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BRANTFORD DAILY COURIER.

THE COURIER, BRANTFORD, CANADA, MONDAY, MAY 27, 1918. TWO CENTS

GERMAN OFFENSIVE RENEWED ON WIDE FRONT THIS MORNING Enemy Attacks Between Rheims and Soissons

HEAVY BOMBARDMENT PRECEDED LAUNCHING OF THE INFANTRY ATTACKS; FRANCO-BRITISH FORCES RESISTING ONSLAUGHT WITH ACCUSTOMED VIGOR

Long Range Bombardment of Paris Was Renewed This Morning, Co-incident With Start of Drive; At Least Two of Long Range Guns Have Been Put Out of Commission by French Artillery - Teutons Turn to New Sector

By Courier Leased Wire. LONDON, May 27.—(Bulletin.)—Strong German attacks developed early this morning against the British and French positions between Rheims and Soissons, the war office announces. The attacks were preceded by a heavy bombardment. The Germans also attacked this morning in Flanders, between Loere and Voormezele, on the northern side of the salient. The text of the statement reads: "Strong hostile attacks, preceded by a bombardment of great intensity, developed early this morning on a wide front against the British and French troops on the line between Rheims and Soissons and against French troops between Loere and Voormezele. "There was considerable hostile artillery activity yesterday and last night on the British front."

ON FRENCH FRONT ALSO PARIS, May 27.—(Bulletin.)—Over the front between the forest of Pinon and Rheims, the Germans launched an attack this morning, the war office announced. The French and British troops are resisting with their habitual valiance. The statement follows: "In the latter part of the night the Germans opened a violent bombardment all along the front between the forest of Pinon and Rheims. This morning an enemy attack is in progress along a very extended front between these two points. "Franco-British troops are resisting the German

man strategy may contemplate a surprise attack in sufficient strength to compel Gen. Foch to withdraw troops from the battle following the line of the present battle line runs along the Ailette river, north of the Aisne, over the larger part of this sector the French have advanced their line. The front of attack is about 40 miles, which is about 15 miles shorter than the line of the original German attack this spring on March 21. In turning to a new sector to strike their blow, the Germans have taken a course contrary to that which has generally been predicted by military commentators in the last few weeks. The view usually expressed has been that the Germans were committed so heavily to their campaign in Picardy and Flanders, and were occupying such dangerously exposed positions, that they were under the necessity of striking again at those points when they resumed the attack. It is not unlikely, however, that the attack on the Aisne front will be followed by the renewal of the offensive on the other battlefields. The Ger-

WEATHER BULLETIN Toronto, May 27.—Since Saturday thunderstorms have been general in Ontario, while in the west the weather has remained very cool attended by a few light scattered showers of snow or rain. Forecasts. Moderate variable winds, partly cloudy to-day and on Tuesday with some showers and local thunderstorms.

thrust with their habitual valiance. The battle is continuing. "In the Champagne, on the right bank of the Meuse (Verdun front) in Apremont forest, and in the Woeyre, there was active artillery fighting. During the night the Germans delivered local attacks in the Apremont forest, but were repulsed after spirited fighting in which the Germans sustained losses. Two other efforts in the region of Limey, northeast of Badonviller, also were repulsed. The French took prisoners."

BOMBARDMENT RENEWED

PARIS, May 27.—After a long interval the Germans again began to bombard Paris with long range guns at 8.30 o'clock this morning. It is significant that the long range bombardment of Paris, which had been suspended for a considerable interval has been resumed just as the Germans are renewing their offensive in the west. The original bombardment was opened on Saturday, March 23, almost coincident with the start of the great offensive in Picardy. At least two of the mammoth pieces were destroyed or badly damaged some time ago by the French artillery which adopted special measures, in conjunction with airplane observation, to reach them in their location just behind the westerly edge of the Aisne front, more than 70 miles from Paris. Early this month the long range shelling was suddenly suspended, and on May 16, one of the German newspapers announced that two of the big pieces had been taken to the Krupp plant for repair work. Such huge guns, it was explained, "could not be fired indefinitely without timely repairs."

