

The John Standard

VOL. VIII. NO. 200

TEN PAGES

THURSDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 16, 1916.

WEATHER—FAIR

PRICE TWO CENTS

BRITISH AND GERMANS MAKE FURTHER GAINS IN FRANCE

VIOLENT COMBATS IN NORTH FRANCE

British Further Advance Their Front North of Ancre River, Although Huns Make Gains on North and South on Somme. --- Austro-Germans Successful Against Russians and Roumanians. --- Bombs Drop on Royal Palace at Bucharest.

ROUMANIANS CAPTURE TOWN OF BOASIC ON THE DANUBE IN DOBRUDJA—RUSSIANS WIN IN NARAYUKA RIVER REGION—ITALIANS MEET SLIGHT REVERSE EAST OF GORIZIA.

While the British were further advancing their front north of the Ancre river, or consolidating their newly won positions, the French and Germans have been engaged in violent combats both north and south of the Somme. In both regions the Germans made gains—in the northern corner and western outskirts of the St. Pierre Vaast Wood, north of the river, and in the eastern part of the village of Pressoirs, south of the stream. The French official communication in admitting the loss of this ground, says the Germans obtained only limited advantages at the price of very heavy losses. In the north the German attacks extended from Lesboeufts to the south of Bouchavesnes, a front of five miles and south of the Somme front of Ablaincourt to the Chaules Wood, about three miles. The attacks were launched after violent artillery bombardment.

British Losses Not Great.

Berlin, in reverting to the British attack which gave them the town of Beaucourt, says that except at Beaucourt all the British attacks broke down with heavy casualties. According to London 5,678 Germans have been made prisoners on the Ancre front since Monday. The British losses, considering the extent of the gains, are declared not to have been high. The Transylvania front, aside from the line in France, is furnishing the most sanguinary engagement. Here almost everywhere the Austro-Germans are gaining ground against the Roumanians and Russians. In the Targu-Jiu and Jiu valleys the Teutonic Allies have forced their antagonists still further back.

Roumanians Win Here.

In the Dobrudja region Bucharest reports the occupation by the Roumanians of the town of Boasio on the Danube. The Royal Palace in Bucharest has been bombed by Teutonic Allied aircraft. The Queen and the Royal Princesses were not in the building at the time.

Berlin admits that on the Cerna river bend in Serbia the Entente Allies have captured some heights, and that in the valley the Teutonic Allied force has been drawn back by the pressure on its flanks.

According to Petrograd in Galicia the Russians have driven the Austro-Germans from former Russian trenches in the Narayukva river region. Berlin asserts, however, that attacks by the Russians in this vicinity were repulsed.

East of Gorizia the Austrians, by a heavy bombardment, have compelled the Italians to give up some of their trenches. On the Carso front the Italians have made advances at several points.

London, Nov. 15.—The bulletin from general headquarters issued tonight reads:

"During the day we further advanced our front north of the Ancre."

"The prisoners taken since Monday morning have reached a total of 5,678. The troops employed have shown conspicuous skill, dash and fortitude. Our success was not won without a hard struggle, as the enemy resisted strongly, and as conditions of the ground greatly increased the difficulty of attack. Our losses, considering the extent of our gains, have not been high. One division advanced a mile and took over a thousand prisoners at the expense of 450 casualties."

"South of the Ancre we established the positions won yesterday east of Butte De Watencourt. The enemy, massing at one point, for a counter-attack, was dispersed by our artillery fire."

"Yesterday our airplanes did much useful work. Last night they made successful bombing attacks on an enemy aerodrome, railway lines, stations and rolling stock."

German Verdict.

Berlin, Nov. 15, via London, Nov. 15.—An official statement issued this evening reads:

"Western theatre: British attacks have been carried out on both sides of the Ancre; on the southern bank they are already shattered. Fighting is proceeding near Sully-Sallisset and Pressoirs."

"Transylvania: Some progress has been made on the southern front."

Germans Lose Heavily.

Paris, Nov. 15.—Strong German forces attacked the French today north and south of the Somme river, but, according to the bulletin issued by the war office tonight, were able to gain only limited advantages, at the cost of heavy losses. The Germans gained a footing in the French advanced positions in the northern corner and western outskirts of St. Pierre Vaast Wood.

"They also made some progress in the eastern section of the village of Pressoirs. The statement reads:

"On the Somme front the battle continues with violence the whole day. The enemy made a strong effort with considerable effectiveness at the same time north and south of the river. The resistance of our troops held back the assaults of their adversaries, who were able to obtain only limited advantages, at the price of very heavy losses."

