

OUTBREAK LOOMING UP IN GERMANY

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CLEARING.

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AUSTRIANS RETREATING!

THE FIRST PHASE OF AUSTRIAN OFFENSIVE ENDS IN FAILURE

From the Montello Plateau To the Adriatic Sea the Enemy Is In Retreat and Piave River Is Literally Clogged With His Dead—Italians Pursue Austrians, Inflicting Further Heavy Losses.

Estimated That Austrian Losses In Present Campaign Were 180,000 Men—Attacks of Italians and Allies and Swollen Condition of River Demoralizes Great Army of Emperor Karl.

The first phase of the Austrian offensive has ended in failure—in defeat. The culmination of what was intended to be a crushing of Italy between the jaws of the Austrian pincers is the rout of the invaders themselves. With their backs to the swollen Piave river the Austrians for several days past had been trying to ward off the vicious counter-attacks of the Italians and save the situation. Now they are endeavoring, and still under great pressure, to ford the stream and reach safety on its eastern bank.

From the Montello Plateau to the Adriatic Sea the enemy is in retreat. The river is literally clogged with dead. Already his losses are estimated at 180,000 men and the chances of his escape without additionally heavy casualties and men made prisoner seem remote.

Large numbers of the pontoon bridges the Austrians threw across the Piave have been swept away by the now torrential stream, and on all the sectors of the thirty-three mile front where they gained edges of the Venetian Plain they are being sorely harassed by the fire of the Italian guns and rifles and by the machine gun fire and bombs of the allied aviators who have done such notable execution since the Austrian offensive.

Monster preparations have been made by the Austrians for what was to be the death blow of King Victor Emmanuel's men. Thousands upon thousands of men, many of them brought from the Russian and Rumanian fronts and guns and stores in tremendous quantities had been parceled among the various commanders for the drive over a battle area of virtually one hundred miles, running from the Asiago Plateau to the Piave River and then following that stream to the sea.

Undoubtedly the Austrian high command had built largely for success on the belief that the Italian morale had been shattered when last year their great pinchers had closed in upon the Italian front and forced back the line in a great semi-circle from the Julian Alps to the Piave and from the Mountains in the north almost to the plains of Venetia.

Such a belief, however, was entirely erroneous. From the first onslaught the enemy met a rejuvenated army which fought with the greatest gallantry never ceding an inch of ground unless it was dearly paid for. Aiding the Italians in the mountains were British and French armies, who also fought nobly and everywhere defeated the enemy.

Large numbers of the enemy have been reported recently as coming up behind the northern lines in the mountain region, and it is not improbable that shortly the second phase of the battle will begin. Complete confidence is felt in the Italian and other commands, however, that the enemy will meet its end at the hands of the most foemen of superior quality and that his efforts will go for naught.

On the battle fronts in France and Flanders the Germans are holding their men to the trenches, except for small attacks here and there. There is no indication that for the present

BRITISH AND FRENCH BEST THE GERMANS

The Former Successfully Raid Teuton Lines Near Morlancoeur.

ENEMY ATTACK NEAR MERRIS REPULSED

The French Thrust Out Germans Who Invaded Some Trenches.

London, June 23.—British troops last night successfully raided the German lines near Morlancoeur and Bucquoy and captured a number of prisoners says the British war office announcement today. A strong German attack west of Merris was repulsed.

The text of the statement reads: "Yesterday evening a strong local attack delivered after a heavy bombardment upon our positions west of Merris was completely repulsed. A number of prisoners were captured by us during the night in successful raids in the neighborhood of Morlancoeur and at Bucquoy. Hostile artillery was active last night in the neighborhood of Aveluy Wood."

London, June 23.—The report from Field Marshal Haig's headquarters in France, issued tonight follows: "There is nothing of special interest to report from the British front."

French Statement.

Paris, June 23.—German forces last night attacked the entente allied positions at Bligny, also eight miles southwest of Rheims, and succeeded temporarily in gaining a footing in the allied trenches. A vigorous counter-attack instituted by Italian troops, however, quickly ejected the enemy, and reestablished the line in its entirety.

French troops last night executed a number of raids between Montdidier and the Oise, returning with a number of prisoners. "Between the Marne and Rheims the Germans attacked Mont Bligny, where they succeeded in obtaining a footing for a moment. Italian troops by a vigorous counter-attack ejected the enemy and seized a number of prisoners. Our line was completely re-established.

"The night was calm on the rest of the front." The war office announcement tonight says:—"The day was calm along the whole front."

"Eastern theatre, June 22.—Violent storms have prevented activity along the Serbian front. In the region of Sina Pranta, in the upper Devol Valley, we repulsed enemy detachments who left some prisoners in our hands."

CAPT. OXLEY HONORED BY HIS MAJESTY

Gallant Son of Halifax Postmaster Gets Military Cross.

Halifax, June 23.—In a supplementary list of the King's birthday honors, the name of Captain E. D. V. Oxley, of the First North Staffordshire regiment, Imperial Army, appeared as the recipient of the Military Cross. The officer, who is a present assistant to Brigade Major of the 2nd infantry brigade, is a son of Colonel Oxley, postmaster of Halifax. Captain Oxley was severely wounded in action in March, 1915, and in May, 1916.

Entente Allies Are In Much Better Position Than Seven Days Ago

Special Cable to New York Tribune and St. John Standard (By Hilaire Belloc).

London, June 23.—The situation at the beginning of the week finds the Allies in a much better position than they were seven days ago. On the west front the French have thrown back the German attempt to envelope Rheims, thereby stiffening the resistance power of the whole allied line.

