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BRANTFORD DAILY COURIER

FORTY-SEVENTH YEAR | THE COURIER, BRANTFORD, CANADA, MONDAY, MAY 28, 1917. | TWO CENTS

WHERE IS LAURIER ON CONSCRIPTION?

Italians Record Further Gains And Take More Captives in Offensive ‖ ***Russia Gradually Regaining Spirit of Unity Upon the Issues of War*** ‖ ***Germany Faces Internal Troubles And Fears a Break With Austria Hungary***

Russia Unites in Approval of New Order "Advance"

All Classes and Factions Re-echo Appeal of Kerensky, Minister of War, and Urge Upon Army the Need of Continuing the Fight

By Courier Leased Wire

Petrograd, May 27.—via London, May 28.—Virtually all the divergent political factions, all class organizations, councils and even the Sociaiist leaders, with the exception of the extreme lefters, to-day re-echo the appeal of Minister of War Kerensky to the troops and applaud the new order of the day "advance." It remains to be seen how the army itself will receive this final exhortation to patriotism and the defense of Russia's newly won freedom.

Constant efforts have been made during the past two months to bring home to the army that the abandonment of active warfare would not only mean treachery to the allies, but the inevitable loss of all that has been gained in the revolution. It is confidently believed that this last call, supported as it is by almost every element of society, will move the army to a realization of the situation. All the commanders have added their appeals to the order of Minister Kerensky. They all emphasize the necessity of not only defending the country against the enemy but of an immediate advance to relieve the pressure upon the allies, which Germany has been able to exert by transferring the bulk of her troops from the eastern to the western front.

General Alexieff says tersely:

"It is necessary to conserve and consolidate freedom. The soldiers must overthrow and defeat the enemy. Shame and dishonor to those who have a weak spirit." General Dragomiroff is less laconic. "An advance upon the enemy, he says, "is an immediate necessity. The enemy is taking advantage of our passivity to leave this front open and send forces westward. The French and British are honestly doing their duty as our allies. They are saving our new freedom, which otherwise we would lose. But soon their advance must wear out of itself and then there will be no one to help us."

The newspapers contain similar appeals from the heads of the government. Premier Lvoff writes:

"Honor demands our activity. We are drowned in speeches and words. The muscles of our organism are being atrophied. Further passivity will mean ruin." M. Skobeleff, the new Socialist minister of labor, joins the chorus with the declaration:

"Our present task is to advance."

In a new order to the army General Alexieff explained yesterday why it is impossible for the soldiers to receive emissaries from the German lines seeking peace conferences:

"Even the commander-in-chief," he says, "is prohibited by law from receiving peace delegates and every man from the commander down, who does this is a traitor. Only the government knows when it is time to stop war. Such conferences never take place at the front except between authorized diplomats. The Germans know this and send representatives only to learn the disposition of our troops and to provoke dissension among us, to create ill-feeling between the soldiers and their commanders.

"I appeal to your intelligence and your heart. If the enemy really wanted peace he would know how to go about it. Wake up. Peace will be reached through victory. Trust your commanders."

German Republic.

New York May 28—Germans here have formed an organization called the "Friends of the German Republic" whose object is the dethronement of Emperor Wilhelm and the establishment of a German republic, it was announced last night. The organization said to be nation wide in scope, has established headquarters and has issued an appeal to Germans to help in its propaganda.

The appeal, written in English and German, says in part:

"Events and developments in German are clearly pointing to a near upheaval similar to that which was witnessed in Russia some months ago. Travellers recently arrived from Germany report rapid spreading of the republican movement.

"Things evidently are undoubtedly getting very uncomfortable for the German autocracy, though to the outside world it attempts to show a bold and unconcerned front. The Russian leaven is working in Germany.

Counter Claims Made by Austria to Offset Gains Recorded by Cadorna; Capture of Many Italians

By Courier Leased Wire

London, May 28.—The complete repulse of all Italian attacks after most furious fighting is claimed in an official statement issued by the Austrian war office on Sunday. The statement also asserts that more than 13,000 unwounded Italians have been captured in the last sixteen days. The text of the announcement follows:

"Eastern Theatre:

"There was heavy Russian artillery fire in places which we answered.