"North of the Somme an attack was launched, after an intense bombardment, against our positions from Lesboeufts to the south of Bouchavesnes. The enemy succeeded in gaining a foothold in our advanced elements in the northern corner and western outskirts of St. Pierre Vaast Wood. Everywhere else our machine guns and barrage fire checked the attempts of the enemy."

Germans Repulsed.

"South of the river the Germans renewed their attacks in the course of the afternoon on the front of Ablaincourt and the Chaules Wood. The struggle, carried on with obstinacy, ended in the repulse of the Germans, who were obliged to return to their trenches after sanguinary losses, except in the eastern part of the village of Pressoirs, where they were able to make progress."

"There was an intermittent cannonade on the rest of the front."

"Belgian communication: After a raid on the German trenches at Dixmude prisoners were brought back to our lines. In the course of the day there was considerable artillery activity on the whole front of the Belgian army."

"Army of the east: After a brief period of quiet fighting was resumed with stubbornness in the region of the Cerna river. The Serbian offensive developed on Nov. 13 and 14, and brought to our allies a new success. The Germano-Bulgarians fell back in the neighborhood of Hill 1212, north-east of Iven, closely pressed by the Serbian forces, who occupied the village."

Continued on page two.

WIRELESS FROM U. S. TO JAPAN

Inauguration of Important Service—Will Handle No Messages Detrimental to Neutrality.

Washington, Nov. 15.—The opening of direct trans-Pacific wireless service between the United States and Japan, through the Marconi Company, was signaled today with the following message from President Wilson:

"To His Imperial Majesty, the Emperor of Japan, at Tokio: The government and people of the United States of America send greetings to Your Imperial Majesty and to the people of Japan, and rejoice in this triumph of science, which enables the voice of America, from the far west, to cross the silent spaces of the world and speak to Japan, in the far east, hailing the dawn of a new day. May this wonderful event confirm the unbroken friendship of our two nations, and give assurance of a never-ending interchange of messages of goodwill. May the day soon come when the voice of peace, carried by these silent messengers, shall go into all the world, and its words to the end of the world."

"WOODROW WILSON."

Message From Japan.

The Associated Press has received from Baron Kenjiro Den, the Japanese minister of communications the following message:

"Baron Kenjiro Den, minister of communications, in behalf of the Japanese government to the Associated Press: Will you say to the people of America it is a matter of mutual congratulations that our countries have just been linked together by another chain of communication which promises far-reaching results as an avenue of amity, commerce and civilization between the east and the west. It is an added demonstration of the fact that the east and the west, far from being an irreconcilable twin, have already met, and daily are becoming merged in a life of common humanity."

The Japanese press hails its accomplishment as a new epoch in the opening of Japan to the outside world.

The Japanese official gazette stipulates that the station will handle no messages detrimental to the maintenance of neutrality.

MUTINY ON VESSEL BOUND FOR YARMOUTH

Boston, Nov. 15.—Unable to work his vessel, the Canadian three-masted schooner M. J. Taylor, Capt. Duke-shire, has anchored his craft in Boston harbor and has laid charges of mutiny against half of his crew. The Taylor is bound from Perth Amboy for Yarmouth, N. S., with coal.

BENNY LEONARD DEFEATS DUNDEE

Philadelphia, Nov. 15.—Benny Leonard of New York, by superior ring generalship, gained the popular decision over Johnny Dundee of the same city in a six-round bout here tonight. Leonard weighed 138 and Dundee 142½ pounds.

British Government Decides To Expedite Shipbuilding Work

Engineering Resources to be Pooled to this End—Will Prevent Undue Profit on Potatoes and Curtail use of Sugar—Control of Flour by Government—Other Important Announcements.

London, Nov. 15.—Walter Runciman, president of the Board of Trade, today announced that the government intended to bring about the pooling of engineering resources, in order to expedite shipbuilding. Measures would be taken, he said, to prevent growers making an undue profit on potatoes.

Mr. Runciman also foreshadowed drastic government action to prevent the use of sugar as a luxury. Mr. Runciman, who made these announcements in an address in the House of Commons, added that steps would be taken to control imported flour, and that orders would be issued forthwith calling for milk contracts, in order to limit the price.

Food Supply a War Problem.

Mr. Runciman, in opening his speech admitted that the time had arrived when the government must regard the question of food supplies as a war problem, declaring that the strain the country would have to bear next year would be mainly in connection with the food supply. He was only able to express the bare and certain hope that however tragic it might be the strain was still more severe in Germany and Austria.

