

at Theatre

Home of Features  
Savoy  
Singing Venus  
Keefe & Shaw  
Doro  
Over Twist  
Canada

FEBRUARY  
26 and 27  
WEDNESDAY  
Courier

Portrait of War on  
each day.  
T. DONALD  
HOMPSON  
Photographer  
Reels

OF CANADIAN NORTH-  
LAND REGULATIONS  
of a family, or any male  
land, may homestead a quar-  
ter-section of land in the  
District of Alberta. Ap-  
plication in person at the Do-  
minion Lands Agency (that  
Agency or Sub-Agency for  
Entry by proxy may be  
made at the Dominion Lands  
Agency) on certain conditions.  
The land in each of three  
months residence upon and  
the land in each of three  
months may live within  
this homestead on a farm of  
trees, on certain conditions,  
which is required except where  
performed in the vicinity.  
The land may be substituted for culti-  
vated conditions.  
The land may be substituted for culti-  
vated conditions.  
The land may be substituted for culti-  
vated conditions.

W. W. CORY,  
Minister of the Interior,  
hotted publication of this  
will not be paid for.

CABS

# BRANTFORD DAILY COURIER

FORTY-SEVENTH YEAR

THE COURIER, BRANTFORD, CANADA, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1917.

TWO CENTS

## GERMANY RELEASES AMERICAN SEAMEN OF YARROWDALE

### Diplomatic Break Between U. S. and Austria is Looked For at Berlin

#### CONTRABAND IS PLENTIFUL ON FREDERICK VIII

One Hun Aboard Had Hundreds of Pairs of Cotton Pyjamas  
SUCH BELONGINGS May be Confiscated by Customs Officials From Owners  
STRICT GUARD KEPT Over the Steamer While Search is Carried on

By Courier Leased Wire.  
Halifax, N.S., Feb. 22.—Examination of the baggage of the German party on board the Scandinavian-American Steamer Frederick VIII has revealed that each and every member of it has plentifully stocked himself or herself with goods which are scarce in the Fatherland, to which they are sailing. The most favored line of goods among them, however, is cotton, and it was reported to-day that one secretary of the German embassy in Washington alone has several hundred suits of pyjamas. In view of the close association between cotton and explosive it is thought that the customs officials here will relieve the Germans of some of their excess cotton goods and make an allowance for them.

Have Money.  
The Germans too are all well supplied with money, most of it in gold. This is also contraband, and it is understood here that it will be exchanged for them into some form of currency less useful to the Fatherland.

Rigid Guard.  
The rigidity with which the operations upon the Frederick VIII have been conducted have not been relaxed since the line has passed. In addition to keeping a close watch upon the passengers and crew of the vessel the guards placed over them are themselves under the surveillance of secret service men. One guard found this out when, after he had broken the rule forbidding him to converse with anybody connected with the ship he was taken off his post, searched and before being released, given a good lecture.  
Most of the customs officials, who have been engaged in going over the ship, have been retained on the ship to offset the barest possibility of communication being established between the boat and the shore.

#### OVER 1000 LIVES LOST

News of Disaster in Dresden Arsenal is Confined; the Worst of the War

London, Feb. 22.—The explosion in an ammunition factory in Dresden, during the Christmas holidays was the greatest disaster of the kind which has occurred anywhere since the war began, according to a Central News despatch from Christiania, quoting a Dresden despatch to The Aftenposten. More than 1,000 persons were killed out of 30,000 employed in the wrecked factories. Emperor William visited the scene on the following day.  
A Paris despatch, dated January 27, said that, according to a letter taken from a German soldier and written from Dresden, the Dresden arsenal had been blown up and 1,000 women and young girls killed. The letter was dated, December 30.  
Mr. Campbell Sweeney, formerly superintendent of the Bank of Montreal in that Province, has just returned to Vancouver after an absence of two years in England.

Weather Bulletin  
Toronto, Feb. 22.  
—Light snow has fallen in Ontario and the Maritime provinces. The weather has been decidedly cold in the western provinces and moderately cold from the Great Lakes eastward.  
Forecasts  
Fair today, moderately cold to night. Friday:—temperature and mostly fair, but some light local snow.

