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BRANTFORD DAILY COURIER

FORTY-SEVENTH YEAR | THE COURIER, BRANTFORD, CANADA SATURDAY, MAY 12, 1917. | TWO CENTS

BRITISH GAIN AGAINST HINDENBURG LINE

Norway, Denmark and Sweden Adhere to Policy of Neutrality

French Forces Gain in Alsace; Heavy Firing on Verdun Front

Governor General of Finland Makes Appeal for Loyalty to the Allies

Hundreds of Prisoners Taken by Drive of Haig's Forces

BALFOUR IS IN NEW YORK CITY

Members of British War Commission to Make Only Brief Stay

PROGRAM ARRANGED

Proceeds, Estimated at $100,000 For Red Cross Fund

CANADA IS VISITED

By Viviani and Other Members of French Mission

By Courier Leased Wire.

New York, May 12—The brief stay of the British war commission in New York and the urgent plea of Foreign Minister Balfour that he and his associates be permitted to rest resulted in only two events being arranged for them today. Mr. Balfour and other members of the party were to be guests at luncheon of the Chamber of Commerce and at night, the commission has been invited to attend an entertainment at Carnegie Hall under the auspices of the American committee of the British Red Cross, the League of Allies and the St. Georges, St. Andrews and St. Davids societies.

For Red Cross.

Proceeds of this entertainment, expected to total $100,000, will be turned over to the British Red Cross. In addition to an elaborate musical programme, the first public view of moving pictures of the battle of the Ancre and of tanks in action will be shown.

The commission will probably leave for Washington some time tomorrow.

Visit Canada.

Mr. Rene Viviani, head of the French mission, and a number of his associates left New York at midnight for Canada for a brief visit, and Marshal Joffre and his staff started a few minutes later for Boston.

In Boston.

Boston, May 12.—Marshal Joffre and members of the French mission accompanying him arrived here from New York shortly before 8 a.m. today. They were welcomed with every possible evidence of enthusiasm. State and city had provided an entertainment filling every hour of the day and the streets were thronged, not only with residents of the city, but with many who had come from all parts of New England to share in the acclaim to the hero of the Marne.

Presentation.

In the afternoon a military parade was the central feature of the day. The climax of the parade was planned to come on Boston common. This was the presentation to Joffre of a gold casket containing an order for more than $150,000, contributed by New England citizens toward the support of fatherless children of France.

NURSE LOST.

By Courier Leased Wire.

Sherbrooke, May 12.—Nurse Edna Day, who is reported to have been lost with a British transport off Malta, was formerly connected with the Sherbrooke hospital. She was a graduate of the institution and later acted as assistant superintendent for three years.

Weather Bulletin

Toronto, May 12.—The eastern disturbance is now centred off the coast of Nova Scotia and is steadily decreasing in intensity. Showers have ocurred from the Ottawa Valley eastward while in the west the weather has been fine and warm.

Forecasts.

Fresh northwest and north winds, fair. Sunday — Moderate northwesterly winds, fair with a little higher temperature.

BARBARISM PRACTISED BY GERMANY

Civilization Must Rise and Appeal for Preservation of Liberty

SPEECH OF BALFOUR

Delivered in New York City Moves Audience to Cheers

SCIENCE EMPLOYED

By Enemy to Expand Ways and Means of Destruction

By Courier Leased Wire.

New York, May 12.—In his speech at the banquet here last night Mr. Balfour moved his hearers to high enthusiasm when he said:

"We have not come here as instructors of the American republic, but it is important for me to proclaim unalterable conviction that we have reached a crisis when the whole of civilization must rise up and voice its appeal for the preservation of human liberty.

"What has brought us together? he asked. "What is the meaning to be found in the crowding of your streets in welcome to us?"

The answers lay in the fact, he said, that America has felt the menace of German autocracy, which he characteried as an "imminent and overmastering peril."

"What is that peril?" Mr. Balfour continued. "I will tell you. It is the calculating and remorseless use of every civilized weapon to carry out the ends of pure barbarism.

"The Germans have co-ordinated every means of science, not to better their own people, but to dominate others. The world has been too full of unscrupulous ambitions for us not to recognize it in the present case. This is not an instance of an individual genius, another Napolean, seeking to overcome the world, but something far different, far more sinister—an attempt to use every means of science to put the world under foot.

"Science has enormously expanded the ways and means of destruction, but always it has been believed and hoped that this would be controlled by considerations of humanity. We have meen taught however, a different lesson by the ruling force of Germany; we have been taught that war has been made more heinous than ever. There is not a difference in any part of the world that German diplomacy has not tried to increase, that German money has not tried to aggravate.

"That is the danger we all have to meet. If we have seen the world wet with blood from Armenia to the strait of Dover, if we have seen horror heaped upon horror, we can rightly attribute it to that enemy. Shall we, who know what freedom is, be the humble and obsequious servants of such a caste? The free men of earth cannot do so, and if any proof were necessary, this great gathering of the three great democracies, unique in all the history of the world, would give that power. Unless all we who love liberty unite, we will all be destroyed piecemeal. This is the great thought I offer to you to-night, not from a foreign country from across the seas, but from a land of your friends and brothers."

