

THE COURIER

Published by The Brantford Courier Limited, every afternoon, at Dalhousie Street, Brantford, Canada. Subscription rates: By carrier, \$3 a year; by mail to British possessions and the United States, 2 per annum.

SEMI-WEEKLY COURIER—Published on Tuesday and Thursday mornings, at \$1 per year, payable in advance. To the United States, 50 cents extra for postage.

Toronto Office: Queen City Chambers, 32 Church Street, Toronto, H. E. Smallpiece, Representative.

TELEPHONES
 AUTOMATIC AND BELL
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Friday, March 31, 1916.

The Situation.

The mercurial French, as they have hitherto been known, continue to show a steadiness and power of quiet resistance which is challenging the admiration of the world. They are a nation transformed in this regard. From the very commencement of hostilities the silent Joffre and his Generals have not boasted of what they would do; they have simply gone ahead and done it. Prior to this war and remembering what happened in the Franco-German struggle of 1870, when France was conquered in a few months, few people would have imagined that the men of the tricolor would have shown such sustained and dogged resistance as that demonstrated by them in the present struggle. And the crowning exemplification has come in connection with the violent assaults of the Huns upon Verdun. The Kaiserites have strained every ounce of their tremendous war machine in an effort to crush the French in this region, with the result that after weeks of fighting the men of the land of the fleur de lis are still holding the ground, while the enemy, with inhuman prodigality, have expended the lives of thousands of their best soldiers without adequate result. Verdun holds and may continue to do so.

The Russians report good results in their offensive against the Huns on the Dvina front and in Asia Minor the troops of the Czar are still making headway for the important sea-port of Trebizond, although the Turks have rushed to the scene of operations, picked troops released by the abandonment of the Gallipoli campaign.

German aeroplane attacks upon Saloniki have aroused great indignation among the Greek population there. It begins to look as if Venizelos would be on top again ere long in that country.

Prompt Action.

As everyone expected who knows Sir Robt. Borden and his jealous care of Canadian honor, he lost no time in the announcement of a Commission of two Judges to make a thorough investigation into the fuse charges.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier is not satisfied with the course adopted. No one expected that he would be. His complaint was that an enquiry should be "conducted as completely as possible by the High Court of Parliament itself." Everybody knows what that would mean—investigation with more or less partisanship and majority and minority reports.

Instead the Premier has chosen the far better way of a judicial enquiry. No man stands higher than Sir William Ralph Meredith, Chief Justice of Ontario, the man who among other things conducted the investigations which led to the formulation of that model of labor legislation, the Workmen's Compensation Act. His colleague Hon. L. P. Duff is not so well known, but he ranks as one of the soundest judges on the Supreme Court Bench of Canada. That their findings will be absolutely without prejudice and according to the ascertained facts, does not admit of any question.

Sir Sam Hughes has cabled complete denial of any improper relations regarding contracts and that he will return by the first available boat. No one has ever yet accused Sir Sam of grafting, or failure to face any issue.

NOTES AND COMMENTS

When the Royal investigation takes place people will be able to ascertain just how much there is in Kite's tale.

Sir Robert Borden always takes prompt action when any specific charges are made. How different this course from that followed by the Laurierites when they held office.

One of the surest signs of Spring is the fact that the minds of boys have commenced to dwell in marble haunts.

A Pennsylvania miner with seven children of his own has adopted eleven more. The phrase in his case ought to be changed to "Blessed is the man who hath two quivers full of them."

Great days these, but don't take your straw hat out of camphor yet.

Belgium Under German Rule.

Mr. F. C. Walcott, a well known American, recently arrived in London from Belgium. He was in the latter country at the request of the Rockefeller Foundation, to investigate the work of the Neutral Commission of Relief, and in an interview, which appeared in English of a few days back he gives a vivid story of conditions in that unhappy country under the rule of the Huns. Here are some extracts:

"If any of those who cavil at sending relief supplies into Belgium could only visit Belgium, and could see personally the plight of the suffering people, they would come back as eager for the continuance of this relief work as I now am.

"It is difficult for anyone getting three ample meals a day, with plenty of fuel in the house, and living even in moderate luxury, to comprehend what it means suddenly to be reduced to existing on one meal a day. 'That one meal in Belgium consists of 300 grammes of bread—which is the equivalent of three medium-sized breakfast rolls or three thick slices of bread—and one half-litre—approximately one pint—of soup, made chiefly from vegetables. Of the seven millions in Belgium three millions are practically destitute, and they have to stand in line from one to three hours a day for this pittance of food. The depots for distribution are generally only large enough to accommodate between 20 and 30 people at a time, so long queues of the hungry extend into the street for a hundred yards or more. Most of those who wait are so poor that they have no protection in the shape of an umbrella or a thick coat, against the discomfort of stormy days.

