

THE WEATHER.
Maritime—West and southwest winds, fair with rising temperature.

The St. John Standard,

NEW BRUNSWICK, CANADA.

OPERA HOUSE
TONIGHT
YOUNG-ADAMS CO. in
"A BUTTERFLY ON THE WHEEL"

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GERMAN ATTACK BREAKS UP BEFORE CURTAIN OF FIRE FROM FRENCH LINE

Huns Attempt to Follow Up Artillery Bombardment and Gas Attack by Advance Along 1-4 Miles of Front, but Thrown Back by Guns of Allies--Thrilling Air Fights Feature on Western Front.

Another of Germany's big Zeppelins has come to grief, and it is probable that some of its crew perished, as it was enveloped in flames as it fell to earth, a victim of an incendiary shell fire from a French anti-aircraft gun.

The Paris official communication reports that the airship was southward bound from the region of St. Menhoult, when the French guns at Revigny began shelling it. At least one of the missiles found its mark and the huge aircraft took fire and fell in the vicinity of Brabant-Le-Roi.

The Germans near Libons, to the south of the Somme river, have met with repulse at the hands of the French in an intended attack extending over about four and one-third miles. The offensive movement was preceded by a heavy bombardment and clouds of asphyxiating gases.

When the German infantry endeavored to come out of their trenches for the attack, however, the barrier fire and the fire of the French rifle men stopped them everywhere, according to Paris.

The Germans in Artois were prevented from occupying the crater of a mine by a strong counter-offensive of the French.

In Champagne the forest of the Argonne and in the entire region of Verdun, there has been much artillery activity, in which Paris claims considerable execution was accomplished by the French gunners. The Germans report additional repulses of British grenade attacks against captured positions along the Yser Canal, and also the putting down of an Entente Allied offensive along the Lens-Attras road.

SEVEN WRECKED GERMAN AIRCRAFT TOLL OF ONE DAY'S AERIAL BATTLES IN WEST

Thrilling Combats Marked Yesterday's Operations—French Airmen Prove Mastery in Air With a Fokker, a Zeppelin and an Albatross Among Their Victims.

Paris, Feb. 21, via London, Feb. 22.—12.59 a. m.—The official statement issued by the war office tonight reads as follows:

"At the end of the afternoon the German organization to the west of our trenches to the northwest responded energetically.

"To the south of the Somme, in the sector of Libons, after having directed against our lines an intense bombardment and successive emissions of suffocating gas, along a front of seven kilometers (about four and one-third miles), the enemy attempted to set out from his trenches at divers points, but was everywhere repulsed by our barrier fire and the fire of our infantry.

"In Champagne we effectively shelled the German organizations to the west of the road between St. Hilaire and St. Souplet.

"In the Argonne we directed a destructive fire on the enemy works in the neighborhood of the road from St. Hubert, and demolished several observation posts in the outskirts of the Chépuy wood.

"In the entire region of Verdun the artillery of the two sides continued to display great activity. To the south east of St. Mihiel we bombarded the German positions in the Bois D'Alilly. The Germans fired a number of shells on St. Die, one of them being killed and seven wounded.

"A Fokker at close quarters, fired fifteen shots at him. The enemy machine slipped over on its right wing, then fell.

"In the region of Epinal an Albatross machine was brought down by our artillery fire. In the region of Bures, north of the forest of Parroy, a German machine attacked by two of our machines was brought to earth in our lines. The pilot and passenger were killed.

"A squadron of seven French aeroplanes gave combat to four enemy aeroplanes in the region of Vigneulles-Les-Hattonchail. Two of the latter were forced to make a landing; the other two took to flight.

"Enemy aeroplanes have bombarded Fiemmes, Bar-Le-Duc and Revigny. Near the last mentioned place an enemy squadron composed of fifteen machines was attacked by one of our pursuing squadrons and was forced to give fight, in the course of which a German machine was brought down near Givry-En-Ardenne. The two aviators were made prisoner. One of the enemy aeroplanes was pursued into its own lines.

"One of our bombing groups, composed of seventeen machines, dropped sixty-six shells of heavy calibre on the aviation field at Habsheim and on the freight station at Mulhausen. Another group of twenty-eight machines dropped a number of projectiles on an enemy munitions factory at Fagny-Sur-Moselle. Following these different operations all our aeroplanes returned to their landing ground.