Dealing with the wheat question Mr. Runciman said the government had taken full advantage of the abundant harvests of Canada and Australia, which had been augmented by an enormous production in the United States, but that next year the country would have to depend, to a large extent, on Australia. Arrangements with Australia, he added, were rather a question of stimulating not production but transport.

Tonnage Requisitioned.

Already a large block of tonnage had been requisitioned and was on its way to Australia, Mr. Runciman continued. The transport difficulty had been enhanced by the need of coming to the assistance of France and Italy, but the government had taken the right step in regarding that the whole of the Entente Allied wheat shipment should be dealt with by one requisitioned fleet. He emphasized the importance of transport, and the absolute necessity of shipping being regarded as serving the national interests when it was conveying food to the Kingdom. Mr. Runciman also referred to the constant difficulty and anxiety of satisfying, in this respect, the conflicting interests of the naval and the merchant service, especially considering the fact that Great Britain was called upon to provide not only for its own needs but those of her Allies. He said he saw no reason why at the end of this year the production of shipping for the preceding six months should not reach 500,000 tons.

Announcing that he was making arrangements for a pooling of engineering effort on the Tyne and elsewhere, Mr. Runciman said the government must "make the plunge" in this matter, for the provision of more merchant ships was most urgently needed.

Announcing the intention of the government to prevent growers from making undue profits from the sale of potatoes, he said the question of dispensing with some articles of food was under consideration, and in this connection he mentioned elaborate confectionery, concerning which a committee of the Royal Society had been advising the Board of Trade.

LORD BERESFORD SAYS GRAVE CRISIS CONFRONTS BRITAIN

Admiral Charges that Present Government is "Most Autocratic Since Time of Pharaoh—He and Baron Sydenham Demand More Vigorous Policy Regarding German Submarines.

London, Nov. 15.—The matter of the destruction of British shipping by German submarines came up in the House of Lords this afternoon.

Baron Sydenham invited the government to make a declaration in the nature of a "ton-for-ton" policy, in behalf of Great Britain and her Allies, as a reply to the monstrous proceedings of the German submarines. He declared that there was an uneasy feeling in this country that the submarine menace was more serious than the authorities were willing to admit.

Admiral Lord Beresford said that Great Britain had arrived at a serious crisis, calling for energy and foresight. It was time for plain speaking, because the House of Commons and the newspapers had been muzzled by the most autocratic government since the time of Pharaoh.

"Had the blockade been properly enforced from the first," he asserted, "we should not have been faced by this submarine menace."

The Marquis of Crewe, Lord President of the Council, replied for the government, said it was useless to make such declarations as Lord Sydenham and Beresford demanded, without the power to enforce them. The only voices which could speak with influence now were the voices of the cannon on the various fronts.

"It is useless," said the Marquis of Crewe, "to threaten to exact particular reparations in the terms of peace until we are able to impose those terms by obtaining complete victory."

The Admiralty, continued the Lord President, had been singularly successful in the destruction of enemy submarines but the difficulties in dealing with this menace had increased.

The Earl of Lytton, civil lord of the Admiralty, having denied that the fleet had departed from its traditional policy of seeking out and destroying the enemy, the subject was dropped.

SIR ROBERT BORDEN LEAVES FOR GOTHAM

Sir Thomas Esmonde Calls on Prime Minister, Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Papal Allegate

Special to The Standard. Ottawa, Nov. 15.—Sir Robert Borden left this afternoon for New York where he will address the Lawyers' Club of that city. The prime minister will return to Ottawa on Tuesday.

Sir Thomas Esmonde, Bart, Nationalist member of the Imperial parliament, is in the capital. Accompanied by Hon. C. J. Doherty he called upon Sir Robert Borden, Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Monsignor Stagal, the Papal Allegate. Sir Thomas has been visiting St. John, Moncton and Shediac, N. B.

INCREASE IN PRICE OF ENGLISH FOODSTUFFS.

London, Nov. 15.—The retail prices of foodstuffs, compared with a year ago, have increased on an average of 27 per cent, says the report of the board of trade. They have increased 78 per cent over prices before the war. The prices of sugar, eggs, fish and potatoes, however, are more than double the pre-war prices.

SIR SAM CHEERFUL AS HE SAYS GOOD BYE

Packs Up Belongings at Militia Department and Hands Key to Sir Robert Borden.—Steps Out of Khaki.

IN ADDRESS TO MEMBERS OF HEADQUARTERS STAFF FORMER MINISTER OF MILITIA AND DEFENCE SAYS HE DELIBERATELY FORCED THE ISSUE.

Special to The Standard.

