

The St. John Standard

VOL. X, NO. 292.

TEN PAGES

THURSDAY MORNING, MARCH 13, 1919.

GENERALLY FAIR

PRICE TWO CENTS.

FIGHTING IN BERLIN REPORTED TO HAVE LESSENED VERY MUCH SINCE TUESDAY AFTERNOON

Certain Streets Ordered Closed After Seven O'clock at Night—Any One Found on Them Will Be Shot.

SPARTACANS OFFER TO SURRENDER

Industrial League of Germany Organized a Fund to Fight the Bolsheviki Propaganda.

Berlin, March 10, Monday.—(By The Associated Press)—The progress of the government troops against the Spartacans, necessarily, is slow owing to the need of thoroughly cleaning up the reconquered parts of the city. This means that Lichtenberg probably cannot be reached inside of two days. The populace of Lichtenberg is suffering severely from hunger and as a result of looting.

The second important Spartacan stronghold is Weissensee, a suburb of Berlin. The Spartacans also are strongly entrenched in Copenick, Neukoln and Rummelsburg. The correspondent today talks with a colonel of the government forces who estimated the Spartacans about three thousand. He admitted, however, that his figures were merely guesswork. The colonel said that in addition to heavy and light artillery the Spartacans have scores of machine guns.

The government troops are advancing in four columns—Colonel Reinhardt's division to the north, General Von Roden's marines in the middle, next a squad of cavalry and riflemen southward, and General Ruelens's volunteers from the direction of Schoenberg. Their conduct and discipline are exemplary.

The eastern and southern parts of the city are still closed to all traffic. The inhabitants are suffering greatly from privations.

London, March 12.—(By The Associated Press)—A German government wireless despatch received here this evening says that according to official announcements today, Tuesday afternoon there had been 50 more important fighting anywhere in Berlin. A night attack on the staff quarters of the government troops in the suburb of Nokoloin was frustrated. There were occasional unimportant engagements in Charlottenberg and various places in east Berlin. A military order, affecting a number of streets in east Berlin, has been issued. The order declares that anyone found in these streets after seven o'clock in the evening will be shot.

The Berlin newspapers, the despatch continues, say that the Spartacans visited Herr Noske, secretary of the military affairs, last night to inquire into peace conditions. It is rumored that, after protracted negotiations, the military secretary demanded the unconditional surrender of the Spartacans and also the yielding up of all their arms.

Herr Noske Refuses.

London, March 12.—A despatch to the Central News from Amsterdam says that Herr Noske, the secretary of military affairs in Germany, declined the appeal of the Burgomaster of Lichtenberg that the military cease operations against Lichtenberg Spartacans.

The evening newspapers say that the Spartacans are evacuating their Lichtenberg positions, having been caught between two fires.

Would Surrender.

Berlin, March 12.—(By The Associated Press)—The Spartacans have opened negotiations for surrender to the government forces, according to reports in circulation this afternoon.

To Fight Bolshevism.

Berlin, March 12.—(By The Associated Press)—The industrial league of Germany has been organized with a fund of fifty million marks for the purpose of fighting Bolshevism, according to information reaching the Associated Press. Of this sum the great Berlin plants contributed five million marks.

INTERNED SHIPS IN CHILEAN WATERS GO TO UNITED STATES

Santiago, Mar. 12.—The Chilean government has received a report to the effect that the Allied war council in Paris has decided that the German ships interned in Chile should be delivered to the United States. The government is awaiting a demand from the United States for the delivery of the vessels.

THREE BOLD ROBBERIES IN NEW YORK REPORTED WED.

A Cornell Graduate Arrested on One of the Crimes Waiving Examination Accused the Social System of Driving Him Into His Adversity.

New York, March 12.—Three bold robberies were reported to the police today—one of them below the traditional "dead line for crooks," at the upper end of the financial district—had resulted tonight in the arrest of but one man.

The robberies included theft of \$25,000 in small bills from the Metropolitan Bank, a Bronx institution, the theft of nearly \$1,000 worth of jewelry from a messenger boy who was making deliveries in the financial district, and theft of \$350 from a woman depositor in the Public National Bank in Upper Broadway.

SPARTACANS INFLICT HORRIBLE CRUELITIES IN LICHTENBERG

London, March 12.—The behavior of the Spartacans in Lichtenberg was worse than the Bolsheviki cruelties in Russia, Berlin advisers received in Copenhagen and transmitted by the Exchange Telegraph Company say. All well-dressed citizens appearing in the streets were robbed and many were killed. Several persons were decapitated and the heads were carried through the streets by female Spartacans. The government troops, it is added, continue to kill every prisoner they take.

SIR SAM HUGHES WANTS TO KNOW

Calls for An Enquiry Into Canadian Losses During Fighting in France. Why Ross Rifle Was Withdrawn and Rhyll Riots.

