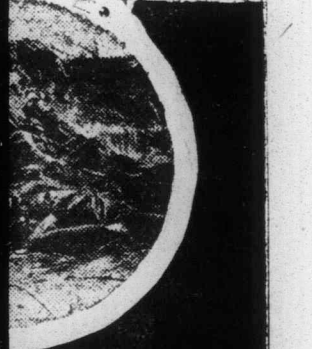


ant Theatre

Home of Features
Savoy
Singing Venus
Spectacular Singing
Novelty
h. Keefe & Shaw
Kings of Ragtime
arie Doro
Dickens' Immortal Story
iver Twist
Elaborate and Faithful
ation of this Famous Story
Sixth Chapter
ria's Romance
Featuring
Billie Burke
Christie Comedy
ng Thurs., Fri., Sat.
The Conquest of
Canada
Featuring
TALIAFERRO
and JACK SHERRILL

FEBRUARY
26 and 27
TUESDAY
"Courier")



DR
YIS
PT. DONALD
THOMPSON
Photographer
for
Levie's
Weekly
7 Reels.

portrayal of War on
ee each day.

S OF CANADIAN NORTH-
LAND REGULATIONS
head of a family, or any male
s old, may homestead a quar-
of available Dominion land in
Saskatchewan or Alberta. Ap-
st appear in person at the Do-
Agency or Sub-Agency for
Entry by proxy may be
ny Dominion Lands Agency (but
gency), on certain conditions.
Six months residence upon and
of the land in each of three
homeowner may live within
of his homestead on a farm of
80 acres, on certain conditions.
house is required except where
is performed in the vicinity.
k may be substituted for cul-
der certain conditions.
in districts a homesteader in
ing may pre-empt a quarter-
side his homestead. Price
Six months residence in each
years after earning homestead
to 50 acres extra cultivation.
a patent may be obtained as
homestead but on certain con-
ditions.
he has exhausted his home-
st may take a purchased home-
tain districts. Price \$5.00 per
acre.

W. W. COBY,
ity Minister of the Interior.
authorized publication of this
ent will not be paid for.

Girls Wanted
ANTED—Girls for various
ments of knitting mill,
wages, light work. Pre-
experience not necessary.
Watson Manufacturing Co.
Homedale.

BRANTFORD DAILY COURIER

FORTY-SEVENTH YEAR

THE COURIER, BRANTFORD, CANADA, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1917.

TWO CENTS

TO-DAY ANNIVERSARY OF BEGINNING OF VERDUN BATTLE

Strong Demand Made Here Last Night for Enforcement of Militia Act

SINKING OF THE
DALBEATIE AN
ILLEGAL ACT
Another Burden Added by
Germany to the Strain
Upon the U. S.
CRISIS VERY SERIOUS
Could Not be More So With-
out Actual War

By Courier Leased Wire.
Vienna, via London, Feb. 21.—The
innuity of the United States regard-
ing Austria-Hungary's attitude in
connection with Germany's subma-
rine warfare is considered vague in
official circles. It is stated that the
reason for this is that the notes men-
tioned in the American were not in-
tended to tie the hands of the Aus-
tro-Hungarian government in the
future, but dealt entirely with cases
that had actually occurred.

Another Illegal Act
Washington, Feb. 21.—Sinking by
guiltless from a German submarine of
the Norwegian Steamer Dalbeatie
with two American aboard, was ad-
ded to-day to the State Department's
list of Germany's illegal acts, which
are slowly accumulating and testing
the patience of the government. Con-
sultant Frost reported from Queenstown
that after the ship was sunk last
Saturday the men were rescued, but
their lives were endangered by shell
fire before the crew had gotten away
in boats, and by drifting about at
sea for nearly 18 hours.

Verge of War
After the cabinet meeting late yes-
terday, there was no indication that
President Wilson made known what
his next step will be or when it
will be taken. At the State depart-
ment it was said the situation re-
mained as serious as it could be
without war.

Real Interest
Real interest was displayed in the
British Embassy's announcement that
between February 1 and 14 less
than one per cent of the vessel's en-
tering or leaving British ports had
been sunk.

