

The St. John Standard

VOL. X., NO. 75.

TEN PAGES.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, JUNE 26, 1918.

FAIR AND WARMER

PRICE TWO CENTS.

Entire Piave Cleared of Austrians; The German Nation Desires Peace

The Italians Hindered By Swollen Piave In Following Austrians

King Victor Emmanuel's Men Have At Last Cleared the Remaining Enemy Rearguards From West Bank of Stream and Are Now in Possession of Entire River Front From Montello To the Sea.

Foreign Minister Kuehlmann Declares Germany Wants Peace—Vienna Claims Italian Casualties Amounted To 150,000 Besides 50,000 Taken Prisoners—Canadians Active in France.

Special Cable to New York Tribune and St. John Standard. (By Arthur S. Draper).

London, June 25.—The Italians now hold complete possession of the right bank of the Piave, those Austrians not killed or captured having crossed the river. What was intended as a mighty stroke supplanting Ludendorff's efforts in the west ended in a complete failure almost approaching disaster. The rising Piave which proved to be a powerful ally to the Italians, has now turned to the enemy because it is impossible to cross the river and follow up the advantages.

The Austrians claim to have taken about 50,000 prisoners and inflicted 150,000 losses, but the Italians have made almost as many prisoners and made even greater inroads into the Austrian army. Almost two thirds of the Austrian army has been badly mauled and it will take considerable time before it is ready again, if ever for the offensive. Whether the Germans will consider it advisable to alter their western campaign so as it will include the despatch to the Italian theatre of enough troops to undertake another offensive campaign remains a question for early decision.

War Summary.
(The Associated Press).
The Italians at last have cleared the remaining Austrian rearguards from the west bank of the Piave river and now are in possession of the entire river front from the Montello Plateau to the sea.

At last accounts their forces which crossed the stream in pursuit of the retreating Austrians were still harassing them, inflicting heavy casualties and forcing the enemy to continue his disorderly retreat.
Fate has turned somewhat its balance in favor of the Austrians for the Piave river again has risen and some of the pontoon bridges the Italians had thrown across the stream have been carried away, making quick pursuit and the crushing of the Austrians, which General Diaz had counted upon, impossible. The Austrians are declared to be rushing up reserves from the east in an endeavor to partly retrieve the situation.

Admits Reverse.
The Austrian war office admits a reverse along the Piave, but announces that the retrograde movement has been carried out as it was planned and without loss of material.

In France and Belgium.
On the front in France and Belgium, bombardments and raiding operations,

AN ANDOVER MAN KILLED IN AUTO

Andover, June 25.—A shocking automobile accident occurred this morning when Mr. Whitmore Porter was killed. Mr. and Mrs. Porter, their niece and driver were motoring from their home at Baldwinville to the village when about two and a half miles below the village on a very narrow piece of road the car skidded, going over the bank and turning over on the occupants of the car. Mrs. Porter and her niece, who were uninjured, were able to crawl from under the car and run for help. When help arrived it was found that Mr. Porter had been pinned between the steering gear and some logs, and death had probably been instantaneous. Joseph Cadman, the driver, had his hand caught between the steering wheel and Mr. Porter's body, and it was badly crushed. Beside that he was uninjured. A particularly sad fact about Mr. Porter's untimely death is that he is the last of a large family, his mother having been killed about a year ago. The deepest sympathy is felt for the widow and relatives.

MACHIN'S TALK AMAZES THE OTTAWAITES

Plain Insinuation of Religious Cabal Against Hon. Mr. Doherty.

MINISTERS PLACED IN EMBARRASSING PLACE

Situation Created Resembles That of Maurice Affair in England.

Special to The Standard.

Ottawa, June 25.—Lt. Col. Machin's amazing Montreal interview, charging that a powerful intrigue is being carried on in Ottawa to drive Hon. C. J. Doherty out of the cabinet, and his plain insinuation that this cabal is inspired by religious bigotry and directed by Hon. A. L. Sifton and Hon. C. S. Mewburn, is the military and political sensation of the hour.

In military circles the charges launched by the director of the military service are regarded as creating a situation closely akin to the Maurice affair in England and it is freely predicted that the resignation of Colonel Machin is almost certain to be immediately brought about.

Embarrasses Minister.

Ottawa today awaited with tense interest statements from the Minister of Militia and the Minister of Justice. Tonight, however, after a conference between the Minister of Justice and Col. Machin, who was earlier in the day recalled from Montreal, Judge Doherty announced that no statement could yet be made. It is generally felt that Col. Machin's interview places the Minister of Justice in an embarrassing position. If Hon. Mr. Doherty openly repudiates the interview he places himself in the position of repudiating his official position of conducting Colonel Machin's charge that a cabal exists against him as well as the suggestion that this cabal is based in anti-Catholic prejudice and is the result of two of his important cabinet colleagues.

