

The St. John Standard

VOL. VIII. NO. 215

TEN PAGES

MONDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 4, 1916.

WEATHER—FAIR

PRICE TWO CENTS

CABINET CRISIS IN G.T. BRITAIN; RUSSIANS ATTACK MACKENSEN

RUSSIA WILL GET CONSTANTINOPLE

Armies of Emperor Nicholas Making Heroic Attempts To Turn Tide in Favor of Roumanians--Teutons Continue to Press Forward Towards Bucharest, Which Probably Has Been Abandoned by Military.

HEAVY FIGHTING ON DANUBE SOUTH OF CAPITAL WHERE FIELD MARSHAL VON MACKENSEN'S TROOPS HAVE BEEN ATTACKED BY RUSSIAN HOSTS--CONTINUED ARTILLERY FIGHTING IN FRANCE.

London, Dec. 3.—An event surpassing in far-reaching importance the actual military operations of the war comes today in the public announcement by the new Russian premier, Alexander Trepoff, that by an agreement concluded in 1915, and subsequently adhered to by Italy, the Allies definitely established Russia's right to Constantinople and the straits. The existence of this agreement has been for a long time alleged, but never before was it thus publicly and formally admitted.

Simultaneously, while the fate of Bucharest is still hanging in the balance comes the news that Russia, which has been accused in some quarters of failing to render assistance to its sorely pressed ally, is making heroic efforts to turn the tide of events in Roumania, in addition to exerting vigorous pressure against Von Falkenhayn in Moldavia, where the Russians have gained a footing at Kijilbaba, and the battle is continuing with the utmost energy.

New Russian Effort.
The new Russian effort is visible on the Danube, south of Bucharest, where newly arrived Russian troops are making an important attack on Field Marshal Von Mackensen's rear, already according to the Russian official report with some success 26 guns and a number of prisoners have been taken and the Germans and Bulgarians having been driven from Tzomana and Gostinari. The Russians are also successfully applying pressure in Dobruja.

These Russian attacks on the two extreme flanks of the central forces, although they may be too late to save Bucharest may, if successfully prosecuted change the complexion of the Roumanian campaign, as there is no indication as yet that the enveloping movement of the Central Powers has succeeded in cutting off any considerable portion of the Roumanian armies.

Pressure Towards Capital.
In the meantime, according to the German report, the Germano-Bulgarian are steadily pressing towards the capital. In the Argechu Valley they have crossed the river at one point, and have outflanked and defeated a Roumanian force which had attempted to advance southwest of Bucharest, near the Argechu and Nistov rivers.

In connection with the fate of Bucharest, a semi-official Roumanian statement has been received by wireless to the effect that before the commencement of the war Bucharest was deprived of the character of a fortress, and that when the danger of occupying presented itself steps were taken for the evacuation of the city by the military elements, but not by the civilian population who had been enjoined to remain in the city. This points to the military abandonment of the city, and would seem to indicate that Roumanians are fighting engagements to delay their enemy and secure the safe retirement of their armies.

Hostile Demonstration.
London, Dec. 3.—A Renter despatch from Petrograd says that when Premier Trepoff mounted the tribune in the Duma to read the government's statement, the parties of the extreme left began a hostile demonstration which prevented the premier from speaking for a quarter of an hour.

Roumanians Win.
Bucharest, Dec. 3, via London.—The main body of German and Bulgarian forces southwest of Bucharest has been defeated and driven back toward the south, the war office announces. The Roumanians also were victorious in a battle with the Turks. On the right wing of their western front the Roumanians were compelled to retire. The announcement follows:
"On the western front in Moldavia and Northern Wallachia there were lively artillery and infantry actions. We attacked the enemy at various points, taking 180 prisoners."
"In the valley of the Dambovitz (northwest of Bucharest) the situation is unchanged."

TRANSPORT STEAMER IS SUNK

French Vessel Crowded with Troops—Well Known Hol- ifax Steamer Torpedoed.

Berlin, Dec. 3, by wireless to Sayville.—The admiralty made the following announcement today:
"A German submarine, Nov. 27, near Malta, sank the French transport steamer Karnak, 6,800 tons. The Karnak was crowded with troops destined for Saloniki."

Steamer Briardene Sunk.
London, Dec. 3.—A despatch from Petrograd to Lloyd's says that the British steamer Briardene was sunk on Friday. The crew was landed at Falmouth by the steamer Luna.

