

THE COURIER

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Thursday, May 10th, 1917.

THE SITUATION.

It now appears that it was not the Canadians who held the village of Fresnoy but a British battalion who single handed had to bear the tremendous assaults of the heavily reinforced foe and finally were forced to give way, although some of the ground has since been recovered.

In referring yesterday in the British House to recent operations on the western front, Right Hon. Bonar Law said that the rapidity of the attack had forestalled the foe, who hadn't time to prepare trenches and being forced to fight in the open had sustained heavy losses.

Half reports the repulse of heavy counter attacks and Nivelles the taking of five hundred yards of trenches northwest of Rheims. The desperate struggle is raging along a very wide front and one noticeable feature is that the enemy has been forced to call largely upon his reserves.

The official report for last week shows a lessened submarine toll, but the figures are still large. On top of the assertion that United States experts expect to devise means to lessen the peril, there is the statement from the Old Land that the Admiralty also has methods about ready which it is believed will prove very efficacious.

The Russians seem to be waking up once more and are commencing to do good co-operative work in Macedonia.

Ex-President Taft, during the course of an address, expressed the view that the war would yet last for a long while and in this he is undoubtedly correct.

Well, how are your back garden muscles. It is the submarines which have put the U in cruelty.

A speedy time is quite the proper caper these days. Brantford City Council has gone in for the purchase of potatoes. This is no reflection on the Mellon they already have at the board.

Balfour in his speech before the U. S. Senate was just as happy as in his remarks before the House of Representatives. The British authorities certainly manifested excellent judgment when they sent a man of his outstanding calibre to head the Old Country mission.

In round numbers Canadian casualties since the war commenced have totalled ninety thousand or over three times the population of this city. Deep sorrow has reached many homes thereby, but the record achieved on behalf of human liberty will be imperishable.

Because the Finance Minister has decided to make an even greater levy on excess war profits, the Financial Times of Montreal announces the fact under the heading: "Sir Thomas White puts hands on throat of Canada's productive capacity by iniquitous taxation."

The Times would apparently rather see the levy placed on those less able to pay. In this it won't find many backers outside of the get rich quick devotees.

THE QUEBEC DISGRACE

There was a recruiting meeting in Montreal on Monday night. At least that was the purpose for which it was called, but a gang of disloyal hoodlums broke up the gathering—hoodlums none the less, because they were of a class which might resent any criticism of their so-called respectability.

Major-General Lessard, a man of proved military worth in the Boer war, was there, as also was Hon. Mr. Blondin, who resigned his position as Post Master General in the Borden Cabinet in order to don the khaki. Here are extracts from a Montreal report of what took place:

"Systematic interruptions by a body of young men of military age who had evidently placed themselves in the gallery for the purpose, put a sudden end to the recruiting meeting held by Major-General Lessard and Lieut.-Col. the Hon. P. E. Blondin, former Postmaster-General, in the Monument National last night."

So determined were the interrupters that no kind of appeal had any effect on them, and the flames of discord were fanned when Senator Beaubien delivered one of the severest tongue-lashings ever given from a public platform, and asked that the "gentlemen from Laval" keep quiet.

The Laval men raised a storm of protest, and Major Paul Ostiguy, commander of the Laval O. T. C., who with a number of his men were on duty in uniform in the gallery, strenuously denied that the Laval men were the disturbers. From that time on Major Ostiguy's subalterns had the hardest work to keep the Laval men from rising in a body, and Senator Beaubien was "boomed" and hissed even at the most serious passage of his speech, which was a remarkable one.

The police who were on duty watched the proceedings with interest, evidently unwilling to interfere with the men in khaki, who were trying to keep some kind of order. Later, however, the men in blue did yeoman service in clearing the street and the hall, under the direction of Inspector Belanger and Captain Rippeol of this district.

Prominent in the student demonstration was the representative of a local newspaper who left his seat at one of the press tables to become the most noticeable of the disturbers. He was finally subdued, when a Laval O. T. C. officer thrust him violently into his seat.

