

BRANTFORD DAILY COURIER.

FORTY-FIFTH YEAR

BRANTFORD, CANADA, TUESDAY, MARCH 28, 1916

PROBS: Wednesday, showery.

ONE CENT

British Make Some Notable Gains at St. Eloi Floods Prevalent In Michigan and Buffalo Tax Rate for Next Year Will be 26 Mills

SPRING IS HERE AND HAS BROUGHT WITH IT ITS MENACE OF FLOODS; MICHIGAN AND BUFFALO AFFECTED

Condition in Saginaw River Valley Near Detroit is Dangerous — Flint, Bay City, Lansing and Grand Rapids Report Water Rising.

WASHOUTS ON RAILROADS

Several Miles of Kensington and South Buffalo Sections Partially Submerged Cellars Flooded and Trolley Service Abandoned.

By Special Wire to the Courier. Detroit, Mich., March 28.—Southern Michigan to-day was menaced by flood conditions which in some sections were the most serious in a dozen years. A two days' rain coming immediately after a snow fall, which averaged nearly a foot in depth, sent rivers and creeks out of their banks in places where they had never before overflowed.

The situation in the Saginaw River valley probably was the most dangerous to-day. Bay City at the mouth of the river and Saginaw, about 15 miles up stream, were threatened with further inundation by the flood waters pouring into the Saginaw from a dozen tributaries. In some of these, ice gorges were being dynamited in an effort to let loose the backed up waters.

At Flint the River Flint and Thread Creek continued to rise and several manufacturing plants were seriously hampered, if not compelled entirely to shut down.

RAILROADS STOPPED
The Michigan Central and Detroit and Mackinaw Railroads were unable to run trains north of Bay City, their tracks being washed out in numerous places. Similar conditions prevailed on the Grand Rapids-Bay City division of the Pere Marquette, on which through traffic was suspended yesterday. In Lansing the Grand River was spreading out and crippling industrial plants. The Kalamazoo River and Battle Creek at Battle Creek were slowly rising.

At Grand Rapids, the Grand River was tearing flood stage with a record of 17.5 feet. Several persons have had narrow escapes from drowning, but so far no loss of life has been reported.

MILES UNDER WATER
Buffalo, March 28.—With several miles of city in the Kensington and South Buffalo sections partially submerged with the flood waters of the Cazenovia and Buffalo creeks, this city is threatened with one of the most disastrous floods in its history. Continued mild weather to-day, causing the rapid condensation of huge masses of snow, aggravated the situation which was hourly becoming more serious. Cellars in hundreds of homes were flooded and entire streets were closed to traffic. Trolley car service was abandoned on several lines and three schools were dismissed.

Several freight steamers, torn from their moorings along Buffalo creek by the ice last night were at anchor in mid stream. The floating ice piled against them causing ice bridges to form and backing the flood waters upstream. The fire tugs were helpless to relieve the situation and dynamite was used to break the ice jams. The property loss will be large.

C.N.R. Bill Has Passed Committee

(Special to the Courier.)
OTTAWA, March 28.—(Special to Courier)—The Canadian Northern bill passed committee 40 to 19.

BRITISH FORCES ARE BEGINNING TO SURGE FORWARD IN THE WEST; SALIENT AT ST. ELOI IS CAPTURED

German Official Reports Admit Lively Fighting on Franco-Belgian Front South of St. Eloi—Sir Douglas Haig's Story of the Capture.

QUIET AT VERDUN

Austrians Launched Attack Against the Italians—British Air Raid on Turks—Tremendous Blizzard in Britain.

By Special Wire to the Courier.

Berlin, March 28.—Via London.—The development of lively fighting on the Franco-Belgian front south of St. Eloi, and also along adjacent lines, is reported by German army headquarters in today's official statement.

London, March 28.—The long-expected British offensive in the west, aimed at relieving the German pressure against Verdun, appears to be under way. At many points of the Anglo-German front, from Ypres to Albert, there was lively activity yesterday, although thus far confined to mining and artillery actions. The British scored an important success when, after successful mine explosions, the Northumberland and Royal Fusiliers rushed forward and launched a furious assault against the German salient at St. Eloi, due south of Ypres. They broke through the first and second line of the German trenches on a front of 600 yards, inflicting heavy losses on the defenders and capturing two officers and 168 men. The fact that the troops who accomplished the feat are mentioned in the official report may mean that the British headquarters staff has decided that in future the battalions taking part in battles will be named in the reports.

HOW IT WAS ACCOMPLISHED
Sir John Haig's report of the success reads: "This morning after exploding mines, infantry of the Northumberland and Royal Fusiliers assaulted

the German salient at St. Eloi successfully taking first and second line trenches on a front of some 600 yards. Heavy casualties are known to have been caused to the enemy. Two officers and 168 men were made prisoners." The German official report, referring to the destruction of the St. Eloi trenches, says: "By an extensive mine explosion the British damaged our position near St. Eloi, south of Ypres. More than 100 yards of trenches were blown up and casualties were caused among the company occupying the trenches." The German report carefully ignores the infantry attack and the loss of trenches and prisoners. The British report also told of mining operations at La Boisselle and crater fighting near the Hohenzollern redoubt, in which the British were successful, and recorded the damaging of some British trenches with resultant casualties by the explosion of German mines opposite Bullock, but added: "We are established on the crater formed by the explosion."

INACTIVE AT VERDUN
The infantry continues inactive before Verdun and even the notable taking part in battles will be named in the reports. The German guns have resumed a heavy fire to the west of the river, however, shelling the French lines south of Malancourt, in the sector

(Continued on Page 5)

Rate of Taxation for Next Year in Brantford is 26 Mills, Including Provincial and City War Tax

A meeting of the committee on estimates of the City Council took place in the Council chamber yesterday afternoon. His Worship the Mayor presided, with Ald. Dowling, chairman of finance committee, in the vice-chair. There were present the chairmen of the board of works, the buildings and grounds committee, the fire and light committee and the manufacturers committee, as well as the members of the finance committee.

