

THE COURIER
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SWORN DAILY CIRCULATION 4399
 Wednesday, Dec. 12th, 1917.

THE SITUATION.
 The news that one of the greatest munition factories in Germany, had been destroyed in Germany, is good news. It means a big thing for the Allies, and if it had been achieved by British air men, would have been chronicled as tantamount to a big victory. It is none the less, that because presumably caused by accident. Whatever the cause, the outcome is thoroughly satisfactory, and a very serious crimp will be put in the supply system of the Huns.

A despatch from London states that hope has again been revived with regard to the Russian situation. Opposition to the separate peace parleys with Germany is growing everywhere, especially as the big demands which Berlin will make, become realized. Bolshevik troops are reported to have been defeated near the town of Shebin.

In the House of Commons, Foreign Secretary Balfour stated that last September Germany, through a neutral diplomatic channel, had intimated that she would be glad to enter into communication with Great Britain with reference to peace. This answer had been that the British Government was prepared to discuss any offer with her Allies, and there the matter had ended. Speaking at Birmingham, ex-Premier Asquith reaffirmed his entire approval of Great Britain's entry in the war and staying there until the object in hand had been achieved.

It is understood in the Old Land that more men are needed for the colors, and that the age limit may be raised to forty-five.

QUICK ACTION NEEDED
 The cry of the hour is urgency. Time is now the important thing. We are striking heavy blows in Europe. If we can keep them up we shall win, and we may win soon. Germany struck heavily in Italy. Was there a moment to be lost in deciding to send help to Italy? No. Within an incredibly short time cheering trainloads of British soldiers were on their way to Italy, and now they are on the great flat plain in the north, supporting the Italian line, fighting in a new scene where they are needed. They are there because the need was urgent.

Our line has extended to Italy. We need more and ever more men to replace those who have gone to help our ally. If we had had no reserve ready, Italy might well have been crushed quickly. What we need is men, men, always men, backing up our front line, so that we are ready to meet the foe whenever he strikes. The next six months are the months of urgency.

Quick is the word. Yet Sir Wilfrid Laurier sees no need of haste. He wants an election and then a referendum, the heat of party warfare, debate, talk, the wasting of time so as to give people who hesitate a leisurely chance to make up their minds. Canada made up its mind more than three years ago when the whole people threw their hearts into the war on the right side. The United States was slower, but it came to see as Canada saw. And now a strong pull together for all those who fight for Liberty. Quick! Let no sane man vote for any leader who says that an hour's delay is safe.

WHOM WOULD THE KAISER VOTE FOR?
 A poster on a fence, with the above words and nothing else, is well fitted to cause searching of heart. How would the Kaiser vote? He wants to paralyze British effort so that within the next six months he may strike his last and heaviest blow and win the war.

Who would the Kaiser vote for? Would he vote for the men who say that the Canadian army has fought nobly, heroically, and must be supported until the hour of victory, no matter how long it takes? Would he vote for the men who say that the cry of the hour is urgency and that not a moment is to be lost in getting men behind our men at the front so that when gaps are made they may be quickly filled? Would he vote for the men who say that it is treason to the dead to think of slackening in our efforts until the great day of triumph dawns?

No, the Kaiser is not a fool though he may well be a knave. He would

vote for the men who say that we have done enough; let others now take up the burden. He would vote for the men who say there is no need of haste; let us have an election first to decide who shall carry on the government; then let us have a plebiscite to decide whether Canada does not prefer to quit. Two elections, he it noted. Then, having made up our minds slowly, by about a year from now we may be able definitely to say whether we go on or quit. By that time we should be disgraced and the war would be won or lost without us. Whom would the Kaiser vote for?

CHEEKY BUSINESS
 The supporters of Mr. Harold, in their desperate campaign of anything to beat Harry Cockshutt, are using the signature on their literature:—
 "Published by the Union Government Executive Committee of Brant."
 The Government has no such committee in any Riding anywhere, and the assumption on the part of Mr. Harold is not only a gross piece of impudence but downright dishonesty as well.

