

THE WEATHER.
Weather—Moderate winds, some local showers, but partly fair.

The St. John Standard,

NEW BRUNSWICK, CANADA.

OPERA HOUSE
TODAY—Afternoon 2.15 and 3.45.
Evening 7.15 and 8.45.
MARY PICKFORD IN
"POOR LITTLE PEPPINA"

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VERDUN FIGHT AT HEIGHT OF FURY, HUNS THROWING MEN INTO ATTACKS REGARDLESS OF COST IN LIVES

BAVARIANS JUST ARRIVED AT FRONT HAVE RECAPTURED FT. DOUAUMONT FROM FRENCH

Tide of Battle Ebbs and Flows and Fighting of Past Few Days Rivals in Violence Any Yet Witnessed on Western Front—Reckless Waste of Human Life by Huns in Desperate Hope of Winning Fortress Results in Unimportant Gains—Mowed Down Like Grass by French Curtain of Fire.

Paris, May 24.—The Germans have re-occupied Fort Douaumont, while the French hold the immediate approach to that position. This announcement is made in the official communication, issued by the French war office tonight, which says that two new divisions of Bavarians effected the recapture, after a series of furious attacks. The text of the statement reads:

"On the left bank of the Meuse the infantry action continued east of Le Mort Homme. Several times our artillery fire stopped the enemy, who had attempted to debouch from the village of Cumieres. In the course of the afternoon a spirited counter-attack enabled us to take trenches situated on the southern outskirts of the village.

"On the right bank of the river, the bombardment was redoubled in the afternoon. The enemy had particularly set himself. Furious attacks with two Bavarian divisions newly arrived on the front succeeded each other all day. After several fruitless attempts and enormous losses the enemy succeeded in re-occupying the ruins of the fort. Our troops hold the immediate approach to the fort, on which the enemy had particularly set himself. About the same time an attempt to flank our positions in the Callette wood completely failed under our gunfire and the fire of our infantry. There is no event of importance to report on the rest of the front."

Fierce Thrust Near Le Mort Homme

Paris, May 24, 11.15 a. m.—A powerful offensive was undertaken by the Germans last night to the east of Dead Man's Hill, on the Verdun front. The attempt in general was unsuccessful, but after a fierce hand-to-hand struggle the attacking forces made their way into a portion of the village of Cumieres. At this point the French were faced by more than three divisions.

Throughout last night the battle for the fortress of Verdun raged with increasing fury on both banks of the Meuse. The French stubbornly resisted every attempt by the Germans and inflicted heavy losses on the enemy.

The Germans delivered one attack after another on the northwestern front, rushing forward in powerful thrusts against the French works. Hand-to-hand fighting occurred on the French right, where the Germans, after suffering heavy losses, penetrated Cumieres village, near the bank of the Meuse, and west of the village. On the east bank of the Meuse, the Germans, after most extensive artillery preparation, launched attack after attack against the French positions.

"The Abomination of Desolation"

Paris, May 24.—The battle around Verdun continues to rage with a violence unexampled, even in the region. The Germans are striving with every resource in their power to capture Hill No. 304 and Dead Man's Hill, on the left bank of the Meuse.

Without full possession of the line from Pepper Hill to Vaux fort the Germans cannot hope to get any nearer to the capture of Verdun. Even if they succeeded in taking this line they could not hold it unless they were also in possession of Hill No. 304 and Dead Man's Hill, which flank the line.

VON BUELOW COMING TO U. S. ON SPECIAL MISSION?

Rumored Former German Chancellor is Proceeding to Washington as Special Envoy from the Kaiser.

London, May 24.—The Exchange Telegraph Company's correspondent says it learns from diplomatic circles that Prince Von Buelow, former German chancellor is proceeding to Washington, charged by Emperor William with a special mission.

Prince Von Buelow, one of the foremost statesmen of Europe, has been referred to frequently in the last few months as the man who might be selected by Emperor William to conduct preliminary peace negotiations, should they be undertaken. He had been mentioned in this connection not only on account of his experience and recognized ability, but because he has occupied rather a detached position, so far as actual conduct of the war is concerned.

