

THE COURIER
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THE SITUATION
 A despatch from Tokio announces that the Japanese Premier made the statement in the House of Representatives that Japan had not yet reached a decision with regard to the despatch of troops to Siberia and that "the Government would take the utmost care and precaution in dealing with this momentous situation." In what respect the halt has occurred does not yet appear. It does seem to be certain, however, that negotiations are progressing between the Mikado's Ministers and Siberia and the final outcome would not seem to be in much doubt.

It is rumored that Germany is considering another so-called peace offer, this time on the basis of restoring matters in Europe as they were before the war and recognition of her present status in the East. John Bull and his associates would certainly not consent to any such proposals for a moment.

The London Daily Telegraph contains a review by Dr. E. J. Dillon, who says that from Archangel to Odessa, from Moscow to Vladivostok, Russian voices are uplifted, asking in bitterness of anguish, whether among the nations of the many and mighty allies of yesterday there is none who will help her.

The trouble of it is that hitherto the Bolshevik element have specifically stated that they did not want any outside assistance. They may be coming to their senses in this regard, but Lenin has certainly given no sign and most people have an idea that he and Trotsky have been deliberately playing into the hands of Germany. Meanwhile the ships of the Russian fleet at Finland are reported to have been deserted by their crews, although it is said that an effort will be made to remove the Dreadnoughts to Kronstadt. The chances, however, would seem to be that the whole lot will soon be in German hands.

The latest air attacks upon Paris was of a particularly severe nature, although four enemy planes were brought down, and the Yorkshire coast has also been visited. The blood-thirsty Tages Zeitung is now calling for the destruction of four hundred English towns by this means.

The German Government has released from special imprisonment two British airmen who had dropped printed matter from their machines. The British Government had threatened reprisals to German prisoners if this step was not taken.

BOARD OF TRADE
 The inaugural address of Mr. Ellis, the new President of the Board of Trade deals with a variety of matters.

The suggestion that active steps should be taken to have the potentialities of the Grand River included in Hydro Electric expenditures, is a timely one. Those at all familiar with that stream are strongly inclined to the belief that there is a much power now going to waste capable of practical development.

The continuance of active steps with regard to Port Dover harbor improvements, is also urged. It is true that the Union Government during the war period, is curtailing as much as possible with regard to public outlays, but the beneficial results accruing from such an outlay would prove of much practical benefit to a large and important section.

In the matter of the Brantford gas supply, now so offensive as to odor, and inadequate during extremely cold weather, the suggestion was made at the meeting of reversion to the manufactured article. That, of course, would involve the use of coal, a sufficiently scarce article under present circumstances.

Mr. Ellis very properly urged the members to lend their hearty co-operation in the matter of farm help for increased production is most decidedly one of the most urgent matters in connection with the war.

The Board of Trade is certainly capable of doing good work, but there should be concentration rather than diffusion if the best results are to be obtained.

The announcement is made that a wave of crime is sweeping over Germany. Those at home have evidently become imbued with the same spirit as the men at the front, or in all probability it was simply latent in both cases.

Beaver are to be killed in Algonquin Park to be used for food purposes. They will thus help to dam the food shortage.

PEAT AS FUEL
 The use of the many bogs in Ontario for the above purpose has again become a live question in view of the fact that the fuel shortage of the passing winter is liable to be repeated next, unless comprehensive steps are taken to offset the danger. Experiments of the Mine branch of the Dominion Government show that raw peat contains from 86 to 90 per cent. of water in a form that cannot be reduced by pressure to less than 80 per cent. On the other hand, processes for removing the moisture by the application of artificial heat proved too expensive to be of practical benefit. That is why the efforts to turn out a marketable fuel at a profit have all failed, and it is more improbable now than ever that the problem will be overcome in that way.

The fuel famine of this winter and the warnings that scarcity may also be looked for next winter has created renewed interest in peat deposits. So far as presently known the only economical method of preparing peat for fuel purposes is by taking advantage of the natural driers—sun and wind. In many parts of the Scottish Highlands and Ireland peat is the only available fuel all the year round, and the cutting and drying of the peat is part of the regular routine of work. The peat stack is a common feature of the landscape, and the odor of the peat reek is recognized wherever dwellings are found. Anyone fortunate enough to own a peat bog can without other than labor, difficulty secure for himself a supply of this excellent fuel and find a market among his neighbors. In Western Massachusetts recently a test showed that it could be burned in an ordinary stove and lasted well, though the volume of heat was less than that derived from coal or wood.

NOTES AND COMMENTS
 Trotsky's resignation had a good deal of a sting to it for he still remains in Petrograd as the head of the Revolutionary Committee.

Hamilton would feel quite lonely without a murder mystery on its hands.

It appears that of the soldiers' ballots counted in England no fewer than 104,371 were rejected. Open voting would have been better than that mix-up.

