

The Daily Standard

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TUESDAY MORNING, JUNE 12, 1917.

WEATHER—SHOWERY

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SIR ROBERT BORDEN INTRODUCES CANADA'S THIRD CONSCRIPTION MEASURE IN HOUSE; THE ITALIANS BEGIN ANOTHER OFFENSIVE

BRITISH TROOPS CAPTURE MILE OF GERMAN TRENCHES SOUTHEAST OF MESSINES

Army Continues Progress and Takes Number of Prisoners as a Result of Their Operations.

ITALIANS ARE AGAIN SUCCESSFUL IN CARSO

They Turn From Isonzo Front to the Trentino for New Important Drive—Counter-Attacks Repulsed.

London, June 11.—British troops have captured another mile of German trenches southeast of Messines, together with seven field guns and prisoners, according to the official report from British headquarters tonight. The text of the statement reads:

"Our progress southeast of Messines has continued. Early this morning we captured the enemy's trench system in the neighborhood of La Poterie Farm on a front of about a mile, and during the day our troops gained further ground in this area.

"In addition to some prisoners, seven German field guns have been captured by us today as a result of these operations."

Washington, June 11.—The Austrian counter-offensive has broken completely according to official advices received here today from a member of the Italian cabinet.

The positions at Fatis and Jamiano, captured by the Italians in their offensive, have been successfully held against the extremely heavy counter-attacks of the Austrians, the despatches report.

In the Carso alone 150,000 troops and 2,000 big guns were used by the Austrians in their attacks.

The Italians have adopted a new system of machine gun warfare that was used to great advantage in the recent fighting, the despatches say. The machine guns have been detached from infantry regiments and organized as independent commands, giving them a mobility in mountainous terrain.

Counter Offensive.

"The Austrian counter-offensive on the Carso has been broken," the despatches read:

"The furious attacks against our defenses at Fatis and Jamiano have been repulsed with heavy losses and the advance of the enemy was stopped at the banks of the Timavo river.

"The brave defenders of our brilliantly won advanced positions were held with the utmost tenacity despite the fact that on the Carso front alone the Austrians hurled 150,000 troops and the concentrated fire from 2,000 big guns against us. The counter-offensive was directed by the Austrian General Borojevic.

"The Austrian counter-offensive on the Middle Isonzo and the Carso, although having reached an extremely violent stage, failed miserably. In every sector the Austrians failed to reach their objective."

"The Italians have turned from the Isonzo front, where they made important gains, toward Trieste, in opening their offensive, to the Trentino front for the drive just begun. The positions are in the Sugana Valley region, southeast of the City of Trent, one of the great Italian objectives in the war.

It was over this ground that the Austrians, in May of last year, made their most powerful attack of the war against the Italians.

After initial successes they were halted in their advance toward the Venetian plains and driven back.

Paris, June 11.—The official communication issued by the war office tonight reads:

"Two enemy surprise attacks on our small posts near Courcy met with no success. There was intermittent cannonading over the greater part of the front, but in the region of Mont Carabell both artilleries were very active.

"Belgian communication: There was lively artillery action last night in the direction of Het Sas, and today near Ramecapelle and Het Sas."

Special to The Standard.

Moncton, June 11.—Some changes have recently been made in the C.G.R. official staff here. R. W. Simpson, formerly general fuel and the agent, has been appointed assistant to General Manager Hayes. D. H. Williams, who held this position under F. P. Goutin, is appointed special representative reporting to the general manager. The office of fuel and the agent is abolished, the purchasing of fuel and ties being left to Louis Laviole, C.G.R. purchasing agent at Ottawa.

At a meeting of the directors of the Colchester Coal and Railway Co. here this afternoon the company's coal areas and railway situated at Debert, N. S., were leased to Nova Scotia parties for a period of three years on a royalty basis.

The residence of conductor and Mrs. Wm. Mann was the scene of a happy event this evening when their eldest daughter, Helen Vera, was married to George Cameron Reid of this city. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Bowley Green. Mr. and Mrs. Reid left for Montreal, Toronto and Niagara Falls on their wedding trip. They will reside in Moncton.

Special to The Standard.

St. Stephen, June 11.—A warehouse belonging to Joseph McVey and situated near his residence on Rushton street, was destroyed by fire this evening together with a large quantity of valuable machinery and equipment of Joseph McVey & Son, the well known contractors. The origin of the fire is unknown, but is supposed to have been of an incendiary nature.

The warehouse was situated in a nest of wooden buildings, but the flames were confined to the one building, the firemen being aided by the prevailing rain. The loss is estimated at \$2,000, with some insurance.