#### Breach of Relations With Austria-Hungary is Inevitable, is the Attitude of Berlin

By Courier Leased Wire.  
Berne, via Paris, Feb. 22.—Austria's reply to the United States defining her position in the submarine war is known in Berlin, according to the Frankfurter Zeitung, which predicts that a breach of relations between Washington and Vienna is inevitable. The paper's Berlin correspondent says:  
"The memorandum, which President Wilson has sent to the Vienna Government leaves no doubt that the breach of relations between the United States and Germany will soon be followed with a breach with Austria-Hungary. President Wilson wishes to be clearly told whether the Austro-Hungarian Government has withdrawn its earlier declaration regarding the conduct of submarine warfare. Really one ought to think that the explanation given by Austria-Hungary at the beginning of the unrestricted submarine warfare, to the effect that from February 1, all ocean traffic in the blocked zones will be prevented with all means, should not be capable of misconception. But in his dealings with the Central Powers, President Wilson is always painfully exact.  
"It is true that we have not heard that he ever sent cautions, let alone warnings, to the Entente for torpedoing Austrian or German ships without warning, but when Germany or Austria do the same thing President Wilson raises his voice in the name of humanity and civilization. The Austro-Hungarian Government will answer President Wilson's memorandum and what this answer will be is known. Mr. Wilson will be most vividly with the wonderful achievement of the navy in keeping the ocean pathways comparatively secure against the most deadly menace ever devised."

#### WIDE PLOT FORMED BY GERMANS

Is Under Investigation in U. S.; Conspiracy Said to be Extensive  
PASSPORTS SECURED By Aliens Who Had No Right to Them

By Courier Leased Wire.  
New York, Feb. 22.—Evidence pointing to wide ramifications of an alleged German spy plot in this country, will be laid before the federal grand jury called to meet here to-morrow. It is understood that the department of Justice, is particularly desirous of investigating methods used to get American passports by aliens not entitled to them.  
Violated Neutrality  
The first cases to come before the jury will be those of Albert Sanley and Karl Wunzberg, accused of violating the neutrality laws in sending men abroad to obtain British war secrets for Germany. The federal officials, it was learned to-day, are searching for other persons involved in this alleged conspiracy.  
Three Under Arrest  
Three men are now under arrest, one in England and two in Holland, will be brought here as witnesses in this investigation.

#### WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY

By Courier Leased Wire.  
Washington, Feb. 22.—President Wilson participated in George Washington's birthday exercises here to-day at which frequent reference was made to the present international situation. "It is much less of an adventure to write history than to try to enact it," said the President in presenting a gold medal to a schoolboy for writing an essay on history. The president pledged allegiance anew to the American flag, and with the remainder of an audience, including members of the cabinet, diplomats and congressmen, he saluted at salute while the pledging allegiance was repeated.  
DAYLIGHT SAVING  
By Courier Leased Wire.  
London, Feb. 22.—The introduction of the daylight saving scheme was to-day unanimously recommended by the committee appointed by the British parliament to consider the subject. The government is being urged to bring the scheme into effect in April instead of in May.

#### GRAIN SUPPLY IN GERMANY IS VERY SHORT

Distribution of Flour is Assumed by the Authorities in Larger Cities  
FARMERS WITHHOLD Foodstuffs, a Practice Which is Protested Against

By Courier Leased Wire.  
Amsterdam, via London, Feb. 22.—The Vorwaerts, the German Socialist organ, a copy of which has been received here, says the German minister of interior has issued a proclamation stating that, owing to the complete stoppage of the potato supply due to frost, the distribution of flour in many towns has become necessary, and that consequently the small available stocks of cereals have become greatly strained.  
The Vorwaerts adds that as the final exhaustion of the stock of potatoes will go up some time before the new harvest, the cereals stocks will again be greatly drawn upon. It therefore requests all rural authorities to take extreme measures to prevent farmers from withholding food stuffs.

#### AMERICAN SAILORS Held in Detention are Released—Austria's View of the Demands of the U. S.

By Courier Leased Wire.  
Amsterdam, via London, Feb. 22.—A despatch received here from Berlin, says that the American sailors, who were taken to Germany on the Steamer Yarrowdale, have been released.

#### SWITZERLAND IS AGAINST FINAL BREAK

Hopes That Crisis Between Germany and U. S. Will Go no Further  
MANY ADVANTAGES Now Enjoyed by the Swiss Would Then be Lost

By Courier Leased Wire.  
Berne, via Paris, Feb. 22.—The Bund, in a leading editorial, admonishes that portion of the Swiss press which has been criticizing Dr. Paul Ritter, Swiss minister to Washington, for his action in unofficially offering to reopen negotiations between Germany and the United States. The Bund admits that Mr. Ritter's action was not authorized by the foreign department, and thinks he may have construed his duties a little too liberally, but it asks whether it is not in the interests of the Swiss to prevent a final and irrevocable breach between Germany and America. Such a breach, it contends, would mean the destruction of many ideal and material advantages enjoyed by Switzerland.

