

THE WEATHER.
Maritime—Strong winds and
gales east and south with snow,
turning in some localities to rain.

The St. John Standard,

NEW BRUNSWICK, CANADA.

OPERA HOUSE
TODAY
at 2.30, 7 and 9
"THE DRUG TERROR"

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VILLAGE OF FORGES FALLS TO GERMANS IN STRONG INFANTRY ATTACK; FIGHT COMING IN NORTH SEA SOON?

HUNS TRY TO DEBOUCH FROM FORGES BUT DRIVEN BACK AND HELD THERE BY FRENCH GUNS

French Also Drive Germans
from Trench they had Taken
—Jets of Liquid Flame Accompany
Attack on French
Positions in Champagne.

Further advances by the Germans in the Verdun region and in Champagne are told in the western French official communication, which, however, also records successes in repelling a German attempt to debouch further from a captured position, the driving of the Teutons out of a trench they had taken, and the hammering with their big guns of German organization.

After having vigorously shelled the region between Bethancourt and the Meuse, the Germans, in a strong infantry attack, captured the village of Forges, about nine miles northwest of Verdun. Not satisfied with the gain, they several times essayed to debouch from the village against the Cote de L'Or, but the French in counter-attacks, forced them back in the village and held them there.

In Champagne the right and left flanks of the French were attacked by the Germans in the region between Mont Tatu and Malson de Champagne. At the former point the French kept the Germans to their trenches in the Bois de Champagne. They succeeded in occupying a small section of a French trench.

In the Argonne the French blew up near Courtes Chaussees a German post with a mine, and captured a portion of the crater. Near Haute Chavauchee the Germans sprung two mines, and later entered the French trenches at several points. Counter-attacks, however, drove them out, and the French also occupied a portion of the mine crater.

Except for the infantry attacks at Forges, the guns on both sides in the Verdun region have been doing all the work. To the southwest of Metz, near Pont-A-Mousson, the French artillery has heavily damaged German positions.

The French Report.
Paris, March 6 (10.52 p. m.)—The following official statement was issued by the war office tonight:

"In Champagne the Germans delivered an attack, accompanied by jets of liquid flame, on our positions between Mont Tatu and Malson de Champagne. We succeeded in penetrating to our barrier fire, was not able to set out from his trenches. To the left, in the region of Malson de Champagne, he succeeded in penetrating to a small advanced section.

"In the Argonne we exploded, in the region of Courtes Chaussees, a mine which destroyed a German post and opened a vast crater, the southern edge of which we organized.

"Between Haute Chavauchee and Hill 285, after having exploded two mines, the enemy, by reason of the explosions, was able to gain a foothold at several points in our first line. An engagement ensued, in the course of which we drove our adversaries out of our trenches, and we occupied one side of the crater. Our artillery has been very active in the whole of this sector.

"West of the Meuse, after a violent bombardment, which lasted the whole morning on the front between Bethancourt and the Meuse, the Germans launched a strong attack against Forges, situated on our advanced line. In the course of a very lively struggle they succeeded in taking possession of the village. Several attempts to debouch on Cote de L'Or were checked by our counter-attacks, which drove the enemy back into Forges.

"East of the Meuse there has been an intermittent artillery action.

"In the West an intense bombardment has occurred in the region of Fresnes, but was not followed by any infantry attack. West of Point-A-Mousson our artillery caused heavy damage to the German organizations in the Bois du Jarry."

The Belgium communication reads: "There has been the usual artillery action on the Belgian front. Our batteries south of Dixmude silenced German bomb-throwers."

Dutch Steamer Attacked.
Amsterdam, via London, March 7, 11.2 a. m.—The Dutch steamer Bandoeng was attacked by a submarine without warning, while in the Mediterranean on its journey home from India, according to the Nieuwe Rot-

800 AUSTRIAN SOLDIERS DEAD OR WOUNDED IN AIR RAID BY ITALIANS

Were in Barracks at Laibach—Austrian Report of the Raid Referred to it as a "Lamentable Failure."

Geneva, March 6, via Paris.—Eight hundred Austrian soldiers in barracks were killed or wounded in the raid made by Italian aeroplanes Feb. 19 on the city of Laibach, according to information received here today.

Two high officers of the staff of Archduke Eugene, commander-in-chief of the Austrian forces operating against Italy, are said to have been killed. One of the Italian aeroplanes was destroyed.