"Italian theatre:

"Yesterday's operations were confined to the southern wing of the Isonzo army, north of the Vitpacco valley, with the exception of an attack on the heights near Vodice, which was quickly beaten off, there were only artillery duels of varying intensity. On the Carso plateau the enemy again concentrated mighty masses for an assault. At Fajti and near Castagnavizza the fighting came to a standstill before our foremost trenches.

"Between Jamiano and the sea the fighting was severe and several heights changed hands rapidly during the day. Our defenses remained unbroken and the firm manner in which the brunt of the battle was borne by our infantry is above all praise. Three Honved regiments repulsed seventeen attacks in forty eight hours, beside thrice storming a height. Artillery Lieutenant Archduke Leopold, with a handful of gunners, joined an infantry regiment in a front line assault and brought back two machine guns.

"The prisoners brought in on the Carso plateau since May 23 now number 250 officers and more than 7,000 men. Altogether, since the beginning of the battle more than 13,000 unwounded Italians have been captured. If the enemy, in sixteen days of battle, has not achieved any advantage of importance an abundant share of our success falls on the thousands of men and women at home who perform loyally and untiringly the arduous labors on which the army depends."

TO VISIT MONTREAL.

By Courier Leased Wire.

Montreal, May 28.—Right Hon. Arthur James Balfour, British foreign minister, will visit Montreal on Wednesday. He will be the guest at luncheon of the Canadian Club. Mr. Balfour and Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, will receive the degree of L. L. D. at McGill University during their visit here.

Weather Bulletin

Toronto, May 28.—Pressure is high over Quebec and the Maritime provinces, while a fairly important disturbance is now centred over Ohio. Local showers have occurred in the western provinces and near Lake Erie. Elsewhere the weather has been fair.

Forecasts

Strong easterly winds, becoming showery. Tuesday—Unsettled with some local showers.

OPPOSITION TO CONSCRIPTION

CITY OF HULL PLACARDED LAST EVENING AND MOTORISTS ROUGHLY HANDLED.

Ottawa, May 28.—Bills bearing the words "A bas la conscription" were plastered on the walls of buildings on the main thoroughfares of Hull last night and several parties in automobiles who threw back the posters which were thrust into their machines were roughly used by the crowd of about forty youngmen in charge of the operations. No arrests were made.

FIGHTING HEAVY IN THE WEST

British Inflict Casualties on Foe and Execute Successful Raids

ATTACKS REPULSED

Furious Assaults of Teuton Forces Driven Back by the French

By Courier Leased Wire.

London, May 28—1:45 p.m.—"Hostile raiding parties were repulsed last night northwest of Cherisy and south of Lens," says today's official report on the Franco-Belgian front operations.

"We inflicted a number of casualties on the enemy by rifle and machine gun fire and secured prisoners. Successful raids were made by us north of Armentieres and in the neighborhood of Wystchaete. ur troops reached the German support line and captured between 20 and 30 prisoners."

Paris May 28—Noon—The Germans delivered three attacks last night and this morning in the Champagne and in the regions of Casque, the Teton and Mont Blond. All were repulsed, the war office announces.

The Germans are bombarding heavily French positions in the regions of Dead Man Hill and Mill 304, on the Verdun front.

A French detachment penetrated to the second German line near Uffholtz, in Alsace and found many dead in the trenches. Prisoners were brought back.

The statement follows:

"In the Champagne during the night the enemy twice renewed his attacks against the Cacque and the Teton. He was repulsed completely. A third effort was made this morning against Mont Blond, was no more successful, being checked by our fire.

"On the Verdun front in the region of Hill 304 and Dead Man Hill, the enemy's artillery is very active.

"In Alsace, in the vicinity of Uffholtz, one of our detachments penetrated as far as the second German line, observing the presence of numerous dead in the enemy trenches and bringing back prisoners. There is nothing to report from the remainder of the front.

"There was great aerial activity yesterday and last night. Enemy airplanes dropped bombs in the regions of Baccarat, Nancy and Pont St. Vincent, causing no important damage. Our squadrons made numerous sorties, in the course of which they threw down nearly 7,000 kilograms (15,400 pounds) of projectiles on enemy military establishments and railroads, particularly in the Champagne and in the region of Chonville. Nine enemy airplanes were brought down and two were compelled to land within our lines. Others, badly damaged, were forced to land back of the enemy lines."