"Ask them," Lt.-Col. Blondin pointed to a group of returned soldiers sitting on the platform behind him, with two palms in their blue serge uniforms. "Ask those whose sons and brothers have gone to the front, and those who have some of why did they do it? Because they felt that the safety and liberty of every country in the world is our safety, and the cause for each one of us to defend. The Allies believe outside the world, there is no safety. They have striven to build up peace on earth, and that is why they are waging war on war. Having been in public life I think it fitting to tell you why I have donned the godly raiment of those who go to war. Let us once and for all lay aside the question of politics, for I would not in this hour of crisis, speak of politics."

It was here that the disturbance began, only to end in applause for a moment, when Lt.-Col. Blondin remarked that Canada was not worthy of independence if she was not ready to fight for it. When he went on to say that for Canada to maintain independence, she would have to create an army and navy ready to face any in the world, the storm broke out afresh and there were cries of "Laurier" and general shouting.

"Cries for Laurier, eh? The Toronto Globe is all the time contending that the anti-recruiting feeling in Quebec is an aftermath of the Nationalist movement there. In reality it goes much further back than that, in short to such utterances by Laurier (the idol of a large section of the Province) of such language as: "Is there a Canadian anywhere who would not hail with joy the day when he would be deprived of the services of British diplomacy?" "I have again and again repeated that the goal of my aspiration is the independence of Canada."

"If we are true to our record, we will exhibit to the world the unique and unprecedented example of a nation achieving its independence by slow degrees, and as naturally as the severing of the ripe fruit from the parent tree."

"The only tie that binds Canada and the Mother Country is a sentiment of affection. A day will come necessarily when they will have to part."

HAMILTON SOLD SPUDS QUICKLY

Carload of Seed Potatoes Disposed of in Very Short Time

MORE ARE ORDERED

Factory Clubs Made Some Large Purchases

(Hamilton Herald) There was a rush of amateur gardeners on the office of the secretary of the works department this morning with the result that the car of seed potatoes purchased by the city did not come anywhere near meeting the demand, and an order has been placed for another car.

Whether the second car can be secured is not yet certain, but Controller Jutter, who was appointed by the board of control to supervise the buying and selling of the spuds, expected definite word this afternoon. If the potatoes are not procurable the city will be in a bad hole as it has accepted orders and money for about 575 bags, whereas the first car purchased contained only 375 bags.

So great was the demand for the city's potatoes that two clerks were kept busy all morning receiving and filling orders. No orders were accepted by telephone, one of the conditions strictly enforced being that the money should accompany the order, and that the purchaser should not be allowed to take any potatoes until the money was received. The clerks were kept busy all morning receiving and filling orders. No orders were accepted by telephone, one of the conditions strictly enforced being that the money should accompany the order, and that the purchaser should not be allowed to take any potatoes until the money was received.

The Canadian Club placed an order for 50 bags; Rotary club 60 bags; Westinghouse employees, 22 bags; large grocery stores 22 bags and Yates machine company employees, 22 bags, while many individual orders were received for from two to five bags.

An encouraging feature of the whole transaction is the number of orders being received from groups of employees of factories or other organizations, who have an interest in getting a good yield of potatoes, and who are depending on the club to do this work for a nominal charge have recently discovered that the club cannot handle their plots at all, owing to their being too small or otherwise unsuitable for plowing with a gang plow. The matter has been left so long that difficulty is being experienced in getting men to do over these small plots on their own account.

A city official this morning figured out that if all of the two cars of seed potatoes which were purchased were used for seed and the crop was good there would be a big increase in the production this fall. He estimated that it would require from 10 to 12 acres to plant an acre, and that the average yield per acre in a good year was upwards of 300 bushels. The city will be handling about 1,500 bushels which, if figured out on the same basis, would mean a yield next fall of 37,000 bushels, which should make a considerable impression on the local potato situation.

Patrons who desire to purchase the city potatoes, and have not yet placed their orders, should do so without delay. It is the city's intention to keep on buying and selling seed potatoes as long as there is a demand for them, but there is no telling how long the city will be able to obtain spuds, indications this morning being that there is a shortage of potatoes as long as there is a demand for them, but there is no telling how long the city will be able to obtain spuds, indications this morning being that there is a shortage of potatoes as long as there is a demand for them.

