

THE WEATHER.  
Maritime—Moderate winds, some scattered showers, but partly fair and cool.

# The St. John Standard,

NEW BRUNSWICK, CANADA.

OPERA HOUSE  
TODAY—Afternoon at 2.30.  
Evening at 7 and 9.  
GEORGE BEBAN IN  
"AN ALIEN"

VOL. VIII. NO. 49. SIXTEEN PAGES SATURDAY MORNING, MAY 20, 1916. PRICE TWO CENTS

## NO MODIFICATION OF FOOD BLOCKADE; BRITISH HAMMER TURK TOWN IN EGYPT

### EACH DAY SOME DEED OF BRAVERY ADDS TO GLORY OF CANADA'S FIGHTING SONS

Eye-Witness' Narrative of Recent Events on Canadian Front Record Further Deeds of the Kind That Have Won for Canadian Soldiers the Admiration of the World—Edmonton Battalion Wins Special Mention for Brilliant Work.

#### BOMBARDMENTS LOSE THEIR TERROR AND MONOTONY OF TRENCH LIFE FORGOTTEN BY EACH MAN IN DESIRE AND HOPE THAT HIS TURN IS COMING NEXT TO MEET THE ADVERSARY TO FACE.

Ottawa, May 19.—How the men of an Edmonton battalion withstood the bombardment of the Germans during a part of a day and well into the darkness of the evening, clinging to their smashed trenches with grim determination, and then springing out to meet the oncoming enemy infantry attack is told in this week's communique from the Canadian general representative at the front. Under Lieut. R. C. Arthur, who had the dangerous position during the dreadful fire, the detachment poured a heavy rifle and machine gun fire into the advancing Germans, accounting for all the party except two, an officer and sergeant, who managed to reach the Canadian trenches. Lieut. Arthur shot the sergeant himself, and the officer was taken prisoner. The heroic death of Lieut. "Ted" Doherty, of a Toronto battalion, is related. This plucky young officer, his leg blown off by a shell while in charge of a party holding a crater, thought only of his battalion and his men till he succumbed to his wounds. Many instances of individual heroism are recounted, also the splendid spirit of the Canadians, who ever long for a close encounter with the enemy. The communique follows:

Canadian headquarters in France, via London, May 19.—At several points in the British line the tedious monotony of siege warfare has been interrupted recently by the excitement of attack or counter-attack. Although on an insignificant scale, and directly affecting only a very small proportion of the troops in the vicinity, incidents of this nature give relief beyond belief to the nervous tension of perpetual watchfulness.

The knowledge that some fortunate unit has come into actual grips with the foe permeates all ranks. Alertness is stimulated. The dull routine of daily duties becomes more bearable. Bombardments lose their terrors, and dreary hours in the front line are enlivened by eager expectations. In the heart of every soldier the hope revives that his turn is coming next to meet his adversaries, face to face.

It is in this spirit that our Canadian troops have borne the trials and dangers of the past week.

Sure of His Endurance.

No operation of note has occurred on the front, but recollection of recent events in which they participated have combined to spur their imagination and maintain their enthusiasm at the highest level, and when the German batteries pound any section of their trenches with unusual persistence there is no other thought among our men than that this may be the precursor to a raid. Flattened against the parapet or crouching in dugout or trench, each braces himself to greet the opportunity.

Here and there an officer or non-commissioned officer moves quietly about, cautioning and encouraging. Prompt assistance is rendered to the buried. Stretcher bearers tend the wounded. Mud-beattered rifles and machine guns are cleaned and cleaned again. Throughout the ordeal content prevails, for the Canadian soldier is sure that his artillery is not idle, and that shells are crashing into the German trenches, even as into his own. It is a test of fortitude, and he prides himself on his superior endurance.

At last the bombardment ceases, or is lifted to points in the rear. The crucial moment has arrived and not a man but welcomes it. The word is passed along and instantaneously all are on the alert. More often than not disappointment is in store, the enemy remains hidden in his trenches. Only occasionally does he make good his threat and show himself.

One such instance occurred not long ago on the front of an Edmonton battalion. Starting in the afternoon an exceptionally heavy bombardment was directed on the front trenches of this unit, and in spite of the retaliation of our artillery continued for an hour or more after sunset. In several

#### STRATEGIC POINT WRESTED FROM HUNS BY LANCASHIRES

Brilliant Night Attack Drove Germans from Crest of Redoubt About Vemy Ridge, and Won Command of the Plains of Lens for British—Lancashires Made up Largely of Men from Manchester Cotton Mills.

British headquarters in France, May 19, via London, May 19.—It develops that the action of the battalions of the loyal North Lancashires and the Lancashire Fusiliers on the 15th was a stuporously brilliant attack, and gained a strategic point, the crest of the redoubt about Vemy ridge, the possession of which means the command of the plain of Lens.

Since the British took over this section from the French in the early stage of the battle of Verdun, the Germans had been holding stubbornly the heights of the higher ground, and inflicting heavy casualties on the British. After a successful explosion of mines, just after dark, the Lancashires, who are made up largely of cotton operatives from Manchester, rushed from their trenches to the lips of the craters.

