

The St. John Standard

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THURSDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 21, 1918.

FAIR AND COLD.

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RUSSIA HELPLESS BEFORE THE ADVANCING HOSTS OF GERMANY

THE GERMANS OVERRUNNING WEST RUSSIA

Invasion in Progress Over Wide Areas, Extending Five Hundred Miles.

INVADERS TAKE MUCH BOOTY AND ORDNANCE

Russia Still in Throes of Civil War and Massacres of Hebrews.

BRITISH DEFEAT THE TURKS IN PALESTINE

On Fronts in France Only Bombardments and Minor Actions Occur.

The German invasion of Russia continues unimpeded.

Apparently there is to be no cessation in the eastward march of the enemy until the Bolshevik government entirely slackens the thrust of the Teutons for a peace "which corresponds with our interests," as expressed by the German foreign minister.

Southern Estonia has been entered by troops from German warships in the Gulf of Riga or from Moon or Oesel Islands lying off the shore, and a base established from which operations may be carried on against Revel, an important port on the Gulf of Finland. North-east and east of Dvinsk the penetration of the enemy along the railroad lines leading to Petrograd and Smolensk at last accounts had reached more than twelve miles and thence southward to southern Volhynia. The invasion is in progress over wide areas, with the Germans taking prisoners and guns, rolling stock and other booty in large quantities. The line over which the Germans are operating, from southern Estonia to Lutek, is more than five hundred miles in length. Little Head to Peace.

Scant heed has been taken by the (Continued on page two.)

SEVERAL LAURIERITES WILL LOSE SEATS IN PARLIAMENT

Home Soldiers' Vote Reduces Majorities of Opposition and Overseas Ballots Are Expected to Elect Half a Dozen or More Unionists—Count of Home Vote Completed.

Special to The Standard.

Ottawa, Feb. 20.—The home soldiers vote has been counted for Ontario, Quebec and Nova Scotia, and while the majorities of a number of Liberal candidates have been seriously reduced, only one actual change has occurred, namely the election of speaker Rhodes in Cumberland by 144.

The civilian vote went against him by 82. However, the indication is that the soldier vote overseas will change several seats. The civilian result on December 17 was 139 Government and 95 Laurierites, making government majority of 44. With the election of Mr. Rhodes the standing now is 140 Government, 94 Laurierites, a government majority of 46. There is little doubt that the government majority ultimately will be over 60.

85 Per Cent. Union.

The average of the home soldier vote shows about 85 per cent. in favor of the government, but the proportion in Nova Scotia was not so great against the Laurier candidates. In the maritime provinces the soldier

133 MEN NOT YET APPREHENDED IN ST. JOHN DISTRICT

Approximately 22,000 Men Have Been Drafted in Canada Under Military Service Act.

Ottawa, Feb. 20.—Approximately twenty-two thousand men had been drafted to report on February 18th. Included in this number are 1,227 Imperial recruits; men ordered to report by registrar; class one men voluntarily reporting and defaulters taken on strength.

Up to noon February 18, 2,503 apprehensions had been made under the Military Service Act. Of these 422 were of men who had failed to report when ordered to do so by the registrar; 2,101 were of defaulters who had not registered.

In the St. John district 15 men who failed to report as ordered were apprehended and 17 unregistered defaulters. For the Halifax district the total was 134. In the St. John district 1,152 men should have reported, but 133 who failed to do so have not yet been apprehended.

DOMINION COAL OUTPUT INCREASES

If Wages Are Raised Miners Say Output Will Be Much Greater.

Halifax, Feb. 20.—Officials of the miners' union here today stated that following the visit some time ago of Senator Robertson and J. C. Wattars to the mining districts of Cape Breton the output at the Lomington Coal Company had been increased about 1,000 tons per day. They gave it as their opinion that if the company acceded to the requests of the men, particularly with regard to raising the wages of some of the lower paid classes, the output could be raised by another thousand tons a day.

C. A. Magrath, fuel controller, who has been in Halifax for two or three days conferring with mine operators, declines to make any definite statement beyond saying that he believed his conference would prove beneficial in securing greater production.

MURRAY ABSENT

Halifax, Feb. 20.—Premier Murray, who has been detained at a conference in Ottawa, will not be present at the opening of the Nova Scotia legislature tomorrow.

THE GERMANS BLAME THE BOLSHEVIKI

Dr. Herman Pasche Says the Teutons Will Continue the War.

