

THE WEATHER.  
Maritime — Moderate east and  
northwest winds; generally fair  
and cool.

# The St. John Standard,

NEW BRUNSWICK, CANADA.

OPERA HOUSE  
TONIGHT.  
"MUTT AND JEFF IN COLLEGE"

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## GREAT BRITAIN TO TIGHTEN THE BLOCKADE; ACTIVITY AT SEVERAL POINTS ON BRITISH FRONT

### COL. CARNEGIE ACCEPTS FULL RESPONSIBILITY

For Arrangement Entered into by Shell Committee with American Ammunition Co. and International Ammunition Fuse Co.—Committee Agreed to Prices on His Recommendation.

(Canadian Press).  
Ottawa, April 27.—Col. David Carnegie, member of the shell committee, announced today that he had continued his review of the events leading up to the award of the famous fuse contracts at the morning and afternoon sessions of the Meredith-Duff royal commission of inquiry today. Some frank admissions were made by the witness, and it seems as though he is desirous of bidding back nothing whatever which might have a bearing on the subject under investigation, as the government counsel, Mr. F. P. Hollman, K. C., also shows he is trying to get at the facts. This morning he said that as ordnance officer, "he took the full responsibility for recommending the contracts to the shell committee." In the afternoon he said that in determining the price for the fuses he acted solely upon his own judgment. "I have since seen the error of my ways," he said candidly. "For I have learned that lower prices were paid in the United States for the same article."  
An analysis of the dates of the various letters and telegrams shows that the awarding of the contracts to the Dr. Harris and Youkin companies was synchronized with the rejection of the proposition put forth by T. A. Russell and Lloyd Harris, the Canadian companies. The detailed offer of these gentlemen came in the same day that the letter was written to the New York interests conveying the assurance that an order was to be given. Mr. Russell, however, had previously sent a telegram stating that the proposition would be submitted, and evidently it had been expected. After the American contract had been placed Col. Carnegie and General Bertram sent General Harris, who said he would be quite willing that an order for two hundred thousand fuses should be placed in Canada. That the Canadian concern had been given reason to hope for the contract was indicated in Col. Carnegie's account of an interview with the parties behind the proposal.  
"We told them," said the colonel, "that we regretted we had gone back on our word, but that we were under pressure owing to the urgency. It was on this occasion that the Canadian company was offered an order for the two hundred thousand fuses. They expressed dissatisfaction with such a small appropriation, as it would take \$150,000 to equip the necessary plant. The agreement ratified by the shell committee on June 19 was produced, and among those present on that occasion was Lieut.-Col. Pease, who was out in Canada doing inspection duties for the British war office. The contract was also put in the records. It provided for generous cash advances to the companies, and also for guarantees for the specific performance of the contracts. It is evident, from the dates, that the original negotiations were conducted with Mr. Harris, of the International Fuse Company, while the share of the American Ammunition Company, in which Mr. Youkin, Col. Allison and the associates figure, was apparently in the nature of a later development. Col. Carnegie will be on the stand again tomorrow, and even then he is not likely to be finished with, as the main examination is not completed and the cross-examination is yet to come. It will cover a very wide range, as there have been introduced into the direct testimony matters which, strictly speaking, are not involved in the evidence of the commission. The attendance is large, and interest is at a high pitch.  
When the afternoon session opened, Mr. Johnston raised the question of the summoning and payment of witnesses. Sir William Meredith remarked that no doubt money would be available for reasonable expenses forthwith.  
Mr. Hollman read the two letters from T. A. Russell, dated May 29, asking for further information as to the specifications for fuses.  
Mr. Hollman: "Reading these two letters it occurs to one naturally that the Russell people were still looking forward to some contracts for fuses. Can you give us any explanation as to this?"  
"Yes. We were proposing to call upon the war office for another order, if possible for fuses only."  
Here a cable to the war office, dated

### ATTACK ON BRITISH FRONT PROMISES ARRIVAL THAT ON THE FRENCH AT VERDUN

Huns Launch Attacks at Several Points, But So Far Have Failed to Accomplish End — Irish Troops Win Glory for Bravery and Dash — Official Statement Last Night Longest Yet Issued by War Office.