Laibach is a city about forty-five miles east of Gorizia and has a population of about thirty thousand. It has been stated that it is the headquarters of the Austrian army operating against the Italians.

An official report of the raid given out in Rome said that it was in retaliation for numerous violations of international law by the Austrians. It was added that the raiding squadron had dropped several dozens of grenades and bombs on the city.

An Austrian official statement, referring to the same raid, said that it was "a lamentable failure."

D. A. MORRISON OF AMHERST GOING WITH 219TH

Has Accepted Position of Quartermaster—Went Through Boer War and was in Fight at Paardeberg.

Special to The Standard
Amherst, N. S., Mar. 6.—D. A. Morrison, the well known wholesale grocer, has accepted a position of quartermaster in the 219th Regt. which is now being recruited.

The offer came unsought and unasked for on the part of Mr. Morrison and was tendered to him by Major Phinney, who is at present officer commanding that regiment. Mr. Morrison has had a long military training. He was for a number of years associated with the 62nd Battalion in St. John and held the position of captain in that regiment. At the outbreak of the South African war Mr. Morrison volunteered as a private and went to South Africa with the first contingent, taking part in the battle of Paardeberg and in many other engagements. He was then, the representative of Baird & Peters, St. John, throughout a part of the Maritime Provinces and was one of the best known travellers on the road.

His acceptance of the position of quartermaster with the 219th Regiment will be a decided sacrifice for him, but Mr. Morrison belongs to fighting stock and when the call of duty came to him he decided to enlist at once.

His son, Sergt. George Morrison, who went to the front with the 62nd C. M. R. and was wounded some months ago, is at present in a convalescent hospital in Great Britain where his mother, Mrs. Morrison, is now visiting him. The business of Morrison's Limited will be conducted during his absence under the guidance of the secretary-treasurer, Mr. Newton Rogers, assisted by Mr. Morrison's partners in St. John and Halifax.

Mr. Morrison during his residence in Amherst has taken a very deep interest in all matters pertaining to civic affairs and also took a keen interest in the campaign for raising ten thousand dollars for the Patriotic Fund.

terpansche Courant. The Bandoeng escaped with slight damage to its lifeboats and arrived at Rotterdam on Sunday.

WILL TRAIN WOMEN FOR FARM WORK

British Government to Employ Instructors so that Men Can be Released for Service in the Army.

London, March 6.—"Britons are coming slowly to a realization of the country's needs," declared Walter Hume Long, president of the Local Government Board, in addressing the inaugural of the Women's National Land Service Corps, which intends to undertake agriculture work during the absence of the men at the front, or in the government employ, of the British Isles.

Mr. Long declared that the government required co-operation of all classes, and heartily approved of the women's movement, which he said meant that women would now take even a larger share in the defense of the country.

"We want soldiers," said Mr. Long. "The government means to have sufficient soldiers, and we are getting them. But we also want to keep the land cultivated and obtain a maximum output, so that we may assist our overseas trade and our Imperial position. There is a wide field open for women's activities. Women have proved themselves capable of work, which, before the war they were thought unfitted to perform, and it is the farmers' patriotic duty not to employ a single man who can be spared now to take even a larger share in the defense of the country."

"The government has announced its intention to employ a corps for the purpose of training women in agricultural pursuits."

ENDS VOYAGE OF 4,000 MILES BY GROUNDING

Special to The Standard.
Halifax, March 6.—After a four thousand mile voyage the topsail schooner Lauretta Frances, Capt. Sponage, came into Halifax harbor and ran aground on Point Pleasant beach yesterday afternoon. She was hauled off by a tugboat and in swinging free struck another boulder and stove a hole in her bottom. She was towed into John Jones & Whitman's wharf and the pumps are being kept steadily at work to keep her afloat.

The Lauretta Frances sailed from Burin; four months ago for Malacca and passed through a nest of submarines when entering the Straits of Gibraltar. She had a cargo of salt and is only twenty-eight days from Panama, Spain. The trip to Bermuda occupied seventeen days, but the run up the coast was the worst in the experience of Captain Sponage.

NAVAL FIGHT SOON IN THE NORTH SEA?

State of Expectancy Heightened by Despatches from Scandinavia Predicting Sea Battle.

London, Mar. 6.—Certain somewhat vague but persistent rumors which have been circulated here for several days, by word of mouth, regarding the North Sea war zone have created a state of expectancy among Londoners. This expectancy has been heightened by despatches received from Scandinavia today predicting that a battle between British and Russian and German warships is not far distant.

