

WILSON'S SPEECH A PLEDGE

Voiced Determination of Entente to End Autocracy Gave Answer to Von Hertling and Count Czernin

Wilson Announced America's Purpose to Emancipate World From Selfish Domination--Victory For German Aims Foreseen by Kaiser

Announcement of America's purpose to emancipate the world from the threat and attempted mastery of selfish groups of autocratic rulers by President Wilson, comes at almost the same time that the German emperor, exulting over the collapse of opposition on the eastern front, exclaims that peace will come "but the victory of German arms must first be recognized."

ANSWERED TEUTONS

In reiterating the intention of the American people to continue the war until a new international order devoid of government intrigue and force is realized the President answered the statements made recently by Chancellor von Hertling for Germany and Foreign Minister Czernin for Austria-Hungary.

BOMBAST FROM KAISER

The German emperor's reply to congratulations on the peace agreement with the Ukraine glorifies the policy of might. Germany, he says, shall seek in every way to bring peace to the world, but those who refuse the German terms "must be forced to have peace" while acknowledging the power of the German sword.

OFFENSIVE COMING

Meanwhile on the western front, where Germany is massing her forces to crush the Entente there are signs of growing alertness, portending the battles to come. The weather has improved and on some parts of the British front the ground is in condition for military operations on a larger scale than for several months.

THE SITUATION

Raids are increasing in intensity and the artillery fire is becoming more violent along more important sectors. In an attack against Courieres wood, northeast of Verdun, the French repulsed the Germans with loss. On the Italian front the Austrians have failed in attempts against the positions west of the Brenta captured recently by the Italians.

CITY GIVES \$24,000 TO PATRIOTIC FUND

Grant Made by Council Yesterday May Yet be Increased

The City Council fired the opening gun in the 1918 Patriotic Fund campaign yesterday afternoon, when they contributed the sum of \$24,000, which may yet be increased upon the recommendation of the Finance Committee.

Ald. Harp introduced a motion pledging the Council to pay the sum of \$2,000 monthly for the year, to the Patriotic Fund, the sum subject to an increase by the Finance Committee.

Ald. Simpson registered a protest, declaring that the city had no right to vote money for war purposes. A tax was being placed upon all classes, including the 4,000 men who had gone to the front, while the

Toronto, Feb. 12.—A fairly pronounced disturbance centered near Lake Michigan is causing rain in many parts of Ontario. Light snow has fallen in Quebec and the Maritime provinces and mild weather prevails over the greater portion of the Dominion.

Forecast: Rain to-day, turning colder late to-night or on Wednesday, with snow flurries.

dependents of only some 800 were benefited by the fund. He considered the motion illegal. "I agree with you in principle," observed the Mayor, "and think that the Patriotic Fund should be administered by the Government. As it is not, however, we must do our duty."

- Ald. Kelly pointed out that the resolution pledged the Council to contribute \$2,000 per month for a year, whether the war came to an end before that time or not. He wanted to see a proviso made covering the event of an early ending to the war. Ald. Clement, while recognizing the needs of the fund, considered that the grant should be deferred until the joint meeting of all civic bodies on financial matters be held on Friday next. The resolution was changed in such a way as to bind the Council to make only three payments after the conclusion of peace.

THIRTY SEVEN DELINQUENTS

Another List of C. O. R. Men Who Have Not Reported is Issued

The following list, containing the names of 37 delinquents under the Military Service Act, men called to the colors locally and not reporting, was issued this morning at C.O.R. headquarters. A fine of \$5000 may be imposed on anyone found harboring or employing any of the men listed here: Allan, Walter Lyons, 5 Hunt St. Hamilton, Ont., Hamilton Steel Wheel Co. Bloomer, Everett Wines, 331 Barton St. East, Hamilton. Champagne, Arthur, 36 Park St. Hamilton, Tuckett's Cigar Company. Clause, Andrew, Cheweken, Ont. farmer. Crapple, Hugh Edward, 847 Ear-

WAR DEMANDS FULL ENERGY OF THE NATION

Struggle Has Reached Critical Stage, Says King to Parliament

FIGHT FOR JUSTICE Stormy Session is Ahead; Criticism of Government Coming

London, Feb. 12.—In his speech at the opening of Parliament to-day King George said the struggle had reached a critical stage, which demanded more than ever the full use of the country's energies and resources. Until recognition is offered of the only principles on which an honorable peace can be concluded, the King declared, it is the duty of the British to prosecute the war with all the vigor they possess. London, Feb. 12.—Members of both Houses of Parliament assembled early to-day for the opening of the eighth session of the longest parliament in modern times—a session which is virtually certain to be the last and which will be followed by a general election upon largely extended franchise, with women voting for the first time in the country's history. King George, accompanied by the Queen, left the palace at 11 o'clock for the House of Commons, where they arrived at noon in the absence of the customary spectacular features. It was decided that in view of the war the peers and peeresses will not wear their gorgeous titular robes and coronets, while the naval and military members of both houses will wear the service dress instead of the flashy gold laced full dress uniforms.

