

THE WEATHER.
Maritime—Fair, not much change in temperature.

The St. John Standard,

NEW BRUNSWICK, CANADA.

OPERA HOUSE
TODAY Afternoon 3.15 and 8.45.
Evening 7.15 and 8.45.
MARY PICKFORD IN
"MADAM BUTTERFLY"

VOL. VIII. NO. 63. TEN PAGES WEDNESDAY MORNING, JUNE 7, 1916. PRICE TWO CENTS

NAVAL AUTHORITIES BELIEVE CRUISER WHICH WENT DOWN WITH KITCHENER AND STAFF STRUCK A MINE

MOST STUNNING BLOW BRITAIN HAS FELT SINCE THE WAR BEGAN

Kitchener One Outstanding Personality Whom People Talked of and Believed in as a Man — Herculean Task Which He Undertook in Organizing England's Army a Work Unparalleled in History — No Evidence to Tell if the Hampshire was Torpedoed or Hit Mine — Carried Crew of Between 400 and 500.

Lloyd George, Lord Derby, Sir Wm. Robertson Mentioned as Successor—General Staff Has Well in Hand Working Out of Plans which Kitchener's Masterful Mind Conceived.

London, June 6.—Naval officers express the opinion that the cruiser Hampshire must have struck a mine as it would have to be an exceedingly lucky shot for a torpedo to get a ship with her speed and under the conditions of the sea, which was very rough.

The Hampshire, while an old boat and not fit for fleet action, was fast enough for patrol and blockade work. She carried a crew of between 400 and 500 men.

On board the Hampshire with the Secretary of War were also a number of minor army officers.

His Mission to Russia.

An official statement, issued this evening, says that Earl Kitchener was to have discussed important military and financial questions with Emperor Nicholas.

London, June 6.—The news that Earl Kitchener, secretary of state for war, and his staff, who were proceeding to Russia aboard the cruiser Hampshire, were lost off the Orkney Islands last night, was the most stunning blow Great Britain has received since the war began. This is the second shock the country has sustained within a week. The other was when the newspapers appeared Friday evening with the first information of the naval battle in the North Sea in the form of list of the ships lost, with virtually no intimation that there was any compensation in the way of enemy losses.

The bulletin telling of the death of Kitchener gave the country an even greater shock. Kitchener was the one outstanding personality whom the people talked of and believed in as a man, notwithstanding newspaper attacks, which at a former period of the war threatened to undermine his popularity and the public confidence in him.

A telegram from Admiral Sir John Jellicoe, commander of the fleet, giving the bare facts, was received at the Admiralty about eleven o'clock in the morning. The first official announcement was issued at about 1.30 in the afternoon. Such news, however, cannot be kept entirely secret, even for an hour. Before noon rumors were spreading, and the telephones in the newspaper offices were busy with inquirers anxious to know whether this—one of the many reports circulating in these days of tension—had any foundation. They were told there was nothing in it.

Admiral Jellicoe's Report.

Admiral Jellicoe's report to the admiralty was as follows: "I have to report with deep regret that H. M. S. Hampshire, Captain Herbert J. Savill, R. N., with Lord Kitchener and his staff on board, was sunk last night at about eight p.m. to the west of the Orkneys, either by a mine or a torpedo.

"Four boats were seen by the observers on shore to leave the ship. The wind was north northeast and heavy seas were running. Patrol boats and destroyers at once proceeded to the spot and a party was sent along the coast to search, but only some bodies and a capsized boat have been found up to the present. As the whole shore has been searched from the seaward, I greatly fear that there is little hope of there being any survivors.

"No report has yet been received from the search party on shore. "H. M. S. Hampshire was on her way to Russia."

When the official announcement finally was issued the fact spread about London some time before the newspapers could get into the streets. There was a crowd about the stock exchange which required police reserves to deal with it. The police told everyone to move on; that there was no truth in the report.

At the same time another mass of people was assembling about the government offices in Whitehall. All the windows of the war office had the curtains lowered. That confirmed the rumor, beyond doubt. Other crowds gathered around the newspaper offices; when the boys came out with an armful of extras the people fell on them and fought for the papers. In the course of the afternoon the flags on all buildings were half-masted.

The English, undoubtedly a stoical people, and have taken the good and the bad tidings of the war as they came with an absence of emotion surprising to outsiders. But no one

could have walked the London streets today without perceiving that something which the common people took as a calamity had befallen them.

The foreign office was saddened by the loss of one of its most valued members, Hugh James O'Beirne, while Sir Frederick Donaldson and Brigadier-General Ellershaw, of the Ministry of Munitions, were known to be men whom the nation could little afford to lose.

