

THE COURIER

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Friday, June 1st, 1917.

THE SITUATION

The lull continues on the western front, that is a lull as far as the great world record struggle is concerned. British heavy artillery continues to be very active, and all the indications show that the Hun is nervously anxious as to what next big move Haig has in view. British aircraft continue to be very active with good results.

In the Champagne region, the French continue to more than hold their own.

Austrian troops in attempting to recover lost positions on the Carso plateau, came into terrific hand-to-hand fighting with the Italians and were annihilated. Austrian machine gunners were found padlocked ankle and another around the waist.

Berlin fears that any hope in aid of her plans from Russia must now be abandoned. It is said that the military authorities were anxious to deal a smashing blow on the Eastern front during the early stages of the revolution, but that the scheme had to be abandoned owing to the complete impossibility of withdrawing men from the Western arena. Meanwhile affairs in the kingdom of the ex-Czar are still more or less in a state of chaos, although there are some indications of a more reasonable public frame of mind. Maxim Gorky, the noted Russian author, publishes sensational correspondence showing that an effort was made to get him to use his influence on behalf of a separate peace.

The British Government, in sanctioning the departure of labor delegates to Russia, in order to tell the reasons which led Great Britain to enter the war, makes the statement that it does so willingly, because there is "nothing to hide."

Brazil has now formally joined the Allies.

AFFAIRS AT OTTAWA

It is generally understood at the Capital that Sir Robert Borden has made proposals to Sir Wilfrid Laurier looking towards the more cohesive solution of problems, which at present face Canada in connection with the war.

The Government has in the main done splendidly since the commencement of hostilities. All fair-minded and impartial critics must admit that, but the Premier has manifestly opened the door of future co-operation to Laurier.

Will he meet the proposal half way?

That is the present question. If he should he will show that like Borden he is willing to face matters on a broad Empire basis.

If not he will equally demonstrate that he is willing to let petty party considerations intervene, with a special eye on the Quebec element opposed to conscription.

If a general election results, who, for one moment can doubt the outcome?

HYDRO ELECTRIC

This great and beneficial project on behalf of the public has taken another striking forward step by the acquisition of the plant of the Ontario Power Company. The whole thing has been accomplished without the expenditure of one cent in immediate cash and will make this electrical undertaking the biggest concern of the kind in the world.

The development of Hydro has read almost like a fairy story. We in this community know right well what its benefits have meant, especially in lowered charges, and that experience can be multiplied by the results in connection with every point which it has touched. Sir Adam Beck, who has from the first been an optimist, is each day having what some people regarded as dreams, become more and more realities and the end is not yet—not by a very considerable margin.

The fact should not be lost sight of that Hydro is only one of the many benefits resulting to Ontario because of the advent of a Conservative Government in this Province. Under Liberal auspices the Niagara possibilities had just about all been bartered away to private interests. Whitney and his colleagues speedily took steps to break the fast accumulating monopolistic chains, as they said they would and the consequence

was that power and light users were freed from monopolistic levies. Ever since after the project was a proved success, there was fighting for "the big interests" in more than one municipality. Take this city as an example. The local Grit organ fought tooth and nail to keep Hydro out of here but the citizens at the polls refused to be bamboozled on behalf of a private strangle hold. In like manner the Toronto Globe in a leading editorial of to-day has paeans of praise for the great undertaking but conveniently ignoring the fact that the whole scheme was the offspring of a Conservative Government and the further incident that had its own friends remained in power the monopolists would have been bleeding the people without relief.

ACCORDING TO PLAN

In the German official report of 17th April, dealing with the French attack on the Army Group of the Crown Prince it is stated that "the battle swayed backwards and forwards around the foremost position our object being, even if war material were lost, to spare the lives of our forces and to inflict heavy losses upon the enemy." "In this, as in all the German communiques since the beginning of the great retreat, the purpose is clearly to convey the impression that whatever is happening is in accordance with the staff plans, whether it be in general strategy or in tactical detail, the Germans claim that events move according to their combinations and their interests.

There is no doubt whatever that the original retreat to the Hindenburg line was planned quite deliberately by the Great General Staff. Even here however the affirmative cause was the pressure of the allies exercised continuously since 1st of July 1916. And as the retreat has gone on it has become increasingly evident that the details of German movements are either not planned at all, as in the loss of the Vimy Ridge, or are planned under immediate and vital compulsion, in any case because an operation is "planned" it cannot be assumed, as the Germans wish it to be assumed that it is planned voluntarily, or that it is part of a successful strategical combination.

Still, the Germans cling with characteristic tenacity to this convenient fallacy. So much do they value it that, as in the case of the report quoted above, they are willing to falsify facts to secure the desired impression.