New Brunswick Potatoes Best

Confirming his action in the purchase of New Brunswick seed potatoes for use in this city, Ald. McBride has received the following letter from Professor Zavitz, with whom he conferred upon the subject:

Dear Sir,—In confirmation of our telephone conversation a few minutes ago, I am stating that I think you would be wise in selecting the Delaware potatoes from New Brunswick for seed purposes as against the western potatoes. We know the Delaware variety to be a very good kind of potato and that seed from New Brunswick has given satisfactory results in Ontario. The western seed is somewhat uncertain. In some instances it has given good returns but I know of instances in which the western seed has given very poor results.

Hoping that you will have success with your potato work, I remain, Yours very truly, C. A. ZAVITZ.

Dr. E. G. Swift has returned from Oregon to reside in Brantford.

PRESENTATION TO W.C.T.U. PRESIDENT

Mrs. Albert Howell, Retiring Official, Honored by Paris Friends

ASSESSMENT TOTAL

For Town of Paris Fixed at \$1,844,473

OTHER NEWS OF PARIS

Several Casualties Are Reported To-day

(From our own Correspondent) Paris, May 10.—On Tuesday evening a very pleasant time was spent at the residence of Mrs. T. O. Apps, Banfield street, when the members of the W. C. T. U. and a number of their friends were entertained by the hostess. During the evening Mrs. Albert Howell, the retiring president, was made the recipient of a very handsome mahogany tray, by the members of the W. C. T. U. The following address was read by Mrs. Howell, while Mrs. Findlay made the presentation.

"Dear Fellow-worker—Having resigned from the office of president of the Paris W. C. T. U. which position you have long and most ably filled, we the members of the union felt we could not let the opportunity pass without expressing in some little way our deep appreciation of your most excellent work. You have always been present at our meetings (unless prevented through illness) and have been an inspiration to us all. Even since your removal to the country you have been ever ready to do anything in your power to further the work and we feel that in your dropping out we are losing a tower of strength. The union has under your able leadership, been able to accomplish much in this town and we hope that although you may not be present, we may have your presence and advice on our meetings, and we earnestly pray that God's richest blessing may rest on you and bless your efforts in whatever work you may undertake. We ask you to accept this tray and as you use it may sometimes think of your fellow-workers of the Paris W. C. T. U."

"Signed on behalf of the union, President, M. C. Davis. Secretary, A. F. Springate."

Mrs. Howell in a neat little speech thanked the ladies for their beautiful gift and assured them she would often think of the pleasant times spent together. Before leaving a very dainty repast was served. Many friends in town will regret to hear of the death of Mrs. Thompson, which sad event occurred at her home in Toronto. The remains will be brought here to-morrow.

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morning, on the train arriving at 9.37 a.m. Interment at the Paris Cemetery. Pte. Alex. Didwell of Hamilton is reported killed. The deceased was an old Paris boy, his father being organist of the Baptist church here before moving to Hamilton. Just a year ago Tuesday, his father was drowned in the sinking of the Lusitania.

Many friends in town will sympathize with Mr. and Mrs. Harry Prince, in the death of their infant son, Harry Hubert, whose remains were laid to rest yesterday in the Paris cemetery. The following report has been handed in by Assessor Geo. Tate, who has completed his work for the past year. The total assessment is placed at \$1,844,473. The population is 4,447, and is divided among the wards as follows: North Ward, 888; King's Ward, 1,187; South Ward, 936; Queen's Ward 656. The assessment returns show a slight increase this year.

Word has been received in town of the serious wounding of Pte. James H. Thompson, of the 76th Battalion. He was one of the machine gun crew in which the late Pte. James Chapman was killed. Pte. Thompson was wounded at Vinny Ridge on Easter Monday, April 9th, and all the crew were killed or wounded, except a Corporal.

The following donations have been received by the Paris Red Cross Society: \$3.00 from "Billy," and \$5.00 from Mrs. W. Ginniver, of San Francisco, Cal. Mr. Harry Hill of Peterboro, who has been appointed organist and choir leader of the Methodist church, has arrived in town and taken over his duties. Mr. and Mrs. Horace Huson, who have been spending the winter in California, have returned home.

