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THURSDAY MORNING, JULY 26, 1917.

FAIR AND WARM

PRICE: TWO CENTS.

RUSSIANS ASSUME OFFENSIVE; BRITISH FIGHT LIQUID FIRE

MANY DEAD IN FEARFUL EXPLOSION

Estimated That 62 Lost Lives in Cape Breton Mine Horror.

MANY RESCUERS ARE OVERCOME BY GAS

Disaster Occurred in No. 12 Colliery of New Waterford District.

270 MEN IN THE MINE AT THE TIME

Minister and Miners' Union Officials Overcome—Many Brave Deeds.

Sydney, July 25.—The worst explosion in the history of the Cape Breton coal fields occurred at 7.30 this morning in No. 12 colliery of the New Waterford district.

An official estimate places the number of dead at sixty-two. These include thirty native miners, twenty-two Newfoundlanders and ten foreigners. About 270 men were in the mine at the time and colliery officials express surprise that the loss of life was not greater.

Up to a late hour only a small number of bodies had been taken up. The greater number will be where they are still tomorrow. Great crowds of people including weeping women and children still surround the pit mouth.

There was no sign of fire and it is inferred from their report that the damage to the pit is small. Work is expected to be resumed within a short time. Hiram Donkin, chief in charge of the disaster tomorrow. The explosion occurred between No. 6 and 7 headings, about 2,100 feet down the slope, but as to how it happened officials are reluctant or profess to be unable to say.

Forty or fifty men were working at No. 6 landing when the explosion took place and though there is neither by the explosion itself or by the deadly gas fumes, the rescue parties are making superhuman efforts to see if any can yet be saved. Several of the men working at No. 7 when the disaster occurred are among the badly injured and some are believed to be among the killed. Some of the men from this landing, however, are known to be among the saved, but with those believed dead at No. 6 and those killed or suffocated in other parts of the colliery the death list is expected to run close to eight.

Went insane. A number of the rescued miners were driven temporarily insane by the explosion and the gas which swept through the mine. In some cases they had to be put under restraint in order to protect them from their own violence. St. Anthony's schoolroom and the parish hall have been fitted up as temporary emergency hospitals and scores of the injured and gassed men were treated there by doctors from different points and by nurses from Glace Bay, Dominion and other places.

Angus R. McDonald, manager of the colliery, with Superintendent Alex McNeil, of No. 3 colliery, who hastened to take part in the rescue efforts, was (Continued on page 5)

CONSCRIPTION IN NEWFOUNDLAND?

St. John's, Nfld., July 25.—The Patriotic Association has adopted a resolution favoring selective conscription in Newfoundland if the Newfoundland regiment cannot be kept up to full strength.

CONSERVATIVES WIN IN PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Their Success Avoids General Election—Premier Arsenault's Majority 99, and Stewart's 87.

Special to The Standard. Charlottetown, P. E. I., July 25.—As a result of by-elections in the third district of Prince and the fifth district of Kings today the Conservatives retain both seats, leaving the standing of the parties in the legislature 17 to 23 as before. In the former district Premier Arsenault defeated Dr. DeLaney, Liberal, by 99, the vote being Arsenault, 585; DeLaney, 535. At the general election, Arsenault had 122 majority, the vote being: A. E. Arsenault, 720; Joseph Arsenault, 598.

In the fifth district of Kings, ex-Premier Mathieson's old seat, J. D. Stewart, his former law partner, defeated W. W. Jenkins, Liberal, by 87, the vote being Stewart, 353; Jenkins, 266.

At the general election the vote was Mathieson, 423; Nelson, 211, the latter losing his deposit. In the third district the total vote was smaller but relatively the same in each poll. At the Acadian polls Arsenault retained the large majorities he had in 1915.

Great interest was taken in this election, the Liberals making a determined fight to win. One seat gained would have reduced the government's majority to one and both gained would have meant a new election.

Spirits That Are Not. A large supply of liquor was shipped to well known Liberal workers in Georgetown, but it was seized before it could be distributed, and destroyed. Eighteen cases were seized on the premises of Andrew Lavers, road inspector under the Liberal government, and 24 cases were found at the railroad station. This lot was addressed to J. W. Carruthers, Liberal candidate in Cardigan in the last election.

DENNY LEONARD STOPS KILBANE IN THIRD

Latter Fell Helpless to the Floor and Was Distinctly Outclassed.

Philadelphia, July 25.—Benny Leonard, lightweight champion, stopped Johnny Kilbane, featherweight titleholder in the third round of a six-round bout at Shibe Park tonight. Jimmy Dunn, Kilbane's manager, tossed a towel into the ring when two minutes and fifty-nine seconds of the third round was over.

At no time during the three rounds did Kilbane class with Leonard. Leonard won the first by a good margin, the second by even greater odds, and in the third best Kilbane helpless to the floor.

Kilbane weighed 127 pounds and Leonard exactly 133, the lightweight limit. The six pounds difference was completely out-of-balance the featherweight champion and out-hit him during every minute of the fight.