Every detail in the programme of the operation, from the putting of machine guns, and machine gunners, bringing up sandbags with which to build new breastworks, and defending the position by means of bombs, was carried out successfully. Morning found the Lancashires thoroughly entrenched against a retaliatory German bombardment and had connected their old line by communications six feet deep. Slight casualties were the cost of the night's success. The value of the ground gained is not to be judged by the 360 yards of front taken, but by the fact that the Lancashires are no longer on the downside of the slope, with the Germans above them.

#### TWO CANADIANS WIN THE D.C.M.

For Rescuing Wounded Comrades Under Fire—C. M. G. Awarded to Three Members of Army Medical Corps.

Special to The Standard.  
Ottawa, May 19.—A cable despatch states that the distinguished conduct medal has been awarded to two Canadians as follows: 407686, Private E. D. Schawan, 19th Canadian Infantry Battalion, for conspicuous gallantry, when with a wing party he returned to fetch a stretcher for a wounded comrade, and with assistance brought him in. He was under heavy machine gun fire at the time. 6641, Company Sergeant Major R. Whitfield, 1st Canadian Infantry Battalion, for conspicuous gallantry. A post in rear of the line having been severely shelled, he made his way up under heavy shell fire. When the post was evacuated he returned to rescue two machine gunners who had been buried whose cries for help he had heard. He showed throughout absolute disregard for personal safety.

The following members of the Canadian Army Medical Corps have also been awarded the C. M. G.: Lieut. Col. Frederick Etherington, Lt. Col. Samuel Hanford McKee, Major Evans Greenwood Davis.

#### WILL SUCCEED CAPT. THOMPSON

Ottawa, May 19.—Sir J. A. Hutchinson, K. C., of Brockville has been selected by Sir Charles Davidson to succeed Mr. John Thompson as counsel to the commission on the purchase of war supplies. The Liborals will be represented by Mr. H. S. Dewar, K. C., of Toronto. The commission meets next Monday afternoon to resume the inquiry into the sales of small arms ammunition.

#### OVER 18,000 TROOPS ARE ON LEAVE TO DO SPRING FARM WORK

Ottawa, May 19.—According to a memorandum from the Militia Department, 18,500 men of the troops now in training in Canada are on leave of absence to help in the spring seeding and ploughing. Of these 5,771 are from Ontario, 2,285 from the Maritime Provinces, 5,445 from Manitoba and Saskatchewan, 4,500 from Alberta, 3,915 from British Columbia and only 30 from Quebec. A further memorandum in regard to the services of the Canadian Army Dental Service, showing that this service now has an organization of about 1,000 men. It is declared that 5,000 of the troops at the front owe their presence now in continued active service to the treatment given to the dental corps and that about 10 per cent. of all the men on active service are constantly subject to dental treatment.

#### NO EASING UP OF ECONOMIC PRESSURE ON CENTRAL POWERS

NOT SMALLEST POSSIBILITY OF FOOD BLOCKADE BEING MODIFIED AS GERMANY SUGGESTS, LORD ROBERT CECIL DECLARES.

London, May 19.—Replying to the German suggestion that Great Britain, in response to the change in the German submarine campaign, should modify the food blockade, Lord Robert Cecil, Minister of War Trade, informed the Associated Press today there was not the remotest possibility that British economic pressure on the Central Powers would be relaxed. He said: "We maintain that the blockade is fully legal under international law. Its reprisal character is merely incidental, called forth by German use of submarines, but the rigid enforcement of the blockade is merely an extension of our rights which we had hitherto found it expedient to use."

#### EXECUTION OF LYNCH HAS BEEN STAYED

American Implicated in Irish Rebellion will Not be Shot Until Further Investigation is Made.

Washington, May 19.—Ambassador Page, at London, cabled the state department tonight that the sentence of Jeremiah C. Lynch, the naturalized American convicted of complicity in the Dublin uprising, had not been confirmed, but that, in accordance with instructions from Secretary Lansing, the British government had been asked to suspend the infliction of any punishment pending an investigation.

#### PRICES WENT UP 3 POINTS LAST MONTH

Dairy Products and Flour, However, Came Down in Price but Meats Show a Slight Advance.

Special to The Standard.  
Ottawa, May 19.—The index number of the Labor Department showing the average price level for the Dominion is up nearly three points more for the past month and now stands at 179.1 as against 185 for April, 1914, before the outbreak of war. This is an increase of 32 per cent. The cost of living, however, has not increased to that extent. The average increase of 29 articles of food for the same period has been only eleven per cent.

The chemicals, metals, textiles, etc. The report for the last month shows dairy products lower but iron and steel and certain other metals are still advancing. Grain and fodder are slightly higher, also animals and meats, while hogs are considerably higher. There was a steep rise in sugar, but flour is lower. There were slight advances also in beef, veal, mutton, pork, bacon, lard, old cheese, rice, beans and potatoes, milk, bread, flour and rolled oats are the only articles that do not show some advance since 12 months ago.

#### TEAMSTERS WANTED FOR SERVICE OF THE EMPIRE

The 4th Divisional Train, under Lieut. Col. Dean, being recruited at Halifax, requires about 35 teamsters—men who understand handling horses. Men applying for this position can be taken on at different recruiting stations throughout the province.