The fact that the cruiser Hampshire, with between 200 and 300 men, had sunk was generally accepted as an unfortunate detail in these days when a thousand go under almost as an incident of warfare, and the Canadians' battle gets a scanty column in the newspapers.

The King came from Windsor, and sent for Premier Asquith when he heard the news. The war council held a long session. Naturally, speculation regarding Kitchener's successor began immediately. Among those discussed were David Lloyd George, Lord Derby and the Chief of the Imperial Staff, Sir William Robertson.

But whether a military meet or a civilian will take the war office has not yet been decided.

Earl Kitchener met death at a moment which will insure his position in British history. He was almost the only member of the government who, from the beginning, confidently asserted that this would be a long war—his lowest estimate was three years—and he insisted that the government should make its plans accordingly. The organization of the enormous new British army is well under way.

The general staff, under Gen. Sir William Robertson's direction, according to the belief, was well in hand the task of working out the details, which Kitchener's brain was largely instrumental in planning and launching.

There is no evidence to show whether the Hampshire was submerged or struck a mine. Many ships



May Be Fortnight Before Casualties of The Rank And File Are Received

Ottawa, Ont., June 6.—The Canadian public must be prepared for bad news from the front. Our losses in the Sanctuary Woods fight have been very heavy. The total will not be known for some days but they are substantially in proportion to those at Ypres.

Another batch of officers' casualties today brings up to 180 the aggregate since the Eaton and Borden Machine Gun Batteries have both been in the thick of the fighting.

From advices received here, the news of the battle has caused a perfect clamor among Canadians now in training camps in England to cross the channel and get into action. The difficulty is to select the men and not to get them. The troops are anxious to avenge the loss of their comrades.

missing, Lieut.-Col. Tanner, of Moosomin, is in the list of dead. He was a practicing physician.

Vancouver, Calgary, Port Arthur and Montreal figure most prominently in the latest roll of honor. The casualty lists indicate that the Eaton and Borden Machine Gun Batteries have both been in the thick of the fighting.

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HEAVY FIGHTING YESTERDAY ON BRITISH FRONT AT HOOGE

London, June 7.—The British official communication, issued this morning, says: "There was very heavy fighting during the afternoon (Tuesday) east of Ypres. Shortly after midday the enemy commenced a heavy bombardment of our position about Hooge, and also some attacks north and to the south of Hooge and in the neighborhood of the Ypres-Comines railway and the Ypres-Comines Canal.

"Late in the afternoon the enemy exploded a series of mines at various points, on a 2,000 yard front north of Hooge. This was followed by unsuccessful attacks between Hooge and the Ypres-Comines Canal.

"At Hooge and immediately north of Hooge the enemy penetrated our front trenches after the explosion of mines. Fighting continues in this area, but our general line is still intact. Attacks were also made further north, but did not succeed. On the remainder of the front the situation is comparatively quiet.

"A reciprocal bombardment occurred in the region east of Pervyse and Hamscapelle."

Peking, June 6.—Yuan Shi Kai, president of the Chinese Republic, died at one o'clock this morning in the Palace, surrounded by his wives and older children. Rumors that he committed suicide are denied stoutly by high officials.

The commandants of the legation guards met today and discussed the situation here, coming to the decision that rioting was unlikely.

Li-Yuan-Hung will take the presidential oath tomorrow.

"DREW ENEMY INTO JAWS OF OUR FLEET; BATTLE CRUISER FLEET IS ALIVE AND STILL HAS A VERY BIG KICK IN HER," VICE-ADMIRAL BEATTY SAYS

London, June 6.—Rear Admiral Sir Hedworth Meux, who was elected to the seat in the House of Commons left vacant by Admiral Lord Charles Bessford, when the latter was created a baron, and who has become spokesman for the navy, read at a public meeting today the following letter from Vice Admiral Sir David Beatty, who commanded the battle cruiser squadron in the North Sea fight:

"We drew the enemy into the jaws of our fleet. I have no regrets, except for the gallant lives lost, for the pals that have gone and who died gloriously. It would have warmed your heart to have seen how the gallant Hood brought his squadron into action. Would to God he had been more successful in the general result. "We will be ready for them next time. Please God it will come soon. The battle cruiser fleet is alive and has a very big kick in her."

KING ORDERS MOURNING IN THE ARMY

For Period of One Week — His Majesty Pays Tribute to Britain's Great Warrior.