Ottawa, March 12.—Sir Sam Hughes has given notice of resolutions calling for an inquiry by special committees of the House into Canadian losses during the fighting in France, the reasons for the withdrawal of the Ross rifle from the Canadian troops. His resolutions are as follows:

"That in the opinion of this house, a special committee of five members, to inquire into the casualties suffered by Canadian troops at the battles of Passchendaele and Cambrai, whether the Canadian troops were ordered to make frontal attacks, and what attacks and movements the Canadian troops were ordered to make at these battles."

"That, in the opinion of this house, a special committee of five members, to inquire into the causes that led to the recent disturbances and riots in the camps occupied by Canadian troops overseas and all the circumstances connected with such disturbances and riots, the repression thereof and the steps taken to avoid their recurrence."

DIFFICULTIES TO OVERCOME IN AIR FLIGHTS

As Soon as Exact Data on Trade Winds at High Altitudes is Obtained for Aviators' Use, Distance Flying Will be Easy.

New York, March 12.—Only three difficulties now stand in the way of flying at a rate of 300 miles an hour, Major R. W. Schroeder, army aviator and holder of the world's altitude record declared at a meeting on the aeronautical society of America here tonight. The problems to be solved include a change in the ritch of air plane propellers, control of increased air pressure in carburetors and over-cooling of the aviators almost overwhelming sense of hunger at high altitudes.

As soon as exact data on trade winds at high altitudes is obtained, so that fliers can use them in long flights," he said "distance flying will be one of the 'easy' troubles one has to contend with. Three hundred miles an hour in an easterly direction—that is in the direction the earth travels—will be easy to make. That means Ireland, for instance, will be ten hours from New York."

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Hon. Dr. Baxter Calls the Bluff Of Premier Foster and Shows The Gov't Their Weak Position

The Threats of Impending Reports Had No Fears for the Speaker, Who, in His Logical, Concise Way, Showed up the Duplicity of the Administration, Their Extravagances, and Camouflages—Dr. Baxter Praised the Premier for His Laudable Attempt to Provide a Programme for the Session, But Regretted That Neither the Speech from the Throne or the Premier's Address Gave Any Evidence of Constructive Legislation.

Refers to the High-handed Work of the Attorney-General in Suppressing Evidence Favorable to a Man Standing Trial for Murder—Pictures the Attorney-General Defending a Man Accused of Breaking the Game Laws—Reveals the Inefficiency of the Health Act.

Fredericton, N. B., Mar. 12.—In an able address today Dr. Baxter spiked the guns the premier, under cover of impending reports, had trained on the Opposition in the hope of making political capital, and indulged in a pretty passage of arms with the attorney-general, causing that gentleman, after some words of anger, to subside hopelessly in his seat. His mastery of the situation was obvious from the start, and he was given an attention which was in marked contrast to the air of boredom with which the house listened to the premier. With great urbanity of manner, and grace of language, he congratulated the premier upon his laudable and painstaking effort to provide a programme for the session, but regretted that neither the speech from the throne or the premier's speech gave any evidence of constructive statesmanship, such as the times demanded. Then he dissected the premier's discourse point by point and pursuing the logic of the premier's tactics composedly turned the tables upon him.

Referring to the jury bill he said he thought it would not produce an ideal state of affairs. Mr. Baxter said that in the Kierstead murder case the attorney-general had at his elbow Dr. Anglin, who believed the accused was insane, yet the attorney-general allowed accused to be convicted and sentenced. If the minister of justice had not ordered a new trial on the ground that the crown had suppressed evidence the man would have been executed.

The attorney-general rose to a point of order, and angrily protested that a serious charge.

Mr. Baxter interrupted that a point of order was not an occasion for a speech. The attorney-general shouting, the hon. gentleman has made the charge that in prosecution of my official duties I wilfully withheld evidence I should have presented. I absolutely and distinctly deny it. For a few minutes the attorney-general was bobbing up on one side, angrily demanding a withdrawal of charge, while Mr. Baxter bobbed up on the other, asking the Speaker if he was in order.

The hon. gentleman and I seem to be on a teeter, said Mr. Baxter.

The attorney-general asked: I want to know if you will withdraw the charge?

When the Speaker restored order Mr. Baxter said he had made no charge. He had simply made a statement of facts. He added that recently the attorney-general had distended himself of his official capacity and appeared for the defendant in a case for violation of the game laws.

Attorney-general: That is absolutely untrue.

Mr. Baxter said the hon. gentleman was not using parliamentary language.

The attorney-general said it was a question of the health of the house that when a charge was made and denied the denial was accepted and he started to deliver an oration on the ideal of personal conduct. Dr. Baxter said the ministry of health had accomplished no more during the flu epidemic than the old health board would have done. The minister had no organization, and military assistance was sought. The hon. gentleman said that he had no right to say a statement was untrue, any more than to use a harsher expression.