Russian torpedo boats are reported to have been seen near the island of Oland, Sweden, in the Baltic Sea, and a half dozen German submarines have been observed off Oxelund, in the Baltic, to the south of Stockholm.

The general opinion in Scandinavia is said to be that Great Britain and Russia will intercept German sailings to Sweden as soon as the ice has melted. The ice already has partly broken up, and thus rendered it easy for foraging. Naval experts have expressed the opinion that the Russian fleet, which the Germans are preparing to venture out, and that important events are pending. As to whether the British officials believe this, obviously nothing is known.

CREW OF ABANDONED NEW YORK SCHOONER CORA A. RESCUED

Special to The Standard.
Halifax, N. S., March 6th.—A message from Cape Race received by the agent for the marine and fisheries last night tells vaguely of the abandonment of the New York schooner Cora A., and the rescue of the crew by a British steamer, the name of which was not given. The message was as follows: "British steamer reports picked up crew of schooner Cora A., of New York. Latitude 36, 42, long. 57, 18. Derelict of abandoned schooner is dangerous to navigation."

There is a New York schooner Cora A., of something over three thousand tons which is believed to be the abandoned craft.

Another despatch from Cape Race received by the Marine Department last night referred to the British tank steamer San Onofre which is known to have been adrift without fuel for several days. The message was from the Ashtabula which is standing by; it said: "The Ashtabula reports tow lines carried away. San Onofre sheering on account inability to steer ship. San Geronimo expected at scene at eight a. m. tomorrow."

SIX PRISONERS BURN TO DEATH

El Paso, Mar. 6.—Six prisoners of the city jail here were burned to death and probably forty others seriously injured, many fatally, as the result of a flash of flame from a solution being used in a disinfection bath being administered to a large number of prisoners. The blaze is said to have been caused by a lighted match thrown into the fluid.

NORTHCLIFFE GIVES VIEWS ON THE SITUATION

Impressed by Excellent Equipment and Confidence of French Soldier.

VERDUN FIGHT IS ONLY AN ACCIDENT

Convinced German Fleet Will Soon Emerge from Kiel for Big Naval Test of the War.

Paris, March 6 (5.20 p. m.)—Lord Northcliffe, owner of the London Times and other newspapers, who has been inspecting the field of battles at Verdun, has given some of his impressions to the Temps.

"I have been to the front six times," said Lord Northcliffe, "and that which has invariably struck me is the splendid health, the excellent equipment and absolute confidence of the French soldier. I have also been impressed by the immense number of men in reserve—they cover miles and miles of ground—and by the quantity, so to speak, without limit, of munitions despatched everywhere."

"Our correspondents in Germany who find means to send to London each week particularly precise and exact reports, inform us that Germany is now obliged to fight against time and duration. The initiative of the battle of Verdun, engaged during the bad season, proves that the Germans, who have no idea of the unbreakable tenacity of the French soldier, think they will be able to end the war by the capture of some unassailable fortifications at Verdun. Moreover, Douaumont has not, after all, great importance. In brief, according to the reports gathered on the spot, it is only a simple incident in the great battle."

"In view of the fact that the German stomach is beginning to cry famine as a result of the implacable blockade of the Allies, I am awaiting violent explosions of German armistice on land and also on sea during the next six months. I am convinced that the German fleet will before long make a big effort. The British marine knows it, and awaits the great day with impatience and anxiety.

"Not having been invaded, England has been long in awakening to the reality of the war, but an old Oriental proverb says: 'Beware of the man who is slow to wrath.' The great majority of the British people today, especially the women—the people of England, Scotland, Ireland, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa, finally realize fully that to preserve their own liberty and that of the world the teeth and claws of the Prussian tiger must be torn out."

"John Bull and his allies are masters of the sea, and will not permit a single German ship to leave the ports of Hamburg and Bremen, until Germany has paid the entire price. I believe I know Germany well, and I have not the slightest doubt as to the final issue of the war."

FLEET COVERS LANDING OF RUSSIANS NEAR TREBIZOND

Capture Towns of Atina and Maprova and Drive Off Turks Who Oppose Them, Taking 280 of Enemy Prisoners.

The Russians, under cover of the fire of their fleet, at last have been able to make a landing on the Black Sea coast to the east of Trebizond, capturing the towns of Atina and Maprova, and driving off the Turks who opposed them. Two officers and 280 men were made prisoners, and two guns and a quantity of munitions were captured.

