

THE WEATHER.

Martime—Fresh to strong south-east, shifting to westerly winds, showery.

The St. John Standard,

NEW BRUNSWICK, CANADA.

OPERA HOUSE

TODAY MATINEE 2:15 TONIGHT 8:15

"THE BIRTH OF A NATION"

VOL. VIII. NO. 21.

SIXTEEN PAGES

TUESDAY MORNING, APRIL 18, 1916.

PRICE TWO CENTS

WAVES OF GERMAN INFANTRY AGAIN SWEEPED BACK BY FRENCH CURTAIN OF FIRE

Launched Powerful Attack on 2 1-2 Mile Front from the Meuse to Douaumont--Footing in Small Portion of Chanfour Wood and Heavy Toll in Dead and Wounded the Only Result.

RUSSIANS PUSH FORWARD TO WITHIN TWELVE MILES OF PORT OF TREBIZOND

Again the Germans have launched a powerful infantry attack against the French positions extending from the River Meuse to Douaumont, and again they have been swept back, except where they obtained a footing in a small portion of the Chanfour wood, by the guns of the French. Heavy casualties were inflicted on the attacking forces along the two and a half mile battle front.

The Germans have kept up their heavy shelling of Hill 304, north-west of Verdun, and the second lines of the French in this region, probably with the intention of again throwing their infantry forward in an endeavor to capture these important positions—keys to the Verdun position on the west.

Elsewhere along the lines held by the French there have been only bombardments and mining operations. Numerous German positions have been bombed by French aircraft.

On the British front in Belgium and France the heavy bombardments by the British and Germans continue unabated. The artillery activity in the sector between St. Eloi and the Ypres-Comines canal has been especially marked.

The Germans have poured shells on the Russian positions along the Dvinsk river at the Ikskull bridgehead and about Dvinsk, and vigorous artillery duels have been in progress in the lake region south of Dvinsk.

GERMAN ASSAULTS ALL REPULSED BY RUSSIANS.

In Galicia, along the Stripa river, the Teutons have made several attempts against Russian trenches, but all of them were repulsed, according to Petrograd.

The big guns on both sides are in action along most of the Austro-Italian front. In the Sogana Valley the Austrians delivered attacks against the Italians from the Larganza Torrent to Mont Collo, but they were everywhere repulsed.

In Asiatic Turkey the Russians on the Black Sea coast have captured the town of Burmeh, and pushed farther westward against the retreating Turks to Arsene Kelsel, less than twelve miles from the important fortified town of Trebizond.

The Russians are anticipating no easy conquest of Trebizond, according to unofficial advices from Petrograd, the town having been heavily fortified and reinforced with three complete divisions of troops. The Turks are declared to be resisting furiously the onward press of the Russians against Balbut, northwest of Erzerum, in the attainment of which the Russians hope to join hands with their men fighting in the Black Sea littoral.

The British government hereafter will regulate the shipments of American packing houses to all neutral European countries for the period of the war, according to an agreement reached between the government and the packers in the settlement of the cases arising from the seizure by Great Britain of shipments from Chicago meat packers.

Germans Swept Back.

Paris, April 17.—The official communication, issued by the war office to-night, reads:

"Between the Aves and the Meuse our batteries shattered enemy trenches and shelters in the regions of Beavrignes and Lassigny.

"In the Argonne destructive fires were directed on the German works north of La Harazee. At Vaquois one of our mines blew up a small enemy post with its occupants.

"On the left bank of the Meuse the enemy displayed great activity against Hill 304, and our second lines.

"On the right bank, after a bombardment of increasing violence, began in the morning against our positions from the Meuse as far as Douaumont, the Germans at about two o'clock launched a powerful attack with effectives of at least two divisions. The waves of the assault against a front of about four kilometres (two and one-half miles) were met by our curtain of fire and the fire of our machine guns and swept back, save at one point, where the Germans gained a footing in a small salient of our line south of Chanfour wood.

"In the course of this attack the enemy suffered very heavy losses, especially west of Cote Du Poivre and in the ravine between Cote Du Poivre and the Haudeumont wood.

"In the Wevre there were some artillery gusts in the sectors at the foot of the Meuse hills.

"Aviation: On the night of April 16-17 our bombing aeroplanes dropped twenty-two shells on the railway stations at Nanillois and Brielle; fifteen on Eclair and a bivouac in the forest of Spincourt; eight on the canals at Vieville and Thillot, northwest of Vigneulle.

