

THE WEATHER.
Maritime—Fresh to strong west to northwest winds, clearing and colder.

The St. John Standard,

NEW BRUNSWICK, CANADA.

OPERA HOUSE
TODAY—2.30, 7.9
"DAMON AND PYTHIAS"
And other good pictures.

VOL. VII. NO. 294 SIXTEEN PAGES SATURDAY MORNING, MARCH 11, 1916 PRICE TWO CENTS

GERMANS RETAKE PORTION OF CORBEAUX WOOD; RUSSIANS PUSH FORWARD ALONG BLACK SEA COAST

German Advance West of Douaumont and at Vaux Breaks Down Before Fierce Fire of French — Furious Fighting Around Verdun Continues Artillery Duel Raging Along Front of Seven and Half Miles — Russians Inflict Crushing Blow on Germans in Stripa Region.

FRENCH HAVE FIRM FOOTING ON FT. VAUX BERLIN ADMITS

Throwing large masses of infantry against the French in the Corbeaux wood, to the northwest of Verdun, the Germans after several attacks, in which they are declared by Paris to have suffered large casualties, have re-taken part of the wood from which the French had previously ejected them.

The entire region about Verdun continues the scene of intense operations. West of Douaumont and the sector embracing the village of Vaux have been points against which the Germans have launched vicious infantry attacks, but at both places their efforts to advance broke down under the heavy fire of the French.

Berlin, however, counters this assertion by announcing the taking of a ridge west of Douaumont by the Germans, and says also that the Germans have succeeded in pushing forward their line through the wooded sector southeast of Damouloup, which lies a short distance east of Fort Vaux.

It is admitted in the German official communication that the French have succeeded in gaining a firm footing in Fort Vaux. Paris had previously categorically denied that the Germans had captured either the fort or the village of Vaux.

East and southeast of Verdun, over a front of about seven and a half miles, the Germans have been directing a heavy bombardment on the towns of Eix, Moulainville, Villers-Sous-Bonchamp and Bonzee, with the French guns answering them energetically.

In the Artois region the French have occupied the crater of a mine exploded by the Germans, and in Lorraine have damaged by gunfire German organizations on the front of Halleville-Bremenil.

The Germans on the Upper Stripa region of the Russian front are declared by Petrograd to have suffered heavy losses in a counter-attack made on a position captured by the Russians.

Russians Rushing Forward Along Black Sea Coast.
Despite the bad weather the Italians are keeping up their offensive against the Austrians along the Austro-Italian line. The Tolmino bridgehead has been heavily bombed and the Isonzo front has been the scene of intermittent shelling.

Petrograd reports a continuation of the progress of the Russians against the Turks along the Black Sea coast toward Trebizond.

A British official communication says their force which was attempting to relieve the siege of Kut-el-Amara, and which had reached Esamun, seven miles east of the beleaguered town, has been forced, because of lack of water, to fall back to the Tigris river. The Turks, however, claim that the British retired after their ejection from a Turkish trench they had captured, and that they left behind them two thousand dead.

Berlin, via London, March 10.—Capture of the Ablain wood was announced today by German army headquarters. It was stated that the French had regained a foothold at the fort of Vaux.

The statement says: "The French delivered strong counter-attacks against our new front east and south of the village of Vaux and in the neighborhood of the fort. The French succeeded in again obtaining a firm footing in the armored forts itself. Other-wise their attacks were repulsed with heavy losses."

Russian Report.
Petrograd, via London, March 10.—The following official communication was issued today:

"On the western (Russian) front, in the region of the Upper Stripa, east of Kosiow, our scouts dispersed enemy guards and took some prisoners. The enemy made a counter-attack with big forces, but it was repulsed, with the assistance of our artillery. The Germans suffered heavy losses. On the Caucasus front our pursuit of the Turks continues."

French Report.
Paris, March 10.—The Germans, in infantry attacks, launched with huge effectiveness, but with losses described as beyond all proportions to the objec-

DEBATE ON TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Economic Commission Has Been Asked to Report on Matter of Technical Education for Returned Soldiers.

Special to The Standard.

Ottawa, Ont., Mar. 10.—The few members who were not interested in the great human problem being threshed out by the sons of the red chamber, the Gault divorce case, carried on a dreary discussion of the merits of technical education. During consideration of the labor department estimates a number of members seized the opportunity of trying the necessity of a broad technical educational policy for Canada, especially in view of the probable large numbers of returned soldiers who will be unable to return to their ordinary vocations.