Considerable fighting between the Russians and the Germans has taken place in Northwest Russia, the Russian army smashing German trenches in the Riga sector, and dispersing scouting parties in the vicinity of Friedriehstadt.

Russian Statement.
Petrograd, via London, March 6.—The war office communication issued today says: "Western (Russian) front: Our artillery has demolished a portion of the enemy's trenches southward of Lake Babbit, on the Riga sector. "Eastward of the Friedriehstadt

section, we are able to confirm the success of our artillery fire on German working parties, German scouts approaching our position between the Oddevietz and Sussey rivers were dispersed by our rifle fire. Fighting for the possession of mine craters continues on the Dvinsk position near Iloukai.

"Caucasus front: Our troops landed under the cover of an intense supporting fire from the fleet, and occupied, on the night of March 4, the town of Atina, on the Black Sea coast to the east of Trebizond. Deploying rapidly southward they forced the Turks to evacuate their positions.

"In the course of the action we took as prisoners two officers and 280 men, and captured two guns and a quantity of artillery ammunition, cartridges and rifles.

"Detachments of our troops, continuing the pursuit, occupied the village of Maprova, midway between Atina and Riza, the morning of the fifth."

BLACKLISTED IF CARRY COAL TO THE ENEMY

British Government Through Embassy at Washington Issues a Warning to Neutral Shipowners.

Washington, Mar. 6.—Through the British embassy here, the British government today issued a warning to neutral ship owners that if any of their ships carrying a cargo of coal shall finally reach any German port or ship, the vessel will be immediately blacklisted.

EX-MAYOR HOOPER AGAIN CANDIDATE FOR CIVIC HONORS

Nominations Yesterday in Fredericton—Only Contest Will be for Mayor's Job.

Special to The Standard.
Fredericton, March 6.—The only contest in the civic election next Monday will be for the mayoralty. Ex-Mayor W. S. Hooper's papers having been filed this afternoon in opposition to Mayor Moses Mitchell who is seeking a third successive term. Today was nomination day and the slate of aldermen for the year is as follows, there being no opposition: Wellington ward—Ald. Judson Barker and Ald. C. W. Burnett. Stanley ward—Ald. Robert J. Baxter and Ald. F. H. Everett. Carleton—Ald. Joseph Walker and Ald. T. S. Wilkinson. Queens ward—Alderman J. M. LeMont and Ald. J. Shea. Kings ward—Ald. John A. Reid and R. W. McLellan. "Elected without opposition today. Immediately following the close of nomination proceedings, when it became known that there was to be a majority contest two Scott Act riders were hurriedly pulled off by the police at the Waverley and the other at the Lorne Hotel.

NOT THE SAME FORCE BEHIND GERMAN DRIVE

Once Driven Back Huns Not Likely to Show Same Dash Which Marked Earlier Attacks.

Paris, Mar. 6.—The French continue to be absorbed in the situation around Verdun. The anxiety and doubts of the first days of the fighting have been replaced by quiet, joyful confidence in the strength of Gen. Petain's preparedness either for defense or a quick offense.

The conviction regarding Verdun is that although the Germans may persist in their offensive, their power of attack has been weakened, as it is considered that it will be difficult for them, to get the same dash out of the troops who have lost fights against the French in future attacks. The Germans, therefore, have put a great number of infantry men successively into the action, and now appear to be replacing their divisions.

The weather continues unfavorable. The rain and snow keep the earth soft where it has not already turned into marshes. Automobiles near the front look like moving blocks of mud. The roads back of the French line, considering the weather and the use to which they are being put, are good. Twenty thousand automobiles daily pass over one thoroughfare behind the line, moving in opposite directions in two almost continuous lines.

BANGOR MAN WAS CRUSHED TO DEATH

Special to The Standard.
St. Stephen, N. B., March 6.—A fatal accident is reported from Woodland, Maine, today. A crew of men were at work on a brow of logs when they started rolling. John Tripp was caught in the rolling mass and lost his life, the body being badly mangled. The unfortunate man belonged to Bangor and was about 45 years of age.

On British Front.
London, March 6.—The British official communication issued tonight says: "Last night we sprang a mine to the northeast of Vermelles. Today the enemy sprang a mine near the Hohenzollern redoubt, but no attack followed. We suffered no casualties. "Artillery on both sides has been active about Albert, Hulloch and Ypres."