

THE WEATHER.

Warlike—Moderate to fresh winds, some local showers, but partly fair.

The St. John Standard,

NEW BRUNSWICK, CANADA.

OPERA HOUSE

TODAY—Afternoon 2.15 and 3.45. Evening 7.15 and 8.45.

MARY PICKFORD IN 'POOR LITTLE PEPINPA'

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TEN PAGES

FRIDAY MORNING, MAY 26, 1916.

PRICE TWO CENTS

LLOYD GEORGE MEDIA OR BETWEEN IRISH LEADERS; MORE RUSSIANS JOIN BRITISH ON THE TIGRIS

SLUDGE HAMMER BLOWS AT FRENCH LINE FAIL TO MAKE DENT EXCEPT AT ONE POINT

Series of Offensive Actions Between Haudremont Wood and Theaumont Farm Repulsed And Enemy's Loss in Dead and Wounded Enormous.

ARTILLERY DUELLING AND MINING ACTIVITY CHIEF FEATURES ON BRITISH FRONT — RUSSIANS IN KERMANSHAH - KASR - I - SHIRIN REGION JOIN HANDS WITH BRITISH FORCES.

Paris, May 25 (10.40 p. m.)—The official communication issued by the war office tonight reads: "On the left bank of the Meuse the activity of the enemy artillery increased during the day against our positions on Hill 304. "On the right bank, after a violent bombardment, the Germans delivered about five o'clock a series of offensive actions between the Haudremont wood and the Theaumont Farm. "All of these attacks were repulsed with heavy losses, except at one point where enemy troops occupied a section of trenches. "In the region of Douaumont the artillery actions continue very violently on both sides. The fire of one of our long range guns caused a fire in a German supply depot at Heudicourt, northeast of St. Mihiel. "The cannonading was intermittent on the rest of the front. "In an aerial fight, one of our pilots brought down a Fokker which fell within the enemy lines, to the north of Vaux. "In the region of Blain one of our squadrons gave battle to a group of German aeroplanes. Two of the enemy machines, seriously hit, were compelled to make a landing. "Belgian communication: "There was considerable activity on both sides in the region lying to the east of Pervyse. We carried out destructive fires on Dixmude and the environs of that town. "On British Front. "London, May 26.—The British official statement on the western campaign reads: "Last night and today (Thursday) there was considerable mining activity in the Loos salient, in which we had the advantage. "The artillery of both sides was active at many points, principally near Commeourt, Arras, the Vimy ridge, Hilluch and Wytschaete. Our fire was particularly effective at Fricourt and Bessant. "Russians Link Up with British. "Petrograd, via London, May 25.—The official communication from general headquarters issued today reads: "In the region west of Dalaen Island the Germans, after a violent bombardment, took the offensive and drove back our advance guard post, seizing one of our advanced trenches. By a counter-attack we dislodged the enemy who retired to his own trenches. We suffered no losses. "We repulsed, by our fire, an enemy attempt to advance towards Karpolska, 10 rerats north of the Olyka station, and to cut our wire entanglements. "On the remainder of the front the situation is unchanged. "Caucasian front: In the direction of Mosul we repulsed an enemy attempt at an offensive on Rivandousa. Nothing of importance occurred in other directions. "Our troops operating in the region of Kermanshah and Kasr-I-Shirin have effected a junction with the British forces on the Tigris between Kut-el-Amara. "British Guns Sweep Turke Lines of Communication. "London, May 25.—The Turkish force confronting the British below Kut-el-Amara, in Mesopotamia, has not effected a further withdrawal since that reported recently incident to the realignment of the Turkish front after the surrender of Kut. The British, however, through their advance on the right bank of the Tigris, have been able to command, with their artillery, the line of Turkish communication on the opposite bank, according to an official statement tonight, which says: "General Lake reports that on May

BRITISH ARMEN HARASS TURKS

Whole Plan of Enemy Upset by Bombs Dropped at Various Points—The Attack on El-Arish by Warships.

