

# The St. John Standard

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TUESDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 19, 1918.

FAIR AND MILD

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## THE GERMANS RESUME WAR ON RUSSIA, CROSSING THE DVINA.

### HOSTILE AIRPLANES ATTEMPT STILL ANOTHER RAID ON THE BRITISH CAPITAL, BUT FAIL

Enemy Aircraft Crossed Coast Shortly After Nine o'clock Last Night — No Heavy Fighting in France and Flanders, Although There Are Occasional Artillery Duels in Isolated Sectors and Here and There Raids of More Than the Usual Violence.

Southwest of Butte Du Mesnil Germans Gain Footing in French Trenches But Are Ejected, the Enemy Suffering Heavy Losses—British Casualties During Past Week Were Lowest in Many Months, Only 1,043 Officers and Men Having Been Killed.

London, Feb. 18.—Hostile airplanes are attempting a raid against London again tonight, making the third raid in as many nights. No damage or casualties are yet reported.

An official statement issued at midnight says: "Hostile aircraft crossed the coast shortly after nine o'clock tonight and proceeded toward London. None of the raiders penetrated the defenses, and so far there has been no damage and no casualties."

On the battle front in France and Flanders the operations continue of a minor character, except for artillery duels on isolated sectors and here and there raids of more than the usual violence. The only attack of importance along the entire front has been in Champagne, on the sector where the French, aided by American gunners, captured German positions last Tuesday. At this point, which is situated southwest of the Butte Du Mesnil, the Germans, after heavy artillery preparation, attacked and gained a footing in French trenches. Later, however, they were ejected and, in addition, the French took prisoners.

#### Air Fighting.

On the American sector near St. Mihiel the Germans have increased their aerial reconnaissances and bomb dropping expeditions. The American anti-aircraft guns are forcing the enemy to keep at high altitudes. One of them has been driven down damaged by an American aviator.

Twenty-seven persons were killed and forty-one injured in the air raids made by the Germans on London Saturday and Sunday night. As on Saturday night, only one of the six or seven enemy machines which attempted to penetrate the defensive barrage of the British, reached London in Sunday night's attack. A third raid was attempted against the capital Monday night.

The British casualties during the past week were the lowest in many months, only 1,043 officers and men having been killed. The wounded and missing aggregated 3,063.

#### French Statement.

Paris, Feb. 18.—The official communication from the war office tonight reads:

"Both artillery were active in the region of the Meuse river. In the Champagne, in the course of the afternoon, the Germans made a new attempt against our positions southwest of the Butte Du Mesnil. Our fire checked the enemy who was not able to reach our lines."

"The attack launched this morning in the same region was carried out by three German battalions led by shock troops. The enemy was everywhere driven back and suffered heavy losses, leaving thirty prisoners, including one officer, in our hands."

"Two German aeroplanes were brought down by our special guns. Our bombing aeroplanes carried out various expeditions against the railway stations at Tilsacourt, Thionville, Metz-Sablons and Pagny Sur Melle, enemy establishments at Hirson and divers aviation grounds, upon all of which numerous projectiles were dropped. Thirteen thousand kilos of explosives were dropped, causing several fires and explosions in bombed buildings."

"Eastern theatre, Feb. 17: A snowstorm prevails. The situation is quiet."

### GEN. ROBERTSON APPOINTED TO MINOR PLACE

No Explanation of Government's Position Made in Commons.

### PREMIER LLOYD-GEORGE SUFFERS SLIGHT CHILL

Chancellor of Exchequer Announces that Premier May Speak Today.

London, Feb. 18.—General Sir William Robertson, who last week resigned as chief of staff, had accepted what is known as the eastern command; that is, the eastern parts of the British Isles.

The public will have to wait another twenty-four hours at least for the government's explanation of the retirement of Sir William, and the decision of the Versailles conference. Andrew Bonar Law, as government leader in the House of Commons, this afternoon declined to anticipate the premier's statement, which Mr. Lloyd George recovers from the severe chill, from which he is suffering he will make in the House tomorrow afternoon.

#### Aquith Enquiry.

The matter was brought up by former Premier Aquith today, who asked if the House might expect a statement from the premier tomorrow on the communication which had appeared in the press regarding changes in the general staff and whether there would be full opportunity of discussion.