"A Zeppelin, proceeding from St. Menhoult toward the south, was shelled by a section of cannon at Revigny. Struck by an incendiary shell, the Zeppelin fell in flames in the neighborhood of Brabant-Le-Roi."

CHARLOTTE CO. MAN FROZEN TO DEATH

Found by Side of Road Badly Frozen and Died in Hospital—Had Tried to Enlist, but Medically Unfit.

Special to The Standard.
St. Stephen, Feb. 21.—A death from exposure to the intense cold of Saturday night and Sunday morning occurred this evening at Chatham Memorial Hospital, Saturday evening, Ernest McGaw with two companions left St. Stephen to drive to his home at Oak Hill, fourteen miles from here. He separated from the others at a crossroad at about ten o'clock that night, but never reached his home. In the morning his parents made enquiries concerning him and on learning that he had reached the village the night before, commenced a search for him. It was near 11 o'clock before he was found, lying beside the road in an unconscious condition. He was brought to the hospital, where it was found that both hands and both feet were badly frozen and would have to be amputated if he survived, but he never regained sufficient strength for an operation and passed away this evening. He was about twenty-five years of age and unmarried, a son of Alexander McGaw. He was troubled with asthma and subject to fainting spells and it is believed that he was overtaken by one of these when he fell at the side of the road. He had tried to enlist some time ago but had failed to pass the medical examination.

Capt. George P. Ryder, recruiting officer, has received a telegram announcing the death of his brother, Harry Ryder, in a town in Saskatchewan. He was about forty-five years of age, a chef in a large hotel and had been absent from here a number of years. The remains are being brought home for burial.

EVERY SOVEREIGN IN BRITISH MONEY HAS GOLD BEHIND IT

After 18 Months of War Britain Almost Only Open Gold Country.

MAINTAINED CREDIT DESPITE EXPENSES.

Not Desirable that Exchange on New York Should Go Higher than at Present.

London, Feb. 21.—Parliament was occupied today entirely with financial questions. Premier Asquith spoke for fifty minutes in presenting the government's motion for the new war credits. The chancellor of the exchequer, Reginald McKenna, followed with a statement regarding American exchange, which, he declared, is now as high as the British government wishes it to be.

Premier Asquith said "I feel the enormous and overwhelming responsibility in asking the house for this gigantic sum," said the premier, "and could not do so unless I was satisfied that the government had most carefully explored the ground, so that we are not asking for a penny more than the exigencies of our cause and the great historic responsibilities which we have undertaken require, and unless we are satisfied that every possible precaution is being taken to see that the taxpayers' money is not being wasted."

The chancellor of the exchequer, in an optimistic statement regarding the condition of British credit, said:

"Criticism has been made that we are not taking proper steps to maintain our credit, particularly with reference to American exchange. I merely ask the house to compare our American exchange with that of any of the other belligerents. At the present time the rate is 4.76 and the government does not wish higher than that. It is still ten cents below normal, but we do not wish it to go either up or above normal, for the simple reason that we are discouraging imports by keeping the exchange a little below par and checking the export of gold to America.

"It is an absolute marvel that after eighteen months of war we are still almost the only open gold country in the world. Our paper can be exchanged for gold at the bank. Every sovereign in paper money has gold back of it. It would never have been believed, two years ago, that British credit could stand the extraordinary test to which it has been subjected.

"Notwithstanding the gigantic expenditures we have maintained our credit. We have great resources, but must husband them with prudence. I have no doubt that a year hence I shall be able to show that our credit is still unimpaired."

Touching on the question as to whether, after the war, acceptance and discounting of German bills would be discouraged in London, the chancellor said:

"This subject must be left for the future, but I am sure that the commercial interests of the country will oppose the relinquishment of the trade of accepting and discounting bills drawn abroad which has made London the admiration and envy of all the world's great commercial cities.

During the course of the evening's debate, Sir Joseph Walton, Liberal member for the Barnsley division of Yorkshire, criticized the government for not more carefully inspecting munitions received from the United States.

"Care should be taken that we do not get bad supplies from America."

"I am informed that of twenty-eight shells recently fired by one of our howitzers at the front only four burst."

ALLIED SUBMARINE MAKES DASH TO CONSTANTINOPLE

Torpedoes Tug and Six Munitions-Laden Transports—Panic at Turkish Capital—Constantine After Conference With Gen. Serrail Says Way Paved for Better Understanding Between Greece and Allies.