Bulletin—London, April 28, 1.31 a. m.—Great activity at various points along the British front is reported in the latest official communication, "The Bedfordshire Regiment carried on a successful raid near Carnoy. There has been artillery activity at La Balise, Meubert, Monchy-Au-Bois, Neuville-St. Vaast, and Freilighin. At Freilighin the Germans entered the British trenches but were driven out. Similar attacks on the British trenches on Hill 60 and at St. Eloi were repulsed.  
The communication closes with an account of the aeroplane activity, including a description of a fight between a German "two-seater" and a British "one-seater," resulting in the death of both German aviators and the destruction of the machine, which fell from a height of 14,000 feet.  
Of the work of the Irish regiments on Thursday the communication says: "This morning, at 5.10 o'clock, the enemy discharged gas from trenches south of Hulluch, and at the same time put artillery barrage on our lines north of Loos.  
"At 7.30 a. m. a second gas cloud was released from about the same place, and after a heavy artillery bombardment the enemy gained a footing in our front and support lines east-northeast of Loos.  
"A counter-attack by our Irish troops took place within half an hour, and the enemy was driven out, leaving many dead in our trenches.  
"The enemy also advanced from trenches just south of Hulluch, but this attack was enfiladed by our machine guns and many corpses were left in front of our trenches. A few Germans reached our lines, but were driven out."  
The communication also says: "Hostile artillery was active during the day against our trenches about Carnoy, Soches, Les Bredes and Fosse (De Braquemont).  
"Yesterday there was much aerial activity, almost constant in the air taking place. The machine reported yesterday as having been brought down in our lines was a two-seater. It was attacked by a single-seater three times at a great height.  
"The enemy pilot was shot through the heart, and the observer through the body. The machine crashed to earth, with the engine flung on, from a height of 14,000 feet. One of our reconnaissance was attacked by eight hostile aeroplanes. All the hostile attacks were driven off, and one hostile machine was brought down. Our reconnaissance was completed. Two of our aeroplanes were damaged, but all returned safely.  
"Last night the Bedfordshire Regiment carried out a very successful attack near Carnoy. The raiding party rushed the trenches and after a hand-to-hand fighting drove the remaining Germans into their dugouts and bombed them. Our casualties were eight wounded. The German losses were considerable.  
"South of Freilighin the enemy entered our trenches about eight p. m. under cover of a bombardment, but was immediately driven out by a counter-attack.  
"Last night after a heavy bombardment, followed by the explosion of a mine, the enemy attacked our trenches on Hill 60, but was repulsed about the same time the enemy gained a footing in one of our sap-heads north of Hill 60, but was driven out by our bombers.  
"Longest Yet Issued.  
"The British communication issued last night is the longest ever sent out from British headquarters. To the extent of nearly five hundred words it describes the great increase of activity on the British front, where many observers have been predicting that the Germans were about to launch an attack as determined as that against Verdun.  
"The new German activity has shown itself at more than a score of points with the principal fighting apparently around Hulluch and Loos.  
"The Irish regiments get special mention for bravery, in a counter-attack which drove the Germans out of a section of trenches where they had gained a footing, with the help of gas and an artillery curtain of fire.  
Russians Drive Turks from Mountain Positions.  
Petrograd, via London, April 27, 10.15 p. m.—The following official communication was issued today: "Western (Russian) front: The enemy has continued his bombardment of the Izkulid heights.  
"Enemy aeroplanes have flown over our Divina lines, at many points dropping bombs. Seven enemy aeroplanes yesterday flew over the Divina region. One of them bore the distinguished mark of a Russian aeroplane.  
"One of our aeroplanes bombarded the railway station at Dautveas and Uivertyn, southeast of Friedriksstad. Twenty large bombs were dropped and started fire.  
"Wednesday night the enemy, after an artillery preparation lasting two hours, attacked Vlassy Kroshin, in the sector northeast of Baranovichi, but was repulsed by the fire of our outposts and scouts.  
"In the morning we observed a fresh massing of troops against this sector, which we again dispersed.  
"The enemy's artillery is particularly active in the region of the Oginski canal and the Jasolova river. Enemy aeroplanes at several points flew over the outposts of Gen. Ever's troops and dropped bombs.  
"In the region of the Rovno-Kovel railway, after a fight, we occupied the village of Chromiakoua. The enemy attempted to recapture the ground lost but was repulsed by our fire.  
"Caucasus front: Engagements between outposts occurred in the district of Mamakhatun and Mush. Southwards of Bihis our troops have dislodged the Turks from their whole series of positions in the mountains.  
Huns Prevented from Leaving Trenches.  
Paris, April 27.—The official communication issued by the war office tonight reads:  
"On the left bank of the Meuse there has been intense artillery activity in the regions of Avoucourt, Enes and Cumieres.  
"On the right bank of the river the enemy made two semblances of attack, accompanied by violent bombardments—one on the front of Handremont and the Thilamont front, the other between Douaumont and Vaux. Arrested by our curtain of fire the Germans were not able to leave their trenches.  
"On the rest of the front the day was comparatively calm, save in the region of Roye, and in the sectors to the west of Pont-A-Mousson, where our batteries displayed great activity.  
"Yesterday an enemy aeroplane brought down by our fire, fell in front of Fort Vaux. Last night three of our dirigibles carried out bombing operations. Numerous projectiles of large calibre were dropped by them on the stations at Etain and Bousdorf and on the railway at Arnaville.  
"The same night our aeroplanes dropped 37 shells of 120 millimetres at different stations in the valley of the Aire; twenty-five shells on Livoques in the valley of the Orne; six shells and two incendiary bombs on the station at Thionville, and eight on the Conzain station.  
"The Belgian official communication reads:  
"There were local artillery actions at various points along the whole front yesterday in the direction of Dixmude. Our batteries took under their fire enemy groups in the direction of Keyem and Wyhezyen.  
Dutch Steamer Hits Mine.  
Rotterdam, April 27, via London.—The Dutch steamer Maashaven struck a mine yesterday morning while bound from London to this port. A tug car-