Safe Passage
The State department is seeking
to have the Turkish Government take
up informally with Germany the
question of safe passage for the
American naval vessels Des Moines
and Caesar, now held at Alexandria,
but bound for Beirut, to discharge relief
supplies for Armenians and Syrians
and to take on about 1,000 American
refugees.

WILSON TO GO
TO CONGRESS

By Courier Leased Wire.
Washington, Feb. 21.—President
Wilson has practically decided to
appear before Congress prior to ad-
journment March 4, to ask for ad-
ditional authority to protect Amer-
ican seamen and ships against the
German submarine menace.
There was every indication that
he would make his address either
late this week or early next week.
The President's position, as over-
ruled authoritatively to-day, is that
Congress before adjourning should
pass a broad resolution giving him
additional authority.

S. O. S.
By Courier Leased Wire.
Halifax, N. S., Feb. 21.—The
Steamer Sagona is ashore near
Louisburg, C. B., and is sending out
"S. O. S." signals. Assistance is be-
ing sent from Louisburg.

RUSH SEATS.
400 rush seats, Gallery, Grand
Opera House, Thursday night; Schu-
bert Choir, 25c. Come early.

Mrs. Geo. Walsh, wife of former
Councillor Walsh, Tilsonburg, had
a serious fall at her home, sustaining
a slight fracture of the skull.

Weather Bulletin

Toronto, Feb. 21.—The distur-
bance is now centred off
Cape Breton and fair
weather prevails in
parts of the Dom-
inion. It contin-
ues decidedly cold
in the western
provinces.
Forecasts
Moderate to fresh
easterly to south-
easterly winds, fair
today; a little
higher tempera-
ture tonight with
some light local
snow, but mostly
fair.
snow, Thursday.—Some light local

PLYMOUTH HARBOR
CLOSED TO NEUTRALS

By Courier Leased Wire
London, Feb. 21.—It is officially announced that the port
of Plymouth has been closed until further notice to all ships
except those of the Allies. Other vessels entering the harbor
are punishable under the Defense of the Realm regulations and
liable to detention.
Plymouth is one of Great Britain's most important naval
bases and the site of a great arsenal and vast dockyard.

FRANCE REJOICES IN THE
ANNIVERSARY OF VERDUN

Greatest German Offensive of the War
Was Launched a Year Ago; A Sum-
mary of the Teuton Defeats There

By Courier Leased Wire.
New York, Feb. 21.—The Tribune
this morning publishes the follow-
ing:
Paris, February 20.—(By wireless
press).—To-morrow is the anniver-
sary of the beginning of the battle
of Verdun. Newspapers throughout
France are celebrating the day with
anthems of praise for the French
troops. In a striking article the mili-
tary critic of Le Journal writes:
"The great Verdun offensive was
launched in December, they were still
engaged in storming the trenches on
the southern slopes of that tragic
little hill, which continues to arrest
their progress.
"At Hill 304 they experienced the
same difficulties. When it was not
possible to announce an advance in
the morning, the enemy press turned
its attention to inventing excuses.
'What matters the capture of Ver-
dun?' it said. 'We are wearing down
the French defences; we are making
the projected offensive of the sum-
mer impossible.'
"Nevertheless, the French army
responded by assuming the offensive
on the Somme. Obligated to ward off
the terrific blow, the enemy weak-
ened his efforts on the Verdun front.

