

THE WEATHER.
Maritime—Winds mostly west and
northwest, air, with moderate
temperature.

The St. John Standard,

NEW BRUNSWICK, CANADA.

OPERA HOUSE
TODAY MATINEE 2:30
TONIGHT 8:15
Feldman and Christie Musical Co.
"MY WIFE'S FAMILY"

VOL. VIII. NO. 11.

TEN PAGES

THURSDAY MORNING, APRIL 6, 1916.

PRICE TWO CENTS

IMPORTANT BRITISH VICTORY IN MESOPOTAMIA BRINGS THE RELIEF OF KUT-EL-AMARA NEARER

STRONG TURK POSITION ON TIGRIS WON BY BRITISH

**Umm-el-Henna, 20 Miles From Kut-el-Amara,
Stormed and Captured by
Tigris Corps.**

Last Serious Barrier to Relief of Gen. Townshend Beleguered at Kut-el-Amara—Most Important Event in This Theatre in Weeks.

London, April 5.—A victory for the British over the Turks on the Tigris below Kut-el-Amara has been reported by General Lake, in command of the British forces there. The Turkish entrenched position at Umm-el-Henna was attacked and carried at five o'clock this morning by the Tigris Corps, General Lake telegraphed, and the operations are proceeding satisfactorily.

Umm-el-Henna is on the Tigris river, about twenty miles below Kut-el-Amara, where a British force under General Townshend is beleaguered.

The capture of Umm-el-Henna, which is on the Tigris about twenty miles down stream from Kut-el-Amara, is the most important news from this theatre in some time, and is regarded here as giving promise of the early relief of General Townshend's force, which has been besieged in Kut-el-Amara since the first week in December.

Umm-el-Henna is a strong position on an important bend of the river, and is said to be the last serious barrier to the relief of Gen. Townshend, although two or three less strong positions are still to be overcome before Kut-el-Amara is reached.

Next to the Dapheh expedition the operations in Mesopotamia have been a subject on which the government has been more criticized than any other, not only on account of the breakdown in the hospital arrangements, but on the question of responsibility for the advance, with insufficient forces toward Bagdad.

An in the case of the Dardanelles, the critics accused the ministers at home of insisting on the expedition, against the advice of the military authorities in India, and on the spot. The accusation, however, met with an unqualified contradiction by Austen Chamberlain, secretary for India, in the House of Commons yesterday. Mr. Chamberlain declared that the advance on Bagdad was undertaken on the advice of the commander-in-chief in Mesopotamia.

No Infantry Attacks.

Paris, April 5 (10.40 p. m.)—The following official communication was issued by the war office tonight:
"In Belgium a destructive fire on the enemy trenches in front of Steenstraete gave good results.

"North of the Aisne our artillery was active between the Beau-Marais wood, south of Croonne, and Berry-Au-Bac.
"In the Argonne our artillery continued to direct concentrated fires on the lines of communication on the enemy's front, especially in the region of Montcaumon and the Malancourt wood.

"West of the Meuse the day was calm. To the east there was an intermittent cannonade in the Doumont-Vaux sector. No infantry action occurred in the region of Verdun."
The Belgian official communication reads:
"The artillery action was particularly spirited today in the central sector of the Belgian army."

Norwegian Steamer Torpedoed.
Havre, April 5 (8.58 p. m.)—A German submarine has sunk the Norwegian steamer Baus, a vessel of 1,287 tons, in the English Channel. Four of the crew are missing. Fourteen others were saved.

Twenty-One Liners.
The Port of St. John never looked more prosperous than it did yesterday. There were no less than twenty-one large ocean liners in the harbor and there is plenty of work for the longshoremen.

OVER NINE HUNDRED NOW

The 140th Band Fund is coming along. Yesterday several very generous contributions were offered, enough to bring the total to a little over the nine hundred mark. With the information now on hand it seems that this is about half enough to pay the cost of the entire set of instruments.

Previously acknowledged	\$834.17
John Sealy	20.00
Joseph L. O'Brien	5.00
G. E. Barbour	25.00
Chief Justice McLeod	25.00
Total	\$909.17

Who will be the next?

QUIET ON BOTH FRONTS FOLLOWING THE SUCCESSFUL COUNTER-ATTACK OF FRENCH

Infantry Rests and Only Intermittent Artillery Bombardments Break the Calm.

GERMANS TAKE THE OFFENSIVE IN EAST.

Spain Sends Note to Berlin Protesting Sinking of Vessel in Which Several Spaniards Lost Lives.

For the moment the infantry of both sides is quiet everywhere along the western front in France. On the much-disputed sectors around Verdun the only activity has been an intermittent bombardment in the region of Doumont and Vaux. This rather unprecedented calm follows a successful offensive undertaken by the French, in which they re-captured some of their lost ground and drove the Germans back.

