

THE COURIER

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Saturday, Jan. 29, 1916

The Situation

The Russians have scored another big success in the Caucasus and the Turks have been badly routed there. The troops of the Czar are now manifestly thoroughly well equipped in the matter of munitions and of their fighting qualities there has never been any question. The "falling-back" days are over for them.

It is now clear that a determined attack upon Saloniki is soon to be launched, and very hard fighting may soon be expected in this direction. Albania is being evacuated by the Allies, and the great struggle will be at the Greek port.

A Fine Lot of Men

For some months now, Brantfordites have had a large part of the 8th Battalion stationed in this city, and in addition we now have a large complement of our own Brant Battalion. Nearly fifteen hundred men are thus within the gates, and it can be most interestingly said of them that they have proved a credit to the uniform which they wear.

Railway By-Law

The Railway By-law has at last received its third reading. There was no reason whatever why there should have been any delay with regard to that. It is only common-sense for anyone to realize that the property-holders who purchased the road had the say-so for the disposal of same or any part of it. As a matter of fact, the city is thoroughly well rid of this white elephant.

Liner Can Clear

Washington, Jan. 28.—Italy has given assurances that the guns mounted on the liner Verona are for defensive purposes only and the state department to-day advised the treaty that there was no objection to permitting the Italian liner to clear. The New York customs authorities were instructed to clear the ship.

"John Bull Number"

It is significant of the feeling which exists among the thinking portion of the people of the United States at this time, with regard to the position of Great Britain in this war, that New York Life should issue a special edition under the title of the heading quoted above. Here is the opening poem: "John Bullkins, my jo, John. When all is said and done, I've sometimes thought you right John. And often thought you wrong. We've had our little tiffs John; Yet, whether friend or foe, I've nursed a high regard for you John Bullkins, my jo."

John Bullkins, my jo, John. When all is said and done, I'm not beneath the sun. You've planted noble realms, John. Where men may freely grow. I wouldn't lose you for the world, John Bullkins, my jo.

The backbone of the United States is made up precisely of the same materials as the backbone of the British Empire. It's English, Irish and Scotch. To us of the English stock, the great war seems to bring a summons to wear our English derivation with somewhat more assertion. The Irish here love Ireland openly and are not expected to apologize; American Scots show an open kindness for Scotland; Germans love their fatherland under any sun. It is only to be England that men sprang from her loins may not care for?

Who says that? Surely not we whose English derivation is all the root we have, who are lawful heirs of a tradition and literature the greatest, all counted, since Rome and Greece. We have been too modest. Pollus in these states and we are a greater company by much than all the rest, the longest planted here, and surely not the least powerful, or least worthy.

Who is the anchor at the end of the Allies' rope in the great tug of war? Who but our blood cousin John Bull? There he stands with planted feet, steady and sure; his muscles lame but holding on. Hold on, John Bull, hold on. There are those across the seas who care for you who hold you now in daylight and in dark so far as yet they may, and will gladly hold with you in face of all comers when Fate permits it. Hold on, John Bull!

With the nearer approach of spring indications are multiplying of preparations for active campaigning on the various fronts. Such actual fighting, as is going on, however, while important, as that in France and Belgium, is apparently not indicative of the beginning as yet of any operations on a large scale.

The situation in the Balkans continues to excite marked interest, and there is increasing attention being given to developments in connection with Greece. The allies, for their part, have made a new move in making a landing on the Karaburun peninsula, near the head of the Gulf of Saloniki, occupying the Greek fort there. The move seems to have been dictated by strategic reason, it being considered undesirable by the Entente forces to have the position in other hands than their own.

Although it is reported from Athens that the Italians have determined to abandon Durazzo on the Albanian coast owing to the difficulties presented by its defence against the Austrians, there are reports from the Albanian press more favorable to the Albanians. Rome has advised that Esad Pasha, leader of Albanian troops favorable to the Entente, has effected a junction with the Italian forces. Positions at Avlona and in other sections of southern Albania are being fortified in the expectation that the measures taken will be effective in checking the Austrians.

