

The St. John Standard

VOL. VIII, NO. 256

TEN PAGES

WEDNESDAY MORNING, JANUARY 24, 1917.

WEATHER—FAIR

PRICE TWO CENTS

SEVERAL GERMAN VESSELS SUNK IN TWO SEA FIGHTS

HON. FRANK OLIVER IN FAVOR OF AN ELECTION

Thinks People Should Have Right to be Heard Again—MacDonald of Pictou Caught in Untruth on Floor of Parliament by Premier.

PICTOU RANter MADE HIS USUAL RECKLESS STATEMENTS AND Poured FORTH INVECTIVE AND INSINUATIONS—H. H. STEVENS OF VANCOUVER REPLIES EFFECTIVELY TO MACDONALD—McKENZIE OF NORTH CAPE BRETON TALKS TODAY.

Special to The Standard.

Ottawa, Jan. 23.—Hon. Frank Oliver, former Liberal minister of the interior, placed himself on record today in the debate in the address as being in favor of an election. Mr. Oliver declared that the government should go to the country and get a fresh mandate from the people. The present government was elected five years ago, before the war. The ideas of the people have changed and they should have an opportunity to give expression to these ideas.

Mr. Oliver's speech while critical could not be taken exception to as unfairly critical and at times Mr. Oliver's rather thoughtful speech was followed with the closest attention. He quite frankly declared that he had grown weary of statements that men serving in munition factories and on the farms were just as patriotic as men who had gone to the front.

In Disagreement.

He could not agree with this view. The greatest service of all was that being rendered by those standing in the battle line. The acceptance of any other view by the people was bound to be injurious to our effective participation in the war.

Mr. E. M. MacDonald was as unfair in his criticisms as Mr. Oliver was fair. His speech was an outpouring of invective and insinuations. The only Conservative speaker of the day was Mr. H. H. Stevens, member for Vancouver, who most effectively replied to Mr. MacDonald.

(Continued on page 2)

FIVE KILLED WHEN TRAIN HITS AUTO

Boston, Jan. 23.—Five persons are dead as the result of their automobile being struck by a train at the Still River crossing of the Worcester, Nashua and Portland division of the Boston and Maine railroad, near Harvard, Worcester Co.

The dead are:
Dr. James F. Ferry, aged 46 years, of Cambridge.
Miss Ethel Ferry, aged 23 years, his daughter.

Richard Ferry, aged 60 years, brother of Dr. Ferry, Cambridge.
Miss Esther Ferry, aged 18, another daughter of Dr. Ferry.
George Howard, aged about 60, of Harvard.

The cause of the accident was the failure of Dr. Ferry to see the locomotive in time to stop the car.
Dr. Ferry was a graduate of Harvard and was wealthy. Miss Esther Ferry was a school teacher.

FOUR MAKE SACRIFICE

Ottawa, Jan. 23.—10.30 p. m. list: Infantry.

Killed in Action—
D. E. McGrew, Scotsville, N. S.
Died of Wounds—
Gilbert Arsenault, Parisboro, N. S.
Previously reported dangerously wounded, now died of Wounds—
F. M. Annable, Yarmouth, N. S.
John Moulaison, Yarmouth, N. S.
Wounded—
Lance Corporal H. W. Heans, 78 Paradise Row, St. John, N. B.

PRESIDENT WILSON ELECTRIFIES THE GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC

Startling Speech Before United States Senate Monday Will Undoubtedly be Discussed in Lords and Commons—Wilson Both Endorsed and Frowned Upon in Great Britain.

London, Jan. 23.—President Wilson's address to the United States senate has furnished the British government and public with a surprise as electrifying as his mediatory note to the belligerents. With the exception of the Manchester Guardian and the Daily News, which are the only papers in Great Britain that can be classified as pacificatory in policy, the press gives the president's speech an unfriendly reception, and engages in much speculation over the meanings which, it is considered, may be concealed behind certain passages.

Public men interviewed begin with courteous tributes to the president's good intentions, and by supporting Great Britain's measures.

While the government cannot make any direct reply to a communication from the president to the United States senate, there is certain to be discussion in parliament. The usages of the House of Lords give even greater latitude for addresses on any subject than the American senate, while the question paper of the House of Commons furnishes an equally good opportunity for the advancement of any personal views.

It is already foreshadowed by members of the Commons that a discussion will be instigated upon when parliament reassembles, and speeches from members of the present and the last cabinet are expected.

Await Action of Congress.

Possible action by the American congress on committing the nation to membership in an international peace league is awaited with the greatest interest. Both David Lloyd George, in his historic maiden speech as prime minister, and Viscount Grey, while minister of foreign affairs, stated strongly that membership in such a league, without obligations to force its decrees by arms, would be useless.

The effect of President Wilson's policy on the status of the Monroe doctrine is discussed with equal interest. Several British publicists, notably E. J. Maseo, editor of the National Review, suggested recently that Great Britain is entitled to a weighty voice in any international movement in the American hemisphere because of the growing importance of Canada as one of the foremost nations of that hemisphere.