Formerly of Halifax.
Special to The Standard.
Halifax, N. S., Dec. 2.—The steamer Briardene, reported sunk by a submarine was until last July owned by Alfred Dickie of Halifax when he sold her to the Overseas Shipping Company of Halifax, and C. B. Richards & Co. of New York are the managing owners.

Lying German Statement.
London, Dec. 3.—A statement was issued by the admiralty tonight which makes reference to German wireless messages to the embassy at Washington, promulgating "mendacious reports, purporting to emanate from Rotterdam that the ship Britannic had troops on board."

The admiralty reiterates that the complete statement of all persons aboard the Britannic was published November 24, and adds that British hospital ships carry neither personnel nor material other than is authorized by the Geneva and The Hague conventions.

tacks continued in Argechu Valley. In this region the fighting is assuming the character of a great battle. Under pressure of the enemy Roumanian troops, outflanked by cavalry from the south, are retreating in a southeasterly direction.

"The Roumanian operations south of Bucharest, with the assistance of Russian troops which have arrived, are developing successfully. The Bulgarian and German troops have been compelled to retire. We captured prisoners and booty which have not yet been enumerated. So far as can be ascertained, 26 guns were taken."

Saturday's Developments.
London, Dec. 2, 11.26 p. m.—The communication from the headquarters in France issued tonight reads:
"During the day there was intermittent shelling against our front on both sides of the Ancre. A small party of the enemy entered our trenches north of Lesar but were at once ejected."
"In the neighborhood of Ypres, Armentieres and Hohenzollern there was considerable trench mortar activity on both sides."

French Statement.
Paris, Dec. 2.—The bulletin issued by the war office tonight reads:
"The artillery was only feebly active today along the whole front, except on the right bank of the Meuse, where the enemy violently bombarded the neighborhood of Vaux. A German long-range gun fired several shots in the direction of Nancy."
(Continued on page 2.)

BOY ESCAPING FROM WHIPPING KILLED BY FALL OVER CLIFF

Nine Year Old Son of Hugh Taggart Found Dead on Beach in Front of Father's Home in Greenhill, N. S.—An Un- usually Sad Case.

Special to The Standard.
Parraboro, N. S., Dec. 3.—A coroner's inquest was held yesterday afternoon by Dr. F. A. Read on the body of Murray, the nine year old son of Hugh Taggart, who was found dead on the beach in front of his father's house in Greenhill. The father's evidence was to the effect that he found Murray and a younger brother worrying sheep on Tuesday and left them in the barn while he went for a switch. During his absence the boys escaped and ran towards the shore where the cliffs are high and steep.

RUSSIA WILL GET STRAITS AND ALSO CONSTANTINOPLE

Highly Important Announcement Made in Duma that Rus- sia, France and Great Britain, Come to Agreement on Eastern Question of Years Standing.

Petrograd, Dec. 2 via London, Dec. 3.—The semi-official news agency says that in the Duma today Premier Trepoff read a proclamation announcing officially that an agreement concluded by Russia, France, and Great Britain in 1915, and later approved by Italy, "establishes in definite manner the right of Russia to the straits of Constantinople."

Premier's Trepoff's announcement is quoted by the news agency as follows:
"For more than a thousand years Russia has been reaching southward toward a free outlet on the open sea. This age-long dream, cherished in the hearts of the Russian people, is now ready for realization."

Turkey's Doom Sealed.
"From the beginning of the war, wishing to spare human lives and suffering we and our allies did our utmost to restrain Turkey from participating in hostilities. Turkey received formal assurances guaranteeing her, in exchange for neutrality, the integrity of her territory and independence, and also conferring on her certain privileges and advantages."

Fight To Finish.
"I thought it my duty not to conceal from you the difficulties and sacrifices which we have still to endure in order to bring the present war to a victorious conclusion, but no difficulty and no sacrifice will stop Russia and her brave allies on the path of reconstruction and consolidation."

N. B. MEN WOUNDED AT FRONT

Two St. John Soldiers, Marys- ville, Simonds and Point du Chene Men on Casualty List.

Ottawa Dec. 4.—Midnight list:
Infantry.
Missing—
W. M. Purdy, Charlottetown, N. B. Prisoner of war at Dulmen, not yet reported missing by base—
H. T. Turner, 161 Rodney street, St. John, N. B.
Wounded—
H. Chesworth, Simonds, N. B.
Sergt. F. Wade, Marysville, N. B. Artillery.