London, May 26.—A British official communication, issued late last night concerning the operations in Egypt, says: "Since the enemy air attack on Port Said, the royal flying corps in Egypt has given the enemy little rest. Four British machines have heavily bombarded enemy advance positions. Forty bombs were dropped, resulting in buildings and a plant at El-Hamma being seriously damaged, and the water tanks at Rodhsalem being smashed. This will upset the whole plan of the enemy, as since the destruction of his drilling plant at Jif-Jafa by our patrols, he had set great store on the Rodhsalem waterworks. "It has now been learned that the column of troops which suffered by our bombing attack on El-Arish on the eighteenth were Germans. This probably explains their hasty retreat following the dropping of bombs on Port Said. Further details show that two British monitors and a sloop fired thirty-four heavy projectiles in the attack on El-Arish, causing the enemy camp to scatter in all directions and the palm groves near Shora, which afterwards were thoroughly searched by salvos of medium shells. The bombardment lasted two hours, and the strong force in the town was reduced to ruins. The enemy, completely demoralized, made no reply to our fire. "Mahoney Fine Man, Says Carvell. "After Mr. Veniot had paid his compliments to Attorney-General Baxter, Mr. Carvell held the stage. Even he was forced to admit that Hon. Mr. Mahoney was one of the finest men in the province and that the Robinson-Pugaley government was not free from graft. "On Wednesday Mr. Smith, who arrived in the county from East Florenceville, asked to be given an opportunity to reply to Mr. Carvell here tonight. The secretary of the government committee, Raleigh Trites, presented the challenge by telephone to Mr. Carvell and asked for a reply by noon today. Mr. Smith named very moderate conditions in his challenge. He simply asked to be allowed to follow Mr. Carvell, have not less than half an hour and be permitted to begin his reply not later than 10.30. The slanders crowd took alarm and would only agree to permit Mr. Smith to speak second, that is between Dr. Smith and the following speaker. "The Beautiful Scheme. "Mr. Copp on reading in the Moncton Times the terms of Mr. Smith's challenge and after talking on the telephone with E. R. Carter, was so impressed that Mr. Smith's challenge would be accepted that he caused a notice to that effect to be published in the Sackville Tribune and was surprised later to learn that the arrangements had miscarried, owing to the terms which the government would not accept. "At the meeting tonight the following statements from both sides were read and they show clearly that it was as he had consulted the other members of the committee. "Yours truly, "A. B. COPP. (Continued on Page 2)

MUST SELL SECURITIES TO GOVERNMENT OR PAY INCREASED INCOME TAX.

London, May 25.—Reginald McKenna, chancellor of the exchequer, has given notice that on Monday next he will move in the House of Commons that an additional income tax of two shillings on the pound be charged on the income from securities which the treasury is willing to purchase. The object of this is to compel the sale to the government of American securities hitherto withheld by the owners. "PREMIER MURRAY AND JOHN G. MORRISON LIBERAL CANDIDATES. "Baddeck, N. S., May 25.—Hon. George H. Murray and John G. Morrison were the candidates chosen to contest the county on behalf of the Liberal party at the convention held here this afternoon. "After the nomination of the two candidates speeches were made by the candidates and D. D. McKenzie, M. P. of North Sydney. "The enemy was still holding his position on the left bank, in the vicinity of Sannaiyat. Our artillery, from the right bank, has been maintaining an effective fire upon his communications along the left bank."

THE CARTER-VENIOT CROWD REFUSE FAIR PLAY TO B. F. SMITH

After Mr. Smith's Challenge to Frank Carvell, Programme at Sackville Meeting is so Arranged as to Prevent Reply to Chief Slanderbust—Copp's Announcement on Joint Debate in Grit Organ Fools Many Amherst People Who Had Free Tickets on Railroad—Meeting Nearly Half Conservative—Cowardice of Opposition Bringing Hon. Mr. Mahoney Liberal Support.

BLAIR'S STATEMENTS ARE "NOTHING BUT TISSUE OF LIES," SAYS HON. MR. BAXTER

In regard to the allegations made by H. M. Blair, the dismissed secretary of the New Brunswick Department of Public Works, The Standard has received from Attorney-General Baxter the following explanatory letter: "Office of the Attorney General, New Brunswick, St. John, N. B., May 25, 1916. "To the Editor of The Standard: "Sir,—I notice in this morning's issue of the Telegraph in a special report from Dorchester, a statement referring to an affidavit made by Mr. H. M. Blair in which Mr. Blair is reported to have stated that he was told by a representative of the liquor interests to go among members of the Legislature and see how many he could get for \$50.00 each and that he (Blair) had told me about the proposed bribery and that I said 'I must not know anything about this, you understand,' but told him (Blair) that it would be all right to go ahead with the other man. "I wish to state positively and emphatically that so far as I am concerned, these statements are nothing but a tissue of lies. I never heard of \$50.00 a piece or any other amount from Mr. Blair, or anyone else, and I never asked him, or anybody else to conceal information from me with respect to such matters, nor had I ever told Mr. Blair, or any other person, to go ahead with any such course of conduct. "The alleged affidavit apparently contains another statement with reference to an offer of \$1,000 to Mr. Blair if he would arrange to give the Moncton bridge contract to a West St. John firm. This is the first that I have ever heard such a suggestion to me, or in my presence, or improper dealing with reference to this or any other contract. "I may say, however, that when the contract for the Moncton bridge, which had been awarded to the Foundations Company, Limited, was cancelled, Mr. Blair urged on me very strongly that the Government must be liable to the contractors. "I ask you to publish this in the interest of public decency and fair play and in the belief that the public who read it will have no difficulty in accepting my statement against the word of a dismissed and discredited official. "Yours, etc., "JOHN B. M. BAXTER."

