

Pays

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FORTY-SEVENTH YEAR

THE COURIER, BRANTFORD, CANADA, MONDAY, JUNE 18, 1917.

TWO CENTS

Spain About to Enter War on Side of Allies

Heavy Fighting Continues on West Front, British Adhering to Principal Gains

Great Damage Done by Explosion of Munition Depot in Austrian Province

Hun Intrigue For Peace With Russia Revealed

AMERICA TO TEACH AVIATION

U. S. to Become Elementary Training Base for Allied Nations APPROVAL IS GIVEN War Department Ratifies the Program of the Defense Council TO EXERT U. S. FORCE Train Aviators and Build Machines in Addition to Other Work

By Courier Leased Wire. Washington, June 18.—Full approval has been given by the war department to the air supremacy program of the defense council's aircraft Board and President Wilson has been asked to put the administration support behind the great project for which an appropriation of \$800,000,000 is sought. Under the plan the United States would become immediately a great elementary training base for all the allies and enormous numbers of training machines would be turned over, while American plants are developing a serviceable battlecraft type. By next spring the board proposes to have enough machinery to literally drive the Germans from the air. "The war department is behind the plans which every ounce of energy and enthusiasm will command," Secretary Baker said. "The program seems to be the most extensive way in which to exert America's force at once in telling fashion. We can train thousands of aviators for every thousand of machines without interfering at all with the plans for building up our armies and for supplying the allies with food and munitions. To train and equip our armies and send them abroad will take time, however, and in the meantime we can be devoting to this most important service vast quantities of productive machinery, and skilled labor, which otherwise could not be contributing to the nation's cause in full proportion to its capacity. "All through the coming year we shall have to reckon with the shipping problem, and whatever we send abroad, whether in men or in supplies must be calculated for securing as efficient a use as possible of available tonnage. The aircraft plan meets the demands of the situation. According to the best obtainable information, there are about 7,000,000 men in the western front to-day. The addition of a few infantry units, while of great moral value, would count for little in forcing a decision. A few thousand trained aviators, however, with the machines for their use, may spell the whole difference between victory and defeat."

Weather Bulletin

Toronto, June 18.—Moderate depression exists in the lower St. Lawrence Valley and in Minnesota and Manitoba. Pressure is generally higher. Rain has fallen lightly in many parts of the western provinces and heavily locally in Quebec and New Brunswick, lower lakes and Georgian Bay. Forecasts. Moderate to fresh southerly shifting to westerly winds, fair and warm today, showers and local thunderstorms during the night and on Tuesday.

Reorganization of Political Edifice of all Spain Called For Throughout The Country; Spirit of Unrest Spreads—Uprising May be Outcome

By Courier Leased Wire Madrid, via Paris, June 18.—A movement for a radical rebuilding of the whole political edifice in Spain is gaining adherents everywhere. Discontent with existing methods has long been general among the more advanced liberals and reformers among the other parties of the left. Internal and external difficulties arising from the war have served to heighten and increase it and it has gained among the other parties. Even former Premier Moura, leader of the Conservatives, agrees that there is ground for dissatisfaction. Senor Romeo editor of the Correspondencia, de Espana, summed up the general grievance in a forcible article recently. He wrote, "We ought to imitate the soldiers in refusing to be downtrodden a moment longer. The soldiers have shown us the only way possible—organization with the firm determination to carry our point regardless of sacrifice."

"The whole of Spain, with the exception of a thousand families who monopolize the sweets of office, is sick to death of the favoritism which condemns the country to external stagnation and is only waiting for the signal to rise like one man and do away with it forever. It seems the canker which is dulling, and will be fatal to her, unless we stop it." The officers defense committees demand briefly that rewards should be proportionate to service and that promotion should be by merit, with due regard to the claims of seniority. Their action was on the whole well received by the public and brought about the downfall of the Prieto administration. The example is being followed all over the country. Defense committees of all sorts of provisions, and trades, as well as of government servants are springing up everywhere.