Mr. Bonar Law replied in the affirmative. He said that the premier was suffering from a severe chill, but had sent a telephone message that he hoped to be in the House of Commons tomorrow. Answering another question, Mr. Bonar Law announced that General Robertson had accepted the eastern command.

James Myles Hogge interjected: "Why not the boys' suits?" This had reference to the fact that the premier was suffering from a severe chill, but had sent a telephone message that he hoped to be in the House of Commons tomorrow.

Mr. Bonar Law refused to say whether General Robertson had resigned or was dismissed; nor would he say whether Field Marshal Haig and General Robertson had approved the findings of the Versailles conference, explaining that he did not wish to anticipate the premier's speech.

### CAPT. BERNIER'S STEAMER SUNK

Montreal, Feb. 18.—The S. S. Percosian, commanded by Capt. Joseph Bernier, the Arctic explorer, has been sunk, according to a cable received by the Robert Reford Company here. The agency has been unable to get any details of the mishap, other than that the captain and crew were landed in Liverpool on Saturday morning. It is certain, however, that the vessel was not torpedoed, said an official of the agency, this afternoon.

The message read: "Captain Bernier and crew arrived Liverpool Saturday. Percosian sunk." The Percosian left Halifax January 31. She was a vessel of 782 tons, the property of the Goupe and Bate Des Chateaux Steamship Company, Limited. She was well known in the local shipping trade, as she was for years engaged in the service between Montreal and Gulf ports. Lately she had been transferred to overseas service.

### THE DOMINION MUST PROVIDE \$800,000,000

Hon. Frank B. Carvell Declares Direct Taxation May Be Necessary.

### INCOME TAX PLAN ONE OF METHODS

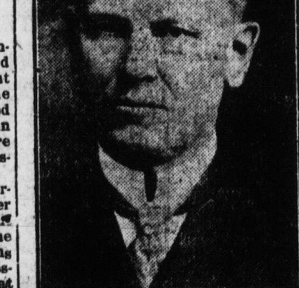
Government Faces Condition Such as No Gov't in Canada Ever Faced.

### PEOPLE SHOULD STUDY ECONOMIC QUESTIONS

Minister Believes Canadians Will Loan Another \$400,000,000 to Gov't.

Montreal, Feb. 18.—Hon. Frank B. Carvell, minister of public works, addressing the members of the Montreal Canadian Club today, said that during the coming fiscal year the country had to raise something like \$800,000,000, and while he was not announcing any policy, he declared that if they could not raise the money by way of tariffs there was only one source of revenue and that was by asking the men who had the money to contribute a portion of it by way of income tax.

"We have to face the situation," he declared. "We must steel ourselves to face conditions and must realize that



HON. F. B. CARVELL.

This money must be forthcoming. Every dollar has been taken out of the people by way of customs taxation that can be seen. It is as high as anybody can wish to see it, and there is no way of getting the necessary money except by a system of direct taxation, and I believe that home on the people of Canada."

#### Great Economic Questions.

Mr. Carvell expressed a wish that the people of Canada would give a little more attention to the great economic and trade questions which were before the Dominion. If they did he had no fear for the future of the Dominion with all its natural wealth and resources.

Mr. Carvell said there was hardly a man in Canada who was not in a better financial position individually since war started than he was before. But the government of Canada had been getting poorer and poorer, and today it was faced with a condition such as no government had ever faced before in Canada. Before the war the revenues of the country were about \$175,000,000, practically all obtained from customs and excise duties, and that sum had been expended wisely perhaps or unwisely, but it came so easy that it did not make much difference. During the present year they had to raise \$250,000,000 to carry on the ordinary affairs of the country. Sixty million dollars had to be provided for interest charged, and at least ten millions or more for soldiers' pensions, and that might go as high as twenty millions. In addition to that \$400,000,000 had to be provided to pay for the goods which were being sold by Canada to Great Britain and the Allies and which they could not pay for at the moment.

#### Germans Hold Riga.

The German occupation of the great city of Riga last fall and the extension of their invasion northward gave them possession of a portion of the province of Livonia, including virtually all the coast on the Gulf of Riga. Its area is 18,800 square miles. Immediately to the north bordering on the Gulf of Finland, is the province of Estonia, 7,800 square miles in area. These two provinces together with the province of Courland, which has for some time been in German possession, comprise the Baltic provinces, possession of which by Germany in the peace settlement has been insisted upon by the ultra-annexationist faction in the empire.