Harry Cockshutt has offered \$100 to any of the Women's Institutes in the county, who can show that Harold has any right to assume that committee signature.

As a matter of plain English, it is a fake.

THE WOMAN VOTE.
 For the first time in a federal election woman will now vote. Unionists will do well to be accurate in reaching the woman voter. Women have made such sacrifices in the war, that the mothers, sisters, wives, daughters and widows of soldiers and sailors who have gone forth from Canada will now have the right to vote.

All kinds of efforts are being made to mis-direct this vote. The simple truth is, that the more men we send to the front the sooner the war will end, and that the way to bring the absent soldier home is to send him reinforcements quickly. Unless we are going to let Germany trample on us, our soldiers cannot come home until Germany is beaten.

Women, however, are being told the opposite. Lonely wives are being urged to vote against conscription on the ground that if more troops are not sent, the present divisions will be withdrawn from the front, and their husbands will be safe. Surely a sinister argument of cowardice! Others are being told the lie that the Canadians have been forced to do more than their fair share of the fighting; that to send more troops will only continue this injustice. One truth, of course, is that the losses of the British troops are relatively higher than the Canadian losses. The other truth is that our divisions are going to stay at the front till the end, and that the men there will never consent to leave until their work is finished, or they are replaced by reinforcements.

The woman voter should not allow herself to be deceived. The men will come back when we triumph and we will care for them. The weaker the reinforcements the greater the delay.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.
 You subscribed to Victory Bonds. Do you want to see that investment wasted by men who are afraid to fight?

 Production in Canada isn't going to suffer by the operation of the Military Service Act. Men who are engaged in production are not being taken.

 Isn't it about time the sinister influence of Bourassa and the clericals behind him was put down and out for good?

 Referendum! Once when Sir Wilfrid was in power he took a referendum on prohibition. It carried in every province but Quebec! Sir Wilfrid did nothing. Was he afraid of Quebec? Are you going to give history a chance to repeat in the matter of a referendum?

 Supporting the men at the front is more important than supporting hungry followers of Bourassa by putting them in line for Civil Service jobs at Ottawa.

 The Union Government is doing its best in abolishing patronage. The Laurier-Liberals will make no such promise, knowing full well how many disappointed ones they will have to look after in the event of their victory on December 17.

 The Laurier-Liberal party is the party of quitters, and quitters never start anything worth while.

 Will you feel safe if this country is ruled by the men who strangled free speech in Quebec and Kitchener, Ont?

 Notwithstanding Sir Wilfrid Laurier's denial of an alliance between Bourassa and himself, the evidence stands that Bourassa ordered no Nationalist candidate to run against a Laurier-Liberal where a Unionist took the field.

You cheered when the men went away, and you wished them good luck. Are you going to let them die for want of support?

The prominent English speaking Liberals who have stuck to Sir Wilfrid can be counted on the fingers of one hand.

In the North Riding Mr. Harold and his associates are manifestly in a panic. As for the South Riding it is just a question as to the size of Mr. W. F. Cockshutt's majority.

Germany isn't asking much from Russia as the price of peace. Certainly not. Only control of her wheat market for fifteen years, German goods to be admitted free, no territory now occupied by the Germans to be relinquished and a few other little things like that.

Lewis F. Heyd is evidently getting more reckless than ever in his platform utterances. Speaking in Toronto last night he actually had the effrontery to assert that the Union Government was responsible for the Halifax disaster. There may be some crimes which Heyd would hesitate to allege against an opponent if so, they are not known.