On the eastern line, in Russia the Germans have taken up the offensive and are heavily attacking with infantry and artillery the Russian positions. Unofficial advices from Petrograd say, however, that the Germans nowhere have been able to penetrate the Russian line in frontal attacks.

The Italians and Austrians are continuing their operations along the Austro-Italian front, but no important changes in positions have occurred.

The British in Mesopotamia have captured an important Turkish position at Umm-el-Henna, on the Tigris river twenty miles below Kut-el-Amara. This victory is considered in London as giving hope for the early relief of the British forces who have been besieged in Kut-el-Amara since last December. The Russians also are successfully operating against the Turks in the Caucasus and Persian regions.

Berlin reports the loss during March of fourteen German aeroplanes and of forty-four British and French machines. Thirty-eight of the latter were brought to earth in air combats, according to Berlin.

Ambassador Page has forwarded from London to Washington metal found in the cross-channel steamer Sussex, recently damaged by an explosion, which killed a number of persons and wounded several Spaniards. The embassy in London is credited with the belief that the metal came from a German torpedo.

Spain has sent a note to Germany protesting against the torpedoing of the Sussex, in which several Spaniards lost their lives.

A British patrol boat has picked up off the Orkney Islands, Scotland, the Brazilian steamer Sandanha De Gama, bound from Para, Brazil, for New York with a cargo of raw rubber. As the steamer was several thousand miles off of her course, the British are inclined to the belief that she was attempting to run the blockade.

Spain Protests.

Madrid, via Paris, April 5.—The Spanish government has sent a note to Germany in which protest is made against the torpedoing of the French steamer Sussex, and the death of Spanish subjects as a result.

The note also discusses the navigation rights of neutrals.

Czar Sends Message to Head of Red Cross.

Petrograd, via London, April 5.—Emperor Nicholas has sent a telegram to the chief of the Red Cross Service, in which he expresses profound indignation over the sinking of the Russian hospital ship Portugal, and declares that "the whole world should bear of this outrage."

FIREMAN ON CABLE SHIP DROWNS AT HALIFAX

Halifax, April 5.—Missing his step on the deck of the steamer Scotsburn at DeWolfe's wharf, Thomas Johnson, a fireman on the cable ship Minia, fell overboard today and was drowned. Strenuous efforts were made by men on the steamer to rescue the man, but they could not reach him and he sank before their eyes and almost within their grasp. He was fifty years of age and unmarried.

TELEGRAPH'S STATEMENTS WERE ABSOLUTELY FALSE

HON. MR. MURRAY IN LEGISLATURE YESTERDAY GIVES COMPLETE STATEMENT REGARDING POTATO PURCHASE, SHOWING WHOLE TRANSACTION WAS BUSINESS-LIKE AND ABOVE BOARD AND GIVING THE LIE TO MALICIOUS MISSTATEMENTS OF GRIT PAPER.

Special to The Standard.
Fredericton, April 5.—Hon. James A. Murray, in the legislature this afternoon spoke on a question of privilege and in unmistakable terms showed the misrepresentation which the St. John Telegraph has been guilty of in its recent insinuations and innuendoes in respect to purchase of potatoes which New Brunswick gave to the Imperial Government and the Belgian Relief in the early days of war.

Not only did Hon. Mr. Murray make a complete statement of the circumstances in connection with the transactions regarding the purchase of the potatoes, but he issued a straight challenge to anyone to show that he had benefited to the extent of one single cent in connection with purchase of potatoes and on behalf of Secretary of Agriculture Daggitt he issued a similar challenge. "Every cent spent in connection with the matter was accounted for," declared Hon. Mr. Murray, "and the whole transaction had been carried through in a perfectly businesslike manner."

Most of the afternoon in the House was taken up with consideration of bills in committee, a large amount of work being completed and because of the meeting of the Jordan Memorial Sanatorium Commission the House did not sit this evening. Tomorrow evening the House will probably not sit either because of the at home for which Lieutenant Governor and Mrs. Wood have issued invitations. It was said today that the St. John Valley Railway legislation, and perhaps the prohibition bill too, might be brought down next week.

(Continued on page 3)

SCHILLER IS NOW IN JAIL COL. ALLISON RETURNING NEXT WEEK TO CANADA?

Taken Into Custody at Bellevue Hospital and is Charged with Piracy.

New York, April 5.—Under arrest on a charge of piracy, Clarence Hudson, otherwise known as Ernest Schiller, was lodged in the tombs tonight, pending his removal to Delaware for trial for the seizure at sea of the British freight steamer Matoppe. He was taken into custody at Bellevue Hospital upon a warrant issued by Wm. B. Mahaffy, federal commissioner in Delaware. He is charged with having committed the crime of piracy, as defined by the law of nations and of the United States.