"The Belgian official communication reads: "The artillery was quite active on both sides, especially in the region of Oesekerke and Dixmude."

Russian Statement.

Petrograd, April 17, via London.—

GOL. ALLISON AT LONG ISLAND

Counsel Says will be on Hand and Has Nothing to Conceal—Sir Sam to Make Statement Today.

Special to The Standard.

Ottawa, April 17.—A big crowd, prompted either by political interest, partisanship or just plain curiosity, stood waiting at the gallery entrance long before three o'clock today, hoping to get a glimpse of General Sir Sam Hughes although it had been announced definitely that he would not make his statement to the House until tomorrow.

There was profound silence when the Prime Minister rose on the orders of the day, holding an impressive looking document with a big red seal, but Sir Robert had nothing to say which everyone didn't know before. He simply read an order in council drawing certain matters in connection with the inquiry to the attention of the government and announced that General Hughes had arrived in the city and would face friends and accusers in the House tomorrow.

There is no mystery as to the whereabouts of Col. John Wesley Allison, he is living within 30 minutes ride of New York on Long Island. He is prepared to come to Ottawa any moment as he asserts he has nothing to conceal. He has engaged Mr. O. F. Henderson, K. C., of Ottawa, to look after his interests and will come here on instructions from his solicitor at any time.

He has been in poor health but is recovering nicely.

"It is true," said Mr. Henderson today, "Col. Allison will be on hand. He has nothing to conceal. I am in touch with his New York legal advisers and know that Col. Allison will do everything in his power to assist the commission."

General Sir Sam Hughes was at his office in the Woods building most of today attending to his duties. He did not attend the House. He was in cheerful spirits but was non-communicative to the newspaper men, meeting all their inquiries with the remark that he would make a statement to the House tomorrow. He visited the office of the Prime Minister in the east block and had a further conference with Sir Robert.

Meanwhile Mr. Justice Duff has been in Toronto to confer with Chief Justice Sir William Meredith regarding the organization of the Royal Commission which will inquire into the Kite charges and the commission will meet here on Wednesday but whether for organization purposes only or to proceed at once with the inquiry is not known.

It is expected that Yeakum, Liggett, Bassick and Cadwell, whose names are all associated with the Kite charges, will be on hand when required.

Hon. J. D. Hazen, who has been acting Minister of Agriculture since Mr. Burrell was injured in the parliament buildings fire, had a busy evening with the agriculture estimates.

On Italian Front.

Rome, via London, April 17.—The war office communication issued today says:

"There is intense artillery activity from Giudicaria to the Sogana Valley, and on a portion of the front from the Upper Degano to the Upper But.

"In the Sogana Valley the enemy attacked our positions from the Larganza Torrent to Mont Collo, but was counter-attacked and repulsed, leaving in our hands two officers and sixty men as prisoners.

"On the Isonzo and Carso fronts the activity is light. Our artillery fire repeatedly reached enemy batteries concealed in hollows in the environs of Zagomila, in the Plava zone."

British Operations.

London, April 17 (11.50 p. m.)—The British official communication issued this evening says:

"There was heavy shelling today about Voormeselle and Diekebusch, and also of the area between St. Eloi and the Ypres-Comines Canal. There was some artillery activity by both sides today about Hebuterne, between Carnoy and the River Somme, and also about Souchez and Neuvilles-Mines. There has been mining activity today in the Hohenzollern sector, and west of Vimy.

"Yesterday there was considerable aerial activity."

PARLIAMENT TO ADJOURN TOMORROW

Sessions will be Resumed on Tuesday Following Easter.

THIRD READING OF PROHIBITION BILL.

Penalties Under Act will be Paid to Province, Municipality or Person Concerned. Hon. Mr. Doherty Announces.

Ottawa, April 17.—At the opening of the house today the Prime Minister moved his resolution providing for the adjournment of the house from Wednesday next until Tuesday, April 25.

Hon. J. D. Reid introduced a bill to extend to the whole system of government railways the provision of the law, now relating only to the Intercolonial Railway, that in cases of small claims against officials of the road service may be made out by the inquiry to the attention of the government and announced that General Hughes had arrived in the city and would face friends and accusers in the House tomorrow.

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Third Reading of Prohibition Bill.