CASUALTIES.

By Courier Leased Wire.

Ottawa, May 28.—In today's casualty list of 156 names there are 25 killed in action, 10 dead of wounds and 41 missing. Of the latter, two are believed killed and four wounded. Two previously missing men have been located.

MARTIAL LAW FOR QUEBEC IS FORECAST

Troops Booked for Camp Are Held in Montreal Military District

By Courier Leased Wire.

Montreal, May 28.—The district of Montreal may be put under martial law, according to Le Canada, which says it has learned General Wilson, officer commanding this military district, has been given instructions to establish military rule here should he deem it necessary.

Last night a Socialist speaker addressing a large meeting at St. James Market, advised people to refuse to register if conscription was introduced.

It was stated yesterday by General Wilson that in view of the disturbed condition of affairs here, he was holding the troops that had been booked for camp. These included several units for artillery, and the A. M. C. General Wilson stated that in dealing with disturbances it was always better to have men of the Canadian expeditionary forces, and therefore, he was holding these men here, as a precautionary measure. Several times on Saturday incidents occured which emphasized the inflamed condition of public sentiment over the recent troubles regarding the conscription measures.

First affair was at Phillips Square during the height of the shopping period. A man mounted a chair and started to make a violent anti-conscription speech. A British sailor, with marine precision, removed the chair from under the speaker, and he dropped out of sight.

Serious trouble seemed imminent when a couple of automobiles loaded with returned soldiers, some of them in uniform, invaded the east end, the men calling for those who had attacked the returned men on Friday evening.

Within a few minutes crowds gathered. They were, however, dispersed by the police, who acted very promptly.

LIBERTY GRANTED SOLDIERS

Much Wanted Reform Introduced Into Russian Army by War Minister

FREEDOM OF OPINION

Salute to Officers is Optional and Mufti May be Worn

By Courier Leased Wire

Petrograd, via London, May 28.—Minister of War Kerensky issued an announcement to-day bringing into force, in conformity with a paragraph of the declaration of the provisional government, the rights of soldiers. The announcement is issued in the form of an order of the day, the most important paragraph of which is the one entitling soldiers to full liberty of conscience and political opinions, no matter in what connection, and authorizes them to wear civilian clothes when off duty. The 12th paragraph abolishes the obligatory salute, making it optional. The 14th paragraph stipulates that no soldier can be punished without trial, but adds that during war operations, commanders have the right to take all repressive measures, even to the employment of an armed force against subordinates refusing to execute orders.

HUNS BOMBED RUSS AIRDROME

TURKISH ATTEMPTS AGAINST HEIGHTS NEAR PERSIAN FRONTIER REPULSED

Petrograd, May 28, via London, May 28.—"On the Russo-Galician and Roumanian fronts rifle firing occurred," says today's official statement. "On the Caucasuan front two Turkish attempts against the heights south of Baneh (near the Persian frontier) were repulsed by our fire. "Twelve bombs were thrown from enemy airplanes on our airdome northwest of Luninsta."

SOCIALIST COUNCIL IN SESSION

French Socialists Consider Question of Sending Delegates to Stockholm

MAJORITY OPPOSED

Would Accuse German Delegates Before Congress of Workingmen

By Courier Leased Wire

Paris, May 28.—The national council of the French Socialist party opened a two day session here today, chief interest being centered in its action on the sending of French delegates to the International Socialist conference at Stockholm. A majority resolution presented by Pierre Renaudel, member of the Chamber of Deputies, and supported by Marcel Sembat, Jules Guesde and other Socialist leaders, refuses to participate in the Stockholm conference and demands the accusation of Philip Scheidemann, the German Socialist majority leader, and other German Socialists before the international workingmen's congress. A minority résolution proposes participation in the Stockholm conference, but expresses hope of preventing a separate Russian peace. This resolution opposes indemnities and suggests a referendum of the people of Alsace-Lorraine.

