

THE COURIER

Published by The Brantford Courier Limited, every afternoon, at Dalhousie Street, Brantford, Canada. Subscription rates: By carrier, \$4 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 Street Chambers, 30 Church Street, E. E. Smallpiece, Representative. Chicago Office, 745 Marquette Bldg. Robt. E. Douglas, Representative.

Editorial ... 276 Night ... 433 Business ... 129 Night ... 2056 SWORN DAILY CIRCULATION 4889

Thursday, December 6th, 1917.

THE SITUATION

All the indications point to the fact that the Germans are determined to renew a strong offensive in an effort to regain all of the ground recently lost by them near Cambrai. Fresh infantry divisions have been rushed there by the foe but the British forces have also been strengthened especially in the matter of batteries and Gen. Byng is confident that preparations will be sufficient to successfully withstand anything attempted. In fact over the Courier leased wire to-day there comes the official report that the British have even made a slight advance there.

A new Teuton offensive has been launched against the Italians this time on the Asiago Plateau. Masses of infantry from Russian front were on hand in the shape of reinforcements, but the enemy only succeeded in making some small gains. On the Piave the Italians took the offensive to the extent of a small success. British, French, Canadian and United States troops are now on the scene and that is going to help a great deal.

The story of British losses by submarines still continues to make unpleasant reading. The official record for last week was sixteen of over 1,600 tons and one under that figure. At a meeting in Toronto last evening Mr. Arthur Pollen, the noted British naval critic now on a visit to Canada made the statement that during the last six months Britain's naval supremacy had been hanging in the balance owing to this undersea menace. He added:

You may say I am giving you a very gloomy picture. I don't believe in ready-made optimism. There has never been a stage of the war when the situation was as serious as it is to-day. There never was a time when it was more necessary for us to be brave and resolute and when we should do all in our power not only to support the men at the front, because God knows every man is wanted—but by saving food in order to relieve the civil population in Britain and France and Italy, but most of all by keeping up the resolute spirit to conquer.

Official denial is made of the Austrian report that Roumania had made separate peace offers.

On the other hand Russia is still continuing her peace talk with Germany and the cessation of her troops as a fighting factor has still further jeopardized devastated Roumania.

The British official communication reports that the Turks have been beaten about Bagdad and that they have been aided by Russian troops in their progress.

WHAT THE UNITED STATES MIGHT DO.

In addition to the higher aspects of Canada continuing to do her level best in connection with the war, there is also the material side.

For instance, those who have recently subscribed to the Liberty Loan have a vital interest in seeing that the credit of Canada is maintained, not alone with regard to sustained help to the men in the trenches, but also with reference to backing the Union Government.

Hon. Mr. Rowell, speaking at Midland recently, dwelt upon another phase.

In answering those who said that the time had come for the United States to take up Canada's contribution to the war, he laid great stress upon the economic crisis that would result if Canada backed out of the war. In a hundred ways Canada was dependent upon the United States for supplies, and could it be supposed that these supplies would be available to Canada if Canada ceased to be the active ally of the United States?

Would not the United States naturally reserve all her resources for her own needs and those of her Allies?

He argued that Canadian industrial concerns would possibly be forced to close down if this country failed to continue carrying on the war, because of the refusal of the United States to forward raw supplies here.

Uncle Sam is already placing large war orders in Canada, and in this regard it may be mentioned that two Brantford concerns have already benefited—the Dominion Steel Products Company and the Canada Steel Company, West Brantford.

TO THE ELECTORS

There have been a great many personal charges hurled at me in this election, most of them unworthy of notice, for I hope that my record is too well known for such foundationless assaults to be received with either general favor or credence. I do not propose to take up all of them but will enumerate two or three:

1. It is charged that I was in Muskoka during the time the conscription bill was under discussion. This is absolutely untrue. Months before in the House I declared that the voluntary system had broken down. Hansard contains a report of the speech I made in the House in favor of the bill and of my vote on the various divisions, including that against Laurier's referendum proposal.

2. It is charged that I, at a meeting in the Y. M. C. A. opposed the Soldiers' Home. This is also absolutely untrue. As a matter of fact I was not at said meeting at all but attending to my duties at Ottawa. Later I came up specially from the Capital to aid in a tag day on behalf of said Home and at night made a cordial speech in its behalf in the Armories. It has also been my privilege to subscribe to the Home.

3. It is charged that I have taken no part on behalf of the control of food supplies and prices. This likewise is absolutely untrue. Over two years ago in the House I urged action and again this year, criticizing my own side in so doing. In fact in the latter respect a resolution was passed by the City Council, on May 7th 1917, containing this personal reference to myself:

"That this Council places itself on record as approving the strong position taken by Mr. W. F. Cockshutt, M.P., in his speech at Ottawa on April 2nd, 1917, on the question of Government control of food supplies and prices."

