

## ANNOUNCEMENT OF ITALY'S DECISION TO TAKE PLUNGE MAY COME TODAY

### PARTYISM BURIED AND ALL ITALY UNITED FOR WAR TO A FINISH

Germany Hoping Against Hope that Italy Will Stay Out, and Rumors of New Offers by Austria, But Demonstrations Point to War and Final Preparations Being Rushed—Frontier Towns in Hands of Military.

Italian Frontier, via Paris, May 19.—The frontier towns of Udine, Belluno, Verona and Brescia, as well as their respective provinces, are entirely in the hands of the military authorities, and trains carrying field guns, horses, troops, ammunition and provisions are congesting all the lines. The peasants' houses are occupied by officers, every family being obliged, according to their size and means, to provide lodging, and in some cases meals, for one or more officers.

The spirit of the Italian troops is excellent, and the officers are full of confidence, not only because of the enthusiasm displayed by the men, but by reason of the superiority of arms which they carry.

It is said that Italy possesses the most powerful machine guns in existence, capable of firing 1,400 bullets a minute, covering an area of 500 square yards. Italy has also adopted a new type of gun-carriage, enabling the transport even up steep mountains of heavy siege guns, through a mechanism in the carriage which propels the cannon.

Twenty-nine thousand Carabineers have been recalled under the colors and there are about 50,000 select troops which can be used for scouting and advance guard service. But 10,000 of these have been grouped into four regiments, to which has been entrusted the flag which the Carabineers carried in 1848, when, under the leadership of King Charles Albert himself, they defeated the Austrians.

A large contingent of Italian soldiers are wearing uniforms made of cloth originally intended for Austria, but sequestered as contraband of war. The cloth is somewhat different in color than that worn by the rest of the Italian army, being of a deeper green hue.

The greatest anxiety is felt for Venice, where large platforms have been hastily constructed for new batteries to protect the town. The danger to the monuments from aeroplanes is recognized. Protective measures, it is known, have also been taken in Florence, Rome and Naples, since the Austrians can easily reach these towns from the Dalmatian coast.

#### Germany Still Has Faint Hopes

Rome, May 19, via Paris.—The statement of the German Chancellor before the Reichstag yesterday shows that Germany is still hoping against hope that Italy may not join in the war against Austria. At the same time the overwhelming evidence here is that the whole country is united and calling for war on its traditional foe.

Dr. Von Bethmann-Hollweg's official announcement of the actual concessions offered by Austria has not tended to improve the situation, as no mention was made of either Gorizia or the Dalmatian Islands, promising allusions to which were made in the semi-official statements published from time to time in the newspapers and presumed to come from Prince Von Buelow, the German Ambassador.

The days of Italy's regeneration are recalled by the events of the present. Apparently there are no factions in Italy now, all differences having been laid aside for the time being.

Those who have been advocating intervention in the war, and those who have been working in the interest of peace have ceased to express their views and are awaiting the action of the government. Seemingly there exist no longer monarchicals or republicans, clericals or radicals, socialists or conservatives, but only Italians, determined to fight to the last man, if that should be necessary, to maintain and develop in Europe the world position won by their forefathers.

King Victor Emmanuel visited the barracks today without an escort. He was recognized and acclaimed with the same enthusiasm and fervor as his grandfather on the eve of those eventful campaigns of 1859 and 1866. Queen Helena and the Duchess of Aosta, on leaving the Quirinal, were the object of an affectionate manifestation, in which the people shouted for victory for Italy, for Montenegro and Serbia.

#### Demonstration in Milan

Paris, May 19.—Lieut. Gen. Count Cadorna, Italian chief of staff, has arrived with his staff at Vienna, near the Austrian frontier.

Several servants, having in charge heavy baggage bearing the monogram of Prince Von Buelow, German Ambassador at Rome, arrived at Chiasso, Switzerland, yesterday. Freight traffic between Italy and Germany by way of Switzerland has been stopped. Cheering crowds carried British and French flags through the streets of Milan yesterday.