### BRITISH GOV'T WITHDRAWS MILITARY SERVICE BILL

Owing to Strong Opposition Which Developed in the Commons—Premier Has Two Alternatives and will Announce Decision Next Week.

London, April 27.—It was announced that the government had withdrawn the military service bill, owing to the strong opposition in the house. It was understood that the bill embodied certain aspects of the proposals outlined in the report of the secret session at which recruiting was taken up, had been approved by the minister and the army council.  
The withdrawal of Mr. Lons's bill, which provided for bringing into service every unmarried man between sixteen and forty-five, and prolonging for the duration of the war the service of all time-expired men and territorials, left the question of untested married men to be dealt with later. The discussion that followed the introduction of the bill showed that the measure was opposed by all parties as unfair, several members urging that nothing but all-round conscription would prove satisfactory. Particular objection was raised to the extension of the service period of time-expired men.  
Being pressed to state what course the government proposed to adopt, Premier Asquith said he could not be expected to reply on the spur of the moment, but would consult his colleagues and announce his decision next week. It is understood that two alternatives are before the government, either to introduce a bill bringing into operation the proposals concerning untested married men, given in the premier's statement at the secret session of the house on Tuesday, or proceed at once to the adoption of universal service.  
of the members, "to make clear to the world the true amount of support behind the movement."  
At the rising of the House the home secretary, Herbert Samuel, was able to announce the receipt of information that over "considerable districts" of Ireland calm prevailed, and to repeat the prime minister's promise that consistent with the military exigencies all the news available would be published, and the necessary facilities granted to newspaper men.  
Redmond and Carson in Accord.  
Individually the ministers express confidence that the military forces on the spot can deal successfully with the movement. On the political side the position is much more satisfactory, Mr. Redmond and Sir Edward Carson being in agreement that no political capital is to be made out of the trouble.  
Premier Asquith's promise, in behalf of the government, of a searching investigation into the origin of the movement and his acceptance of full responsibility, together with the speeches of the Irish Nationalist and Unionist leaders, expressing their desire to do everything in their power to assist the government, went far to allay the rising passions of the house, which had been shown in demands for the resignation of Augustine Birrell, chief secretary for Ireland; Baron Wimborne, the lord lieutenant, and other officials alleged to be responsible in disregarding warnings as to what was likely to happen from the Sinn Fein agitation, Sir Edward Carson, who had been given full disciplinary powers for the extension of operations and the suppression of the rebellion.  
The revolt, which broke out in Dublin Monday, has spread to other parts of Ireland, chiefly to the west and south. This information, together with the fact that the rebels are still in possession of parts of the city of Dublin, was given to the nation by the ministers in parliament today.  
Premier Asquith, who yesterday had given reassuring news respecting the situation in Ireland, caused something of a flutter of anxiety by his statement in the House today when he announced a spread of the movement to other parts of Ireland, the retention by the revolutionary forces of certain parts of Dublin and the fact that fighting was still going on in the streets.  
The government, the premier further announced, was convinced that the forces now in Ireland and those proceeding there were adequate to deal with the situation.  
John Redmond, leader of the Irish Nationalist party, and Sir Edward Carson, the Unionist leader, strong opponents on the home rule question, expressed their detestation of the rising, and, as a consequence, Premier Asquith said he did not think it necessary to hold a session of the House Monday, as had been suggested by one trying the survivors arrived at Water yesterday. On April 10 the Maashaven hit a mine on the English coast, but managed to reach the Thames. Necessary repairs were made, and on Tuesday of this week the vessel left for Rotterdam in tow of two tugs.  
London, April 27.—A despatch to Lloyd's Shipping Agency says that the Dutch steamer Dubbe and the Maashaven have been damaged, but are still afloat.