FREIGHT AND PASSENGER RATES INCREASED IN U.S.

Washington, May 27.—To meet wage increases just announced and higher costs of coal and other supplies this year, Director-General McAdoo today ordered railroad freight rates in the United States to be increased 25 per cent and passenger fares increased to three cents a mile from the present bases of about 1-1/2 cents. It is estimated that the program will bring between \$800,000,000 and \$900,000,000 more revenues to the railroads within the next year. It represents by far the biggest rate increase in the history of railroads. The new freight charges will cover both class and commodity rates and the passenger increase will go into effect June 10. Issued under authority granted by the Railroad Act to President Wilson acting through the director-general, the order wipes out all interstate lower rates effective freight and passenger traffic. Travellers in Standard sleeping and parlor cars are required to pay 3-1/2 cents a mile in addition to Pullman fares and in tourist sleeping cars 3-1/4 cents. Pullman rates remain the same. Computation and other suburban rates on railroads are increased ten per cent. Fares on electric interurban lines are not affected. Special excursion, convention and tourists rates with a few exceptions are discontinued, privileges such as stopovers and free side trips are abolished and excess baggage charges are increased. Both freight and passenger rates on boat lines operated on the lakes, rivers or coastwise by railroads are

TRIED TO COMMIT SUICIDE

Indian in Jail for Robbery—Vainly Attempted to Hang Himself Elijah Lickers, nineteen year old Indian youth of Hamilton, who was recently sentenced to nine months' imprisonment for highway robbery, and who since has been lodged in the county jail, made a rash attempt to commit suicide about 2 o'clock this morning. While working on the jail grounds, Lickers had picked up a piece of rope and secreted it on his person. Last night he tied this to the window

DILLON APPEALS FOR COOL HEADS IN CRISIS

Strove to Avert Strife and to Secure True Unity as Long as Possible—Government Action Said to be Unjustified by Statement Made

By Courier Leased Wire. Dublin, May 27.—John Dillon, Irish Nationalist leader, has written a letter to the Nationalists of Limerick, in which he says in part: "Large masses of the youth of Ireland have passed under the influence of leaders who appear to have no well thought out policy and no sense of responsibility. In the face of such conditions, young Irishmen who can keep their heads, and are determined to resist both stupid coercion and the policy of the Sinn Fein, are capable of doing incalculable service to Ireland at this moment of terrible need. Your society at Limerick has passed a resolution regretting the introduction of party influence to Ireland during the present crisis. I did everything in my power, even to the extent of incurring blame and censure from some of my best supporters, to avert strife and secure true unity on the basis of a party truce till conscription has been defeated. Two variant schools of opinion respecting the government's revelations are illustrated by editorials in the Unionist-Irish Times and the Nationalist Irish Independent. The former thinks the evidence is conclusive and

STORY OF BIG WAR TIME PROFITS BY CANADIAN MILLING FIRMS

Investigation Covering Period of Four Years, Including One Pre-War Year; High Profits Were Made in Face of Taxation—Tax on Net Profits Urged