Italian Statement. Rome, July 25.—The following statement on military operations was issued today by the war office:

"In the Trentino enemy surprise attacks on our advanced posts were all promptly repulsed."

RUSSIANS ABANDON 3 TOWNS

Stanislau, Tarnopol and Nadvorna Captured by Victorious Teutons.

KAISER WILHELM ON BATTLEFIELD

In Suchitza Valley Russians Succeeded in Penetrating Enemy Line.

Berlin via London, July 25.—Continuation of exceptionally violent artillery fighting in Flanders is reported in today's official account of operations on the western front.

The advance of the Austro-German forces in Eastern Galicia continues uninterrupted, the war office announces. Tarnopol has been captured and the Germans are nearing Buczacz. The statement also reports the capture of Stanislau and Nadvorna.

Heavy artillery fighting is in progress in Rumania, on the front of Field Marshal Von Mackensen.

The War Lord Present. Emperor William watched the Germans repulse a Russian attack from the plain of the Sereth between Tarnopol and Trembowla, and during an assault on the heights on the eastern bank, Russian attacks in deep echelons were repulsed yesterday. Tarnopol has been taken and we are drawing near Buczacz, Stanislau and Nadvorna are in our hands. The enemy rear guards were everywhere driven off.

Front of Archduke Joseph: The troops of the northern wing are moving in alignment with the forces advancing in the Carpathian foothills. South of Tartar Pass the enemy still holds his positions.

Russians Make Stand. "In the southern part of the Carpathians the enemy penetrated our lines in the Schitza Valley. His rapidly developed thrust was brought to a standstill in the protecting position situated immediately to the west."

"Front of Field Marshal von Mackensen: There has been lively artillery fighting activity on the lower

KILTIES' PIPER HELD FOR GRAND JURY

Boston, July 25.—In the municipal court James O. Cameron of the N. B. Kilties band, pleaded guilty to a charge of polygamy in marrying Miss Beatrice E. Caswell here a few weeks ago when he had a wife living. The prisoner was arrested in Fredrickton and brought here yesterday. Cameron was held in \$1,000 for the grand jury.

TWO VILLAGES CAPTURED BY THE RUSSIANS

General Averesco Assumes Offensive in the South Carpathians.

London, July 25.—The British merchant cruiser Otway was torpedoed and sunk in northern waters on July 22. Ten men were killed. The remainder of the crew were saved. This announcement was made officially today.

British Submarine Sunk. Berlin, July 25, via London.—The British submarine Otway has been sunk by a submarine. It was officially announced today. The sole survivor was taken prisoner.

Otway of 12,077 Tons. London, July 25.—The British merchant steamer Otway, indicated as in British admiralty service, is doubtless the vessel referred to in the official announcement. She was a steamer of 12,077 tons gross, built in Glasgow in 1909. She was 535 feet in length, 63 feet beam and 34 feet depth. She was owned by the Orient Steam Navigation Company, of Glasgow.

Sereth. So far there have been no attacks on a large scale."

The official statement of the operations on the eastern front says: "Eastern war theatre: Front of Prince Leopold: Army group of General Von Eichhorn: The Russians, impressed by their failure and sacrifice, have not again attacked."

"Western war theatre: Army group of Crown Prince Rupprecht: The battle front in Flanders was again yesterday the scene of a most powerful artillery engagement, which lasted into the night."

"Strong reconnoitering thrusts by the British were repeated in several sectors all being driven back into our crater positions."

"Army group of the German Crown Prince: At the Winterberg, near Craonne the French met with a rebuff in the failure of several strong attacks against our new positions. The introduction of a fresh division brought them no advantage."

TWO VILLAGES CAPTURED BY THE RUSSIANS

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BRITISH ATTACKED BY THE ENEMY

General Haig's Forces Raid German Trenches North of Ypres.

London, July 25.—The British official report from headquarters in France tonight reads:

"Following a heavy bombardment of our trenches east of Monchy-Le-Frenes, the enemy early this morning again attacked our positions on Infantry Hill and with the assistance of flamethrower succeeded in driving in a few of our advanced posts on a front of about 200 yards."

"A German raiding party was driven off by our rifle fire this afternoon north of Bullecourt. Our troops raided the enemy's trenches north of Ypres this morning at a number of points and captured several prisoners."

"Yesterday a thick haze interfered greatly with operations in the air. Bombing raids, nevertheless, were carried out by our airplanes during the day, as well as the previous night. Fighting took place in the evening. Four German machines were driven down out of control. Three of our machines are missing."

Russians on Offensive. Petrograd, July 25.—A report of the general staff of the Rumanian army received here today says:

"In the south Carpathians troops under General Rofosa Averesco assumed the offensive and occupied the villages of Moresci and Volochany, and captured several hundred prisoners and 19 guns, including some heavy ones. We owe this success to the skilful manoeuvring and close co-operation of the Rumanian and Russian forces, and also to the vigorous activity of our allied artillery."

