

## Terrific German Attacks Between Arras and Ypres In Furious Drive

### TSARISH METHODS RESORTED TO BY THE FOSTERITES

**Disgraceful Exhibition of Childish Pettiness and Absolute Incapacity by Aggregation of Incompetents at Fredericton—Robinson's Scheme to Tax the People Under False Pretences and Hon. Mr. Murray's Woman Suffrage Motion Causes of Trouble in Which Speaker Currie is Prominent Figure—St. John Visitors See the Fosterites as they Really Are.**

Special to The Standard.

Fredericton, April 11.—Never was there a more disgraceful exhibition of childish pettiness and absolute incapacity than that with which members of the Foster government entertained the House this afternoon. The galleries were crowded with delegates from St. John, who were on business in connection with the legislation affecting the New Brunswick Power Company. When the House met at three o'clock it was understood that the corporations committee would meet at 3.45 and therefore the session would be brief.

Upon the item of reading of bills for the third time, Hon. Mr. Murray took objection to the camouflage measure with which the government proposes to raise \$518,000 for the Canadian Patriotic Fund, when but \$400,000 is required for that purpose, and the other \$118,000 for other purposes professedly of a patriotic character.

The leader of the opposition said he had opposed that bill last night and had not changed his mind. The government should introduce bills if it required the amount of money for which it asked, but should not deceive the people by professing to raise the whole sum for the Patriotic Fund, when in reality that fund would get but \$400,000 of it. He therefore moved in amendment that instead of giving the bill its third reading it be referred back to the whole House with instructions to amend it by making the amount \$400,000.

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### NEW BRUNSWICK POWER CO. BILL

**Large St. John Delegation Attended Hearing at Fredericton to Speak on Measure Granting Co. Right to Increase its Rates and Fares—No Decision will be Given Until Corporation Committee Considers it Further.**

Special to The Standard.

Fredericton, April 11.—The affairs of the New Brunswick Power Company held the centre of the stage at the capital today. A delegation of probably 100 members arrived from St. John on the morning train and met the corporation committee of the legislature which had the consideration of the power company matter before it. The hearing occupied the entire day, the committee meeting first at ten in the morning and again at 3.45 in the afternoon, remaining in session until seven o'clock.

The discussion was animated. The representatives of the power company, Messrs. Fred R. Taylor, K. C., M. G. Teed, K. C., of St. John, Messrs. McGregor and Frothingham of Boston; J. M. Robinson of St. John and Peter Hughes of Fredericton, presented arguments in favor of the passage of the bill submitted by the company, while representatives of the citizens of St. John, headed by Dr. Wallace, urged that the bill do not pass, but that an independent commission be appointed to consider the whole circumstances of the power company and report as to the merits of the application.

The Company's Case.

The morning was devoted to the hearing of the company's case, while the representatives of the city occupied the time in the afternoon. All the important points were well sub-

mitted and at the close of the hearing, at the suggestion of Mr. Burchill, it was decided that a representative of the company and of the city should appear before the committee next week, when it again takes the matter up.

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### A HEAVY SNOW STORM IN U. S.

**High Northeaster Sweeps the Coast from Cod to Hatteras—Shipping in Danger.**

Washington, April 11.—Southern New England and the middle Atlantic coast districts tonight were experiencing extraordinary April weather, sleet, snow and driving rain accompanying a high northeast wind blowing along much of the coast from Cape Hatteras to Cape Cod. Temperatures were from twenty to

### YOUNG BLOODS DECLARE WAR AGAINST M. P.'S

**Bands of Young Germans and Others Run Up Red Flag in Ontario.**

### SEVERAL GANGS ALSO IN QUEBEC PROVINCE

**Defy Officers to Take them for Service in the Militia.**

### THE "REBELLION" COMES BEFORE THE COMMONS

**Ethier of Two Mountains Suggests Quebec Militia be Sent.**

Ottawa, April 11.—Reports from the Pembroke front today where war on the military police has been declared by young men, mostly of German extraction, indicates that there are quite a number of gangs encamped in the wilder portion of the surrounding country, free from molestation until the weather clears up sufficiently to enable the police to go in after them. Last night word was received that two well known young men of Pembroke wanted for desertion from the army had taken four young French-Canadian fellows and eight young German-Canadian men from the district and had gone into the lonely bush country about 35 miles from the town and hoisted the red flag on an old lumber shanty, defying the officers of the law to come and take them. Most of the party are young men who have not observed the provisions of the military service act.

It appears that this gang is located on the Quebec side of the Petawawa river, and about 15 miles from the military camp. From information received from a resident of the latter neighborhood today there is another gang camped on the Ontario side of the river containing three deserters and others unknown.

