

# The St. John Standard

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## AUSTRIAN LOSSES 300,000; COALITION GOV'T IN SIGHT

### THE ITALIANS SUCCESSFUL ONCE MORE

**Austrians Again Sustain Severe Losses in the Vodicca Region.**  
**HAVE LOST 300,000 IN THREE WEEKS**  
Enemy Makes Desperate Attempts to Recover Lost Positions.

New York, June 1.—A newspaper despatch from Rome today says: "Italy's great offensive has already cost the Austrians 300,000 in killed, wounded and missing, according to conservative estimates today."  
"The Italians are now consolidating, reinforcing their lines with new troops and retortifying positions, but continue to inflict frightful losses on the enemy by repelling countless counter-attacks."  
"From semi-official sources these instances were obtained today illustrating the tremendous losses on the enemy's forces. On May 19 four divisions (approximately 60,000 troops) which defended positions between Auzza and Frigidio were practically wiped out."  
"Two Desperate Attempts."  
"On the next day two desperate attempts to recapture Allington positions in the Vodicca sector and around Massif cost the Austrians at least three full regiments (nearly 15,000 men)."  
"Despatch today declared these vast losses and the incessant pounding of Italian and British guns had achieved a telling effect on the enemy. Prisoners told of exhausted regiments and loss of morale."  
**Official Statement.**  
Rome, June 1, via London.—The text of the official statement reads: "In the Vodicca area last night numerous massed troops of the enemy made a violent attack upon our positions on Hill 592 and 652. The attack, prepared by intense artillery fire, and carried out with stubbornness, failed completely, owing to the firm resistance of our troops and the well-directed fire of our batteries which dispersed the enemy's massed reinforcements. The enemy suffered severe losses and left in our hands 83 prisoners, including three officers."  
"There were minor encounters favorable to us, between our advanced posts and enemy reconnoitering parties in the Posina Valley and at the head of the stream."  
"Last night enemy aircraft made a raid on Udine and Cervignano, dropping incendiary bombs. Our anti-aircraft guns put them to flight."  
"Very slight damage was done. One civilian was wounded."  
"Our machines in response successfully bombed artillery works at Barcola, north of Trieste, and returned safely."

### FAVOR GREAT STRIKE IN CANADA

Ottawa, June 1.—There was a general feeling at the afternoon session of the big labor conference today, that steps should be immediately taken to enforce better working conditions by making arrangements for a general tie up of industry through-

### Postal Clerk Allen Suspended From R. R. Mail Service

**Hearing on Offensive Partisanship Charges Resumed at Moncton.**  
Special to The Standard.  
Moncton, June 1.—Commissioner W. D. Turner today resumed investigation into charges of political partisanship preferred against Harper R. Allen, C. G. R. postal clerk, in connection with the recent provincial election in Moncton. Further evidence was given to show that Allen stood at the booth election day distributing Robinson ballots. Evidence had been previously given that Allen was apparently acting in the capacity of outside scrutineer.  
His attorney claimed the right for his client to participate in provincial elections without being classed as an offensive partisan from a federal standpoint.  
Commissioner Turner disagreed with this contention. The enquiry was adjourned until next Friday. Allen has been suspended by the department for being in the automobile business.  
Moncton customs receipts for May were the largest in the history of the city; they increased \$16,192.71 over May last year.

### UNITED STATES GETTING AFTER ALL SLACKERS

Washington, June 1.—President Wilson, in a proclamation issued today, warns all persons seeking to avoid registration by leaving the country that they expose themselves to prosecution and military service eventually in spite of their efforts to avoid it.  
While the legal machinery of the government is operating to stamp out agitation against the army draft, the war department took up another phase of the matter dealing with the status of Americans now in foreign countries. Secretary Baker called upon Brigadier General Crowder, judge advocate general and provost marshal of the army, for an opinion as to the effect of the new law upon Americans of military age residing abroad. Department officials generally have presumed that the privileges of citizenship would carry with them a duty for military service not affected by foreign residence, but no formal ruling will be made until the opinion of General Crowder has been received. The question involves to some degree the specific terms of the extradition treaties between the United States and other countries.  
Meanwhile the department of justice is proceeding on the theory that the departure from American soil of any American subjects to the draft is an evasion of the law. It was revealed today that steps already had been taken to prevent such departures, and that attempts at this form of evasion would be met by vigorous measures.  
Department officials also made it clear that they would back up to the full extent of their authority the efforts of the local officials in the various communities to put a quick end to agitation against the draft. The arrests made during the day throughout the country were in accordance with instructions sent from Washington, directing federal agents everywhere to take prompt legal steps against any one seeking to influence eligibles to refuse to register.  
In Kansas city alone the arrest of fifty persons has been ordered.