#### ANOTHER SUNK

By Courier Leased Wire.  
London, Feb. 22.—The British Steamer Persius has been sunk. Lloyd's shipping agency announced to-day. Four men of the crew are missing. Two British Steamers Persius are listed. The larger is a vessel of 6,728 tons gross, built in 1909 at Belfast, and owned by the Ocean Steamship Company of Liverpool. She was last reported sailing from Dakar, West Africa, on January 18, en route from Liverpool to Yokohama, which would place her far outside any of the barred zones. The smaller vessel is a 155 ton trawler owned in Grimsby.

#### PRESERVATION OF THE HONOR OF THE NATION CALLS AMERICA TO WAR, DECLARES EX-PRESIDENT TAFT

By Courier Leased Wire.  
New York, Feb. 22.—"War and the preservation of the honor of the nation or a craven peace are the alternatives, which face the United States if Germany holds to her decree of ruthless submarine warfare and sinks American vessels," former President Taft declared in an address here last night.

Worse Than War  
"There are worse things than war," said Mr. Taft. "The occasion has arisen when the issue is between the honor, dignity and self-defense of the nation and a craven yielding to opportunism. We are devoid of offence in this war. We have attempted to guard the rights of neutrals, while the rights of neutrals have been disregarded by both belligerents. But Great Britain has wronged us only in acts that may be compensated with damages. Germany has violated our rights by the destruction of innocent citizens, whose only offence was that they were lawfully pursuing their lawful occupations on the high seas.  
Must Resist  
We have the right of the high seas on lawful business and we must maintain that right. But if those rights are to be invaded again under a declaration of a ruthless character, it is our duty to resist the invasion for it is exactly of the same nature as if our country were invaded.  
Attack on Honor  
"Our people are on our vessels, under our own flag on the high seas where they have the right to be. If they are attacked, if they are assailed, it is an attack on our honor and our territory and it must be met."

#### DUFFERIN RIFLES TO FORM BAND

Military Music Will Not be Lacking in the City During Coming Summer  
THE RE-ORGANIZATION Of the Regiment is Continuing With Success

In connection with the 33rd Battalion, Dufferin Rifles, a special effort is to be made to raise a brass and bugle band.  
During the coming summer Brantford is likely to be without a military band unless this is done, as the 21st will assuredly be away. Bandmen of all kinds are being urged to join the Battalion band, and if this idea is realized, as no doubt it will be, Brantford citizens will be in a position to enjoy concerts this summer.  
The enlistment of volunteers for home service in the re-organized regiment was continued in full force last evening, when a large number of recruits were accepted for the Dufferin Rifles. The officers of the regiment are particularly well satisfied with the class of men who are joining, as they include the best citizens of the city. Among last night's volunteers were Messrs E. R. Read and A. J. Harley, well known baristers of the city. No time is to be lost in getting down to actual drilling, and the confidence of all in the venture has been sustained and more than justified in the ready stream of recruits.

#### THREE DISTRICT MEN IN CASUALTY LISTS

Wounded  
Corp Fred Thomson, Guelph.  
Pte. John Robinson, North Kope.  
Seriously Ill  
Gunner T. V. Weldon, Stratford.  
But three Western Ontario names figure in to-day's casualty list. No district soldiers are reported killed. Guelph, Feb. 21.—Mr. and Mrs. J. Thomson, 123 Elizabeth street received a message from Ottawa this morning stating that their son, Corp. Fred Thomson has been severely wounded in the left thigh.  
Before enlisting with the 34th Battalion he was employed at the Taylor-Forbes factory, and was well known, having played football on the T. F. team for two years prior to the war. His brother is a member of the 34th Battalion Band, which is still in England. The wounded man is 35 years of age.  
Grand Valley and Lake Erie and Northern cars at 10.20 sharp tonight for Schubert choir patrons.