Up in Commons.

In the House of Commons today J. Ethier, Two Mountains, read from the Ottawa Citizen, the report stating that a band of deserters, druggists and Germans, had fortified themselves in the Petawawa district and are determined to defy the military authorities.

Speaker Rhodes expressed the view that the matter was not one of sufficient importance to take up the time of the House in this way. He suggested that the member should put his question on the order papers.

Mr. Ethier said he wished to observe that the men in question included a number of deserters from Kingston. Was the government aware of the fact, and what steps had been taken to deal with the situation? He suggested that this would be a good opportunity to call on Quebec troops to quiet the trouble in Ontario. Sir Robert Borden replied that he had no information on the subject until he saw the article in the newspapers. The matter had been called to the attention of the minister of justice and the minister of militia. If the fact prove to be as stated, effective measures would be taken by the government.

thirty degrees below the seasonal average, the weather bureau reported, but nowhere had they reached the freezing point. In most of the storm-swept area, however, they were only a few degrees above it.

Naval officials felt some uneasiness about the safety of some of the small patrol boats cruising off the coast. No news of marine disasters have been received from the coast ports tonight, but with the storm moving over a wide area, damage to shipping was expected.

### Enemy Beaten Off In Incessant Attacks, Says Marshal Haig

London, April 11.—The official report from Field Marshal Haig's headquarters in France tonight reads:

"The enemy pressed his attacks strongly throughout the day on the whole northern battlefield. Heavy continuous assaults have been elivered by fresh German divisions in the region of the River Lawe between Loisonn and Lestrem.

"In this fighting the fifty-first division has beaten off incessant attacks with great loss to the enemy and by vigorous and successful counter-attacks has recaptured positions into which the enemy had forced his way.

"Heavy fighting has taken place at Estaires and between Estaires and Steenwerck. In this sector also the enemy attacked in strength and succeeded in pushing back our line to just north of these places.

"North of Armentieres a determined attack developed this morning against our positions in the neighborhood of Ploegsteert Wood and the enemy made some progress. Further north a heavy attack was launched this morning against our lines in the neighborhood of Wyschaete and Hollebeke, but was completely repulsed by the ninth division with great loss to the enemy.

"Fighting is continuing on the whole front between La Bassee Canal and the Ypres-Comines Canal. On the remainder of the British front the day again passed comparatively quietly."

### LLOYD-GEORGE NOT LIKELY TO RESIGN

**Premier Meeting Stiff Opposition but Government Will Undoubtedly Carry Man Power Bill With Irish Conscription Through.**

(By Arthur S. Draper) Special Cable to N. Y. Tribune and St. John Standard.

London, April 11.—Although the criticism of the government's man power measure increases as the debate proceeds, and the opposition hardens, there is no reason to modify the statement that the government will carry it through. The Nationalists will press their fight to the end, but their threats of armed resistance to any enforcement of conscription are hardly likely to alter the position the government has taken.

In some quarters the government's attitude is branded as suicidal, but the general view is that a compromise will be made eventually. Many of the Liberal followers of Asquith consider the Irish provision in the bill a great mistake, but whether they will join the Nationalists when it comes up for debate is another matter. Whatever lead Asquith gives will be followed by a majority of the Liberals and probably the labor members as well.

The seriousness of the political situation was illustrated tonight when

Bonar Law introduced the so-called guillotine resolution for the first time since the outbreak of the war. It allocates from Friday to Monday as the committee stage of the bill.

Nationalists Protest.

The Nationalists protested against the delay in the publication of their report on the Irish convention, but Bonar Law explained that it was being printed in Dublin. Both Joseph Devlin and John Dillon asked why the government issued the order forbidding press comment on their report, but Bonar Law replied that he was unaware that any such order had been issued.

The pacifists profess to see a political crisis and the unseating of Lloyd George ahead, but although there is hard opposition to the premier, a majority of the members consider this a poor time to make a change. Nothing counts but the war, and the country is looking ahead and not behind, although it is exceedingly bitter about many things. Quibbling over minor questions goes against the grain of the majority.

### THE AUSTRIAN EMPEROR WAS FOR PEACE

Paris, April 11.—In an official note issued tonight the government says:

Once caught in the cog-wheels of lying, there is no means of stopping. Emperor Charles, under Berlin's eye, is taking on himself the lying denials of Count Cserjain and thus compels the French government to supply the proof. Herewith is the text of an autograph letter communicated on March 31, 1917, by Prince Sixtus De Bourbon, the Emperor of Austria's brother-in-law, to President Poincaré and commu-

nicated immediately, with the prince's consent, to the French premier.

The Letter Says.