At Cordova a number of prominent men, including engineers, university professors, manufacturers, workmen, and priests have published a manifesto demanding a new political system totally different from that hitherto in existence, and urging the formation of defense committees similar to the officers' organizations, a solution of the grave problems arising while there is a growing movement in favor of the re-opening of parliament. Three Liberal deputies, Senors Barriobero, Basagoiti and Pacheco, have addressed a manifesto to the senators and deputies protesting against the closing of the Cortes under the present circumstances. It seems that the government wishes to allow for the agitation to die down before submitting a solution of the grave problems raised by the army officers and by the labor troubles. Premier Dato, in an interview yesterday said: "The whole question is to know how to meet the aspirations of the country. The government is therefore taking note of all claims of grievances and justice will be done without delay. We shall be guided by the judgment of public opinion. We do not pretend that we live in an age of tranquility, but we think we can say we have brought about a relaxation of the strained situation which permits us to view the future with confidence."

Among the steps the government is taking, is a re-organization of the higher commands in the army which is being studied by the minister of war, General Primo Rivera. While Premier Dato enjoys general respect his confidence in the outlook is not altogether shared by political observers, who unanimously agree that the situation continues one of extraordinary difficulty.

AUSTRIAN OFFICIAL

By Courier Leased Wire. Vienna, June 17, via London, June 18.—The following official announcement was given out here to-day: "Eastern Theatre: Local patrol skirmishes occurred on the eastern border of Hungary. Russian raiding parties were repulsed near Brazzany. "Italian Theatre: In the region of Gorizia, Austro-Hungarian air squadrons threw bombs successfully on an Italian concentration point. Otherwise there was no developments. "Southeastern Theatre. The situation is unchanged."

SPIRIT OF GREECE IS UNALTERED

Principles Which Inspired Heroes of Century Ago Maintained Today

RIBOT TO VENIZELOS

French Premier Sends Message to Head of Provisional Government By Courier Leased Wire. Paris, June 18.—Premier Ribot has sent the following message to Eleftheros Venizelos, ex-premier and head of the Provisional government at Saloniki. In confiding to France the mission to take their measures to facilitate the return by the Greek people to the unity they helped to found the protecting powers desired to show that the principles that inspired them a century ago, when the heroes of the war of independence shed their blood to assure Greece a place among the free nations, have remained unaltered through the vicissitudes of history. "Who could better appreciate the concern with which the three protecting powers were animated and their firm resolution to assure destinies of Greece in the traditional path that led to its grandeur than the eminent leader, whose generous ardor and disinterested courage, no less than his political foresight, renewed the international life of the Greek people and realized most of their legitimate desires for expansion? "Nothing could better responded to the deepest sentiments of the French people than to be so intimately associated with the great national movement which will be pursued with the support of the protecting powers by those who in the difficult hours never doubted them and were able to prepare for the triumph of free institutions."

Teutons Sought to Employ Swiss Socialists as Cat-paw in Peace Overtures to Russia; Hun Plot in its Entirety Laid Bare to all the World

By Courier Leased Wire Stockholm, Saturday, June 16.—Via London, June 18.—Additional details of the German peace offer to Russia are contained in the Social Demokraten's translation of the telegram said to have been addressed by A. Hoffman, a member of the Swiss Federal Council, to Robert Grimm, a Swiss Socialist, who has been in Russia for some time. (Grimm's expulsion from Russia has been ordered although he denied the report which reached the provisional government that the despatch had been handed to him by the Swiss Minister at Petrograd.) The newspaper's version of the telegram contains the following: "I am convinced that Germany and her allies would immediately take up peace negotiations at the wish of Russia's allies. As to what concerns the German war aim you can read articles in the Norddeutsche allgemine Zeitung. "Thereafter consultation with Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg, the declaration has been made regarding annexation to the effect that Germany does not desire any increase in her territory, of any economic or political expansion."

Grimm passed through Stockholm in the middle of May, as the Ostensible guard of some 259 Russian exiles, who were returning home. He spent much time here in conference with Germans, Austrians and Bulgarians, and endeavored to avoid publicity in regard to his efforts. The Associated Press correspondent who since has been endeavoring to learn more about Grimm's errand, found the agents of the central powers here eager to picture Grimm in the light of a bitter opponent of Germany, who could not be induced to have any dealings with that empire. Angelica Balabanoff, who with Grimm played a prominent part in the Kronstadt uprising was one of the members of the party which Grimm piloted through Stockholm.