London, June 6.—By the King's command the following order has been issued to the army:

"The King has learned, with profound regret, of the disaster whereby the secretary of state for war has lost his life while proceeding on a special mission to the Emperor of Russia. "Field Marshal Lord Kitchener gave 48 years of distinguished service to the state, and it is largely due to his administrative genius and unwearied energy that the country has been able to create and place in the field the armies which today are upholding the traditional glories of our Empire. Lord Kitchener will be mourned by the army as a great soldier who, under conditions of unexampled difficulty, rendered supreme and devoted service both to the army and the state. "His Majesty the King commands that the officers of the army shall wear mourning with their uniforms for the period of one week. Officers are to wear crepe on the left arm of uniform and of great coats."

Similar Order for Canada Likely.

Ottawa, June 6.—High military officers here state that while the King's order that mourning be worn a week in connection with the death of Earl Kitchener applies to Canadian forces in France and England, it does not apply to officers in training in Canada.

It is considered likely, however, that a similar order will be issued immediately the King's order becomes officially known to the militia council here, and will be made applicable to officers in Canada.

WASHINGTON REGRETS THE DISASTER

Not the National Disaster it Would Have Been Earlier in the War.

Washington, June 6.—Profound sorrow over the loss of Earl Kitchener prevailed at the British embassy here today, but members of the embassy staff found solace in the belief that his death would not be the national disaster it might have been earlier in the war, before he performed his stupendous task of creating the greatest fighting machine ever was known.

It was said his work practically was finished, so far as raising and equipping the British army was concerned, and that his duties of late had been rather of a diplomatic than of a military nature.

Of such a character, it was pointed out, was the war secretary's mission to Greece, which had at least the

RUSSIAN INFANTRY IN COUNTLESS WAVES THROWN AGAINST TEUTON'S ARMY; GEN. BRUSSALOFF SAID TO BE LEADING

Over 25,000 Men, 480 Officers Besides Many Big Guns Said to Have Been Captured in First Stages of New Russian Offensive—Attacking Along Whole Front of Two Hundred Miles.

Petrograd, June 6, via London, (7.24 p. m.)—The Russians continue to develop the successes won by their newly inaugurated offensive. It is reported that up to the present time they have captured 480 officers, 25,000 men, 17 cannon and 15 machine guns.

SENDING COUNTLESS WAVES OF MEN AGAINST HUNS.

Amsterdam, June 6, via London (4.23 p. m.)—Despatches from Vienna report that a violent battle has been raging during the past twenty-four hours on the Russian front along a sweep of 300 kilometres (about 200 miles). The correspondents describe countless waves of Russians being sent into the battle.

General Brussaloff, who is believed to be in command of the Russian forces on this front, seems, according to the advices, to be following the tactics pursued by the Russians in the Carpathians, making attacks in mass in an effort to break through the hostile lines.

BRIG. GEN. LIPSETT TAKES COMMAND OF THIRD DIVISION

In Place of Gen. Mercer whom Ottawa Believes Dead — Brig. Gen. W. S. Hughes, Youngest Brother of Sir Sam Hughes Succeeds Brig. Gen. Williams.

Special to The Standard.

Ottawa, June 6.—It is now fully believed here that General Mercer is dead. He was the commander of the third Canadian division and was reported missing since last Friday when he was in the front trenches at the time the heavy bombardment by the Germans took place. Nothing whatever has been heard of him since and it is now considered almost certain that his body lies in the shell torn area where the front trenches formerly were, but are now practically obliterated.

Brigadier General Victor Williams, of the same division, is a prisoner in the hands of the Germans. The two vacancies, of course, had to be filled at once and the resulting changes are as follows: Brigadier General Lipsett has been appointed commander of the third division in place of General Mercer. He was an English officer before he came to Winnipeg some years ago and became attached to the permanent corps there. On the outbreak of the war he organized the 8th battalion from the 90th militia regiment of Winnipeg and went with the first division as commander of the battalion.

He went through St. Julien, Festubert and Givenchy and on the reorganization of the first division was given command of a brigade.

negative value of keeping that country neutral at the moment when it seemed to be passing over to the side of the Central Powers. It is assumed the visit to Russia, upon which he had embarked, probably had as an objective closer co-operation in military policies in Asia Minor and Persia.

Brigadier-General Ellershaw, one of those who perished with Lord Kitchener, was in the United States two months ago in connection with the procurement of military supplies for Russia.

PRESENTATION TO LIEUT. A. P. ALLINGHAM

Special to The Standard.

Halifax, June 6.—A feature of the proceedings at the Halifax Rotary Club today was the presentation of a wrist watch to Lieut. A. P. Allingham, president of the Rotary Club of St. John. The presentation was made by the Halifax Rotary Club but not on its own behalf. The wrist watch came from the St. John Rotary Club. They could not overcome the bashfulness of Lieut. Allingham, who they would like to have had in St. John for the honor, and as he would not go to St. John for the watch they sent it here.