The St. John Standard

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ALLIES PREPARE FOR FURTHER HUN ATTACKS; SITUATION IN NORTH FRANCE IS UNCHANGED

LUDENDORFF NOW IN SUPREME COMMAND OF GERMANY'S ARMY

Every Hun Weapon of War in Army and Navy is at ommand of General–Existing Calm in France Does Not Lull British Into False Security, and they are Energetically Preparing for Another Big Teutonic Onslaught–Huns have Enough Men and Guns to Conduct two Big Drives in France.

(By Arthur S. Draper.)

Special Cable to N. Y. Tribune and St. John Standard.

London, April 3.—A short and determined but futile enemy thrust east of Arras, and British local attack south of that battered city, were the extent of the fighting today, aside from artillery engagements on the British side of the Somme battle front. The French to the south did little more.

In two weeks the battle of Picardy has dropped from hurricane violence to a zephyrlike calm. Instead of the public riveting its attention on the battlefield, it is now speculating on the next move, wondering where and when it will come, and trying to anticipate what measures the government will take to make good the losses of the last twelve days.

The wounded continue to drift back in considerable numbers and they serve to impress the public with the need of reinforcements.

However great the confidence in the ultimate result, this calm should not lull any one into a false sense of security or apathy. There has been a lull in every great offensive and generally it is followed by a flash almost as powerful as the first attack.

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PECK AND SMITH WIN A TAX CASE

Hon. Mr. Robinson Proposes Another of His Schemes, This One to Deprive Back School Districts in Albert and Other Counties of Marsh Land Taxes.

Special to The Standard.

Fredericton, April 3—There is to be anothr day's delay in the delivery of the budget speech and it is now apparent that Hon. Robert Murray, Provincial Secretary-treasurer will deliver it in person.

Last session Mr. Murray was away from the House through illness and the speech was by Hon. C. W. Robinson who took upon himself the task of explaining the Government's transactions. This year the duty of defending that $600,000 deficit will fall to Mr. Murray, who will deal in general terms with the situation. It is expected, however, that the really hight class explaining will be done by Mr. Veniot later in the debate as the real leader of the administration.

This was an interesting day in the House. The amendment to the registry act by which it was desired to create another registry office in Westmorland county, as referred to in detail elsewhere in this issue occupied the greater part of the afternoon session, but there were other interesting matters as well, demonstrating the vigilance with which opposition members guard the rights of their constituents against injurious proposals emanating from the Government side.

For instance when a bill to amend the school act was under discussion it was proposed to change the method of assessing marsh land for school purposes. This change would have a particularly isjurious effect upon certain parishes in Albert county. Hon. Mr. Robinson advocated the change by which the marsh land would be taxed in the district where it is situated. Mr. Peck and Mr. Smith of Albert both took the view that where land is owned by persons living in another parish or school district it should be taxed in the district where the owner resides. In Albert County much of the marsh land protected by dykes against salt water was owned by men living in the back districts and it was necessary that they should be taxed in those districts if the schools were to be maintained. The members for Albert made a vigorous protest against any change.

Mr. Robinson had a lengthy conference with Mr. Leger of Westmorland, chairman of the committee, and then announced that as a result of the objection of the members from Albert he would not press for the change.

Considerable routine business was transacted and the house adjourned at 5.40 p.m.

QUEBEC CITY POLICE LAX IN THEIR SWORN DUTIES

Ottawa, April 3.—The official story of the Quebec riots was laid before parliament by Sir Robert Borden this afternoon. First, the prime minister read a report from the military authorities in Ottawa, covering information received by telephone and telegraph from Quebec. This was followed by the reading of a report from Lieut.-Col. Machin, director of the military service, made after a visit to Quebec. The report on Monday night's battle says:

"A large crowd assembled and from housetops, side streets, snow banks and other places of concealment the rioters opened fire, point blank on the troops, who as on the previous nights, displayed great steadiness and forebearance under severe provocation.

"But at length, after sevbral soldiers had received bullet wounds, it became absolutely necessary for the troops to return the fire, in self defence, for the protection of the public and to prevent the situation passing entirely beyond control.

