

THE WEATHER.  
Maritime—North to west winds, gradually decreasing, clearing and cold.

# The St. John Standard,

NEW BRUNSWICK, CANADA.

OPERA HOUSE  
TODAY MATINEE 2.30  
TONIGHT 8.15  
FELDMAN and CHRISTIE CO.  
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## RUSSIANS BREAK THROUGH 3 LINES OF HUN TRENCHES IN FIERCE DRIVE

### BRITISH GAIN IN ONLY INFANTRY FIGHT OF THE DAY

GERMANS POUND FRENCH POSITIONS NORTH-WEST OF VERDUN IN PREPARATION FOR NEW DRIVE, WHILE FRENCH GUNS SHELL GERMANS IN THE ARGONNE — NO INFANTRY FIGHTING YESTERDAY.

Except on the front near Gommecourt and the Bethune-La Bassée road, where the British gained some advantages in fighting against the Germans, no infantry engagements have taken place along the line in France and Belgium. Heavy fighting, however, continues between the Germans and Russians on the Eastern front from the region of Riga southward.

The Germans northwest of Verdun are keeping up their violent shelling of the Malancourt sector, and have again trained their guns on the French front of Bethancourt, Le Mort Homme and Cumières, probably preparatory to fresh infantry attacks in an endeavor to break through the line when the moment seems propitious.

The French have not slackened their bombardment of the Malancourt wood from positions in the Argonne forest, and are also shelling vigorously German positions and the roads and railways held by the Germans in the eastern part of the Argonne.

The bombardment to the northeast of Verdun, as well as in the Woëvre region to the east of the fortress, has increased in intensity.

Heavy masses of Russians are pressing the Germans from the Riga district southward for a distance of seventy miles. While they have gained some advantages, the Russian War Office admits that south of Lake Dvinsk the Germans re-captured trenches that the Russians had taken the previous night. The Russians have again pierced the opposing line in the Jacobstadt sector.

According to the German official communication, "not even the smallest advantage against the unshaken German defense" has been obtained anywhere in this great offensive which the Russians have undertaken in Northwest Russia. While Berlin declares that the Russians have ceased their vicious attacks in the neighborhood of Postav, eastward of the railway between Dvinsk and Vinn, Russia officially announces that the fighting there continues, and that southwest of Lake Narocz the Russian troops have again advanced under a violent bombardment.

The Austrians, continuing the Russians in Galicia, and the Italians along the Austro-Italian frontier, appear to be holding their lines without change.

A fourth German war loan has closed, and a Berlin despatch says the money raised will exceed the aggregate of the second loan, but will be less than that of the third. This would mean that between 3,000,000,000 and 15,000,000,000 marks have been obtained, the second loan having realized 2,970,000,000 marks and the third loan 12,160,000,000 marks.

Two Successful Raids by British.  
London, March 23, 10.40 p. m.—The British official statement issued tonight on the campaign in France and Belgium reads:

"Our troops carried out two successful raids against the enemy trenches about Gommecourt and the Bethune-La Bassée road. One prisoner was captured and three dugouts filled with Germans, were bombed and blown in.

"The enemy sprang a small mine to the north of Arras and two mines north of Neuve Chapelle, causing slight damage to our trenches.

"A grenade attack to the north of Arras was repulsed.

"There has been artillery activity about Frelcourt, Gommecourt, Souchez, the Hohenzollern redoubt and Ypres. At one place our artillery fired a big explosion in the enemy lines."

No Infantry Attacks.  
Paris, March 23 (10.35 p. m.)—The following official statement was issued by the war office tonight:

"To the north of the Aisne we directed a destructive fire on the German works on the plateau of Valenciennes.

"In the Argonne we carried out numerous concentrations of our fire on the enemy organizations, the roads and railways of the Eastern Argonne and on the Malancourt wood.

### LIQUID FIRE HELPED HUNS GAIN GROUND

Powerful and Cruel Means of Attack—French Paper Says French Have Means to Pay Enemy in His Own Coin.

Paris, March 23, 5.50 p. m.—Liquid fire has been the means by which the French troops against such attacks and the use of similar weapons in reprisal.