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CONSCRIPTION IN EUROPE WAS DOOMED WHEN COUNCIL PUT LIMIT TO GERMANY'S FORCE

Considered the Most Important Decision Reached at Paris With the Exception of That in the League of Nations.

DISMANTLE OF FORTRESSES ON RHINE

Clean Sweep Was Made of German Manufacture of Munitions, Limited to the Production of Only Small and Light Artillery.

(Special Cable to the N. Y. Tribune and the St. John Standard.)

BY WILLMOTT LEWIS.

(Copyright, 1919, N. Y. Tribune, Inc.) Paris, March 12.—Conscription in Europe was doomed when the Supreme Council unanimously agreed that Germany's force be limited to 100,000 volunteers serving twelve years. Col. House, Premier Clemenceau, Premier Lloyd George and Italian Foreign Minister Sonnino consider this the most important decision reached at Paris with the exception of that on the League of Nations, and all pointed out today that it marks the greatest step yet made toward the realization of the league's ideal of disarmament. The Council also agreed to the dismantling of all German fortresses west of the Rhine, which means that whatever other territorial decision may be reached, the Rhine constitutes the strategic frontier.

A long debate preceded the making of the decision, in which the French military experts held out desperately for conscription but Premier Clemenceau ranged himself strongly on the side of Mr. Lloyd George's proposal. Sonnino doing likewise and finally predicting it means the end of conscription in Italy within a few years.

Practically a clean sweep was made of German manufacture of munitions, which is to be limited to the production of only small and light artillery for its army of 100,000.

Tomorrow the Council of Ten will debate the question of the German boundaries, taking up the eastern question with special reference to Poland and Danzig first. This is expected to take all afternoon. Then, when the boundaries are completed and other details arranged, it is probable, in the opinion of the American delegates, that the Peace Conference will be ready to summon the Germans here by March 20th. The British think this is likely to be probable by the first week in April. The method of procedure regarding the communication of the peace terms to Germany has not yet been decided upon.

STREET WORK FOR HALIFAX

Board of Control Asked to Authorize Borrowing of \$1,000,000 for Building Permanent Streets.

Special to The Standard.

Halifax, N. S., March 12.—Mayor Hawkins asks the Board of Control to pass a resolution for permissive legislation to borrow \$1,000,000, to be used, from time to time, in order to build permanent streets in Halifax. A list of the streets proposed to be paved is given, and the cost of each section. It is likely the board will do this, and that the necessary legislation will be introduced.

SPARTACAN MOVEMENT IN GER-MANY KEPT ALIVE FOR A PURPOSE

Urged by Germans as a Means of Blackmail Against the Entente—When Germany Has Used Spartacans to the Utmost to Blackmail the Entente Into Sending Food and Granting Merciful Conditions of Peace, Spartacans Will Disappear.

Paris, Mar. 12.—Former Grand Duke Alexander Michaelovitch, who arrived in Paris recently from the Crimea, told the Associated Press today that unless armed Allied intervention in Russia began at once the situation in Russia would become so hopelessly desperate that it would take years, perhaps decades, to restore a semblance of order and bring about peace in eastern Europe. The former grand duke, who is a brother-in-law of the former German emperor, continued:

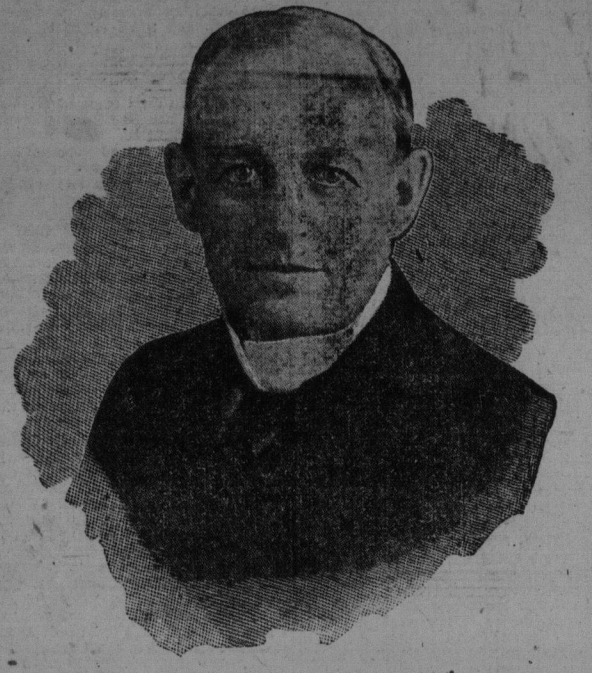
"I do not ask the Allies to fight for us. We merely ask them to keep order in the territories wrested from Bolshevism by the governments already fighting the Soviet."

