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Italians Restore Line.

Last Rearguard of Enemy Surrenders. Both Banks of Piave Occupied. Canadians Good Work. Irish Affairs in Commons.

ITALIAN LINE RESTORED.

LONDON, June 25. The Italian line along the Piave has been restored right up to the water's edge on the west bank of the river, the Evening Standard's advice to-day report. The Piave, it is added, began rising again washing away some of the bridges the Italians had thrown across the stream thus hindering their pursuit of the enemy.

ITALIAN OFFICIAL.

ROME, June 25. (Official.) During yesterday the troops of the third army having obliged the last rearguard of the enemy to surrender, completely reoccupied the right bank of the Piave, capturing 18 officers and 1,607 of other ranks. In the Teno area our Alpini in a successful surprise attack captured all the garrison of an enemy advanced post southeast of Punta Di Brocavolo. On the Asiago Plateau in the course of raids on the slopes of Monte Di Val Della, 102 prisoners were captured. Along the northwest front of the Grappa our troops were in action. Combined with heavy concentrations of artillery, infantry thrusts carried out inflicted heavy losses upon the enemy and gained us considerable advantageous ground. We took 7 officers and 1,500 of other ranks and 16 machine guns. During the day, yesterday, and last night our airships carried out effective bombardments. On June 23-24 nine enemy planes were brought down.

NUMBER OF PRISONERS TAKEN.

LONDON, June 25. (Via Reuter's Ottawa Agency.)—Reuter's correspondents at Italian headquarters telegraphs that it is estimated that the Italians have taken twenty thousand Austrian prisoners since the commencement of the offensive.

AUSTRIANS IN FULL RETREAT.

WASHINGTON, June 25. An official despatch from Rome to-day says the Austrians are in full retreat and that papers taken from prisoners show that Austria had not contemplated the possibility of defeat and was promising her soldiers this offensive would be the last stroke to oust Italy out of the war.

REPORT CONFIRMED.

WASHINGTON, June 25. A despatch to the Italian Embassy from Rome to-day confirmed the announcement yesterday, that prisoners taken by Italians in the fighting at the Piave River numbered forty-five thousand captured during the past week before the Austrian offensive was turned into a rout.

CANADIAN RAIDS.

LONDON, June 25. (Via Reuter's Ottawa Agency.)—A despatch from British Headquarters reports that last night's raid by the Canadians were carried out with that dash and completeness that always distinguishes the Canadians in such affairs. They captured about ten machine guns and a trench mortar. South of the Scarpe, says the despatch, we took six prisoners. Our success in this obtaining information from raids contrasts with the two complete failures of the enemy capture one of our posts northwest of Merris. We learn from enemy despatches that they were cleverly acquired from the enemy, he has been made uneasy by his lack of information regarding our Flanders front and that he has laid great stress on the capture of at least one prisoner from whom information might be obtained. The result in this particular instance was the capture, not by, but of the officer to whom the mission had been entrusted.

AUSTRIAN REPORT.

VIENNA, June 25. The Italian losses since the Austrian offensive began, have aggregated 150,000 men at the lowest estimate, says the Austrian official statement issued to-day. Since June 16th more than 50,000 prisoners, among them about 1,100 officers, have been taken the statement adds.

FRENCH OFFICIAL.

PARIS, June 25. (Official.) Between the Oise and the Aisne, raids enabled us to take prisoners. The artillery action was spirited in many sectors south of the Aisne particularly in the region of Sillery-Poterie. On June 24th 58 enemy machines were downed or fell damaged. More than four tons of bombs were dropped on aviation grounds in the Aisne region. On the right bank of the Vardar the enemy artillery shell our batteries and bombed our positions northwest of Nyrado. On the Serbian front, enemy detachments which tried to reach our lines were repulsed. North of the Devol we improved our positions occupying Drmasi. In the course of aerial operations during the day, two enemy machines were brought down, and one was forced to land in a damaged state.

BRITISH OFFICIAL.

