

The St. John Standard

NEW BRUNSWICK CANADA

VOL. VI. NO. 278.

TEN PAGES

MONDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 15, 1915

PROBS—FAIR

PRICE TWO CENTS

RUSSIANS, AFTER RETIRING IN BUKOWINA CHOOSE FAVORABLE POSITION FOR NEW BATTLE

CAPTAIN OF BR. STEAMER IS DECORATED

Refused to Stop Vessel After Attack Had Been Made by Enemy Submarine.

London, Feb. 14.—Captain William Propert, of the British steamer Laertes, who managed to evade a German submarine a few days ago off the Dutch coast, and who is a lieutenant in the Royal Naval Reserve, has been awarded the distinguished service cross for "his gallant and spirited conduct in command of his unarmed ship when exposed to gun fire and a torpedo of a German submarine."

The Laertes was attacked by the German submarine U-2, but escaped by adroit manoeuvring and fast steaming. The submarine fired several shells which damaged the steamer's funnel, compass and upper deck, but the captain refused to stop and the submarine made an unsuccessful attempt to torpedo the Laertes.

STR. WILHELMINA HAS NOT LEFT FALMOUTH

London, Feb. 14.—A despatch from Falmouth to the Central News Agency says that Captain Brewer of the American steamship Wilhelmina, who had informed the British customs authorities that, as they had not seized the ship as well as the cargo, he could not take her to the port they desired, has received instructions to accept the advice of Walter H. Page, the American Ambassador, with regard to the seizure of the cargo. Captain Brewer, according to reports, had said that the orders he received when he left New York were that Hamburg was the Wilhelmina's destination, and that until he was instructed to the contrary he must carry on the command of the owners of the vessel.

A London despatch on Saturday said that the Wilhelmina would proceed from Falmouth to the Bristol Channel.

SOCIALIST CONVENTION IN LONDON

London, Feb. 14 (6.45 p.m.).—Representative Socialists of the allied countries met in London today, under the presidency of James Keir Hardie, Socialist member of parliament for North Ayr, to discuss the international situation.

The subject of peace was not discussed, as the delegates had decided that "no hope for peace could be entertained until German militarism was crushed."

Resolutions were passed demanding that Belgium shall be liberated and compensated, that the question of Poland shall be settled in accordance with the wishes of the Polish population "either in the sense of autonomy in the midst of another state, or in that of complete independence and that throughout, from Alsace-Lorraine to the Balkans, those populations that have been annexed by force shall receive the right freely to dispose of themselves."

The resolutions also declared that while the allied Socialists had resolved to fight until victory was achieved, had resolved to resist any attempt to transfer this defensive war into a war of conquest.

POSTMASTER GENERAL OF CANADA WILL WED IN NEW YORK TOMORROW

Montreal, Feb. 14.—Hon. Thos. Casgrain, postmaster-general, left Montreal tonight for New York where he is to be married on Tuesday to Madame Masson, a Quebec lady, who has resided in Paris several years. The postmaster-general was accompanied by Bishop Macdonell, of Regina, Sask., an old classmate, who will perform the marriage ceremony.

AIRSHIPS SEEN OVER BROCKVILLE, ONT., FLYING IN DIRECTION OF OTTAWA

Three Aeroplanes Crossed Canadian Border from State of New York — Dropped Fire Balls in St. Lawrence River — Lights in Parliament Buildings Extinguished and Blinds Drawn — Searchlight Sweeps Skies Watching for Invaders — Precautions Taken Against Damage to Royal Mint and Rideau Hall.

Special to The Standard.

Ottawa, Feb. 14.—Sir Robert Borden, the Prime Minister, received a telegram from Brockville, Ontario, tonight stating that three aeroplanes had passed over Brockville at 10 p. m., flying in the direction of Ottawa. The aeroplanes came from New York State over the St. Lawrence river.

Col. Percy Sherwood, chief of Dominion Police, told The Standard tonight that he had had a telephone message from the Chief of Police at Brockville who informed him that three or four aeroplanes had crossed the river St. Lawrence about ten o'clock tonight from New York State and had passed over Brockville, travelling in a northeasterly direction, presumably towards Ottawa. He said that one of the aeroplanes while crossing the St. Lawrence had dropped some fire balls or light balls. He was not sure what they were exactly. However, he understood that they fell in the river. A searchlight on the roof of one of the local theatres is scouring the sky watching for the invaders.