### MR. POTT'S IMPORTANT RESOLUTION

Fredericton, June 1.—Notice of one of the most important resolutions that the House of Assembly has been asked to deal with in the parliamentary history of the province was presented this afternoon by Mr. Potts, member for St. John, seconded by Mr. Smith, the member for Albert.  
The resolution is as follows: Whereas, the honor of Canada imperatively demands that our forces now on active service in France and Flanders shall be maintained at the limit of Canada's fighting strength, and  
Whereas, Canada has promised 600,000 men as her contribution to the Empire, and this number has not yet been secured; therefore  
Resolved, that this Legislative Assembly of the province of New Brunswick place itself on record as approving of the policy of securing men for Canada's fighting forces by selective draft at once; and further  
Resolved, that this Legislative Assembly of the province of New Brunswick place itself on record as approving of such war measures as may be deemed necessary for the control of food supplies and prices, and such measures of taxation as may be deemed to be in the best interest of Canada for the prosecution of this great war; and further  
Resolved, that copies of this resolution be forwarded at once to the Right Honorable Sir Robert L. Borden, Premier of Canada, the Right Honorable Sir Wilfrid Laurier, leader of His Majesty's opposition, and to the New Brunswick representatives in the Canadian House of Commons and the Canadian Senate.  
**CAPT. GUYNEMER BRINGS DOWN MORE AIRPLANES.**  
Paris, June 1.—Captain George Gynemer, most famous of all French aviators, has brought down five more German airplanes, two of them in one minute. The captain now is credited, officially with having destroyed forty-three enemy machines. Between May 17 and May 31 the French aviator brought down thirty-two German machines and fifty-seven others are believed to have fallen to earth behind the German lines.

### RIDICULOUS POSITION OF CARTER GOVT.

**Whole Force of Section of Former Govt.'s Prohibitory Measure Lost.**  
**HON. MR. BAXTER TRIED TO HELP OUT GOVT.**  
Dr. Campbell's Views—Speaker Reverses Decision on Mr. Peck's Inquiry.

Fredericton, June 1.—The bill to amend the Murray government's prohibition act was before the House today and some progress was made in the consideration of its provisions. Hon. Mr. Baxter, who introduced the original act tried to help the Carter-Foster government out of an absolutely ridiculous error into which it had fallen by referring in the bill to section 180 (a) of the measure, although that section did not exist. Hon. Mr. Byrne could not awaken to a realization of the absurdity of the government's position and the House jammed the section through the committee stage.  
No doubt some pressure will be brought to bear and the government helped out of the foolish situation it has forced itself into. Section 181 of the act adopted today now refers to section 180 (a) of the act, but although one may search high and low his efforts to find the latter section will be in vain.  
Dr. Campbell, of St. John, who referred to the success with which the present measure was meeting thought it most unwise to proceed to the extent of shutting out liquor which could be imported from outside provinces for private consumption. He believed such a principle unreasonable. As the section of the amended act now stands it is of a most ambiguous character and no one can tell whether the government intend to introduce the provisions of the law or the act of the Borden government.  
The House spent about two hours in committee on the consideration of the bill today. The matter of the fee for beer licenses occupied considerable time. The question involved to some degree the specific terms of the extradition treaties between the United States and other countries.  
Meanwhile the department of justice is proceeding on the theory that the departure from American soil of any American subjects to the draft is an evasion of the law. It was revealed today that steps already had been taken to prevent such departures, and that attempts at this form of evasion would be met by vigorous measures.  
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### British Submarine And Hun U-Boat in Under-Sea Clash

**Unprecedented Occurrence Is Reported in English Channel.**  
Amsterdam, June 1, via London.—A submarine collision of a British submarine and a German U-boat is reported by the Rheinische Westfalishe Zeitung, of Essen, which describes the incident as unprecedented. The paper states that the collision took place "in the channel" on April 16 and declares that a German U-boat, while submerged, rammed a British submarine, that the British boat emerged, bringing up the German submarine lying across the bow of the British vessel. The German vessel slid off into the water and both vessels started their engine and when separated, by about fifty yards both dived. The commander of the German U-boat did not see the British submarine again. The paper asserts that both submarines were anxious to fight but that it was impossible under the circumstances.