At the King reads his speech and Their Majesties have left the House of Lords, an address, replying to the speech will be moved in both Houses—a formality which gives one of the chief opportunities for debate in any session.

The proceedings on this occasion, probably will be full of interest and importance and may cover the whole field of war effort. Political circles have been buzzing the past few days with various rumors, showing that severe criticism of the government is to be expected in the debate. One rumor is to the effect that a hostile amendment condemning the government, may be moved from the front opposition bench.

- Hamilton, Brown and Baggs. Smith, John Henry, 91 Chatham Street. Tilletson, Joseph Elmer, 12 Princess Street, Can. Cartridge Co. Toner, John, 378 Victoria Avenue N. Harvester Co. of Canada. Vedder, Arthur, 71 Mary Street. A. W. Ewig, Ashley St. Walton, Clifford, 80 Chatham St., Hamilton.

NOTICE! The Annual Meeting of the Conservative Association of the Riding of Brantford will take place on Sat., Feb. 16th. at 8 p.m. in the headquarters, corner of Dalhousie and King Sts. for the election of officers and transaction of other business. All concerned are requested to attend. N. D. NEILL Sec.



LORD DERBY British Secretary of State, Declares That He is to Resign.

FACING A CRISIS

My Courier Leased Wire Knoxville, Tenn., Feb. 12.—Charles Edward Russell, member of the Root mission to Russia speaking at the East Tennessee war conference, said last night that if the reports of a separate peace by Russia are true, America faces a crisis. "There are 1,500,000 Austro-German prisoners in Russia who are in good fighting condition," he said. "These together with 14 divisions of German fighters, will be thrown against the Allies on the western front. This will give Germany an army of more than four million. They will outnumber any possible force that the Allies can put on the front. Germany will subjugate Italy and then sweep over southern France," said Russell.

FUEL COMMISSION IS VINDICATED

City Council Expressed Satisfaction in Manner in Which Commission Handled Situation—Cost of Administration Was Low.

The affairs of the civic fuel commission were finally wound up yesterday afternoon by the city council, when the commission submitted a report covering their full activities, and received the thanks of the council for their efficient administration. The cost to the city of coal during the commission's regime, averages \$1.90 per ton, or fifteen cents per order delivered, and the council expressed satisfaction at the comparatively low total of expenditures. The commission reported as follows: Brantford, Feb. 11, 1918. Gentlemen: Having been entrusted with the problem of Fuel Control in this city, we your Advisory Committee, herewith beg to present our report.

As you are aware, we undertook this work on Dec. 20th in response to a request from the Council of 1917, as contained in recommendations submitted by the Finance Committee to that body. In accordance with said recommendations a Central Office was established in the Hydro Electric building on Colborne St. Through this office an effort was made to effect an equalized distribution of coal throughout the city. Considerable progress was made, but we were greatly handicapped from the fact that the local dealers had practically no stocks of coal on hand, and very little arriving. We were not for the assistance given us by manufacturing concerns we would have been obliged to abandon this work. In this connection we are indebted to the following firms for supplies: Waterloo Engine Co., Kgr and Goodwin, and Scarfe and Co. The above firms had purchased the coal for distribution among their employees, but realizing the great need of our citizens, gladly handed it over for distribution in order that all might have a share. Our activities, therefore, from Dec. 20th to Jan. 14th were necessarily confined to an effort at equalized distribution, as no provision had been made for any expenditures other than that necessary to operate the Central Office. Realizing the desperate condition of Brantford's fuel supply, and the necessity for prompt action on the part of the incoming council, your commission made an investigation of all coal yards in the city and presented a report of same to Mayor MacBain on the morning of investigation, Jan. 14th. This showed only 21 tons of "mine run" coal available for distribution. While practically all of the dealers claimed to have placed orders, there was absolutely no assurance as to when any further shipments might arrive. With the exception of one car there was no coal consigned to Brantford that had as yet crossed the international line.

Evidently realizing the conditions, your council was good enough to place funds at the disposal of the Commission. This action may be said to have "saved the situation," as we were thus enabled to take measures to bring about the much needed relief. Mr. R. A. White, a gentleman thoroughly familiar with the coal fields and matters of transportation, was immediately dispatched to the United States, with instructions to procure supplies. As a result of his activities a special import permit was issued by the American Fuel Controller to release some 57 cars for shipment to Brantford. This order was made applicable to the several mining companies with which Brantford dealers had been doing business. This arrangement was considered best by your Commission, as the city had no facilities for effecting deliveries, and therefore the best results could be obtained by making the shipments direct to the dealers here.

