

THE COURIER

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Friday, December 29th, 1916.

THE SITUATION

Still the evidence leaks out with regard to the serious nature of the food shortage in Germany. In this regard, General Maurice, chief director of military operations, says that he has reliable reports that the problem of feeding even the troops has become "extremely bad," a fact which, of course, means that the position of affairs for the civilian population is even worse. Without doubt, the Kaiser and his advisers would dearly welcome peace, but they won't get it except on the Allies' terms.

It is officially announced that physical and other conditions on the Somme make it impossible to at present continue the offensive there. Instead the British have taken over a section of the French line.

The Russo-Rumanian armies still continue to retire, and the enemy has occupied a series of heights near Sezmezo. It is said that a drive on Odessa will be one of the next moves in order.

King Constantine has once more demonstrated his utterly treacherous nature. It was said that Greece was at last acting in some sort of an amenable way, but the latest report is that the King has ordered the troops which surrendered to the Germans at Kavala, to proceed to the Macedonian front to fight against the Allies. The statement is not confirmed, but such an act on his part would be characteristic.

The British Admiralty has issued an official statement of the wanton murder of British seamen after their boat had been torpedoed. The incident is simply one more evidence of German diabolism, and still President Wilson does not know what the Allies are fighting for.

THE LATE POSTMASTER

The death of Hon. T. Chase Cairn, Postmaster General, will be heard of with universal regret. He was one of the best French Canadian Ministers ever at the Capital, alert in the performance of his duties, a splendid speaker both in French and English and the soul of affability to all with whom he came in contact. Under his guidance the Post Office Department has never been better handled, or made so good a showing, while the extra stress superinduced by the war was met from the inception intelligently and effectively.

Brantfordites have a very kindly recollection of the deceased minister. He made his first and only public appearance in this city when the handsome new Post Office building was formally opened on June 17th, 1914 and he delighted everyone with the fervently patriotic speech which he made on that occasion and his general bon homie.

To his bereaved wife, who was with him on that occasion and added her charm to the event, the very sincere sympathy of the Brantfordites whom she met, will be extended.

SOME OF MAYOR BOWLBY'S BREAKS

Mayor Bowlby, in the course of a letter seeking to justify his general course during the present year, says:

"I observe that I am criticised as a 'one man power.' Ignoring of committees and everything else, etc. It occurs to me that it would be more pertinent if this sapient challenger of my conduct would deign to point out a solitary instance in which I was wrong in what I sought to do."

The above, of course, refers to The Courier. As a matter of fact there are plenty of criticisms which can be offered.

Mr. Bowlby had not been in office a month before he authorized the turning into the gas mains once more of that arrant abomination sulphuretted gas. This was after Mayor Spence and the City Council of 1915, after a hard fight and by police court proceedings, had succeeded in having the outrage stopped. The Courier at the time severely criticised that action of the Mayor—an action to which citizens largely owe the present existence of this menace to the public health and comfort.

The Mayor attempts to make a handle out of what he attempted to do with reference to the market. As a matter of fact it was Ald. Ward who first moved, in connection with

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his agitation regarding the high cost of living, to have the market by-law amended so as to prevent hucksters from forestalling said market at the expense of citizens. Mr. Bowlby was not content to let Ald. Ward get the credit for the move—such would not jibe with his one man idea of bossing this city—so he introduced an amendment which sought to have every farmer or producer, selling stuff to a citizen, first go to the market and 'pay toll. Such a proposal was altogether outside of the powers conferred by the statute and Mr. Bowlby as a lawyer should have known that. His proposal was not worth the paper it was written on.

One of the most important matters brought to the attention of the public has been the full and complete report of City Engineer Jones and Medical Health Officer Pearson with regard to the water supply and steps needed to be taken to safeguard the health and the very lives of citizens. A thorough investigation was made at the instance of Ald. Ward. Where was Mr. Bowlby in this vitally important matter? He was a Water Commissioner and part of the time chairman of that board, yet as far as he was concerned not one move was made to acquiesce the citizens with what they should know.

Mr. Bowlby affirms that payment of a large sum of money for law costs in the Meredith case was made "behind my back and without my knowledge or consent." It would be enough to point out that as Mayor and also member of the Police Commission board, Mr. Bowlby should have been in full touch with what was going on as part of his plain duty. However, Ald. Ward in a letter to The Courier today says that Mr. Bowlby knew all about the move. He further adds that citizens do not have to take his word for it but that others can also support his assertion.