Amsterdam, via London, May 19 (9:37 a.m.).—The Cologne Gazette says it learns from Bernes that the Austrian and German consuls-general left Rome yesterday with their staffs.

Basel, Switzerland, May 19.—Mobilization of troops is continuing rapidly in Upper Italy. Many trains are leaving Milan, carrying soldiers in the direction of the frontier posts.

London, May 19, (11:30 p.m.).—The Copenhagen correspondent of the Exchange Telegraph Company sends the following:

### CZERNOWITZ, CAPITAL OF BUCKOWNA, AGAIN FALLS TO THE RUSSIANS

Austrian Extreme Left Wing Broken by Czar's Troops.

WEATHER PUTS STOP TO FIGHTING IN WEST.

Lull in Fighting in France Not Expected to Continue Long—Enemy Submarines Again Active.

London, May 19.—While Italy is confidently believed to be making her final preparations to enter the war on the side of the Allies, Austria who would be the direct object of her attack, is, with her German ally, attempting to inflict such a defeat on Russia that she will be able to divert troops, if necessary, to meet her new foe in the south.

Despatches from Rome continue to be somewhat contradictory, but the majority agree that the Italian government has definitely decided on the side of war, that the German and Austrian ambassadors are preparing to leave Rome, and that the consuls-general of those two countries have either already left their posts or will soon do so.

On the other hand, a message coming through Paris says that Austria has submitted new proposals, which she hopes will induce Italy to remain neutral. A definite announcement is expected from the Italian foreign office before the Chamber of Deputies meets tomorrow.

Meanwhile the Austrian armies, in conjunction with those of Germany, continue massed attacks against the Russians, who are attempting to form a new line behind the River San, both to the north and south of Przemysl, and to the west of the Vistula river, in Southern Poland. These attacks, according to the Austrian and German reports, have met with their greatest success north of Przemysl, where the Germanic forces have succeeded in crossing the river and have occupied Senlawa on the eastern bank.

They also claim to have captured some positions to the southeast of the former Austrian fortress, while their heavy guns are keeping up a bombardment from the west.

In Southern Poland their progress is not so marked, the Russians having had strong forces concentrated at Ivangorod, which they were able to bring into the field and check the advance.

It is stated from Petrograd that the Germans and Austrians are using between thirty and forty army corps on the 200 mile front from Opatow, in Poland, to Kolomoia, in Eastern Galicia. East of the latter city, in Bukowina, the Russians have broken the Austrian extreme right and are reported to have again occupied Czernowitz, the capital.

The sudden break in the weather in France, which had been bright and dry, brought the fighting to a stop on Monday, but it has since been resumed at several points. Between Arras and coast and in the Woivre it appears as though the attacks which the Allies were delivering have come to an end, and that the Allied troops are consolidating the ground gained and awaiting German counter-attacks. They are not likely to be idle for long, however, as the action must be continued for the purpose of relieving the pressure on the Russians.

Steady progress by the Allied troops on the Gallipoli Peninsula, is reported although they apparently have not yet captured the Turkish positions which bar their way to the Narrows of the Dardanelles. An unofficial despatch reports the landing of fresh troops on the Asiatic side of the Straits—a move designed, doubtless, to prevent the Turks from sending any more reinforcements from the eastern to the western side.

German submarines, which have not done much execution since the sinking of the Lusitania, have claimed another victim in the British steamer Dumfries, which has been sunk off the Cornish coast. Such incidents, however, do not greatly trouble the shipping men. Norman Hill, secretary of the Liverpool Steamship Owners' Association, today pointed out that during the month of April, cargoes to the value of 114,000,000 pounds sterling were carried in and out of ports of the United Kingdom, while the value of the cargoes destroyed by submarines was 50,000 pounds or one shilling in £100.

### Reconstruction Before The British Parliament Reconvenes on June 3

Adjournment Last Night—Re-organization Will Mean Death Blow to Some High Political Ambitions—Haldane, Marquis of Crewe, Birrell and Harcourt Mentioned as Slated for Retirement—Rumored Churchill May Go to Indian Office.