A third resolution from the Haute Garonne delegates proposes a compromise whereby an international gathering of Socialists will be regularly called to pass upon responsibility for causing the war and conditions of peace.

The opening session, which continued throughout the day, was devoted to speeches and the introduction of various resolutions. The probabilities are that a vote on the Stockholm conference question will not be reached before to-morrow.

Paris, May 28.—The hostility towards the International Socialist conference shown at the opening meeting of the national council of the French Socialist party, has been considerably modified by the arrival of two Russian delegates, Moutet and Cachin. M. Moutet told the council that the Russian Socialists desire to call a regularly constituted meeting of the internationals, and suggested that the French Socialists accept the proposal, at least in principle.

M. Cachin said that while in Stockholm he had an interview with the Dutch and Scandinavian delegates, who handed him a long set of questions, which had been sent to the different Socialist parties, but which the French party had not yet received. The questions covered the following points;

Annexations and indemnities, the right of people to dispose of their own destinies, the establishment of a league of nations through international agreements concerning the freedom of the seas, colonies, and kindred subjects, investigation into the responsibility for the war and the international penalities to be inflicted on the guilty parties.

IRELAND'S EYES ARE OPENING

German Submarine Raids Cauce Revulsion of Feeling

IRISH VESSELS SUNK

Germany Reported on the Verge of Declaring War Again Brazil

By Courier Leased Wire

London, May 28.—According to stories printed in the morning papers, there has been a complete revulsion of feeling towards the war in the south and southwest of Ireland, as a consequence of the recent attacks by German submarines on Irish fishing fleets. A number of fishing boats have been sunk, and the victims of one attack off Baltimore say that the Germans told them that she had already sunk the Kinsale and Waterford fleets, and would soon put all Irish fishing boats to the bottom of the sea because they sent fish to England. They also threatened to shell villages on the coast.

War on Brazil

Rio Janiero, May 28—"A Noticia" says that in German circles it is asserted that Germany will declare war on Brazil within two or three days.

Austria Thrown Into Consternation by Advance of Italians; Sensations Promised in Cabinet

By Courier Leased Wire

The Italians have fought their way forward to within two miles of Duino, the most formidable natural barrier between them and Trieste. The great battle now enters its eighteenth day without any sign of an abatement in the fury of the struggle. Vienna stubbornly refuses to concede the Italian victories, but the map tells the story of General Cadorna's steady advance.

Duino, at the gates of which the Italian guns are now hammering, marks a point at which the Carso plateau almost touches the sea. Protected by the ocean on one side, it is powerfully defended to the north by Mount Querceto, a height of considerable magnitude, which dominates the country for many miles around. At the foot of Mount Querceto, facing west, lies the little town of Medeazza and the Italians have smashed their way to within a few hundred yards of this village. It is possible that a lull will occur before they attempt the formidable task of storming Mount Querceto.

From no other theatre of the war comes any news of importance, but the political situation continues of absorbing interest. Despatches from Brazil indicate that it is merely a question of days, if not of hours, before the Brazilian parliament follows the lead of the administration and aligns Brazil with the eleven nations fighting the Central Powers. At the same time a new crisis is threatened between Spain and Germany thru the sinking of a Spanish passenger ship with a heavy loss of life. This disaster occurs on the heels of an announcement from Madrid that Germany had given satisfactory assurances in reply to Spain's latest note regarding the destruction of Spanish ships by German Submarines. No details, however, have been received in regard to the sinking of the passenger liner and it is possible that the tragedy was not due to a U-boat.

The battle between the reactionaries and Liberals in Austria-Hungary goes merrily forward and there are reports of further impending ministerial resignations in Vienna and Budapest. Sensations are promised at the sessions of the Austrian parliament, but it remains to be seen how much news will be able to escape the censor. In Germany the violence of the attacks on Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg indicates the seriousness of the political crisis, but the recess of the reichstag renders even more meagre than usual the information that seeps across the border.

AMERICANS IN FRANCE.

London, May 28—An official statement issued here today says that, counting the Americans serving in the British and French armies and the aditional units ordered to France, there will shortly be 100,000 Americans in France.

The statement says 3,500 airplanes will be constructed and 6,000 aviators trained in the United States this year.