in a section of Bouchavesnes, but were dislodged with the bayonet.

The text of the statement reads:

"North of the Somme the Germans today made a powerful effort to dislodge us from positions we had recently won. The battle lasted from nine o'clock in the morning until nightfall on a front of five kilometres, between Priez Farm and a point south of the farm of L'Abbe Wood."

"Enemy masses made repeated attacks, preceded each time by violent artillery preparation. Our troops resisted manfully all the assaults, repulsing the attacks with a cross-fire of machine guns and artillery. Everywhere we held our positions."

Assaulting Waves Smashed by French Fire.

"The battle was particularly violent at the edge of Priez Farm and in the region of Bouchavesnes. In front of Priez Farm four assaulting waves were successively smashed by our fire. The enemy attack could be seen from our side to break up and flow back in disorder behind a forest, leaving the ground covered with corpses."

"In the sector of Bouchavesnes the

"BUY THE VOTES NO MATTER WHAT IT COSTS" OPPOSITION SLOGAN IN CARLETON CO. FOR TODAY

Promises, Money Nor Liquor to be Spared by "Purity" Crowd in Efforts to Defeat the Government Candidates in Today's Contest—Fifteen Dollars for Vote Against Mayor Sutton, Offered Yesterday, is Report

CARLETON CO. FOR SUTTON AND SMITH

Closing Hours of Campaign Indicate Both Government Candidates Will Win at the Polls Today.

Special to The Standard.

Woodstock, N. B., Sept. 20.—The closing hours of the campaign find the government workers sanguine of victory for both Hon. B. Frank Smith and Mayor Sutton. Despite the immense campaign fund that has been brought to Carleton county by the opposition in an endeavor to corrupt the electors, the reports received here tonight indicate that the opposition will not be able to elect either of their candidates at the polls tomorrow.

The government supporters have no fear of the result and while the majorities for Smith and Sutton may not be as large as in the by-election in 1915, when the minister received over 700, both candidates are sure to receive a substantial plurality over their opponents. If there is any appreciable decrease in the majority it will be due to the fact that since the Smith-Simms by-election the government voters have enlisted, in the proportion of two to one, as compared with Liberal supporters.

Minister Smith is active tonight in the northern section of the county, while at Centreville a big open-air meeting is being held in the interests of the government candidates, the speakers being Hon. Dr. Baxter, Hon. Mr. Murray and J. B. Daggett.

Dr. Landry with J. P. Hartley is addressing a big meeting at Waterville. Hon. Mr. Flemming and Mayor Sutton are at Knowlesville, while F. C. Squires is the chief speaker at Oakville.

RAIL SHORTAGE, RAILWAYS FACE BIG PROBLEM

Canadian Mills Working on Munitions, Gov't May be Asked to Relax Customs Laws to Permit Import of Rails.

Special to The Standard.

Ottawa, Sept. 20.—There is a shortage of rails in Canada for railway maintenance. This is result of the utilization of the Canadian plants for the production of munitions and railway companies are face to face with a serious difficulty.

An inquiry into the situation is being made by the government which is considering the question of providing enough rails to keep the existing roads up to standard.

If the Canadian steel plants cannot furnish sufficient rails without interfering with the manufacture of munitions it is probable that the customs regulations will be relaxed to permit the importation of enough rails to supply the demand until the steel concerns can meet the requirements.

Bombardier Geo. M. Masson in Australian Hospital in Boulogne—Pte. Wm. Witzell also Wounded.

Newcastle, Sept. 20.—Word has been received here that Bombardier George Milton Masson, who went overseas with the 8th Battery, in 1914, is dangerously ill from a gunshot wound in the ankle and is in the second Australian General Hospital, Boulogne, France, to which he was admitted Sept. 17th.

Private William Witzell, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Witzell of Newcastle, has been seriously wounded at the front.

EVEN TORONTO "TOUCHED" FOR CONTRIBUTION TOWARD THE OPPOSITION'S CORRUPTION FUND IN DESPERATE EFFORT TO SAVE CAR- VELL IN HIS OWN CONSTITUENCY.

Special to The Standard.

Woodstock, Sept. 20.—That "Buy the Votes No Matter What it Costs" will be the policy on which the opposition will operate in Carleton county tomorrow in an effort to defeat at least one of the Government candidates is now a well known fact. The corruption fund at the disposal of these apostles of purity and political reform is variously estimated at from \$30,000 to \$60,000—and at the rate the promises of "payment after Thursday" are being made it is evident they will be willing to spend it.

