

HUNS LOOK FOR WAR WITH U.S.

Believe Open Declaration To Be Matter of Brief Time—Minimizes Breach—Berlin Press Says Lack of Army Makes Her Negligible.

BERLIN, Feb. 6, via London.—The morning newspapers treat the breach in diplomatic relations between the United States and Germany as a matter of great gravity, but all the editorials are pitched in a calm and moderate tone. Most of the newspapers say the news created no surprise, some of them explaining that this step was expected in view of President Wilson's message of last April, and others that it was anticipated in view of the president's continual siding with the Entente since the war began.

All the newspapers strongly reject the imputation that Germany has broken her promise made in her note of May 4, laying stress upon the fact that Germany's promise was expressly conditioned on President Wilson's success in bringing England to an observance of the laws of nations. They generally assert that President Wilson persists in ignoring Germany's justification for her submarine policy, as outlined in her various notes.

A number of the papers adopt a regretful tone over the wreck of the old friendship between the two countries, which they say Germany risked only because her life interests were at stake. It is generally assumed by the newspapers that the United States will make an early declaration of war against Germany, for, they say, the submarine campaign can hardly be prosecuted without the loss of some American lives.

While the entrance of the U.S. into the ranks of Germany's enemies would be highly regrettable, the newspapers say the country must meet this danger as the lesser of two evils. The danger of the U.S. as a war factor is treated as comparatively unimportant, owing to the remoteness of the area of war, and the time that would be required to create an army. The opinion is evinced in some quarters that the submarines will decide the war before the U.S. can take an active hand.

2,800,000 GALLONS PUMPED SUN 'AY

By City Waterworks Pumping Station—Ald. Deacon Points Out Enormous Waste of Water.

On Sunday the Belleville waterworks pumping station pumped 2,800,000 gallons of water, said Ald. Deacon, chairman, at the city council last evening, as he impressed upon the public to economize in the use of water. Coal is very scarce and expensive and although the city has coal on order, all industries are at present at the mercy of the railroads.

"I would like to ask the citizens not to waste water." On Sunday last there was over a million gallons used which need not have been used. Belleville uses a much larger amount of water per consumer than of the average city in the United States. The new pumps will soon be in shape. "It is the waste of water by people allowing taps to run that causes a great waste."

RUSSELL BURT SMOTHERED THIS MORNING AT POINT ANNE

Was in Bin at No. 5 Works and Cement Rolled Down Burying Him—Remains Brought to Belleville.

Russell Burt, a young man between 25 and 27 years of age, was smothered at Point Anne in No. 5 plant of the Canada Cement Company about 11 o'clock this morning. He was in a bin of cement when a sack took place and he was buried. Companions rushed to extricate him, but before he could be recovered he was dead.

Mr. James Jackson of Point Anne on instructions from a coroner brought the body to Belleville where it was placed in Messrs. Tickell and Sons' morgue, awaiting disposition. An inquest may be held. Young Burt came from Shannonville. He was a well built young man.

U.S. MAY TAKE OVER SHIPBUILDING PLANTS.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6.—Following a conference today with Attorney-General Gregory, Representative Pagett, chairman of the house naval committee, has begun preparations for an amendment to the naval appropriation bill providing for the taking over of shipbuilding plants to complete naval vessels, in the event of war. Mr. Gregory said that the president has ample authority to enforce such action. The amendment will be incorporated into the naval bill, which is expected to pass the senate the latter part of this week.

U.S. & AUSTRIA-HUNGARY STILL MAINTAIN RELATIONS

VIENNA, Feb. 5, via London.—After the receipt of news of the breaking off of diplomatic relations between the United States and Germany on Saturday, Frederic C. Peneld, the American ambassador, had a long conference with the Austro-Hungarian foreign minister, Count Czernin, after which it was announced that the relations between the United States and Austria-Hungary were not yet affected.

GERMAN PRESS BACKS UP MURDER CAMPAIGN.

NEW YORK, Feb. 6.—A Berlin cable says that with one exception, the Socialist organ Vorwaerts, the German press firmly supported the government in its determination to continue the submarine warfare.

W. J. LORIMER WAS WELCOMED

Public Greeted Young Returned Convalescent Soldier.

