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## BRANTFORD DAILY COURIER.

FORTY SEVENTH YEAR

THE COURIER, BRANTFORD, CANADA, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20, 1918.

TWO CENTS

# FALL OF PETROGRAD IMMINENT HERTLING WARNS GERMANY AGAINST HOPE OF SPEEDY PEACE German Control of Finnish Gulf Nearly Complete

# NOT YET HERE

Cannot Be Achieved For a HOLLAND'S REPLY Long Time to Come, Says Hertling.

WARNS GERMANS

Further Sacrifices on Part of Germany Essential to Victory.

PEACE WITH RUSSIA Czernin's Peace Proposals

> Scoffed at by German Press

By Courier Leased Wire Copenhagen, Monday, March 18.—Germany should not indulge in delusions that world peace has been accomplished yet, Count von Hertling, the Imperial Chancellor, declared in concluding his speech in the

Reichstag to-day on the peace treaty with Russia. He added: "There is not the slightest inclination yet perceptible nclination yet perceptible among the Entente states to

Baron von Dem Busschfor foreign affairs, that Germany had adopted a the second phase of the Russian negotiations because it realized that Trotzky, the Bolsheviki foreign minister, desired not peace, but to instigate Germany to rebellion and count-

ed on a revolution in Germany and Austria-Hungary to help him veil the fact of Russian "Our negotiators," the under secretary said, gained the impression that the Russians expected far more severe terms after they had forced us to a fresh appeal to arms and their protest that they were forced

to accept our terms without sufficient time for negotiations sufficient time for negotiations was a mere attempt to save their own face. Everything had been discussed fully in December, and the only new demand after the ultimatum was that regarding Kars, Ardahan and Batoum. (The peace treaty provides that these districts in the Caucasus shall be ceded to Turkey.)" Turkey.)"

Turkey.)"

NEW POLICY.

Zurich, March 19.—Contrasting the utterances of Field Marshal von Hindenburg and General von Ludendorff, with the speech made in the Reichstag late in February by Chancellor von Hertling, The Arbieter Zeitung, the Socialist organ of Vienna asks whether the latest Berlin conference led to the adoption of a new policy. The paper argues that neither France nor Great Britain will accept a weak peace and says the peace which Count Czernin, the Austro-Hungarian foreign secretary, promised and doubtlessly honestly desires, is now scoffed at everywhere as a weak peace offer.

Nothing more, the paper adds, is heard of Count Czernin's offer to President Wilson to enter into negotiations. It

"Count Czernin has become quite dumb and modest, while the greatest decisions are being taken in Berlin, London and Paris."

PROBS.



Toronto, March 20.-The weath-

American Government Prepares to Take Over **Dutch Ships** By Courier Leased Wire

gotiations was received shortly

after 10 o'clock this morning. The nature of the reply was not disclosed, pending the issuance of a proclamation by President Wilson, which had been prepared in advance and was awaiting only news of the conclusion of negotiations in London.

Increase of Only One Fiftieth of Cent Per Pound For Entire Dominion.

Price Dropped in Six Cities; Remained Stationary

in Four. By Courier Leased Wire

Ottawa. Ont. March 20-The cos of living commissioner of the minis-ter of labor has issued his report for the month of January on the cost of bread produced in the larger cities of Canada.

An examination covering twenty cities and groups of cities shows thirteen cities with slight in-creases in cost of bread, six with decreases and four with the same figures as last month; while average for the Dominion is the slight in-crease of one-fiftieth of a cent per pound. Thus the cost of producing bread in January as compared with the previous month was practically

stationary. The figures for montreal are about the same, while Ottawa, shows one-seventh of a cent per pound increase. Toronto, representative of the western Ontario cities, one-tenth of a cent per pound increase, Winni-peg the same as December, Calgary a very slight increase. Vancouver and other British Columbia points show one third cent per pound low-

Referring to the flour cost, the blend shows eight averages the same as December, ten with increases of from seven cents to 20 cents per barrel and five slight decreases. The (Continued on Page 6).

### WORLD PEACE OCCUPATION OF FORMER RUSS CAP-ITAL BY INVADERS IS ONLY MATTER OF HOURS

RECEIVED BY U.S. No Sign of Organized Resistance is Display ed in Petrograd as German Forces Advance Along Baltic Coast and Northeast from Pskov and Dvinsk-Enemy Control of Gulf of Finland Ne ar Completion.

The fall of Petrograd is imminent. Ger man troops, probably advancing along the Baltic coast from Narva and northeast from Pskov and Dvinsk, are nearing the Rus-Washington, Mar. 30.—Holland's reply in the shipping ne-gotiations was received shortly be awaiting the coming of the invaders pas sively and there are no indications that the Bolsheviki authorities will attempt to oppose the Germans before giving up the city. Evacuation of Petrograd by the Bolshe viki Government departments was ordered

prepared to take action immelast week and all are now in Moscow, which the Lenine Government has declared the diately to take over the ships. Russian capital. When an order to move to Moscow was given, it was said that Petrograd probably would be declared a free port.