Hon. T. W. Crothers explained that the government was not indifferent to the subject. The matter of technical education for returned soldiers had been under consideration by the government and the economic commission had been asked to report upon it.

Two bills were given a second reading. One was the measure of Sir Thomas White compelling insurance companies to invest a portion of their earnings in Dominion securities. The other was the bill of Mr. Crothers to amend the white phosphorous matches act. The bill extends for six months longer, the time in which the makers of these matches may sell them, and for twelve months, the time in which they may be used. The manufacture of the matches was discontinued January 1, 1915, in accordance with the provisions of legislation passed a few years ago. The object of the present bill is to give an opportunity for the stocks on hand to be used.

Ottawa, Mar. 10.—Sir George Foster introduced a bill to amend the Canada Grain Act in order to provide that the Board of Grain Commissioners may, in the event of a blockade as a result of which farmers' grain remains in the fields during the winter months, order special cars to move the crops.

Captain J. H. Burnham of West Peterboro asked if the acting minister of militia had heard that "a propaganda had been established or was about to be established for the suppression or partial suppression of recruiting." He then read that in a newspaper Pastor, Russell, an American, was about to enter Canada "with some conscientious scruples" with regard to recruiting. He had, however, received a telegram from the colonel of the 33rd Battalion at Peterboro asking if it would be possible to prevent any interference by Pastor Russell who was going to hold a meeting there on Sunday afternoon next to tell the people that it was unnecessary for them to enlist and how to satisfy their consciences in that regard.

Hon. A. E. Kemp, acting minister of militia, said that he had not seen the newspaper articles to which Captain Burnham had alluded. He added that the government was not retarding recruiting but was doing everything in its power to encourage recruiting.

Extension of Life Insurance Charter.
Hon. J. D. Hazen replied to a complaint by Mr. A. K. MacLean of Halifax that the British admiralty had by commandeering vessels belonging to the Dominion Coal Company caused a shortage of coal for bunkers in certain ports of the country and that the Board of Admiralty had displayed a lack of method in commandeering vessels. The Minister of Marine said that he and the Prime Minister had taken the subject up with the Admiralty and the War Office. The Admiralty had stated Great Britain was (Continued on page 4.)

"The Germans dropped in the Meuse at St. Mihiel floating mines but these were fished out by our men before any damage was done by them. In Lorraine we have shattered or

partly destroyed enemy organizations on the front of Halleville-Bremenil." The Belgian communication says: "There is nothing to report on the Belgian front."

NAVY TO DEAL WITH NEW GERMAN TERROR

New Submarine Campaign Shows Few Signs of Success So Far.

BERLIN'S ARGUMENTS ARE RIDICULOUS.

Lord Cecil Refutes German Sophistries Regarding the Blockade—Set the Precedent Himself by Sinking Neutral Ships.

London, March 10.—"Knowing well that the Germans would starve us if they got a chance, I don't believe that any intelligent German doubts for a moment that we have a perfect right to put every economic pressure possible on them to bring the war to an end in the most humane way possible," said Lord Robert Cecil, minister of foreign affairs, today in discussing the new German submarine memorandum and its possible consequences.

"There is really nothing new in the German submarine memorandum," said Lord Robert, "as it employs the same old evasions. They still use the periphrastic argument, but they began submarine raids before the so-called blockade was adopted. With regard to the charge of mine laying; they began to sow them indiscriminately before we put out any. We never laid a mine in the trade routes of the high seas, while the Germans even planted them in neutral waters, as is witnessed in the present case of Sweden. These things we have never done."

"As far as the increase in the list of contraband goes, every belligerent in the past has exercised this right according to its needs, with due regard for existing rights. Besides, not having ratified it, we are not bound by the Declaration of London. Whether Germany has increased her contraband list in violation of the Declaration of London, I do not know, and it does not matter."

More Sophistry.
"It is nonsense to say that submarines, being a new departure in warfare, are not subject to existing international law. They are merely warships, and therefore come under existing rules. We might as well say that German airships have a right to drop bombs on women and children, who always have been protected by international law, which prohibits their murder."

"As to the right to stop food supplies, that is the precedent by sinking the Dutch ship Maria and the American ship William P. Frye. Blockades always have been recognized and cannot be called inhuman, as they cause less suffering and less loss of life than actual operations in warfare, especially bombardments."