"France, on her side, has shown force, resistance and dauntless courage which are magnificent."

"Therefore it is a special pleasure to me to note that, although for the moment adversaries, no real divergency of views or aspirations separates many of my empire from France and that I am justified in hoping that my keen sympathy for France, joined to that which prevails in the whole monarchy, will forever avoid a return of the state of war, for which no responsibility can call on me."

"With this in mind and to show in a definite manner the reality of these feelings, I beg you to convey privately and unofficially to President Poincaré that I will support by every means and by exerting all my personal influence with all France's just claims regarding Alsace-Lorraine."

"Belgium should be entirely re-established in her sovereignty, retaining entirely her African possessions without prejudice to the compensations, she should receive for the loss she has undergone. Serbia should be re-established in her sovereignty."

The letter is signed by the Austrian Emperor.

### BRITISH ARE FIRM AT VITAL CENTRES

**Germans Furiously Attack British Lines with their Heaviest Legions and Mightiest Guns Far to North of Picardy Battle Field and Penetrate them at Several Points Over Front of Nearly Thirty Miles to Depth of Almost Six Miles Between Arras and Ypres.**

**Loss of Armentieres Gives British Opportunity of Straightening Dangerous Crook in Line—Withdrawal was Orderly, British Standing Firmly at Vital Points—Present Fighting was Scene of Glorious Canadian Victories of 1915—Lull Before Amiens.**

Swinging his heaviest legions and mightiest guns far to the north of the Picardy battlefield, Field Marshal Von Hindenburg is now driving home attack after attack against the British lines between Arras and Ypres. Charging across the level country behind a tempest of high explosives and gas shells, the Germans have succeeded by terrific fighting in penetrating the British defences at points over a front of nearly thirty miles to a depth of almost 6 miles just to the south of Ypres.

The loss of Armentieres is admitted by the British, but this was expected from trend of events in that sector, during the past few days. The enemy had driven driven in on both sides of the town and holding out longer by the British would have imperilled the whole line. So far as known, the withdrawal of the British forces from Armentieres was orderly and was only for the purpose of straightening out the line in the region where the German pressure is the heaviest.

The British have stood firm at vital points along the line, Wyschaete is still held by Field Marshal Haig's men, who also maintain their grip on Messines Ridge, Lestrem, Ploegsteert and Ploegsteert Wood and Hollebeke against which furious assaults have been launched only to break down or be nullified by British counter-attacks. A terrific attack made against Hollebeke and Wyschaete was completely repulsed with great loss to the Germans.

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### Compromise Probable On the Irish Problem

**National Cause of Britain Will Not be Jeopardized—Government's Military Policy Subject of Hostile Attacks by Section of the Press.**

(By Arthur S. Draper)

Special Cable to N. Y. Tribune and St. John Standard.

London, April 11.—The acrimony which is featuring the debates in parliament on the new man power bill should not be interpreted as indicative of any weakening on the part of Great Britain to face the fresh sacrifices made necessary by military reverses. It is only natural that the gravity of the military situation should be reflected in the nation's political affairs. But however critical the government's opponents may be, there is no intention of jeopardizing the national cause by blocking the measures necessary to repair the damage to the British army.

The art of compromise, of which Lloyd George is past master, will probably solve many of the present difficulties. The Liberals, as well as the Irish Nationalists, condemn his attitude toward Ireland, and several Liberal newspapers contain sharp protests against combining Home Rule and conscription.

But Lloyd George's knowledge of Ireland is as good as anybody's and it is not reasonable to suppose that he adopted his present policy without first balancing profit against cost. Aside from the Irish and Man Power measures, there is no particular complaint, although each particular feature will arouse criticism. Until a close analysis is made of the measure

it seems to be extremely drastic and to spell commercial stagnation for the country during the remainder of the war, but before it finally becomes law, it is expected that it will lose much of its sting.

Just how many recruits will be raised is difficult to say. The bulk of the new men is expected to come from protected jobs, women being substituted in this form of war work. Many of the bill's critics defend themselves on the ground that America offers the only real source, and that Great Britain should concentrate on shipbuilding and on hastening the transportation of American troops, who would be more fit to fight than Britain's over forty-two.

All Liberal organs, such as the Manchester Guardian, The Westminster Gazette, The Daily News and The Evening Star, argue along these lines. Only the Northcliffe group accept Lloyd George's argument about the cause of the British defeat. They ask why the initiative has passed to the enemy if the Allied forces equalled Germany's, and if generalship was not at fault.

Col. Repington's article in the Morning Post disclosing what many knew but dared not publish, regarding the disposition of troops and guns on the front at St. Quentin, furnishes material for several hostile attacks by the press on the government's whole military policy.