OPPOSITION IS STRONG IN DEBATE

Hon. Mr. Byrne Finds It Difficult to Reply to Hon. Mr. Baxter.

DR. CAMPBELL MAKES EXCELLENT ADDRESS

Mr. Tilley and Mr. Smith of Charlotte Also Participate in the Debate.

Special to The Standard.

Fredericton, June 12.—The budget debate was continued in the house until after midnight with the opposition having by far the better of the arguments. No attempt was made by the government to answer the important points made by Hon. Mr. Baxter in his address on Friday last, while the telling points made this evening by Dr. Campbell, Mr. Tilley and Mr. Smith of Charlotte were also allowed to go unanswered. The criticism of the opposition speakers was of a fair, reasonable and logical character and their addresses were listened to with rapt attention by honorable members on both sides of the house.

The Public Debt.

Hon. Mr. Byrne, who resumed the debate in reply to Mr. Baxter, but the attorney-general confined his remarks chiefly to a discussion of the public debt. Although he held up his hands in holy horror at the increase in the debt of \$1,000,000 under the late government, he refused to accept Hon. Mr. Baxter's challenge to point to one single item in the debt which was not absolutely justifiable. He also made no reply to Hon. Mr. Baxter's statement that the new government had fully three-quarters of a million dollars to expend during half portion of the current year, while he likewise was silent to the request of the former attorney-general for the government to give at least a suggestion of the policy they intend to pursue to increase the revenue to meet the increasing expenditures. The attorney-general did not attempt to justify the action of the Carter-Foster government in incurring the great deficit of \$148,000 on ordinary account during the present year.

Dr. Campbell.

Dr. Campbell, who followed Hon. Mr. Byrne, was most enthusiastically received. The member for St. John city showed an adequate knowledge of the provincial finances and delivered a most convincing address. He answered effectively the charges of the attorney-general that the late government had handed out false surpluses to the people of the province, stating that any accounts charged to capital expenditure had been so charged on the recommendation of the engineer of the province, those of the engineer who had considered them proper capital charges. He took the attorney-general to task for his statement that the ex-attorney-general had not taken payment of amount justly due him in order to help the late government out in their desire to show a surplus.

Dr. Campbell also questioned the methods of the government in sending statements to the press that information with respect to the bonded debt of the Valley Railway had been withheld in the public accounts, showing clearly where the items appeared in the auditor-general's report. Hon. Mr. Robinson from his seat in the house practically repudiated the misrepresentations of the press of his party, stating that he had not made the statements as they appeared in the press.

The absolute lack of economical methods on the part of the new regime was also pointed out by Dr. Campbell, who instanced the creation of two new offices, those of deputy attorney-general and secretary to the premier, which had been made by the new administration.

(From Official Report.)

Fredericton, June 12.—The House met at 8:45 last evening. Hon. Mr. Veniot introduced a bill to amend the motor vehicle law.

Hon. Mr. Tweeddale laid upon the table of the House the annual report of the director of elementary agricultural education for 1916.

(Continued on page 2)

THE SCOPE OF THE MILITARY MEASURE JUST INTRODUCED

Ottawa, June 11.—(Canadian Press)—In the Commons this afternoon Sir Robert Borden introduced and explained the military bill. There are to be ten classes, as follows:

- 1—Those who have attained the age of 20, and were born not earlier than 1894, are unmarried or widowers without children.
- 2—Those born in years 1889 to 1893, inclusive, unmarried or widowers without children.
- 3—Those born in 1883 to 1888, married or widowers without children.
- 4—Those of 20 years, born not earlier than 1894, married or widowers with a child or children.
- 5—Those born in years 1889 to 1893, married or widowers with a child or children.
- 6—Those born in 1883 to 1888, married or widowers who have no children.
- 7—Those born in 1876 to 1882, unmarried or widowers without children.
- 8—Those born in 1876 to 1882, married or widowers with children.
- 9—Those born in 1872 to 1875, unmarried or widowers without children.
- 10—Those born in 1872 to 1875, married or widowers with children.

The number to be secured is 100,000. The bill provides for local exemption boards, to whom application is to be made by those claiming exemption. One member of the board is to be chosen by the county judge, the other by the Minister of Justice. There will be an appeal tribunal composed of a chief justice appointed by the provincial judge, and finally a central appeal judge to be chosen from the Supreme Court.

Clergymen and men who are in any branch of army or naval service or have retired from it are to be exempted.

THE ITALIANS INAUGURATE BIG DRIVE

Capture Two Important Points of Vantage from the Austrians.