BLAMES BOLSHEVIKI FOR WAR IN RUSSIA

Polish Deputy Protests Against Annexation of Chelm.

DECLARES PROVINCE THOROUGHLY POLISH

Chancellor Von Hertling Expected to Speak Today on Russia.

Amsterdam, Feb. 20.—During a short session of the Reichstag yesterday, according to Berlin despatches today, Dr. Herman Pasche, the vice-president, discussed the Ukrainian peace and German intentions in the east, and concluded by declaring:

"However much we desire peace, we are firmly resolved to hold out with genuine German loyalty until a peace is attained which guarantees us, in a free country, washed by a free ocean, the certainty of healthy development." The Ukrainian peace, Dr. Pasche said, showed that the Central Powers were in earnest agreement with the emperor's declaration that they were waging no war of conquest as that peace was made without indemnities or cessions of territory and was a peace honorable to both parties and mutually advantageous.

Blames Bolsheviki. Blame for the resumption of the war with Russia could not be placed upon the Central Powers, he declared, but the Bolsheviki, when they found the Germans could not be enticed to destroy the foundation of civic liberty, he said, broke off the negotiations.

"We now shudder at the contemplation of the cruelties of the lawless bands which support the present so-called government of Russia," he continued, "and we hope that energetic action on our part will help the races which suffered themselves from old Russia, according to the principles of the right of self-determination, to return to peaceful work, freed from the terrible scourge of the Bolsheviki border hordes."

Claims Trickery.

The honest desire for peace expressed by Chancellor Von Hertling, continued Dr. Pasche, had been rejected by these enemies of the Central Powers, despite the fears engendered by the possibility of an attack by the German armies, and they comforted themselves as though they thought they could force their will upon the Central Powers. The German people, however, had shown them by victorious military operations that their strength was unbroken and unbreakable.

"Our enemies were unable unassisted to carry on the war upon the German people," Dr. Pasche added, "and gained by trickery or force new allies—recently America."

The vice-president concluded with a declaration of Germany's intention to hold out. After he had spoken the Reichstag adjourned until Wednesday.

Pole Protests. During the debate in the Reichstag, Adolf Groeber, one of the centrists leaders, said the appointment of Chelm to Ukraine would never have been decided upon if Poland had been admitted to the negotiations at Brest-Litovsk. Herr Seyda, a Polish deputy, protested that lack of respect for the right of self-determination had been shown by the exclusion of the Poles from the negotiations, respecting Ukraine. He declared Chelm must not be given to Ukraine. He added that Grodin and Bialystok, which had been Polish from time immemorial, must be assigned to Lithuania.

Stir in Berlin. London, Feb. 20.—The news that Leon Trotsky, the Bolsheviki foreign minister, sent a wireless message to (Continued on page two.)

ANOTHER COLD WAVE ARRIVES IN PROVINCE

A frigid wave—perhaps the last deep dip of the winter (who knows?)—moved over St. John and the province with considerable emphasis late last night and during the wee little hours this morning when few were broad except longshoremen, milkmen, policemen and newspapermen. The diligent Canadian Press operator as a stater last night solemnly informed us that the thermometer recorded a temperature of 55 below at some northeastern outlandish place.

The next coldest spot on the weather map at the Toronto observatory in Medicine Hat in Sunny Alberta, where the mark is some 44 below zero. Saskatchewan could quite make the Medicine Hat record, but the bulb was crowded for 40 below. At Winnipeg the mercury stood at 30 below, Moose Jaw 32 below, Prince Albert, ditto, Battleboro, 34 below, Port Arthur, Ont., 24 below and—why go on. It is sufficiently cool in St. John this morning under the stinging blasts from the northwest. At 4 a.m. the temperature was close to the zero mark and much lower at other New Brunswick points.

BRITISH LOSE 15 VESSELS

Sinkings of Past Week Show Slight Diminution from the Previous Week's Total.

London, Feb. 20.—British merchantmen sunk by mine or submarine in the past week numbered fifteen, according to the Admiralty statement issued tonight. Of these twelve were of 1,600 tons or over and three were under that tonnage. One fishing craft also was sunk.

The arrivals at ports in the United Kingdom for the week numbered 2,322; sailings, 2,393. Eight vessels were unsuccessfully attacked.

The sinkings for the past week show a slight diminution from the previous week, when nineteen merchantmen were sunk, thirteen of 1,600 tons or more and six under that tonnage.