### FOE WILL CON TROL GULF

German possession of Petrograd would give the enemy complete control of the Gulf of Finland and all the important ports on its coasts, except in Finland yet in the hands of the Finnish rebels, who are being attacked by the Germans and Finnish Government forces. This would cut Moscow off from the Baltic Sea. On the south the Germans and Finnish Covernment forces. mans have been reported within 350 miles of Moscow and they virtually control the

Although they can advance in the East against disorganized Russia, the Germans have not yet displayed any intention to carry out their heralded offensive in the west. Except the most intense artillery bombard ments on some sectors there has been no great activity on the lengthy western front, trench raids having decreased in number.

MATTER OF HOURS. London, March 20.—Occupation of Petrograd by the Germans is only a matter of hours, according to despatches from Petrograd to several of the morning newspapers. The Russian capital is said to be assuming a waiting attitude and is not displaying the slightest sign of organized resistance.

The Germans are reported in a Reuter despatch from Petrograd to have reached vicinity of Dno station, about 150 miles south of Petrograd. The Austro-German the vicinity of Dno station, about 150 miles south of Petrograd. The Austro-German advance in southern Russia continues. The enemy has occupied Soumy, five, hours THIRTEEN INCREASES march from Kharkov, the despatch says.

MARTIAL LAW. London, March 20—The Ukrainian National Council has declared martial law in Provinces of Poltava, Tchernigov and Kharkov, according to a Reuter despatch from Petro-

Freight traffic has been resumed on portions of the railway lines near the Baltic held by the Germans.

The Russian Orthodox church has presented a demand that the Russo-German peace treaty prescribe its authority over the Orthodox populations in the territories lost through the peace treaty.

The Austro-German advance north of the Black Sea recently has been in the provinces of Poltava, Tehernigov and Khar-kov. Parts of these provinces are not included in the Ukraine, although the boundaries of the new country have not been fixed definitely. PEACE BY FORCE.

Copenhagen, March 20 .- Dr. Eduard David, Majority Socialist, speaking in the German Reichstag, denounced the Brest-Litovsk as not a peace by understanding, but an unvarnished peace by force, add-

"Not only did the Bolsheviki capitulate, but our diplomatists capitulated to the militarist

ideas of might. General Hoffmann cast the evictor's sword into the scale

"This peace has evoked dissatisfaction among the widest circles in the German nation and has shaken the confidence in the honesty of the German policy. Reference to Brest-Litovsk represses all peace feel-ing in France and Great Britain. The Entente already is at work again welding together the broken ring in the East.

"Our main object—the internal dissolution of the enemy coalition—has not been attained, but has been made more difficult." PRISONERS ARMED? Petrograd, Tuesday, March 19—(By the Associated Press) An American mission will visit Siberia to investigate reports of

Siberia to investigate reports of the arming of prisoners of war. There have been persistent reports from Harbin, Peking and Tokio recently that Aus-tro-German prisoners in Siberia had been armed and were assisting the Bolsheviki in putting down opposition. Armed German prisoners were said to have assisted the Bolsheviki in their campaign against General Semenoff, the Cossack leader, near the Manchurian border.

near the Manchurian border.

Relations Unchanged.

Moscow, Tuesday, March 19.

—(By The Associated Press).—
Russia's relations with the Entente are unchanged, M. Tchitcherin, the Bolsheviki foreign minister, declared in an interview with the Associated Press correspondent to-day More friendly relations were being established with the United States, he added, and he commented on President Wilson's message to Russia as showing that America would not take aggressive action against her.

A Petrograd message receiv-A Petrograd message received to-day carries the report that on Monday night three of the peoples commissioners, names not given, entrusted with the organization of the Red revolutionary navy, were mysteriously murdered.

Other reports from Petrograd state that the Council of People's Commissioners has ordered the arrest of M. Bibenko, the commissioner of marine, for opposition to the ratification of the peace treaty (Petrograd despatches filed March 13 reported that M. Bibenko had been missing for several days).

MOSCOW IN PERIL

cate the greatest anxlety over what appears to be an enveloping movement, the Austro-German forces are carrying out against Moscow. There is talk of moving the government, according to these advices to Sarjof, on the Sarjof (probably 450 miles southeast of Moscow), or to Niznhi Novgerod, 1965 miles powtheast of Moscow). (265 miles northeast of Mos-

A Reuter despatch from Petrograd, dated March. 19, reports the patriarch of the Russian church to have sent a message to the Orthodox population, declaring that the church cannot regard as binding a peace which dis-members the country and places it under the domination of a conquering foreign power. In this connection The Communist is quoted as declaring that the Russian proletariat cannot make further concessios, but must be ready to rise at any moment, irrespective of its state of prey paredness.

Deny Rumors
Moscow, March 20—Leon
Trotzky and other Bolsheviki
leaders are quoted here as denying rumors that large numbers
of Austro-German prisoners have (Continued on Page 6).

now proposed to have the 9.30 o'clock closing of theatres and restaurants come into effect on April 1 and as summer time will then be in operation, the actual closing time will be 8,30 p.m. Most people believe the curfew order now proposed will apply only to London and southern England and will, when form ally made, be seen to embody greater restrictions than were supposed at first.