LIGHTS OUT IN PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS.

The news spread quickly amongst the members of parliament and a number of them made their way to the roof of the main building to watch for the reported visitors. Brockville is about sixty miles south of Ottawa and if they are really making for the capital they can hardly arrive before midnight for they have to travel against a head wind. Rain is falling slightly and the air is not clear. About 11.15 o'clock orders were issued to darken the parliament buildings. Every light in the grounds was extinguished and every blind drawn.

DARKEN RIDEAU HALL AND ROYAL MINT.

Orders have also been given by Col. Sherwood to darken Rideau Hall, the official residence of the Governor General of Canada and the Royal Mint.

The Duke of Connaught the Governor General has gone to Winnipeg to inspect the troops of the garrison there but the Duchess of Connaught and Princess Patricia are at Government House.

The Royal Mint here is a branch of the Royal Mint at London, England. In it is minted the gold coinage of the Dominion as well as a portion of the British gold coinage chief sovereigns.

This is the first time since the Royal Mint was opened here that it has been in darkness. It has always been kept brilliantly illuminated.

GREAT EXCITEMENT AT CAPITAL.

Sharpshooters have been told off to various points of vantage on Parliament Hill; all the poked shots of the Dominion police are fully armed. The greatest excitement prevails and the Premier and cabinet ministers are being informed from time to time as to the situation. The Duchess of Connaught is also being kept informed.

The only lights in Rideau Hall or the government buildings are those in rooms which have heavy blinds and shutters. Notices have been sent out to Smith's Falls, Perth, Kemptville, Meriville and other towns in Eastern Ontario to keep a sharp lookout, and report at once if any of the aeroplanes are seen.

Later communication with Brockville elicits that the aeroplanes passed over Morrisburg, N. Y., on their way over the St. Lawrence. A few months ago an order was issued by the government and notices posted that any aeroplanes flying over Canadian territory without authority would be dealt with as enemies.

SMALL DETACHMENT OF BRITISH DEFEATED TURKS AND ARABS

London, Feb. 14.—A force of 200 January fifty Turks and two German officers and Arabs under German officers approached Tor, believing that the place was undefended. Finding Tor garrisoned by 200 Egyptian soldiers, they sent for reinforcements. These arrived and a force now numbering a little over 200 occupied a village to the north of Tor. On their arrival becoming known, a small detachment of British troops landed in their rear, and advancing over the hills, made a surprise attack upon their position at dawn on Friday. The official report concludes as follows: "The enemy's force was annihilated. Over 100 prisoners were taken, among them a Turkish major. Over sixty of their dead were found on the field, and it is believed that none got away. Twenty camels were captured and the enemy's camp and their stores were destroyed. Our losses were one gurdah killed and one wounded."

ALL WILDCAT SCHEMES WILL GET POOR SHOW

London Financiers Say Sound Colonial Enterprises Will Have No Difficulties, However, in Obtaining Capital.

London, Feb. 14.—Enquiry among financiers interested in colonial enterprises concerning the effect of the new treasury regulations governing new issues brings replies that no difficulties whatever will be experienced as regards sound enterprises within the empire. At present the treasury discourages investment outside the empire. Wildcat schemes have no chance now when the nominal must be the actual capital and shares must be paid up before seeking approval, or satisfactory guarantees given that they can be paid, when capital is required for bona fide operations.

FOUR MILLIONS A YEAR FOR PENSIONS

Interest on Loan for Canada's War Expenditures Estimated at Nearly Seven Millions a Year.