"Jimmy" Lorimer, one of Belleville's gallant sons returned home on Sunday. He lost his left arm as a result of one of the great battles at the front in which he was shot in the arm and leg. The wound to his leg was not so serious as expected and it has recovered entirely. He has been at the convalescent home in Toronto and now wears his artificial arm. The train from Toronto was over an hour late in arriving but still his friends did not elude. At 1.20 the G.T.R. train arrived and Pte. W. J. Lorimer was welcomed by the Mayor and citizens. The young soldier looks quite well. He acknowledged the greetings of his friends, after which he was motored to Mr. Geo. Gulliver's on Blecker Ave., where he is staying owing to the fact that his relatives are now living in Thurlow.

SUSPICION ABOUT FIRE

Partially Burned Pieces of Wood Beneath Floor at Distance from Blaze in Kitchen.

Fire was discovered on Sunday morning at an early hour in the large brick residence of Mrs. Margaret Casey, who is now in a Toronto Hospital. The residence has not been occupied for some time. The building is worth about six or seven thousand dollars. Fire was encountered in the kitchen and soon was put out. Chief W. J. Brown and his men remained around and investigated. Upstairs he found a loose board over a gaspise and lifting it up, discovered a neat pile of sticks and wood between the flooring and ceiling which had been burning recently, but which had perhaps been extinguished by a shot of water from the hose. This blaze had no connection with the fire in the kitchen. The chief has written the Provincial Fire Marshal, Mr. Heaton, giving the details of the fire. The damage done was fortunately not heavy. The heaviest was in the kitchen.

ESCAPED PRISONERS TAKEN BACK TO IOWA.

The two escaped prisoners serving a life sentence for murder who were captured in Bowmanville last week by Chief Jarvis single handed, were taken to Fort Madison State Prison, Iowa, by the Chief. They were on the same train going over as Inspector Jackson of Winnipeg, who was in charge of James Stewart, a safe blowy who snatched a revolver from his escort's pocket and shot him dead in the car near Windsor, Ontario. Stewart escaped but has since been captured at Sandwich. Chief Jarvis says he was shown every kindness possible by the United States police force en route and by the officials at the prison where he landed his two prisoners safely.—The Bowmanville Statesman.

PTE. HORNE SERIOUSLY WOUNDED.

Mr. Alfred Horne of Caniffon received word Saturday morning that his son, Pte. Wilfred Horne had been seriously wounded. Pte. Horne and his brother Hal, went overseas with the 80th battalion and have been for many months on active service in France.

TO PURCHASE TOLL ROAD

Leeds and Grenville Counties Council are taking steps to purchase the Brockville and Prescott toll road. With this toll road out of existence, they only relics of the dark past will be the five in the neighborhood of Cobourg.

DEATH OF ROBT. RILEY.

Robert Riley, aged 61 years, a farmer from Marmora, died in Thurlow yesterday of tuberculosis. The remains will be shipped by Messrs. Tickell and Sons Co., to Marmora for interment.

A Corrector of Pulmonary Troubles

Man testimonials could be presented showing the great efficacy of the certainty that they will find relief. It will bring inflammation in Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil in curing disorders of the respiratory process, but the best testimonial is experience and the Oil is recommended to all who suffer from these disorders the bronchial tubes as no other preparation can.

NO CHARITY IN THIS CASE.

Not that we want to burden anyone with our troubles, or get their sympathy, (it isn't sympathy we want—it's CASH); but here's an example—only to show inconsistency and unfairness. A subscriber entered our sanctum and intimated that he was of the opinion that it was about time he retitled for the Ensign. Naturally we agreed (mentally, if not verbally) and at once proceeded to give him a document to prove to the world that his indebtedness was paid. Formerly our rate has been \$1.25 per year, or \$1.00 strictly in advance. \$1.25 at the end of the year is no better than \$1.00 in advance. We didn't ask anyone to accept our word for it—ask those who know. Getting back to the point—we wrote a receipt for \$3.75, (three years' past subscription). Our friend objected and said he had lots of outstanding accounts in payment of which he would be glad to accept 100 cents on the dollar. We hope he understood what we said, but we are doubtful. If he gets 100 cents on the dollar he would do exactly as we did in his case. He said "you can stop sending the paper; I won't have it at that price." We stopped it without delay. We don't want to send our paper to an ungrateful man. No one is compelled to take it. If they honestly believe it is of no value to them, we don't want to send it—we're not an object of charity, as yet, and don't want anyone to regard us that way. When we can't give honest value for the money, we'll find another job. The world is large and none need want who are able to earn. We earn our livelihood—we don't beg it. What we lose in discounts, and pay in interest easily amounts to 25 per cent—it's always war tax? Go to the druggist and buy a patent medicine—then watch who pays the war tax. This is one instance only.—Brighton Ensign.

