

# UPWARDS OF 6,000 CANADIANS HAVE FALLEN AT SANCTUARY WOOD

**THE WEATHER.**  
Maritime—Fresh northeast and east winds, mostly cloudy, with showers in the southwestern portion.

## The St. John Standard, NEW BRUNSWICK, CANADA.

**OPERA HOUSE**  
TODAY—Afternoon 2.15 and 8.45.  
Evening 7.15 and 8.45.  
MARGUERITE CLARK IN  
"THE PRINCE AND THE PAUPER"

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# FIVE AUSTRIAN ARMIES ON EVE OF GENERAL RETREAT BEFORE THE RUSSIANS, IS REPORT

## MEREDITH-DUFF INQUIRY TO BE CONCLUDED TODAY

**GEN. HUGHES' CONDUCT IN MATTER OF WAR CONTRACTS UNDER INVESTIGATION ABSOLUTELY UNIMPEACHABLE, IS VIEW OF COMMISSIONERS AND COUNSEL ALIKE—TWO FINDINGS ON SOME POINTS LIKELY**

Special to The Standard.

Ottawa, June 8.—It is now evident that General Sir Sam Hughes is regarded by commissioners and counsel alike as a man of unimpeachable integrity in connection with the war contracts under investigation by the Meredith-Duff Commission, but it is also evident that there will be two findings upon several points which have occurred during the progress of the inquiry. The investigation will be concluded tomorrow.

Mr. J. S. Ewart, K. C., one of the counsel representing Sir Sam Hughes, took this ground this afternoon: "There should be no consideration of the Minister of Militia unless it is necessary to condemn the Shell Committee. He couldn't be an accessory to wrongdoing unless wrong-doing has been established. He authorized me to say that he accepted full responsibility for the Shell Committee. As he has stated in the House, he will stick to it to the last button on its jacket. He does not wish to escape responsibility by throwing it on somebody else."

"That is constitutional and political responsibility," commented Judge Duff.

Mr. Ewart—"One cannot refrain as his counsel from saying that there is not a word of evidence which tends in the remotest way to incriminate the Minister of Militia to show that he has done anything that makes him unworthy to occupy the position of minister of militia. I cannot help recalling what Col. Carnegie said regarding the interference of Sir Sam Hughes with the Shell Committee. Not only was there no interference except that there should be speed and reduced prices and have the work done in Canada but he said: 'We went to him for our inspiration and he was bubbling over all the time to see how the work was going on.'"

Discussing the question of awarding the contract for graze fuses to the American Ammunition Company, Mr. Ewart said the company had the aluminum and Cadwell, the experience but Judge Duff contended there was a far deeper question—"Why the contract was let for \$4."

Mr. Ewart maintained that Allison made efforts to break the price and succeeded to a certain extent. The encouragement given to the American Ammunition Company was a greater factor. The American firm was better prepared than Canadian. Besides fuses were not being made in Canada and if they had not been contracted for in the United States they would not have been secured.

Ottawa, June 8.—Pointed comment by Sir William Meredith and Justice Duff, who are inquiring into allegations of "rake-offs" in fuse orders, featured the arguments of the various counsel today. From observations made it appears that the commission is divided in its views on some of the evidence.

Justice Duff seems to find himself unable to understand several of Col. Carnegie's explanations in regard to the awarding of the contracts, particularly the reasons given for committing the shell committee to an order for five million time fuses, when a war office cable alluded to graze fuses as well, in what was wanted.

While Col. Carnegie, in going to New York to place the contract, did not consult J. P. Morgan & Co. as to prevailing prices before he fixed the amount to be paid the American Fuse Company and International Arms and Ammunition Company, is another thing, Justice Duff stated, during the argument he was unable to comprehend.

Messrs. J. A. Ewart, K. C., and Eugene Lafleur, K. C., counsel for the minister of militia, completed their arguments this afternoon and maintained that the minister is absolutely freed of any complicity in the alleged rake-offs.

The other lawyers will conclude tomorrow.