Ottawa, Feb. 14.—A semi-official statement tonight in regard to the borrowing of the principal of the war expenditure from the imperial treasury is to the effect that the annual interest charges upon fifty millions which will be borrowed this year, and the hundred millions to be borrowed next, will amount to nearly seven million dollars. This must be added to the difference between the interest charges upon the fifty million which will be borrowed this year, representing interest upon additional borrowings during the period of the war, the pension list expenditure will reach from four to five millions a year. If the war did not exist, the government would have no difficulty in borrowing upon the London market the difference between its revenue and expenditure, just as in the past loans have been floated to meet expenditure upon capital undertakings such as the Transcontinental Railway, Quebec bridge, ports and harbor works. The war has closed off borrowings by Canadian corporations, thus diminishing imports from the London market. The amount of money which the Dominion can itself borrow. It is hardly probable that the new stamp taxes, except those upon wines, will come into effect before March 15th, as it will be some time before the revenue bill passes through all its stages in the two houses. In the meantime postage rates are precisely the same as before. The government will give ample notice of the date upon which the new taxation measure will come into effect.

In the meantime the war stamps will be prepared and distributed, and no doubt the banks will arrange to furnish books of cheques with the war stamp embossed thereon, following the custom in Great Britain. Some inquiries have been received by the finance department as to whether corn remains as under the former tariff. The increase made by the budget does not apply to corn, except when used for distillation purposes. For other use it continues on the free list.

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ANXIETY IN SCANDINAVIAN COUNTRIES

Over German Warning to Neutral Shipping—Copenhagen Paper Says War Between U. S. and Kaiser no Longer an Impossibility.

London, Feb. 14.—The Politikon of Copenhagen, commenting on the situation between the United States and Germany, is quoted, in a despatch from the Danish capital to the Exchange Telegraph Company, as saying that "America is acting with all the energy which might be expected, and her note contains a grave warning, so grave that war between Germany and the United States can no longer be regarded as an impossibility."

"President Wilson and Secretary Bryan," the paper says, "are peace loving men, but public opinion in America and anti-German sentiment may drive them further than they desire."

The newspaper continues: "America stands to win a lot merely by confiscating the German ships now interned in American harbors. Germany has everything to lose, both now and in the future, and it is earnestly to be hoped that the American warning will not be without the desired effect in Berlin."

Further despatches to the Exchange Telegraph Company say that the German warning to neutral shipping has caused a feeling of anxiety and suspense in Scandinavia, as there are 150 steamers coming from over the seas. Denmark alone is expecting 62 vessels from the United States, loaded with grain and fodder, the transport of which secured by a friendly understanding between Denmark and Great Britain.

IF SHE FAILS TO REALIZE FALSE POSITION SHE HAS PLACED HERSELF BY RECENT BLUNDER.

London, Feb. 13.—That the British government will have no difficulty in giving a satisfactory reply to the American note on the use of the American flag by British merchantmen is the contention of the afternoon papers of London, which virtually unite in expressing the opinion that a neutral flag will be used by British vessels only as an intimation to German warships that there are neutral passengers and goods aboard. The Pall Mall Gazette attaches "immense significance" to the phrase in the American note, "or cause the death of American citizens," as meaning that Americans aboard British ships will be equally protected by the home government, as those on board American ships. The Evening Standard, basing its judgment on the tenor of the American note, says: "It is plain in which direction America looks for the possibility of trouble. If Germany does not now understand the meaning of the note, and realize the false position into which she has been led by the arrangement of the official minds in Berlin, she must abide by the issue."

DYNAMITER CAUGHT AFTER 4 YEARS' CHASE

New York, Feb. 14.—Matthew A. Schmidt was arrested here last night as a fugitive from justice on an indictment found in Los Angeles in October, 1910, charging him with having been implicated in dynamiting the Los Angeles Times building, for which crime 33 officials and members of the International Association of Bridge and Structural Iron Workers were convicted and sent to prison. Detectives had been tracing Schmidt for four years.

AMERICAN PROTEST EVOKES DEFIANT REPLY FROM NUMBER OF THE BERLIN NEWSPAPERS

Die Post Says "Yankees Adopt Sable-Rattling Tone" in Hope of Intimidating, But Calm Down When Find it Does Not Work—Claims Favoritism Shown Great Britain.

RECOGNITION OF WAR ZONE DECLARATION ONLY WAY U. S. CAN KEEP PEACE WITH GERMANY

Count Reventlow, Naval Expert, Reminds Wilson and Bryan Talking to Mexican Rebels and German Empire Two Different Matters.