"Germany's general contention that we have no right to interfere with trade is absurd, as such interference is the natural result of a blockade. The German contention that British merchant ships are armed offensively cannot be sustained by reference to the Admiralty instructions of last October as they were issued with the purpose of enabling ships to defend themselves from attack. That such armament is only suitable for defense is shown in the case of the attempt to sink the Clan MacTavish (sunk by the German raider Mowee)."

"The fact that a submarine is much more vulnerable than a merchant vessel gives it no right to sink neutrals without warning."

"The general assertion that the Germans interfere less with trade than the Allies is untrue. The whole purpose of the submarine blockade was to prevent trade with England. It failed, on account of the efficiency of the British navy."

"As yet there is no indication of any success being enjoyed by the new submarine campaign, but it is dangerous to prophesy. However, the navy probably will be able to deal with any new manifestation of frightfulness."

PRES. WILSON'S "WATCHFUL WAITING" ENDS AT LAST

AMERICAN TROOPS ORDERED ACROSS MEXICAN BORDER TO GET VILLA, DEAD OR ALIVE—ACTION BEGUN AS PURELY PUNITIVE MEASURE MAY END IN GENERAL ARMED INTERVENTION OR OCCUPATION IN MEXICO.

Columbus, New Mexico, March 10.

Francisco Villa, with the Mexican bandit army whose raid on Columbus was beaten off by the 13th United States cavalry with severe losses Thursday morning, was at Boca Grande, 25 miles southeast, at last reports brought here today by an American scout. American military authorities were impatient for orders to cross the border and assault the bandit leader before he had time to retreat farther into the interior of Chihuahua.

Troops Ordered Across Border.

Washington, March 10.—American troops were ordered across the Mexican border today by President Wilson to take Francisco Villa and his bandits, dead or alive.

Under the direction, if not actually the leadership, of Major General Funston, who ended the Philippine insurrection by taking Aguinaldo single handed, American columns are expected to be moving into Mexico before tomorrow night. They go to meet about three thousand guerrillas known in a newspaper column as the Carranza troops have fled.

Whether this long deferred action, which begins purely as a punitive measure to clear northern Mexico of menacing bandit hands over which Gen. Carranza has no control, shall grow into a general armed intervention or occupation in Mexico, depends in a large measure upon Gen. Carranza and the Mexican people.

It begins with President Wilson's declaration that it is entirely in aid of the Carranza government, and without thought of aggression, that he has approved the decision to depart from the policy of watchful waiting, hastened by the Columbus massacre yesterday, was announced today after it had been unanimously approved by the cabinet and administration leaders in Congress. The President's position was explained fully to the latter, who agreed that the time by discussions of a minority which might arouse trouble in Mexico.

After a brief cabinet meeting Secretary of War Baker hurried to the War Department and as his first act sent orders to the border troops.

Soon afterwards the Army General Staff assembled and conferred over the plans, long drawn and perfected since the Mexican situation loomed up as a disturber to the peace of the United States.

Gen. Funston telegraphed today, urging utmost secrecy of the army's plans. The border is honeycombed with Mexican spies, and it was agreed that the expedition would be pushed to success by keeping Villa and his men ignorant of its movements. It is possible that no correspondents will be permitted to accompany the columns. At any rate, a strict censorship will be imposed.

Garrison Aids New War Secretary.
Former Secretary Garrison, familiar with the army's Mexican plans by his association with the crisis of two years ago, came to Washington and offered his services to aid his successor. They were at once accepted, and Mr. Garrison went into conference with Secretary Baker at the war department.

General Carranza, in a telegram to the State Department, expressed regret at the Columbus massacre, but made no comment on the proposal of sending American troops to hunt down the bandits.

How many of the 12,000 troops now on the border will be employed has not fully been determined. In order not to weaken the defense of border towns it may be necessary to move other troops from interior posts to the border.

The president's action today was received with marked complacency in both house and senate, and expressions of approval were heard on both sides of the chambers.

Senators Fall and McCumber (Republicans) both introduced resolutions proposing occupation and policing of Mexico with large forces, but they consented to permit them to be referred to the Foreign Relations Committee without debate.

President Wilson, left Washington late tonight with Mrs. Wilson on the naval yacht Mayflower for a week-end trip down the Potomac river and Chesapeake Bay. He plans to be away until Monday morning, unless unusual developments in the Mexican situation necessitate his return before that time.

SAYS PORTUGAL AFFAIR WAS BUNGLED

German Press Declares Lisbon Could Have Been Alienated from Allegiance to Great Britain by Tactful Handling

London, Mar. 10.

