

## THE COURIER

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**PHONES.**  
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Wednesday, February 21st, 1917.

## THE SITUATION

Lord Robert Cecil, the Minister of Blockade, has made the official announcement that the intensified German submarine menace has failed, in so far as stopping British supplies is concerned. The loss has been less than one per cent, and the starvation of the people of Great Britain is another Hun dream which will be dissipated just as surely as the terrorized subjugation of her people by the Zeppelins. Three small ships, representing a tonnage of a trifle over two hundred, was the entire bag for yesterday. Taking the last twenty days, the average rate of sinkings has not been a third of what the Kaiserites designed, and which they mean to boast they could accomplish. Meanwhile American shipping continues to suffer to a marked extent, and food prices across the border are commencing to lead to riots. Wilson is still waiting for that "overt" act, and when it does come, our neighbors are not in any shape to make themselves effectively felt.

Just what big move Germany is contemplating on the western front, has become more involved in secrecy than ever, as practically all communications have become cut off. The idea seems to be quite prevalent that she will make a drive for Ypres and the coast.

The blockade which the Allies have maintained against Greece is now commencing to tell, and bread is distributed in portions of seven-eighths of an ounce to each person. It is generally recognized that the continuance of this pressure is still necessary with regard to King Constantine and his advisers.

The committee on the commercial and industrial policy of Great Britain—a committee composed of Balfour and other distinguished men, and including a Labor member—has made a significant report favoring preferential trade within the Empire. This is the most serious and direct blow which the Free Trade fanatics have had to face for some time, and a plan which many have derided as chimerical, is manifestly approaching the realm of practical politics.

## THE RIGHT ACTION—WHAT MILITIA ACT MEANS.

The Courier welcomes the passing of the resolution at the public meeting last night on behalf of the enforcement of the Militia Act. Such action is in line with what this paper has been urging for some time and no one who considers the present lack of recruiting results can doubt that more drastic steps need to be taken in order to get at the large number of slackers who are unashamed and immovable. Brantford and Brant County have done well, no sections better, in the matter of men who have hitherto gone to the front, but the need for more still exists and the class who could be reached by patriotic appeals are already in khaki. Those eligibles who remain very clearly need to be reached in some other way and the enforcement of the Militia Act would constitute an important step to that end.

The provisions of that measure do not seem to be clearly understood and some extracts are in order.

In the first place the liability to military service is thus defined: "All the male inhabitants of Canada, of the age of eighteen years and upwards and under sixty, not exempt or disqualified by law, and being British subjects, shall be liable to service in the Militia."

"Every member of the Militia called out for active service, who absents himself without leave from his corps, for a longer period than seven days, may be tried by court martial, as a deserter."

It will thus be seen that under said act men can be sent to the firing line, for of a certainty, the defence of the Dominion is taking place just as much in Europe today as if the enemy should be at our very gates.

It is to be hoped that the example of Brantford will be followed by other places throughout the country so that the government will feel that they have the backing of popular approval in connection with the step urged.

## A SORRY REPRESENTATIVE.

An individual named Moore, who sits in the U. S. House of Representatives for Pennsylvania, is evidently an amusing cuss, although that is not probably the manner in which he views himself.

He has offered a resolution in which he charges that twenty-five American newspapers were subsidized by English money to drag Uncle Sam into war with Germany. It is recorded that he gave the House a busy and noisy half hour. He thundered that his resolution should be adopted, defied one Washington newspaper to show why the tone of its editorials regarding the war had changed, charged Representative Lenroot, of Wisconsin, with uttering a "deliberate falsehood" about him, and then defeat being apparent, shouted that he would continue his fight "to-morrow," and "the next day."

The idea that John Bull was particularly concerned about pulling Uncle Sam into the maelstrom is, of course, all moonshine. Great Britain was unquestionably surprised that Washington should make no protest in connection with the Belgian outrage and later stand the Lusitania and other affronts, but neither the British Admiralty nor the British war office have ever been under any delusion as to our neighbors proving of material help in connection with the conflict. They very well knew otherwise.

And now when to all the rest the Kaiserites added the still further insult of limiting U. S. commerce on the high seas, and ordering ships flying the Stars and Stripes to be painted with certain stripes on the trips allowed, this man Moore can see nothing in the severing of diplomatic relations but a move made by a subsidized press at the instigation of England.

The marvel is that a man with a soul so small should ever be elected to anything anywhere.

## BODY OF EMPEROR MOVED

By Courier Leased Wire.  
Amsterdam, via London, Feb. 21.—A Budapest despatch says that according to the Pester Lloyd, the remains of Emperor Francis II. have been removed from Arco by order of Emperor Charles because the town was in the line of the Italian front. The coffin was removed on the night of February 6, and taken on a gun carriage to the Imperial chapel in Trieste, where it remains temporarily. Arco is in the Trentino, eight miles west of Rovereto.