London, May 19.—Parliament adjourned tonight until June 3. Before its next meeting the new cabinet will be formed and the first act of the cabinet will be to challenge a vote of confidence from the House of Commons to demonstrate its position as representing the whole House.

The Liberal members held a meeting tonight and expressed confidence in Premier Asquith, who explained the government's position to them. The Conservatives also held a party council.

Today's reports have changed yesterday's forecasts of the personnel of the ministry in only two or three details. There is no doubt that the re-organization of the government will mean the sifting out of some high political ambitions. It is believed that the most prominent members slated for retirement are Lord Haldane, Lord High Chancellor; the Marquis of Crewe, Secretary of State for India; Lewis Harcourt, Secretary of State for the Colonies, and Augustine Birrell, Chief Secretary for Ireland. The Marquis of Crewe and Mr. Birrell will go

willingly. Mr. Harcourt may be raised to the peerage and promoted to be Viceroy of India.

Lord Fisher, First Sea Lord of the Admiralty, was in his office at the Admiralty today, which was taken to mean that the government had refused to accept his resignation, making inevitable the departure from the Admiralty of Winston Spencer Churchill, First Lord of the Admiralty. It is believed by many that Mr. Churchill will be given the Marquis of Crewe's portfolio at the India office or that he will succeed Mr. Harcourt as Secretary of State for the Colonies. Mr. Churchill is a major in the Territorials and it would cause little surprise if he should prefer the fighting line to a cabinet position which would give him no opportunity for his aggressive nature.

The Conservative members of parliament are reported to consider eight cabinet members as their share, and A. Bonar Law, opposition leader in the House of Commons, A. J. Balfour, Austen Chamberlain, the Earl of Curzon, Lord Selborne, F. E. Smith, the

Continued on page two.

### Germany May Modify Her Methods of Carrying On Submarine Warfare

Understood in Washington Submarines Will Follow Methods of Destroyers or Cruisers Towards Merchantmen and Give Passengers and Crew Ample Time to Escape.

Washington, May 19.—Official information was received here today that Germany's reply to the American note will not be completed for at least a week, and probably not reach Washington for at least ten days.

It is now known, with some definiteness, that Germany will indicate her willingness to have her submarines act toward all merchantmen just as destroyers or cruisers would, giving ample time for passengers and crew to leave, provided merchantmen are unarmed, or if passengers and contraband traffic are separated.

That position is looked upon with some favor here, provided it is suggested as a modus vivendi or temporary arrangement and does not involve the relinquishment by the United States of the rights of its citizens to travel anywhere on the high seas on enemy or belligerent unarmed ships.

President Wilson will await a reply from Germany to the recent American note before making further representations to the Allies on alleged violations of international law in their commercial embargo on Germany.

### AUSTRO-GERMAN ARMY OF OVER MILLION ATTACKING RUSSIANS

Battle Raging Along 200 Mile Front in Galicia Where Enemy Have Massed Thirty-four Army Corps in Endeavor to Smash Russian Defence.

Petrograd, May 19.—Fighting is proceeding continuously along a 200 mile battlefront in Galicia, from the mouth of the San River to Kolomoia. The Russians are sending in troops as rapidly as possible to meet the ten German and twenty-four Austrian corps (about 1,300,000 men), said to be operating on this front.

Operations along the San may be considered as in three sections. The first, from Przemysl south to the Carpathian foothills; the second from Przemysl north to the mouth of the Wisloka; the third from the Wisloka to Sandomir, in Russian Poland; fifty-seven miles southeast of Radom.

In the first section the German advance has not developed beyond the stage of patrols and scouting parties. In the second section there are large opposing forces, which are prevented from engaging in hand-to-hand fighting by the wide sweep of the San, over which artillery duels are occurring. The heaviest German forces evidently have been concentrated in the third section, in an attempt to reach the right bank of the San. Such a move is considered extremely hazardous by Russian critics as long as the Russians control the three most important fortifications and bridges across the San, at Przemysl, Jaroslau and Sleniawa, enabling them to throw troops across to the left bank for the purpose of cutting off advancing Germans.