## COLORED MAID WHO KILLED FORMER ST. JOHN WOMAN ACQUITTED

Montreal, June 8.—Isabella Dominican, the colored maid who strangled her mistress, Mrs. Kate Matthews, Shuter street, to death, last January, because Mrs. Matthews was abusing her, was acquitted of the charge of

## STRATEGIC BREACH 100 MILES WIDE BLOWN IN AUSTRIAN FRONT

Latest Word from Petrograd  
Intimate Russian Successes  
Greater than Official  
Statements Show.

### CAPTURE 11,000 MORE OF ENEMY YESTERDAY

Lutsik One of the Volhynian  
Triangle Fortresses has been  
Evacuated by the Austrians.

Petrograd, June 8, via London.—The capture of Lutsik, in Volhynia, and also of a series of powerfully organized

Austrian positions is announced in the official communication given out here today. In addition to the Austrians previously captured in the offensive movement recently inaugurated, the statement says, there were captured yesterday's fighting fifty-eight officers and 11,000 men. A large amount of war material also was taken.

The communication says: "On Tuesday we developed our offensive in the direction of Rovno and Kovel, and, keeping on the heels of the overthrown enemy, and following a battle in the region of Lutsik, we occupied that town in many places. The Germans have been captured by an energetic advance a number of powerful enemy organized positions on the front of Trubokhorovskiy-Jaslavets, and have arrived quite near the line of the Strypa river."

"In Galicia, on the Strypa, our infantry, supported by artillery fire, has captured by an energetic advance a number of powerful enemy organized positions on the front of Trubokhorovskiy-Jaslavets, and have arrived quite near the line of the Strypa river."

"In addition to the 40,000 prisoners previously taken, we took, in the course of yesterday's fighting, fifty-eight officers and about 11,000 men, and captured a number of guns and machine guns, a quantity of other weapons, field kitchens and telephone material."

"The results of the engagements from the fourth to the seventh in Volhynia and Galicia permit us to consider that we have already gained an important victory, which is crowned by a great breach in the enemy's fortified front."

"On the Dvina front and in the lake region, south of Drinsk, there has been violent fighting at many places. The Germans have been repulsed, by a concentrated fire, the Ikakull bridgehead. Repeated German attempts to advance in the region south of Smorgon were frustrated by our fire. South of Krevo the enemy artillery fired gusts on our positions."

"In the Caucasus the situation is unchanged."

General Retreat Soon?  
London, June 9.—Special despatches from Petrograd express the belief that the Russian successes against the Austrians are far more important than appears from the official announcements.

The Daily Telegraph's correspondent ventures the assertion on the authority of a prominent Russian expert, "that all five Austrian armies are on the eve of a general retreat, and that Lemberg is in great strategic danger."

## SITUATION UNCHANGED AT HOOGE; NO INFANTRY ATTACKS YESTERDAY

London, June 9.—The British official statement, issued at midnight, reads:

"The principal activity in the past 24 hours has been in the sector between Vinny Ridge and La Bassee Canal, where mine warfare was particularly in evidence. Six mines and camouflets have been exploded, with results, generally speaking in our favor."

"Near the Hohenzollern redoubt the explosion of one of our mines considerably damaged the enemy defences, and after the explosion our snipers accounted for 2 of the garrison."

"Around Soppush there has been a

good deal of work with trench mortars, and along the whole sector the artillery of both sides has been active."

"Just south of La Bassee Canal we carried out a successful raid last night, inflicting losses on the enemy. The garrison of the raided trenches fled, leaving the dead on the ground."

"The situation at Hooze is unchanged, and there have been no infantry actions today. The artillery of both sides shelled intermittently both day and night."

"Elsewhere on the front there was no special interest, the day passing quietly."

## EVIDENCE ALL INDICATES HINDENBURG PRIDE OF GERMAN NAVY WAS SUNK

London, June 8.—A naval officer of high rank who has just returned from a visit to the battle cruiser fleet informs the Associated Press today that participants in the North Sea battle estimate the total German losses as follows:

Two battle cruisers, three destroyers, five light cruisers, eight or nine destroyers and one submarine. This officer said he was convinced, from evidence he had obtained that the unidentified battle cruiser said to

have been sunk was the Hindenburg. This estimate of German losses is somewhat larger than that made in the latest official British announcement, issued on Sunday. At that time the admiralty gave the German losses, not all authenticated, as two battleships, two dreadnought battle cruisers, four light cruisers, nine destroyers and one submarine.