MONTE ORTIGARA AND AGNELLO PASS TAKEN

New Movement Regarded as Important and Austrians Surprised.

Rome, via London, June 11.—The Italians have begun an offensive in the region southeast of Trent and have captured two important points of vantage from the Austrians, according to the official communication issued today. Monte Ortigara, east of Clima Undice, and the Agnello Pass both were taken in addition to more than 500 prisoners. The statement says:

"Throughout the whole of the mountain zone of operations there was more fighting than usual yesterday, especially between the Adige and Brenta rivers. Last night the enemy was driven back and followed up at the Tonale Pass, in the upper Chiesia Valley, on the slope of Dosso Casina and in the Posina Valley.

"On the Asiago plateau our artillery destroyed the enemy's complex system of defenses at several points. Our infantry attacking during a violent storm in the direction of Mount Selio and Forno carried the pass of Agnello and captured nearly the whole of Monte Ortigara (6,934 feet high) east of Clima Undice.

"This surprise attack, which was strongly pushed home, left 512 prisoners including seven officers, in our hands."

CANADA'S PREMIER INTRODUCES THE SELECTIVE CONSCRIPTION BILL WITH HISTORY-MAKING ADDRESS

Men from Twenty to Forty-Five Years of Age to Be Registered by Compulsion, But No Injustice Will Be Done to Anyone, Declares Premier

Measure Modelled on Existing Law.

A GRAND TOTAL OF ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND MEN CALLED FOR UNDER THE NEW BILL

"It Is Easy to Sow the Wind of Clamor," Says Sir Robert, But Those Who Make That Sowing May Reap Such a Whirlwind as They Do Not Dream of Today.

Ottawa, June 11.—On rising to introduce the bill Sir Robert Borden was greeted with prolonged government cheers.

In opening the Premier said that in view of the importance of this measure and the great public interest in it he would make a much fuller explanation than was usual. He began by drawing the attention of the House to the events of nearly three years ago, to Germany's intention to speedily assassinate Belgium's rights and liberties, to crush France, to make eventual peace with Russia, to have the British Empire stand aside so that it might later meet the fate of France and Belgium, in order that Germany might dominate the world.

Barbarous Hun Methods.

Sir Robert declared that Germany had proceeded to carry out her plans by methods so barbarous and revolting that Canada and the whole world stood aghast.

"As to Canada's determination," said Sir Robert, "there was never a moment's doubt. (Cheers.) Our nation was united on a common purpose. Men of all parties expressed the most resolute and vehement determination to carry the war to victory and an abiding peace. It was realized by all that the future of civilization and humanity was at stake."

The Prime Minister then reviewed the efforts Canada had made in carrying out her share in the struggle against Germany.

Within six weeks 32,000 trained men were ready to embark. By July 8th, 1916, the forces had been increased to 150,000 and to 250,000 by the 30th of October, 1916.

Urged Compulsion.

During 1916, Sir Robert said, many delegations from all parts of the country had urged the government to adopt compulsory military service. (Hear, hear.) At that time he had explained to them the difficulties of such action.

"It was on the first day of January, 1916," said Sir Robert, "that I issued a message to the Canadian people in which I announced that Canada's authorized forces would be increased to 500,000 men. In that message I used these words: 'By the greatness of the need our future efforts must be measured.' The necessary order-in-council was passed on the 12th of January, 1916, and was laid on the table of the House. So far as I can remember no criticism was made in parliament of the action which the government thus took, no motion was moved against the government's action, and the necessary parliamentary appropriations were passed unanimously."

Deemed as Pledge.

"My message was construed as a pledge in many parts of the country. It was not issued as a pledge; it was the authorization of a further increase in the Canadian expeditionary force; but it has been deemed to have been a pledge made on behalf of the government and the people of this country, and I am content so to regard it. There was a splendid response to that appeal; in three and one half months more than a hundred thousand men enlisted. The need as it then appeared seemed to be served. But later on it

became apparent that the struggle would exceed all anticipations. A second division had gone to the front; then a third went, and finally a fourth. The need of reinforcements became greater, while the recruiting during the summer and autumn of 1916 became less.

"In the autumn of 1916 I made a tour of six provinces of this Dominion in aid of national service. I was accompanied by the director of National Service and the duty of national service was emphasized to vast audiences whose response was inspiring.

Labor's Request.