LONDON, June 25. (Official.) Canadian troops raided the enemy's trenches last night at Neuve Vitas and brought back 25 prisoners and 6 machine guns. A few prisoners and machine gun were captured by us in a successful raid south of the Scarpe. The artillery has been active during the night between Villers Bretonneux, south of Avion (Lens region) and west of Neville (Flanders front), as shells being freely employed.

GOVERNMENT OF IRELAND.

LONDON, June 25. An important debate was opened in the House of Commons to-day by Sir Edward Carson, the Ulster leader, who in accordance with a previous arrangement raised the whole question of the Government's policy in Ireland with special reference to the recent proclamation of the Lord Lieutenant and the recruiting movement. The

occasion had been awaited with much interest, as it was known that Edward Shortt would make his first speech as Chief Secretary for Ireland, while it was also expected generally that Premier Lloyd George would have an important declaration regarding Home Rule and Conscription. Anticipation that the Irish Nationalists would avail themselves of the occasion and return to Westminster after an absence of several weeks was not fulfilled, and the debate lacked some interest on that account. The Nationalists, however, have no intention of making their withdrawal from Parliament permanent. John Dillon, the Irish leader, declared Monday that they would return when the anti-conscription conference in Dublin has completed its sittings and a favorable movement had arrived. Several members favoring the establishment of Federal Government within the United Kingdom were notified to submit a resolution for the creation of such subordinate legislation, and the Premier will receive during the course of the day a deputation of members representing all parties who support the proposed measure.

Edward Shortt, Chief Secretary for Ireland, speaking in the House of Commons yesterday on the Irish question, said he hoped to satisfy the House that the German plot in Ireland was a real and imminent danger to this country. He said he was satisfied that both the clergy and the Nationalists had used their influence respectively to assist in keeping the peace. He said the Government had found that Germany was in touch with Ireland, that not only were messages going to Ireland from a German source, but they were going from Irish sources to Germany. The collapsible boat, in which the man who is now a prisoner, landed in Ireland from a submarine, Mr. Shortt said, was made of canvas similar to that made at Harver before the war. Mr. Shortt said the Government knew that in a certain part of Germany a large amount of ammunition was loaded into a German submarine, and moreover submarines had been seen in localities where the destruction of shipping couldn't have been their objective.

KEPT BUSY.

AN ATLANTIC PORT, June 25. The blockading of the port of New York, the raiding of Boston and Atlantic City and the "aerial bombing" of American cities as far west as St. Louis by German U-boats at Gotham, as narrated in pamphlets dropped by Hun aviators all along the Allied lines in France, according to passengers aboard a French steamship which arrived here to-day.

BIG PER CENTAGE COMBATANTS.

WASHINGTON, June 25. Between 65 and 70 per cent of the 900,000 American soldiers who have been sent to France are actually combatant troops. Secretary Baker said to-day. These figures are necessarily rough estimates, he said. Naturally I wouldn't care to deal with specific figures in this connection. Mr. Baker called attention to the fact that the landing of the first American division in France, "I regard the achievements of that past year as entirely satisfactory," he said.

JAPAN'S DECISION.

TOKIO, June 25. The newspapers report that as a result of the deliberations of the Advisory Board on diplomatic affairs, Japan has decided not to comply with the request of the Entente, and to refrain from intervention in Siberia at present. In diplomatic circles it is believed Japan, unless directly menaced, will not act without the support of the United States.

WHAT AUSTRALIA HAS DONE.

