

The St. John Standard,

NEW BRUNSWICK, CANADA.

VOL. VII. NO. 148

TEN PAGES

WEDNESDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 15, 1915

PROBS—CLEARING

PRICE TWO CENTS

RUSSIAN OFFENSIVE IN GALICIA LIKE FAMOUS DASH THROUGH SAME COUNTRY LAST WINTER

CZAR'S ARMY PRESSING ENEMY IN GALICIA WHILE THE TEUTONS ADVANCE ON DVINSK

BRITISH ARMY CASUALTIES 381,983

London, Sept. 14.—Official announcement was made today in the House of Commons that the total of British war casualties up to August 21 was 381,983 officers and men killed, wounded or missing.

Detailed figures of the casualties were announced as follows: Killed and died of wounds—Officers, 4,965; other ranks, 70,992. Wounded—Officers, 9,973; other ranks, 241,086. Missing—Officers, 1,501; other ranks, 53,466. These figures refer to the army alone.

The losses of the British army during the summer were somewhat smaller than in April and May.

The last previous statement of the total of British casualties was issued by Premier Asquith on June 9. It gave a total of 256,069 up to May 31. The losses from that time up to August 21 are therefore shown to have been 123,914, a daily average of about 1,500. In the two months before the end of May, the period covered in the preceding announcement, the losses averaged about 2,000 a day.

London, Sept. 14.—The German drive toward Dvinsk goes forward unchecked, according to the Berlin official statement issued today, and Field Marshal Von Hindenburg's army has taken five thousand prisoners in the encounters of the last twenty-four hours, and forged ahead to within about thirty miles of the Dvinsk fortress.

Riga, for the time being, is left unthreatened by direct attack, but should Von Hindenburg succeed in getting effectively astride the Petrograd railway further south, it would expose the Baltic port to a serious enveloping movement.

In the mid-Potomac fighting, the Germans claim, is progressing in their favor, but the Russians are still on the offensive in Galicia, pressing the Austrians with a victor that recalls their dash through Galicia in the latter part of last winter.

The artillery duel in the west, as yet has not abated. Both sides are making a prodigious expenditure of shells, leaving the public to guess when, if at all, any general infantry attack is coming.

After six weeks' recess, parliament re-assembled at London, the first session developing nothing notable, except the Premier's flat refusal to discuss conscription proposals.

The Prime Minister will move tomorrow a vote of credit, variously estimated at from \$750,000,000 to \$1,250,000,000.

Russian Official Report.

Petrograd, Sept. 13.—The following official statement was issued tonight: "In the regions of Derajno and Klevan the enemy assumed an offensive which we checked. By an energetic counter-attack we then advanced in the region west of Klevan, where, in fighting near the village of Oaesza, we took over 1,300 prisoners.

"Yesterday the Russians, in the region west of Wysnewec, repulsed the enemy from Rydomel and the adjacent neighborhood. The enemy hurriedly retreated here, sustained great losses, and was driven out of Postoka Village. Up to the present the number of prisoners counted is twenty officers and two thousand men.

"Our fire checked attempts of the enemy who, in order to arrest our offensive, made a counter-attack in the region of the villages of Gontow and Dykower, southwest of Wysnewec. We captured here also about 140 officers and 7,500 men, one heavy and six light guns, four caissons, twenty-six machine guns and much booty."

"In Galicia we are pursuing the retreating enemy in a westerly direction from the front of the Sereth River. Violent engagements have occurred in the regions of the villages of Gildaka, Cedrow and Juzepowka, west of Tarnopol, and also near the village of Dvinskiac, in the region of Zaleszczki.

"In engagements in the region of Juzepowka and Dzikinacz, in the course of Sunday, we captured over 2,700 soldiers and 35 officers and four machine guns.

"From the 30th of August to September 12 the number of Austro-German prisoners taken by us has exceeded forty thousand.

"On the Black Sea our torpedo boats cruising in the coal region have destroyed a big steamer."

Petrograd, Sept. 14.—A communication issued by the war office today, says:

"The German pressure in the regions of Lake Pilsnary and Sanken and the village of Rakiszki, west of the line of Jacobstadt-Dvinsk, continues.