"In the cities of Belgium I have recently seen thousands of people lined up in the snow, or rain-soaked and chilled, waiting for bread and soup. And have returned to some of the distributing stations at the end of the day and have often found many men, women and children, still standing in line, but as the doors were then closed, they were compelled to go back to their pitiful homes, cold, wet and miserable. It was not until 18 weary hours afterwards that they got the meal they missed.

"Almost one half of the population of Belgium, which has been deprived of all industry for nearly a year and a half, have been reduced to this existence of daily waiting in line for a starvation ration.

"There is another stratum of society, the middle class, just above the poorer working people, which is only partially destitute, but even these must swallow their pride and stand in the long lines every day for a supplementary ration of food, for

their means do not enable them to buy enough to keep body and soul together. Many of them are mothers and fathers who have children only partly nourished. When they go home without even the daily ration, as occasionally happens, the suffering becomes pathetically acute.

"Then, too, picture to yourself the mental condition of a people who have been without work for more than a year and a half who have daily been face to face with the possibility of starvation, and who are cut off from all communication with the outside world by the barbed wire and armed cordons of a conquering foreign army. In every Belgian board is placarded with bright pink paper—the German 'affiche'—on which the Belgians can read the names of their fellow-countrymen and women who have been sentenced to imprisonment, for terms varying from a year to a life-time on account of offences committed against Germany. And on top of all this the majority of the Belgians cannot help realizing, always keenly, sometimes, that they are 'objects of charity.'

"The conclusion I have arrived at—and I went to Belgium with a perfectly open mind to report to the Rockefeller Foundation, which has no connection whatever with Mr. Hoover's organization—is that the need is great both for food and clothing in Belgium. There would be wholesale starvation within two or three weeks if the importation of food into Belgium were stopped. The need will continue to be great many months after peace is declared. Factories have been stripped of machinery, and there is complete stagnation of industry in Belgium. It will take months to rehabilitate these industries and start the wheels again. Almost any amount of money that can be donated can be immediately used to the best possible advantage of the Belgians in Belgium, and I trust that the work of the British National Committee, whose benevolent assistance has been invaluable to the Neutral Relief Commission, will not be hampered by mis-statements emanating from those who have not had the opportunity of visiting Belgium since the German occupation."

TO REMOVE DANDRUFF

Get a 25-cent bottle of Danderuff at any drug store, pour a little into your hand and rub well into the scalp with the finger tips. By morning most, if not all, of this awful scurf will have disappeared. Two or three applications will destroy every bit of dandruff; stop scalp itching and falling hair.

Ashtabula's new \$500,000 high school building has been completed.

VILLA HEADING

(Continued from Page 1)

between Madera and Chihuahua. Information that he called unofficially reached headquarters that a considerable force of Villa's men had concentrated in that region and that the American cavalry was moving forward in strength. Carranza's troops also were reported preparing to resist Villa's men, who were said to be assuming the offensive. The exact position of the three organizations was not given out but Villa's outpost farthest from the American lines, was said to have been within fifty miles of Chihuahua yesterday.

The secret wife of Charles M. Page, of Albany, ended her life in his studio. Strayed or stolen, one house at No. 945 Garfield avenue, Jersey City, disappearance reported by Francis X. Gormley, agent, who says it was carried away piecemeal.

While Mrs. in row boats waited to rescue her from her cottage at Kenton, O., which was surrounded by water, a mother gave birth to a baby boy.

Attorneys for the opposition to confirmation of Mr. Brandeis as United States Supreme Court Justice file ninety-nine page brief summarizing protests at hearing.

In the presence of Miss Grace Huffman, a high school student, of Lexington, Ind., Hardy Robinson, 24, shot and killed Ancil Phillips, 17, a rival for the girl's favor.



Open Mass Meeting
 Sunday Night, March 26th
BRANT THEATRE

Moving Picture: **KING'S MINISTER**
 Doors Open at 7.30
 Moving Picture 7.45 to 8 p.m.

SPEAKERS—

Col. F. Howard, Col. H. Cockshutt, Col. Stewart, Col. M. Cutcliffe, Col. M. Muir, Corp. Clarke (returned from the front).

Chairman: **COL. A. J. WILKES**

MUSICAL PROGRAMME: 125th BATTALION BAND
 Mrs. R. J. Smith of Chicago, formerly of Brantford, will sing.

Collection to Defray Expenses
 Children Not Admitted



"THE HOUSE THEY TALK ABOUT"
A SPECIAL LIST
For SATURDAY

36-inch Striped Washing Silk, suitable for waists and dresses, every color guaranteed fast. **SPECIAL 83c**

40-inch White Voile, fine even thread, beautiful soft quality for waists and dresses. Regular 25c. **SPECIAL 17c**

Something Out of the Ordinary
For Saturday in SUITS!