SCHOOL TRUSTEES ARE DISORDERLY AT CONVENTION

Bi-Lingual Question Important Issue in the West.

PRESIDENT FAVORS A SORT OF COMPROMISE

Saskatoon Mayor Says Canada Must Be Kept British.

Saskatoon, Sask., Feb. 20.—More than 2,500 school trustees are in the city today attending the annual convention of the Trustees' Association. The attendance several times larger than ever before, is the result of the agitation on the question of bi-lingual teaching in the schools, which is sure to be warmly debated.

"The one big problem of the day is the education of the rising generation. That is why you are meeting today," said Mayor A. M. Young, during his opening remarks of his address of welcome. Referring to citizens of foreign countries settling in Canada, he said: "It is their duty to see that every thing is done to keep this country British. This is a British country and a British country it will remain."

P. M. Friesen of Rush Lake, who presided, advocated a compromise of the language question. He said: "We have a cosmopolitan population in this province, but that should not be a drawback if we can understand

THE TEUTONS WAGING WAR IN ESTHONIA

German Army Invades Another Baltic Province of Russia.

HUN ARMY PASSES THROUGH WERDER

Russians Evacuate Austro-Hungarian Territory as Agreed.

UKRAINIANS CARRY OUT THE TREATY

Probably German Naval Activity Off Esthonian Coast.

Berlin, via London, Feb. 20.—The forward movement of the German troops eastward into Russia continues according to the official announcement this evening. The text reads: "The forward movement continues in the east. The German troops have entered Esthonia. Werder has been passed through in an easterly direction. Prisoners to the number of 5,000, several hundred guns and a great amount of rolling stock fell into our hands."

The town of Werder, Esthonia, is situated on the coast of the Baltic. It is probable that the forces landing there came from Moon or Oesel Islands, which lie off the Esthonian coast and which for a long time have been occupied by the Germans. Werder is about 65 miles southwest of the important Gulf of Finland port of Revel.

Russian Evacuation.

Vienna, Feb. 20.—Via London—Russian evacuation of occupied Austro-Hungarian territory has been completed. The following official announcement was issued today: "In conformity with the peace treaty with Ukraine, the provision regarding restoration of the frontiers as they existed before the outbreak of the war between Austria-Hungary and the Russian empire have been fully carried out. Our troops have occupied without incident the region extending to the original Austro-Hungarian frontier."

A Budapest despatch by way of Amsterdam on Monday night said the Russians had evacuated the last section of Hungarian territory occupied by them, in the eastern corner of Transylvania.

NO CHANGE IN THE HALIFAX GARRISON

Halifax, Feb. 20.—In reply to enquiries, Brigadier-General Lessard tonight said that so far as he knew there was nothing in the reports that Toronto militiamen are to be brought here for garrison duty, thus releasing the 63rd Halifax Rifles and 66th Princess Louise Fusiliers for service overseas.

SECOND U. S. DRAFT

Washington, Feb. 20.—Plans for the second draft as now under consideration include calling 100,000 a month until the second quota is completed. In that way officials expect to avoid much of the confusion which accompanied the first call. The men will report in a steady stream and be assimilated into the military machine before the next lot is received.

STILL TOO MANY EGGS HELD IN COLD STORAGE

Mr. O'Connor Again Makes Protest Against Number Stored Away.

Ottawa, Feb. 20.—The cost of living commissioner of the minister of labor, has issued his ordinary monthly statement of the quantities of food held in storage as of February 1st, 1918. His figures are derived from the returns of companies holding about ninety-nine per cent. of the total cold storage space available in Canada.

The amounts of food commodities in storage on February 1, 1918, were: Butter, 7,542,447 pounds; cheese, 7,629,923 pounds; eggs, 1,560,088 dozen; beef, 40,197,654 pounds; pork (fresh and pickled), 20,815,496 pounds; bacon and ham and smoked meats, 13,036,104 pounds; mutton and lamb, 4,832,230 pounds; fish, 16,440,734 pounds; fowl, all varieties, 3,105,535 pounds.

The preceding figures cover only goods reported as held in storage. "I must again protest that a 100 per cent. increase of egg holdings and an almost equal increase of cheese holdings over those of a year ago fail to justify prevailing prices for these commodities," says Mr. O'Connor.

The price of cheese for home consumption is too high already. As to egg holdings, it is about time for storage eggs to come off the market. I consider that the preceding figures show too many held at the time of reporting. My contention raised last month that the then alleged scarcity was non-existent is borne out by the export figures.