BARON SYDENHAM AGGRESS IN PART WITH MR. WILSON

London, Jan. 23.—Baron Sydenham, former chairman of the British Air Board, said with regard to the president's utterances:

"The strength of President Wilson's address lies in the high ideal by which it was inspired. He sees, as in a vision, a new world in which there shall be no preparation for war, but a solid union of all peoples acting in the common interest. That is an ideal in which all right thinking peoples of all countries can share. How it can be achieved must remain to be determined when peace returns, and in Mr. Wilson's opinion only a peace that suggests no element of victory can pave the way for the application of a glorified Monroe doctrine in which the United States will play their part. Germany Must Be Beaten."

"Mr. Wilson claims to speak for the mass of mankind in the old world which sees death and ruin everywhere, but he absolutely ignores the passionate resentment that the Allied peoples of all classes feel toward the power which has crowned its long career of calculated aggression by forcing Europe into an abyss, and by waging war with unparalleled brutality on the seas and land.

"Unless Germany is defeated not one of Mr. Wilson's demands can be fulfilled, and his renege vision will lead to oblivion. Reparation and restitution to France, Russia, Belgium, Serbia and Montenegro is possible only if Germany acknowledges defeat.

"Can President Wilson really believe the union could have been maintained if a victory had been denied the federal armies?"

Prof. Murray Talks.
Professor Gilbert Murray, regius professor of Greek at Oxford University, said:

"The strength of President Wilson's address lies in the high ideal by which it was inspired. He sees, as in a vision, a new world in which there shall be no preparation for war, but a solid union of all peoples acting in the common interest. That is an ideal in which all right thinking peoples of all countries can share. How it can be achieved must remain to be determined when peace returns, and in Mr. Wilson's opinion only a peace that suggests no element of victory can pave the way for the application of a glorified Monroe doctrine in which the United States will play their part. Germany Must Be Beaten."

"Does he really think the Central Powers, which have not yet stated the terms they would be willing to accept, would have proposed negotiations had they not believed themselves to be the conquerors? Indeed the preamble of the German note boasted that the German armies everywhere were victorious.

Want Hun Peace Terms.
"I cannot conceive that the president, if a born Belgian would consent to anything less than such a victory as would discredit the Prussian military regime. Without this the future seems hopeless.

"My own view of this important speech is that it results from a conviction on his part that the war may, and probably will, end in a stalemate, and that he desires, with all his heart, that it may be possible to stave off the slaughter and destruction of a spring offensive. The only conceivable hope of achieving his purpose is to give to the world, if he has them, the German peace terms."

WEALTHY AMERICAN OFFERS TO EQUIP A CANADIAN BATTALION

Lieutenant M. Stephenson, son of United States Senator Isaac Stephenson of Wisconsin, is attending a Canadian military officers' school to qualify as captain. He has offered to equip a whole battalion to go overseas with the Canadian expeditionary force.

Lieut. Stephenson resigned command of the U. S. warship Yantic to take a Canadian commission.

BRITISH TORPEDO DESTROYER SUNK

At Least Two Smaller German War Vessels Sent to Bottom and Three Badly Damaged Near Dutch Coast—British Lost Torpedo Boat Destroyer in Vicinity of Schouwen Bank in Second Engagement.

SENATOR DAVIS FORMER LIB. WHIP DEAD

Mrs. Davis was Formerly Miss Rebecca Jennings of Prince Edward Island.

Prince Albert, Sask., Jan. 23.—Hon. Thomas Osborne Davis, senator since 1904, died at his home here today. Senator Davis was born at Sherrington, Que., of Irish lineage, in 1856, the son of Samuel Davis.

He had been councillor and Mayor of Prince Albert, president of the Board of Trade and chairman of the school committee, and a member of the House of Commons, succeeding Sir Wilfrid Laurier in 1896, for eight years. He was Liberal whip for the west from 1901 to 1904, when he was summoned to the Senate. His wife was Miss Rebecca Jennings of Prince Edward Island.

DROP BOMBS ON OLD CITY OF BAGDAD

London, Jan. 23.—British airplanes have bombarded a Turkish munitions factory at Bagdad, it is officially announced. Six bombs of 100 pounds each fell in and around the factory.

At Kut-el-Amara.
Berlin, Jan. 23, via Sayville.—Heavy losses were suffered by the British in attack on an evacuated Turkish position east of Kut-el-Amara, on the Tigris, during the morning of January 20. Turkish army headquarters announced. The text of the statement reads: "East of Kut-el-Amara the hostile fleet and heavy artillery shelled during the entire night of the 19th the position previously evacuated by us. The following morning a hostile infantry brigade attacked this position, and was fired at by us from the flanks, suffering heavy losses."

KING GEORGE REWARDS BRAVE STEAMSHIP MEN

King George has awarded a silver medal for gallantry to Chief Officer John J. Solby of the Leyland Line steamer Devonian, who last October while at Boston risked his life to save men in the hold of the vessel who had been overcome by fumes of a distasteful gas.