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HIS PRISONER A GERMAN WHO HAD TOILED IN YARMOUTH

Yarmouth Men Recognize Among Their Captives Hun they Had Known in their Home Town. "Yarmouth, N. E., May 25.—The world is a small place after all. Last evening a letter was received from Leslie Bethune "Somewhere at the Front," in France from which the following is a quotation: "I came back from the trenches two days ago, was in for eight long days. We captured a German that worked in Yarmouth at one time. Some of the boys knew him. His name was Johnson. "The remains of Mrs. Martin Bird, who died in Manchester, N. H., will arrive here for interment on Saturday. The late Mrs. Bird was a resident of Yarmouth for many years, her husband having been an employee of the Gas Co. almost thirty years. She leaves a husband, one son, James E., and two daughters, Mrs. Laura Hassell and Mrs. Florence McMurphy.

ASQUITH'S STATEMENT ON IRISH SITUATION A SURPRISE TO COMMONS

Devotes Speech Almost Entirely to Appeal For Settlement by Agreement Among Irish Leaders, Lloyd George Acting As Mediator

Visit to Ireland Convinced Him of Breakdown of Executive Machinery of Government and General Feeling Among People that British Government Has Now Unique Opportunity for Settling Whole Problem.

STRONG MAN IN NATION'S CRISIS

Handled Financial Matters, Munitions Problem and Military Emergency, and Now Chosen to Straighten Out Irish Question. "London, May 25.—David Lloyd George, stepping temporarily from the ministry of munitions to a sort of round table conference to settle the Irish difference, is a striking illustration of how, at all the great crises and emergencies during the war, this statesman has come to the front as a strong man and saviour of the country. In the early days of the war he gained an enviable reputation in the eyes of the men of all parties for his

London, May 25.—Premier Asquith took the House of Commons by surprise in making his expected statement in Irish affairs. He devoted his speech not so much to the rebellion and the manner in which the government dealt with it, as it was thought he would do, as to making an appeal for settlement of the Irish problem by agreement among the Irish leaders. In this connection the Premier announced that David Lloyd George, Minister of Munitions, had undertaken at the request of the cabinet, to negotiate between the Irish parties. He asked that in the meantime the matter should not be debated in the House. John Redmond, Sir Edward Carson and William O'Brien, the Irish leaders, agreed to this, and notwithstanding an attempt by Laurence Ginnell, a Nationalist member, to make a speech, the subject was dropped, for the day at least and the House was emptied quickly. "Baron Stamfordham, private secretary to King George, was present and listened closely to Premier Asquith's speech. He departed immediately afterwards and returned to the palace to report to the King. Baron Wimborne, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, also was present. "A large and expectant crowd of members and the general public had assembled in the House of Commons when shortly before 3 o'clock this afternoon Premier Asquith rose to make his statement. "End of Martial Law Soon. "Although it was generally understood that the premier would not go into the conversations which were taking place between the members of the government and the Irish leaders, as they had not advanced enough to be made public, he started by expressing the hope that the disappearance of martial law would be speedy and complete. "Referring to the sacrifices that Irishmen had made in behalf of the British Empire during the present war, Mr. Asquith said: "Could we who represent Great Britain, or could those who represent Ireland tolerate the prospect that when this war was over and when we had, by our joint efforts and sacrifices, achieved our end, here at home Irishmen should be arrayed against one another in the most tragic and most degrading of conflicts—internecine domestic strife. "I say to the House of Commons, to the country and to the Empire that the thought is inconceivable. It can never be, for it would mean conception of bankruptcy, not only of state-ship but of patriotism. "Referring to the home rule bill, Mr. Asquith said: "Coercive Application of Home Rule Never Intended. "No one, so far as I know, has ever desired or contemplated its coercive application by one set of Irishmen against another. What is now in this great domestic emergency of paramount importance is that if it be possible—and I hope it is possible—an agreement such as we thought vain before the war should be arrived at between those representing different interests and parties in Ireland. "I believe, as I have already said, that in Ireland itself there is a deep and genuine desire to obtain such an agreement. The government—I speak for all my colleagues, and some of us, be it remembered, in the past have taken the most diverse possible views in regard to the question of Irish government—are anxious, and more than anxious to do everything in their power to facilitate such results. "Continued on page 2.



LLOYD GEORGE.