Late in 1914 the former chancellor was sent to Rome by the Emperor, and succeeded in delaying Italy's declaration of war on Austria. He is credited also with having prevented war between Germany and Italy. He then went to Switzerland, the ostensible reason being the ill-health of his wife. From time to time it has been reported that the Prince was engaged in peace negotiations, but so far as has been ascertained these rumors were without foundation.

Several weeks ago he was called back to Berlin.

Not Confirmed.

London, May 24.—A rumor that Prince Von Buelow is to visit the United States as a peace delegate is current in diplomatic circles here, but up to the present hour it has not been possible to obtain confirmation from any authoritative source.

The rumor, however, attracts much attention in consideration of the fact that Prince Von Buelow was lately summoned to see the German Emperor, and that as he has not been in office during the war, he can claim any share in the conduct of the war.

CHAPMAN SENT UP FOR TRIAL

Preliminary Hearing of Kings Co. Merchant who Shot Young Lady Clerk in His Store.

Special to The Standard.
Paris, May 24.—The preliminary examination of P. A. Chapman, charged with shooting with intent to kill Miss Alice Holden at Newtown, was held Tuesday. The first session was held Tuesday morning before Stipendiary Magistrate H. W. Folkins. In the afternoon court was adjourned to Newtown, where a session was held and the evidence of Miss Holden was taken.

WILL THE TELEGRAPH EXPLAIN?

Information That Discredited Journal and Its Principal Owner Should Give Before Attempting to Prate of Public Honesty.

The Telegraph is evidently very much excited over publication of that portion of the evidence taken before the Royal Commission, showing the connection of its principal owner, and incidentally, its own connection, with the collection of moneys from the lumbermen in 1912. In so far as the Legislature or any member thereof was concerned these charges were dealt with by the Royal Commission, and their report is a matter of public record. After a lengthy investigation, in the course of which evidence was admitted which would have been rejected by any court of law, and the presentation of which was characterized by the most flagrant misrepresentation and insinuation, the Commission found that Mr. Fleming was "not guilty as charged" in the inquiry relating to the payment of money by the lumbermen, and that there was no diversion of public funds as charged by Mr. Dugal in his reference to the Valley Railway. Whatever the finding of the Commission, however, the fact remains that the gentleman most prominently interested and against whom the venom of the opposition was most bitterly directed demonstrated his willingness to bow to the finding of the Commission and is no longer a member of the Legislature. The Telegraph might have added the fact, which it takes much care to conceal, that both Mr. Dugal, the leader of the opposition on the floors of the House, and the Commissioner in his report, exonerated every gentleman who was then or now a member of the Government from any knowledge of or participation in the matters involved in the charges. Consequently it has nothing whatever to do with the present campaign in Westmorland, or with any legislation which has since occupied the attention of the House.

But the matter which is pertinent now, which was not dealt with by the Commission, and which seriously involves the Telegraph and its principal owner in their effort to carry on the slander campaign against the Government now and at all times, is the connection between Mr. John E. Moore, of the Telegraph, and Mr. Willard H. Berry, in the receipt of moneys by Mr. Berry, through Mr. Moore, detailed in that portion of the report of the Commission published in The Standard a few days ago. The Telegraph has not explained, but now that the facts have been made public, the Telegraph must tell the whole story before any credit can be attached to anything it may say on matters relating to the Provincial Government. Mr. Moore must have known and the Telegraph must have known that this money was being paid by the lumbermen. They must have known why it was paid. This information was in the possession of only a few people in the province, and no member of the Provincial Government was one of these. Mr. Moore was a lumberman holding intimate relations with his fellow lumbermen. He must have been familiar with the object sought to be accomplished, and he and the Telegraph saw fit to assist Mr. Berry in getting away with it. With the knowledge in their possession they no doubt could have prevented the consummation of the wrong perpetrated, but they saw fit to stand silently by and allow the collection of this money by Mr. Berry without a word of protest. Why?

Will the Telegraph answer or will it refuse to answer? The people of the province who are familiar with the findings of the Royal Commission, and who do not accept these in the garb or form furnished by the Telegraph will doubtless be anxious to obtain the information.

RUSSIAN NET FAST CLOSING AROUND TURKS

Different Army Groups in Mesopotamia Gradually Joining Hands.