WHY THE TIE?

Man's only non-militarian garment is the necktie, says the Toledo Bee. It's as useless as a monacle. Yet we wear it. We'd feel awfully awkward walking down the street without one.

Once upon a time the necktie was used to fasten the collar on. But now it doesnt do that.

Man's necktie is the Indian's eagle feather, the canibal's necklace of teeth, the mid-African's ivory earrings. It's his pride on which he bestows much thought, great care, We wonder what would happen to the vanity of the human race, masculine half in case of a necktie famine.

Attacks in Bullecourt Regions Net Fresh Successes to British, Prisoners Taken Numbering Several Hundreds; Mesopotamian Front Quiet

By Courier Leased Wire

Bulletin. London, May 12.—1:50 p.m.—The official statement given out to-day is that British troops attacking the Hindenburg line, have gained their objective and taken some hundreds of prisoners.

The British attacked near Bullecourt on both sides of the Arras-Cambrai road and north of the Scarpe River last night and early this morning. The text of the statement reads:

"Very successful operations were undertaken by our troops last night and early this morning. Attacks were delivered on the Hindenburg line in the neighborhood of Bullecourt, also astride the Arras-Cambrai road and north of the Scarpe.

"We gained our objectives at all points and have taken some hundreds of prisoners."

"Local fighting, resulting in our favor also took place during the night east of Lempire.

"Successful raids, in which we captured several prisoners, were made by us last night, east of Ypres."

Bulletin, Paris, May 12.—Noon—Unusually heavy artillery fighting took place last night on the Verdun front in the region of Avocourt, to-day's official statement says. French patrols penetrated the German lines at several points in Alsace and in the region of Bezonvaux.

The statement follows:

"The enemy's artillery fire along the Chemin des Dames was less active last night. Our batteries kept up a destructive bombardment of the German organizations and caused the explosion of a munitions depot northeast of Juvincourt. Patrol engagements occurred in the region of Pantheon, south of Pargny, and in the Champagne, in the wood west of Mount Carnillet.

"On the left bank of the Meuse (Verdun Front) there was violent artillery fighting all night in the region of Avocourt wood.

London, May 12.—12:11 p.m.—"Since May 2, no events of importance have occurred in Mesopotamia," says an official statement issued to day. "Our mobile columns operating in the basins of the Shatt-el-Adheim and Diala Rivers have pressed the enemy back into the Jebel Hamrin range, which runs in a northwesterly and southeasterly direction some sixty miles from Bagdad."

IMPARTIAL NEUTRALITY TO REMAIN ATTITUDE OF SCANDINAVIAN NATIONS

Three Days' Conference by Swedish, Danish and Norwegian Ministers Result in Unanimous Determination to Remain Rigdly Non-Combatant

By Courier Leased Wire.

Stockholm, via London, May 12—An official announcement in regard to the result of a three days conference by Swedish, Danish and Norwegian ministers, says that the conference determined unanimously that the three countries should maintain a policy of impartial neutrality. The announcement says:

"As before the ministers abandoned the idea of taking the initiative themselves or in consort with other neutrals with a view to mediation between the belligerents or other measures to the same end. The conference opined that collaboration should be established with other neutrals to safeguard common interest to the end of the war, including the interests that neutrals will have in the work which presumably will be undertaken in establishing principles of international law for the future.

"The attention of the three Governments was fixed on the fact that the last question is included in the programme of the interparliamentary groups of the three countries. The conference thoroughly discussed the present difficulties of importation into Scandinavia and also traced the main line of economic co-operation during and after the war. Hope was expressed for the continued development of the economic co-operation and exchange of goods already established by the three countries.

"The opportunity was recognized for a new conference by Scandinavian delegates to study the question of the danger of floating mines and as to what measures ought to be taken immediately as well as after the war."

Socialist Troubles

Stockholm, via London, May 12—The Politiken prints a letter from the historian, Franz Mehring, of Berlin to President Tchsidez of the Council of Workmen's and Soldiers' Delegates saying that the German international group or Socialists declines to share in any conference at which the German Socialist majority is represented. He urges that the Russian Socialists exclude Dr. Albert Suedekum, the Socialist reichstag deputy, and his associates. Herr Mehring adds that he speaks also in the name of Rosa Luximburg and Dr. Karl Liebknecht, both of whom are in prison.

TAX ARREARS.

A final list of vacant lands in arrears of taxes has been prepared but public advertisement entailing cost will be delayed for a few days. List may be seen at the office of the City Treasurer.

NAVAL BATTLE

By Courier Leased Wire.

London, May 12.—Flashes of light indicating another aerial attack on Zeebrugge were observed between 3 and 4 o'clock this morning, a Reuter despatch from Flushing, Holland, reports. Later, heavy and continuous gunfire was heard from the west. It is believed a naval engagement was in progress.

IS WOUNDED

Word was received in the city this morning that Pte. Fred Clawsey, 98 West Mill Street, is wounded. He went overseas with the 36th Battalion and was since drafted to the front.