In the matter of weather March seems to be better at the right about face.

Newfoundland has had a year of prohibition and an official report says that the results have been first rate with a decreased revenue of \$400,000 secured from liquor taxes more than made up in the first twelve months.

THE Y'S WOMEN OF LONDON
 Sara Jeanette Duncan, Brantford's talented authoress, is doing good work in the Old Land as will be seen by the following letter which has been published there:
 To the Boys Overseas:—
 Just listen a minute to me. I want to tell you something. Think you're back at school or home with mother.

I hear you've got leave, fourteen days of it, and not before it was due or wanted. You'll be coming over to England, most likely to London, and a little change looks pretty good to you. There are a few of us here that want it to look as good after it's over as it does now. At present we are perfect strangers to you, we live all over London and you don't know a thing about us. That's not fair, because we know a lot about you—that you look like, and how you talk, and particularly how you fight—the papers have told us, and we want to know more. This is simply a letter of introduction to put the matter straight.

We are just a few women-folk with more or less empty homes. Some of us have boys at the front, some have no boys to send there. But we've all got a spare room, and we want you to come and use it. We want to act with method so we have lined up behind the Y.M.C.A. because it has the enterprise and the organization to help us. They call us the International League of Hostesses. It's a big game, but we are quite ordinary sized people. So far as I know there isn't a duchess or a marchioness amongst us, though of course I won't promise that there won't be, when they see us enjoying ourselves. We are just all sorts of English women. Some of us may feel disgraced as housekeepers forever if we can't give you marmalade for breakfast. You won't mind, and you needn't eat it if we do. Here and there you may find a somebody who knows how to make apple sauce and Johnny cake and tea biscuit. That will make up for a lot.

drinking five o'clock tea. We want you to use your leave just as you have planned to use it, though if you need any sort of help we will endeavor to be on the job.

It's just this, that some of us have a feeling about you boys so far from your own homes, that makes us want to draw you into our firesides, where we can explain how proud we are of you, and you can't get away until we've finished what we have to say about you either.

You can't possibly know what it is to be disqualified by Anno Domini and such reasons for almost all forms of war activity except a little bronchitis in the winter. But though our nerves may be out of repair for nursing, and our feet for canteen work, our hearts still function boys, and our hands are very ready to welcome you. So don't forget to let them know before you start that you accept our invitation to spend a few days of your leave in our homes, for, by so doing, you will give a great pleasure to The "Y's" Women of London.

ABOLITION OF TOLL ROADS
 (Continued from Page 1).
 well as of commercial purposes, has been encouraged in this city.

And whereas the Brantford Gas Company have not made adequate provision for:

First—Sufficient supply of pure gas (or any other kind) to meet the demands of the citizens who have gone to the expense of putting in the fixtures.

Second—Or any storage facilities for the proper regulating or pressure on their mains throughout the city or taking care of the requirements of its customers during the necessary shut-down owing to accidents on the mains.

Third—Or any auxiliary plant to enable it to manufacture a sufficient quantity to make up the shortage that has been so severely felt during the winter months for several years past.

Fourth—Or mains of sufficient capacity to properly distribute the gas throughout the city.

Therefore, be it resolved that the Board of Trade respectfully present this matter to the City Council with the earnest request that they take such action as in their judgment seemed wise to have the Brantford Gas Company remedy the defects in their system and supply. And that this board present to the City Council and to the City Council and its willingness to assist by any means in its power to have this service put on its proper basis.

Toll Roads.
 A delegation from the Brant County Farmers' Good Roads Association were present and R. Greenwood and James Scace asked to address the board members. In connection with the question of the municipal purchase of toll roads, Mr. Greenwood gave a resume of the success of the movement, stating that the only road struck was in the City Council. He called upon Mr. Scace to tell of the proceedings in the Council.

Mr. Scace said that there were three varieties of traffic passing over these roads; traffic that gathers from along the road itself, from terminal points and "through" traffic. Sixty per cent. of the traffic passing over the toll roads in Brant County originates in Brant County. Motorists would greatly object to paying toll on all roads and certainly toll roads in Brant County are no asset to the municipality. The time between the taking over of the roads and the running of them by the county properly is from six to ten years. The maintenance will be a big factor. Brantford's share will be about \$9,000 for the Cocksbutt toll road which will be acceptable in municipal departments.

The speaker said that the city council had been detrimental in causing the County to pay 33 1/3 per cent. of the total cost of the roads. The Council objected to paying this apparently enormous percentage.

Speaking of the condition of the roads when taken over by the county, Mr. Scace said that as the Government was paying 40 per cent. of the cost it would be reasonable for the roads being kept in good order.