Hudson was brought to this city by the police of Lewes, Delaware, after his arrest there without the sanction of the federal authorities.

Ottawa, April 5.—Replying to Mr. Kye of Richmond, in the House of Commons today, the Prime Minister said that he had received a cablegram yesterday from Sir Sam Hughes that he was sailing for Canada this morning.

To Mr. Turriff, of Assiniboia, he said that he had heard that Col. John Wesley Allison had sent a telegram to John Thompson, counsel of the Davidson Commission, announcing his return to Canada next week.

Mr. E. M. MacDonald referred to the report that the provisions of the industrial disputes act had been made applicable to factories in which munitions or war supplies were being produced. He asked if further legislation would be necessary to make the order-in-council passed for the purpose effective. He was informed by Hon. T. W. Crothers that the action had been taken under the war measures act and that the industrial disputes act had been by order-in-council made applicable to factories making munitions and supplies for our troops and also for the Allies.

Hon. P. E. Blondin told Mr. Knowles of Moose Jaw in the House of Commons today that \$1,265,752.92, including \$500,000 from the Ontario government had been subscribed by the public for the purchase of machine guns. The minister said that there might have been additional amounts subscribed for the purpose but afterwards utilized by the donors for other patriotic purposes. He stated that all the money actually paid in for the purchase of machine guns would be used in the public interest to announce how many guns had been ordered; how many had been delivered to the government and to overseas battalions, and when delivery would be completed.

New York, April 5.—A news agency despatch from Vienna today says: "Loss of two Austrian aeroplanes during the attack on the Italian coast on Monday was admitted by the war office today in the following statement: "In the course of an aerial attack on the Italian coast, two of our zero planes were shot down into the sea. An enemy torpedo boat attempted to capture the machines, but was driven off by another of our air machines, which descended, destroyed the fallen aeroplanes and rescued the occupants."

TWO AUSTRIAN AEROPLANES SHOT DOWN

TEUTON DRIVE AGAINST SALONIKI ANY DAY NOW

Bulgarian Officers at Monastir Authority For Statement That Plans For Attack Are About Completed.

Russian Army Moving Forward Swiftly Beyond Erzerum and in Persia—Germans Try New Manoeuvre in Riga Region.

New York, April 5.—An International News Service despatch from Athens today says:
"The German allies on the Greek frontier have made preparations to attack the Anglo-French troops, a drive into Greece may now be expected any time, according to Bulgarian officers stationed at Monastir."

Russians Moving Swiftly.

Petrograd, via London, April 5.—Although there has been no recent official news concerning the developments on the Caucasus front it has been learned, from private sources, that the Russian armies beyond Erzerum and in Persia are progressing swiftly and that the Turkish forces are offering only occasional resistance.

It is evident that the Russian troops, advancing through Persia to the Mesopotamia frontier have not yet met the main Turkish forces. These, consisting of the Bagdad divisions and reinforcements sent southward after the fall of Bilis and Mush, are reported to be assembling in the Hanika Pass, and when the Russians reach this point they will be confronted no longer by mountain bands and remnants of broken and demoralized divisions, but with the full strength of the organized Turkish army.

Therefore, although an ultimate junction with the British forces is not doubted here, it is not supposed that this communication of the Russian plans will be easily reached.

The German forces have passed quickly to a general offensive along the entire northern front in Russia, their attacks reaching the highest intensity in the Riga region, where the preliminary skirmishes have developed into a steady assault, supported by the heavy artillery. The Germans, however, have been unable to gain territory by frontal attack against the strong Russian positions, and now are attempting to flank the Riga positions from the southwest.

From the other points on the front there is little to report, except a continuation of mining operations and aeroplane warfare.

British Report.

London, April 5.—The British official statement of the campaign in the west issued tonight reads:
"Last night we sprang mines successfully near Holbecq and damaged a hostile gallery and wrecked posts established in the old craters. Today we bombarded hostile works near Bois Grenier with good effect."

"About St. Etienne the artillery of both sides was very active. North of the Ypres-St. Julien road our heavy artillery carried out a successful bombardment, doing much damage to hostile trenches and causing numerous explosions."

London, April 5.—That another Zeppelin airship in addition to the L-15, was hit in this recent raid on England was a statement made by Harold J. Tennant, parliamentary under-secretary for war, in the House of Commons today. Mr. Tennant would not specify the place the airship was hit, but said he had received knowledge of it through a carbon copy of a wireless message sent by the commander of the Zeppelin, which was picked up on the ground.

RAIDER DRIVEN OFF.

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