When there was the payment by the city under his (Bowlby's) instructions, of two thirds of a liquor fine, but it is not necessary to go any further with the list.

One solitary instance in which he has been wrong forsooth—the record is full of them.

Obituary

MR. JOHN WILEY

Dr. Wiley received the sad intelligence this morning that his father, who resides at Watford, died after a short illness. The doctor leaves this evening for his old home, where he will remain until after the funeral. Mr. John Wiley, the father of Dr. Wiley, was a man of 82 years of age, and was one of the old residents of Middlesex County. He was prominent in municipal affairs there for many years, and had held for a long time, a seat in the Middlesex County Council.

The negro farmers of Northern Louisiana and Mississippi are so prosperous they are buying automobiles. Twenty-cent cotton has found the farmer in that section with plenty of cotton.

Allan Connell Van Fleet died at his ranch near Los Angeles, California, aged 91, and carried with him to his grave the point of an Indian arrow shot into his body 55 years ago in a fight with Pirates.

Several German publications published in the U.S. have been forbidden the use of Canadian mails. They include the Cincinnati Freie Presse, The New York Freeman Journal and a Polish and a Ruthenian paper published in the States are also barred.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Lesson XIV.—Fourth Quarter For Dec. 31, 1916.

THE INTERNATIONAL SERIES

Text of the Lesson, Rev. xxii, 9-14 Quarterly Review—Memory Verses 12-14—Golden Text, Rev. xxii, 17 Commentary Prepared by Rev. D. M. Stearns.

LESSON I.—A plot that failed, Acts xxiii, 14-24. Golden Text, Jer. 1, 19, "I am with thee, saith Jehovah, to deliver thee." All the purposes and plots of men against God and His people will in due time fail and come to naught, but every purpose of the Lord will stand. The greatest verse in this lesson to me is verse 11, the visit of the Lord Jesus and His wonderful personal message, "Be of good cheer, Paul!"

LESSON II.—Paul before Felix, Acts xxiv, 10-21. Golden Text, Acts xxiv, 16, "Herein I also exercise myself to have a conscience void of offense toward God and men always." A man who believes God fully is able to be clearly after a direct message from the Lord Jesus.

LESSON III.—The appeal to Caesar, Acts xxv, 1-12. Golden Text, Matt. x, 25, "It is enough for the disciple that he be as his teacher and his servant, as his Lord." The devil and his followers are persistent persecutors, and as he has the power of death (Heb. ii, 14) he uses it mercilessly, but only with God's permission.

LESSON IV.—Paul's defense before Agrippa, Acts xxvi, 1, 24-32. Golden Text, Acts xxvi, 19, "I was not disobedient unto the heavenly vision." A splendid opportunity to testify before earth's dignitaries, and Paul certainly did improve it, and all who heard it might have become the Lord's people if they had been willing.

LESSON V.—The voyage, Acts xxvii, 13-28. Golden Text, Ps. xxxviii, 5, "Commune thy way unto Jehovah; trust also in Him, and He will bring it to pass." This voyage is suggestive of the voyage of life, which is often very stormy, but if we can truly say of Him, "Whose I am and whom I serve," we should also say, "I believe in God, that it shall be even as it was told me" (verses 23-25).

LESSON VI.—Shipwrecked on Malta, Acts xxviii, 38; xxviii, 10. Golden Text, Ps. cxviii, 22, "The Lord redeemed the soul of His servants, and none of them that take refuge in Him shall be condemned." One man brought good cheer to 275 others because he had a message from heaven. He also brought tidings of the Living God and His salvation to the people of Malta. Let us be such messengers.

LESSON VII.—World's temperance Sunday, Rom. xiv, 13 to xv, 8. Golden Text, Rom. xiv, 21, "It is good not to eat or drink with him who does anything whereby thy brother stumbleth." The first thing for any kind of sinner is to be born again, redeemed by grace (Rom. iii, 19, 24). Then because of the judgment of the Living God for all His redeemed (xiv, 7-12) we must live unto Him, not to self.

LESSON VIII.—From Malta to Rome, Acts xxviii, 11-31. Golden Text, Rom. i, 16, "I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God which is able to save every one that believeth." Whether in Jerusalem, or on shipboard, or at Malta, or in Caesar's household, Paul could honestly say, "I am debtor; I am ready; I am not ashamed" (Rom. i, 14-16), and it was always the kingdom and the Lord Jesus (xxviii, 31).