Retook Lost Ground
But still it was not enough that
the French troops had saved Ver-
dun and smashed the enemy's plan
on the Somme, it was also necessary
to recapture the lost ground at Ver-
dun. This was accomplished in two
magnificent encounters; on October
24, Douaumont was retaken, and on
December 15, the French line was
extended to the heights of Bezaucourt,
under the leadership of General Nivelle.
"That was the second phase of the
battle of Verdun. With what vigor it
was conducted may be judged from
the following facts:
"An attack was launched early
in the morning. By mid-day the pris-
oners were beginning to flow in; at
sunset they numbered 11,000.
"What losses the enemy suffered;
what ground he traversed in vain
between February 21 and December
15, 1916."
Blockade Modified.
London, Feb. 21.—2.30 p.m.—An
official proclamation modifying the
terms of the British naval blockade
was issued here today. It follows:
"First, a vessel, which is encoun-
tered at sea on the way to or from
any neutral country afford-
ing means of access to enemy terri-
tory, shall, until the contrary is es-
tablished, be deemed to be carrying
goods with enemy destination or of
enemy origin, and shall be brought
in for examination and if necessary
for adjudication before a prize
court.
"Second, any vessel carrying
goods with enemy destination or of
enemy origin shall be liable to cap-
ture and condemnation in respect of
the carriage of such goods, provided
that in the case of any vessel which
is called at an appointed British or al-
lied port for examination of her car-

ACTIVE UNITS
AFFILIATED
WITH 38TH.

125th and 215th Battalion
Become Associated With
the Dufferin Rifles
THE RE-ORGANIZATION
Of the Latter Regiment Is
Successfully Continued

Authority for the affiliation with
the Dufferin Rifles of the 125th and
215th battalions, to be known as the
first and second overseas battalions,
of the Dufferin Rifles of Canada, re-
spectively, was received this morn-
ing by Lt. Col. F. A. Howard of the
38th. Since the first inception of the
125th battalion well over a year
ago, attempts had been made to
have the overseas unit associated
with the Dufferin Rifles, and author-
ity for the step has now been receiv-
ed, the same principle being accord-
ed to the 215th battalion. The as-
sociation will be of benefit to those
returning from the front, and
through the medium of the Dufferin
Rifles it will be possible to keep
track of the men of the overseas
units after they have been dissolved.
The work of re-organization of the
Dufferin Rifles is proceeding at a
good rate, and general satisfaction
is expressed by the officers of the
regiment at the rate at which volun-
teers continue to join the ranks.
Some twenty-five
new recruits were sworn in and at-
tended last evening, the rush shows
no signs of abating. No preparations
are being neglected in the way of
equipment, and Brantford may re-
ceive the high record of the regi-
ment as it has sent to the front will
be well and nobly sustained in the
historic ranks of the 38th Home De-
fence Dufferin Rifles of Canada.

PEASANTS URGED
TO SOW LARGE CROPS

By Courier Leased Wire
Paris, Feb. 21.—An appeal to French peasants of both sexes
for help in solving the food problem has been issued by the
ministry of agriculture and will be placarded in every country
district. The appeal calls on the country people to sow as much
grain as they can and wherever they can, so that the "sowings of
the spring of 1917 may prepare the harvest of victory."

GREECE HASTENS TO COMPLY
WITH DEMANDS OF ENTENTE

Story of the Allied Blockade is Told by
an Eye-witness; Food and Fuel
Shortage Impels Government to Yield
Athens, January 25.—(Corres-
pondence of the Associated Press).
This message is sent by hand on
the first ship carrying passengers for
America that has left Greece since
the declaration of the allied block-
ade of Greece on December 8. The
only persons allowed to depart to-
day were non-Greeks who had pre-
viously obtained permission from
the allied authorities and Venize-
lists released from prison in compli-
ance with the terms of the allied ul-
timum of January 8. The block-
ade of Greece is absolute. The only
vessels of any nation allowed to
make Greek ports are the rare Ital-
ian ones, themselves forbidden to
discharge foodstuffs or mails for
that part of Greece which is non-
Venizelist. The grain ships origi-
nally cleared for the Piræus, which
had been waiting seven weeks in
the harbor for the blockade to end,

REVENTLOW IS
DEFIANT IN THE
FACE OF U. S.

