

THE COURIER

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THE SITUATION

The British troops in taking El Arish have secured a frontier town from the Turks, whom it is believed still have the reaching of the Suez Canal in their minds. The strength of the British force has not been stated.

In the Dobruja fighting, the Russians drove a regiment of Bulgars into a Balkan lake and most of them were drowned. The Germans attacking along the whole front in this region, in superior numbers, forced the troops of the Czar to retire northward. Berlin claims the capture of nine hundred prisoners.

It is reported that the German submarine U-45 has been sunk in the Mediterranean. Also that a British military force sent there for the purpose, destroyed the oil wells in Roumania, before the enemy secured that area.

Most fittingly, Sir Robert Borden was tendered a magnificent reception in Toronto last night. On behalf of the National Service call the Premier has just concluded a trip of over six thousand miles, making many stirring addresses, in which not one word has been uttered of a political nature, despite many unwarranted party attacks by Liberal speakers and newspapers upon the war administration of the Government. His statement that the war would be continued by the Allies until their purpose on behalf of human liberty had been achieved and that this was not the time for President Wilson's interference, quite properly elicited several minutes of cheering. It may be added that even Wilson's best friends consider that he has made an exhibition of himself.

THE MAYORALTY

Ald. Ward has definitely announced that he is in the net against Mayor Bowlby, and the Courier is glad that he has seen his way clear to thus fall in with the desire of so many citizens.

This paper has more than once seen fit to criticize the one-man party which the present occupant of the position has set up at the City Hall, to the ignoring of committees and everything else which did not suit his own ideas.

There is nothing of a valid nature in the claim that he should get, a second term by courtesy, for he has been Mayor before, and has had all the honors in that respect which any one man is entitled to.

There can be no doubt that Ald. Ward has the qualifications to make an excellent First Magistrate, and that, if elected, he will act in co-operation with his fellow members.

KEEPING THEIR COURAGE UP.

Elsewhere in this issue The Courier presents a lengthy review of a book written by a Swedish Professor with regard to "German's economic power of resistance." It is of the class of stuff which the Huns like to impress upon outsiders, in support of the claim that in all respects they are an unbeatible people. The pretence that in the matter of production they are very little worse off than before the war is an absurdity.

No country cut off as Germany is by the British feet, can remain in a normal condition and the evidences are unmistakable that the people of the Fatherland are feeling the stress in a most acute way. The authorities there, of course, suppress all such facts under a rigid censorship but even they have not been able to hide the truth from becoming known, or the further fact that food riots are taking place. We are also told that the prisoners forced to become producers for the enemy are very well content in that position.

The statement carries its own lie on the face of it. Men do not thus willingly work for their conquerors and it is very certain that they do as little labor as they can except, in so far as they can escape punishment and possible death. And if the current needs of the land are so well looked after why is it that it has been found necessary to enslave the Belgians? To tear husbands from wives and sons from mothers in order to ship them to Germany in a desperate effort to help make up the shortage in food and other things? That very fact in itself shows the desperate straits in which the Huns find themselves.

Another illustration is to be found in the circumstance that the Kaiser and his associates are now

angling for peace without doubt mainly because of internal distress and possible uprising.

THE THIRD WAR CHRISTMAS.

On one occasion, many years ago, the late John Bright, in the British House of Commons, made a war time speech which has since passed from ephemeral oratory into literature. Here is an extract from that deliverance:

"The Angel of Death has been abroad throughout the land; you may almost hear the beating of his wings. There is no one, as when the first-born were slain of old, to sprinkle with blood the lintel and the two side-posts of our doors, that he may spare and pass on; he takes his victims from the castle of the noble, the mansion of the wealthy, and the cottage of the poor and the lowly."

Those memorable words were used in connection with the Crimean struggle, which commenced in 1854 and was concluded by an armistice on Feb. 29th, 1856. The Allies on that occasion were England, France, Turkey and Sardinia, and they were acting together in support of the integrity of the Sultan's power and to check the growing ascendancy of Russia on the Black Sea. Now Russia at the end of the present struggle, is to be awarded control of Constantinople and the Straits—such are the Whirligigs of time. The whole of the fighting in connection with the occasion named entailed a loss to the British of 24,000, many by disease, (it was here that Florence Nightingale found such abundant scope for her heaven inspired ministrations); the French losses were placed at 64,000 and the Russian at 500,000, or a mere tithe of the terrible exactions thus far recorded in present hostilities.

