

THE COURIER

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Thursday, Feb. 24, 1916.

The Situation.

The German offensive in the neighborhood of Verdun has developed in a most marked manner. It is estimated that half a million men at least are engaged in the struggle, which must be characterized as one of the most important of the war. There can be no doubt about the fact that the enemy has penetrated the French lines to a notable extent, but at last reports they were commencing to be held. The main object is to secure such a position as to utterly reduce the fortified city of Verdun at long range.

The strength of their present attack is such as to again revive the marvellous stopping of their initial rush to Paris, when only a small British force stood in the way at one critical point. The only reasonable explanation would seem to be that they encountered a hold up which they didn't expect and hadn't prepared for, just as in the early days of their invasion of Belgium.

Premier Asquith in the British House responded in vigorous fashion to the interrogation of Philip Snowden, Socialist member, as to whether the government would be prepared to consider peace proposals. The reply of the First Minister was dignified but emphatic. "He made it abundantly clear that the only basis upon which such a thing can happen will be when the Huns ask for it on sufficient knees."

A Domestic Crisis in the States.

The war threatens to bring about trouble between the United States Congress and President Wilson. From the first the latter has manifestly been aware of the strength of the pro-German element across the border, and much that he has stood from the Huns has undoubtedly been based on a recognition of this fact.

Now he is confronted in concrete form with the circumstance that Democratic leaders favor the passing of a resolution giving warning to American citizens that they should not travel on passenger or merchant ships carrying any arms. It will be recalled that this is what Germany has been striving for from the first, and the carrying of such a recommendation would prove an absolute triumph for the Kaiserites and be a palliation for much of their murderous work at sea.

Wilson at a most critical moment in the controversy with Germany thus finds himself threatened with desertion on the part of many of his most influential supporters, but he is said to be as firmly determined as ever to stand against any such capitulation as that now outlined.

It may be interesting to cite the fact that under the United States constitution the President is head of the executive and has a veto over the legislation of Congress, but same can be over-rudden by a two-thirds majority in each house.

Woman's Hospital Aid.

It is not too much to say that the Women's Hospital Aid is the good right arm of the institution. The organization embraces all creeds and all ages, and is thoroughly representative of the city and county alike. To attend the annual re-union is like participating in some happy family gathering, and herein rests one of the great reasons for the abundant success which has attended upon the efforts of the association—an esprit de corps which is as noteworthy as its infectiousness. To the members and their efforts is owing very much of the happy circumstance that the hospital to-day stands in such general favor and appreciation. The average number of patients now under daily treatment is close to the hundred mark. This is not because there is more sickness than formerly per population, but for the reason that the equipment and the buildings have been much improved, and that the W. H. A. have largely helped to do the rest. They have a membership of over one thousand, and the cordial co-operation with which they work together thoroughly explains the large measure of their success. For some years, Mrs. J. E. Waterous has been the very efficient President, and upon her retirement there could not have been a more appreciable tribute than that tendered her.

The members of the W. H. A. have an active coadjutor in the person of

Miss Forde, Superintendent of the hospital, for many years associated with the celebrated John Hopkins hospital, and who has shown herself to be possessed of marked ability. By a happy circumstance, she is a member of an old Brantford family and was born here.

WITNESS DID NOT TAKE PHOTOS

Pictures Shown of Property in McCutcheon Trial Caused a Stir.

DEFENCE CLAIMED IT WAS "DAMNABLE"

Trial Proceeding, With the End of It Not Yet in Sight.

Toronto, Feb. 24.—After F. C. Pickwell gave evidence about values of the Mayfair sub-division in the McCutcheon trial before Mr. Justice Middleton at the twenty-third day of the trial yesterday, his Lordship said that the testimony of the witness was hearsay evidence, and as such it was ruled out. Three witnesses were in the box yesterday, including A. K. Goodman, whose cross-examination by the defence was concluded early in the afternoon. F. C. Pickwell, the western representative of "Saturday Night" in Winnipeg, and N. L. Martin, an accountant, who gave interesting figures which he had gleaned from an examination of McCutcheon's books, were the other two witnesses.

With the reading of the evidence taken by the Commission at Great Falls, which will take fully three days, it is estimated that the trial will hardly be completed within three weeks.

DEFENCE IS FURIOUS

There was a heated discussion when the counsel for the defence resented the showing of the photographs of the Mayfair sub-division by F. C. Pickwell. After these had been shown to the jury, the defence found out that the exhibitor of the pictures had not taken them himself. The views showed Mayfair from across the river in Edmonton. A vigorous attack was made on the Crown by Mr. Hellmuth for showing the photographs as bona fide evidence when they were not actually taken by the witness.

"This is enough to make the whole trial abortive," declared Mr. Hellmuth.

"WON'T TRUST YOU AGAIN"

"We trusted you in good faith," said H. H. Dewar, M.P. "It's a damnable piece of business. We won't trust you again."