Acting Bomber A. M. Welling, Point du Chene, N. B.
Wounded—
R. E. Bradshaw, St. John, N. B.

Presentation To Mrs. Steiper.
Saturday afternoon the market was the scene of a kindly gathering, when all those doing business in the market and the employees, presented to Mrs. C. Steiper a bouquet of fifty-five

POLITICAL CRISIS IN ENGLAND MOST ACUTE

David Lloyd George May Not Resign, but Premier Asquith Has Decided to Advise King to Permit Reconstruction of Government.

IT IS BELIEVED BONAR LAW AND LORD DERBY CONTEMPLATE FOLLOWING LLOYD GEORGE'S EXAMPLE— TROUBLE DUE TO CRITICISM OF PRESENT WAR COUNCIL.

London, Dec. 3.—The political crisis has become acute. It is stated in well-informed quarters that David Lloyd George, the war secretary, may tender his resignation.

London, Dec. 3.—Premier Asquith has decided to advise the King to consent to the reconstruction of the government. This was officially announced tonight.

The statement reads:
"The Prime Minister, with a view to the most effective prosecution of the war, has decided to advise His Majesty the King to consent to the reconstruction of the government."

It is understood that Premier Asquith will see the King again tomorrow morning and thereafter make a statement in the House of Commons in explanation of the situation.

Thus far it appears no arrangement has been made for Secretary Lloyd George to see the King, which would indicate that at the present moment there is some prospect that the crisis will be surmounted without the complete collapse of the coalition cabinet. Mr. Asquith left town yesterday but returned this morning, and throughout the day there have been consultations and meetings of party leaders at the Premier's residence.

Mr. Lloyd George had a long consultation with the Premier this afternoon. Other visitors were A. Bonar Law, secretary for the colonies, and the Marquis of Crewe, lord president of the council.

Perhaps the most significant incident was that Sir Edward Carson and Mr. Law appeared together and addressed a morning meeting of the Unionist committee, while the Earl of Derby, under-secretary for war, had a long interview with Mr. Lloyd George.

The political crisis is the chief topic of discussion in the Sunday newspapers. The Weekly Despatch says its origin is due to the fact that David Lloyd George proposed the formation of a small war council, including Sir Edward Carson, but excluding Premier Asquith and A. J. Balfour, first lord of the Admiralty. Both Carson and Lloyd George, the Weekly Despatch adds, are not unwilling that A. Bonar Law should have a seat in the council, but he is undecided.

Reynolds Newspaper says that David Lloyd George has intimated his intention of resigning. His resignation, adds the paper, has been delayed at the request of several of his colleagues in the cabinet, but there is little prospect of success on their part.

The reason given for the possible resignation of Mr. Lloyd George is that he has definitely decided that the methods of dilatoriness, indecision and delay, which characterize the action of the present war council, endanger the prospects of winning the war. It is understood, adds the paper, that Premier Asquith has declined to accept Mr. Lloyd George's view that the war council must be materially reduced in number. It is believed that Mr. Bonar Law and Lord Derby contemplate following Mr. Lloyd George's example. Mr. Lloyd George, continues the paper, intends to campaign the country. There is every indication of a Lloyd George-Carson combination in favor of the more vigorous prosecution of the war.

MORE THAN MILLION PERSONS RECEIVE ADVANCE IN PAY

Special to The Standard.
Boston, Dec. 3.—More than one million persons in the United States will have their wages increased tomorrow or during the next ten days. An advance of 10 per cent, becomes effective tomorrow in New England textile mills, employing 325,000, in the numerous mills of the International Paper Co. in eight states and Quebec province employing 15,000 in many independent paper mills. United States Rubber Co.'s dozen plants employing 10,000 and in numerous southern cotton mills and other factories.
U. S. Steel Advance.
The United States Steel Co., Re-

public Iron and Steel and numerous metal concerns announce a 10 per cent. raise for their 250,000 hands.
The Fore River shipyards at Quincy employing 4,000, Moosana and Michigan copper mines, with 50,000, International Harvester Co., with 25,000, American Clothing Manufacturers Association, employing 32,000, the American Thread Co., I. & P. Coats Co., Ltd., General Electric Co., Westinghouse Electric Co., Standard Oil, United States Envelope Co., American Writing Paper Co., numerous shoe factories, coal mines and railways and a host of other companies have also posted notices of a wage advance.