

# The Sun Standard

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THURSDAY MORNING, JANUARY 31, 1918.

FAIR AND COLD.

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## Industrial Upheaval In Germany; Italians Take Monte Di Val Bella

### LARGE PART OF THE GERMAN EMPIRE IS IN THROES OF GIGANTIC POLITICAL AND INDUSTRIAL UPHEAVAL

### THE ITALIAN ARMY TAKES 2,600 MEN

### The Finances of The Vatican Will Undergo Reorganization Soon

Political and Economic Situation Develops Into Serious Strikes Due to Dissatisfaction by the Working Classes Over the Failure of Negotiations and Over Internal Political Conditions Generally—Throughout the Country Thousands Upon Thousands of the Working Classes, Both Men and Women, Have Struck and Many of the Great Manufactories and Industries Are Affected.

Half Million Persons Reported on Strike in Berlin and Hourly Those Who Have Quit Work Are Receiving Reinforcements—Trouble in Finland Grows—Italians Follow Up Victory and Capture Monte di Val Bella, Another Dominating Height on Asiago Plateau.

Transcending in interest even in the victory of the Italians over the Austrians on the northern battlefield is that in the political and economic situation in Germany. Here, apparently a large part of the country is in the throes of a great labor upheaval, due to dissatisfaction by the working classes over the failure of negotiations and over internal political conditions generally. Throughout the country thousands upon thousands of the working classes—both men and women—have struck and many of the great manufactories and industries are affected.

In Berlin, alone, nearly half a million persons are reported on strike, and hourly those who have quit work are receiving reinforcements. Likewise in Kiel, the great shipyard centre, at the Hamburg Iron Works and in the Rhinish Westphalian mine region workers have thrown down their tools and left their jobs.

Leaders of the Socialists—both of the independent and the majority factions—evidently are in control of the movement and for their pains a number of the independents have been ordered imprisoned. Hugo Hasse, of the independents and Philipp Scheidemann, the majority Socialist leader in the Reichstag, are heading their respective followers.

Advices received by way of Switzerland are to the effect that the Socialists have delivered an ultimatum to the government demanding the conclusion of a general peace without indemnities or annexations, participation by the workmen in peace discussions, amelioration of the food situation, the right of public asylum, the release of all political prisoners and the introduction of equal electoral suffrage by direct secret ballot.

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### SCOTIA MEN WANT MORE

### Conference at Ottawa to Settle Dispute at Mine Near New Glasgow.

Ottawa, Jan. 30.—Hon. T. W. Crothers, minister of labor, today met Messrs. Barrett and J. B. McLachlan, representing some employees of the Nova Scotia Steel Company, in an endeavor to adjust a wage dispute between the company and men. After a short discussion the conference was adjourned until tomorrow in order to allow the representative of the company, who was delayed by storms, to be present. It is stated that the trouble between the company and its employees arose over the opening of a small mine which employed twenty-five men, to whom the company paid the scale in operation in Sydney, \$3.36 per day. The miners demanded \$4.70. The union finally agreed to the differences between the two schedules pending a settlement of the matter.

The question of increasing coal production in Nova Scotia, in connection with plans to offset the fuel shortage will, it is understood, be considered at the meeting tomorrow.

### MAY CURTAIL INDUSTRIES

### Proposal to Close Non-Essential Establishments—Labor Conference.

Ottawa, Jan. 30.—The conference of the representatives of labor, with the war cabinet, was not resumed this morning. The labor men, the majority of whom have now arrived in the capital were in private session with J. C. Watters, president of the Dominion Trades and Labor Council, presiding. No statement was given out by the labor men who had under review the recommendations made by them to the government when they were in the capital recently. The presence at the present conference of representatives of the western provinces and the maritime provinces makes a general review of the situation necessary in order that the suggestions as finally submitted to the government will express the viewpoint of the labor men of the whole country.

It is understood that at this morning's session considerable time was devoted to the proposal to close non-essential industries but there were some differences of opinion as to what industries can be properly classed as non-essential.

### 800 PERSONS LOSE LIVES ON 2 SHIPS

### Transport Aragon, British Destroyer and Merchant Auxiliary Go Down

### FIRST TWO HIT BY TORPEDOES

### United States Pre-dreadnought Goes Ashore on a Sandbar.

### WILL LIKELY BE FLOATED

### Italians Lose Two Steamers of More Than 1,500 Tons and Two Sailing Ships.

London, Jan. 30.—An official statement concerning the sinking of vessels, says: "The transport Aragon, Captain Francis Bateman, commanding, was torpedoed and sunk in the eastern Mediterranean on December 30. A British destroyer, while picking up survivors from the Aragon, was herself torpedoed and sunk, as reported January 7.