The Treasurer submitted an outline of the city's financial requirements for the year, and it was finally decided that a report would be submitted at the next meeting of the Council recommending the adoption of a rate of 26 mills in the dollar, with a probable addition of an extra half mill on property assessed for separate school purposes.

The rate of 26 mills includes the Provincial Government war tax of one mill and the city war tax of a further mill to provide for contributions made to the Red Cross, Patriotic Fund and other such demands arising from the war. These levies of two mills in the dollar will be made upon all taxable property, without consideration of fixed assessment.

In 1887 the rate was 15 mills, then it stood for a while at 15, in 1890 was 18, then dropped back for some years to 17, and in 1901 was 19%. Since then the record has been as follows:	1903 20	1910 25 1/2
	1904 20	1911 25 1/2
	1905 21	1912 24
	1906 22	1913 24 1/2
	1907 21	1914 23 1/2
	1908 22 1/2	1915 23
	1909 21	1916 26

ANOTHER RAID BY MEXICANS LAST NIGHT NEAR EL PASO

Former Mayor's Place Attacked by the Mexicans, Who Tried to Seize Some of His Cattle.

By Special Wire to the Courier. El Paso, Tex., March 28.—There was a very notable increase in the tension along the border to-day following the reported raid last night on the ranch of E. E. Kelly, former mayor of El Paso, by Mexican bands. The ranch is 34 miles east of here and a mile and a half from the border.

The alarm was first given by L. N. Barker, foreman of the Kelly ranch. Barker said he saw a number of mounted Mexicans cross the river and attempt to drive off one hundred head of cattle, belonging to Kelly. He ran to a neighboring ranch house and called his employer on the long distance telephone here. In the meantime several of the raiders went to the Kelly ranch house and threatened the Mexican assistant foreman with death if he interfered with them.

Word was immediately sent to the troops on patrol duty, and two detachments of cavalry were sent in pursuit of the raiders. After three hours search they returned to camp and reported to General Bell that nothing had been seen of the Mexicans. The reported raid served to give a fresh start to the alarming reports about the attitude of the Mexicans and conditions in the interior, which have kept residents here in a state bordering on hysteria ever since the American troops crossed the border.

While all the evidence at hand indicates that the steamers were torpedoed without warning with the probable loss of one American life on the Englishman and injuries to several Americans on the Sussex, president Wilson is awaiting with deep concern receipt of positive proof before taking definite action. It is said that he is seriously considering laying the whole submarine situation before congress personally. He certainly would take that step, it is said, before making any move that might lead to the breaking off of diplomatic relations with Germany. Ambassador Bernstorff, who has been away for several days, was due to return to-day and it was expected that he would consult with Secretary Lansing over the situation. It is stated authoritatively that if a German submarine fired the torpedoes which sank the Englishman and damaged the Sussex, Germany would disavow the act—punish the submarine commander, offer reparations and satisfy the United States that the act was in violation of instructions. The issue, therefore, seemed to come down to the question whether the Washington Government would be willing to accept such a declaration. On the other hand, if all facts are not deemed sufficiently conclusive, it is deemed probable that this government would be forced to accept a German disclaimer and allow the cases of the two vessels to be placed beside that of the Steamship Persia, destroyed by some unknown agent.

MAY TAKE THE SUB PROBLEM TO CONGRESS

President Wilson Looking Over Proofs of Sinking of Boats.

WILL HE ACCEPT A DISAVOWAL?

It is Thought Germany is Ready to Get From Under the Act.

By Special Wire to the Courier. Washington, March 28.—All evidence thus far received relating to the sinking of the Steamship Englishman, and the damaging of the Sussex by explosion with American citizens aboard, was assembled at the state department to-day ready for submission to the cabinet. President Wilson and his advisers were to go over phases of the situation which is described as grave.

BREAK UP

Ice in the River Going Out—Not Much Danger Threatened.

The ice in the Grand River commenced to break up this morning and the water is high, but not in any sense threatening as far as Brantford is concerned.

Reports from higher up the stream also indicate a quiet break up. There is an ice jam not far from the Cocksfoot bridge.

AT GALT
Galt, March 28.—The Grand river is high at this point, but the ice at the dam is still holding and the water is getting underneath it in good style. There is an ice jam near the golf links, but present indications are that there will be no trouble.

REQUEST ON BERLIN.
By Special Wire to the Courier. WASHINGTON, March 28.—The United States has inquired of Germany, through Ambassador Gerard, whether any of its sub-

A NEW CHANCELLOR

By Special Wire to the Courier. Geneva, March 28 (despatch to London Daily Chronicle, and in Montreal Gazette).—From a confidential source in Berlin I hear that a grave dispute has broken out between the Emperor and the Chancellor of the Empire, who is expected to resign very shortly. Confirmation of this report is to be found in this report, transmitted from Zurich, that Prince Von Buelow has been summoned in haste to the Kaiser's headquarters. The Zurich report couples the fall of the famous former ambassador and former chancellor with rumors concerning the possible retirement of Dr. Von Bethmann-Hollweg.

marines torpedoed the British channel steamer Sussex.

A mountain in the Cascade range has been named "Sir Robert," and a glacier at its foot "Borden."

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Tenders will be received up to April 1st, 1916, for supplying to the House of Refuge, in the County of Brant, with
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Particulars as to the requirements may be obtained from the undersigned, who will also receive the tenders.
J. A. HOULDRING,
Sec.-Treasurer,
House of Refuge.