By Courier Leased Wire. Ottawa, May 27.—A story of big war-time profits by large Canadian Milling companies is revealed in a report issued today by the minister of labor. The report was prepared by Miss B. J. McKenna (Mrs. George Hambleton) formerly of the cost of living branch, labor department. Made at the instance of Hon. Mr. Crothers, the report is based on investigations covering the period between 1913 and 1917, and therefore for purposes of comparison includes a pre-war year. It shows that in 1917, as compared with 1913, large milling companies heavily increased their net profits even after allowing for a debit for war tax. It indicates further that the limitation of profits to 25 cents per barrel of flour does not effect the purpose for which it was intended in that "with increased production even were the profit per barrel of flour limited to say, fifteen cents, still ample dividends might be paid and reserves set aside. "It is clear," the report concludes, "that the only way to reach the profits of the milling companies is to increase the tax on the net profits on total investment for the year." The report covers over sixty typewritten pages. It aims to show in detail how profits have been derived and disposed, what proportion of a company's capitalization is represented by actual investment, what the profits per barrel of flour are, and what revenues are derived from interest trading in wheat before the price of wheat was fixed. Increased profits, the report indicates, are due largely to increased production and increase in turnover which in 1917 was two to three times that of the pre-war year, although in most cases, there was some increase in the profit per barrel of flour. While dealing more specifically with the larger companies, the report, however, states that smaller companies, producing less than 100,000 barrels a year would find difficulty in surviving on a profit of 25 cents per barrel. Companies producing between 100,000 and 500,000 barrels a year would probably make a moderate revenue on such a limitation, while the large companies would make an excessive profit. Large companies, proceeds the report, have on less than 25 cents per barrel made net profits of unprecedented amounts. Therefore the only equitable way of reaching all classes of milling companies is by a tax on the net profits for the year. "The increased profits," the report continues, "have been disposed in various ways. In some cases, as with the Maple Leaf Milling Company, dividends have been paid on common stock for the first time. In other cases already substantial dividends have been increased as in the case of the Ogilvie Flour Mills company. The Ogilvie Flour Mills Co. Profits of

FINLAND READY TO MAKE PEACE WITH RUSSIA

Representative of Germany to Participate in Preliminary Discussions

PEACE WITH UKRAINE Conference Begins Wednesday—German Policy is Alienating Friends

By Courier Leased Wire. Moscow, Tuesday, May 21.—(By the Associated Press)—Count von Mirbach, the German ambassador, has advised the Soviet Government that Finland announces her willingness to enter into peace negotiations with Russia. A representative of Germany will participate in the discussions. The peace conference between Russia and the Ukraine is to begin Wednesday. Germany has appointed Baron Mumm von Schwarzenstein, ambassador to the Ukraine, as its special representative. He will have almost dictatorial authority in disputed questions, especially those involving boundaries. PROMISES NOT FULFILLED Moscow, Monday, May 27.—(By the Associated Press)—German promises to send manufactured goods to the Ukraine and other occupied territories have not been fulfilled. Agricultural tools have been supplied in limited quantities to some sections upon condition that a large percentage of products be given to Germany. No textile and leather or rubber articles have been provided. Instead, Germany is buying all kinds of clothes and leather even in Moscow and shipping it to Germany. Photograph supplies, small mirrors, knives, cigar lighters and other novelties make up a great part of the goods sent to Russia by Germany. Unrest is becoming acute through Germany's heavy levies upon the food supplies without the exchange of promised clothes and shoes and hardware. Russian merchants now realize they were duped.

CAN'T BE PURIFIED

This is the Fourth Statement of Dominion Co's. President with Reference to the Tilbury Gas

Mayor MacBride, Ald. Clement and City Solicitor Henderson journeyed to Buffalo on Saturday in connection with the gas situation. They met Mr. Davidson, General Superintendent of the Dominion Company, and he frankly told them that in his opinion he did not believe that the Tilbury supply could be purified. They then spent some thousands of dollars at the Glenwood plant in connection with this effort but without result. Some of the members thought that the trick could be accomplished but he didn't. The proposition was put up to him of establishing a purification plant on the outskirts of the city for the purpose of endeavoring to remedy the trouble for Brantfordites, and he promised to have his board consider that. The Engineers engaged by the city will report on this phase of affairs and if he says it can be done the municipality will insist. Mr. Davidson demonstrated to the satisfaction of the visitors that the taking up of the pipes leading to the Bellkirk field was played out. There is also the chance of another pure gas field developing in this vicinity. While in the Bison City the market question was looked into, a subject in which Ald. Clement manifested special interest. There are four markets there for retail purposes, all covered and several valuable pointers were secured. Some information was also obtained regarding coal matters. PRIEST DENIES INTRIGUE Dublin, May 27.—The Rev. MacLachlan MacBranan has given out the following signed statement: "As a priest and a member of the Sinn Fein executive for the past year, I give you my word of honor that the government's official statement that negotiations have been carried on between the Sinn Fein executive and the government is a falsehood, and that German invasion was never discussed by Sinn Fein executive committee."