"Five soldiers were wounded and of the crowd four were killed, many were wounded and fifty-eight were arrested. By 1.20 next morning order had been re-established, and by 5 a. m. the troops had returned to barracks."

Lieut.-Col. Machin, in his report says:

"Capt. Desrochers telephoned from the police station to the G. O. C. for a military escort to come to the rescue of the Dominion police and take them away from the mob.

"Captain Desrochers states that he requested the chief of police to call out all available police to the aid of the Dominion police, who had sought refuge in No. 3 police station, but this was not done, twelve police only being placed on this duty, and this number was not increased, although Capt. Desrochers pointed out how inadequate this force was.

"Capt. Desrochers informs me that no adequate protection was afforded by the municipal authorities to save the registrars office, and that a small force of city police who had been placed in front of the registrar's office, were not only inadequate for its protection, but were quiescent when the mob started to attack the place."

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ALPHABETICAL ONE OF THE TANTRAMAR IN GOVT. CAMP

Laurierite Member for Westmorland Goes Astray, Enters Unionist Caucus, Sits Down, Gets Up and Walks Out With Face as Red as a Cooked Custacean.

Special to The Standard.

Ottawa, April 2—A. B. Copp, Laurierite, member for Westmorland, attended the Unionist caucus today and his entry into the Government camp caused a flutter of excitement. He walked forward to a seat near the front and sat down beside W. F. Nickle of Kingston.

He looked around and found somewhat unfamiliar faces smiling recognition. It seemed to be discomforting. He looked again and realized that he had got into the wrong company. So he rose and walked all the way out again with a face as red as a cooked lobster.

This was the incident which caused the rumor today that Mr. Copp had joined the Government party. He had simply got into the wrong box.

Discuss Service Act.

Ottawa, April 3—Supporters of the government were in caucus for two hours today.

The minister explained that the enforcement of the M. S. A. has been engaging the particular attention of the cabinet recently, and that the next few weeks is likely to see a considerable increase in the number of men secured for overseas service.

REV. H. T. BUCKLAND FOR RECTOR OF GAGETOWN

St. John's Anglican Church Elects Greenwich Man and Names Officers for Year.

Gagetown, April 3.—St. John's Anglican church has invited Rev. H. T. Buckland, of Greenwich, to become rector. The Gagetown parish elected the following officers:—

Wardens, T. W. Gilbert, Russia Williams; vestry, Fred Dale, Summerhill; T. T. H. Scovil, Queenstown; T. Sherman Peters, Gabriel deVeber, Leverett S. McKeague, R. H. Weston, A. S. Shields, H. H. Gilbert, Arch. McAllister, N. H. Otty, R. H. Gilbert, James Hamilton; delegates to synod, T. W. Gilbert, Russia Williams; substitutes, T. Sherman Peters, R. H. Weston.

COTTON OPERATIVES IN YARMOUTH STRIKE.

Weavers, Spinners and Carders of Cosmos Mills Want Another Advance in their Wages.

Special to The Standard.

Yarmouth, April 3.—Two hundred employes of the spinning, carding and weaving rooms of the Cosmos Cotton Mills are on strike for an advance in wages. The mills raised the pay earlier in the year, but the employes claim that the schedule here is not on an equality with that recently adopted by New England and Canadian mills. The Cosmos mills make duck.

PASTOR CALLED.

Special to The Standard.

Hopewell Hill, April 2—Rev. C. P. Wilson of Truro, who has been stationed on the Baptist circuit here during the winter, has received a call from a church in Pennfield, Charlotte county. He will go to Pennfield at an early date.

CHEERING SHIP NEWS ISSUED BY ADMIRALTY

Sudden and Marked Decrease in the British Marine Losses.

ONLY SIX LARGE VESSELS SUNK

Total of Thirteen Merchant Craft Sent to Bottom of the Sea.

FIVE FISHERMEN WERE ALSO LOST

Fifty Men Missing from Two Steamers Sunk by U- Boat.