BOAT OF DEATH STILL AFLOAT

Fishing Tugs Were Unable to Search for it Yesterday
DRIFTING EASTWARD
Fate of Vessel in Distress Sunday Night is Unknown

Port Maitland, Ont., Dec. 11—Under necessity of giving considerable attention to nets which have suffered in consequence of recent storms, fishing tugs of this port were unable today to devote any time to a search for the 35-foot lifeboat and its ghostly crew of eight or nine dead men which was seen on the lake about half a mile off shore on Monday afternoon. On leaving the harbor at daylight the tugs steamed a more easterly course than usual in hope that the boat might be seen, but on their return reported that they had found no trace of it. A fresh easterly wind has been blowing ever since the boat was reported missing and as that time it was rapidly drifting eastward, it is assumed by Captain E. W. Moss and other navigators of the district that the boat would be many miles from this point. The fishing tugs will make another effort to-day to find the ill-fated vessel so that her crew may be given a Christian burial.

That the boat was seen, there is no doubt here. Five or six reputable persons are sponsors for the story first made public by Roy Evans, who was the first to detect the vessel. That the boat is still afloat there is little doubt. Parsons, who saw it all agree that it was riding high in the water and it may therefore be presumed that it was watertight. It is a lifeboat and built to ride out heavy seas, and as there have been no storms of any consequence since it was seen it is most improbable that it would have been swamped. It is being eagerly watched for at all points east of here.

The identity and fate of a freighter, which was heard sounding signals of distress off Cape Tecumseh on Sunday night are still unknown locally. Owing to the formation of considerable ice no wreckage could drift ashore and so far as is known none has been found on the lake. This, however, does not relieve residents of the fear that a vessel was wrecked. In the extreme cold which has been prevailing wreckage would quickly become thickly coated with ice and would not be detected at any distance.

GERMANY HIT BY DISASTER
One of the World's Greatest Munition Plants is Destroyed

London, Dec. 12.—Details have reached here, and some of them have been issued by the Press Bureau, regarding the explosion that destroyed the chemical factory of the Griesheim Company, near Frankfurt, on November 22.

Extreme care was taken to prevent accounts leaking out of Germany, and the enforced silence of the German press on the subject is regarded as proof of the German Government's anxiety to conceal a very serious loss.

Information obtained from trustworthy sources shows that the explosion caused the complete destruction of one of the greatest munition factories in the world, by which, it is stated, "Germany suffered a disaster comparable to a very serious military defeat in its effect on the war."

Plant Worth 60,000,000 Marks
 The Griesheim factory consisted of a group of buildings covering over fifty-four acres. Before the war it ranked fourth in importance among the great chemical works, and was flourishing, the company paying a pre-war dividend of 14 per cent, and being worth as a going concern, well over 60,000,000 marks.

Suggestions for Over Sale Boxes

- Chocolate Bars 25c
- 6 for ... 10c
- Cheating Gum 10c
- 3 for ... 10c
- Safety Razors, upwards from \$1
- Fountain Pens upwards from \$1
- Oxo Cubes, 10c and 25c
- Tooth Paste, Tooth Brush, Toilet Soaps, Shaving Soaps, Air Pillows, Wash Cloths.
- Overseas Boxes 12c

SEE WINDOWS
 116-118 Colborne



TENDERS!
 Tenders are asked for installing furnace in the Police Station. For all particulars of same apply to W. J. BRAGG, Chairman Buildings & Grounds Committee.
 Dated, Brantford, Dec. 12th, 1917.

NOTICE
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Market stalls in the City of Brantford, will be offered for sale by public auction on Saturday the 15th December, 1917, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon by Welby Almas, Auctioneer.
 W. J. BRAGG, Chairman of Buildings and Grounds.

Holmedale Kith and Kin
Win-the-War -Meeting
 will be held under the auspices of the Holmedale Kith and Kin in the interest of Union Government at Dufferin School, Holmedale, on
Wednesday, 12th Dec.
 at 8 p.m. Addresses will be delivered by W.F. Cockshutt, Mrs. S. W. Secord, Rev. H. C. Light, F. J. Calbeck, Aid. Jones and others. Everybody welcome.
GOD SAVE THE KING.