London, Feb. 21.—An Allied submarine passed through the Dardanelles on Tuesday last, reached the Bosphorus and torpedoed a tug and six transports laden with munitions, according to an Athens despatch to Reuters Telegram Company. The presence of the hostile submarine caused a panic at Constantinople.

BETTER NEWS FROM GREECE.

Athens, via Paris, Feb. 21.—General Sarrail, the commander of the French forces in the Balkans, arrived here today and had an audience with King Constantine.

Immediately afterward King Constantine received the Associated Press and informed the correspondent that he was delighted with the result of the interview, which he was thoroughly confident was the first step toward clearing up the differences between Greece and the Entente Powers.

PREMIER AND HON. MR. HAZEN TAKE PICTOU GRIT TO TASK

E. M. MACDONALD TO FRONT WITH MORE RECKLESS ASSERTIONS WHICH BOTH SIR ROBERT AND MINISTER OF MARINE SHOW TO BE CONTRARY TO FACTS.

Special to The Standard.
Ottawa, Feb. 21.—An attack upon the United States, an attack upon Sir George Perley, the acting High Commissioner in London, and an effort to put the 'Longshoremen's Association' up against Hon. J. D. Hazen, all of this by E. M. Macdonald of Pictou, were the features of an otherwise dull day in the commons.

"The apathy of the United States in this war has been the wonder of the civilized world," said Mr. Macdonald, and he added that because of this the Allies should go mostly to the United States instead of to Canada.

Sir Robert Borden had no difficulty in disposing of this. He said it was true that earlier in the war orders might have been sent elsewhere which could have been placed in Canada, but he himself had sent forcible representations to the British government on the subject and he had been assured by British cabinet ministers and officials that orders in the future, wherever possible, would be placed here.

In the first part of the war there was hurry, confusion and extreme haste to get material. At the beginning the industrial resources of Canada were not as well understood as later. Now, however, he was assured that Canada would receive a preference and that an endeavor would be made to secure from the Allies all orders which could be placed in Canada on reasonable terms.

He added that Sir George Perley was in intimate and close touch with the cabinet ministers and British officials and devoted a great deal of time to this government. At the outbreak of the war, the Canadian manufacturer had not shown the same energy as the American who sent the best agents to Europe. Later the manufacturers formed an association and sent representatives to England with considerable advantage. Sir Robert said that he was informed that up to last summer there had been placed by the British government in the States orders to the extent of \$505,000,000 and in Canada \$240,000,000.

Mr. Macdonald declared that business men all over the country were complaining of the lack of proper business organization in London to look after their interests, and he said there should be a complete reorganization of the high commissioner's office. This was of course mere talk. The facts

are that Sir George Perley is one of the ablest business men in this country, and for this very reason he was asked to remain in England during the remainder of the war. The Premier said that Mr. Macdonald's remarks were entirely unwarranted.

Mr. Hazen Gives Real Facts of the Case.

"Then as to the 'longshoremen,' the member for Pictou declared that in the arrangements made by the marine department for the handling of freight at Pictou there was much dissatisfaction, but Mr. Hazen, who has the details of his department always at his finger ends, pointed out that the system now in vogue was practically the same as that for many years past under different governments. Until 1911 the loading of the government vessels was done by day labor. Since then it has been done by contract. For this winter a contract was given to W. T. Gillis, H. A. McMillan and Z. Cook. The work was the loading of the Stanley and the Prince Edward Island. They were to get 45 cents a ton for loading freight and baggage, or five cents less than the price the previous year. For loading bunker coal on the two vessels they get an average of sixty-two and a half cents, which is also a reduction of five cents per ton. Mr. Hazen said that the letter from the union was received last October, but as the union had been recently organized and there was no guarantee that it would be able to carry out the contract the department considered it better to follow the old system for this winter. If the union continued for another year and there was business of this kind to be done he would be glad to consider the matter of making a contract with the union the same as is done at Charlottetown at the present time. The operating of the new car ferry, however, might take this business away from Pictou.

Ottawa, Feb. 21.—(Via leased wire.)—Detailed information as to the revenue derived during the present fiscal year to January 31, from special taxes, stamps, patent medicines, drugs, liquors, etc., was furnished to the House during question hour today by Hon. E. L. Pateau in reply to Mr. A. K. MacLean.