Declaration of War by Am-
erica Will Not Deter
Sub. Campaign
IF U. S. ENTERS WAR
Her Patriotic Enthusiasm
Will Not Last Her Long

By Courier Leased Wire.
Amsterdam, via London, Feb. 21.
—Count Reventlow, writing in
The Tages Zeitung, discusses what he
considers a possibility that President
Wilson might be induced by the pres-
sure of American workmen to de-
clare war on Germany, believing that
all transportation difficulties would
be removed thereby. Count von
Reventlow says:
"President Wilson believes he
has to declare war, this will without
doubt be done with such a great and
clever use of the tom-tom that at
first a so-called wave of enthusiasm
will go through the whole popula-
tion. But the question is what will
remain when the wave has ebbed and
subsequent weeks and months show
that things this time are quite dif-
ferent to the Spanish war. The more
effective German submarine war will
proceed in the meanwhile, and the
United States will have to recognize
that neither a declaration of war nor
energetic measures have removed the
difficulties at home or abroad."
Count von Reventlow then criticizes
Ambassador von Bernstorff's
farewell message to America. "We
cannot say," he writes, "that this
with friendship is opportune at the
present moment. It looks as if the
ambassador lost his sense of proper
perspective."

To Aid Children
Amsterdam, via London, Feb. 21.
—The Berlin Vorwaerts says that a
mass deportation of Berlin children
to the country is planned. It is in-
tended to give ailing children of the
three upper classes of the public
schools several months in the coun-
try. It is believed that this step will
relieve the food difficulty in the
city and enable the children to be
better fed. It is hoped that agricul-
ture will also be helped, as the chil-
dren can do light tasks on farms
and other towns are invited to imi-
tate Berlin's example.

IMMANUEL CHURCH
CONGREGATIONAL
ANNUAL MEETING

Enjoyable Social Evening
Passed on the Occasion
of Yearly Re-union
The annual congregational meet-
ing of the members of the Immanuel
Baptist church was held last even-
ing and proved to be a great success.
Two hundred people sat down
to a sumptuous supper served by the
ladies of the church. After ample
justice had been done a program was
of-fered, a musical program was of-
fered in the main body of the church
to which outside artists contributed.
The Rev. David Alexander presided
in his usual efficient manner and in
a brief address, extended a hearty
welcome to all those present and
congratulated his people on the
success achieved by them in the
past, and more particularly during
the last twelve months. He made
special reference to the work being
carried on among the younger peo-
ple of the church and hoped that
this phase of the work would prove
as satisfactory in the future as it
had in the past. The Alexander
ladies' quartette, composed of Misses
Heath, J. Waldron, C. Mar-
latt, and D. Houston, contributed a
delightful southern lullaby melody
and in response to an encore gave a
pleasing rendition of a sacred selec-
tion. "In the Secret of His Pres-
ence." Mrs. George Cromar acting
as accompanist. Mr. A. E. Martin,
sang "The Heart of the Minstrel,"
and being heartily encored, gave a
recitation. The Rev. Llewellyn
Brown of the First Baptist Church
was present and delivered an excel-
lent address on "Ideals," which was
especially adapted to the occasion,
and was greatly appreciated by his
hearers. An exceptionally good
programme was concluded by a vocal
duet given by Miss Bertha Sayles
and Mr. Cecil Fisher.
TO-MORROW NIGHT
Schubert Choir to-morrow night.
Rush seats, gallery, 25c.

ENFORCEMENT OF THE
MILITIA ACT ASKED FOR

Meeting of Citizens Calls Upon Government to Call Men of Military
Age to the Colors—What the Militia Act Means

WHEREAS the Brant Recruiting League was organized for the promotion of recruiting in the
City of Brantford County of Brant.
AND WHEREAS since its organization the league has by holding public meetings and by all
other available means sought to further such object.
AND WHEREAS a large measure of success has attended the efforts of the League as is
evidenced by the fact that more than four thousand men have been recruited from Brantford and the
surrounding district.
AND WHEREAS it has been ascertained by a census recently taken that there are some two
thousand men in the City of Brantford alone eligible for overseas service, but who have not and will not
voluntarily enlist under present methods owing to prevailing industrial conditions and other reasons.
AND WHEREAS it has been clearly shown by recent meetings and other efforts of the League
that the methods adopted in the past are entirely ineffective under present conditions in securing recruits,
and some more drastic measures are necessary.
AND WHEREAS the Militia Act if put in force would release soldiers for overseas service who
might otherwise be detained here for the defence of our country.
THEREFORE this meeting of citizens of Brantford publicly convened for the purpose of dis-
cussing the advisability of invoking the aid of the provisions of said Act, does hereby express its strong
opinion that the time has arrived when advantage should be taken of the provisions of the Militia Act, and
it do therefore respectfully urge the Government to take such steps as may be necessary. And as the said
Act provides for the calling out of all men of military age as required, and that a copy of this resolution
be forwarded to Sir Robert L. Borden, Premier of the Dominion of Canada.