Doherty Astonished.

Nowhere in well informed circles is the suggestion made, however, that the Minister of Justice had the slightest connection with or knowledge of or responsibility for his official's remarkable charges. The Minister of Justice as a matter of fact, today privately expressed regret and astonishment that such an interview had been given, particularly regretting that matters of religion had been brought into the affair, and that an attack should have been made upon any church whatsoever. The position in which the interview places Hon. C. S. Mewburn is hardly less difficult than that in which the Minister of Justice finds himself. To leave Col. Machin's charges go unchallenged will be to invite belief in many quarters that they are based in fact and thus add fuel to what it is feared might develop into a religious issue.

No Statement Yet.

Ottawa, June 25.—There will be no government statement regarding the interview given by Lieutenant-Col. Machin before Wednesday. An official intimation to this effect was given to the Canadian Press limited this evening.

Col. Machin arrived in the capital from Montreal tonight and proceeded to the office of Hon. C. J. Doherty. He was subsequently in conference with Mr. E. L. Newcombe, deputy minister of justice.

Continued on page 2.

NO INTERVENTION

Tokyo, Friday, June 21.—(By The Associated Press)—The newspapers today report that as a result of deliberations of the advisory board on diplomatic affairs, Japan has decided not to comply with the request of the Entente and refrain from intervention in Siberia. In diplomatic circles it is believed that Japan, unless directly menaced, will not act without the support of the United States.

FORMER TSAR OF RUSSIA REPORTED ASSASSINATED

London, June 25.—Unconfirmed reports from Petrograd were in circulation here today that the former Tsar had been killed at Ekaterinberg by the Bolsheviks. Despatches from Petrograd declare that the Mensheviks and social revolutionaries of the right are expected to control the coming Soviet elections, despite the professional politics being played by the Bolsheviks. A Moscow report said that M. Volodarsky, Bolshevik commissioner of press affairs, was shot dead on the street in Petrograd on Friday.

ANOTHER HUN RAIDER SEEN

Mysterious Powerful Craft Sinks British Steamship Two Hundred Miles East of Hamilton.

Norfolk, Va., June 25.—Reports of the presence of a fast and heavily armed German raider in West Indian waters were brought here today by masters of vessels arriving from Central and South America. The ship is said to be of the cruiser type with a rakish build and clean lines. The raider first made her appearance about 270 miles east of Hamilton, Bermuda, where she is reported to have sunk a large British steamship. Two American merchant ships were shelled but managed to escape.

A "Mother" Ship?

The fact that the raider made no effort to attack at least two vessels which sighted her led the captains to believe that she is "a mother ship" for submarines which recently were operating off the Atlantic coast. The raider was described by the ship masters as about 270 feet long with a speed estimated from 15 to 30 knots an hour. Some of those who sighted the craft expressed the belief that she was a former fruit steamer plying between the United States and Central America, which had been captured and armed by one of the submarines operating off the coast. In their opinion the vessel was manned by some of the seventy odd men reported to have been in the crew of one of the submarines. It also was said that both the British and American navies have been notified of the presence of the raider in the West Indian waters and that steps are being taken to protect shipping.

BISHOP RICHARDSON OFFICIATES AT A SACKVILLE WEDDING

Miss Helen Wiggins and Ernest E. Melville United At St. Paul's—Bride Daughter of Rector.

Special to The Standard.

Sackville, June 25.—St. Paul's church at 10.30 this morning was the scene of a pretty wedding when Miss Helen Wiggins, youngest daughter of Rev. Dr. Wiggins, rector of St. Paul's, was united in marriage with Ernest E. Melville, of St. Kitts, British West Indies. The nuptial knot was tied by His Lordship Bishop Richardson. The bride was attended by Miss Carrie Cahill, while the groom was supported by Rex Wiggins, brother of the bride. After the ceremony a wedding luncheon was partaken of at the bride's home, after which Mr. and Mrs. Melville left on the Ocean Limited for a wedding trip to the upper provinces.

AMERICANS ARE TO ASSIST THE ARMY OF ITALY

General Diaz Rewarded For Great Victory By Victor Emmanuel.

ITALIAN TROOPS IN POSSESSION OF PIAVE

They Capture Nearly Three Thousand Prisoners in One Day.

Italian Army Headquarters, Monday, June 24.—(By The Associated Press)

—As a reward for his operations against the Austrians, King Victor Emmanuel has advanced General Diaz ninety numbers on the active list of the Italian army. This action places General Diaz as Italy's fifth ranking general.