LESSON IX.—A living sacrifice, Rom. xii, 1-8. Golden Text, Rom. xii, 1, "Present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service." Because of all the benefits of His grace, as set forth in chapters 1 to viii, we are asked to let Him have full control of all that He has purchased, that He may prove to us and to others through us His perfect will and love, to His glory.

LESSON X.—Jesus Christ, the first and the last, Rev. i, Golden Text, Rev. i, 17, 18, "Fear not; I am the first and the last, and I was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore." Note all the wonderful names of the wonderful Prince of the kings of the earth and the oneness of heaven with Him and remember that He is always in the midst, even where only two or three are gathered.

LESSON XI.—Faithful unto death, Rev. ii, 1-17. Golden Text, Rev. ii, 10, "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee the crown of life." Note especially His various titles in the seven epistles and the promises to the overcomers. He reveals Himself to each company and to each individual believer according to our need. Distinguish between the crown of life of ii, 10, and eternal life of John x, 28.

LESSON XII.—The Holy City, Rev. xxi, 1-4, 22-27. Golden Text, Rev. xxi, 3, "Behold the tabernacle of God is with men, and He shall dwell with them, and they shall be His peoples." This is the New Earth beyond the thousand years when He shall have subdued all things unto Himself and God shall be all in all (I Cor. xv, 28). May the light of that city make us blind to all else.

LESSON XIII.—Unto us a Son is given, Isa. ix, 27. Golden Text, Isa. ix, 6, "His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." He who was born in Bethlehem, whose goings forth were from the days of eternity, was born to rule in Israel, and He surely will, according to the prophecies and also the words of Gabriel to Mary (Luke i, 32, 33).

Osai Samuelson, who lived with a broken back at a Chicago hospital for more than ten years, died recently.

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LOCAL NEWS

TWO WOUNDED. Lt. E. G. Richards of St. George and Pte. Joseph Warman of Paris, were this morning reported in the official casualty list as wounded.

UNSIGNED COMMUNICATION. A communication from "Side Road Ratepayers" Echo Place, used if the writer will send in his name.

THANKS. The officers and men of the 215th battalion wish to express to Mr. T. E. Ryerson, their thanks for the donation of oysters, apples and sauces contributed by him to the men remaining on duty on Christmas day.

CIGARS. The Canada Glee Co. remembered the Postal clerks in a very acceptable way with a box of cigars for Christmas. The gift was very much appreciated by the members of the Post Office staff.

DEPUTY RETURNING OFFICER. Mr. William Kilgour has been appointed by City Clerk H. F. Leonard to replace Mr. Fred Ilett who declined to act as deputy returning officer in the municipal elections on Monday.

SAILORS' RELIEF FUND. The Grocers' and Butchers' Association has donated \$25 to the British Sailors' Relief Fund. The subscription list of this fund will close within a few days, and all who intend subscribing to it, should do so, leaving their subscriptions with either of the two newspaper offices, or with Harris, Cook and Co.

TOWNSHIP ELECTIONS. All the necessary arrangements have been completed for the Township elections on Monday. The ballots are in readiness, as are the ballot boxes. The original allotment of deputy returning officers, and of polling booths has been found to be satisfactory, and no changes have been made.

KINDERGARTEN CONCERT. The entertainment for the kindergarten of Grace Church was held on Wednesday afternoon, when a Christmas tree was provided and a Santa Claus distributed gifts to the children present. Games served to while away the remainder of the afternoon, which was voted a success, largely through the efforts of Mrs. A. J. Wilkes.

Advertisement for Chas. A. Jarvis, 52 MARKET ST., featuring eye examinations and glasses. Text: 'Commence The Year Right. Headache, eyecache, or any trouble with your eyes or glasses may cause you many uncomfortable and painful days, or make it impossible for doing perfect work with your studies or your business. Have your eyes examined by Jarvis' methods and have the satisfaction of knowing if your eyes really are at fault—and, if they are, that here your glasses will be accurately made and fitted.'

Advertisement for Neill Shoes, featuring gifts in skates, shoes, and travelling. Text: 'New Gifts. See our suitable Gifts in Skates, Shoes, Suits, Travelling Etc. Felt good. Neill Shoes.'