"In the region of the railway station at Podbrodze repeated enemy attacks have been repulsed. West of Podbrodze German attacks in the region of Michogola are characterized by great intensity.

QUEBEC GIVES SIR SAM FINE RECEPTION

Address of Welcome to Minister of Militia Read by Mayor Drouin.

Quebec, Sept. 14.—On the occasion of his first official visit to the city since being knighted by His Majesty King George, Major General Sir Sam Hughes, minister of militia and defence, was tendered a civic reception at the drill hall this afternoon. An address of welcome, in which the minister of militia was warmly congratulated for the very active part he has played in mobilizing the contingents which have been sent from Canada, was read by Mayor Drouin. In his reply Sir Sam, after expressing his thanks to the citizens' committee for honoring him in this manner, spoke in glowing terms of the work of the Canadians. Hon. T. Chase Casgrain, postmaster-general, was one of the speakers.

EXPLOSIVES IN BOTTLES FOUND ON STR. LAPLAND

Placed Where they Would Roll Together and Smash, Causing Liquids to Mix and Explode.

New York, Sept. 14.—Two bottles believed to contain a high explosive, were found late tonight on the steamship Lapland, of the White Star Line, at her pier in the North River. The Lapland was to sail for Liverpool tomorrow.

Inspector Egan, of the Bureau of Combustibles, said that from a superficial examination the bottles appeared to contain high explosives. The bottles were of thin glass and resembled dumb-bells in shape. There were no corks and it is believed the bottles were sealed after the liquid had been placed in them.

According to Inspector Egan the bottles were so constructed and so placed that the motion of the ship would roll them together and easily smash the fragile glass, permitting the liquids to mingle and thus cause an explosion.

The Lapland reached New York last Friday from England, and had as passengers the commissioners to arrange the Anglo-French loan.

HESPERIAN NOT TORPEDOED BERLIN SAYS

German Government Has Provided it, to its Own Satisfaction, at Least.

NO NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ARABIC CASE.

Washington Was Ready to Sever Relations but Delayed Action Until all Evidence Was Sent to Berlin.

Berlin, Sept. 14, via London.—The German government, in a note from the foreign office, to Ambassador Gerard, delivered at noon today, made a qualified disclaimer of responsibility for the sinking of the steamship Hesperian. On the face of the evidence thus far at hand, the government is satisfied that the Hesperian was not sunk by a German submarine.

London, Sept. 14.—A semi-official statement issued in Berlin today says it has virtually been established that the steamer Hesperian was not sunk by a German submarine.

The statement, forwarded from Amsterdam to Reuters' Telegram Company, is as follows:

"According to information in competent quarters it appears, from news at present available and from facts known in official quarters, to be as good as excluded that a German submarine was the responsible party for sinking the Hesperian."

"First, in view of the distribution of submarines in accordance with war plans, no German submarine was in the sea district on September 4 in which the Hesperian was sunk."

"Second, according to descriptions received from English sources, the explosion was of such a kind that it must be inferred from its effects that it was caused by a mine rather than a torpedo. In support of this assumption is the fact that, according to the accounts received, the ship was hit close to the stem and a few foremost compartments were filled with water."

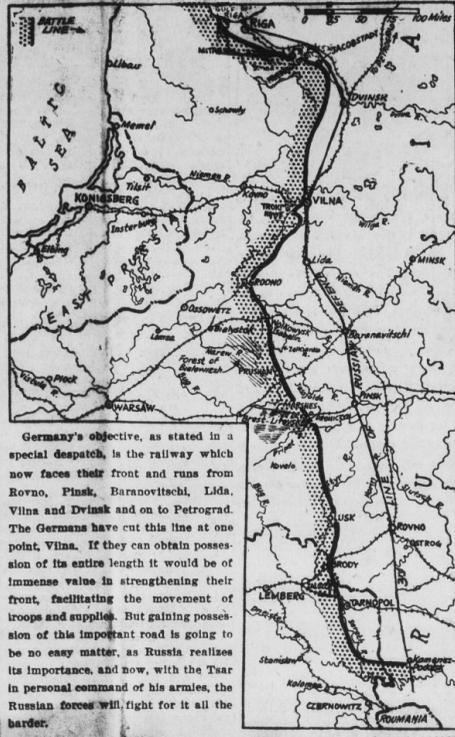
Washington was Ready to Sever Relations.