"The powerfully organized enemy line has been broken on an extensive front. The bravery and devotion of the troops was incomparable."

Heavy Cannonading. Berlin, via London, July 25.—The supplementary report issued from German headquarters tonight reads:

"The firing duel in Flanders has increased to the most extreme intensity. Our rapid advance in Eastern Galicia has compelled the Russians to retreat into the Carpathians to the south of Tartar Pass."

COAL STEAMER IS A TOTAL WRECK

St. John's, Nfld., July 25.—A message to Deputy Minister of Customs LeMesurier from St. Mary's Bay, of last spring's sailing fleet, is a total wreck. The Bloodhound went ashore in a fog near Point LaHave. She was carrying coal from Sydney, N. S., at the time. The crew was saved.

24 BRITISH SHIPS WERE SUBMARINED

Increase of Six Since Week Previous — Twenty-One Were of More Than 1,600 Tons Each.

London, July 25.—Twenty-one British and three of less than 1,600 tons each, were sunk last week by mines or submarines, according to the weekly admiralty report on shipping losses. One fishing vessel was also lost.

The announcement of the British admiralty, given above, shows an increase of seven vessels of more than 1,600 tons sent to the bottom, in accordance with the report of the previous week, when fourteen were sunk. In the smaller category the loss is one less than that given in the report of last previous week, while there was a falling off by seven in the number of fishing vessels sunk.

The admiralty's statement follows: "Arrivals, 2,791. "Sailings, 2,791. "British merchantmen sunk by mine or submarine, over 1,600 tons, including two previously, twenty-one; under 1,600 tons, three. "British merchant vessels unsuccessfully attacked, including three previously, fifteen. "British fishing vessels sunk, one."

SEVENTY MEN MAY HAVE PERISHED

President Mark Workman Leaves Cape Breton to Relieve Distress Among Victims' Families.

Special to The Standard. Montreal, July 25.—President Workman of the Dominion Steel Corporation, left for the east tonight, his intention being to go direct to New Waterford where a disastrous explosion occurred today in one of the coal mines of the corporation's subsidiary, the Dominion Coal Company.

Before leaving Mr. Workman stated that the details so far received had been meagre, but the officials of the company believed that the explosion had been due to a bad shot.

"The most serious thing from every standpoint," said the president, "is the heavy loss of life. Our latest reports furnished by the firms and companies to which reference has been made, indicate that perhaps as many as seventy miners had perished. We hope that is excessive, as our officials believe that a number of men now reported as missing will turn up later."

Best Safety Appliances. "The disaster is the more to be regretted and the more difficult to explain because the mine was installed with the very best of safety appliances and was in a respect a model of its kind. The explosion apparently due to circumstances beyond our control."

Paris, July 25.—The official communication issued by the war office tonight reads:

"The activity of the two armies was very spirited, particularly on the Casemat and California plateau in Champagne, in the region of Moronvillers, and on the left bank of the Meuse. Everywhere our batteries very vigorously took to task the enemy artillery. There was no infantry action. "Shells to the number of 687 were fired into Rheims."

Sworn Statements Prof. This commission, which is headed by Mr. Geo. F. Henderson, K. C., has begun its preliminary work and it is not anticipated that its inquiry will take a considerable time. The evidence from which Mr. O'Connor drew his deductions in the sworn statements furnished by the firms and companies to which reference has been made, is understood that it will be largely a matter of computation.

The military service bill will be taken up by the senate this afternoon, and probably that body will dispose of it before the end of the week.

There is still some necessary legislation to be brought down before the dissolution of parliament. There will be a franchise bill, although it may not be very provocative of debate. There will be railway legislation to deal temporarily, it is understood, with the situation as regards the Canadian Northern and Grand Trunk Pacific Railways, but it is probable that the government will not take action this session upon the report of the Drayton-Acworth-Smith commission. There will be other minor government legislation.

Dissolution in Three Weeks. The opinion is expressed therefore that parliament will be dissolved in three weeks, after which some sort of union government may be announced (Continued on page 5)

INCOME TAX PLAN BEFORE PARLIAMENT

Later Will Probably Be Dissolved in About Three Weeks.

SENATE TAKES UP COMPULSION TODAY

Unmarried Men Will Pay No Income Tax Under Salary Limit of \$2,000.

MARRIED MEN TO BE EXEMPTED TO \$3,000

Canada's War Bill to Date, \$388,627,000 — Total, \$623,000,000.

SCALE OF INCOME TAX BILL

Income.	Single Men and Widowers up to \$2,000 Exempt.	Other Persons Exempt up to \$3,000.
\$ 4,000	80	40
5,000	120	80
7,000	220	180
10,000	400	360
12,000	530	340
15,000	850	810
20,000	1,200	1,260
30,000	2,500	2,460
50,000	5,300	5,290
75,000	10,050	10,010
100,000	14,800	14,760
150,000	23,300	23,260
200,000	43,800	43,760



HOLDING BACK THE REINFORCEMENTS FROM THE TRENCHES.