Authentic reports received at Government headquarters here tonight are to the effect that as high as \$15 was offered today for a vote against Mayor Sutton. The opposition realize that they have no chance to defeat Hon. Mr. Smith and are now bending all efforts toward making the contest result in the election of at least one of their candidates. To this end they will spare neither promises, money or rum.

Where the great fund came from is not so much of a mystery now as it was prior to the arrival of J. G. Turiff, the Liberal member of parliament who is closely connected with the financial arrangements of the Canadian Liberal party. It is believed that Mr. Turiff's visit, coming so soon after the pilgrimage of F. B. Carvell and E. M. Macdonald to Ottawa, has an important and sinister significance.

Despite the knowledge that the opposition will use the "wad" at every polling district in the county the Government workers are confident of victory. The feeling in the county is very strong, the exposure of the last desperate attempts of the opposition to discredit members of the Government having created a deep impression. The indications tonight are that a heavy vote will be polled and that both Government candidates will be successful.

The Corruption Fund.

Ottawa, Sept. 20.—That the mission of J. G. Turiff to Carleton county, N. B., may have been to transport an immense corruption fund gathered for use by the Carvell forces in that county, is the impression here. Advice from Toronto are to the effect that Hartley Dewart, M.L.A. for Southwest Ontario, have been soliciting contributions in Toronto to help the oppositionists in Carleton defeat the Government candidates and thus register their opposition to the prohibitory legislation adopted by the New Brunswick Government and under which that province will go dry next May. Toronto liquor interests are said to have given the opposition canvassers a hearty welcome and substantial evidence of their disapproval of the action of the New Brunswick Government.

There is intense interest here in tomorrow's election as it is felt the result will be a real test of Frank B. Carvell's strength in his own constituency, as it has been admitted by Carvell's political friends here that he is making this fight particularly his own.

**WELL KNOWN BAPTIST
MINISTER PASSES AWAY**

Toronto, Sept. 20.—The death occurred this evening at his residence, 59 Howland avenue, this city, of Rev. Dr. W. E. Norton, for 15 years superintendent of Baptist Home Missions for Ontario and Quebec, and one of the best known men in the denomination. He was 65 years of age.

Those who pleaded were Charles R. O'Connell, James O'Connell, George A. Bardwell, Rhona Pittsfield, Geraldine Pittsfield and Margaret Stewart.

**POPULATION OF
WESTERN CANADA
ON THE INCREASE**

Special to The Standard.

Ottawa, Sept. 20.—Despite the drain which the recruiting of men for overseas forces has caused the population of the west shows a slight increase in this second year of the war. The census figures which are almost ready for publication show that Winnipeg has the largest increase in population, although a heavy contributor of men for the overseas army.

SERBS SCORE SUCCESS IN MACEDONIA

Drive Bulgars from Highest Peak of Kaimakcalan Range—Enemy's Losses were Heavy.

Paris, Sept. 20.—An official statement issued by the war office tonight reports a brilliant success for the Serbian army on the Macedonian front. The statement says:

"From the River Struma as far as the region to the west of the Vardar, there have been the customary artillery exchanges and engagements between patrols. To the east of the Cerna Serbian troops, following a vigorous offensive movement, attacked Hill 2,625, the highest peak of the Kaimakcalan range which had been defensively organized by the enemy. After a fierce struggle, which developed into hand-to-hand fighting, the Serbian infantrymen came out masters of the position. The Bulgarians, who suffered very heavy losses, left 50 prisoners in the hands of the Serbians."

"To the east of Florina, in the region of the Broda river, Bulgarian counter-attacks supported by cavalry, were driven back in the direction of Borensica by the fire of our 75-millimetre guns, before the Bulgarians could reach the Serbian lines on our left wing."

"The enemy is still holding out on the heights to the north of Sideroti, and near the Monastery of San Marco."

"In Florina we have cleaned up several houses in which Bulgarian troops were still defending themselves with savage energy."

"During these operations we took 100 prisoners."

"One of our air squadrons has thrown down numerous projectiles on Monastir."

BUSINESS TAX WILL REALIZE \$25,000,000

Replies from Firms Show that Sir Thos. White's Estimate was Within the Mark.

Special to The Standard.

Ottawa, Sept. 20.—It is understood that replies from business firms throughout the country to the circular sent out by the Finance Department show that the estimate of revenue made by Sir Thomas White last session was within the mark and that the sum he named, \$25,000,000, will be raised.

The replies show that probably over 2,500 firms will pay the business tax. This is about 13 per cent. of the 20,000 firms that were circularized.