They assert here that material was sacrificed to save lives. The truth is the exact reverse of this assertion. Lives were sacrificed to save material. So far from being ready, at the dictates of some obscure plan of action, to lose guns and other material in order to spare casualties, they desired most particularly and urgently to save them.

The truth of this can be proved in two ways. In the first place, the French Headquarters in their communique of 18th of April say that "the enemy withdrew to the rear of the position his heavy and field artillery." The consequences of this was that the German infantry, opposed infantry to a terrific fire from the French guns, had to fight without adequate artillery support. They at least knew that they were being destroyed to save the guns. In the second place it is clear from despatches from the "Times" correspondent, of 17th and 18th of April that the Germans made desperate attempts to recover the material which had not been sent to the rear and in consequence was lost to the advancing French troops.

It should also be noted that, even if the German policy had been what they wish it to appear, it was a disastrous failure. Prisoners, of whom there was a pleasant sufficiency to interrogate, admitted that their losses were enormous. They also stated that they had been strictly ordered to hold their positions at all costs. This latter fact disproves, once and for all, the German claim that you desire to spare men, you do not order them to hold fast whatever the casualties. Here again the fact emerges that the troops were placed as a human barrier to save the endangered material, which precisely contradicts the German communique.

To a considerable extent, though not absolutely, the enemy did succeed in their real object of preserving their material, but at the cost of a defeat. To deprive infantry of the protection of guns is so obviously

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disastrous that they must, apparently, have considered this price not too heavy to pay, in view of their general inferiority in artillery and munitions on the western front, and their severe losses in this direction during the British offensive. In such circumstances their High Command would neither hesitate to sacrifice the troops in practice, nor in their report to assert that they had succeeded in sparing them. But this is a pretty clear indication of the hard straits to which they are reduced, and in any case the fact of the defeat remains. The loss of 20,000 prisoners and, despite all precautions of a large number of guns, is the result not of a deliberately adopted plan of action, but of the pressure of a stronger and more willful foe. The mark not of victory, but of defeat.

ADOPTED RESOLUTION

By Courier Leased Wire. Montreal, June 1.—The town of Lussille, a suburb of Montreal, has adopted a resolution opposing conscription. The resolution was proposed by Ald. Newman, the only English speaking alderman on the board. One thousand people took part in a meeting in the hall of the east end of Montreal last night, making the usual speeches and arguments. The only excitement was when an English woman asked for more soldiering and less talk. The crowd chased her home on the run. Then there was a parade, but the police kept things closely in hand.

New Bed Quilts, Rugs and Curtains, to be sold at auction Saturday afternoon, June 2nd. The Central Auction Rooms, 8 Wharf Street.

Children Cry FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA

SOCIAL SERVICE

Last evening's anniversary service in Colborne street church was given to the social service and evangelism department, the work of which was graphically and eloquently outlined by two powerful speakers, S. S. Carter, M. A., and Dr. R. Albert Moore. A solo was pleasingly rendered by Miss Gladys Garvin, while an augmented choir rendered appropriate musical numbers. Mr. C. P. McGregor, newly elected chairman of the laymen's association, occupied the chair.

A powerful appeal for reforms in numerous evils of the day was that strikingly voiced by S. S. Carter, who pointed out that as John Wesley had once saved England from the ordeal of such a revolution as the one being in France, so today the war was to save the Empire and the world from the menace of tyranny and autocracy. The Methodist church was

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Odd lines in Ladies' Suits, all in this season's styles, made from fine wool poplin and serge, colors copen, navy, black and some pretty black and white checks, having belts and large collars, good satin linings, skirts full at back, regular \$25.00, Saturday for... \$16.95



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Wonderfully pretty and dressy Silk Suits in Chiffon Taffeta and Silk Poblins, in shades navy, grey, nigger or black, all individual modes, with distinctive style features.

Summer Wash Suits Summer Wash Suits are now shown in natural raw silks, palm beach and striped gabardines, all the latest novelty styles \$16.50

Pongee Coat effect Dresses, combination of natural and coin spot sash, special at... \$9.50

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Styles are in accord with the latest fashions in design and trimmings, no two alike, made of fine wool serge, misses' and women's sizes, Saturday only... \$13.50



White Voile Waists That Were \$1.29 Saturday \$1.00

Showing large square or round collars, with pretty trimmings of lace and embroidery fronts, long sleeves, finished with lace.