It has been reported previously that the Hindenburg was destroyed, but this was denied officially from Berlin.

## GAIN OF OVER \$6,000,000 IN REVENUE

For May as Compared with  
Same Month Last Year—  
Greatest Increase in Customs Revenue.

Special to The Standard.

Ottawa, June 8.—The Dominion revenue for the month of May totalled \$18,497,707 as compared with \$12,311,

508 for May, 1915, an increase of 50 per cent, according to the monthly statement of the finance department. The revenue for the first two months of this fiscal year is \$33,172,754 as against \$21,759,296 for last year.

The greatest increase is in the customs revenue which is \$12,558,722, an increase of \$6,246,640 over May, 1915. The excise is \$2,088,104, an increase of \$265,886, an increase of \$1,300,000, an increase of \$50,000; public works, \$2,221,766, an increase of \$746,846.

The expenditure of consolidated fund account was \$4,418,094 or a decrease for the month of \$14,463. Capital expenditure on public works, railways and canals was \$2,619,683, an increase of \$1,209,000. The war expenditure is given as \$9,309,474, but this is just repayment to the banks for the amount of credits drawn upon during April.

The net debt of the Dominion now stands at \$577,896,690, or an increase of \$145,579,060 during the past twelve months. The increase during May was \$4,683,204.

A year ago the funded debt included \$784,900 in Canada and \$335,178,392 in London. Now it includes \$97,000,000 in Canada, \$75,000,000 in New York and \$362,000,000 in London. The increase in London is for payment of military expenses of Canadian troops in England and France.

Dominion notes outstanding have increased in the twelve months from \$152,000,000 to \$174,000,000. Temporary loans total \$189,000,000 as against \$87,000,000 a year ago.

London, June 8.—The Daily Graphic, discussing the alleged hardships of British prisoners in Germany, suggests that the prisoners of all the belligerent nations be transferred to neutral countries and be paid for by the respective governments.

The Graphic urges the United States to take up the matter to the extent of making a special appeal to the German government to agree to such an arrangement.

## SANCTUARY WOOD SCENE OF MANY THRILLING DEEDS

DETAILS OF THE BATTLE BEGIN TO ARRIVE AND  
TELL OF NEW DEEDS OF VALOR BY CANADIANS—CASUALTIES, MOSTLY WOUNDED, UPWARDS OF 6,000, GEN. HUGHES ANNOUNCES.

Special to The Standard.

Ottawa, June 8.—"Within a week upwards of six thousand of our comrades have fallen. The great majority wounded, are already clamoring to be allowed back into the fray, but many of the gallant lads have gone down. We deeply mourn their loss, but that loss affords an inspiration for tens of thousands more to take their places."

General Hughes made this statement today in presenting the colors to the 77th Regiment under Col. D. R. Street. It is the first official indication of the extent of the Canadian casualties at the battle of Sanctuary Woods near St. Eloi.

## TWELVE SURVIVORS OF CRUISER HAMPSHIRE ARE WASHED ASHORE

London, June 8.—One warrant officer and eleven men, survivors of the cruiser Hampshire, which went down off the Orkney Islands, with Earl Kitchener and members of his staff, have been washed ashore on a raft, according to an announcement made by the admiralty tonight.

Sank Two Miles From Land.

Aberdeen, Scotland, June 8.—The cruiser Hampshire sank in deep water, two miles from land, between Marwick Head and the Brough of Birsay, on the west coast of the Orkney Islands.

## ITALIANS HURL BACK MASSES OF THE ENEMY

Rome, via London, June 8.—The following communication was issued today:

"In the Upper Vail Tellina (north-west of Trent) our Alpine troops have extended their captured ground on the Orler Alps by occupying the passes Camose, altitude 3,199 metres; Volontari, 3,042 metres; Ortler, 3,359 metres and the Hoel of Hochjoch, 3,530 metres."