PETAIN'S STATUS IS DEFINED

Chief of General Staff, He is Delegate of the Minister for War

TO DIRECT SERVICES

Of Military Forces in France and Study Technical Questions

By Courier Leased Wire.

Paris, May 12.—President Poincare has signed a decree defining the status of the new post of chief of the general staff to which General Petain has been appointed. General Petain is the delegate of the minister of war for the study of all technical advice on first, the general conduct of the war and the co-operation of the allied army; second, on the general plans of operation drawn up by the generals in chief, whose duty it will be to carry them out; third, on the programmes for the construction of war material (artillery, aviation, railroads, etc.); fourth, on the distribution of the resources of the country in effectives and materials between the different theatres of operations; fifth, on the use of the means of transportation in France as regards the movements of troops and material, and in general, on all questions submitted to him by the minister of war.

"He will centralize the questions of staff and general officers and will have authority over the military missions and military attaches abroad. Foreign military missions in France will have representatives attached to the chief of the general staff."

GERMANY WORSE FINANCIALLY IN FUTURE THAN NOW

Status After War Will be Even Lower Than at Present Time

By Courier Leased Wire.

New York, May 12.—Lord Cunliffe, governor of the Bank of England, and a member of the British Commission, expressed his opinion here regarding financial conditions after the war. He stated his judgment that Germany's financial status would be worse after peace had come than it is believed to be at present.

Great Britain meanwhile would continue to export, gold to this country, he said, because of the necessity of stabilizing exchange here and neutral countries.

Asked whether extension of new loans by European countries would make it impossible for those governments to redeem their bank notes in gold after the war, Lord Cunliffe said he could not speak for France, as that government so far as he knew had not committed itself unreservedly to the exchange of gold for notes. As for England, he hoped it would, he said, continue to pay gold for currency.

Lord Cunliffe asserted that the British Government would not expect the federal reserve bank to pay interest on Bank of England deposits in the former institution. The Bank of England, he said, would not pay interest on deposit in the interchange of neutral relations through accounts it is now opening with other banks.

OPPOSE COALITION

By Courier Leased Wire.

Petrograd, May 12, via London.—The executive committee of the council of workmen's and soldiers delegates has decided by a vote of 23 to 22 not to participate in the formation of a coalition government. The question will be referred to a plenary meeting of the council.

It is understood that ministries of munitions, labor and relief will be treated in the coalition government.

FINLAND MUST BE FAITHFUL

Governor General of That Province Makes Earnest Plea for Continuation of War

VICTORY NECESSARY

In Order to Establish Social and Internal Peace

MILITARISM OF FOE

Constitutes a Menace to Future Generations

By Courier Leased Wire

Petrograd, via London, May 12.—An earnest plea for the continuation of the war until German militarism is overthrown, was made by Feodor I. Roditcheff, governor-general of Finland, at an extraordinary session of the Duma. M. Roditcheff said:

"The alliance of free peoples is directed against the oppression of imperialism and militarism. We must therefore be stoically faithful to it. We have been told that peace would come from Democracy and no one has a greater desire for peace than myself, but when the enemy tramples our country under foot the duty of democracy and of everyone who desires peace is to struggle against the enemy and drive him from our territory.

"Victory is necessary in order to establish social and internal peace. The greater victory over the enemy the more complete will be the victory of the Democracy of peasants, for if German militarism is not overthrown, all the work of future generations will have to be devoted to armaments. Our friends, allies and enemies must know that Russia adopted freedom in order to overthrow despotism and drive the enemy from our borders as well as from those of our allies."

Turning towards the members of the provisional government, M. Roditcheff said:

"All honest hearts among the Russian people are with you even the hearts of those of your opponents, who speak against you. You are right to demand great sacrifices from the people and to demand superhuman efforts from us all, for we see the efforts and sacrifices which you make. Do not weaken and your name will be blessed as long as the Russian language is spoken."

POLISH TROUBLES

Copenhagen, via London, May 12.—Advices from Warsaw, reaching here through Austro-Polish sources, say that the movement against the German-created Polish council of state has undoubtedly been encouraged by the events in Russia. The Russian revolution has weakened the position of the Germanophile faction and the supporters of the new kingdom under Austro-German auspices.

The National Council originally instituted as a representative Polish body to assist the Council of state in the work of establishing the new kingdom, fell at its last meeting into the power of anti-German passivists. It adopted a resolution declaring that the further existence of the council of state was harmful. Rector Brubzinsky, who as a representative Pole, accepted the gift of Polish autonomy on November 3 and M. Parchiffski, a former member of the Russian Duma, were defeated for election to the executive committee of the national council. This committee is controlled by nationalists and democrats of the so-called passivist school who favor awaiting further action by Russia.

WOUNDED

Mrs. Ramsay, 5 Kerr Ave., has received word that her husband, Pte. Alex. W. Ramsay, had been wounded recently. He went overseas with the 125th battalion, being of Scottish nationality, and employed as a printer.