Telegraphing from Amsterdam the correspondent of the Exchange Telegraph Company says: "The German press devotes many leading articles to the German declaration of war on Portugal. Considerable dissatisfaction is expressed with the Foreign Office, which, the newspapers claim, could have detached a Lisbon cabinet from Great Britain by tactful handling of the Portuguese situation."

"The German minister at Lisbon, probably will retire from the diplomatic service. The Portuguese minister, with the personnel of the legation, will leave Berlin tonight."

Asks Spain to Represent Her.
Berlin, Mar. 10, via London.—Germany has asked Spain to represent German interests at Lisbon.

This action recalls the fact that Switzerland was asked to represent Germany at Rome after the breach of diplomatic relations caused by Italy's declaration of war against Austria. German interests in the most important capitals—London, Paris and Petrograd—are in the hands of the American ambassadors there.

Paris, Mar. 10.—The Portuguese legation announces that a state of war exists between the Portuguese republic and the German empire, as from six o'clock last night.

German Minister Leaves Lisbon.
Washington, Mar. 10.—Official despatches to the State Department say that the German minister, after having informed the Portuguese government that Germany considers a state of war existing between the two countries, will leave Lisbon today, turning over the affairs of the German legation to the Spanish minister.

Fared Other Countries Would do as Portugal Did.
London, March 10.—Germany declared war on Portugal, according to a British diplomat in close touch with the situation, because she feared other countries might do what Portugal has done, as the seizure of German ships makes a submarine much less effective because it increases the available tonnage. This official declared that Portugal only exercised her rights of eminent domain and took the ships, with a promise to make compensation, for the reason that she is in vital need of more vessels.

He pointed to the fact that Italy, which is not at war with Germany, did the same thing without serious protest from Berlin.

FURTHER GAINS FOR THE BRITISH IN EAST AFRICA

GEN. SMUTS' ARMY OCCUPIES TAVETA AND SALAITA—SQUADRON OF BRITISH AEROPLANES SUCCESSFUL IN RAID ON GERMAN POSITIONS—LACK OF WATER FORCES GEN. AYLMER TO FALL BACK TO THE TIGRIS RIVER.

London, Mar. 10.

Lieut. General Jan Christian Smuts, commanding the expedition against German East Africa, has reported the occupation of Taveta and Salaita. It was officially announced this afternoon.

The British official statement follows: "Gen. Smuts reports that after the occupation of Chala yesterday Gen. Van De Venster's forces pushed on to Taveta and found it partially evacuated by the enemy. Some Germans with a machine gun surrendered to Gen. Berenger. We now occupy Taveta."

Simultaneously with the forward movements yesterday Gen. Tighe opened bombardments on the Salaita position which he later attacked and occupied. The operations are continuing.

The scene of the operations in East Africa is on the northern frontier between the German and British colonies.

Taveta is on the British side of the line.

Gen. Aylmer Forced to Retire.
London, March 10 (9.55 p. m.)—The war office tonight made public the following official communication concerning the fighting in Mesopotamia:

"General Lake reports that Gen. Aylmer, who was operating March 8, from seven to eight miles from the right bank of the Tigris river, in consequence of lack of water, has been obliged to fall back on the river after having removed all his wounded."

British Air Raid.
London, March 10 (11 p. m.)—The British official communication issued tonight says:

"Yesterday we carried out a successful aircraft attack against a hostile rail head and billets at Carbin. It is believed that considerable damage was done. Thirty-one machines

LANCE CORP. JOHNSON OF THE 26TH BATT. KILLED IN ACTION

Ottawa, March 11.—The casualty list issued at midnight includes the following:

Twenty-Sixth Battalion.
Killed in action—Lance Corporal John C. Johnson, Sayabec, Que. Wounded—Alexander McDonald, Glace Bay, N. S.

Fourth Canadian Mounted Rifles.
Seriously ill—Thomas H. Drillon, Derby Jct., N. B.

took part in the raid, and all of them returned safely.

"As a result of a fight in the air, a hostile machine and one of our own machines were brought down near Tournai.

"Last night the enemy made bombing attacks against two of our craters near the Hohenzollern redoubt. Both attacks were repulsed.

"Today there has been much artillery activity on both sides about Loos, the Hohenzollern redoubt, and between Quinze and Fauquissart. North of the latter place we damaged a hostile mine shaft by our artillery fire."