#### Threaten Odessa.

Ensign Krylenko, commander-in-chief of the Bolshevik army, is coming to Petrograd tomorrow to raise an army of 100,000 men to proceed against General Alexieff and he himself plans to take command. At Bobruisk, eighty-five miles south-east of Minsk, the Polish troops have defeated the Bolsheviks. Other Poles are advancing toward Smolensk. Minsk province is declared to be in a state of siege. The Rumanians now control the Akerman district in Bessarabia and are in a position to threaten Odessa.

### TEUTON ARMY STARTS FOR REVAL IN DRIVE ON RUSSIAN CAPITAL

Germans Cross the Dvina River and Resume Hostilities Against North Russia, Controlled by the Bolsheviki Government—At Noon Yesterday Army Began Advance on City of Dvinsk—Dvina River Crossed Without Fighting—Ukrain Calls on Germany to Assist in Struggle Against Petrograd Forces and Teutonic Troops Commence Advance from Direction of Kovel.

Germans Begin Pushing Forward Their Troops Into Russia's Remaining Baltic Provinces, Esthonia and Livonia, the Taking of Which Would Isolate Russia from Shores of Baltic and Allow Attack on Petrograd by the Sea—Great Slaughter When Bolsheviki Capture Ukrainian Capital—Odessa Bombarded and in Danger—Bolsheviki Take Tongorod and Voronezh.

With Russia in the grip of internecine strife and her battle line denuded of men as a result of the peace declaration of the Bolsheviki, Germany already has begun the carrying out of her threat of invasion because of the failure of the Bolsheviki to sign a peace compact with the Central Powers. A despatch from Berlin announces that German troops have crossed the Dvina river.

Reports emanating from Sweden say that the Germans have begun pushing forward their troops into Russia's two remaining Baltic provinces—Esthonia and Livonia—the taking of which would completely isolate Russia from the shores of the Baltic and allow attack on Petrograd by the sea. Riga, the city of Reval, situated on the Gulf of Finland opposite Helsingfors, whence they easily might operate against Petrograd by sea, 250 miles distant.

Although Austria-Hungary had shown dissatisfaction over the stand that Germany has taken toward Russia, the Dual Monarchy evidently has been placated by a promise of Germany that any German military activity will be confined to northern Russia and Austria-Hungary left to deal with whatever other problems may arise in the territory adjacent to her borders.

#### BOLSHEVIKI TAKE KIEV.

Belated despatches from Petrograd tell of the capture of Kiev, the new capital of Ukraine, by the Bolsheviki. The fighting is described as having been of an extremely sanguinary character, four thousand persons having been killed and seven thousand wounded. Great destruction was wrought in the town by shells and explosives dropped by aviators.

At Odessa another big battle has been fought between the Bolsheviki and the Moderates, during which warships in the harbor bombarded the city. Polish legions at Minsk are declared to have been sanguinarily defeated and put to rout, while the Bolsheviki also are reported to have captured Tongorod, on the Black Sea, and Voronezh, capital of the province of the same name.

#### Germans Resume War.

Berlin, via London, Feb. 18.—Operations have been resumed on the Russian front. The Germans have crossed the Dvina. This announcement was made by general headquarters tonight.

The text of the statement reads: "On the great Russian front hostilities began today at noon with an advance on Dvinsk. The Dvina has been crossed without fighting. Called upon by Ukraine to help in their heavy struggle against the great Russia, our troops have commenced their advance from the direction of Kovel."

"Western theatre: Southeast of Tshure (in the Champagne sector) local fighting developed."

#### Teutonic Plans.

Stockholm, Feb. 18.—The Germans resumed war measures against Russia today, the Social Demokrat states. Their first objective is the seizure of Esthonia and Livonia, it declares.

"Within a week we will occupy Reval," General Hoffman, German military representative at the Great-Litovsk peace conference, is reported to have told the Russians late in January when they asked what would happen if they did not accept Germany's final terms.