Alderman Boddy, speaking briefly, said that he was heartily in favor of abolishing toll roads, but his city had no guarantee that the roads would be kept in good condition. That sixty per cent. of the traffic passing over the toll roads originated in this city only showed that the other roads in the county were not worth using. He thought that the percentage asked was greater than the city's share.

Alderman Hurley said that the case had not been presented to the City Council the same as it had to the board. Had it been the same little opposition would have been met with.

Joseph Ham, M.P.P., thought the case was unanswerable. The committee ought to ask the City Council to back them up in any efforts they are to make to remedy the difficulty. No doubt as will have to be supplied in Brantford for years to come, as it is doubtful if electric light will ever take the place of gas entirely. You all know what we are betting now that it is ruinous to the health, not to speak of the poor service. The health of our citizens must

SONGS OF IRELAND
 "Fourteen Favorite Songs of Ireland" 25c "Gems of Irish Song" contains 65 of the best words and music. 75c. H. J. Smith and Co.

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 Repairing Promptly and Carefully Attended to.
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would not appreciate the purchase of the toll roads if the city had to pay the 33 1/3 per cent.

On the motion of Joseph Ham, seconded by L. M. Waterous, the Board of Trade pledged its further support in the matter, which will not be allowed to drop.

A vote of thanks was then extended to the speakers for their presence to which both appropriately made replies.

Following is the full list of officers and committees of the board as now constituted:

President—C. G. Ellis.
 Vice-president—J. M. Young.
 Secretary—Geo. Hately.
 Council—L. M. Waterous, W. D. Chubb, W. B. Hollinrake, Geo. C. Lawrence, W. B. Preston, Jos. Ruddy, C. M. Thompson, and the chairman of the standing committees.

Standing Committees:
 Board of Arbitration—A. K. Bunnell, Frank Cocksbutt, C. Cook, E. L. Gould, Geo. S. Matthews, John Muir, H. E. Powell, T. H. Preston, S. C. Read, W. D. Schultz, C. H. Waterous.
 Legislation—A. M. Harley, W. F. Cocksbutt, J. B. Detwiler, A. C. Lyons, W. A. Hollinrake, Andrew G. Development—D. T. Williamson, G. Breerton, John S. Dowling, Geo. Harris, S. M. Harley, Thos. Hendry.
 Transportation—Geo. S. Matthews, W. B. Preston, Jos. Ruddy, C. A. Waterous, M. Wilbee.
 Manufactures—L. M. Waterous, C. M. Thompson, E. C. Teuch, D. E. Gault, R. Collins, C. Cook, Geo. C. Lawrence, Geo. S. Matthews, H. H. Powell, L. M. Waterous, H. T. Watt, W. F. Cocksbutt.
 Hospital Board—C. Cook (representative).
 Auditors—Geo. Harris, W. H. Andrews.

President's Address.
 It is with many misgivings that I accept this trust, the position requires experience in public affairs, I have followed a pacemaker. Mr. Waterous gave very freely of his time and energy and the past year has been a very busy one for the Brantford Board of Trade. Much of this success is due to your retiring president, results are the final test, and his work has made it necessary to enlarge our quarters, our membership is increasing rapidly. However, I promise to do my best and ask for hearty co-operation in the coming year, and committees. It will be a great privilege for me to be allowed to work with the class of men who belong to this board and who take such an interest in various matters to which we deal with; it will be a liberal education. Many have mentioned the fact, and I feel that they are right, that as the war continues the personal work of each member requires more careful attention, that at times it is very hard to leave their work and attend to meetings of the board, or even to take any time for outside affairs such as this body or other organizations of a like nature. We are all trying to make Brantford a better place to live in and to help the country in every way possible; it is very necessary at the present time that we should do so, so I ask again, your hearty co-operation for the coming year, and I would suggest to the incoming Council and committees that the time meetings are called should be at a convenient hour as possible for the members that are to be present. Any suggestions along these lines from members will be welcome. Sometimes I have felt that members do not come to meetings so promptly because the time was not conveniently called, so I suggest that all meetings should be well attended, otherwise we cannot do business.

We have quite a program before us to-night and I must not take up too much time. There are a few things, however, which I would like to call to your attention.

Grand River Improvement.
 Some months ago your board had the privilege of hearing very able

Margaret Garrett's Husband
 By JANE PHELPS

CHAPTER III.
 I never remember so happy a Christmas as I had that year. The times Bob was sad as he thought or spoke of his mother. He gave me a beautiful wrist watch, the only valuable present besides an engagement ring he had ever given me. Not that he had been ungenerous. He scarcely ever came without a box of bouquets, some flowers or a book. But this was something I could treasure, something which would remind me of him every hour of the day. Often I pressed my lips to it, and thought of the simple one such as father could afford, was really going to be quite complete; principally owing to the fact that mother and I sewed steadily for months, and that we were both expert with the needle. We made everything except my dresses and wraps. My linen chest I had been gradually filling for years with the simple, everyday necessities, beautiful linen all hand embroidered, and marked with my monogram. I expected of course to marry and to do some work for my linen chest at the same time. I never mentioned it to mother, yet it made me more careful to always look my best, to avoid anything which would emphasize my age.