Washington, Sept. 14.—Prospects for a favorable adjustment of the controversies between the United States and Germany depend entirely on the attitude which the Berlin foreign office will take toward the recommendations made today by Count Von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, following his conference yesterday with Secretary Lansing.

Details of the conference became known today, throwing light on the critical point that had been reached in the relations between the two countries. The Washington government was almost ready to sever diplomatic relations, but decided to delay taking any step until Germany could be furnished with the evidence in its possession on the Arabic case. Friendliness and candor are understood to have characterized the conversation between Mr. Lansing and the ambassador. The latter now has been given an opportunity to communicate freely with his government, so that it may be clearly understood in Berlin why officials here are convinced that the torpedoing of the Arabic could not have been a mistake, justified or unjustified.

In view of the evidence, the United States wants a disavowal of the act, and this was made clear to Count Von Bernstorff. Arbitration cannot be an issue for consideration until the attitude of the German government toward the act itself is placed on record. Later the American government may take under consideration a proposal to arbitrate, not the principle,

RAILROAD LINE IS GERMAN OBJECTIVE



ASQUITH TO ASK COMMONS FOR LARGE VOTE OF CREDIT

British Parliament Reopens After Six Weeks' Recess—Premier Flatly Refuses to be Drawn Into Discussion on Conscription—Time Enough to Discuss Question When the Cabinet Has Reached Decision.

London, Sept. 14.—The unusual amount of interest in the re-opening of parliament was shown by the large attendance today, but the most important matters which are absorbing public attention were postponed until tomorrow. Premier Asquith will then move a new vote of credit and will utilize the occasion to give the country a general review of the military and financial situation.

An attempt was made today to draw the attention of the House to the subject of conscription, but he said he was not prepared to make any statement regarding national service. As to the purpose of a deputation to call on him to take up this matter, Mr. Asquith said:

"I don't think this is a matter which can be dealt with conveniently by way of a deputation."

The question of a defense against airship raids was brought up in the House of Commons today, an attempt being made to draw attention to the subject, but what indemnity should be paid for lives lost.

The evidence which has been submitted by the United States is regarded here as proving conclusively that until she submerged to launch the torpedo against the Arabic, the German submarine was concealed behind the sinking British steamer Dunsley and could not have been seen by the captain of the Arabic; furthermore, it is shown that the Arabic was struck in such a way that the submarine must have been at right angles from her when the torpedo was fired, instead of in a position to make ramming by the liner a possibility.

Ambassador Von Bernstorff is understood to have scrutinized this evidence carefully, and to have made certain suggestions to his foreign office. It probably will be ten days before a reply can be received. If a disavowal of the submarine commander's act is made, officials here feel that the question of indemnity then can be left to arbitral tribunals.

"Should Germany fail to satisfy the American demand for disavowal, indications tonight were that the Washington government would follow its original purpose to sever diplomatic relations.

Associated Press despatches from

ENLIST NOW AND ASSIST IN DEFENCE OF YOUR HOME

More St. John men needed in Empire forces — Appeal yesterday had good results — The campaign will be continued indefinitely.

Another magnificent recruiting demonstration was held last evening in St. Andrew's Rink, and as a result of the splendid appeals made by Mrs. Nettie B. Brown, of Montreal, and Sergeant Norman Knight, of Halifax, seven recruits were accepted, medically passed, and finally sworn in as soldiers of the King. Five others were enrolled at the local recruiting office during the day, making a total of twelve. Although in point of numbers the response to the call was not as good as on Monday and previous days, yet members of the committee feel assured the young men of the Loyalist city are beginning to realize that their presence is needed at the front. Fully two thousand were present at the meeting and there can be no doubt that many young men were impressed with the gravity of the situation as presented by the speakers.

As each day passes many men apply to the recruiting officers, but only a few are accepted. The medical examination is naturally stiff, as only the best men are needed. This fact, however, need not deter young men from applying, as those who are physically fit are needed. Lieut.-Col. Fowler's regiment, the 105th, is yet to be mobilized, and one thousand men are wanted from New Brunswick and St. John right away.