Mr. Davidson then read the stenographic report of his statement as follows: "Witness—Mayfair could not be called high-class in any respect. If you will permit me, that is a photograph of Mayfair."

"As you saw it?" asked Mr. Davidson.

"As I saw it in 1913 and 1914," answered the witness.

Mr. Davidson resented the implication about his reputation, citing the fact that he had sent a letter to Beatty, Snow & Nasmith in January saying that Mr. Pickwell had not taken the photographs.

N. L. Martin, in giving the results of his examination of the books of the McCutcheon brothers, said that from January 1, 1912, to April 30, 1915, \$8,000 was accounted for in salaries by D. S. McCutcheon. From September 1911, till September, 1914, the books charged him with \$5,708.83, which was money he got out of the firm in that time, as shown by the Calgary ledger.

ACCOUNTANT'S EVIDENCE

There was evidence in the books, Mr. Martin stated, that there had been paid \$18,618.57 to C. M. McCutcheon between some time in 1911 and April, 1915.

N. L. Martin, who was credited with \$70,000, which was taken out "re Prince Albert."

"This amount was charged to him, and later he was credited with it," said Mr. Martin. "I am citing this entry only because it was a large sum."

D. S. McCutcheon was charged with a total of some \$37,000, he asserted, in a period of about four years.

While Mr. A. K. Goodman was being examined by Mr. H. H. Dewar of the defence, in the absence of Mr. Hellmuth in the morning, the witness said he doubted the authenticity of the signature on an agreement in connection with Parkhill Investments.

Mr. Goodman stated that he had written the word "trustees" in the document, although Mr. Dewar said there was a strong resemblance. Mr. Goodman said he had been retained by the Attorney, S. McCutcheon, in 1915, and that he had acted as solicitor for the McCutcheons, and was then engaged in civil litigation against them.

Mr. Goodman said he regarded the Council Crest discrepancy purely as a clerical error. His attention had first been drawn to it by a member of the staff. The trusteeship was assumed by him without reading the agreement, he admitted.

Nineteen Northern States are to choose delegates for national conventions by direct vote.

Thirteen-year-old Dora Cohen, of Atlantic City, charged with starting a number of fires at a hearing before Magistrate Jalmetty admitted

OPERATIONS OF MYSTERIOUS SHIP CONTINUE

Madrid, Feb. 24.—Flying the German naval ensign from her topmast, the British steamship Westburn, of 2,018 tons, poked its sea-bitten nose in between the two north-western Canary Islands yesterday, steered straight for the port of Santa Cruz de Tenerife, and asked the hospitality of the Spanish government "pending the making of repairs." She is in command of a German prize crew, consisting of one officer and seven men from six British and one Belgian vessel, all believed to have been destroyed by a mysterious German raider.

One of the members of the prize crew wore a cap bearing the inscription, "S.M.S. Moeben." This is assumed to be the mysterious raider's vessel, which, after sinking six British vessels in mid-Atlantic, placed their crews—or part of them—on the British passenger liner Appam, in charge of Lieut. Hans Berg and a prize crew of 22 and sent the young officer away with the command, "Bring her into an American port or sink her."

Among the prisoners aboard the Westburn are part of the crew of the British ship Clan MacTavish, sunk according to its captain, by the Moewe on Jan. 16 last off the coast of Portugal. This fact coupled with the inscription on one sailor's cap, connects the Westburn with the exploit of that sea rover. A third "clue" leading to the Moewe is the fact that the Westburn has aboard part of the crew of a steamship called in despatches from Santa Cruz "Cambridge." This is supposed to be the British steamship Corbridge, sunk, according to previous advices from Newport News, by the Moewe on Jan. 11 off the northern edge of the coast of Portugal.

The Westburn left Liverpool Jan. 22 for Buenos Ayres, and it should have taken her about 35 days to reach that port, and she is not believed capable of making more than between six and seven knots. All of the ships previously reported sunk or captured by the Moewe met their fate in mid-Atlantic waters vaguely off the coasts of Portugal and Morocco.

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It appears, therefore, that the Westburn which must have steamed into the raiding zone about ten or eleven days after her departure from Liverpool, ran into the German sea rover's path about January 31, or on the first days of February. Like the

(Continued on page 5)

CANVASSING

(Continued from Page 1)

night began a canvass of sentiment in order to develop the extent to which resolutions of warning would be supported and at the same time disclose the opposition to such proposals. The Republicans generally were opposed to such action and aside from the score of Democrats who yesterday showed signs of breaking over the administration restraint the majority forces to-day apparently were being held by the appeal stand by the president.