The hours I used to spend before the mirror trying new ways of doing my hair, the time I used to take selecting the colors to wear to make me look younger would have seemed ridiculous if it had not been pathetic. Until Elsie had spoken as she did the thought that the disparity in our ages could mean anything never had occurred to me. But her frank speech had rankled. I never mentioned it even to mother, yet it made me more careful to always look my best, to avoid anything which would emphasize my age.

We were going to have a small wedding because Bob's mother had not been dead quite a year. But my dress was the customary one of a bride, white satin, and orange blossoms holding my long tulle veil. It had come home two weeks before we were to be married, and every night before I went to bed I locked the door and opened the great box in which it lay folded in tissue paper and looked at it. I wouldn't have had

mother catch me for the world. It was the act of a silly girl, but I thought, "As soon as we are married I'll tell her everything." So I seldom questioned him.

I had become sure of his love by April. He had grown more and more demonstrative as the time for our wedding drew near. He did not talk so much of his mother, and seemed to be regaining the spirits which people who knew him before I did said he always possessed. Even mother noticed the change in him and was delighted.

There was one thing which worried me a little—but only at times, and that was that as Bob seemed to grow happier he appeared so much younger. At times in spite of his twenty-five years he looked like a boy, and when in good spirits acted like one.

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THE Royal Loan & Savings Company
Dividend No. 107
 NOTICE is hereby given that a dividend of Two per cent. on the paid up Capital Stock of the Company, being at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum has been declared for the three months ending March 31st, 1918, and that the same will be payable at the office of the Company on and after April 1st, next. The transfer books will be closed from March 20th, to March 31st inclusive. By order of the Board of Directors.
 W. G. HELLIKER, Manager.
 Brantford, March 7th, 1917.
OFFICE—38-40 MARKET ST.

CAREFULLY SEALED IN GERMO-PROOF TUBES
BRAND CAS
 BRINGS ABOUT THE DELICIOUS FLAVOUR OF THE FAMOUS ALBERTA CREAM MILK
 MANUFACTURED BY
 Western Canada Flour Mills Co. Limited

be safeguarded at all costs, and even if it necessary to take over the present gas plant or to start manufacturing artificial gas, nothing should be left undone to remedy this trouble as soon as possible. In this connection, I would like to ask the Board of Health what their opinion is in regard to the present gas, injurious to the health of our citizens. Could they, if they thought it wise, cut off the supply entirely? We have a resolution drawn up and the secretary will read it in a few minutes.

Milk
 The municipal control of milk came before you, board in an address given by Mr. Hurley, and the President also mentioned this in his address at the annual meeting. The question was discussed fully at a council meeting some nights ago. It was felt by the council that as far as a question of economics regarding delivery is concerned, this should be left to the council to handle and investigate thoroughly. Reference was made at the council meeting as to the quality of milk being delivered, and it was pointed out that there had not been any public reports of milk tests for some time. As a matter of fact it is felt that the milk test is perhaps not in the hands of the city, as it might so happen that the day the test was taken certain

milk might not be up to the standard and the publishing of this test might damage this particular dealer's business. This seems quite reasonable. At the same time the council express their views regarding the testing of milk for bacteria, not to be frequent, no chances can be taken with our milk and your are not particularly interested in the Government requirements along this line. Personally, I feel that Brantford is a large enough city to have a permanent bacteriologist who would regularly test our water and milk. I hesitate at even suggesting an expense to the city, but we can be more than that. We know almost from day to day that absolutely pure milk and pure water is being delivered to our citizens. Wonderful results have been obtained in Toronto along these lines. This is offered as a suggestion, and the speaker would like to have full discussion regarding this matter.

Here and elsewhere we have heard that perhaps it would be wise to change the policy of appointing Police Commissioners. It is felt in some quarters that city councils should have a little more to do with this.

(Continued on Page Five)

FACTORY
 The fact of Patriotic Library on M...

BILLIARD
 Two games the G. W. were played suits were: feated Sergt G. Pilley, ree who have n round are s possible.

HOUSE SOI
 The dwell was sold by Almas at th day, and w Burbank, th \$6,000.

COMING HO
 Mrs. Mac rested a ng her that MacDonald, after three

PATRIOTIC
 Wolfe Lo are arrang out in aid of sea. The draft, rally Hamilton; S

TALENT TE
 There was the Eagle P which was last night. by the Presid program was Recitation of "The Men," Miss ren's chorus, pianoforte sc tation. Art Couborough; Eva Downs; pianoforte d and Jean Ha That the A ren's chorus the afternoon was held.

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