## PROTEST C. N. R.

By Courier Leased Wire.  
Toronto, Feb. 21.—Thomas Marshall, member for Lincoln, is to move in the House, that the House protest against approval of plans of the C.N.R. or any of its subsidiary lines for a railway running from Toronto to Niagara Falls, through Hamilton, or the approval of the plans for any portion of the route because then Hydro-Electric Commission have voted by a large majority in favor of the construction, with but one exception, of the said road by the Hydro-Electric.

## AN EARTHQUAKE

By Courier Leased Wire.  
Buffalo, Feb. 21.—A severe earthquake shock lasting from 2:41 to 2:48 a.m., was recorded on the seismograph at Canisius College. The direction and distance indicated the West Indies as the centre of the disturbance.

## LEAKS' TRAINING

By Courier Leased Wire.  
Toronto, Feb. 21.—The Toronto Baseball Club will train at Petersburg, Va., and the players have been ordered to report on April 1st.

Sarnia City Council has been petitioned by butchers to stop hucksters from selling meat by the pound. The market prices are several cents cheaper per pound than at stores.



**BLINDED HERO HELPS COMRADES**  
Sgt. Maj. Robt. Middlemiss, 2nd battalion, K.O.S.B., who lost his eyesight at Gallipoli, and has since toured the United States where he succeeded in raising \$200,000 for blinded soldiers and sailors. He is lecturing before Canadian Clubs at the present time on a short visit to Canada.

**Children Cry FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA**

## DEATH OF OLD PARIS RESIDENT

Mrs. Mary Finlayson Follows Her Husband to the Grave

## PATRIOTIC CAMPAIGN Is Launched in Paris Today and Tomorrow

(From our own Correspondent)  
Paris, Feb. 21.—The death took place yesterday morning at the family residence, River Street, of Mary Nicholson, widow of the late Mr. James Finlayson, who passed away on the 21st of last month. The deceased had been ailing for some time and her death was not unexpected. She was a daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Alex. Nicholson, and was born at New Galway, Scotland, 81 years ago. She came to Canada with her parents when a small child and settled in Huron County. In the year 1864 she was married to her late husband at Seaforth, and has been a resident of Paris for over 40 years, and three years ago they celebrated their golden wedding. Two children and two sisters are left to mourn her loss, namely, Mrs. H. Marston and William at home, and Mrs. Steel and Mrs. Modland of Seaforth, to whom the sympathy of the community is extended in this their sad bereavement. The funeral will be held to-morrow afternoon and will be conducted by Rev. D. A. Armstrong of the Congregational church.

Mrs. A. McCoy of Edmonton, who is at present on an extended visit to her parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Roberts, has received a letter from a comrade saying that her husband, Pte. Arthur M. Coy had been killed in action on Oct. 8th, 1916, in the attack on Regina trench. Pte. Coy enlisted with the 49th Canadian Edmonton Regiment, and has been reported missing since Oct. 9th.

Mrs. Burgess, Paris Junction, has received word from Ottawa that her son, Pte. C. O. Burgess, was seriously ill. It will be remembered that a few months ago he had to have his leg amputated, and it is feared that serious results have set in from same.

On Saturday morning a very quiet wedding took place at the R. C. presbytery, when Rev. Father Cassidy united in holy bonds Miss Mary McCafferty, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. McCafferty, of Hoosick Falls, N.Y., to William Keen, second eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Keen, Willow street. The bride was married in her travelling suit of navy blue broadcloth, with chic hat to match. Mr. and Mrs. P. Larion were witnesses. The happy couple returned yesterday from their wedding trip, which was spent at Toronto, and will reside on River street, where they will be at home to their many friends.

On Monday evening a sleigh load of young people from the A. Y. P. A. Society, Princeton, drove over to Paris and was entertained by the young people of St. James, in their parish hall. The visitors put on a very good program, which was much enjoyed by all present. Later, a social hour was spent in games, etc., and before leaving a dainty lunch was served.

Mr. Horace Henderson has been at Goderich, for a few days attending the wedding of his brother George C. of Radisson, Sask., to Miss Elsie May Lobb. The wedding took place at the home of the bride's parents at "Atherton Farm," Goderich, on the 19th. Mr. Horace Henderson supported his brother. The happy couple are spending their honeymoon at Brantford, Paris, and Niagara Falls. Mr. and Mrs. Henderson will leave later for Radisson, Sask., where they will in future reside.

The Baptist Mission House, which was up for sale, was sold auction on Saturday to the Paris Junction Missionary Society. For the past two years a union Sunday School service has been held there, and the place is not large enough for all that go, so the building will be remodelled and made larger. It has always been a long felt want at the station, as the other Sunday schools are so far away for the children.

On Monday evening a Patriotic campaign meeting was held in the Presbyterian church, when Rev. Mr. Fotheringham, of Grace Church, Brantford, and Rev. Mr. Woodside, gave excellent addresses, on the ways and means of raising money for the big campaign which is being held here to-day and to-morrow. Mayor C. B. Robinson was chairman, and also gave a brief address before introducing the speakers. Mr. Fisher M.P., moved a hearty vote of thanks to the above gentlemen for the splendid addresses just heard, and it was seconded by Mr. T. Scott Davidson. The meeting was opened by the choir singing "Oh Canada," and during the evening several selections were given by the 215th band.