London, April 3—There was a sudden and marked decrease in the losses to British shipping through mine or submarine during the past week. The admiralty reports that only six British merchantmen of 1,600 tons or over and seven under that tonnage were sunk in the week ending March 30th.

Five fishing vessels also were sent to the bottom.

The admiralty statement continues: "Fifteen British merchant vessels were unsuccessfully attacked by submarines.

"The large vessels reported sunk includes one sunk during the week ending March 16, and the smaller vessels reported sunk included one during the week ending March 23.

"The arrivals during the week ending March 30 were 2,416, and the sailings 2,379."

The losses to British merchantmen through submarines and mines in the past week are less than one-half the losses in the previous week, when twenty-eight merchantmen were sunk, sixteen of the vessels over 1,600 tons.

The Admiralty report for the preceding week showed the loss of seventeen vessels, while for several weeks prior to that the weekly loss was eighteen.

Torpedo Boat Sunk.

London, April 3—A British torpedo boat destroyer was sunk April 1 as a result of a collision, according to an official statement issued by the admiralty tonight. All on board were saved.

London, April 3—The steamer Conargo was torpedoed in the Irish Sea on Sunday morning. (This vessel is a British steamer of 4,312 tons gross and owned by the Commonwealth of Australia.)

At about the same time the Greek steamer Salaminia of 3,112 tons was sunk by gunfire.

About fifty men are reported missing from the two vessels.

The Conargo's crew of fifty men got away in the boats, the account states, but two of the boats were sunk by the gunfire. The third boat, containing fifteen men, was picked up. It is feared the others are lost.

From the Salaminia fifteen members of the crew are missing.

OPPOSITION SQUELCHES WILY WESTMORLAND COUNTY GAME

Government Clique, Headed by Hon. Clifford W. Robinson of Moncton, Frame-up Plan to Establish Registry Office in that City in Addition to the One in Dorchester, Thus Ending Squabble for Office by Providing Fat Jobs for Clem Leger and Mr. Robinson's Brother, Frank, but the Wisdom of Solomon Fails Them.

Special to The Standard.

Fredericton, April 3.—In the Legislature this afternoon a neat little scheme of the government to provide jobs at the public expense for two of its supporters in Westmorland Co., was nipped in the bud by the opposition, and a measure for this end introduced as a government measure but which no member of the government desired to father as such was finally withdrawn after the most interesting debate of the session. It is well known that Mr Clement M. Leger, a member from Westmorland supporting the government, and deputy Speaker of the House, has been promised the office of registrar of deeds and probates in his own county. The office is now vacant and Mr. Leger has the support of the Acadian residents of Westmorland for it. But ex-Mayor Frank Robinson, of Moncton, brother of Hon. C. W. Robinson, Mr. Foster's political adviser, also thinks he would like that office and as he has much influence in the Moncton end of the county his claims cannot be ignored. So the situation is that two candidates, each within the party, want the one job and threaten trouble if they are not provided for. As there were no other vacancies in the county that appealed to either of them the government was in a quandary as to how the situation could be met. After many heart talks and communings it was decided to split the job in two and hand half of it to each claimant.

(Continued on page 2)

RINGLEADERS OF QUEBEC'S MOB UNDER ARREST

Seven Men Captured Last Night Turned Over to the Military.

ALL QUIET IN THE CITY LAST EVENING

Two Soldiers Arrested on Charge of Robbing Citizen.

Quebec, April 3—The police, after working quietly for two days, made seven arrests tonight, and they believe they have rounded up the ringleaders in the disturbances here.

Specific charges of rioting will be laid against these men. One of the men under arrest has been identified as the person who cut the hose on Thursday night last when the firemen were ordered to drench and disperse the crowd attacking the Dominion policemen. The suspects will be given a preliminary hearing tomorrow morning.

The men arrested gave the following names:

Joseph Lemelier, alias Mitchell, 21; Napoleon Martineau, 32 Pierre Savard, 22; Jules Jolicoeur, 20; Romeo Robitaille, 18; Eugene Marcoux, 37; Louis Gosselin, 32. They are all residents of Quebec. The prisoners were turned over to the military.