LOSS OF LIFE HEAVY AT SAN DIEGO FLOOD

San Diego, Cal., Jan. 28.—The Coroner's early confirmed estimates that had placed the loss of life at 50 by the flood Thursday when the lower dam of the San Diego water system, the Otay valley gave way. He said many of the bodies had been washed out to sea.

When the lower dam of the South-Central California mountain water company broke late Thursday, it released a flood of eleven billion gallons of water into the Otay valley, devastating an area fifteen miles long and two miles wide. The property damage, it is believed, will reach \$1,000,000.

Another dam continues to-day near the breaking point, threatening additional ruin to the valley. Scores of persons are reported missing, and it is believed that a number of bodies were carried out to sea. Rescue parties are striving to reach the scene, and it is known that the rescue is extremely difficult, owing to swollen streams and the fact that all of the bridges between San Diego and the little valley have been carried away by the flood waters of the last two weeks. All roads are virtually impassable.

Hundreds of families cut off from communication from the outside world are believed to be threatened with a food famine, suffering among the homeless is said to be intense and plans are being made to send ration supplies into the flood district as soon as possible.

One report stated that 25 Japanese, including men, women and children, were among the drowned. Twenty-five farm houses are known to have been carried away during the last two days filled the lower Otay dam for the first time in its history. Realizing the danger of water, warning was sent to people in the valley to flee for their lives. It was unheeded, and the case it was the bounded duty of the city, without delay, to put it in repair. It was to cease operating until it was repaired. That meant raising money by a by-law and an on that by-law property holders only could vote. They had already said it should be sold; they were not likely to change their minds. If they defeated the by-law, what would become of the road? "It seems to me," said the Mayor, "you are arguing strongly for one side."

The Mayor is so biased he can only see one side," was Mr. Henderson's reply. "You are only the City Solicitor," said the Mayor. "As City Solicitor, I have certain responsibilities in the matter," explained Mr. Bowley. Mr. Henderson did not agree with that. Whoever he thought it was proper to give legal advice on city matters, he did so without waiting for his duties and he had always followed that plan and always would.

Ald. Ward asked if the city could operate the road, secure or franchise the charter, or if the city had a franchise. Mr. Henderson explained the city had had not. Part of the road was a private right of way. Part of it was in Galt. He did not know what the city's position was as to the cars in Galt, but it was under contract to take electric power in Galt for the railway from the Hydro-Electric Co. and would have to go to commission, and pay for it. It was stopped running. As for Paris, the best franchise they had there—and it was really better than any other—was a by-law discovered by accident giving the original owners of the road rights to build on Paris streets—was a fact that the road was there and had been there for years, and the town had acquiesced in its operation and building and could not now object. There was no date on which the franchise terminated. It might terminate if the road stopped operating.

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Railway By-law

white elephant. Why was it a white elephant because it had been made one. If repaired, the question of it paying or not paying would drop out of sight. NOT EVEN JUNK PRICE Then there was the matter of municipal ownership. We should not get out of touch with the Hydro Radial. It would be the worst of policy to get rid of the possession of the railway. Furthermore, the price was not enough. It was not even the junk price. And what did the L. E. and N. get in return? The entrance to Galt and the entrance to Paris.

There were two courses open. To sell the road, or put it in repair. How much it would cost to repair it, was a matter of some difference of opinion. But everybody knew the road had been built as cheaply as possible. It followed an hill and down dale the contour of the ground. Some parts of the right of way were private. Other parts were the Hydro and cul-de-sac road was in good condition and there was no ballast.

Mr. Henderson referred to the report of Engineer Royce on the road. Two things in that report were significant from his standpoint. One was the road was unsatisfactory from the point of view of safety. The other was the bad condition of the trestles and culverts. Since Monday night there had been an accident on the line, which might have, in his opinion, put the city in for heavy damages.