CANADIAN CASUALTIES

KILLED IN ACTION. Cranbrook—Pte. H. S. McDonald. Burgessville—Pte. C. L. Cooper. Tilsonburg—Pte. W. Heape. Aylmer—Gunner Clinton Thompson.

Iona—Pte. Charles G. Sells. St. Marys—Pte. Walter Andrew. Stratford—Pte. Robert Lawson. St. George—Pte. W. H. Wilson. Woodstock—Sergt. Major J. W. Payne.

DIED OF WOUNDS Hepworth—Pte. F. Simmers.

Tara—Pte. H. Murray.

MISSING. ST. THOMAS—Pte. Roy Palmerston. Pte. H. Latham.

OWN SOUND—Pte. J. Ryan; Pte. D. J. McMillan.

FALCONBURG—Pte. D. Roy. New Hamburg—Lieut. G. M. Hamilton.

CHATHAM—Pte. J. W. Moody. Sarnia—Lieut. G. G. Garvey.

COURTIGHT—Pte. A. McCoy. Point Edward—Pte. G. Hambleton.

PESTON—Pte. A. Klansen. Goderich—Pte. J. McLeod.

ST. MARYS—Pte. John Harrison. Galt—Pte. Roland Mason; Pte. James Cockman (slight).

HEPPELER—Pte. Frank Murphy. London—Pte. George Hambleton. Pte. Frank Wilson; Pte. W. J. Utman.

SERIOUSLY ILL. Guelph—Major M. E. Wideman.

TRENCH FET. Galt—Pte. John Lunn.

LONDON—Corp. Michael Toohy. Braemar—Pte. T. W. Brickwood.

REPORTED MISSING. REGOIN UNIT. Guelph—Pte. V. H. Dolson.

ST. THOMAS—Pte. J. D. Newman.

TO SLAY VENIZELLOS. By Courier Leased Wire.

London, May 10.—An official telegram received here today from Saloniki says that a conspiracy has been discovered there to assassinate ex-Premier Venizelos. Nine men, who were arrested, the despatch says, confessed that they were acting under instructions from a secret committee formed in Athens by military officers and politicians.

CITY HALL AFIRE. By Courier Leased Wire.

New York, May 10.—Fire broke out early this afternoon in the city hall. The indications were that it had gained considerable headway ten minutes after the flames were observed in the cupola of the historic edifice. The whole building had been wired for electric lights for the illumination in connection with the reception to the French commission. It is thought here that the blaze was caused by defective insulation.

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LOCAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY A meeting of the Historical Society was held at the Public Library this morning for the purpose of the presentation of Miss Pauline Johnson, the poetess, was discussed.

BUILDING PERMIT A permit was issued by the city engineer, J. H. Nicholls, for the reconstruction of a building at 243 St. Paul street, No. 25.

GARDEN WORK The work of the Garden Committee of the Third Ward, progressing favorably in the city. There are now a hundred orders for planting to be done as soon as the weather permits. A meeting of the committee probably will be held next week when a report will be received for the different parts of the city.

RUSSIAN MISSIONS. Encouraging reports were received at last night's meeting of the Russian Missionary League. The committee is being made by that organization the Russian church of an interesting study of the situation of a local Russian mission by the missionary, Mr. W. A. It was decided to continue the work of the church's work with vigor.

SOCIAL EVENING. An enjoyable evening was held Saturday last when the girls of Miss Sarah Madden held a day party in her honor. The people spent the night in dancing, after which dainty refreshments were served, bringing to a close.

MEN'S LUNCHEON. Men's luncheon, has been held in connection with the service fund of the Y. M. C. A. for Wednesday noon, at the Kerby House, from twelve o'clock, when a first hand of the wonderful work being plied overseas by this service. The speakers, Major G. W. Birks of Montreal, in charge of the work in France, and Hon. Capt. Cameron who has an eloquent inspiring story to tell of months experience in the work in France. Tickets, if luncheon, can be procured at the office of the local Y. M. C. A. meeting will be held on Wednesday evening and will be addressed the same men.

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