#### ARTILLERY STRUGGLE AT VERDUN CONTINUES

Germans Make no Further Infantry Attacks from Newly Won Positions—Italians Suffer Temporary Setback—Allied Airmen Raid on Enemy Positions.

Under the heavy pounding of the Austrian artillery, Italian forces have been compelled to withdraw from positions of their lines in the region of Trent, which had been bombarded for three days. An official communication from Rome admits the evacuation of the Zegnatorta position, in the Lagarina Valley south of Trent, and also the line between the Terragnola Valley and the Upper Astico, from Monte Maggio to Sagliodaspio.

The Italians, however, have occupied further Austrian positions in the Adamello zone, capturing prisoners, material and provisions.

During the day the Germans made no infantry attacks from their newly won positions on the left bank of the Meuse, in the Verdun region, according to Paris. The artillery struggle, however, continues most violent on the front of the Avocourt woods, Hill 304 and Le Mort Homme. The artillery action has not been so great on the right bank of the Meuse and in the Woerre. Aeroplane bombing expeditions continue on both sides. The Russian advance in the Caucasus theatre is meeting with more active opposition from the Turks. Constantinople claims that attacks by the Russians in the regions of Skilis and Balbut were repulsed. Petrograd reports only "insignificant encounters" along the eastern front.

Lord Robert Cecil, British minister of war trade, informs the Associated Press that an agreement has been reached between Great Britain and Sweden, and that the tension between the two countries over the shipping question and the seizure of mails has lessened.

The Entente Allied submarine campaign against German shipping in the Baltic Sea continues, the sinking of the German steamer Tarve by an underwater boat being announced from Stockholm. All the passengers and crew of the French coasting steamer Mira were lost when that vessel was torpedoed and sunk in the Mediterranean, May 16, according to a Marselles despatch.

The sentence of Jeremiah C. Lynch of New York, convicted of complicity in the Dublin uprising, has not been confirmed, according to advices received by the state department at Washington from Ambassador Page in London.

Paris, May 19.—The war office communication, issued this evening, says: "On the left bank of the Meuse the artillery struggle continues very violent on the front of the Avocourt wood Hill 304, and in the region of Le Mort Homme. The enemy made no attempt to attack in the course of the day. On the right bank of the Meuse and in the Woerre the artillery has been moderately active. The day has been comparatively quiet on the rest of the front, except in Champagne and the Vosges, where our artillery has been especially active."

"During the night of May 18-19 our aviators made many bombarding expeditions. The aerodrome at Morhange, the stations at Metz-Sablons, Arnaville, Birtulles, Stonay, Sedan and Elain and Mvrouas at Montfaucon and Azannes received numerous projectiles."

Belgian communication: "Great artillery activity has prevailed, especially in the region of Dixmude, where our guns of every calibre carried out a destructive fire on the German defensive organizations."

German Detachment Cut Off.  
Petrograd, via London, May 19.—The following official communication was issued today: "Near Mentsendorf there has been an artillery duel, during which our fire caused an explosion in an enemy battery."

"Northwest of Kremenez (south of Rovno) our sappers discovered an Austrian mine gallery and made a sudden irruption into it. The enemy, surprised, fled, abandoning all material. An attempt to re-capture the gallery was repulsed by our grenades."

"In Galacia, north of Toporoutz, our scouts cut off an enemy detachment from their trenches and destroyed them."

"In the Caucasus region there have been only insignificant encounters along the whole front."

British Ships and Airmen Bomb El Arish.

London, May 19.—British warships

Italy Admits Losses.  
Rome, via London, May 19.—The Italian official communication issued here today admits the evacuation by the Italians of Zegnatorta (in the Lagarina Valley south of Trent) and also of the line from Monte Maggio to Sagliodaspio, between the Terragnola Valley and the Upper Astico (south-east of Trent) following several days of violent artillery bombardments. The communication says: "In the Adamello zone we occupied the head of the Upper Sarca and the adjacent heights, capturing thirty prisoners and rich booty in materials and provisions. Between the Chies and the Adige there has been an intense artillery action."

"In the zone of Asiago there is nothing of importance to report."

"In the Sugana Valley, after an intense artillery fire during the whole night of the 17th, the enemy at dawn attacked our positions from the Maggio Valley to Monte Colo, but was everywhere repulsed."

Crew Picked Up.  
London, May 19.—A dispatch from Hull to Lloyd's says that the motor fishing boat Osprey has been sunk by the gunfire of a German submarine. The crew was picked up.

Passengers and Crew All Perished.  
Marselles, France, May 19, 5.55 p. m.—None of the passengers or crew of the French coasting steamer Mira were saved when she was sunk as a result of a torpedo attack in the Mediterranean on May 16.

Sinking of the steamer Mira was announced by Lloyd's in London on Thursday, but no details of the disaster were given. She was a vessel of 3,050 tons, owned in Marselles.

Tralles, Ireland, May 19, via London, 3.2 p. m.—John Goodwin, a pilot, is under arrest here. It is believed his case is connected with the landing of Sir Roger Casement.