When Hon. C. J. Doherty's bill in aid of provincial prohibitory legislation came before the House for third reading, Hon. Frank Oliver said that he feared the measure would be of very limited value in supporting the legislation of the provinces. It might, indeed, be regarded as protection of liquor traffic against the establishment of Dominion-wide prohibition. That would not be the case if the Dominion parliament legislated in its own field and prohibited the manufacture of liquor in a province having a prohibitory law, and also the importation of liquor into such a province. He had been told that for every dollar of profit the distillers derived from their business the Dominion government took two dollars in revenue. The Dominion was thus in partnership with the distiller, and it also derived revenue from the brewing business. He undertakes to deal with the question of prohibiting the manufacture of intoxicating liquors, therefore, the Dominion parliament rendered itself responsible for the investments in those businesses.

"Does my honorable friend favor compensating those interests if parliament passes prohibitory legislation?" asked Mr. H. B. Morphy, of North York.

"I am a prohibitionist," replied Mr. Oliver, "but I cannot see how this parliament could pass such legislation without compensation. I cannot see how we can wipe out of existence investments which have been made in full accord with the law without recognizing our responsibility with regard to it."

Mr. Oliver asserted that public opinion was ripe for Dominion-wide prohibition, and that the conditions of the time called for such legislation.

Hon. Mr. Doherty said that it had seemed to the government that the best method for parliament to adopt had been to exercise power in aid of what each province deemed best for itself. He did not dispute that the Dominion could directly deal with the manufacture of liquor and its importation into "dry" provinces. He did not think, however, that by doing so it could secure legislation which would be effectively enforced. The bill dealt with the problem of importation by declaring that it would place restrictions on the shipment of liquor into a province which had prohibited the sale of liquor within its bounds. He held that the Ontario Legislature had not in its legislation touched that point believing that it came within the jurisdiction of the Dominion parliament.

Moreover, if the question was made in spirit or best.

Mr. Hugh Guthrie of South Wellington argued that the bill was weak in that it did not prohibit the manufacture of intoxicating liquors in provinces which had prohibited the sale of liquor within their bounds. He held that the Ontario Legislature had not in its legislation touched that point believing that it came within the jurisdiction of the Dominion parliament.

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NEW NOTE TO BERLIN MOST VIGOROUS AND EMPHATIC WILSON EVER APPROVED

GOV'T WILL HAVE WHOLE SCOPE OF THE SHELL C'TEE AFFAIRS INVESTIGATED

If Imperial Authorities Think it Desirable—Message to this Effect Being Forwarded to London, Premier Borden Announced in House of Commons Yesterday.

Ottawa, April 17.—That the Canadian government has no objection whatever to an inquiry into the whole scope of Shell Committee affairs provided the imperial authorities think an investigation desirable, is the message which is being forwarded to London, according to a statement made by Sir Robert Borden in the house today.

Sir Robert announced early in the day's sitting that Sir Sam Hughes had returned to Ottawa, and proposed to make a statement to the house tomorrow. He also laid upon the table an order-in-council, approved by the Governor-General on April 15, and arising out of a promise made by the Prime Minister during the debate upon Sir Wilfrid Laurier's motion calling for the appointment of a parliamentary committee to investigate the operations of the Shell Committee. In his speech in that debate Sir Robert said that the government would be prepared to direct the attention of the British government to allegations made by members of the opposition in regard to the Shell Committee and would inform the British authorities of its readiness to co-operate in any investigation which might be thought desirable. The order-in-council provides for the transmission to the Secretary of State for the Colonies of the Hansard report for the debate on the Laurier resolution and of a copy of the issue of a royal commission to Sir William Meredith, chief justice of Ontario, and Mr. Justice L. P. Duff, of the Supreme Court. The order approved on Saturday last also conveys to the Secretary of State for the Colonies the government of Canada's readiness to assist in any inquiry into the transactions to which reference was made in Sir Wilfrid Laurier's motion and that "so far as the government of Canada is concerned there is no objection whatever to the fullest investigation that may be thought desirable at any time."

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SIEGE OF TREBIZOND MAY RIVAL STRUGGLE BEFORE ERZERUM WAS CAPTURED

Petrograd, April 17, via London, 10.25 p. m.—Having occupied the strongly fortified Turkish position on the left bank of the Kara Dere, on the Turkish Black Sea coast the Russian forces have passed the last of a series of natural obstacles along the coast, the defensive advantages of which had been made the most of by the Turks. Thus they have entered the immediate area of the Trebizond fortifications.

The Russians are now separated from the city of Trebizond by only sixteen miles of roadway, no part of which is considered capable of sustained defense, although since the fall of Erzerum the Turks have undertaken everything possible to perfect the defensive power of the Trebizond fortification, and greatly increased the garrison, which is now said to contain three complete divisions.