LONDON, June 24. (Via Reuter's Ottawa Agency.)—Striking figures showing Australia's great war effort, were given by Premier Hughes, the Australian leader, at an Australasian luncheon given to-day. It would be shown that Australia had enlisted 426,000 soldiers, and that nearly 320,000 men had been transported 14,000 miles to the front. Australia alone organized and paid for the equipment, maintenance and the transportation of this great army. For the past two years she maintained five divisions in France, the equivalent of one cavalry division in Egypt and Palestine, and kept up all the grades to strength by voluntary enlistment. The Royal Australian Navy exceeded 9,000 officers and men. Australia bore the whole cost of the Australian Army, which during the war was placed entirely under the control of the Imperial Naval authorities. Although the Australian population was barely 5,000,000, considerably over 8 per cent enlisted. 48,770 had been killed in action and 133,000 wounded. Premier Hughes continuing, stated that he was proud to be able to say that only 3,274 had surrendered to the enemy, and this was principally owing to their wounds. In other words Australia, one of the most sparsely populated countries in the world, had lost approximately one per cent of her population and over two per cent of her male population. The total war expenditure exceeded £220,000,000 up to the end of the present month. Australia would bear the cost of re-equipping all her troops, re-establishing them in civil life and an estimated cost of £22,000,000. The Commonwealth Pensions' Liability already exceeded £3,500,000. Australia did not complain under these heavy burdens, as her heart was in the war. The Premier concluded with a strong appeal for settlers.

BIG INCOME TAX.

NEW YORK, June 25. Someone made a Federal income tax payment of \$14,000,000 here to-day, the last day of the payment of the tax before a five per cent penalty is imposed. Collector Edwards announced the receipt of such a sum from an individual, but declined to

disclose his identity. He is obviously one of the richest men in the United States.

BAGGING RAIDERS.

LONDON (via Reuter's Ottawa Agency), June 25.—A despatch from British Headquarters yesterday evening says that confirmation had been received from German sources regarding the loss of German machines in the air raid over London on the 19th and 20th of May. In addition to seven of the squadron, numbering twenty, which were accounted for, it now appears that three more machines crashed on landing. It had been known for some time that landing these powerful bombing machines proves very difficult in the hands of those accustomed to another type of machine. A large number of learners have been killed by machines destroyed in German air-dromes, and it is now known that even experts after long flights are by no means at the end of their troubles when the shores of Great Britain have been laid safely behind.

SETTLE IRISH QUESTION.

LONDON, To-day. In the House of Commons to-day the Premier urged the need of settling the Irish question, because it was increasing the difficulties not merely of the British Government, but of the U. S. Government in conducting the war.

AUSTRIAN OFFICIAL.

VIENNA, June 25. (Official.)—In the Montello region and south of it the enemy is feeling his way to the Piave with patrols. In the San Dona Di Piave district covering troops which are protecting the crossing of our divisions have had to ward off strong attacks during the past few days. Here we have been able to carry out our movement in accordance with our plans and without loss of material.

HAIG'S REPORT.

LONDON, June 25. Haig's report merely says that there is nothing of special interest to report.

RUSSIA IS NOW TO BLAME.

AMSTERDAM, To-day. The chief blame for instigating the war was laid at Russia's door by Dr. Von Kuehlmann, the German Foreign Secretary, in an address to the Reichstag yesterday, in which he also dealt with Germany's war aims. France and England were named as the next powers in the order of culpability. "I believe," said Dr. Von Kuehlmann, "that one can say without fear of contradiction as the result of revelations, that the deeper cause of the causes of this war the clearer it becomes that the nation which planned and desired the war was Russia; that it was Russia which played the role as instigator, and that England's policy has very dark pages to show. Referring to Germany's war aims, Dr. Von Kuehlmann said, "I wish for the German people and our allies a free, strong, independent existence, with boundaries drawn for us by history. We desire overseas possessions corresponding to our greatness and wealth, the freedom of the sea carrying our trade to all parts of the world."

DRAWING TO-MORROW.

WASHINGTON, To-day. Thursday of this week was fixed by the War Department to-day as the date for the drawing to establish the draft order of nearly 800,000 young men of 21, who registered for military service on June 5th.

RIGHT HON. LLOYD GEORGE.

LONDON (via Reuter's Ottawa Agency), June 25. — Premier Lloyd George was to-day sworn as a member of the Privy Council at Buckingham Palace.

HONG KONG MAKES FURTHER GIFT.

LONDON (via Reuter's Ottawa Agency), June 25.—It is announced that Hong Kong is making a further gift of £250,000 to the Imperial Government towards war expenses.

EXPLOSION IN MONTREAL.