#### ABATEMENT OF COLD WEATHER SAVES AUSTRIA FROM FAMINE

All Classes Strive to Better Economic Conditions of the Empire During Intense Cold; Emperor Worked With People

By Courier Leased Wire.  
Vienna, Feb. 22, via London.—The intense cold water has passed, and a thaw has set in which has solved the fuel difficulty of Vienna, and incidentally greatly facilitated the importation of food stuffs. The flour mills, which were shut down owing to frozen rivers, are again in operation.  
Emperor Worked  
Emperor Charles has been a tireless worker in the campaign to relieve economic conditions, and the imperial taxes are still hauling coal for the populace. The sight of the blooded stock, heretofore only harassed to state coaches, hauling heavy coal trucks, is one of the curious wartime incidents in the Austrian capital. The emperor recently banished wheat bread from the officers' mess at all army headquarters, and had both wheat bread and flour removed from a special train which was taking his brother, Archduke Maximilian, to Constantinople. In issuing this latter order, the emperor remarked that if the common soldiers, the people and himself were contented with black bread, the party on the train should be also. Some official circles in Vienna and elsewhere throughout the empire have not yet recovered from the shock caused by the energetic methods of Emperor Francis Joseph's young successor. Red tape has been cut right and left, and official heads continue to fall in the general cleanup, which is still going on. It is a sad time for certain army officers who have been enjoying staff sinecures. In one instance the emperor sent a batch of seventy to the front, and replaced them by invalid officers. While the official classes were at first inclined to offer passive resistance to the Emperor, they have now resigned themselves to the inevitable.

#### CONFIDENCE OF ENGLISH PEOPLE IN GOVERNMENT

Is Demonstrated by Success of Latest War Loan, Says Swiss Journal  
EUROPE ASTONISHED To Learn That Britain is as Strong Financially as Militarily  
PRISONERS OF WAR In Germany Are Employed as Farm Laborers

By Courier Leased Wire.  
Geneva, via Paris, Feb. 22.—The great success of the British war loan has astonished Europe, says the Lausanne Gazette. "This prodigious loan," says the paper, "shows, to employ a sporting phrase, the British in splendid form. The German press has lately been publishing articles showing that England was in a financial quagmire and prepared to quit the fight, whereas the success of the loan proves that the English people are as strong financially as militarily. There is the truth which the nation that began the war is now realizing.  
The Geneva Tribune says:  
"Since the world existed such a huge sum has not been offered any government in one operation. It can really be said that the resources of the British Government are unlimited. The loan is also a proof that the English people have every confidence in their government being able to dominate the submarine danger."  
Prisoners Employed  
Amsterdam, via London, Feb. 22.—Germany is employing 750,000 war prisoners as farm laborers, according to a Berlin despatch to The Rheinische Westfaelische Zeitung, which quotes General Groener, head of the army feeding department. General Groener's statement was made before the reichstag committee which is co-operating in carrying out the provisions of the national civil service law. He stated that additional war prisoners would be put to work in the agricultural districts and that in occupied territories the garrisons would do spring sowing and harvest work.

#### EMBARGO OF G.T.R. LIFTED

General Freight Situation Cleared Up, it is Declared

Montreal, Feb. 22.—The following statement was issued from the president's office of the Grand Trunk system:  
"The Grand Trunk has taken out of the Niagara frontier terminals during the last 48 hours 1,577 cars of freight, approximately 50 per cent of these cars being loaded with coal for Canadian centres. The Grand Trunk has also delivered to its connections on the Niagara frontier during the past two days 854 cars for United States districts, a steady increase in the interchange of freight at all junction points on the system."  
According to J. E. Dairymple, traffic vice-president of the Grand Trunk Railway system, the general freight situation has been cleared up to such an extent that the company is now in a position to lift part of the embargo put into effect on certain classes of merchandise in order to facilitate the movement of more important freight.  
Coming into effect tomorrow, the embargo will be lifted on live stock, dairy traffic and perishable freight from Western and United States points, and all territories not otherwise covered by embargo of other railways. This applies also to feed corn from America to Canadian points, including seeds of all description, fertilizers for farm use, and less than carload traffic to and from all points.  
"This situation," said Mr. Dairymple, "is well in hand, and it looks as though in the next ten days, unless interrupted by storms, all embargoes pertaining to the Grand Trunk will be removed."

#### RAILROAD SOLD

By Courier Leased Wire.  
St. Louis, Feb. 21.—The Missouri Pacific Railroad was sold at auction here today to R. H. Nielson and J. W. Holmes, of New York, for \$12,151,000. Both men represent the reorganization committee.



Cartoon by McConnell in the Toronto News