Lieut.-Col. E. T. Sturdee presided at the meeting. Others on the platform besides the speakers were: His Worship the Mayor, Magistrate Ritchie, E. A. Schofield, Judge Landry and Gershon S. Mays.

Those who enrolled yesterday were: Caswell Sharp, St. John. George Fry, St. John. James Johnson, St. John. A. G. Campbell, St. John. James Vincent Geldert, St. John. Fred J. F. Ferguson, Springfield, N.S. Albert Mason, Northumberland, Eng. William Albert Coates, St. John. P. Frank Griffin, Annapolis, N. B. Robert Thompson, St. John. Robert McLeod, North Sydney, C. B. G. L. Wright, St. John.

The Chairman.

The chairman said that a few gentlemen of St. John, headed by the Mayor, had formed a citizens' committee for the purpose of carrying on a campaign for recruits. Since the commencement of the campaign 130 men had been secured, less than one battalion company which consists of 250 men. Lieut.-Col. Campbell of the 64th had said that the number of New Brunswickers in his regiment totalled less than 2000, all the rest were Nova Scotians. In fact the regiment were almost wholly recruited from Nova Scotia.

An infantry battalion had a strength of 1,100 men, 100 of whom were kept for base detail work. When that regiment went to the front there was a wastage of 70 per cent. in the first year resulting from casualties. "I do not wish to frighten you by saying that all those men are killed, not at all, some are wounded, others are taken prisoner and others are invalided home," said the speaker. "Do you realize that every regiment must have 700 men every year to keep it up to strength. If you do realize that, then this province has to supply not only 1,100 men but 700 more as it continues to want men. You have read in the newspapers about drafts being sent to England from the 5th. These are sent there to train quickly in order to relieve regiments under strength. "Quite frequently I have met this answer from young men, 'I am ready to go but I want to go as an officer. Let me tell you an officer is not simply one when he puts on a uniform, he must be trained and educated. He has to go to one of the military schools in order to train to bear the responsibility of commanding men. It is an awful responsibility to be in charge of 100 men or 1,000 men, whatever the case may be. Our men have to be looked after and cared for and you are responsible for their charge and safety. I tell you give up the idea of going as an officer, you are not needed, but you are needed to carry a rifle in the rank and file." The speaker also touched on the pay of the men and said that all over Canada many business men had sacrificed magnificent positions for \$1.10 a day to go and fight for their King and country.

Mrs. Brown.

The chairman then introduced Mrs. Nettie B. Brown, of Montreal. She said that she had been sent to this province mainly through the efforts of Mr.

Men Should Enlist

"It seems to me there are 200 men in this building who ought to enlist. Why not? Do you realize that Canada is at war? Are you going to let old England go down to defeat and let us be said that Canada raised never a hand to aid her? Belgium, France and Russia have done their utmost and they are confidently looking forward to the day when England shall uphold her boast that she will never need a conscript army, and thank God she never will need one, providing you men will come forward now."

"An elderly lady in Frederick said at one of the meetings, 'I want to feel that if my boys die at the front that there is another boy to stand up and take his place. Now, men, do you ever give the boys at the front a passing thought? Do you ever think of their lot and hardships? If you do you can't help going. I want to feel before I leave St. John that the women here when this opportunity of influencing a man arises will take advantage of it and do their duty in this all important crisis."

Business Men Too

"You business men who are thinking that their business cannot allow them to go unless you are absolutely sure on that point you have no right to ask the farmer to go in your place. I don't care what is back of you, what your life or social connections are unless you have some vital reason you have no right to ask another man to go in your place. Kitchener did not stop to consider what class of men he needed, whether wealthy men, shopkeepers or laborers, all he wanted was men, more men and still more men. All the money in the world, all the money you can give and all the machine guns you can donate will not overcome the fact that you are needed and your place is at the front."

Now you people who think the war so far away that the result one way or the other would matter little, I want to say that it would make all the difference in the world if Germany wins. If United States goes to war and I hope she does, they have got 10,000,000 Germans on the other side quite close to the border and once they get started we are going to have trouble. In conversation with a returned officer from the front and in reply to my question, are we as safe as we think we are, he replied, we have got to get men at the storm centre in Europe and unless we can prevent it from bursting, God help Canada."

Continued on page 2.