"In the Chiese Valley the enemy attacked our positions at Scoradice, above Daoca. We counter-attacked and dispersed the attackers."

"In the Allege Valley there has been an artillery duel. The enemy yesterday, with heavy guns, bombarded our positions south of Rio Cameras and on Paubio. Our artillery dispersed enemy concentrations north of Marco, in the Lagarina Valley and at Vallarsa, and also effectively shelled enemy batteries at Pozzaccio."

"On the front of the Posina-Astico there has been intermittent artillery activity. On the plateau of Sette Comuni and Bac Communi a battle is raging along the whole front. The evening of the sixth, after intense artillery preparation, the enemy repeatedly attacked our positions south-west and south of Asiago. The engagement continued desperately throughout the night, and ended in the morning with the retreat of the attacking columns."

"Yesterday afternoon the enemy renewed his violent efforts against the center and right wing of our line, following his customary bombardment. Thick masses of infantry were repeatedly hurled to attack our positions south of Asiago and east of the Campomonte Valley, but every time they were repulsed with enormous losses."

More Glorious Deeds.

Special to The Standard.  
Ottawa, June 8.—Details of the battle of Sanctuary Wood are beginning to reach the Minister of Militia. He learned by cable this evening that Col. Buller of the Princess Patricia's was the first commanding officer of the Princess Patricia's when he was killed Col. Buller, then a major, succeeded him. Both were aides-de-camp at Government House. The story of the death of Rev. Captain H. G. Wilkens of the 1st C. M. R. A. western, is thrilling. When the Germans attacked he, although a chaplain, fought as a combatant. When the enemy reached the Canadian line he used the bayonet and finally his fists until he was killed.

Captain Hugh Nivens of London, Ontario, was wounded and sent to the dressing station. He returned to the fighting line. He was again wounded and again sent to the dressing station. Once more he attempted to rejoin his comrades but was unable. Captain Nivens was twice wounded in previous fighting.

Ottawa, June 8.—The Canadian casualty list of the recent battle is still growing. A new list of officers who have been killed or wounded was issued by Gen. Sir Sam Hughes this morning. There are eight killed, ten wounded and four slightly wounded and still on duty. The total of officers reported on the casualty list is now 262.

Among the wounded are Major F. M. Hicks, St. Catharines, and Capt. E. D. O. Flynn, of Belleville. Major Hector Verrett, of the 2nd Ontario Battalion, is reported slightly wounded, but still on duty. He is the last of the original officers of the 2nd Battalion who left for the front from Valcartier. In civil life he was assistant deputy postmaster general.

Additional Casualties.  
An additional list of casualties among officers of the third and fourth Canadian division at the front has been received by the Minister of Militia as follows:

On June 6th, killed—Lieut. A. V. Danard, Central Ontario.  
On June 6th, killed—Lieut. H. T. Taylor, Saskatchewan, Regiments; Lt. E. Ross, Pioneers; Lt. C. A. Bateman, Calgary; Lt. F. R. L. Desais, Royal Canadian Regiment; Lt. P. H. Richardson, Montreal; Lt. W. M. Notman, Trench Howitzer Battalion.

Wounded—Capt. J. Jeffrey, Montreal; Lt. W. R. Woolley, Royal Canadian Regiment; Lt. R. H. Ewing, Montreal; Lt. A. V. Evans, Victoria; B. C.; Major F. E. Hicks, St. Catharines; Lt. B. Charlton, Winnipeg; Lt. C. E. Otton, Winnipeg.

Wounded, shell shock—Captain E. D. O. Flynn, Eastern Ontario.  
Wounded slightly and at duty—Major H. B. Verrett, Ottawa; Lt. H. Sloan, Toronto; Lt. C. H. Hartt, Calgary; Lt. E. R. Pease, Montreal.

The initials of Capt. Cornish, 86 C. L., in wire of 6th, should read 64th Cornish.

In wire of 6th, read Lieut. H. Galton, for Lieut. H. G. Allan.  
Lieut. A. MacDougall, Alberta, reported wounded in wire of 4th, is now reported killed.  
Lieut. H. C. Young, machine gun section, reported missing in wire of 4th, is reported wounded.