The above motion was moved by Ald. MacBride and seconded by Ald. Symons.

Sincerely, W. F. COCKSHUTT.

SATISFACTORY.

Most of the complaints, in connection with military boards taking needed help from the farms, have come from the north riding and Harry Cockshutt has been very active in seeking to have the matter righted.

It will be noticed by announcement elsewhere in this issue that he has now been advised that an official has been appointed to look into all such cases, and there can be no doubt that justice will be done.

At this period those genuinely engaged in production have a duty of equal importance to the work of those at the front.

THE SOLDIERS OVERSEAS VOTE.

The Courier has been asked by more than one citizen to designate the War Election Act as it applies to soldiers.

Clause 3 is as follows: "Every military officer shall be qualified and entitled to vote at a general election. If he can state the electoral district wherein he last continuously resided during at least four months of the twelve months immediately preceding his appointment, enlistment, enrolment, or calling out on active service, or so specifically a place or places, within an electoral district whereat during such period of time he so resided that such electoral district can be so ascertained, he shall be deemed an elector of the electoral district so stated and his vote shall be applied thereto."

If he cannot so state or specify "his vote shall be applied to such electoral district as he may indicate."

The greatest care has been taken in safeguarding this vote, and all sides are represented in the oversight. For instance, W. C. R. Preston, of "Hug the machine" fame, has control in the interests of Sir Wilfrid Laurier.

The soldiers ballot contains five compartments:

- 1. I vote for (giving name and riding).
2. I vote for the Government.
3. I vote for the Opposition.

4. I vote for the Independent candidate.

5. I vote for the Labor candidate. All names of contestants are known to these soldier electors and those backed by the Government, Opposition and Labor leaders are indicated.

Col. Frank Reid, who is the chief returning officer for continental Europe, has fixed up 1,500 polling stations and nominated 75 deputies, who are taking all measures necessary to see that every voter is brought to the poll. Capt. Shaughnessy acts as continental representative of the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery. One real problem is to make provision for the polling of small batches of Canadians scattered throughout the hospitals and depots, attached to the Imperial forces, or living in remote districts from the Jura mountains to Passchendaele.

Mr. F. R. McKenzie, special representative of The Toronto Star at the front, cables:

The Canadian soldiers in France are landing for the Government. Laurierism is being so snowed under that its friends will have to dig hard to find its traces.

That is the net result of enquiries I have made during a visit along the lines of communication from Calais to Havre, when I visited the hospitals, camps, depots and stations, endeavoring to ascertain the real truth concerning the outlook.

There was a danger a week ago that the issues would be so misunderstood that considerable bodies of men would either abstain or vote against the Government. Each day has made this danger less. To-day it has almost disappeared. Those Australians who fear the result of the Australian referendum vote, when only fifty-five per cent. of the soldiers voted on the question and sixty-five per cent. of those opposed conscription, will be repeated here may rest assured. At place after place I found soldiers voting solidly and as a matter of course for Union.

They considered it absurd that anyone should think it necessary to inquire what they did.

"Laurier's triumph would mean the end of all the army has done. It would mean that all our victories and losses were in vain. We are not going to play the part of fools, remembering our chums lying at Ypres, Somme, Vimy, Passchendaele," they say.

A provision of the Military Voters' Act not generally known is one setting forth that the ballot boxes containing overseas soldiers' votes shall not be opened for the people until the morning of the 31st day next after that fixed for polling in Canada.

This means that the overseas votes will be counted on January 18 and succeeding days before being cable to the general returning officer in Canada.

PUBLICATIONS BANNED.

Librarian E. D. Henwood of the Public Library has received a list of publications banned from distribution in Canada by the chief press censor, Ernest F. Chambers. Included in the list of banned literature are the following: most familiar, "Brockway's Defence," a socialist leaflet published anonymously; "The Fiddlers," a book by Arthur Mee, published in London, Eng.; "The Boston American," the Chicago Examiner; "The Fatherland," a weekly published in New York; "The Los Angeles Herald and the Los Angeles Examiner," the New York American, Revue, Harold and Staats Zeitung, American edition Pearson's Magazine, and San Francisco Examiner and Leader. These publications have been forbidden entrance and circulation in Canada because of their pronounced pro-German tendencies, and the Press Censor is desirous of being informed of any others of a similar nature, that would justify investigation into their views.

While Mr. John Kelly, of South Dumfries was attending service in the Presbyterian church on Sunday evening, his automobile was stolen from the church sheds. He notified Chief Rutherford, who immediately got on the case, and yesterday the Brantford police sent word saying that the auto had been found stalled about eight miles south of Brantford. Chief Rutherford is still working on the case, and he thinks he will find the guilty parties.

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PARIS RESIDENT IS LAID TO REST Funeral of Late Mrs. Wm. Patterson Held Tuesday Afternoon.

BIBLE SOCIETY MET Year's Progress Outlined at Annual Meeting Last Night.