"One can easily understand," says the newspaper, "the superiority of this terrible arm over the bayonet. Even though it may expose the man who carries it to the danger of death in case a fragment of shell should strike it, on the other hand it gives to an attack the power and cruelty to which our communications are bearing witness."

The newspaper adds that France has every means at her disposal for paying the Germans in their own coin and therefore should employ them.

### MAJOR FISHER TO COMMAND 58TH HOWITZER BATTERY

Special to The Standard.  
Ottawa, Ont., Mar. 23.—With the introduction into the house today of a bill by Hon. Dr. Roche, minister of the interior, which provides for the transfer of the St. Peter's Indian Reserve lands upon the payment by the purchasers of an additional dollar an acre, this famous case now becomes history, and George H. Bradbury, M. P. for Selkirk, will be remembered as the hero whose long and determined fight has brought some measure of justice to a band of Indians who had been cheated out of their property by the machinations of certain land speculators.

The story of it is one of the dark pages of Canadian political history. Aided and abetted by the Department of Indian Affairs, or at least by officials of it, the Indians who owned this little portion of the province of Manitoba—a rich portion and accordingly coveted—were induced by a few greedy and unscrupulous white men to sign an agreement deeding away their lands which had been given to them and their posterity by a wise and beneficent government. One of the infamies of the transaction was that it was manoeuvred while the young braves and the substantial men of the tribe were away from home.

Speculators' Enormous Profits.  
When Mr. Bradbury brought the matter to the attention of parliament first in 1906 the country was startled, and there was general demand for justice for the Indian, but public interest is hard to keep sustained and the story has now grown so old to some, while it has failed to others, that today the incident of the close of the affair officially hardly caused a comment. But through it all Mr. Bradbury kept hammering for reparation for the Indian and now after his eight years' battle he emerges victorious. All the more credit is due to the man whose persistence never waned and whose courage never faltered. The record showed that 21,000 acres out of 35,000 acres had been surrendered by the Indians and allowed to fall into the hands of speculators and party hunters at ridiculous prices. The Indians had no idea of its value, and the transaction was accomplished under the eyes of the Indian agent, who was a buyer himself of these lands. Even years ago some of the purchasers were selling the lands at from eight to ten times what was paid to the Indians.

When the chief and councillors of St. Peter's band refused, as they did at first, to consent to the surrender of the reserve—their refusal being sanctioned by the band—a clerk in a store in Selkirk named Raynor was sent out amongst the Indians. He did his work well. He succeeded, in the absence of the young men, in inducing the chief and councillors to betray the bands and the methods he used may be easily imagined.

One of his methods was bribery and it is made clear by a reference to an account which Raynor presented for his services. Judge Howell refused to pay the account as it had no de-

### MUNICIPALITIES AND PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEES MEET

Fredericton, Mar. 23.—The Municipalities committee met this morning and agreed to bills to enable the county council of Sunbury to make temporary loans and to enable the town of Milltown to issue debentures.

The Public Accounts Committee met this morning for organization purposes, and appointed Mr. Allan of Northumberland chairman. Lieut.-Col. Black attended and said that as his leave of absence had almost expired it made his return to the front imperative, so that he would not be able to attend the sittings of the committee. Other members of the committee expressed their regret at the Colonel's inability to remain with them and all wished him the best of luck and a speedy return home.

A number of pages of the Auditor General's report was gone through and found correct, after which the committee adjourned.

### CHANGE IN SHIPPING ACT AFFECTS MOTOR BOATS OVER 5 TONS

Ottawa, Mar. 23, via leased wire.—By an amendment to the Canada Shipping Act, of which Hon. J. D. Hazen has given notice in the commons, the regulations with regard to the certification of captains and engineers of motor boats up to sixty-five feet in length are somewhat relaxed. The law at present requires that on all motor boats of over five tons burden there must be a certificate both for the captain and for the engineer. Mr. Hazen's amendment will provide that there need be only one certified officer on motorboats of over five tons and up to a maximum length of 65 feet.

### A FEW MORE CONTRIBUTIONS

Contributions to the 140th New Brunswick Battalion Band fund were rather slow yesterday, in fact they are rather slow every day. Folks ought to wake up and make things go. Of course the members of the Brunswick Chapter have a great many schemes for raising money which they are going to spring on an unsuspecting public when the proper time arrives, but in the meantime they would like to receive voluntary contributions as numerous and as large as possible.