Christmas Neckwear
 as usual the nicest range in the City
Prices
\$2.50
 Down to
25c
 To see them is to buy them.
R. T. WHITLOCK & Co's
 Temple Building

TO THE ELECTORS

The one great issue in the present election is whether Canada shall slink from the battlefield and desert her brave boys over yonder or whether she shall resolve to back them and continue to do her utmost on behalf of the Dominion, the Empire and the great cause of human liberty.

If Laurier wins, Quebec wins and Quebec openly affirms that Canada has already done too much and that future help must cease.

Are YOU in favor of that?

Ralph Connor (Rev. Mr. Gordon) who not long ago returned from the front where he was chaplain said in a recent appeal:

"When Joffre at Washington was asked, 'How can America best help France?' he made answer like the impact of a bullet: 'Send us men, France needs men, send them quick. Food, guns, ships, yes, yes, but chiefly and quickly men.'" And in passionate oratory Viviani echoed the word. Arthur Balfour, with quiet but intense iteration, pressed home the truth—"France must have men."

So with the whole western front against which Germany has flung her scioned masses of war-bred men in vain. There is sore need of men there. The French line grows thin. The army of our Empire, too, that phenomenon of the war, fighting on five fronts, grows thin upon the western front. The Canadian line grows thinner and more thin.

Russia is out of the war. Pray God, no worse may come from her. Italy, reeling from the stroke of the Hun War Club, ceases for some months to be capable of a great offensive. Hence, with her released millions the enemy is preparing for the western front an overwhelming, a smashing blow.

Oh, Canada, our boys are on that front. Inevitable as the sunrise, that blow will fall. What men can do our men will do. Grim, resolute, but with not unanxious hearts and with many a yearning glance toward their home land for aid, they wait that stroke.

Oh, men of Canada, will you, can you unmoved, look on while that thin line of Canadian heroes waits the approach of those massed battalions long trained and fully equipped for this final attempt to hack through? They need you, these comrades of yours. For three years they have fought for you and your cause. They wonder at your easy deliberation. The haunting fear gathers about their hearts that you have forgotten them. Pitiful God, help them against that fear!

Your party? Your leader? God forgive you, for Canada never will if for things like these you forsake those waiting lads.

Referendum now, while with furious haste our enemy prepares destruction for that waiting line? Surely not referendum now, Canada, but reinforcements and quick to your waiting sons. A thousand voices chatter reasons for delay but across the seas comes one voice clear and loud, brave but heart-piercing.

Who calls Canada?
 Your boy, and he is calling for you. Quick! Go with all your haste, you may be late."

The above are burning words and they should steel the resolve of every man and woman to cast all other thoughts aside except that of heeding the call of our heroes and standing loyally by them.

Can YOU afford to go into the polling booth and cast a vote which will say that such help shall not be immediately forthcoming?

I think not.
 Sincerely,
W. F. COCKSHUTT.

LOCAL

A CORRECTION.
 In yesterday's list of the Halifax Relief name of Jas. Fitness, street, was accidentally ton.

LO, THE POOR IND
 One weary wayfarer from London, drifted station last night and night's lodging. He and penniless, but has work on the Grand Trunk.

CHRISTMAS CARD.
 Lieut.-Col. John Irwin, in his handsome engraved card from the office of A. Company, 125th Bn., giving the names of the ransy.

AT THE TABERNACLE.
 To-night will be "Night" at the Tabernacle, parade of church members, from the Y.M.C. Church men and the

SHELL RIM MOUNTINGS

Make the world better to some giving that a pair of glasses. Ears ranged. See us

JARVIS
 OPTICAL CONSULTING OPTICIAN
 52 MARKET ST. PHONE 1292 FOR APPOINTMENT

Purchase Slit
 Our and The sun All velvet est

Nei

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 and the will