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This evening the annual Bible Society meeting was held in the Congregational Church with the president, Mr. John Penman, in the chair. The meeting opened with a hymn and then Rev. Mr. Wells read the scripture lesson, prayer being led by Rev. Mr. Langton. The secretary, Mr. Ernest Apps, read a report, which was most gratifying and showed the society to be increasing in numbers and friends each year. Mr. Lewis Maus, the treasurer, in reading his report, showed that the canvassers had collected \$347.65 this year, an increase of nearly \$90. The president then called on the speaker of the evening, Rev. Mr. Bowen, of London, who gave an eloquent and instructive address on "The Work of the Bible Society and England Under War Conditions."

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Mr. John Penman; secretary, Mr. Ernest Apps; treasurer, Mr. Lewis Maus; and an executive of two from each church in town—

- District No. 1.—Mrs. L. Kelly and Mrs. Monteth \$5.55.
District No. 2.—Mrs. Easton and Mrs. R. Maus, \$13.25.
District No. 3.—Mrs. Telfer and Miss Smith, \$13.00.
District No. 4.—Mrs. Culp and Miss Folseter, \$10.35.
District No. 5.—Mrs. Hatch and Miss Hess, \$21.05.
District No. 6.—Misses N. James and F. Taylor, \$61.25.
District No. 7.—Mrs. Robson and Miss M. Carnie, \$25.00.
District No. 8.—Mrs. Telfer and Miss Roberts, \$64.00.
District No. 9.—Misses M. Kay and L. Shea, \$31.00.
District No. 10.—Misses N. Brockbank and M. Hall, \$36.00.
District No. 11.—Misses McLeod and Dennis, \$13.55.
District No. 12.—Misses Depow and Potruff, \$12.70.
District No. 13.—Misses Gurney and Potruff, \$14.85.
District No. 14.—Mrs. Lowe and Miss Sharp, \$11.70.
District No. 15.—Mrs. Clump and Mrs. H. Boakes, \$13.75.
Balance on hand, \$1.65.
Total, \$347.65.

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The Royal Loan & Savings Co.

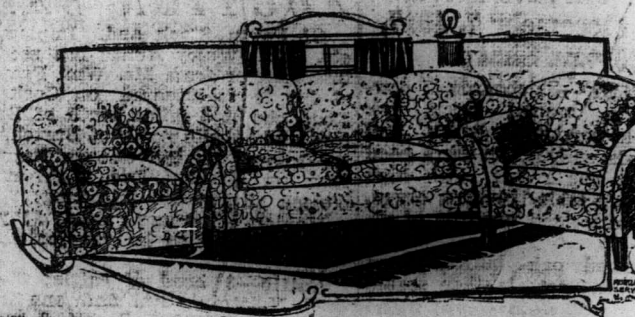
Dividend No. 106

NOTICE is hereby given that a DIVIDEND OF TWO PER CENT, on the paid up Capital Stock of the Company being at the rate of eight per cent per annum, has been declared for the three months ending December 31st, 1917 and that the same will be payable at the office of the Company on and after January 2nd, next. The transfer books will be closed from December 20th to December 31st, both days inclusive.

By order of the Board of Directors.

W. G. HELLIKER, Manager.

Brantford, Nov. 30th, 1917.



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Chas. Puckridge, which sad event took place in Detroit. Pte. Alfred Jackson, who went over with the 125th Battalion, has returned home. Pte. Jackson has been ill in the hospital in England since April. Pte. Mackenzie Lowe of the 125th has also returned. Corp. Isaac Hopkins, who enlisted with the 2nd Dragoons, has returned, ed, being shell shocked and a wound in his left shoulder,

LOC

ANOTHER AIR The Imperial received instructions for five more for a school of location of the settled.

MAY BE SEPAR Major Smith, the Six Nations word to-day to poll for the return providing other b. ent.

CONTRACTS SEP P. H. Secord an ed a building, ada Machinery C for some \$60,000 a new residence Dundas.

THE BEST. Returning Offi that the best en in to his office by Mrs. Secord. takes and omits others and was a able piece of wo

NOON HOUR CL An excellent w was held on Tue seven members esting and instr automobile indu Pitcher who spe agreed to the re president, to cont another meeting.

RAILWAY EARN Combined gro Canadian railroa figures in Novem fic's total was th ported for any in pany, Canadian, so represented a Grand Trunk's t exceeded in sever this year and las respect suggest played by the w ment in the traffi

APPEAL BOARD While no defn received by Ell from Ottawa giv to the date of he the decisions of bunals, it is exp of Appeal, Judge called on the bo Friday, December ronto the boarda for a number of d notification from pated in Brantfo



For a lo have been u Brother or band to ye new glasse in place o styled, out efficient of trying to Christmas chance. G pair. Cons

JAF OPTICAL Consulting 52 M Phone 1280

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