If Bright under such circumstances could speak of scarcely any home exempt, how much more forcibly can such a statement be applied to the present toll. Although not to the same extent as in the Mother Land, the beating of death has come to hundreds of Canadian homes. There is the vacant chair for all time to come and many dear and cherished ones are peacefully resting in the last long sleep "somewhere" over yonder. It is a sad and chastening thought at this Christmas period, whose potent message is peace and good will to all men, and yet the Prince of Peace himself used the words "They that take the sword shall perish by the sword," and of a surety it was Germany who deliberately unsheathed the sword in connection with the present world catastrophe, and whose diabolical aspirations must be crushed by weight of arms in the interests alike of truth, justice and liberty.

The world holocaust and the many bereaved homes, have led to a chastened holiday season, but the kindly gifts and the thoughtful deeds have had an added intensity for men and women alike, through the war furnace, have had their aspirations, their thoughts and their ideals welded more closely together after the pattern of the real and the everlasting peace.

The solace and the balm of the Christian religion, and the assurance of a happy re-union in the hereafter, assuredly mean far more in this time of stress than, in a national sense, they have ever done before.

The term "Merry Christmas" is out of place, but The Courier most sincerely wishes its many friends and readers a Christmas hushed with the solemn spirit of this time of trial and the deeper things of life and the hereafter.

Resplendent with a wealth of Christmas decorations, and enlivened with the sounds of merriment, the Assembly Hall of the Collegiate Institute was last evening the scene of a happy gathering in the form of the commencement exercises and annual Fifth Form and Graduates' At Home, which for the past few years has become one of the events of the scholastic season. The attendance was the largest, both pupils and ex-pupils being represented, including a very large number of ex-graduates of the school now in khaki. The usual program of promenades, contests and music was rendered, followed by the serving of a dainty lunch. The presentation of diplomas to the graduates of 1916 took place, with Mr. A. W. Burt, the popular principal, officiating. Several members of the Board of Education were present, Mr. W. N. Andrews, chairman, I. S. Armstrong, vice-chairman, Dr. Marquis and Dr. Gamble, and all spoke

briefly on the occasion of the presentation.

Following is the list of graduates for the past year:

The list of Graduates of the B. C. I. 1916, is as follows:

Commercial Course: With Honors, E. Creighton, E. Huff, G. Lake, H. Sovereign. Pass: E. McIntyre, H. Suddaby, M. Tucker, A. Campbell.

Normal Entrance: With Honors, H. Fuller. Pass: F. Campbell, L. Chambers, E. Fox, B. Hitchon, J. Jolly, M. McDonald, A. McWebb, D. Rowe, C. Rutherford, E. Simpson.

University, Junior Matriculation: J. M. Adams, K. Brohman, E. Dixon, J. Hurley, G. Knowles, H. Schultz, S. Secord, J. Welch, L. Wiley.

University Matriculation and Normal Entrance: With Honors, Allen J. M., M. Luck, F. Scruton. Pass: C. Hand, W. Hart, L. Hicks, G. Joyce, G. Lloyd Jones, A. Mollish, E. Middlemiss, L. Ostrander, H. Smith, H. Wiles, W. Young.

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OUT GO THE TOYS.

Santa Claus has been a pretty busy man these past few weeks and if there is anything he has forgotten you will have an opportunity of purchasing it at a very marked saving tonight as all toys on-hand will be cleared out at very low prices—CROMPTONS.

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children
In Use For Over 30 Years
Always bears the Signature of *Chas. H. Vickroy*

FRANCE IS STILL FIRM IN DETERMINATION TO CONQUER

Socialist Party Votes on War Measure in Order Not to Threaten Safety of the Country

By Courier Special Wire.

Paris, Dec. 22.—11.45 p.m.—The only reference to President Wilson's note at the public sitting of the Chamber of Deputies was made by Deputy Renaudel, who expressed the belief that it would compel Germany to tell plainly her war aims. Deputy Renaudel made his brief reference in announcing that the Socialist party would vote for the appropriations for the first six months of 1917, which were subsequently passed.