"PRODUCE YE SLAVES."

A special train with a full staff of exhorters on board, started out from the Agricultural College last week, and is now touring Western Ontario. One purpose of the exhorters, we are told, is to impress farmers with the idea that there should be no further slaughter of calves, even if the retention of sucklings on the farm involves a financial loss to the owners. I sometimes wonder if some of our instructors take the people along the concession lines for a lot of monumental idiots, or if they are simply trying to see how much farmers will stand for before they kick the roof off. Surely, however, the limit of gall is reached when farmers are advised to produce at a loss, in view of what we see going on in the cities. Those highly patriotic manufacturers of munitions were, Sam Hughes being the witness, exceedingly reluctant to enter on their present line of activity when there appeared to be an element of risk in it. As soon as these men saw a prospect of making profits, in a year or two well on to the full value of their plant they fairly rolled over each other, in their eagerness to be the first to start the "armament" industry.

But after what had occurred at Napanee last week, the exhorters are apparently quite justified in counting on the further forbearance of farmers. Reference is here made to what A. A. Ayer, a Montreal cheese exporter, said at the eastern Ontario Dairyman's Convention, and which is reported in another column of the Sun. This Montreal magnate, had the supreme gall to tell an audience of Ontario farmers, that while they had been growing rich on the shedding of human blood, in the present war, they had "been left severely alone" in the matter of taxation to carry on the war.

Whose blood, pray is being shed in the war? Aside from the British born, most of those in the Canadian army in France, I will venture to say were born on the farms. Some have gone direct from the land to the war; others had first been drawn to the cities by the higher rewards which cities offer them. Within sight of where this is written, and people are not crowded so close together in the country as they are in old St. John's ward, are the farm homes from which three lads, two of them only sons, have gone to serve with city regiments. And that is a fair illustration of what has occurred all over rural Ontario. Not only is the major part of the cost of the war in flesh and blood so far as Canada is concerned, being borne by the farms, but the heavy end of it in taxation rests finally on

the same foundation. In this township, as before stated, aside from the township grant for military purposes, we have paid our share of a county grant, for the same service, that exceeded the levy for all township purposes of all kinds and that is the smallest part of it. Who pays the special customs war tax on imports? Not importers, but ultimate consumers, who are mainly farmers. The ultimate consumers, (mainly farmers) pay in addition to this that extra price for the products of domestic manufactures have been enabled to charge by reason of the added protection given them under the increased tariff. Still in the face of these facts, Mr. Ayer, had the effrontery to tell farmers that they have been "left severely alone" in the matter of taxation, and that they are growing rich by the shedding of other's blood. All this was followed, too, by the command to farmers, in the new year, to work more strenuously, and for longer hours than they did in 1916. Merciful heavens! Longer hours! More strenuous toil! And this a community of farmers where the average is one man to a hundred acres, where hours of toll are from dawn to dark, and where women and girls toiled in fields as in pioneer days.

And yet all this was listened to without one word of audible protest! Upon my word, the bunch of farmers who allowed this Montreal magnate to get away without, figuratively at least, having his hide nailed to the fence, deserve all that is coming to them. I see that "Ralph Connor" who has been serving as a chaplain with the Canadian forces, says he would as soon think of depriving the Canadian soldiers of their rifles, as he would think of shutting off their ration of rum.

Presumably this is because Ralph thinks a good stiff hot punch essential to nullify the effects of fatigue, cold, and wet in the trenches. But it is not in the trenches alone that during the past summer farmers all along the concession lines were more than once ready to collapse with fatigue; frequently clothing was doubled in weight by rains falling upon it, the whole body was made stiff with cold while teaming hogs to market in the fall and early winter. Would the Rev. Ralph recommend a dose of hot Scotch in such cases as these? In the language of the street corner orator, "I pause for a reply."—Toronto Weekly Sun.

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