

THE COURIER

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Thursday, March 7th, 1918.

THE SITUATION

Plucky little Roumania has had to come to terms with the Teutons. She could not well do otherwise. Situated between Austria-Hungary and Russia, the defection of the latter has forced her to yield, or else to suffer annihilation. She will part with much territory and agree to demobilize her forces. The most menacing feature, however, from the standpoint of the Allies, consists of the fact that she agrees to stand aside for the passing of enemy troops to Odessa. The London Times points out that the Germans having "lost the Bagdad route, via the Persian Gulf to the East" are now aiming at a new way whereby they can reach Persia or Afghanistan and thus secure a route to India. The struggle, precipitated by Germany, upon the flimsy and arrogantly false excuse of self defence, is more and more disclosing her actual designs of world-conquest. As far as Russia is concerned, affairs in Petrograd are depicted as in terrible shape with lawlessness, disorder and famine stalking the streets. The inhabitants are stated to be in such a condition of despair and helplessness that they are in a mood to welcome even the Germans. There is still not the slightest indication that the Russian forces can be restored as a fighting element, even if the will existed.

During last week the official report shows that twelve British vessels were sunk of over 1,600 tons and six under that figure. The record is the same as for the previous week in number, but shows four less in the bigger class.

General Maurice, chief director of British Military operations, in his weekly review, announces that the foe now has sixteen more divisions on the Western front than the Allies, but points out that divisions in the latter case are numerically larger. He considers that the Huns are now ready to launch a big drive, if they feel like it. The French and British are announced to be quite ready for any offensive.

In the British House of Commons, Sir Edward Carson declared that Sir Eric Geddes, First Lord of the Admiralty had flouted the whole fleet in removing Jellicoe, and that the loss of the latter, was a calamity.

THE RECOUNT IN BRANT

The decision to ask for a recount in the riding of Brant is fully warranted by the circumstances of the case. It does not seem probable that there will be much change with reference to the civilian vote, but that of the soldiers is another matter. So many assurances were received from the men in khaki on this continent and overseas that they had voted for Harry Cockshutt that a thorough enquiry will be generally felt to be fully warranted with regard to any rejected ballot.

Later on in the House the question will probably be raised as to why in the "special nomination number" of the Canadian Daily Record (issued in England by the Canadian War Records Office to all units of the overseas military forces of Canada) the names of Lieut.-Col. Cockshutt and other soldier candidates were left off the list. As before related, it is not sufficient answer to say that this was because they were unendorsed by the Union Government, Opposition, Labor or the Privy Council held recently, candidates who were not so endorsed had their names included.

Canadians generally will want to know who was responsible for this and why.

SUN LIFE

The annual report of the Sun Life Assurance Company, which appears elsewhere in this issue, constitutes still further evidence of the progress of this remarkably well run institution.

It shows assurances issued and paid for in cash, during 1917 for a total of over \$47,800,000; the largest amount of new business ever issued and paid for by any Canadian Life Company in any year. Assurances in force now total over \$311,800,000 the largest assets ever attained by a Canadian Company. Cash income totalled over \$19,288,000. Payments to policy-holders exceeded \$8,800,000; bringing total payments to policy-holders since organization to over \$69,000,000.

The record of the Sun Life of Canada for 1917 reflects the highest credit upon the Directors and Officers of the Company, and should be equally satisfactory to the Company's policy-holders.

Mr. Thomas Hendry is the District Agent in this section, and his name continually stands among the leaders for the amount of business done.

CIVIL SERVICE REFORM.

There has been a tendency in some quarters to flout the idea that the promise given by the Union Government in the above regard was sincerely intended or would be carried out. The plank of the platform issued shortly after the formation of the new Administration was as follows:

"Civil Service reform, with a view to extending the principle of the present Civil Service Act to the Outside Service and thus to abolish patronage and to make appointments to the Public Service upon the sole standard of merit. The Civil Service Commission has already been directed to make a report to the Prime Minister as to the necessary steps for that purpose. Such arrangements will be subject to the existing regulations, which give preference to appointments to returned soldiers who are duly qualified."

At a meeting of the committee of independent leaders, because other Sir Robert Borden stated that immediately after the announcement of this policy, directions were given to each department of the Government that patronage lists in every such department should be thereafter abolished, and that he communicated with the Civil Service Commission, asking them to prepare a report outlining what steps had been taken with regard to appointments under the new plan. They replied that in their opinion that a new Act would have to be prepared and submitted to Parliament and that they would submit a draft of such legislation. Sir Robert reported many conferences with the Commission and had agreed with their view, but reached the conclusion that in the interim the Governor-General could issue an order which has been done as follows:

"Whereas doubt has arisen as to whether the order-in-council of the 13th day of February, 1918, (P.C. No. 358), respecting appointments to, promotions in, and other matters relating to the Civil Service, applies to officers, clerks and employees other than those employed in the several departments, and it being desirable to remove any such doubts:

"Therefore, His Excellency the Governor-General in Council, on the recommendation of the President of the Privy Council, is pleased to declare and it is hereby declared that the provisions of the said order-in-council do extend to all officers, clerks and employees in the public service, whether employed in any department or under or in connection with any commission or board appointed or created by or the members of which are appointed by or in pursuance of any order-in-council, and any power heretofore given to any such commission or board or the members thereof or any of them to appoint or promote any officer, clerk or employee is hereby rescinded."