REV. D. STILES FRASER DIES OF PNEUMONIA

Halifax, Jan. 23.—Rev. D. Stiles Fraser, one of the best known Presbyterian clergymen in the Maritime Provinces and former editor of the Presbyterian Witness, died suddenly tonight at the Mansie, Londonderry, after one week's illness of pneumonia.

REUTER DESPATCH FROM YMUIDEN, VIA AMSTERDAM, SAYS EIGHT GERMAN VESSELS WERE SUNK AND COMMANDER OF DESTROYER V-69 AND TWO OTHER OFFICERS KILLED—BRITISH LOSE TWO OFFICERS AND 44 MEN.

London, Jan. 23.—According to a Hague report to the Exchange Telegraph Company, two German ships were sunk and three others badly damaged in a North Sea fight.

Two Engagements.
London, Jan. 23.—In an engagement between British light naval forces and German torpedo boat destroyers in the North Sea last night a German destroyer was sunk and the other torpedo craft scattered, it was officially announced tonight.

The sinking of a British torpedo boat destroyer in another engagement with German torpedo boat destroyers in the vicinity of Schouwen Bank, last night, with the loss of three officers and forty-four of the crew, also was announced.

Text of Announcement.

The text of the official announcement says: "Last night, while our light forces were patrolling the North Sea, not far from the Dutch coast, they met a division of enemy torpedo boat destroyers. A short engagement took place during which one of the enemy torpedo boat destroyers was sunk and the rest scattered, having suffered considerable punishment.

"Darkness prevented the full results of the action from being observed.

"During last night there was also a short sharp engagement between one of our torpedo boat destroyers and our own destroyers in the vicinity of Schouwen Bank. During this engagement one of our torpedo boat destroyers was struck by a torpedo, the explosion killing three officers and forty-four of the crew.

"The subsequently was sunk by our ships. Relatives of the victims have been informed. Our ships suffered no other casualties.

Ice Battered Germans.
London, Jan. 23.—Reports from Ymuiden received by Reuters' Telegram Company, via Amsterdam, say that German torpedo boats last night attempted to leave Zebrugge to avoid the ice, which was very thick. They were immediately attacked by a large British squadron. The action opened at short range, and early in the fight the bridge of the German destroyer V-69 was swept away by a direct hit, the commander and two other officers being killed.

The V-69 fired one torpedo and was then hit by another British shell, which knocked the funnel flat on the deck. Still another shell put a hole in the forepart of the vessel. Her guns appear not to have been damaged.

The crew of the V-69 numbered about sixty. It would appear from the statement of the men that seven other German vessels were sunk. The V-69 belonged to the home fleet.

The Holland Version.
Ymuiden, Holland, Jan. 23, via The Hague to London, Jan. 22.—An encounter occurred Tuesday morning in the North Sea between fourteen German torpedo boat destroyers and a British flotilla. Sixteen severely wounded Germans have been landed here by a Dutch steam trawler, which took them off the badly damaged German torpedo boat V-69. The torpedo boat was afterwards towed here with twenty dead aboard. The commander had both his legs shot off, and died before reaching port.

British Raid Trenches.
London, Jan. 23.—The official report from British headquarters in France issued tonight reads:

"We carried out a successful raid during this morning northeast of Neuville St. Vaast, and captured some prisoners. In the neighborhood of Fauquissart bombing was continued against the enemy last night.

"In addition to that reported in yesterday's communication, two other raids were attempted by the enemy last night between Armentieres and

Ploegsteert. In one case the enemy was repulsed before reaching our lines. In the other he succeeded in reaching our trenches, but was immediately driven out.

"The hostile party came under our machine gun fire both in advancing and returning, and left a number of dead in front of our position.

"Considerable artillery and trench mortar activity occurred on both sides during the day. We bombarded the enemy's positions at a number of places along our front with good observed results.

"Our airplanes were active yesterday in co-operation with our artillery. One of our machines is missing. On the twenty-first an enemy machine was forced to descend in the neighborhood of Aubigny; the pilot and observer were made prisoners.

French Statement.
Paris, Jan. 23.—The official communication issued by the war office tonight reads:

"There was quite active cannonading at various points in Champagne and the Argonne. In Lorraine we carried out a surprise attack against the enemy lines in the region of Richcourt. An enemy long range gun dropped shells in the region of Frouard.

"In Alsace, in the region of Hirschbach, there were patrol encounters. Artillery fighting occurred in the direction of Langleitern.

"In the morning enemy airplanes dropped five bombs on Montdidier. A Fokker landed in our lines near Fismes. Two other German airplanes were brought down in an aerial engagement in the neighborhood of Marchepot; another by the fire of our special guns in the direction of Amy (Oise)."

The Belgian communication:

"In the course of the night of January 22-23, as well as today, the artillery was active on the whole Belgian front. In the region of Het Sas the artillery duel and bomb fighting was characterized by great violence."

HAMPTON MAN HONORED
Peter Gallagher, Canadian Government Railways track foreman, of Hampton, has been awarded a medal by King George for long and meritorious service in the employ of the government.

Fred Wellington, a retired engineer, of Moncton, and 17 others, have been awarded similar medals.