In Italy the Allies have achieved their greatest success. What looked to be a repetition of last year's offensive against Italy has been turned into a serious defeat for Austria. The Austrians planned carefully and desperately to strike one terrible blow against Italy and crush her at the outset, thereby eliminating her from the war, which would then be decided on the west front, where the combined strength of the Central Empires could be hurled against the Allies to bring a speedy decision. The first two days the weight of the Austrian push forced the Italians to retreat across the Piave, although the line held in the Alps regions, the most important strategically. Then brilliant counter attacks held the Austrians all along the front, and in several places forced them back. None of the enemy's objectives have been attained, and the long heralded offensive gives every sign of being dead.

There has been retirement on the Montello region by the enemy lately. The other holding of importance was the position which the enemy enjoyed on the extreme left of the line, the region above Venice.

PROTESTANTS OF GUELPH ACTIVE

Clergy Inclined To Get After the Law Makers As Result of Jesuit College Students' Case—Meeting in Toronto Today—Anglican Clergy Keep Out of Quarrel.

Quelph, Ont., June 23.—No longer is the Guelph Ministerial Association confining itself to the charges preferred against the Jesuit Novitiate of St. Stanislaus in which it was alleged that institution was sheltering defaulters under the Military Service Act. Members of the association intimidated from the pulpits today that the real quarrel is with the law-makers of the land.

Hon. C. J. Doherty's statement is referred to by some as only an evasion. Tomorrow's meeting is to be held in Toronto at which it was understood one or more members of parliament will be present, to consider what further action shall be instituted.

Anglicans Silent.

References were made to the affair at several of the Protestant churches today. The Anglican clergy refrained from taking any part. Rev. W. D. Spence, president of the Guelph Ministerial Association, was the most outspoken in his remarks. The clergy were careful to explain that the association of itself made no charges, but merely voiced those preferred by the military authorities. Mr. Spence declared that there had been veiled threats that some of the Protestant ministers of the city might find themselves in jail.

Emphasized that what was wanted was justice to both sides. A statement was drawn up by a committee of ministerial association on Saturday which formed the basis for all references tonight. Briefly, it is as follows: "That our attitude is not one of religious intolerance; the issues involved are issues of universal interest and, consequently, of universal obligation; the association has not initiated this matter, nor has it been inspired by gossip; the association makes no charges, but seeks investigation of charges made by authorities; the M. S. A. holds anyone responsible who shields a defaulter, an institution behind the lines."

Paris, June 23.—The Matin's correspondent at the front, after referring to the renewal of the enemy activity since the cessation of operations between Soissons and Rheims says: "It is certainly against this point that the German push will be directed. All precautions have been taken to counter the German plans. Nothing is more reassuring than the measures of defence which have been carried out on the front, as well as behind the lines."

REVOLT IN GERMANY IS NOW CONSIDERED

Internal Situation Both Among Civilians and in the Army Bids Fair To Resolve Itself Into An Uprising Against the Imperial Government—Germans Are Sullen.

Reported Attempt To Assassinate Emperor Karl of Austria—Entire Austrian Cabinet Tenders Its Resignation To Monarch Who Takes Time To Consider.

An Atlantic Port, June 23.—Germany, war weary and ill-fed, is in a state of unrest so acute that talk of revolt against the imperial government is common among both military and the civil populations, according to American who arrived here tonight on a Norwegian liner, after long residence in Germany or adjacent neutral countries.

Officers and men, the voyagers said, had told them of a sullenness which is widespread in the German army, predicting that it would reach the point where the troops would refuse to fight.

"You see that I wear the coat of the Kaiser; I only wish that you could know the feeling that lies beneath it, for we are not going to stand this forever" a German major told Miss Olga Wursberg, of Grand Rapids, according to her story on coming ashore.

The conversation, she declared, took place in a hospital at Godesberg, Germany, where the officer talked freely to her, not suspecting that she was an American. Under the same conditions, she declared a private soldier said to her:

Poor Morale. Attempt on Charles. London, June 23.—Reports are current on the Amsterdam Exchange today that an attempt has been made on the life of Emperor Charles of Austria, says a Central News despatch from Amsterdam. The reports are unconfirmed.

Austrian Cabinet Quits. Paris, June 23.—(Havas Agency.)—After a meeting with Emperor Charles of Austria on Friday, says a despatch from Zurich, Switzerland, Premier Seydler presented the resignation of the entire cabinet. The Emperor said he would decide on Sunday whether to accept the resignation.

SIXTY PEOPLE OF A CIRCUS KILLED

Chicago, June 23.—Sixty-two persons were killed and one hundred and 29 injured yesterday when a Hagenbach-Wallace circus train was run into between Michigan City and Hammond, Ind., on the Michigan Central railroad. Four coaches in which members of the circus were sleeping were demolished by a rear end collision. The show was travelling in two sections going from Michigan City to Hammond. At East Ivanhoe a hot box caused the second section to stop. A train of empty pullmans coming to Chicago crashed into it, the locomotive ploughing its way through the way car and four sleeping coaches. The injured were taken to hospitals at Hammond and Gary.

Ed. Ballard, owner of the circus, estimated the dead at 85 and the injured at seventy-five. A number of valuable horses are believed to have perished also.

According to reports, the circus train which carried four sleepers, five stock cars, 15 flat cars and a caboose, pulled part way into a switch and stalled there on account of a hot box. The trainman went back on the main track and set fuses as a warning of danger. The circus train was in this position when the equipment train plowed into the sleepers, reducing them to a pile of twisted steel and

RAID IN MONCTON

Special to The Standard. Moncton, June 23.—Two men and two women were scooped in by the police Saturday morning in a raid on a house. The proprietress of the house was convicted and fined thirty dollars or three months, and one of the men twenty or two months. The case of the other persons is to be tried Monday.