On the other side of the Vistula considerable military activity is reported in the districts of Kielce and Radom. The Germans are making an effort to establish a connection between this movement and the Gallician advance.

### MOVING FASTER IN AUSTRIA TO SUE FOR EXAMINATION OF DETAINED CARGOES WHEN ITALY ENTERS?

Efforts Being Made to Anticipate Reported Protest from United States.

London, May 19.—The opinion is expressed in official circles here that efforts are being made to anticipate the reported American note dealing with the delays in examining detained cargoes. Since last Saturday the American embassy has received reports showing that twelve vessels carrying cargoes from American ports have had their cases settled in various ways, some going into prize courts, others having their cargoes purchased by the British government, and still others being permitted to proceed to their destination, the innocence of their cargoes having been established.

Many of them were cotton ships, but while twenty-eight of these have been detained, only three are of American registry. One of these, the Maude, has discharged her cargo, which was purchased by the government, and been permitted to proceed. Among the curious cases is that of the Swedish steamer Gunborg, from New York for Gothenburg, Sweden, which was compelled to discharge 220 tons of tobacco that will go to the prize court.

During the past fortnight the American embassy has been active in efforts to secure expedition in the cases of detained American cargoes. Walter Hines Page, American Ambassador to Great Britain, made three visits recently to Sir Edward Grey, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, with the sole object of discussing the vexatious delays which it is claimed mark the Admiralty examination of detained cargoes.

It is learned that the Foreign Office has constantly besought the Admiralty to expedite these examinations, but without results until the last few days, when that department seemed to awake to the importance of speed in this work. Since Saturday the Admiralty has reported definite action in the case of a dozen ships.

Several entire cotton cargoes have been purchased by the government under the cotton agreement covering cargoes contracted for before the Order-in-Council was issued. Other cotton cargoes have been held for the prize court, but officials here argue that this does not necessarily imply that cotton has been made contraband as such cargoes may have been ordered into prize courts under Order-in-Council, covering the property of hostile countries.

KING CONSTANTINE'S CONDITION FAVORABLE.

Athens, via London, May 19.—With the exception of a troublesome cough, the condition of King Constantine, who is suffering from pleurisy, was said today to be favorable. His temperature was given as 101.

### AGREEMENT TO EXCHANGE WAR PRISONERS HAS BEEN REVOKED BY GERMANY

London, May 19.—Correspondence between the British minister at the Vatican and the Foreign Office discloses the fact that Germany has revoked the agreement, made at the request of the Pope, for the exchange of British and German civilian and incapacitated prisoners, independently of the question of military age.

The Prussian minister at the Vatican has explained that the action was taken because Great Britain was not treating German submarine prisoners as ordinary prisoners of war.

### BIG WAR ORDER

Sarnia, Ont., May 19.—The Lough-Lad Manufacturing Company of this city today received an order from the Dominion government calling for the manufacture of 100,000 more shrapnel shells.

### NEW UNDER SECRETARY OF WAR IN FRANCE.

Paris, May 19.—Albert Thomas, a member of the Chamber of Deputies, was appointed Under Secretary of War today. He will have special charge of the artillery department.

#### VISIT THE CANADIAN HOSPITALS IN FRANCE

London, May 19.—(Gazette Cable.)—Premier McBride, of British Columbia, left today for Paris, to visit the Canadian hospitals. While in England the premier was active in meeting manufacturers and others, whom he has interested in the timber resources of the west.

#### Kaiser Escaped Death By a Narrow Margin

Geneva, via Paris, May 20.—The German Emperor and his staff had a narrow escape on Sunday while watching the operations in a village near the river San, in Galicia. According to a despatch from Budapest, which reached here by indirect route, a heavy shell burst 500 yards away, it fell among some automobiles, destroying several machines, including the Emperor's and killing his chauffeur. The Emperor had left his car only fifteen minutes before.

As more Russian shells were falling in the neighborhood, the Emperor and his staff left hastily in machines which they commandeered.