

# GERMAN PUBLIC OPINION BEING PREPARED FOR THE COMING OF FINAL PEACE

## Government Through the Censorship, is Molding Public Opinion by Hinting at Mediation by President Wilson or the King of Spain.

By Special Wire to the Courier.

Berlin, May 26.—(Montreal Gazette.)—Gradually, unobtrusively and skillfully German public opinion is being prepared for the eventuality of peace in general and mediation by President Wilson in particular. This is to-day the only important, and concrete fact emerging from the flood of peace talk, rumors and the speculative combination of the two.

It is not only possible for the Imperial government through the political censorship to mould and influence public opinion to its way of thinking in regard to peace, but what is more important, it is doing so. And the political censorship never worked more admirably or sanely than at the present time in its manipulation of the all-absorbing peace theme. The censorship has lifted the lid from this topic, which has long been almost tabooed and given a very free rein to the German press to print peace news and indulge in the peace discussion. And even though for the present the discussion of specific peace terms and war aims is still forbidden, the now comparative freedom of the

## SOME MIX-UP IN NEW YORK

### Catholic Institution Up in Arms Over Wire-tapping.

By Special Wire to the Courier.

New York, May 26.—The Thompson legislative committee continued its investigations of telephone wire tapping by the police by hearing more representatives of Catholic charitable institutions, who are engaged in a violent controversy with the mayor over the right of the police to listen in on their wires. The mayor charges

press marks a notable advance on the road to peace.

Nor only have the German people now been made thoroughly familiar with the idea that President Wilson intends to offer his services as mediator and with prospects of success, but they know too the Pope is working for peace. They also are informed that President Wilson is likely to have a competitor for the first place in the contest to bring about peace in the person of the King of Spain. The reports which are permitted to be printed here indicate that the possibility of peace in the near future is being so seriously regarded in Madrid that King Alfonso, as soon as he has assured himself as to the intentions of the several belligerent powers, plans to send two highly placed persons to the several governments with instructions to pave the way for peace negotiations. Significance accordingly attaches to the fact of the Kaiser's return to Berlin from great headquarters at this time. Also that the fact that the Kaiser immediately received the Spanish ambassador in audience, and that the latter, as well as the Argentine minister since then have been in conferences with American Ambassador Gerard.

that leaders of these institutions conspired to frustrate the state investigation of charities. Monsignor John J. Dunn, Mr. Luke J. Evers, Rev. Wm. B. Farrell and Rev. Joseph P. Dineen appeared yesterday at witnesses, and absolutely denied these charges. They admitted the truth of certain telephonic conversations overheard by the police wire tappers, but asserted that some of these conversations were framed to trap the eavesdroppers.

With the reputation of having danced before King George and Queen Mary at an entertainment for a war charity fund in her brief absence in London, Mrs. Vernon Castle returned to New York.

Miss Margaret Carnegie, only child of Andrew Carnegie, is to be graduated from Miss Spence's School, No. 28 West Fifty-fifth street, New York, next Friday.

## Local News

### FINANCE COMMITTEE.

The finance committee of the city council meets at 8 o'clock to-night.

### REGULATIONS RECEIVED.

J. A. Smith, clerk of Brantford Township, has received from the Department of Public Highways of Ontario, a copy of the 1916 regulations for Township road superintendents.

### B. OF E. COMMITTEES.

The buildings and grounds committee and the management committee of the Board of Education met last evening. Routine business was transacted.

### IMPROVING ROAD.

A communication from the Provincial Department of Public Highways informs Township Clerk James A. Smith that Mr. Hogarth has been instructed to meet the council on May 30 for the purpose of consulting as to the means of improving the Hamilton road between the Township of Ancaster and the City of Brantford.

### BOARD OF WORKS.

The railway commissioners met the board of works last evening, to confer upon the subject of the paving of Erie Avenue, but no definite action was taken. Ald. Ward, chairman of the board of works, and Ald. Secord and Jennings were appointed a committee to confer with the railway commissioners in the matter in the future.