"We vote for these appropriations because they are conditions of national defense, which we could not refuse without threatening the safety of the country. Twenty-nine months of war have allowed us to realize its full horror, but those who suffer aggression and who are struggling for their liberty remain firm in their determination to conquer. However, the enemy has spoken of negotiations and, whether as a ruse or a sincere appeal, the result must be to awaken in all peoples the desire for the return of an organized and lasting peace. We therefore ask the government not to decide negatively without expression or without sound reasons publicly proclaimed against the offers of the enemy, provided clearly that they are stated in such a way as to hide no trap."

"To-day the President of the United States of America asks the beligerents to make known their views as to the objects of the war. We do not wish to judge his intention. We only wish to see this—neutrals, guided by justice and right, helping to obtain more light. Our enemies can no longer now keep making halting statements. They must speak out clearly."



At The Colonial

COLLEGIATE AT HOME A SUCCESS

Large Attendance of Ex-Graduates at Annual Christmas Entertainment

DIPLOMAS Presented to the Class of Graduating Students For 1916

Resplendent with a wealth of Christmas decorations, and enlivened with the sounds of merriment, the Assembly Hall of the Collegiate Institute was last evening the scene of a happy gathering in the form of the commencement exercises and annual Fifth Form and Graduates' At Home, which for the past few years has become one of the events of the scholastic season. The attendance was the largest, both pupils and ex-pupils being represented, including a very large number of ex-graduates of the school now in khaki. The usual program of promenades, contests and music was rendered, followed by the serving of a dainty lunch. The presentation of diplomas to the graduates of 1916 took place, with Mr. A. W. Burt, the popular principal, officiating. Several members of the Board of Education were present, Mr. W. N. Andrews, chairman, I. S. Armstrong, vice-chairman, Dr. Marquis and Dr. Gamble, and all spoke

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To All Our Many Customers
The Old Old Wish
A Merry Xmas
—and—
A Happy New Year
—and—
May Happiness Surround You
Peace Dwell Within Your Walls
And Christmas Cheer Gladden Your Hearts.

Ogilvie, Lochead & Co.

DODGE BROTHERS
MOTOR CAR

An intensely practical Christmas gift. One for which the family would willingly forego the sort usually received. One that will be a year-round satisfaction because of its goodness; a year-round delight because of its economy.

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It will pay you to visit us and examine this car

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LOCAL

FOR COMMISSIONER
Ald. Ballantyne has signified his intention of running for Street Railway Commissioner, although nominated as school trustee and alderman.

GAVE TURKEYS.
The Brantford Roofing Co. presented their employes with a turkey for Christmas, which is appreciated by the employes.

COMING HOME
Word was received by the Courier this morning that Sapper B. Magill, invalided home from the front, will arrive in the city on Sunday evening via G.T.R. at 7.32.

NAME OMITTED
In the Courier's list of alderman candidates published yesterday, the name of Ald. J. S. Dowling, one of the present leading representatives of Ward 3, was accidentally omitted from the nomination list for the ward. Ald. Dowling was proposed for re-election by Ald. Ballantyne, as seconded by Mr. J. J. Hurley.

ILLUSTRATED PRELUDE
Rev. L. Brown will give on Sunday evening a short prelude to his sermon at the First Baptist church entitled "With our soldier boys Camp and Battle Line." The sermon proper will be "An invitation to the family." Special Christmas music Roll call of the absent soldier boys.

THE MARKET.
High prices accompanied by small amount of produce, feature the Christmas market this morning. Fowl of all kinds with the usual abundance of meat at this season of the year, and few dairy products, practically comprised the produce offered for sale. Turkeys sold from thirty five to forty cents a pound while in one local store, a bird was marked up to \$9.00, a rather expensive item on the holiday menu. Geese were comparatively plentiful but they also maintain a high figure. A touch of the festive season was lent to the scene, the presence of Christmas trees, hemlock, spruce and balsam, which sold for from ten to fifty cents a piece.

XMAS GREETINGS.
Lt. Col. Harry F. Leonard, at the City Hall, has received Christmas greetings to-day from Pte. Horace E. Ellis, and Lance Corp. Donald M. Keller of the 19th battalion, C.W. Miller of the 36th Battalion and Corp. Chas. Flett.

A Merry Christmas To All Our Friends and Patrons Is The Wish OF

Chas. A. Jarvis

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Both phones for appointments
Open Tuesday and Saturday
Evenings

NEILL SHOES

We Wear and Very Christmas

Neill Shoes