The full list of the required instruments is being prepared and in a day or two The Standard will know exactly how much money is needed for the outfit. Meanwhile we desire to acknowledge as follows:

Previously acknowledged	\$235.60
H. P. Hayward	10.00
W. W. Titus, city	5.00
R. B. Emerson, city	5.00
Benjamin Mirey, city	1.00
	\$256.60

### JUSTICE FOR REDMEN CHEATED UNDER THE LAURIER REGIME

Bill Introduced in Parliament Yesterday Provides for Repearing Injustice Committed Under Grit Government, and Abetted or Winked at by Government Officials—Great Credit Due Geo. H. Bradbury, Selkirk Member, For His Fight in Behalf of Redmen.

Special to The Standard.  
Ottawa, Ont., Mar. 23.—With the introduction into the house today of a bill by Hon. Dr. Roche, minister of the interior, which provides for the transfer of the St. Peter's Indian Reserve lands upon the payment by the purchasers of an additional dollar an acre, this famous case now becomes history, and George H. Bradbury, M. P. for Selkirk, will be remembered as the hero whose long and determined fight has brought some measure of justice to a band of Indians who had been cheated out of their property by the machinations of certain land speculators.

Another scandal in connection with the surrender was the fact that only one day's notice was given to the Indians to meet and decide whether or not they would surrender the homes which they and their fathers had occupied for many years, and which they had learned to love just as white people do their homes. Not all of the qualified voters were present, and even at that the room in which the meeting was held was only capable of accommodating fifty. Only thirty-eight per cent of the Indians voted for the surrender, whereas the law states that it requires a majority of the Indians to validate a surrender of Indian lands. For this transaction was not only scandalous but illegal.

Mr. Bradbury stated that at the meeting of the band one of the officials from Ottawa displayed a bag which he said contained \$5,000 and that he would take it all back with him to Ottawa unless the surrender was made. Judge Howell, of Winnipeg, was present at this transaction and took part as a commissioner.

It was further shown that by the agreement of surrender the Indians were to get sixteen acres of land each, and that these patents would be protected, but long before the patents were issued, the speculators by chicanery had themselves secured the lands. And so the poor Indian got nothing but another example of the double dealing of the "white" man. The evidence offered seemed irrefutable that Indian lands had been secured at from \$3 to \$5 per acre, and that the holdings were worth much more.

In some instances employees of the interior department paid for their holdings with the hay that was cut off them, or by tendering chattels of little worth taken by the Indians at absurdly high prices.

The illiteracy and ignorance of these wards of the government was used to rob them outright.

A Conservative government came to power, and a complete investigation into the sordid story was held, but the trouble was that it was too late to prevent other interests being acquired and men who had paid hard earned money for the land were in possession. A new vested interest had been created and to turn many of these people out now would have simply meant adding injury to injury. The Indians had been given another reprieve.

Hon. Dr. Roche and Hon. Arthur Meighen, in reviewing the case in the house today said that although the lands had been illegally obtained in 1906 a settlement by compromise was now desirable. The resolution was passed and a bill introduced. The Indians will get about \$40,000.

### CZAR'S FORCES ROUT ENEMY WITH BAYONET; TAKE 1,000

ATTACKING ALONG FRONT OF SEVENTY MILES IN THREE GROUPS ARE DRIVING GERMANS SOUTHWARD FROM RIGA DISTRICT.

Resort to Favorite Method, Fighting with Cold Steel, and in Fierce Attack at Lake Narocz Break Through Three Lines of Enemy Trenches Despite Barbed Wire and Stubborn Resistance.

Petrograd, March 23, via London, 6 p. m.—While admitting that it is not yet clear whether the fighting which is in progress south of Dvinsk signifies a general advance of the Russian troops in that sector, or whether it is intended as a demonstration to attract German forces from the Franco-German front, the military critics lay emphasis upon what they allude to as the universal success of the attacks during the last few days, the viciousness of which is pointed to as being sufficient to have made an impression upon the German general staff.

