

THE COURIER

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Friday, March 10, 1916.

The Situation.

Over The Courier's leased wire service to-day came official denials from France with regard to recent claims of the Huns with reference to Verdun fighting. The Crown Prince evidently planned to place himself on a high military pinnacle in connection with this operation. He conveyed the message to his troops that after the heavy gun bombardment, all they would have to do was to walk into the shattered enemy trenches as if on parade. Instead, the men of the hand of the fleur de lis were most emphatically on hand with the goods and the bumptious individual named, and his associates, are evidently trying by lies to claim something which they have not accomplished by deeds. All the same, the assault is still maintained with great persistence and violence, and nothing has yet been settled either one way or the other. However, the Kaiserites have at present been checked, although the military critic of the London Times expresses the view that a pause was to be expected owing to delay in bringing forward big guns. Speaking generally, it may be affirmed that the attack has utterly failed of the speedy accomplishment at first expected, and that the French are meeting the onslaught and holding their ground in a most inspiring manner.

Petrograd expects that the Turks will soon collapse in Asia Minor, although official denial comes from there, that the now sadly demoralized foe, has made any peace proposals. The relief force for the British soldiers hemmed in at Kut-le-Amara is now only seven miles from that place. Germany, having formally declared war against Portugal, makes the line up as follows. CENTRAL POWERS: Great Britain, Germany, Austria-Hungary, Russia, Turkey, Italy, Belgium, Serbia, Japan, Montenegro, Portugal, San Marino. Portugal, according to last figures, had a population of 5,500,000, a peace establishment of 50,000 and war 100,000. She is not likely to cut any figure in hostilities either one way or the other.

The Matter of Recruiting.

In Brantford and Brant County there has been a magnificent response to the recruiting call. In this regard we stand first per capita of population, when allowance is made in the case of Toronto for University and other corps whose units come from all over the province. Over 2,500 men have gone or are now preparing to go from Brant County and Brantford and still a second Battalion is starting off with a rush. This, unfortunately, has not in more than one instance, been the experience of other districts.

The Whig of Kingston in referring to the subject says:

"The recruiting is slow, and getting slower, not only in Kingston but all over the country. In Montreal, for instance, Brigadier-General Wilson declares that there are thousands of young men who are not disposed to do their duty, and, what is more regrettable there is a noticeable atmosphere of apathy on the part of the people." Conscription is regarded by him as inevitable.

In Hamilton, following the spectacular entry of the 20th Tiger Battalion into the recruiting field, there has been a slump in the enlistments and something must be done to stimulate them. But what?

In Kingston, the 10th Battalion is in need of several hundred more men, and it is not apparent where they are coming from.

In Toronto, Lieut.-Col. Cooper, of the 18th Battalion, said, at a recent meeting: "There is no doubt in this country we are trying to hang on to the voluntary system, a system that is obsolete, and we are all afraid of a word. That word is conscription. I never was afraid of it. All the men in my battalion at a conscription. Their country called them. They did not want to go, but they realized it was absolutely necessary and they have conscripted themselves."

It is only a question of time until the English method of recruiting men will be adopted. It would not be surprising if action that direction were taken at the present session of the Dominion House."

The Stratford Beacon expresses the opinion: "The recruiting operations ought to be directed by the Militia Department and the whole thing undertaken as if it were a matter of vital interest to the country, which it can scarcely be said to be as it is now put before the people. The Minister of Militia

seems to take it for granted that sufficient men will be raised. He has been even reported to have said that more men could be raised than are supposed to be of military age in the country although the purpose of knowing how many there are and of placing them with a view to rounding them up."

Other like views might be quoted and the thing is becoming a live issue.

NOTES AND COMMENTS

That little side-show of Uncle Sam with Mexico will do for the moving picture films.

'Twas the voice of the householder, he was heard to complain. "I've shovelled before; got to shovel again."

The latest rumor is that Greece is now likely to enter the field on the side of the Allies. Just as if the war flame wasn't mounting high enough already.

The statement is made that Winston Churchill's spectacular attack was designed to start things moving for the turning out of Atquith. The fools most decidedly cannot be all dead yet, if anyone thinks that Winston is big enough for that job.

Bishop Farthing has issued an appeal in Quebec asking that the bilingual agitation be dropped until after the war. His Lordship has evidently not realized the fact that the whole thing is mainly a deep laid political game.

It was just like Carvell to make the charge in the Dominion House that Sir Sam Hughes had run away from the shell charges. Anyone who knows the Canadian Minister of Militia is just as well aware that he is not built on those lines, as Carvell is on those of political decency.

Times Are Good.

London, March 9.—The record for pauperism for England and Wales during the past year is the lowest ever reached. Comparing 1875 with 1915, the ratio shows a decrease from 28.2 to 18.5 per thousand, a falling away of practically one half. Pauperism in London separately has not declined in the same proportion, nevertheless the percentage has in this period been cut down from 25.3 to 18.3. As compared with 1914, last year showed a decrease in every division of England and Wales of 67,702 persons, or 11 per cent.

After chewing gum given her in Chicago, a woman recovered consciousness in New York minus her \$100.

PARIS

Regret Over Departure of a Bank Manager—Fire Brigade Shows Up Well in a Test Run—Prospects Are Good For 25th.

Paris, March 10.—Paris friends will be sorry to lose Mr. D. H. Downie, manager of the Bank of Commerce who is leaving next month for Portage la Prairie. A few years ago Mr. Downie and family came here from the West, and while in town have made many warm friends. Mr. Downie has always taken a deep interest in St. James' Church, especially in the Men's Society, at one time being their president, as also a teacher in the Sunday Morning class. Mr. Moffat, a former accountant here, but now of Dundas, is to be Mr. Downie's successor.