MONTREAL, June 25. Four hundred cases of dynamite exploded to-day at 3 p.m. about three quarters of a mile from the entrance to the C. N. R. tunnel at Model city, near here. It was reported in a share which in some manner not yet ascertained caught fire. The smoke was seen by the watchman who gave the warning to a number of workmen, thus affording them time to escape. There are no lives lost and comparatively little damage to property. The tunnel itself is not affected, and the shock itself was felt all over Montreal, and in the northern suburbs. Whole blocks are without power. Windows were broken within a radius of four miles, and there are isolated cases of broken windows as far as eight miles from the scene of the explosion. Though many wild rumours of earthquake, German plots and confagurations and the like spread over the city, there was no panic, the police and the firemen being on the spot within a few minutes of the explosion.

ASQUITH'S APPEAL.

LONDON, June 25. Asquith again appealed to the government to refer the Irish question to the Dominions' Conference.

VON SEYDLER'S SUCCESSOR.

AMSTERDAM, June 25. Vienna papers received here say that Minister of Railway Bauhaus will succeed Dr. Von Seydler as Premier of Austria. It is asserted that the other members of the Cabinet who tendered their resignations with Dr. Von Seydler have been induced to remain in office.

Military Tribunal.

Yesterday the individual members of the Military Tribunal delivered their findings in a large number of cases covering Commissioners' reports, and later jointly considered twenty-five applications in which appeals or the agents were present. Since the passing of the Military Service Act upwards of 2,500 applications for exemption have been made.

Rev. Dr. Curtis Elected President Meth. Conference.

As we go to press the information reaches us that Dr. L. Curtis has been elected President of the Methodist Conference. This is the second time the learned Doctor has received this honor. Congratulations!

To-Day's Messages.

10.00 A. M.

THE IRISH SITUATION.

TORONTO, To-day. The Belfast correspondent of the Evening Telegram cables to-day, "opinion generally in Ireland is that the Dillonite party has practically ceased to exist. At Tralee the Sinn Feiners, despite police warning, insisted on celebrating the East Cavan victory when a crowd stoned the police, who after many hard fights cleared the streets. Practically every town and village in the south and west celebrated. It was the Dublin Constabulary that raided a grain store in Smithfield market, Dublin, and seized 40,000 rounds of ammunition, which was concealed in 122 corn sacks, representing part of a consignment said to have been run into a remote port a few days ago. No attempt was made to interfere with the seizure at Limerick. Bishop Fogarty denounced conscription as the most oppressive form of slavery and no country but Catholic Ireland had the courage to stand up against it. Fr. O'Flanagan, of Sligo, yesterday, said Irishmen must elect men who understood the Irish question. Jas. Dillon, Lloyd George and their successors would probably settle it in 2,000 years."

POSTER PROMISES.

LONDON, To-day. Mr. Shortt, in the Commons, said since Dr. Freeman had announced the Government's policy with regard to Ireland, circumstances had entirely changed, there being two main causes for the change. The first and most far reaching cause was the discovery of a German plot in Ireland, which he hoped he would be able to satisfy the House was a real and imminent danger to the country. In addition, there was the fact that the feeling in Ireland against conscription, and the movement which necessarily followed that feeling had been used by the extremists in a physical movement in conjunction with the German plot. The speaker said he had for a moment said that any substantial proportion of those in Ireland who were opposed to conscription had any intimation that they were being used to further a German plot. He said that Sinn Feiners had been captured in the anti-conscription riots. When he and Viscount French went to Ireland, they had there appearances of seditious propaganda in the form of poems, pamphlets and notices posted on the walls, inducing the people to aid any German force that might land in the country. "Any straw and fodder, taken by the German army," one of these posters read, "will be paid for by Germany."

HAVE AMPLE PROOFS.