Rome, Monday, June 24.—American troops will be in Italy probably early in July, according to notification given to the Italian authorities by State Senator Cudillo, of New York, who is here on an official mission. This announcement of direct participation of American units alongside the forces now fighting in Italy has produced an encouraging effect.

Reoccupy the Piave

Rome, June 25.—Italian troops yesterday forced the last rearguard of the retreating Austrians to surrender and completely re-occupied the west bank of the Piave, the war office announced today.

On the mountain front between the Piave and the Brenta, in the Monte Grappa sector, the Italians vigorously attacked the Austrians, inflicting heavy losses upon the enemy and gaining considerable ground.

Nearly 3,000 prisoners were taken by the Italians on the Piave and mounted afloat yesterday.

French Statement

Paris, June 25.—The war office announcement says: "Between the Oise and Aisne raids enabled us to take prisoners. The artillery activity was similar to that made at Hanover before the war. Mr. Shortt said the government knew that in a certain part of Germany a large amount of ammunition was loaded to a German submarine."

Mr. Shortt quoted excerpts from many speeches that had been delivered urging illegal drillings for the purpose of assisting Germany, and said the sources of information upon which the government relied to show German intrigue existed both in Ireland and outside had always proved true when tested by subsequent events.

Huns Hedging

He said he had traced the activity of German agents in Ireland from 1911 and asserted 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 bore evidence of being German printed, and for the last three months had begun to reappear in Ireland.

Prof. De Valera.

It was a very peculiar coincidence,

Continued on page 2.

HUNS HEDGING

Washington, June 25.—Germany is preparing her people for failure to win the war this year by an extensive propaganda setting forth that in the event German armies are not able to overrun France this year, the situation next year will still be better for Germany than it was at the beginning of the present offensive, and that a movement will be made to put France entirely out of the war.

U. S. STRENGTH

Washington, June 25.—Between 65 and 70 per cent of the 900,000 American soldiers who have been sent to France are actually combat troops, Secretary Baker said today. "These figures are necessarily rough estimates," he said.

German Intrigue In Ireland A Real and Imminent Menace

Chief Secretary Edward Shortt Declares He Is Satisfied Both Clergy and Nationalists Used Their Influence Respectively To Assist in Keeping the Peace—Explains German Propaganda.

Sir Edward Carson, the Ulster Leader, Says Premier Tried To Bribe Ireland Into Conscription, Thereby Incurring Grave Political Risk and That He Should Go Through With It—Raps Hierarchy.

London, June 25.—Edward Shortt, chief secretary for Ireland, speaking in the House of Commons today, 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.

Sir Edward Carson, the Ulster leader, said that if the premier believed he was justified, in order to carry on the war, in trying to bribe Ireland into conscription, thereby incurring a grave political risk, breaking a party truce and shattering the foundations of the Unionist party, he ought, in taking this desperate course, at least to have determined to go right through with it.

"The Roman Catholic hierarchy," he said, "has gone to lengths in opposing conscription which no civilized modern community ought to tolerate for a moment. If you have to endure all this indignity and humiliation, you are crawling upon your knees to a particular church."

Germany Active.

Secretary Shortt, said the government had found that Germany was in touch with Ireland, and that not only were messages going to Ireland from a German source, but that they were going from Irish sources to Germany. The collapse began 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 Hanover before the war. Mr. Shortt said the government knew that in a certain part of Germany a large amount of ammunition was loaded to a German submarine.

Mr. Shortt quoted excerpts from many speeches that had been delivered urging illegal drillings for the purpose of assisting Germany, and said the sources of information upon which the government relied to show German intrigue existed both in Ireland and outside had always proved true when tested by subsequent events.

The German Plot.

Mr. Shortt said that since the premier 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, he said, was the discovery of a German plot in Ireland, which he hoped he would be able to satisfy the House of Commons 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

Continued on page 2.

MONTREAL SHAKEN UP BY DYNAMITE

Montreal, June 25.—Four hundred cases of dynamite, each containing fifty pounds, exploded today at 3.13 p.m. about three quarters of a mile from the entrance to the northern end of the C. N. R. tunnel at Model City near here.

It was stored in a shack, which in some manner not yet ascertained, caught fire. The smoke was seen by the watchman on duty who gave warning to a number of workmen thus affording them time to escape. There were no lives lost and comparatively little damage to property. The tunnel itself is not affected. The shock was felt all over Montreal and in the northern suburb whole blocks are without panes of glass. Windows were broken within a radius of four miles and there are isolated cases of smashed windows as far as eight miles from the scene of the explosion. Though many wild rumors of earth quakes, German plots, confiscation, and the like spread over the city, there was nothing in the nature of a panic. The police and fire authorities being on the spot within a few minutes of the explosion.