Obituary

There died at the hospital last night Mr. Richard T. Lee, at the age of 60 years. Mr. Lee lived formerly on the Mohawk Road. He leaves to mourn his loss two daughters, Violet Fern and Ariel, of this city, and one son, Thomas of Guelph; also two brothers and one sister, Robert and John of Buffalo, and Mrs. C. Thomas, city. The funeral takes place to-morrow afternoon from 34 Brock street to Mohawk.

THELMA IGGULDEN

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Iggulden of 277 Chatham street, mourn the loss of their infant daughter, Thelma, aged 21 months. The funeral will take place to-morrow to Mr. Hope cemetery.

Laid at Rest

DAVID WILLITS
The funeral of Mr. David Willits took place yesterday afternoon to Scotland. In the absence of Rev. Mr. Lavell, who is attending to military duties in Toronto, Rev. Gordon conducted the service, assisted by Dr. Watson of Brant Avenue Church, who paid an eloquent tribute to Mr. Willits' fine qualities. The pall-bearers were relatives of the deceased.

NORMAN STUART.
Norman, the infant son of Mr. and Mrs. John Stuart, was laid to rest yesterday afternoon in Mr. Hope cemetery by the Rev. Mr. Marshall officiating.

Governor Whitman of New York, has taken to skating as a diversion.

Signature of *Chas. H. Johnson*

A SAFE GUIDE

To the man who puts SAFETY before speculative possibilities, the five-year Debenture bonds issued by The Royal Loan & Savings Company should prove the most attractive form of investment. They are issued in sums of \$100 and upwards, and the safety of the principal is guaranteed by \$5,000,000.00 real estate.

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Our range of Children's Dainty White Dresses is well worth inspection. Priced reasonably.

CORSET COVERS—A beautiful range of Corset Covers, by far the best we have ever shown in any previous display. These are hand embroidered, all-over embroidery, embroidery and lace and embroidery trimmed. Prices \$1.75, **29c**, \$1.50, \$1.25, \$1, 75c, 50c, 35c.

UNDERSKIRTS—A very large range of choice White Underskirts, fine nainsook top, with deep flounces and frills, of lace, embroidery and combination of lace and embroidery. Selection is made easy by the wide range of choice designs. **\$1**

NIGHT GOWNS—Our range of fine Night Gowns is beyond comparison, high neck, semi neck and low neck, handsomely trimmed in lace and embroidery, daintily finished with ribbon. Prices \$3.50, \$2.75, \$2.39, \$2.25, \$1.98, **50c** to \$1.75 to . . .

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12 1/2c. For . . . **10c**

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36-inch Horrockses' Fine White Cotton, no dressing. Reg. **15c**

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Women's fine white Cotton Night Gowns, Dutch neck, embroidery and lace trimmed. This week only. Reg. 75c. For . . . **50c**

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Double fold White Cotton Voile, extra fine quality, the popular fabric for waists and dresses. Worth 50c. For . . . **35c**

Striped Seed Voile, a very dainty fabric, in white only, double fold, an extra fine quality, new this season. Special. . . . **50c**

White Vesting, in dainty spot, stripe and floral designs. **15c**

White Piques, in single and double fold, fine, medium and coarse cord. Prices. . . . 50c, 45c, 35c, 25c, **20c**

Swiss Spot and Dimity Muslins, in a large variety. Prices. . . . 50c, 45c, 35c, 20c to **12 1/2c**

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2 yard wide, fully bleached, heavy White Cotton Sheeting, no dressing. Regular 35c. **29c**

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Horrockses' 2-yard wide, best quality Bleached Sheeting. Reg. 65c. For . . . **55c**

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Large sized fully bleached Huck Towel, hemmed and washed ready for use. Reg. 35c pair. This week **25c pr.**

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LOCAL NEWS

SEWERS BEING LAID
A sanitary sewer is being constructed on Lyons Avenue, between Lawrence and Hunt streets. This will complete the sewer connections for all the residents in the Lyons survey.

RECEIVES APPOINTMENT
Mr. Percy S. Foulds, of Roberts Foulds and Son, fruit dealers, city, has received the appointment of Quartermaster of the 201st Battalion in Toronto. This battalion will be known as the Toronto Light Infantry and is commanded by Lt.-Col. Hagarty, a native of Brantford.

PREPARING FIELD BOOKS
The assessors' department is very busy completing the field books which the assessors use on their rounds when valuating houses. The compiling of these books is a big task. In preparing these books much extra work is entailed by entering in the books detailed statements of their construction, giving size, also material of exterior and interior, including plumbing and heating. The object of this is to give an equalized valuation on all similar houses.

ASSESSORS
Taking actual value of property, the percentage within 27 Houses were assessed the sale houses with each case.

JOINS
Phillip and Mrs. Tuesday Battalion years ago regular army, Edadian, and was these by hospital.

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ing of Mr. Armanian a short He struck Then, est of a nation pressio farewel city th import his cot R. H. O People give M or res fob, fr mission

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