A special line of Middy Waists, for the warm days, very special on Saturday selling at... 50c

Hosiery

Women's Silk Boot Hose, in colors tan, black and white, Saturday 45c per pair

A special purchase of Women's black and tan cotton hose, very special, at, pair... 19c

Underskirts

Fine quality Cotton, made with deep frill of lace or embro. trimmed flounce, a very dainty \$1.00 garment for.. \$1.00

Drawers

Made of special quality nainsook, finished with lace or embroidery frill, Saturday... 50c

Here Is a List Well Worth The Most Important Millinery Sale of the Season

- 10 dozen Towels, large size, hemstitched, place for initial, regular 75c pair, Saturday, per pair... 50c
5 Dozen Fancy Bath Towels, large size, regular 90c a pair, Saturday, pair... 75c
15 Dozen Wash Cloths, worked edge, Saturday, 3 for... 25c
10 Pieces 27 in. Striped and Plain Galatea, regular 25c., Saturday... 20c
25 pieces light and dark Prints, regular 20c. a yard, Saturday... 15c
5 Pieces Striped Toweling, pure linen, regular 20c., for... 17c
5 Pieces 36 in. white Cotton, regular 22c., Saturday price... 17c
5 Pieces 36 in. Maddapolan for underwear, regular 25c., for... 20c

25 ready to wear Hats, all sizes, all shapes, all fashionable colors, worth from \$3.00 to \$5.00, Saturday \$1.50 and... \$2.50
50 smartly trimmed Hats, colors white and beige, black and white and summer colors, just what is worn in the middle of the summer, worth from \$4.00 to \$7.00, Saturday \$2.98 and... \$3.98



Mens' Underwear Balbriggan Underwear in summer weight, special to-morrow, per suit... \$1.00

A special clearance of 20 dozen Men's Lisle Half Hose, in colors brown, tan, grey, blue and fancy regular 50c., for, a pair... 25c

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Ontario to be possessed of a great premier. He held forth hope for Dominion wide prohibition as a measure against the wasting of grain in the manufacture of liquor. He touched also upon the question of social evils, and voiced a plea against race-track gambling and such business methods as watering of stock, insisting that a more practical religion be put into force after the war. An enlightening outline of the organization and work of the social service and evangelism department was given by Dr. Moore, who dwelt upon the opportunity and privilege afforded all of working for the Master in this department, which seeks to give the people something to do in the good fight, to provide a constructive Christianity. Illustrating his point with an anecdote related in characteristic style, the speaker voiced the need of a religion, a Christianity based upon the positive rather than negative principles, and went on to touch at some length upon the question of Dominion wide prohibition, urging an appeal for the quenching of every fire of brewery and distillery throughout Canada and the barring of every gate against its importation. He ventured a prophecy of the accomplishment of such a state of affairs by the end of the present year. Passing to the subject of child welfare, he outlined the work of the department in this branch, and closed with an appeal for a greater spirit of co-operation in the work of the Master.

LOCAL

BUILDING PERMIT. A building permit was issued yesterday afternoon in the city engineer's department to James J. 230 Marlboro street, for the erection of a frame kitchen to cost \$300.

TOWNSHIP COUNCIL. The regular monthly meeting of the Township Council will be held Monday of next week will be in form of court of revision for township.

BEEKEEPERS MEET. The annual field day and picnic of the Brant County Beekeepers Association will be held tomorrow afternoon at the home of Mr. Edmonson, Echo Place. Representatives of the Ontario College of Agriculture and Experiment Station will be present and conduct experiments.

DAMAGE TO CEMETERY. Considerable damage has been done to tombstones and flowers in St. Joseph's cemetery by trespassers upon the premises. A determined effort is being put a stop to the depredations. Excavations will follow, future which come to light.

BAPTIST DELEGATES. The Oxford and Brant Association of Baptist churches will meet tomorrow on June 5, 6 and 7 weeks. The following delegates have been elected to the conference: The First Baptist church, Llewellyn Brown, Messrs. Charles F. Clouston, C. M. Cook, B. Kitchen, Mrs. Kitchen, Mr. Sinus.

CUSTOMS ON RELEASE. For the month of May, local customs returns show an increase of seventy per cent. of 1916. The figures being: lower: May 1917, \$109,938.32; 1916, \$58,634.37; increase 938.95.

BASEBALL. The city league of amateur ball will open its season, permitting, to-morrow after double-header being staged at cultural Park, consisting of seven inning games. A contest for the Overseas Tobacco Cup be taken up.

VITAL STATISTICS. The vital statistics of the May are as follows: Births, 61; marriages, 22; deaths, 25. Causes of death were: Heart failure 3; 1; diphtheria 1; thrombosis mature birth 1; senility 2; pneumonia 5; still born 2; sclerosis 1; general debility; struction of bowels 1.

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