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### A COALITION GOVERNMENT IS PROBABLE

**Important Conferences Between Sir Robert and Sir Wilfrid.**  
**LIBERALS CAN HAVE HALF OF CABINET**  
Chief Whip Pardee Hastens to Quebec to Confer with Gouin.

Ottawa, June 1.—After twenty-four hours of high tension and uncertainty the chances for coalition look brighter tonight than at any time since the Prime Minister made his proposals to the opposition leader. Although the situation is still somewhat blurred by uninformed speculation and rumor there are certain things which can be discerned as indicating a rising tide of coalition probability. In the first place there have been renewed conferences between the Prime Minister and Sir Wilfrid Laurier. In the second place and equally encouraging for the prospects of union is the fact that Chief Liberal Whip Pardee left tonight for Quebec for a second conference with Sir Lomer Gouin.  
Laurier May Accept.  
While the meeting between Sir Robert and the opposition leader this afternoon was as on previous occasions of a confidential character your correspondent learns upon the highest authority that the Prime Minister laid proposals before Sir Wilfrid Laurier which were of so generous and non-partisan a character that only an utter lack of national responsibility and appreciation of the gravity of the situation on the part of the Liberal leader can bring about their refusal. The Prime Minister in fact is known to have offered Sir Wilfrid coalition on a fifty per cent. basis, that is to say, on a basis by which the cabinet would be composed of half Conservatives and half Liberals.  
It is known that the premier is willing that all the Liberals to be taken into the coalition be named by Sir Wilfrid. Hopefulness for an agreement tonight lies in the fact that Sir Wilfrid Laurier did not reject the prime minister's offer and has despatched his chief whip to Quebec to open negotiations with Sir Lomer Gouin. It is believed that the leader of the opposition will take a definite stand and submit his answer to the premier's proposals by Sunday night.  
Hinges on Quebec.  
The success of the whole venture hangs around Quebec.  
If either Sir Wilfrid Laurier or Sir Lomer Gouin or both of them can be induced to enter coalition, there would be little doubt that French Canada would swing into line with the rest of the country and a possible crisis averted. It may not be necessary to have the Quebec premier enter the government. If Sir Wilfrid Laurier can be assured of his active and open support of coalition and compulsory service the situation will be saved, for if the Quebec Liberal leaders can be brought over to coalition the leaders of Liberalism in the English-speaking provinces will quickly follow.  
Submerges Partisanship.  
So far as the prime minister is concerned it can be said of him that no Canadian political leader, since the time when Macdonald and Brown forgot party to achieve a splendid service for the nation, has ever gone further in the direction of absolute disregard for the fortunes of himself or his party to serve the interests of his country. As Lloyd George in the old land has completely submerged partisanship and concentrated his fierce energy upon the task of the war, so has Sir Robert Borden in this crisis absolutely swept away all partisan impediment and faced his task with only one thing in view, and that the course that is best calculated to strengthen the state.

### Returned Soldier Arrested in This City Is On Trial

**Chester Trenholm and Wife No. 2 Married at Amherst In 1912.**  
Special to The Standard.  
Moncton, June 1.—Chester C. Trenholm, a returned soldier, who was arrested at St. John charged with bigamy, was before Police Magistrate Steeves today. Evidence was given by Margaret Cunningham Burpee Trenholm to the effect that she was married to Trenholm at Providence, R. I., in 1903, but they separated many times in the next few years. In 1908 she returned to Canada and found Trenholm living with one Margaret Wall. She returned to the States.  
Rev. H. A. Milton Wigle testified to marrying Trenholm and one Maggie Wall at Amherst in May, 1912. The hearing was adjourned until Monday next. Trenholm was admitted to bail, his bondsmen being James Friel and Charles Robinson. The complainant has a son at the front. Her first husband was Isaac C. Burpee, Clerk of Peace F. P. Murphy represents the prosecution and James Friel defending. Charles Robinson, secretary of the Returned Soldiers Commission, is watching the case for the commission.