"The mercantile steamer auxiliary Osmanieh, Lieut. Commander D. E. Mason, commanding, struck a mine and sank approximately in the same locality, December 31. These are the vessels referred to in the House of Commons on January 23.

"The casualties on the Aragon were: Officers, four; crew, 15; military officers, 16; soldiers, 581. Osmanieh officers, 8; crew, 21; military officers, one; soldiers, 160; female nurses, eight.

"Both captains were casualties."

Italian Losses.

Rome, Jan. 30.—Shipping losses for the week ending January 26 were two Italian steamers of more than 1,500 tons, and two sailing vessels under 100 tons. One steamer that was damaged was able to reach port.

Battleship Ground.

An Atlantic Port, Jan. 30.—While breaking ice in a channel near here today, a battleship of the pre-dreadnought type, went aground on a sandbar and tonight was still fast. She was said to be resting easily and officers expect to float her undamaged at the next high tide.

It developed tonight that the older battleships of the navy have been used on several occasions in opening shipping channels clogged with ice during the cold weather of the past few weeks.

### RAILWAY CHANGE

Special to The Standard.

Ottawa, Jan. 30.—Gordon Grant, C. E., formerly chief engineer on the National Transcontinental, has been appointed expert adviser to Hon. J. D. Reid, minister of railways.

### LIVES LOST IN BERLIN CLASHES

### Strikers and Soldiers in Collision, According to Geneva.

### TROOPS LOATH TO SHOOT MEN

### Field Marshal Von Hindenburg Warns the Strikers.

London, Jan. 30.—A despatch to the Daily Express from Geneva, reports that there have been clashes between soldiers and strikers in the suburbs of Berlin in which lives were lost. The despatch adds that the troops in some instances refused to fire on strikers.

Hindenburg Acts.

Amsterdam, Jan. 30.—The Rheinische Westfälische Zeitung, of Essen, a copy of which has been received here, reports that Field Marshal Von Hindenburg has warned the strikers in Berlin to cease their movement immediately. He told them, according to this newspaper, that they were being resisted, adding: "Every hour you lose means the weakening of Germany's defense. You are committing a crime against our army and an act of cowardice against your brethren in the front trenches."

Holiday Strikes?

Amsterdam, Jan. 30.—The Berlin correspondent of the Telegraph sends the following: "Not a sign of the strike can be observed in the Berlin streets. The general impression is that it is a so-called 'holiday' strike, which it is said will be limited to three days."

"The correspondent gained the impression at a meeting he attended that the strikers regard it more as a change after heavy work, and it bears no violent character. The workers gather at places, where meetings are convoked, but are directed by the police to the streets, where they are dispersed.

"According to the Vorwärts the movement originated with the workmen themselves, but it was resolved that both sectors of the social democrats should co-operate, as it was not desirable for the issuance of contrary orders. The railway men attempted to hold a meeting yesterday to consider the question of a strike, but they were dispersed by the police. Many arrests were made.

### ANOTHER MERGER OF STEAMSHIPS

Montreal, Jan. 30.—Announcement of a steamship merger that may mean a great deal to the development of British and Canadian after-the-war trade was made today at the Montreal office of the Cunard Line. The Cunard, the Anchor and the Anchor-Donaldson lines were joined under one management on January 1st. They will be operated, so far as their Canadian business is concerned, under the supervision of the Robert Redford Company instead of through American offices, as heretofore. Joint offices are established in Winnipeg and Vancouver.

### MONTREAL OFFICIAL AGAIN THREATENED

Montreal, Jan. 30.—Controller E. W. Villeneuve, who was murderously attacked a week ago and cut in the neck by a man lying in wait for him near his home, has received three threatening letters since. Prior to the attack he received a letter threatening his life. He attributes the threats to his campaign against gambling machines and the red light district.

### 2,600 MEN

### Six Guns and One Hundred Machine Guns Are Captured.

### AUSTRIANS HAVE MANY KILLED

### Italians Capture Important Stronghold of Monte Di Val Bella.

### COUNTER-ATTACKS ALL REPULSED

### Two of the Austrian Divisions Nearly Completely Destroyed.

Rome, Jan. 30.—More than 2,600 prisoners have been taken by the Italians in their successful attacks upon the Austrian lines on the Asiago Plateau, the war office announced today. Six guns and 100 machine guns also have been captured.

The Italian official statement today says: "The Austrians have been hounded with extreme violence the positions captured by the Italians. The Italian fire has been powerfully concentrated on points behind the enemy lines.

Heavy Austrian Losses.