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

As alinger this winter has the ordinary swain discounted by several laps.

Redmond constitutes still another Irish leader to be summoned home just when his presence seemed to be most needed.

Toronto civic health department will issue permits for citizens to keep hogs. Does that mean they are going to keep each other?

The decision of Mr. Justice Duff that two thousand male bank clerks can be called to the colors is going to add still further to the feminine variety of that ilk. Perish the thought that they will be especially used as tellers.

Roosevelt has emerged from his recent illness with the loss of an eye and one ear deaf, but no one need imagine from this that he will be any the less forceful character than heretofore.

RESPITE IN BATTLE

(Continued from Page 1.)

lery. This comprises the artillery reserve of the corps. The great general artillery reserve of the field army is under direct command of the army commander, and included in his so-called army troops. The organization schedules show that General Pershing is to be equipped eventually with artillery of all calibres on a scale not heretofore dreamed of. The proportion of artillery to army rifles adopted by the war department is greater than that of either the British or French armies and the tendency of the department is to increase the big guns.

Included in the heavy artillery assigned to corps or field army commanders will be whole brigades of anti-aircraft guns, mobile howitzers of six, eight, ten and even twelve inch calibre, rifles of similar size, including heavy long range naval guns, and probably as soon as they are available, batteries of the monster American 16-inch naval rifles recently developed. With this array of guns, enemy depots, 20 miles or more in the rear of his trenches could be kept under bombardment.

**LINSEED OILCAKE
FEED CORN
OATS
POULTRY FEEDS, ETC
RED CLOVER,
TIMOTHY & SUGAR
MANGEL SEEDS,
FLOUR,
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N. SCOTIA APPLES,
OILS, GREASES,
COAL OIL, FENCING,
BRANT'D ROOFING,
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IRISH LEADER PASSES
John Redmond, leader of the Irish Nationalist party in the House of Commons since 1891, who died in London of heart failure, following his recent operation.

**NEW BLOW AT ITALY
MAY BE DELIVED**

Important Movement of Enemy Troops Effected During February

**GEN. KOEVESS IS CHIEF
Morale of Teutons Shaken By Resistance of Italians**

Washington, March 7.—Renewed possibilities of a new Austro-Hungarian stroke on the Italian front are indicated in Italian official despatches received here to-day. Important movements of enemy troops were effected during February. Formation by the enemy of a new tactical group similar to that adopted for the offensive of November last, has been detected by the Italians.

Long columns of troops are still moving forward toward Valdastico, Lavarina and Guidicaria, and there is an increasing concentration back of the enemy lines of artillery from the Russian front. The best Austrian army leaders have been sent to the Italian front, and it appears that Gen. Koevess, who distinguished himself in the Balkans, and enjoys the confidence of Gen. von Hindenburg, is at present in the Val Sugana sector. Gen. Conrad is acting as adviser to the high command.

Refugee Italian soldiers and peasants from the territory occupied by the enemy, say that in the face of the stiff resistance of the Italian army the morale of the enemy was greatly shaken and many German soldiers deserted.

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of Beauteous Weaves and Marvellous Tints
Soft sumptuous Satins, plain and shot Taffetas, in a host of alluring shades. The new striped and plaid Taffetas showing exquisite color contrasts. Shantung in natural colors, Crepe de Chines in tremendous variety. Ninon and Georgettes and striped Washing Silks of exquisite hues. A truly splendid assortment while the prices you will find moderate indeed.

Women's Suits and Coats

Featured at Special Prices During Opzning Week, at \$16 to \$40

All select new styles for ladies and Misses, featuring the best ideas as worn in New York. Tailored from the finest quality materials in the season's leading shades, sand, clay, taupe, grey, brown, navy, etc.

New Spring Coats

In a Most Comprehensive Assortment
Spring Coats are arriving daily and styles are varied and new. Materials are Covert Cloth, Fine Serge, Wool Poplin, Diagonal Tweeds, Cheviots, Wool Checks, made in three quarter and full length, belted styles, fancy insert pockets, braid and button trimming, fancy over collars. All the new shades to choose from, Nile, rose, plum, grey, green, brown, navy and black and fancy tweeds.

An Immense Showing of New and Modish Materials for Dresses, Suits, Coats and Skirts

Gabardines, Twills, Fine Serges, Brilliant Mohairs, Poplins, Plaids, Checks, Etc. All the new shades are here. These are specially priced at \$1.75 to, per yard **\$3.50**
New Coatings for Spring in Mixed Tweeds, Cream ground, with black stripes and fine blanket cloths, covert cloths and all wool serges; \$1.75 to per yard **\$3.25**

Ogilvie, Lochhead & Co.

MONDAY
No order passed, it is the order in Mondays for places of order as it started required to clo and including

LOST RIGHT
Fred C. C. mery of Saturday after Grantford Ge past five wee employed as Trucks, Limit dent, which right eye. M. Pere, Marqu Thomas Time

ACCEPTS FO
The me official board thodist churion to reman extended to th E. Peters, T board and ad sube to the ference.

GAME POSTE
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S. S. UNION
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STORY HOUR
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DONATION TO
The G. V. Y. recet of wo from Mrs. DAY 2.

MANY APPLI
A big nume are just awa there are suel service "Trag Home is swam plications for

Can wo men's pic for cert work. O example. eyesight. means m If you have us eyes.

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