HEAVY ATTACK LAUNCHED BY ENEMY FORCES

Copenhagen, June 18, via London.—The German government, which has been endeavoring by means of semi-official communications and statements by the Imperial Chancellor, Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg, concerning peace overtures, telegrams by Field Marshal von Hindenburg to the Council of Workmen and Soldiers deputies, Socialist negotiators, and the Scheidemann type, and in other ways to come to a separate arrangement of a peace or an armistice with Russia, is considering a new move, namely, an offer of an armistice for the period of the elections to the Russian constitutional convention. The Associated Press has this information from a reliable source: The informant, who has just come from Germany, says that government agents are desirous of reaching some such arrangement, not only as a compliment to the Russian council and to further the growth of pro-German sentiment, but also because Germany desires to see some stable government established there with which it would be possible to enter into negotiations. He cited one of the best known German parliamentarians as saying that the present authorities in Russia are not "Verhandlungsfähig," that is not capable of negotiating, and that there is little hope of peace so long as the present conditions in Russia continue.

MUNITION EXPLOSION

By Courier Leased Wire. Vienna, June 18, via London.—It is officially announced that an explosion has occurred in the military munitions depot at the Steinfell near Wiener-Neustadt. It is said that three of the depots have been destroyed thus far and that 200 persons are reported to have been injured. Unofficial reports say six persons were killed and 300 wounded in the Steinfell explosion. Great damage was done in Haschendorf and Sigersdorf.

REBELS RELEASED

By Courier Leased Wire. London, June 18.—Large crowds gathered in Dublin this morning to welcome the released prisoners, all of whom with the exception of Countess Markievicz, arrived at 6 o'clock. Men with banners escorted the former prisoners to their homes. There was much singing of Irish songs and a great deal of cheering, but there were no signs of disorder.

COAL MINES IN RUSSIA TAKEN OVER

State Coal Monopoly to be Established by Provisional Government TO REGULATE SUPPLY National Control Will Prevent Speculation and Regulate Prices SOCIALIST IS BARRED Expulsion of Robert Grimm, Swiss Pacifist, is Ratified By Courier Leased Wire. Petrograd, via London, June 18.—The provisional government has resolved to establish a state coal monopoly from July 14. For the present, the monopoly will be confined to the Donetz basin, which, however, is by far the most important coal district, containing altogether 1,500 mines. The monopoly, it is pointed out, will supply more equitably the home market, prevent speculation and establish prices, which will prevent undue profits and enable the mines to be run without loss under the present high wage conditions. The Government will allot \$20,000,000 working capital to the exploitation of the monopoly. The profits will go to acquiring machinery and otherwise to increasing the technical efficiency of the mines. Exit Grimm Petrograd, Saturday, June 16, via London, June 18.—The first act of the pan-Russian congress of all councils of Workmen and Soldiers' delegates upon which depends the immediate destiny of Russia in regard to both international and domestic questions, was to ratify the expulsion by the provisional government of the Swiss Socialist, Robert Grimm, who is reported to have been the medium through which the Germans attempted to arrange a separate peace with Russia. Grimm's case was taken up when the Congress assembled this evening immediately after the delegates had elected as their President, N. Tcheide, President of the Petrograd council of Workmen and Soldiers' delegates. Grimm's expulsion was approved by the passage, with a vote of 640 to 121, of a resolution endorsing the action of M. Tserelli, and M. Skobelev, Socialist members of the Cabinet, who investigated the activities of the Swiss Socialist and brought about the order for his expulsion. The congress expressed the view that the action of the ministers corresponded perfectly with the interests of the Russian revolution and the Socialist Internationale. It welcomed the decision of the ministers to publish the full details regarding the Grimm affair.

ITALIAN PRELATE REMAINS

Vatican Refuses to Remove Bishop of Trent at Austria's Bidding ALL EFFORTS FAILED "Submit to Emperor, Although Bad," Said Coelestin Endrici By Courier Leased Wire. Paris, June 18.—A Havas despatch from Rome states that the Vatican has announced that it has finally refused to recall the right Rev. Coelestin, Bishop of Trent, as demanded by the Austrian government. The effort to dislodge Monsignor Endrici dates from the beginning of the war when the Austrian government because of his avowed pro-Italian sentiments, attempted to force from him a declaration of loyalty to Austria. Monsignor Endrici replied, "Christ said render unto Caesar that which is Caesar's. We must obey our government even if they are bad. That is why we submit to the Emperor."

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