The late Mrs. E. Kenyon of Etonia, who passed away in the Brantford Hospital on Wednesday was a cousin of Mr. D. M. McWilliams, Paris and well known to many here. This deceased was a daughter of the late J. W. and Mrs. Neff of Burford Township. She was married some 20 years ago to Chas. E. Kenyon, who with one daughter, Miss Elva May survive. The remains were interred in the Paris cemetery this Friday afternoon. Rev. Mr. Vollick of Etonia church conducting the services.

At 1.30 yesterday afternoon the fire alarm was sounded, giving the brigade a run to Jane street. When the men arrived with the hose wagon they found it was a test call turned in by the mayor and fire committee. The result was very favorable to the brigade, who made the run of nearly half a mile, all up hill, and had water going in less than 12 minutes.

The Paris Musical society held a very interesting meeting last night under Captain Pearce in the Y. M. C. A. The subject was "Beethoven." Starting with yesterday the recruiting for the 25th Brant Battalion under Col. H. Cockshutt of Brantford commenced in Paris. Captain Pearce has charge of the Paris company, with headquarters for the present at the Y. M. C. A. Building. He reports several good prospects in sight by the 25th.

It is pretty generally rumored that the International Works at the Paris junction will be shortly opened for the manufacture of manure spreaders. During the week Mr. Buckley the late manager of the Paris branch was in town. It is said that the firm will be lighted on Monday, and it is hoped that this is true as such would mean considerable for that end of the town. The greater bulk of Brantford and Paris of the 25th are walking around town very sedately. Reason—the boys have been inoculated against typhoid fever. The men of the above company will

Mentioned in Despatches

Dr. G. E. Cutten—College men continue to do their "bit" for King and Country. The latest outstanding example is of Mr. G. E. Cutten, president of Acadia College, Wolfville. Dr. Cutten has taken out his commission and is not only going himself, but is taking twenty-five of his students with him to the front. He is a religious and patriotic man. He was born at Amherst in 1874 and studied at Acadia and Yale Universities. For a time he was a pastor of Baptist churches in the United States, but returned to Canada at the head of Amherst College six years ago. In addition to his work as an educationalist, Dr. Cutten is also a religious and educational matter. He is not only giving up his college work, but is leaving a wife and four children.

Sir Charles Hibbert Tupper.—It is like a leopard changing its spots for a Tupper to be anything but a Tory. For this reason the appearance of Sir Charles Hibbert Tupper on the side of the British in British Columbia has attracted nation-wide attention. Sir Charles Hibbert Tupper was born at Amherst in 1855, being a younger son of the late Sir Charles Tupper. He was educated at McGill and Harvard and then called to the Nova Scotia Bar. He was elected to the House of Commons in 1884 and served as Minister of Marine and Fisheries, and later as Minister of Justice. Sir Charles moved to British Columbia in 1897, retiring from politics and confining his activities to his law practice.

Mr. L. A. Lapointe, M.P., who has thrown his hat into the municipal ring in Montreal and announced his intention of running for the majority chair in April, is member of Parliament for St. James division, Montreal. He has been an alderman of the city for the past sixteen years, for several of which acting as leader of the Council. He was born in Vercheres County, Que., in 1860, educated in Montreal, and went into business as a wine and liquor merchant. Alderman Lapointe has long been connected with the Union of Canadian Municipalities, and is also interested in the Good Roads movement. In the majority race he will have as his chief opponent, Mayor M. Marché, who is also an alderman and member of Parliament from Montreal.

General Kuropatkin.—In prize-rings parlance General Kuropatkin has "come back." This general, who figured so prominently in the Russian-Japanese War, has just been given an important command on the Russian front. At the time of the Russian defeat at the hands of Japan there was a tendency to blame Kuropatkin, but subsequent investigations show that he was not to blame, but that the internal weaknesses of the Russian Army system were at fault. Following the war Kuropatkin published a book in which he took full responsibility for his mistakes and at the same time paid a high tribute to the bravery and self-sacrifice of his men. He is undoubtedly a brave, honest, resourceful leader, and with the valuable experience gained in the Russian-Japanese War should prove an important factor in the drive which the Russians will shortly make against the Germans.

Count Von Bernstorff, German ambassador to Washington, must feel pretty sore at J. R. Rathom, editor of the Providence Journal. Rathom has persistently and consistently exposed Bernstorff's plottings and even his most carefully laid schemes have come to naught as a result of Rathom's publicity. The editor of the Providence Journal was born in Australia in 1868, but some years ago became a naturalized citizen of the United States. Between times he acted as war correspondent in the Sudan and in Cuba, took part in an exploring expedition to New Guinea and another to Alaska. He is a well-known writer and is regarded as an original subject. He has been managing editor of the Providence Journal for the past dozen years.

Arthur Brisbane.—Newspaper men earning \$100,000 a year are not any too numerous in this work-a-day world. Arthur Brisbane, editor of the New York Evening Journal, gets a salary of \$2,000 a week, but did not

always receive this princely stipend. Brisbane was born in Buffalo fifty-seven years ago and educated in his native city, in France and in Germany. Then followed some years experience in London, where he acted as correspondent for the New York Evening Sun. He eventually became editor of the Sun and then went to the New York World as editor, but could not get on with the late Joseph Pulitzer and quit. About twenty years ago he joined up with William Randolph Hearst and started in as editor of the New York Journal at a salary of \$5,000 a year and a bonus of a dollar for every thousand of circulation he added to the paper. His first year's commissions netted him \$70,000. Since then he has been put on a salary basis and now gets over \$100,000 a year. Brisbane is a yellow journalist but possesses marked ability. He is a clear, concise, unassuming, epigrammatic writer and seems able to forecast and to give the people what they want.

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