Berlin, via London, Feb. 14.—The German foreign office, after studying the American note respecting the declaration by Germany of a war zone in the waters around Great Britain and Ireland, states that the terms are much friendlier than had previously been expected, by reason of the incomplete newspaper despatches published heretofore. The foreign office even recognizes that from the American standpoint certain of the points raised are quite justified. Germany, however, it is declared, intends to adhere to its own viewpoint. Various officials, diplomatic, naval and military, whose opinions have been sought, profess to see no elements of danger in the situation, and are convinced that the naval campaign can be conducted on the lines laid down in the admiralty proclamation, without involving difficulties between the United States and Germany.

The Berlin newspaper comment on the note, while generally of a determined nature, is friendly. Conspicuous exceptions to the rule, however, are furnished by Die Post and the Tages Zeitung, the former of which employs rather sharp phrases. "When something does not suit the Yankees," says Die Post, "they are accustomed to adopt threatening and as frightful a sabre-rattling tone as possible. They reckon that the person thus treated will let himself be frightened and give in. If this does not come to pass, however, if the person thus treated and threatened with the strongest expressions pays no attention, and shows that he is not scared and will not let himself be driven into a state of funk, the swaggering Yankee calm themselves soon and quiet down."

TWO BIG BATTLES ON THE PRUSSIAN FRONTIER

Have Begun or Will Soon be in Progress—Both Sides Staking Much on the Outcome—Heavy Artillery Bombardments in West—St. Mihiel Under Fire from French Guns.

London, Feb. 14.—Two big battles, it is believed, have already begun, or will soon begin, on the Russian side of the east Prussian frontier, and on the River Sereth, in Bukovina. The Russian forces have withdrawn both in East Prussia and in Bukovina, in the face of superior German and Austrian armies, so that they might be enabled to concentrate and come into closer touch with their lines of communication.

The official reports make only the briefest reference to the operations at these two extremes of the eastern front, but what they do say indicates that the Russians have already reached the lines on which Grand Duke Nicholas has decided to give battle. The rest of the campaign in the east, which is proceeding under the worst weather conditions, is overshadowed by these greater events, on the result of which both sides are staking so much.

The Germans claim to have won a big victory over the Russians in East Prussia, and the Austrians announce with elation, but apparently Petrograd views these incidents without mistaking.

The west there has been a continuation of heavy artillery bombardments, in which Rheims has again suffered, and several infantry attacks parts of the line, in which both sides claim to have been successful. From unofficial sources comes the news that Saint Mihiel, on the Meuse, which the Germans have held for so long, has come under fire of the French guns which showed that the French have either made an advance in this region or have brought up heavy guns in an effort to dislodge the Germans.

A good deal of interest is being taken in the coming weeks' proceedings of the British parliament, for tomorrow David Lloyd George, Chancellor of the Exchequer, will make a statement on the financial arrangements between Great Britain, France and Russia, and Winston Churchill,

First Lord of the Admiralty, will review the naval situation.

Later in the week the debate will be continued on the increased cost of the necessities of life, in connection with which a number of meetings held throughout the country on Saturday and Sunday have urged the government to take steps to control the supplies of food and the means for their distribution. Paris, Feb. 14.—Refugees who have been expelled from Alsace Lorraine declare that the Germans are making extraordinary preparations to resume the offensive in that region. The wife of a woman at the important machine works of Grafenstaben, a town to the south of Strassburg, and including Fort Von Der Tann, says that more than a million men are being assembled along the Rhine and that formidable entrenchments are being prepared. Every village is reported to have been put in shape to sustain a siege. All the inhabitants whose German sympathies are doubtful, refugees say, are being expelled from the region and every person showing inquisitiveness is taken into custody and sent into Germany.

DOMESTIC SUPPLY OF OATS IN GERMANY TO BE SEIZED BY BUNDERSRATH

Berlin, Feb. 14, via London.—The Bundersrath today decided to appropriate all the domestic stocks of oats, with the exception of seed oats and the grain necessary for fodder for horses. The order becomes effective Feb. 15.

The Bundersrath also raised the price of oats to \$12.50 per metric ton. The action of the Bundersrath, or federal council, in expropriating the domestic stocks of oats is a further step in the direction of the German government's policy of conserving the food supplies of the country. On Jan. 26, the federal council ordered the seizure by Feb. 1st of all stocks of corn, wheat and flour.