### KEEP STREETS CLEAN.

Sanitary Inspector Glover is desirous of requesting the merchants along the south side of Colborne street, to refrain from throwing rubbish out upon Water street, as the practice is both unsanitary and derogatory to the appearance of the city. Mr. Glover is sure that all will be ready to comply with the request and co-operate with him in this matter.

### GOOD CONCERT.

An excellent concert in every way was that presented on Tuesday last by the pupils of the Public schools of the city under the auspices of the Public School Cadets. The attendance was large and appreciative and the following programme was rendered: Piano duet, Misses Staring and Marquis; chorus, "Canadian Flag Song," Alexandra school; "Orphan Annie," junior girls of King George School; chorus, junior pupils of Central school; recitation, Miss Mildred Calbeck, Central School; violin obligato, Miss Sweet; kindergarten motion picture; club swinging, girls of Victoria school; recitation, Miss Kate Axford; solo, Miss Aileen Campbell; Strathcona exercises, Dufferin school; dance, Leah Jig, girls of Victoria school; dumb-bell exercises, girls of the King George School; cadet drill, boys of Victoria school; chorus, pupils of Dufferin school; Strathcona exercises, girls of the Central school; cued, patriotic, boys of Ryerson school; dance, Highland Fling, girls of Victoria school; God Save the King.

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Silk Suits are Dame Fashion's hottest creations, some very clever designs, being executed in combinations of silk and cloth. Saturday morning we offer you the choice of our large and varied stocks at greatly reduced prices, such as

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**WHITE SKIRTS**  
 White Pique, Drill and Poplin Skirts, new, full style, sport pockets, all sizes. OUR SPECIAL . . . . . **98c**

**Grand Suit Bargain**  
 Your choice of 50 Cloth Suits, this season's style every one, some trimmed with bands of silk, others braid trimmed, belted and flare styles; colors are Black, Navy, Brown, Green, Reseda and Grey. This comprises any Cloth Suit in the store from \$19.75 to \$30.00. Think what this means to you. YOUR CHOICE SATURDAY.

**\$12.98**

**Black and White Check Skirts**  
 New Black-and-White Check Skirt, sport style, with pockets, button trimmed. SPECIAL

**\$2.98**

**MIDDY SUITS**  
 White Middy Suits of galatea, trimmed with striped material of same, in Pink, Alice, Navy, all sizes, fast colors. Our special the suit—

**\$2.50**

**Middy Waists**  
 The ever-popular Middy Waists, in White Jean, Galatea, Pique, Duck and Poplin; comes in all White, White with colored collar and cuffs of Red, Alice, Navy, with narrow braid trimming, also awning stripe collar and cuffs. OUR PRICE . . . . . **98c**

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 An extra fine all silk Stocking, in Black and colors, spliced heel and toe, all sizes. OUR PRICE, PAIR . . . . . **\$1.00**

**Serge Skirts**  
 Good quality English Serge Skirts, pocket and button trimmed, Navy or Black, all sizes.

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## DIVIDENDS OF STEAMSHIP CO'S ARE ENORMOUS

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**DUTCH CONCERN ALSO PROSPEROUS**

French Corporations Alone Do Not Benefit From High Rates.

Paris, May 26 (Correspondence of The Associated Press)—While France suffers from the extraordinary ocean freight rates now prevailing, her steamship owners reap little or none of the profits. Dividends of French navigation companies—such as declare dividends—ran from six to fifteen per cent, while British, Dutch and Scandinavian companies distributed from eight to one hundred per cent among their shareholders.

One English company declared a dividend of one hundred and six per cent, one fifty per cent, one forty-nine per cent, seven from twenty-five to forty per cent, and twenty-nine companies' dividends ran from ten to twenty per cent. Two Dutch companies divided one hundred per cent, two fifty per cent, and two forty per cent, and only one as little as twenty-five per cent.