ALL PRESSING IN DIRECTION OF BAGDAD

No Further Word Regarding Junction Affected Between Russian Cavalry and British Near Kut-el-Amara.

Petrograd, via London, May 24 (5.4 p. m.)—No news has yet been received from Russian sources regarding the junction effected between Russian cavalry and Lieut-General Sir George Gorringe's force below Kut-el-Amara, in Mesopotamia, and except as a present forerunner of a real union of the main Russian and British forces in Mesopotamia, which is expected in the near future by military observers, the event is not regarded here as of special importance. It furnishes, however, an interesting indication that the activity of the Russian forces in Persia is by no means confined to points mentioned in the official statements.

The Russian cavalry band which joined the British probably set out from Kermanshah along the difficult mountain roads paralleling the western border of the Persian province of Luristan, and succeeded in crossing the Mesopotamian frontier somewhere east of Kut-el-Amara. There are other indications that, instead of striking at isolated points along the Mesopotamian border, the Russians are gradually uniting their various army groups, and now present a connected front which curves in a wide arc from south of Bitlis to the neighborhood of Kramkan, northeast of Bagdad. From almost every point along this crescent pressure is being brought to bear in the direction of Bagdad.

Empire Day Message From Battlefield to People in Dominion

Ottawa, May 24.—His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, governor-general of Canada, on the occasion of Empire Day has received messages from Gen. Sir Douglas Haig, commander-in-chief of the British army in France, and from Gen. Joffre, generalissimo of the armies of France, to Gen. Haig, which the latter added to his cable, expressing full confidence in the ultimate victory of the Allied arms and greetings to the people of the Dominion. Gen. Joffre adds a word of admiration for the fighting qualities of the overseas forces.

Gen. Haig's cablegram follows: "All ranks under my command in Empire Day to our fellow subjects throughout His Majesty's dominions, representatives of every part of these dominions, bound together not only by ties of blood, but by similarity of ideals and loyalty to one crown and one flag. Our armies are united, heart and soul, in this great fight for freedom and justice, the old watchwords of our race. Confident in ourselves, in the ungrudging help and support of our kin throughout the world, and in our gallant allies, we look forward to certain victory."

Gen. Joffre's message, which was appended by Sir Douglas Haig, follows: "On Empire Day I am much pleased to express to you the sentiments of high esteem and comradeship felt by the armies of France for the brave troops of the Dominion of the Indies, and of the colonies whose fine conduct and brilliant deeds on all the battlefields where they have been engaged have excited such admiration. I beg you to communicate these sentiments to the officers, N. C. O.'s and men of the dominions and colonies, side by side with whom the French troops are proud to fight for the same ideals."

VENIOT'S LIE PROMPTLY NAILED BY B. FRANK SMITH

Member for Carleton Visits Liberal Slander Fest and Makes Opposition Campaign Leaders Swallow Misstatements—Challenges Carvell to Meet Him at Sackville Tonight

Special to The Standard.
Dorchester, N. B., May 24.—P. J. Veniot, the junior member of the hiring leaders conducting the slander campaign against Hon. P. G. Mahoney in Westmorland was caught redhanded here tonight in some of the misstatements he is making at the various meetings he is addressing.

Carter and Veniot were addressing a meeting in Hickman's Hall in the interest of their candidate, with J. H. Hickman presiding, but apparently were unaware that Mr. B. Frank Smith, M. L. A., for Carleton was in the hall. Mr. Veniot was making a characteristic speech and was promptly challenged by Mr. Smith who informed him that his statements were at variance with the facts. Veniot, by insinuation in dealing with the patriotic potato purchase and the examination of the accounts by the public accounts committee alleged that B. Frank Smith was a member of the committee, and other similar statements at variance with facts were made and promptly challenged by Mr. Smith who after Mr. Veniot had finished was allowed a short time to reply.

Mr. Smith nailed Veniot's statements to his being a member of the public accounts committee of the legislature by stating that he had not been a member of that committee since 1907.

ELMER E. SINNOTT, SUSSEX MAN, IS KILLED IN ACTION

Ottawa, May 24.—The following casualties are announced:
Mounted Rifles.
Killed in action—Elmer E. Sinnott, Sussex, N. B.