History in the making was wit-
nessed last evening in the lecture
hall of the Y. M. C. A. where at a
public meeting the above resolution
calling upon the government for the
enforcement of the Militia Act,
adopted.
Amidst scenes of boundless enthu-
siasm the purposes of the meeting
were laid before the assemblage
and heartily endorsed, and the ur-
gent need of some such measure for
compulsory service, emphasized by
the speakers of the evening, who in-
cluded Lt.-Col. G. H. Williams, of
Toronto, chief recruiting officer of
the district, who called upon the
people of Canada as a whole for
greater service for the empire in its
hour of need.

Mr. J. H. Spence, who occupied
the chair during the evening, re-
viewed very briefly the work of the
Brant recruiting league during the
past few months, culminating in the
preparing of a list of names of eligi-
bles of the city, the list being now
ready for use with some of the
said names upon it. In addition to
this there were some five hundred
names or so that the committee in
charge of the work had been unable
to obtain.
At such a time as the present,
when the voluntary system had ap-
parently become exhausted, the Mil-
itia Act was the only solution, the
speaker considered, advocating the
full facts of the matter before the
public and obtaining their opinion
upon the matter.

Mr. W. S. Brewster then intro-
duced and moved the resolution given
above. This resolution, he com-
menced, spoke for itself. While re-
cruiting in the past had met with
great success in this county, of late
there has been a falling-off, and the
recent series of meetings had failed
to bring results. No new act, he
pointed out, was required for the es-
tablishment of the principle of com-
pulsory military service, it being
necessary only to enforce the Militia
Act. Mr. Brewster expressed the op-
inion that once called to service for-
ward the majority of the men of the
country would before long be will-
ing to enlist for overseas service.
He did not advocate
a full stop to the activities of re-
cruiting locally, but considered that
the time was past when such efforts
as recruiting rallies brought results.

defence only. He advocated out and
out conscription.
To the query of Mr. Friend, Mr.
Spence replied, explaining a ques-
tion which has troubled many. The
Militia Act provides for the raising
of troops for the defence of Can-
ada, stipulating that they may be
taken outside of Canada in her is-
land possessions. To-day the defence of Can-
ada rested in France and Flanders.
Mr. Friend demanded that the
Government take some drastic ac-
tion to prevent the emigration of eli-
gibles to the United States, and in-
stead that of those who had gone
not one should be allowed to return,
or should be given the franchise if
he did return. "Slacker" and "cow-
ard" were too easy names he con-
sidered, for those able bodied men
who remained at home, their patri-
otism rested in dollars, and they
should be classed as aliens, enemies
and disfranchised.
Mr. John Hill asked some assur-
ance that the Government would
take action to comply with the res-
olution drafted. Mr. W. S. Brew-
ster believed that the Government
would accept this expression of the
opinion of the people and act upon
it.
The prime question at issue was
the winning of the war, declared
Chief Siemlin, who felt that conscrip-
tion was called for. In this resolu-
tion, the people were sending their
opinion to the Government, and as
they answered it would depend the
response of the people to the next el-
ection. He believed that the old
men of the country were ready to
go to the front at any time the Gov-
ernment saw fit to call upon them.

Lt.-Col. Williams
The time was ripe, Lt.-Col. Will-
iams considered for the enforce-
ment of the Militia Act in order to
save the empire. It was the best form
of compulsion we had and could
be understood it had reference to home
Continued on page four.