The comparatively poor showing of the French merchant fleet is explained partly by the considerable requisitions made by the government and other war disturbances that did not affect neutral countries and were felt far less proportionately in England because British owners continued to profit from outgoing freight which the French fleet had always lacked. Economic writers call the attention of the Superior Merchant Marine Council now in session to the fact that French lines have also suffered from obstructive administration measures and call for reforms that have been under discussion for years, particularly concerning the regime of French ports, methods of recruiting French sailors and better interior transportation to furnish a better outlet for freight brought to port in French bottoms.

## SHOT A FOKKER

Lieut. William Thaw, Franco-American Aviator, Distinguishes Himself.

By Special Wire to the Courier.

Paris, May 26, 12.30 p.m.—Lieut. William Thaw, of the Franco-American aviation corps, shot down a Fokker aeroplane in the region of Verdun, yesterday.

Lieut. Thaw has been decorated twice and cited in the Orders of the Day for daring exploits in the air.

## FATAL ACCIDENT TO LITTLE BOY

Paul O'Connor's Clothes Caught Fire Yesterday From Gas Stove.

An extremely sad and distressing accident, which occurred yesterday morning at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur O'Connor, 84 Port street, resulted in the death of little Paul, the youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. O'Connor. The little chap was desirous of playing with fireworks, as he had seen other children doing on the 24th of May, and when his mother stepped into the yard for a moment, imagining him to be in the care of an older child, little Paul commenced to play with the gas stove, from the flame of which his clothes suddenly took fire. His screams hastened Mrs. O'Connor to the scene, where she found the little chap wrapped in flames. These she extinguished as rapidly as possible, and Drs. Paris and Phillips were quickly summoned to attend to the injured lad, who had been severely burned, but in spite of all the physician's efforts, the child passed away about five in the afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. O'Connor and the other members of the family will have the sincere sympathy of all in their sad and tragic bereavement. The funeral will take place on Saturday.

## List of Names For the 215th

The following men have attested with the 215th Battalion within the last few days:

MARTIN BURTIS, 18, Canadian, dairy-hand.  
 WILLIAM CLOUSE, 43, Canadian, tailor.  
 ROBERT CRAIG, 43, Irish, laborer.  
 GEO. T. ELLIOTT, 23, American, stonecutter.  
 H. J. Easto, 50, English, painter.  
 O. N. FIELD, 18, Canadian, farmer.  
 WILLIAM GLASS, 18, Canadian, laborer.  
 P. HUGHES, 21, English, laborer.  
 G. JEALOUS, 36, Canadian, laborer.  
 J. LINGER, 39, English, laborer.  
 J. MARINUK, 33, Russian, Grocer.  
 JOHN WM. McLEAN, 31, Scotch, Clerk.  
 W. J. McKNIGHT, 42, English, laborer.  
 J. MILLER, 25, Canadian, liveryman.  
 VLADIMIR NECHAY, 37, Russian, laborer.  
 EZRA PAYNE, 43, English, carpenter.  
 E. PEPPER, 18, Canadian, laborer.  
 GEORGE PIRTU, 19, Russian, biscuit maker.  
 ALEX. RENWICK, 23, Scotch, laborer.  
 E. A. SCHAFFNER, 33, American, drop-hammer worker.

## HOSIERY PRICES ADVANCING!



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**FAMOUS HOLEPROOF HOSIERY for MEN, WOMEN and CHILDREN**

Come in and see them at your first opportunity

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## MURDER AND SUICIDE

Battle Creek Citizen Kills His Wife and Her Friend and Then Himself.

Battle Creek, Mich., May 26—Louis Wedstein, prominent citizen, last night shot and instantly killed his wife, Margaret Werstein and William H. Skinner, local businessman and turning the gun upon himself, committed suicide. Werstein was 38 years old and Skinner 43.

Werstein was a son of one of the wealthiest men in the city and his wife was a prominent musician and society leader.

Enraged when a negro porter entered his room in the Central Hotel at Ellwood City, Pa., A. S. Lyons of Focshomus county, West Virginia, shot up the place and as a result two men are in the Senanga hospital.

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