Referring to the proposed conference on the Princes Islands, the grand duke said that the proposal was a mistake as it gave the Bolsheviki a strong weapon to wield in Russia over the covering population. The Bolsheviki are claiming, the grand duke added, that the Allied governments have recognized them because they feared the Bolsheviki.

The grand duke was somewhat skeptical whether royalty was a thing of the past. He then reverted to conditions in Russia, saying:

"What we want from the Allies is a frank statement of whether they intend to intervene in Russia or not, and whether we have to look elsewhere for salvation. Under their present state of mind the would-be ruling classes in Russia probably will look to Germany for help and the Germans understand how to deal with the Bolsheviki."

"It is my opinion that the Spartacan movement in Germany is kept alive only as a means of blackmail against the Allies. When the preliminary peace is signed, when Germany has used the Spartacans to the utmost to blacken the Entente into sending food and granting merciful conditions of peace, when Spartacans has served its purpose, it will disappear."



HON. DR. J. B. M. BAXTER
In his speech in the Provincial Assembly yesterday showed up the frailties of the local government and called the bluff of its leaders.

COMPLETE TIE-UP OF NEW YORK'S SUBWAY THREATENED

The Coal Shortage, Caused by the Harbor Strike, Threatens the Transportation as Well as Industrial Life of the Metropolis—Shipping Demoralized.

New York, March 12.—A complete tie-up of New York city's subway, elevated and surface car lines as well as paralysis of its harbor shipping is threatened by the strike of harbor workers which has been in progress more than a week, it was asserted today.

Frank Hedley, general manager of the Interborough Rapid Transit and allied lines, declared that unless coal cargoes are moved at once a shut-down of transportation of Manhattan Island will result. Freight is piling up at piers and the movement of trans-Atlantic and eastwise shipping has been demoralized.

The last regular delivery of coal was made to the Interborough a week ago yesterday," Mr. Hedley said. "While we have been able to get a few loads here and there the total amount has been far from sufficient to keep the lines running. We require about 2,000 tons a day and if we cannot get it in some way we will have to suspend operations until we do get it, or we cannot run without fuel."

Appeals to Washington today described the situation as "critical" and called for Federal intervention by the commanding officer of troops. The Wholesale Coal dealers association telegraphed Secretary of War Baker yesterday, petitioning him to seize enough equipment to coal troopship.

CIVIL SERVICE EMPLOYES

List Presented to Parliament Shows a Total of 54,619 People in Civil Service of Canada.

Ottawa, March 12.—The civil service list tabled today in the Commons includes a tabulated statement showing the total numerical strength of the civil service as it stood on April 1, 1918. The statement contains the information that in addition to 4,147 employees in the permanent inside service and 18,593 in the permanent outside service, there were on April 1 last, 6,374 temporary inside and 12,555 temporary outside employees, making a total of 41,619. To these figures must be added thirteen thousand rural postmasters, all of whom come under the jurisdiction of the civil service of Canada. It is noted, however, that during April and May several hundred "season" appointments are made, and these are not included in the foregoing figures.

ST. THOMAS COLLEGE DESTROYED BY FIRE EARLY THIS MORNING

Special to The Standard.

Chatham, March 12.—The entire town was brightly illuminated this morning by a fire which totally destroyed the St. Thomas College, damaged the Whitty Building, and also endangered all neighboring structures.

All the seventy-five students escaped in perfect safety, due to excellent discipline and the cool presence of mind of the instructors and older boys.

Father Pascho, instructor of mathematics, was delayed in the building and became confused by the overwhelming smoke. He managed to reach a window on the third floor and, finding no other exit, jumped from there to the ground. He was picked up unconscious and badly injured, and rushed to the Bishop's Palace where he received medical attention.

Father Edward O'Donnell, Bathurst, had his face badly burned and his eyebrows singed, when he bravely rushed down a flaming stairway, the only exit he could find.

The fire, which was discovered at one o'clock this morning, is supposed to have originated from defective wiring. When the alarm was given, a thin cloud of smoke was seen issuing from one of the upper windows, but by the time all the boys had been safely removed, sheets of flame were bursting through the walls. The students had been rescued in the nick of time.

When it was seen that the building was doomed, Chief William Skidd and his fire fighters directed their efforts to saving the adjoining buildings. A bad blaze on the Whitty property was checked, the college rink was saved, and the last word received was to the effect that the fire was well in hand.

The estimated damage is between \$25,000 and \$30,000, only partially covered by insurance.

St. Thomas College was founded eight years ago by the Basilian Fathers, and its present head is Rev. Fr. William Roche, D.D. Among the seventy-five students are two St. John boys, Arthur Walsh and J. McNeely, son of J. J. McNeely, the well known plumber. The building was a large wooden structure, four stories high, and covered the site of the former cathedral.