The Stockholm announcement indicates that Germany is moving to carry out this threat. Reval is the capital of the province of Esthonia. It is situated on the Gulf of Finland, and has been one of the principal Russian naval bases for Baltic operations. It had a population before the war of between 60,000 and 70,000.

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Occupation of Reval would naturally be one of the first steps to be taken, were a military advance on Petrograd in prospect. A railroad runs thence along the coast to the capital, which is about 200 miles distant.

#### The Fall of Kiev.

Petrograd, Saturday, Feb. 9.—(By the Associated Press)—News of the capture of Kiev was contained in an official despatch received by Bolsheviki headquarters. The soviet forces under Col. Muravieff, who defeated Kerenisky at the beginning of the latest revolution, re-entered the city from which the Ukraine forces had fled, after releasing the Bolsheviki authorities whom they had imprisoned a few days before.

The correspondents of the Petrograd papers describing the situation at Kiev, say it can be compared only to the havoc, death and destruction wrought by the notorious Jewish programme in 1905. On Thursday, when the fighting was at its height, aviators were bombing the houses, and there was promiscuous shooting from windows and roofs. Killed and wounded filled the streets. Mobs of hooligans ran unchecked. The city Duma attempted to negotiate an armistice, but failed.

#### Want 100,000 Men.

Col. Muravieff has telegraphed that he succeeded in uniting the Bolsheviki armies in the Ukraine district with the autonomous Kharkov district regiment, combining against General Alexieff. Constant reinforcements are pouring southward to the soviet forces, which are reported to have defeated the advance guard of Alexieff's troops near Voronezh. The other Alexieff wing, under command of General Erdell, is reported to have advanced beyond Zverev, after a skirmish, in which Erdell was wounded.

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### WANT GOV'T TO TAKE BUCTOUCHE RAILROAD

Moncton Board of Trade Takes Action Similar to That of Buctouche Residents.

#### Special to The Standard.

Moncton, Feb. 18.—At a meeting of the Moncton Board of Trade tonight a resolution was passed urging the Dominion government to take over the Moncton and Buctouche Railway at once. A delegation from the board will be sent to Ottawa to act in conjunction with a delegation from Buctouche to urge the matter upon the government. An effort will be made to have the road put in condition so that no such interruption to traffic between Moncton and Buctouche as occurred this winter will be possible in the future.

E. G. Evans, superintendent of the M. and B., submitted a long statement to the board showing conditions of the railway and setting forth the possibilities of traffic.

### FIRE IN MONCTON THIS MORNING

Spence's Grocery and Laundry Burned—Two Families Escape from Flames.

Moncton, Feb. 19.—Fire which broke out shortly after midnight destroyed a building on St. George street, occupied by Roy Spence, a grocery, and a Chinese laundry. Two families, who lived upstairs, with assistance escaped safely, but lost practically all their furniture. Spence's store and contents and the Chinese laundry were destroyed. The building was owned by P. A. Belliveau and insured for \$2,000, which covers loss. Spence's stock also was insured. The fire started in Spence's store.

### STUDENTS LOSE APPEAL CASES

May Have Far Reaching on Claims for Exemption in Quebec—Student for Priesthood in Another Appeal.

Ottawa, Feb. 18.—The central appeal judge under the military service act has decided that the facts, as stated in the exemption claim of Joseph Fleury, a student in the Petit Seminaire, Quebec, "do not afford a valid ground for exemption. This case was referred to Mr. Justice Duff by Mr. Justice McCorkill, and the decision of the central appeal judge will probably have an important effect on the other decisions with regard to exemption claims by college students in the province of Quebec."

The facts, as stated by Mr. Justice McCorkill, are that Joseph Fleury, a young man of twenty, resides on his father's farm during the whole of the year, except when he is attending the Petit Seminaire of Quebec. He claimed exemption on two grounds, the first that he was a student at the Seminaire, and the second that he was a farmer's son.

The central appeal judge also decided that the fact that Alexandre Morin, an eight year student at the Seminaire, was studying for the priesthood, should not be taken into consideration when deliberating on his claim for exemption.

### NEW SERGT-AT-ARMS

Amsterdam, Feb. 18.—The Nieuwe Rotterdamse Courant, reports from the frontier that thirty thousand Turks and Bulgarians are understood to have arrived at Verriers, Belgium, 14 miles east of Liege.