Ottawa, Nov. 15.—General Sir Sam Hughes finally packed up his belongings today, vacated his offices in the militia department and handed over his keys of office to Sir Robert Borden. He has doffed his khaki and is now a private citizen. His daughter, Mrs. Green, who is at Lindsay, has a birthday on Friday and he will spend the day with her. He will return to Ottawa for Saturday to present the colors of the 20th Ottawa Battalion which leaves shortly for overseas.

Addresses Staff.

Before his departure from the department General Hughes addressed the members of the headquarters staff in his office. General Hughes said: "As you are aware I am severing connections with the department of militia and defence over which I have had the honor to preside for upwards of five years. These years, especially the last two, will be memorable in history. Canada has nobly played her part."

"To you, ladies and gentlemen, I desire to express my high appreciation of your capability and fidelity to me and the great cause."

"The work accomplished will go down in history as unparalleled in its magnitude, its efficiency, its freedom from serious defects and in its results, as displayed by our citizen soldiers under the most terrible conditions of any war."

"If at times, in my recognition of the needs of the department, urgency of energy and of action the feelings of any of you have been ruffled, permit me to express regret therefor. In cases such as this the individual should always come second to the cause."

Forced the Issue.

"The reason of my retirement does not concern this occasion. Suffice it to say that the interferences with the conditions imposed on the administration of this department seemed to me a reflection not only on myself but on my officers, and I therefore deliberately forced the issue."

Let me hope no one of you can feel that I have ever asked you to do anything that was not the soul of honor. We have had but one desire, the success of our great cause. And to you, ladies and gentlemen, I wish publicly to acknowledge the deep debt owed for your splendid share in its success."

Gen. Fliset Replies.

General Fliset on behalf of the staff replied:

"I am sure I am expressing the feeling of all your staff when I say it is with deep regret that we find you have chosen to sever your connection with the department of militia and defence, and resign your portfolio."

"Few men could cope with the tremendous task, which the war has imposed on you, in such a masterful manner. You have done the work of ten for the last two years. Your wonderful energy has been a source of inspiration for all of us and if Canada has succeeded in raising such a force it is, we recognize, entirely due to your ability, energy and driving power. We feel extremely sorry to say goodbye to you. I wish you, in the name of all your officers and officials, Godspeed and good luck."

The political situation surrounding the dismissal of Gen. Hughes is slimming back to normal. F. B. McCurdy, parliamentary secretary of the department, with the premier, will run the Canadian war office until a minister is named.

"Cheer up! Don't look so sad; there's nothing to worry about," Sir Sam said to a group of friends who attempted to console him.

No Surprise in England.

London, Nov. 15.—(Montreal Gazette cable)—The resignation of Sir Sam Hughes was displayed prominently in the London newspapers, but there has been little comment. The Standard, however, makes bold enough to speculate on his successor. The new minister will be F. B. McCurdy or R. B. Bennett, the Standard surmises. The Standard says there has been no surprise on either side of the water over the resignation.

PORT ELGIN MAN AMONG WOUNDED

Only Name of One New Brunswick Soldier Appears on Night Casualty List.

Ottawa, Nov. 15.—Casualty list: Infantry

Died of Wounds—P. E. I. Previously Reported Prisoner of War, now Escaped. Proceeding to England—L. A. Higgs, Nappan, N. S. Seriously Ill—E. V. Prime, Freeport, N. S. Wounded—A. L. Lowther, Port Elgin, N. B. Lance Corporal F. L. Mills, 41 Park street, Amherst, N. S. Mounted Rifles. Killed in Action—Acting Corporal A. E. McKinlay, Halifax, N. S. Engineers. Dangerously Ill—Sapper Rannie McDonald, Springhill, N. S. Infantry. Wounded—Max Mills, Londonderry, N. S.

BABY KILLERS SLAUGHTER 32 AND HURT 58

Austrian Aviator Drops Bombs Over Ancient City of Padua, Italy.

Paris, Nov. 15.—A despatch to the Havas Agency from Padua, Italy, says the total number of persons killed or wounded by a single bomb dropped by an Austrian aviator Saturday night aggregated ninety, of whom 32 were killed. The despatch adds that all the persons were non-combatants, and that most of them were women and children.

The Austrian official communication on Sunday said that on Saturday night Austrian aeroplanes attacked Padua, and dropped heavy bombs, making direct hits on the military headquarters building, the railway station and the infantry barracks.

KING GEORGE RECEIVES J. P. MORGAN IN AUDIENCE.

London, Nov. 15.—King George today received J. P. Morgan in audience at Buckingham Palace.