We regret to be obliged to state that when this coal commenced to arrive two of the local dealers took the ground that because of the fact that they had placed orders with these companies last summer, they should distribute same as they saw fit without regard to equalized distribution. They even attempted to repudiate the arrangement they had made with the commission. This was regrettable when it is remembered that the commission undertook the work at the solicitation of the dealers and the Council jointly. The firms taking this ground were the Gibson Coal Co. and Miller and Millan. We understand that Mr. Gibson made a request to last year's Council for the appointment of a commission, and therefore we were at a loss to understand his attitude. In order to enforce the rules of the Fuel Controller and in justice to the dealers who were willing to observe said rules, we were obliged to place police officers in the offices of the above firms. While these supplies were arriving, the matter of future shipments was taken up with the Fuel Controller. In conversation with the department heads we found that from all over Canada demands were being made for more coal, and that from the records Brantford has now received more than its proportionate allotment. In order to ascertain the correctness of this, and to be in a position to furnish authentic data, it was decided to take a complete inventory of all supplies in the city. This work had a three-fold purpose: First, to reach in the shortest possible time all needy cases, and to prevent repeating; second, to ascertain whether there was any hoarding to any great extent, and arrange for confiscation if necessary; third, to establish a permanent card system so that Brantford's actual requirements can be ascertained for next year, and an equalized distribution assured. This inventory revealed a most alarming shortage of coal in many homes. Fully 4,000 families were found to be entirely out of coal or with very scanty supplies. While this record was being tabulated an emergency squad of ten men and three automobiles were operating from the central office, and were thus enabled to prevent great suffering and in some instances actually saved human lives. There (Continued on page four)

THEY'RE OFF TODAY FOR \$150,000

Four Days' Campaign For Patriotic Fund Off to Flying Start

GIVE! GIVE! GIVE! Rousing Rally of Workers at Headquarters Last Night

The ten team carous and a large and very enthusiastic crowd of team workers filled the banquet tables at the Patriotic Fund Campaign dinner last evening in the Tea Pot Inn. The spirit of the workers was given a very fine display in the hearty campaign yells and songs that were given at the tables prior to the speeches.

John Wallace, the local Scotch comedian, gave some good Scotch and sailor songs that were much appreciated by those present. J. H. Spence, chairman of the campaign, opened the dinner with a brief summary of the work of the Patriotic Fund Campaign in Brantford. Although Mr. Lloyd Harris was absent, his spirit was present, as he had written the chairman that he could be counted on giving as much as in other years.

Last year, the chairman said, over \$158,000 had been promised. Up to the 31st of January, \$140,000 of this amount had been collected; another ten or twelve thousand was certain. The balance thus left would be indeed small compared with the general total. The note of the Brantford citizen is as safe as any bond, claimed the speaker in the course of his remarks, and although the campaigners would hit against some stiff opposition, this would only tend to put "pep" into the workers.

People might say that they had been contributing to the Victory Loan and so on, but the latter was a free-will offering to the dependents of those who were fighting for us. The "shut down order" was not nearly so bad in Brantford as in some parts of the United States. In one New York city, a factory of which a former Brantford man is at the head, has been ordered to shut down for sixteen days during February. The lay off should be no excuse for not giving to the Patriotic Fund. The chairman asked that the complaints be handed every day to a special committee, who would do their best to have misunderstandings righted. There will be expert accountants from local banks who will work on the funds each evening and announce the returns as early as possible. Brief meetings will be held at the close of each day's canvass, and addresses will be given by the campaigners. The reports will be made as promptly as possible and the speeches limited to two minutes each. As the ladies were leaving, the (Continued on page three)

THE MERCHANTS CORNER

"The days be dark and trade be tough it's always well to make a bluff, to face the world with cheerful eye, as the geese were hanging high."—Wak Masam. "I am unaware of anything that has a right to be called an impossibility."—Thomas B. Huxley. Every successful man must have four qualities or virtues—vision, initiative, conviction and common sense. Without common sense the other three are worthless. Many men have vision, initiative and conviction and are in the mental asylum for the lack of common sense to make the other three worth while.

Pays

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CANADIAN ROYAL REGULATIONS of a family, or any male, who was at the time present war, and has been called or neutral consular quarter-section of Land in Manitoba, Alberta. Applicant must in at Dominion Agency for District. Entry made on certain conditions residence upon land in each of three

Lands are advertised returned soldiers who and have been honorably discharged, receive one day priority of entry at local Manages Sub-Agency. Discharge certificate must be produced. W. V. COBE, Minister of the Interior, publication of this notice not paid for.

1386 HILL'S GOOD CLEANING BRANTFORD

IT IS YOUR DUTY. GIVE TO THE PATRIOTIC FUND. IT IS YOUR DUTY