The word "imminent," therefore, is no longer used here in predicting the occupation of Trebizond, and it is realized that the city will be taken only after the hardest kind of struggle, which is likely to outlast in stubbornness and duration the one which resulted in the fall of Erzerum. The capture of the Kara Dere position, which necessitated the crossing

of the swift stream, which is particularly swollen and turbulent at this time of the year, was made possible by the assistance rendered by the Russian fleet. The Turks, apparently believing the recent appearance in the Black Sea of their cruiser Breslau, had caused the Russian fleet to abandon the operation which it had so successfully executed in connection with the land forces, and not anticipating a bombardment from the sea, set up no shore batteries and limited their construction of defenses to an elaborate system of wire entanglements. A vigorous bombardment from the sea, which demolished a great part of the Turkish fortifications, was followed by an infantry attack which met with little resistance.

The Turks are still fiercely opposing the Russian forces operating against Balbut, sixty miles northwest of Erzerum, fighting in with the Russians, if successful, are expected to unite their two groups of forces operating along the coast and to the west of Erzerum in such a way that further Turkish efforts to prevent a solid advance of the Russian armies over the whole width of the front would be useless.

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CROWN PRINCE BOMBS FELL ALMOST HIT BY A SHELL ON TURKISH WAR MINISTRY

Exploded few Yards from His Party while Watching Operations on the Verdun Front.

Geneva, April 17, via Paris.—The report reached here today that the German Crown Prince had escaped from death or injury recently on the Verdun front. Accompanied by his staff and a number of other officials he approached within range of heavy French guns, and a shell exploded near the party. It is said several persons were injured slightly, and that others, including Col. Mueller, correspondent of the Berne Bund, were knocked down.

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Makes Plain that Immediate Change in German Policy Necessary to Avoid Break.

DOCUMENT LIKELY TO GO FORWARD TODAY.

News of Fresh Breach of Faith Reaches the White House as Finishing Touches Being Put to Note.

Washington, April 17.—The communication which he has drafted as the last word of the United States to Germany on the submarine issue was completed today by President Wilson. It probably will be despatched to Berlin tomorrow.

The document reviews Germany's submarine activities since the Lusitania was sunk, almost a year ago, and makes plain that only an immediate change in the German policy can make possible the continuance of friendly relations between the two nations.

As the President was putting the finishing touches to the note, on which he and Secretary of State Lansing had been working for nearly a week, official word was received by the State Department that the lives of two Americans had been endangered by an attack on the Russian bark Imperator by an Austrian submarine. Carl Bailey Hurr, American consul-general at Barcelona, Spain, who sent the report, said the attack was without warning. One of the American citizens on board was wounded by shrapnel shells fired by the submarine.

A full investigation of the incident was ordered at once by the State Department.

Mr. Wilson himself was the only official familiar with all the details of the document tonight, but it was learned authoritatively that it is the most emphatic and vigorous diplomatic paper the President ever has approved.

WOUNDED FROM VERDUN WERE FIRST PATIENTS

In No. 4 Hospital Handed Over by Sir Geo. Perley, on Behalf of Canada, to President Poincare.

London, April 16.—(Montreal Gazette Cable)—In the presence of a distinguished company, Sir George Perley, acting high commissioner of Canada, on Saturday handed over, on behalf of the Canadian government, No. 4 Stationary Hospital at Paris to the President of the French Republic.

The hospital was inaugurated by the admission of 166 wounded from Verdun.

The ceremony was quite informal. The president arrived at the hospital on Saturday afternoon and was received by Lord Granville, chargé d'affaires, in the absence of the ambassador, Lord Bertie, Sir George Perley, Surgeon-General M. Jones, Hon. Philippe Roy, Canadian commissioner at Paris, and Mr. Godfrey Langlois, Quebec government commissioner to Belgium. Representatives of the French foreign and war offices also attended.

After Sir George's declaration, on behalf of the Dominion government, the president spent two hours inspecting the hospital and chatting with the wounded, some of whom he decorated with the "Croix De Guerre, Médaille D'honneur."

Lt. Col. Migeault commands the hospital, which is at the famous suburb of St. Cloud.

London, April 18 (12.04 a. m.)—In the British air attack on Constantinople Friday evening two bombs dropped by the raiders burst in the War Ministry, according to a report from Saloniki, forwarded by the Athens correspondent of the Exchange Telegraph Company.

The despatch adds that another bomb burst in the powder factory of Makreui, which blew up. There were numerous casualties.