One instance is that more trains are to be taken off and the suggestion evidently is made that London subways tinue operations at 9.30, while storekeepers will be prohibit-ed from lighting their windows. One effect of the order may be to get the people to work earlier, thus bringing the entire day into line with the proposed change

Clubs and private hotels, as also are to be compelled to close earlier. Travellers will be unable to obtain refreshmets and will have to carry they did the days before railreads came into use. The de crease in the number of railway trains will bring about a earlier opening of theatres is expected to assist the rail-roads automatically, as it is believed it will have the effect of preventing those who go home after the day's work from rushing back to the

## SNOW AND RAIN ON

Mountains

By Courier Leased Wire
Headquarters of the Italian
Army, Monday, March 18.—(By The
Associated Press)—The snow along
the mountain fronts has been reduced considerably by mild weather recently, but the amount remaining is sufficient to retard extensive in the Ypres sector, southwest of

Shell Burst Not Forty Yards in Front of Baker's Party

NO ONE WAS INJURED French Raid Nipped Extensive German Attack in

### WEST FRONT ACTIVITY

the Bud.

With the American Army in France, Tuesday, March 19.—(By Secretary of War Baker and his party were returning to-day from the American front line trenches, a German .75 millimetre shell burst along the roadside within forty yards of the automobile. The octu-pants of the car were not injured nor was the car damaged.

Secretary Baker remained for an hour and a half in a front line trench on a certain sector under a brisk enemy shell fire. He also visited an advanced listening post.

Associated Press)—The snow along the mountain fromts has been reduced considerably by mild weather recently, but the amount remaining is sufficient to retard extensiva operations. Military activity is confined chiefly to patrol actions and aerial encounters.

The Plave front also is affected by spring freshets having made the stream too wide and deep for crossing by considerable bodies of troops.

The head of the American military mission to Italy is making a tour of the mountain and Plave fronts, visiting each army corps and examining the organization and equipment of the troops.

Exodus From Venice.

Venice, Italy, March 20.—The exodus from Venice has been resumed in consequence of recent air raids, Outgoing trains are crowded and gondolas are busily transporting household goods to points outside the danger zone.

Residential and business quarters present a deserted appearance. The relaces along the Grand Canal are closed from end. to end, as much damage has been done in this section in the recent raids. The front of the palace in which Robert Browning lived and deed has been scarred badly and all the stained glass windows have been shattered.

ACTIVE ON

TORS IN WEST

Ypres, Armentieres, Cambrai, and the Vosges—Entente

BARRACKS FILLING.

### BELIEVED GERMANY WAS FIGHTING ON DEFENSIVE

German Alliance, Headed by Lutheran Clergyman in U.S., Strove to Prevent That Nation's Entry into War-Presiden Openly Admits Intrigue and Propaganda

Washington, March 20.— Rev. Dr. S. G. von Bosse, president of the German Alliance, a Lutheran clergyman in the garb of his profession, yesterday astonished the King sub-comittee, investigating the activities of the Alliance, by his complete adherence to the cause of Kaiserism from the outbreak of the European war up to the time of the entry into the conflict of the United States. The committee has under consideration a bill by Senator King of Utah, which would revoke the federal charter of the organization because of its alleged disloyal utterances and activities.

very mild. In the southwestern counties of Ontario the temmr. von Bosse defended his articles, saying they were written before the United States entered the war. He did not hestitate in admitting that before the United States went to war, he carried on propaganda work, and that the Alliance and himself personally opposed the United

mild to-day "Our efforts to keep the United States out of the war," he sald, and on Thurs-day, was a call of the blood, because we believed Germany to be waging a day.

### ARTILLERY ACTIVE ON MANY SECTORS IN WEST

Bombardments Heavy at Ypres, Armentieres, Cambrai, the Champagne, Verdun and the Vosges—Entente Airmen Make Effective Raids.

By Courier Leased Wire

On the British and French fronts, the German artillery has been most active on the sector of which were hombarded heavily last week—Ypres, Armentieres, Cambrai, the Champagne, Verdun and the Vosges. The marked aerial fighting on the British front continues and British airmen have accounted for 28 more German machines making a total of 54 in two days, thirty-seven of which were destroyed. Entente aviators have been busy bombing enemy billets and airdromes, and British airmen have dropped bombs on Manuheim. Germany.

On the Toul sector, the Americans have been repaying the Germans for their lavish use of gas shells, by throwing large numbers of the same shells into the enemy lines. The bombardment is reported to have had the effect desired by the American gunners.

Secretary of Wai Bakur visited the American trenches Tuesday and when he was returning a large German shell struck and burst dangerously near the automobile in which he and his immediate party were riding. The enemy shell caused no dam-age.

BRITISH OFFICIAL.

London, March 20.—"Reids attempted by the enemy last night in the neighborhood of Fauquissart were successfully repulsed by Portuguese troops," says to-day's official communication. "With the exception of some artillery activity on both sides in the Passchendaele sector,