The Russians are operating in three groups, covering a front of seventy miles, but the severest fighting is reported to have occurred in the vicinity of Lake Narocz, where the Russians' drive carried them through the three lines of German trenches heavily protected by wire entanglements. The Russians resorted to their favorite method, bayonet fighting, routing the Germans in spite of desperate resistance, and capturing more than 1,000

men, including seventeen officers, a dozen machine guns and other booty. The Germans are invariably countering the Russian attacks by advancing at other sections of the line, but from all appearances, according to the military observers, the Teutonic efforts lack co-ordination, and it is evident that in spite of the recent concentration of additional troops in this region their adversaries may have had for a concerted offensive here.

The German strength was estimated last autumn to be eight corps of infantry and several cavalry divisions in the region, but these have since been considerably augmented. An important success is recorded on the Galician front where the Russians captured the crossing of the Dniester at Michaliche. The Austrian official communication is cited in reference to this victory, as it is admitted that the Austrians were obliged to abandon the position following six months' defense, after the fortifications had been reduced by the Russian artillery.

### MORGANS OFFER CANADIAN GOVT BONDS TO PUBLIC

Subscription List Opens Today and Will Close Monday — Exempt from Taxation—No Further Loan This Year in United States.

New York, March 23.—J. P. Morgan & Company, and associates, Brown Brothers & Company, Harris Forbes & Company, Bank of Montreal, First National Bank, National City Bank and the Guaranty Trust Company, announced today a public offering of the \$75,000,000 five per cent. bonds of the government of Canada, recently bought by the bankers.

The bonds are to be dated April 1, 1916, and will be payable on that date and October 1. They will mature in equal amounts of \$25,000,000 each in five, ten and fifteen years. These are the prices at which the three series are to be offered, and their yield on the purchase price:

Five-year bonds, maturing 1921 at 95.56 and interest, yielding about 5.10 per cent.  
Ten-year bonds, maturing 1926 at 97.13 and interest, yielding about 5.38 per cent.  
Fifteen-year bonds, maturing 1931 at 94.24 and interest, yielding about 5.75 per cent.

Subscriptions will open at the Morgan banking house tomorrow and will be closed at 10 a. m. next Monday, or earlier. Bonds will be issued in registered and coupon form and will be interchangeable.

Obligations represented by the bonds will be exempt from all present and future taxation imposed by the Canadian government, including the Canadian income tax. The bankers have been assured that no further loan will issue in the United States during the present year.

Announcement is also made by the syndicate that upon instructions from the Canadian Minister of Finance, holders of Dominion of Canada twenty-year five per cent. bonds, due August 1, 1935, issued in conversion of Canadian one and two-year five per cent. notes, may exchange their holdings of twenty-year bonds for the new fifteen-year bonds on the basis of par and accrued interest for the old issue at the issue price of 94.24 and interest. This offer is limited to bonds issued and outstanding as of March 23, and will terminate with the closing of the subscription books.

### BRITISH CRUISER LOST?

Log Books Marked "H. M. S. Cumberland" Found on North Carolina Shore by Coast Guards.

Norfolk, Va., Mar. 22.—A possibility that the British cruiser Cumberland might have met with disaster off the middle Atlantic coast was seen by marine men tonight in the finding of several log books marked "H. M. S. Cumberland" on the North Carolina shore near Chincoteague. The books were found today by coast guards, who reported they apparently had just been washed ashore.

The Cumberland is a protected cruiser of 5,900 tons displacement, and has a main battery of fourteen 6-inch guns.

Washington, March 22.—At the British embassy tonight it was said that the Cumberland was cruising on this side of the Atlantic, and might have been off the North Carolina coast recently. Embassy officials apparently were not alarmed over the finding of the logbooks, and suggested that the books probably were some discarded records that had been thrown overboard.

### CASUALTY LIST

Ottawa, Mar. 24.—The casualty list issued at midnight announces the death of Maj. W. H. Belyea, of St. John, second in command of the 26th Battalion, who was killed in action.

Other Maritime Province men in the list are:  
Seventh Battalion.  
Dangerously wounded—Lieut. Hugh J. C. Gledhill, Halifax, N. S.  
Twenty-fifth Battalion.  
Wounded—Maj. Duncan S. Bauld, Halifax, N. S.; Darzel C. McMaster, Sydney, C. B.