After my return a delegation of representatives of organized labor waited upon me, their mission being one of inquiry with regard to the national service cards and they demanded from me a pledge that under no circumstances would compulsory military service be enforced in this country. I gave them a reply on the spot and followed that up by a letter which was published in the press of this country and which bears date the 27th December, 1916. That letter contains the following passage:

"You have asked for an assurance that under no circumstances will conscription be undertaken or carried out, as I stated to you at our interview, I must decline to give any such assurance. I hope that conscription may not be necessary but if it should prove the only effective method to preserve the existence of the state and of the institutions and liberties which we enjoy, I should consider it necessary and I should not hesitate to act accordingly."

Second English Trip.

"Early in February, 1917, I left for England, and in March last I saw at the front a Canadian army corps of four divisions. Instead of the one which I had visited in July 1915, our forces in France at that time numbered about 150,000 men, including all arms of the service. It is manifest to everyone that four divisions require four times as many recruits as one, and at the present time, the recruiting is not adequate to the need, as I shall show later on. There are only two alternatives—to let our forces dwindle from four divisions to three, from three to two, and perhaps from two to one, or to bring aid by other means than an appeal for voluntary service. That is the problem which confronts Canada today."

General Conditions.

"Let me say a word about the general conditions of the war. Hon. gentlemen, of course, will understand that I may not speak too freely. The effort of the Empire has been wonderful; the effort of our own Dominion has been notable but no effort is sufficient unless it assures victory, liberty, security and peace. I am in a position to assure the House and the country that the need of reinforcements is urgent, insistent and imperative. The effort of Russia is paralyzed for the present—no one knows for how long. The effort of the United States is only at its beginning. It is Germany's hope to win the war before the power of the United States can become effective. More than that, it is her confident belief, otherwise she never would have risked war with that great power, to stake everything on the submarine campaign and her ability to hold her lines east and west while her undersea boats starve Britain into submission."

Division of Forces.

Sir Robert described at length the various categories into which the men

in the Canadian forces were to be divided. These categories, he replied, to show the House the large number of men who were taken from the combatant forces for the other services of the army. Today the great and most important need at the front was for infantry who were able to go into the trenches. He emphasized the fact that of the enlistments in Canada in the past year a considerable number of men had joined railway construction and forestry battalions.

The total enlistments for the year to the end of May last were 85,306, but only a proportion of these men were fit for services in the trenches.

Total Casualties.

"During the same year," continued Sir Robert, "our casualties amounted to 75,492. Our total casualties since the war began amount to 99,539. During April and May we enlisted 11,790 men, and during the same two months our casualties were 33,339 men. During the next seven months we need reinforcements to the number of at least 70,000 in order to keep four divisions in the field. To keep five divisions in the field we need 84,000 men. In both cases principally infantry. Continued offensive operations such as those of April and May would increase this number."

"What is the conclusion I have drawn from this? It is as I have said before that reinforcements must be obtained for the divisions in the field; there is no alternative. The reinforcements available will last for only a few months. The precise number of what military reasons I am not at liberty to state."

Proud of Canada's Part.

"We all are proud that Canada has played a splendid and notable part in this war. The achievements of her troops have placed her in the very forefront of the nations and the question before the house and the country today is this: 'Is Canada content to relax her efforts in the most critical period of a war which concerns her heritage, her states, and her liberty. I am confident that the answer of the house and the country will be the same, namely, that Canada cannot and must not relax that effort.'

It seems to me there is something more than this to be taken into account. Is there not, as I have already said, in this house, an appeal from the men at the front? They have answered the call, they have given glorious service, they have put aside all material considerations; duty alone has been their ideal. Unconscious of everything other than the supreme task before them I know from my personal experience that they cannot realize the thought that their country which so summoned them to her service will be content to desert and humiliate them."

"I bring to the splendid manhood of Canada at the front an earnest and thrilling message that (Continued on page 2)

REWARDS FOR FUGITIVE.

\$50.00—The Standard.

10.00—French Consul Emil Gabury (present Fox with tin of Forest and Stream)

10.00 in trade—F. A. Johnson, women's wear.

10.00—F. A. Dykeman and Co., dry goods.

10.00—Imperial Tobacco Co., Murad cigarettes.

5.00—A. A. McCaskey, cigars.

10.00—Waterbury and Rising, shoes.

\$2,000 FIRE IN ST. STEPHEN LAST NIGHT

CONDITIONS FOR CAPTURE OF FOX, THE FUGITIVE, IN CITY OF ST. JOHN.

1st—Lay hands on him. (Women need only to confront him.)

2nd—Present him with copy of The Daily Standard of same date, showing him first page so he can read date lines.

3rd—Say to him: You are Fox, The Fugitive. Do you deny it?"

N. B.—All non-residents of the city and people employed in newspaper work and their families barred from participating in capture and rewards.

For the sole arbiter.