Mr. Shortt, in his speech, quoted excerpts from many speeches that had been delivered, urging illegal drilling for the purpose of assisting Germany, and said the sources of information upon which the Government relied to show that German intrigue existed were proved true when tested by subsequent events. He said he had traced the activity of German agents in Ireland from 1911, and said that at the beginning of the war, a pamphlet entitled "Ireland, Germany and the freedom of the seas," had been in circulation in Ireland. It was here, the speaker said, that he was working in a share which in some manner not yet ascertained caught fire. The smoke was seen by the watchman who gave the warning to a number of workmen, thus affording them time to escape. There are no lives lost and comparatively little damage to property. The tunnel itself is not affected, and the shock itself was felt all over Montreal, and in the northern suburbs. Whole blocks are without power. Windows were broken within a radius of four miles, and there are isolated cases of broken windows as far as eight miles from the scene of the explosion. Though many wild rumours of earthquake, German plots and confagurations and the like spread over the city, there was no panic, the police and the firemen being on the spot within a few minutes of the explosion.

KUEHLMANN'S BUNKUM.

AMSTERDAM, To-day. In the course of his address in the Reichstag Dr. Von Kuehlmann paid tribute to the neutral states which had refused to make the suffering of wounded prisoners, and which had offered if need be, the hospitality of their countries for a discussion between the belligerents. He added, any fears that some change might occur in the strict observance of Spanish neutrality appears to be at present in no way justified. In America some small states under the ever increasing pressure of the U. S., have joined the Al-

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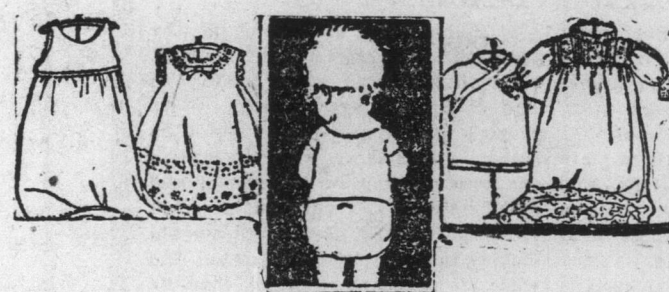


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Von Hindenburg's Colossal Offensive Has Failed.

By WILLIAM PHILIP SIMES.

WITH THE BRITISH ARMIES IN FRANCE, June 21. — To-day, three months from the beginning of Hindenburg's colossal offensive, his promised "Speedy Victory" is not achieved.

From now on the strength of his army must decrease. If the Allies fight during the next three months as they have in the past, the beginning of the end is in sight. This does not mean that the peace will then be at hand, but the road to victory ought to be stretched out ahead. The West Front is now seething, rumbling and smoking like a chain of volcanoes, between eruptions. Those of us who are resting at the lips of the craters, are watching to see where the next explosion will come. Will it be in one of the same spots, or a new place. One thing is certain, the Germans to-day

are weaker numerically, and morally, than at the beginning of the offensive. From prisoners it is learned that fewer German divisions are now on the West Front than there were a month ago. Furthermore, Hindenburg has now flung practically every reserve division into the offensive. From now on the campaign must be carried on by divisions which already have been through the mill at least once. To-day there are not more than five absolutely fresh divisions, which have not been in this offensive. Barely a baker's dozen exists which have not yet participated in the drives. In addition to these more than thirty divisions have been withdrawn from one active front and have been training and resting for three weeks. Altogether, Hindenburg has about fifty divisions available for immediate action, whereas eighty-one were used during the first week of the Somme thrust, these being absolutely fresh and specially trained for their work. Another important factor is the slightly waning morale of the German troops. At the start of the drives they were aroused to a feverish pitch by expectancy. The professional dopsters told them that nothing could stop Hindenburg's new war machine which, when once started, would run over everything, straight to victory. But the war machine keeps running down. Four successive times after a flying start, it has come to a dead halt. The Germans naturally are beginning to suspect that those beautiful stories were somewhat fishy. Although Hindenburg still has a punch left, it is not as powerful as it was on March 23rd. There are stirring times ahead for the Allies. Hindenburg will strike again and again until the last faint glimmer of hope is gone. Then he will make a last big effort to bamboozle the Allies into the belief that they are on the verge of complete annihilation. But everything points to the fact that Hindenburg has reached, if not passed, his maximum power.

Corn Meal.

Just Arrived:
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GEO. NEAL