### ENGLAND TO TAKE CLOSER GRIP ON NEUTRALS' TRADE CONNECTIONS

London, April 27.—The report that Great Britain intends to tighten the commercial blockade is reiterated in a despatch from the Copenhagen correspondent of the Exchange Telegraph Company, who says there are persistent rumors to that effect in circulation there. It is stated, he adds, that Great Britain desires all Danish merchants to pay in advance through London for goods purchased in America, with the object of gaining through control over the commercial connections of neutrals.

### REVOLT NOT CONFINED TO THE CITY OF DUBLIN

Marital Law on Whole Island  
But More Hopeful Feeling  
Prevails.

### CARSON AND REDMOND DENOUNCE UPRISING

London Express Demands a  
New Administration With  
Kitchener as Lord Lieutenant.

London, April 27.—Marital law has been declared throughout Ireland and Major Sir John Maxwell, who until recently commanded the troops in Egypt, has gone over to take charge. The Irish executive officials having placed themselves under his instructions. He has been given full disciplinary powers for the extension of operations and the suppression of the rebellion.

### FREDERICTON DECIDES NOT TO ADOPT THE DAYLIGHT SAVING SCHEME

Special to The Standard.  
Fredericton, April 27.—The city council tonight decided not to adopt the daylight saving scheme for Fredericton during the present summer. The labor men of the city are not in favor of the scheme and the council decided to defer any action in matter until the scheme became province-wide. There was very little discussion on the question and the citizens in general have taken very little interest in the matter since the agitation started for its adoption in this city.

### THREATENED STRIKE COAL MINERS LIKELY TO BE AVERTED

New York, April 27.—It was announced at the conference here today of a joint committee of anthracite coal operators and miners that their differences had been referred back to sub-committees, and that there was every prospect that they would be settled before the miners tri-district convention of May 2. It was stated on behalf of both sides that the chief point of difference between them—the matter of full recognition of the United Mine Workers of America—had been "cleared up," and that the details would be arranged at a meeting of their respective sub-committees tomorrow morning. This averts a threatened strike.

### HUNS AGAIN VIOLATE SWISS TERRITORY

German Aeroplane Flew Over  
Region of Porentray —  
Bombed by Swiss Troops  
Along Frontier.

Geneva Switzerland, April 27, via Paris.—Swiss territory has again been violated by a German aeroplane. The machine flew over the region of Porentray at dawn today and was bombed by Swiss troops all along the frontier.  
The aircraft dropped bombs on the French town of Delle, eleven miles southeast of Belfort, and then crossed the Swiss frontier a second time, finally disappearing in the direction of Alsace.  
Swiss Minister in Berlin Summoned Home.  
Berne, Switzerland, April 26, via Paris, April 27.—As the result of violations of Swiss territory by German aeroplanes the federal council, according to the Swiss telegraphic agency, has summoned Berne the Swiss minister in Berlin to discuss the situation arising from these incidents.

### HALIFAX WILL PUT CLOCKS AHEAD 1 HOUR AT MIDNIGHT SUNDAY

Special to The Standard.  
Halifax, April 27.—Some days ago, following representations made by a number of citizens to the mayor and city council in favor of the daylight saving scheme for Halifax, Mayor P. F. Martin issued a proclamation that on May first the clocks of the city be moved forward one hour, thus putting into effect as far as he officially could, the daylight saving plan for this city. At a public meeting tonight the professional and business classes were found to be in favor of the change and the labor element opposed.  
Two hours were spent in the discussion pro and con.  
The city council afterwards took a vote on the question and decided ten to four to allow the mayor's proclamation to remain effective. On May first therefore city clocks in Halifax and those of all others where the owners wish shall be advanced one hour. On the previous occasion the aldermen were unanimous for the change, now it becomes effective only by a somewhat more than two to one vote.

### Gifts Appreciated.

The Parks Convalescent Home thanks Mayor Hayes for a donation of a billiard table to the Home, also Mr. Frodsham of the Royal Hotel for a supply of chalk and cues, which were very much appreciated.