From additional customs duties imposed last year \$19,466,035 was derived (Continued on page 2)

UNUSUAL ACTIVITY BY AIRMEN

Numerous fights in the air between German and French aviators have taken place. Paris reports that several of the German machines were brought down by the fire of the French airmen. Aeroplane raids have been carried out by French and British aeroplanes, notably on the German aviation field of Habsheim, at Mulhausen and on a munitions factory at Fagny-Sur-Moselle. British aircraft bombed the town of Don, southwest of Lille.

There has been little fighting on the eastern and Adro-Italian fronts. The Albanians fighting with the Tontons are reported to have reached the Adriatic Sea west of Kavaya. This would indicate that the Austro-Hungarians and their allies have completely surrounded Durazzo.

In Asia Minor the Russians are persistently following the Turks who fled from Erzerum and also are pushing their way northward from the captured fortress to the Black Sea with the purpose of establishing a base there for their warships and transports. Battles on Lake Van, has been captured by the Russians.

A Turk power station on the Ottoman front east of the Suez Canal has been blown up by a British aviator.

Amin Constantinople has been thrown into a state of consternation over the presence of an Allied submarine in the Bosphorus, according to an unofficial report. The underwater fleet is said to have torpedoed six transports laden with munitions, and one tug.

Austrian Report.

Berlin, Feb. 21, via wireless to Sayville.—The Austro-Hungarian headquarters report of Monday, as received here, says:

"Austro-Hungarian detached forces have driven the Russians from advanced positions southeast of Kozlov, on the Stripsa River. Airmen on both sides have been active.

"Balkan theatre: Albanian detachments, under the command of an Austro-Hungarian officer, have reached the Adriatic Sea west of Kavaya."

Reinforcements for Gen. Aylmer in Mesopotamia.

London, Feb. 21, 6.25 p. m.—An official report received from the British official commanding in the Mediterranean says:

"In the course of an aeroplane reconnaissance of the enemy's advanced posts east of Suez, Feb. 20, one of our aviators, descending to a height of six hundred feet, destroyed the enemy's power station at El Hassana with a 100 pound bomb."

A British official communication covering the operations in Mesopotamia, made public tonight, says:

"The general officer commanding the troops in Mesopotamia states that on the 17th and 18th of Feb., bombs were dropped by hostile aeroplanes on our camp at Kut-el-Amara. No damage was done. Otherwise there is no change in the situation.

"The despatch of reinforcements to Gen. Aylmer (who is going to the relief of Kut-el-Amara) is proceeding satisfactorily."

\$15,000 FIRE IN HALIFAX

Clarendon Hotel Almost Totally Destroyed and Schwartz Spice Factory Gutted—Old Landmark Gone.

STR. POTOMAC MAY BE SAVED

Compressed Air Method to be Used in Effort to Haul Tanker off Sandwich Ledge.

Halifax, Feb. 21.—One of the old landmarks of Halifax was almost totally destroyed by fire this afternoon when the four-story double building on Water street occupied by the Clarendon Hotel and four tenants was gutted, and the spice factory of W. H. Schwartz & Company was hard hit.

It was a spectacular blaze and had gained great headway before an alarm was rung in for the fire department. It started on the ground floor in the part recently vacated by Dresner's dry goods store. No one was occupying the rooms at the time, but it is understood some person was at work in the afternoon leaving shortly before fire, when passers by seeing the smoke broke open the door and were driven back by a burst of flames and smoke that drove clear across the street. No lives were lost although the fire spread with remarkable quickness.

Four families were rendered homeless, and were cared for by friendly neighbors. They all escaped before the smoke had become too thick to pass through, but a great deal of furniture and personal effects of the ten-

HON MR. COCHRANE ORDERED BY DOCTOR TO TAKE COMPLETE REST

Will Return to Ottawa for Conference of Premiers of the Dominions.

FT. WILLIAM CHURCH DAMAGED BY FIRE

Fort William, Ont., Feb. 21.—Fire starting from the furnace did damage estimated at \$5,000 to St. Luke's Presbyterian church Saturday night. The organ was destroyed.

Special to The Standard

Ottawa, Ont., Feb. 21.—Hon. Frank Cochrane, who went to Toronto on Thursday night to consult his doctor, has been ordered to take a complete rest. The minister of railways and canals returned a week or two ago from Europe where he had gone to see his two younger sons. He was in the front line trenches and suffered a good deal from the exposure to the inclement weather.

Since his return to Canada he has not been feeling very well and has been troubled with insomnia. He has been worrying over his boys also. He is still in Toronto and what his arrangements will be are not yet known. However, Hon. Dr. Reid will be acting minister of railways and canals in his absence.