As legal adviser of the city, declared Mr. Henderson, he felt that the heavy responsibility of conducting this road as it was, should be placed together on the Council. If in accident took place the people could quite rightly blame the council for their delay. The responsibility for that delay he did not want to accept. The city would be liable for all damages received on the road. An accident had taken place to a municipal street car in Eagle. It was in good condition and the car was in good condition, and in his opinion the city would not have been liable for any damage done in that case, as it had been purely an accident. But the opposite would follow after an accident on this line. No court, in view of the engineer's report, would give the city a sympathetic hearing in any case.

"THE BOUNDEN DUTY." If the city continued to operate the line he wished the Council to assume the responsibility. There were two ways open as to what should be done. One was to sell. The other was to retain the road, and to do that was the bounded duty of the city, without delay, to put it in repair. It was to cease operating until it was repaired. That meant raising money by a by-law and an on that by-law property holders only could vote. They had already said it should be sold; they were not likely to change their minds. If they defeated the by-law, what would become of the road? "It seems to me," said the Mayor, "you are arguing strongly for one side."

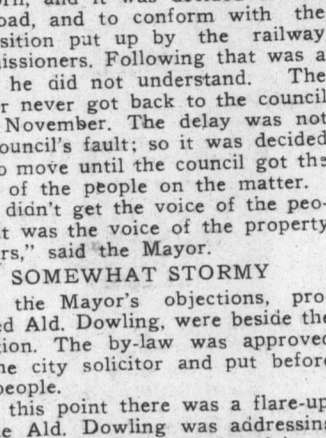
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When Quitting Time Comes

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION FOR SOUTH BRANT WILL BE HELD AT THE CONSERVATIVE ROOMS DALHOUSIE ST., BRANTFORD SATURDAY 29th AT 8 P. M.

All Conservatives of the riding are welcome. Election of officers and other business. Mr. W. F. Cockshutt M.P. will be one of the speakers. ANDREW L. BAIRD PRESIDENT

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LOCAL NEWS

ADDRESSED OFFICERS. A splendid lecture was addressed to the officers of the 8th Brant Battalion last evening by Major D.K. Emmons, Adj. of the 1st Canadian Trench Battalion.

HAVE CITIZENS' RIGHTS. In orders from headquarters this morning the Minister of Militia desires to give all ranks the privilege of using their rights as citizens as to signing the prohibition petition or not as desired.

OFFICERS ELECTED. The local branch of the Women's Emergency Corps met on Monday, January 24th and elected the following officers: President, Mrs. Mostyn Cutcliffe; vice-presidents, Mesdames Gov'An Smith, Lloyd Harris, Frank Bishop, Geo. Watt and Alfred Jones; secretary, Mrs. N. D. Nell; Treasurer, Mrs. W. T. Henderson; Executive, Mesdames Harry Cockshutt, J. W. Digby, A. J. Wilkes, W. S. Brewster, Jos. Stratford, W. C. Livingstone, J. J. Hurley, M. F. Muir and Miss Van Norman.

PARADE TOMORROW. A church parade will be held tomorrow afternoon at 2 o'clock. The parade will proceed to Park and shooting will be done by the 8th and Brant Battalions. The parade will be held at the place where the shooting was held last year.

TO USE POTTERY. Miller have where they are in musketry. The parade will be held at the place where the shooting was held last year.

PROSPERITY. One of the small firms of the "Brant" Company, a some time ago, has been removed to the Grand. The meeting was withstanding prices for satisfactory last year's business, a meeting was held at the time of the week and splendor was subject to less man because of arduous, but Jesus was (allegedly) announced, and "Choose" was made. It was made two brig.

NEILL SHOE CO. SPECIAL BAR FOR THIS SATURDAY

Neill Sho THE CENTRAL STORAGE Offers for sale at Quick Clearance of Furniture, Rugs and House Furnishings PURSELL & SALES NOW GO