Last evening a banquet was held in the "Y" for the canvassers, when they were all given their last instructions for the noble work which they were commencing to-day. There was the utmost enthusiasm and optimism prevailing throughout the evening, and Rev. Mr. Woodside, who had addressed five meetings in the factories during the afternoon, also addressed the meeting.

There was a good attendance at the Fire Hall last evening to hear W. Bengough give his laughable "Chalk Talk," and entertainment. A capital vocal and instrumental programme was interspersed throughout the talk. The above was given by the Falkland Farmers' Club, and proceeds are for patriotic purposes.

## ENFORCEMENT

Continued from page one.  
be enforced speedily, with no time wasted. It was lamentable that any young men should wait until they were forced to enlist. It was a shame that any encouragement was furnished to eligible men by the employers of the country, when it was possible to keep the essential industries of the country going in their full power of production without the services of these able-bodied men. The only thing which should occupy the thoughts of patriotic Britishers as a time like the present should be the safety of the Empire. And the fact that no Empire has ever rested in the hands of better soldiers notwithstanding, the Empire was not safe at the present time. It was unsafe not because of the men at the front, but because of the men here. If we lost, it would be because we had not been true. To serve by means of every patriotic thinking individual was to strive for the perfect safety and security of the Empire.

The speaker expressed surprise at the number of apparently eligible young men he had seen in Brantford during the evening. Referring to the "slacker" in general, he considered that no mercy should be shown such "filipant, soulless, heartless individuals," that they should be ostracized by society.

At such a time as this, the best lives of the Dominion were bleeding, the best homes were impoverished. All could not go to the front, but all could contribute in some way to the task of making victory certain and sure. The speaker referred to the statement of a munition expert, that sixty-five per cent of the munition work of Canada could be done better by women than by men, and he regarded men who failed in their duty at such a time as this, as traitors and not patriots. The men who would not help us in the winning of this war might not to share in the benefits derived from the war. To the young men leaving the country to evade military duties, Lt.-Col. Williams expressed the term "renegades" and hoped that they would never be allowed to return.

The time had come now for an expression of public opinion which should call for the enforcement of the militia act. The government had not yet been convinced by a public demonstration that the act was wanted, and when this was done the speaker anticipated little delay in the passing of the act, for the soldiers' home from the front would have no mercy for politicians who would so serve the empire in such a crisis as the present one.

Only when the Militia Act was placed in force could we feel that we had done our full share in the war. All the burdens of the country had to be borne by the soldier.

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lution passed unanimously amid a scene of enthusiasm. Mr. J. H. Spence assured the gathering that in the meantime the work of the Brant Recruiting League would not be discontinued, but on the contrary that additional efforts would be put forth in the interests of recruiting. A vote of thanks to the mover and seconder of the resolution, followed by the singing of the National Anthem, served to bring to a close a meeting whose eventual action may participate in the shaping of the future destiny of Canada in the war.

**DID YOU LOSE A DOLLAR.**  
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"Exaggerated" you say. Not at all. All around us we see women and children adrift—left destitute because of man's very human tendency to "put off till tomorrow" a responsibility which involves a little self-sacrifice.

You sir, must realize the coming of that certain day when death or incapacity for work will cut off your present income. The distress of your loved ones if you should be taken—the suffering and humiliation which they might have to face—do you not see it? Do you imagine your wife doesn't see it?

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**LOCAL**

**PUPILS PASSED.**  
The friends of Miss... will be pleased to know her pupils passed with honors at the recent exam of the Conservatory of Music.

**NUPTIAL NOTES.**  
A quiet wedding took place Saturday afternoon at the Memorial parsonage, Martha Phipps, and Mr. Roberts of the 215th battalion in the bonds of matrimony by the Rev. James Chapin.

**AN OUTING.**  
The pupils and teacher of the Collegiate Institute having a sleighride partying to a place on the ice. The most enjoyable time is over.

**TO HAMILTON.**  
The printers of the... received and accepted an invitation to visit the Ambitions City at Hamilton and evening of the guests of the printer burg. The journey will be radial, leaving here at 3 ling, hockey and other indulged in for which the are taking their strongest compete. The event is forwarded to most ent but all concerned.

**HOT ASHES.**  
The gentle slumbers of were disturbed this morning past six, and they turned for a bracing run in the ing air, up to 40 Duff the house of Mr. Jones where a wooden garbidge in close proximity to the become ignited from the application of chemicals extinguished the blaze of age.

**FOREIGN MISSION SOCIETY.**  
A pleasing event took place yesterday afternoon at the of the regular meetings of the Foreign Mission Society when Mrs. Charles Van has always been active in circles, was made a life the society. A short but address was read by Mrs. low, while the presence made by Mrs. D. T. Mc the past fourteen years Fleet has been the secret society, having been so faithful as to meetings.

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