Two Identifications.

By the re-identification of two of the bodies of men killed on Monday, it was today necessary to revise the names on the casualty list. The name of Honore Bergeron was substituted for Arthur LaPerriere and Alexandre Busiere for George Hamel. Both were married men. They have been missing since the rioting, but their families did not visit the morgue until today to view the bodies there, under the belief that they were prisoners.

Tonight all was quiet in Quebec with the militia in full control of the city. More people ventured on the streets than last night, but there was no suspicion of disturbances.

Tonight two soldiers robbed a man named Guay of $72 on the street. Guay noticed an officer approaching and called to him. Upon learning of what had happened the officer interviewed the soldiers, secured the money and returned it to Guay. The two soldiers will be tried by court martial.

THE DUTIES OF MR. E. S. CARTER

Government Replies in Legislature to Questions from Mr. Jones of Kings.

Special to The Standard.

Fredericton, April 3—The following questions by Mr. Jones of Kings were replied to in the legislature today:

1. What are the duties of E. S. Carter other than those of secretary-treasurer of the St. John and Quebec Railway?

2. Is he paid an additional sum by the government for such services?

3. Was Mr. Carter engaged in the work of road inspecting in any part of the province last summer? If so, what were the terms of his engagement?

The answers:

1. Mr. Carter's duties other than those in connection with the St. John and Quebec Railway are assigned to him by the premier and paid for by the premier personally and are not chargeable to the province?

2. Answered by No. 1.

3. Mr. Carter did do some work in the way of road inspection last summer, but rendered no account for it and received no money from the province for it.

Charlotte Fosterite Boss Well-Paid Man

Remuneration of John M. Scovil of St. Stehen Formerly of St. John, and a Relative of Hon. Dr. E. A. Smith, Minister of Lands and Mines, Good Indication of Manner in Which Foster Government Provides for Its Political Heelers.

Special to The Standard.

Fredericton, April 3.—Another indication of the manner in which the Foster government provides for its party heelers at the public expense was afforded this afternoon in the case of Mr. J. M Scovil, of St. Stephen. Now Mr. Scovil is a clothier and for years was identified with the business of Oak Hall in St. John. Incidentally he is a relative of Hon. Dr. Smith, minister of lands and mines. For some time he has been in St. Stephen where he was engaged in business, and has also dabbled in politics to a greater or less extent. At the present time he is the political boss of the Foster party in the county of Charlotte, and has had more than one word to say concerning local government appointments and patronage in that county. Mr. Smith, of Charlotte asked a question in the House a few days ago, the answer to which was given this afternoon.

Was Well Paid.

He wanted to know how much money had been paid to Mr. Scovil by the government since the close of the fiscal year, what services he rendered for the money so paid, and if any sums were now due to him? Hon. Mr. Veniot supplied the answer. Mr. Scovil had been paid $66.50 for services, $5.05 for a telephone bill, $13.29 for freight paid by him, and $60 for automobile hire, or in all $144.84. There were no sums due him now. As to Mr. Scovil's duties it was pointed out that he had general supervision over all permanent road supervisors, was in short a sort of boss of the bosses. Authority for his work had been given in all cases by the road engineer and Mr. Scovil had looked after all purchases of materials and the procuring of labor, so there would be no delay in the carrying on of the work, and the supervisors would be able to give their entire time to the actual work of construction without having to bother with purchases of materials or employment of labor.

Got More Money.

Mr. Scovil, the minister pointed out, had had a number of years experience in this class of work, and was exceptionally efficient.

This was all the information but does not exhaust the amount of money Mr. Scovil received for his efforts during the past year.

On page 206 of the public accounts under the heading of Permanent Roads in Charlotte County, is the information that he drew $374.15 for work as supervisor in the parish of St. Croix, and $96 for automobile hire in connection with the inspection of road gangs, etc. As Mr. Scovil owns his own car he paid this hire to himself. Thus it can be seen that Mr. J. M. Scovil, clothier, politician, and relative of a member of the cabinet secured from the advent to power of the Foster government up to the present time a total of $614.99 for road work.