Canada exported in January, 1917, only 180,430 dozen eggs, while in January of 1918 Canada exported no less than 877,658 dozen. Canada's imports of eggs were less by only 175,000 dozen in January, 1918, than in January, 1917.

There has been considerable selling and re-selling of storage eggs among the egg operators. The consumer pays for every shot. I humbly submit that this sort of thing should be stopped. If I may not so submit it is my duty. I may add that this sort of thing can be stopped.

FRENCH CAPTURE MANY PRISONERS

Heavy Attack on Germans in Lorraine Over Large Front Successful.

Paris, Feb. 20.—French detachments made a heavy attack on the Germans in Lorraine today, entering the German lines over a large front and capturing more than four hundred prisoners, according to the war office announcement tonight. The state of the statement reads: "In the Argonne we repulsed an attack at Four De Paris and inflicted appreciable losses on the enemy."

In Lorraine, north of Bures and east of Moncel (northeast of Nancy) our detachments penetrated the German lines deeply on a large front. This operation, brilliantly carried out, enabled us to bring back prisoners, the number of which are known to exceed four hundred. In the Vosges there was quite marked artillery fighting in the region of La Fave."

CANADIENS WIN

Montreal, Feb. 20.—The Canadiens won from the Toronto by a score of 5 to 4 at the Jubilee Rink tonight, after playing an extra period of nearly five minutes in the National Hockey League fixture. The game was one of the best furnished by the professional hockey teams on local ice this winter.

CASUALTIES

Ottawa, Feb. 20.—Casualties: Wounded—Infantry. W. Jessome, Glace Bay, N. S. E. McCarthy, Palmer Road, P. E. I. C. H. Murray, Caledonia, N. S. Artillery. Wounded—Dominion No. 1, N. S. D. L. Martin, St. John, N. B.

CANADA FAVORED

Washington, Feb. 20.—A general order by the War Trades Board today permits without individual import licenses, importation of all commodities from Canada except those mentioned in President Wilson's proclamation of November 24.

ENGINE TRUCK DERAILS THE OCEAN LTD.

Entire Train Except One Car Ran Off Track at Calhoun's.

TRACK BLOCKED FOR OVER SEVEN HOURS

Remarkable Escape from Injuries by Passengers and Trainmen.

TRAIN RUNNING FROM HALIFAX TO MONTREAL

Passengers Transferred to Another Train and Taken to Moncton.

Special to The Standard.

Moncton, Feb. 20.—The Ocean Limited from Halifax this afternoon had a bad spill at Calhoun's Station, but, fortunately, the passengers and train crew escaped injury, and rolling stock was not materially damaged. The whole train, with the exception of one car, was off the track, with the result that traffic was blocked from two o'clock until 7.30 tonight. Passengers on the derailed train were transferred and brought to Moncton and forwarded. The cause of the run-off was a damaged or broken truck on the engine. All the cars remained upright and the train ran but a short distance after leaving the rails before being brought to a standstill.

Track Torn Up.

Engine trucks were badly broken up and this constituted practically the only damage to the train. The track was torn up for a short distance. An auxiliary crew was sent out from Moncton and after working all the afternoon had repaired sufficient to resume traffic at the point of the accident.

Railway men regard it as extremely fortunate that there was no person injured or greater damage to the engine and cars, considering the nature of the run-off. Driver Warren Gross was in the engine and Conductor J. Daly was in charge of the train.

The Ocean Limited leaves Halifax daily at 7.45 a.m. and is due at Moncton at 1.55 p.m. and Montreal the following morning at 8.55. Calhoun is fourteen miles east of Moncton and five miles west of Memramouc.

BRITISH ADVANCE NEAR JERUSALEM

All Objectives to Average Depth of Two Miles on Fifteen Mile Front Secured.

London, Feb. 20.—The British army in Palestine made an attack yesterday east of Jerusalem, advancing two miles on a front of fifteen miles. It is announced officially. The communication follows: "Yesterday morning we advanced to the attack on a frontage of from fifteen miles east of Jerusalem. By evening all objectives had been secured, to an average depth of two miles."

Haig's Report.

London, Feb. 20.—The report from Field Marshal Haig's headquarters tonight says: "A few prisoners were brought in by our patrols on the southern portion of the front. A raid was attempted by the enemy early this morning east of Armentieres, but was repulsed. The hostile artillery has shown some activity during the day in the neighborhood of St. Quentin and southwest of La Bassee."