Smart, stylish and correct Spring Suits in Black and White Check, Navy, Brown, Alice Blue and Green Serge, of an exceptionally good wearing quality, Russian belted style. Coat is silk lined, skirt in the new correct flare style, daintily trimmed. **YOU WANT TO SEE THESE AND THE OTHER SPECIAL LINE SHOWN FOR**

\$12.75

SATURDAY

Taffeta Silk Underskirts

Ladies' Fine Quality Chiffon Taffeta Silk Underskirts, two-tone effects, knife pleated frill. **Special: \$5.00 Each**

Raincoat Bargain

Ladies' and Misses' Fine Quality Poplin Raincoats, in Fawn, Grey, Black or Navy, belted styles, with convertible collar. The regular prices run up to \$6.00. **Saturday: \$3.95**

Underskirt Special

Ladies' fine White Cotton Underskirts, deep flounce of fine Swiss embroidery. **SPECIAL 89c**

Pillow Cotton Bargain

Horrockses' 40-inch Pillow Cotton, absolutely free from dressing. Never sold before at less than 35c. **SATURDAY 25c**

A Sheetling Bargain

2 yards wide, extra fine quality Bleached Sheetling, no dressing or black spots. Reg. price 40c. **SATURDAY 29c**

40-inch Factory Cotton

5 pieces only, extra heavy quality, 40-inch Factory Cotton, just the thing for sheets, pillow cases, etc. Reg. 18c. **SATURDAY 12½c**

Towelling Bargain

3 pieces only of PURE LINEN, Brown and White Stripe Towelling, with red border. Regular price 18c. **SATURDAY 12½c**

Corset Special

Fine White French Coutil Corsets, 4 supports, low, medium and high bust. Regular prices up to \$2.00. **SATURDAY \$1.00**

Suiting Serge

54-inch All Wool Imported Suiting Serge, in Navy or Black, guaranteed best dyes. Worth to-day \$2.50. **SATURDAY \$1.95 ONLY**

25 pieces of Heavy Imported Striped Flannelette. Your last chance at a bargain like this. Both light and dark colors. Every piece fast color. Regular 12½c. **SATURDAY ONLY 12½c**

Washable Silk

36-inch, Black or White, heavy quality, Washing Silk, suitable for waists and dresses. Regular value \$1.00. **SATURDAY 69c**

White Pique Bargain

27-inch White Pique, an extra good quality, fine, medium and heavy cord, a dandy to wash. Regular price 25c. **SATURDAY 17c**

Tweed Bargain

10 pieces of Wool Tweeds, in light, medium and dark colors, suitable for skirts, suits and coats. Worth 85c. **SATURDAY 59c**

"Tricot" Serge

42-inch All Wool "Tricot" Serge. Colors are Navy, Royal, Alice, Grey, Brown. For separate skirts and suits. Worth to-day \$1.50. **SATURDAY \$1.15**

Table Linen Bargain

2 pieces of Pure Linen, 64-inch, half bleach Table Damask, beautiful quality. Reg. price 85c. **SATURDAY 65c**

Cream Serge

54-inch Cream Suiting Serge, beautiful fine quality, all wool and washes. Reg. value \$2.50. **SATURDAY \$1.95**

Club Checks

5 pieces of Black and White Check Dress Material, 44 inches wide. Regular price 50c. **SATURDAY 35c**

Ribbon Bargain

50 pieces of All Silk Ribbon, 7 and 8 inches wide, Dresden stripe and spot effects. Reg. prices from 50c to \$1.00. **SATURDAY 35c**

Hosiery Bargain

Ladies' Black or Tan, fine quality Cotton Hose, seamless feet, all sizes, colors are fast. Regular price 20c. **SATURDAY 12½c**

Silk Lustre Hose

Ladies' super combed Silk Lustre Hose, Black only, extra fine quality, full fashioned. **SATURDAY 25c**

Millinery Flowers

20 boxes of wreaths and assorted flowers, all kinds, all colors. **SPECIAL FOR SATURDAY 25c**

Ladies' Drawers

Fine White Cotton Drawers, a very fine quality of cotton, all sizes, open and closed. **SPECIAL SATURDAY 25c**

Corset Covers

Ladies' Fine White Nainsook Corset Covers, lace and embroidery trimmed, all sizes. **SATURDAY 25c**

White India Lawn

45-inch, extra fine White India Lawn, fine even thread, for waists and dresses. Reg. price 30c. **SATURDAY 20c**

Ladies' **SLK ANKLE HOSE**, fast colors, double heel and toe, shaped ankles, Black or White only. Worth 50c. **SATURDAY 35c**

OGILVIE, LOCHEAD & CO'Y