"Extremely heavy losses were suffered by the Austrians, two of their divisions being almost completely wiped out. Col. Del Rosso was taken on Monday, and the Italian success was extended yesterday by the capture of Monte Di Val Bella.

"Our gallant troops in the plateau zone of the army successfully crowned yesterday the action begun on the eastern Asiago Plateau on Sunday by wresting from the enemy his positions to the west of the Frenzola Valley.

Important Capture.

"Col. Del Rosso and Col. Dechele, which are on the descent towards the western edge of the valley, having been taken on Monday and since then held with valor, the enemy in the region of Saassa Rosso was hard pressed and his numerous counter-attacks being repulsed with the bayonet, the success was yesterday extended by the capture of Monte Di Val Bella.

"The enemy suffered very heavy losses, and two of his divisions were nearly completely destroyed.

Many Prisoners.

"The war booty captured has not yet been completely specified, but includes, so far more than one hundred officers and 2,500 men, six guns of various calibres, about 100 machine guns, very numerous trench mortars, several thousand rifles and a very large quantity of ammunition and war materials of all kinds.

"The reaction of the hostile artillery on the positions taken was violent. Our fire was rapidly and powerfully concentrated on the most distant objectives.

"The enemy aircraft attempted many reconnoitering and offensive actions, but were effectively met by our machines and anti-aircraft fire, which during two days accounted for seventeen enemy machines."

### GUNNER MORRISON WAS POPULAR

Special to The Standard.

Fredericton, Jan. 30.—In the list of casualties issued today appears the name of Gunner J. Morrison of Sydney as having died of wounds. A few days ago it was announced that Gunner Morrison had been severely wounded and as a consequence had to have his left leg amputated. While in this city as a member of the 36th Battery of Artillery under Major Crowe, he made many friends who will be deeply grieved to learn that he has given his life.

### International Committee is to Be Formed to Handle Situation—Curtailed of Income of Holy See Due to War and Cutting off of Revenues—Pope Spends Thousands of Dollars on Charities in These War Times.

### Thomas F. Ryan of New York is Member of Committee Which Will Devise Ways and Means of Raising Funds and Possibly World-Wide Loan May Be Underwritten—Finances in Alarming Condition, Declares Cardinal Gasparri.



POPE BENEDICT XV

Rome, Jan. 30.—An international committee is to be formed to reorganize the finances of the Vatican, which Cardinal Gasparri, papal secretary of state, reports are in an alarming condition. The committee, one of whose members is to be Thomas F. Ryan of New York, will be called upon to devise means of obtaining funds, possibly by the underwriting of a world-wide loan. The Vatican's usual sources of revenue, such as rentals from properties and gifts from Mexico, Belgium, France, Austria and the United States have been reduced or cut off by war conditions.

Under the present system of financial administration the Pope acts as treasurer of the Vatican, having in his office a safe in which he deposits the funds to be disbursed. When the safe is empty the Holy See nominally is bankrupt.

### KICKED BY HORSE, DIES FROM COLD

### Maine Man, Helpless, Perishes in Lonely Farm House.

Bangor, Jan. 30.—Charles P. Leighton, aged 65, was found dead yesterday in his home on the Fuller road, where he had lived alone since the death of his brother a year ago. Dr. E. T. Nealey, county medical examiner, decided that death had been caused by cold, Leighton having been rendered helpless by the kick of a horse on Monday, and thus left without fire, food or attendance through one of the bitterest nights of the winter.

### MACAULAY RESIGNS

Ottawa, Jan. 30.—Mr. T. B. Macaulay, who for three months has served as Dominion chairman of the national committee on food resources, has tendered his resignation to the food controller and it has been accepted.

In his letter Mr. Macaulay said that he felt that the food controller should be free to reorganize the department in any way that he might find desirable.

### WOOD ALCOHOL KILLS WOMAN

### Spirits Deadly in Halifax and Man Half Blind.

Halifax, Jan. 30.—Elizabeth Sanchez, age 22, colored, married, was found dead in bed today, following a carousal at which the principal beverage was "alcohol split" a substitute for real liquor. A young colored man who also participated in the Victoria General Hospital half blind and still unconscious. His condition is serious. The tragedy was caused by the purchase of a bottle of Columbian spirits, or wood alcohol, in mistake for pure alcohol.

### CASUALTIES

Ottawa, Jan. 30.—Tonight's list of 22 casualties reports two Canadian soldiers died of wounds, two died, five wounded and thirteen ill.

Maritime names:

Infantry.

Peter Thomas, Tracadie, N. B.

Died of Wounds.

G. C. McKay, Darnley, P. E. I.