### SITUATION IN RUSSIA IS SERIOUS

Petrograd, via London, June 1.—The fateful decision of the workmen and soldiers' delegates to assume control of Kronstadt, the great fortress which defends Petrograd, was carried by a vote of 210 votes against forty.  
It is announced by the workmen and soldiers' delegates that henceforth the relations of Kronstadt with Petrograd and the remainder of Russia will be only through the intermediary of the Petrograd branch of the delegates. The local workmen and soldiers' council at Kronstadt announces that it has taken in its hands the effective power of Kronstadt; that it does not recognize the provisional government, and that it has removed all the government's representatives.  
The taking over of the government of the great fortress of Kronstadt by the local council of workmen and soldiers' delegates and the strike outbreak in many of the large munition factories of Petrograd, indicate that the new provisional government of Russia is meeting with increased internal opposition.  
More than 120 of the largest factories in Petrograd are threatened with a complete tie-up because of strike demands made by workmen.

### FOOD CONTROLLER QUILTS

London, June 1.—Baron Devonport has resigned as food controller because of ill-health.  
Baron Devonport was appointed food controller in the Lloyd George cabinet on December 10, 1916.  
Dominion's effort in the war. There are men on both sides, who are opposing coalition but they are not representatives of the best traditions of either party and the real leaders, the men who are basing their calculations, not upon polling booths but upon the trenches, are determined that no party considerations shall be permitted if possible to wreck the scheme.  
If despite their patriotic efforts coalition fails, national unity goes down, the blame will not attach to the leaders of the Conservative party. The conflict at the polls which with all its sinister and disintegration influences would be certain to follow rejection of coalition now, will not be the fault of Sir Robert Borden or any of his ministers. They are standing as one man behind their leader, confident in his statesmanship and his patriotism to effect what is best for the state.

### CONSCRIPTION ENDORSED BY ARCHBISHOP

**Most Rev. Dr. Worrell, Anglican Head of Nova Scotia, Praises Borden.**  
**BELIEVES IN CANADA SENDING MORE MEN**  
Says 44 Per Cent. of Canadian Soldiers Members of Anglican Body.

Halifax, June 1.—The courageous stand of Sir Robert Borden in declaring that selective conscription is necessary is upheld by Most Rev. Clarence L. Worrell, D. D., LL. D., D. C. L., Anglican Archbishop of Nova Scotia. In addressing the annual session of the Diocesan Synod, His Grace said:  
"As for conscription, unfairness of the present method of recruiting has been fully demonstrated. It may be granted that the purely voluntary system as we have it has revealed the splendid manhood of the best men and their magnificent patriotism. But it has given to many an opportunity for shirking which ought not to be tolerated. Why men of infinite value to a community should be called upon to sacrifice themselves in order that a number of worthless and non-producing creatures may go on in their animal enjoyment is beyond my comprehension. A sensible system of conscription by which every citizen would be obliged to give himself for such work, whether military or civil, as the government may determine, must inevitably be adopted, if the powers of the nation are to be used and its resources developed."  
Conscription Necessary.  
"I had written these words long before the government had announced its policy. Now I can only add that I hope the matter will be carried out with the least possible degree of party spirit and that the entire Dominion will accept the situation and cheerfully undertake whatever must be done."  
"Sir Robert Borden has been in close touch with those who are responsible for the management of the war. He has seen all that is going on and he knows what is wanted. He has lost no time in acting upon his political future in his hands and risks everything in a courageous determination to give Canada the opportunity of adequately sharing in the glory of winning the war."  
Archbishop Worrell said that forty-four per cent of the Canadian troops were members of the Church of England. The figures were:  
"Out of 354,888 enlisted, 155,145 were Anglicans, 70,671 Presbyterians, 61,436 Roman Catholics, 35,908 Methodists, 18,458 Baptists, 851 Jews, 12,409 others."  
"These figures represent the following facts:  
"Of the total Anglican population of Canada nearly 15.5 per cent. enlisted, 6.3 per cent. of the Presbyterians, 4.4 per cent. of the Baptists, 3.3 per cent. of the Methodists, 1.8 per cent. of the Roman Catholics, 1.8 per cent. of the Jews."  
"But notwithstanding these figures the number of chaplains allotted were, first, Roman Catholics; second, Presbyterian; third, Anglicans; fourth, Methodists; fifth, Baptists."

### SUPT. VICKERS, ONCE OF ST. JOHN, LEAVES DOMINION EXPRESS CO.

Word was received here this morning that Victor G. R. Vickers, who for twenty-eight years has occupied official positions in the Dominion Express Co., will retire at the end of June from the superintendency of the Atlantic division of the Dominion Express Co. Mr. Vickers goes to the Holden Co., Ltd., of Montreal, as vice-president. He was the first agent of the Dominion Express Co. in St. John, and made a host of friends while in charge of the Brunswick.