

Entente Allies Are Willing to Listen to Sincere, Reasonable Peace Proposals, Says Mr. Balfour

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FAIR AND COOL

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## AUSTRIAN OFFENSIVE MEETS WITH FAILURE EVERYWHERE

### EXPLAIN RAID ON COLLEGE OF JESUITS

Government Officers Search For Youths Eligible Under Militia Act.

HON. MR. DOHERTY'S SON A STUDENT

Ottawa States He and Others At Institution Not Eligible.

Special to The Standard. Ottawa, June 20.—A raid by the Dominion police upon the Jesuit College at Guelph to discover whether the institution harbored defaulters from the military service act, has aroused considerable interest in military and political circles here. The incident takes on additional interest from the fact that among the young men investigated in the college was the twenty year old son of Hon. C. J. Doherty, minister of justice. It is understood that the military police followed upon persistent reports that the college was being used to harbor a number of young men in default of the military service act, and that most of these came from Quebec. The heads of the institution have issued a statement emphatically denying that they have taken in anybody in contravention of the military service act. A non-committal statement was tonight issued by the Minister of Militia, but it is understood that a further explanation of the matter may be expected.

Results' Statement.

Following a consultation with their solicitor the following statement was issued:

"In answer to inquiries the rector of St. Stanislaus Novitiate answered that many rumors had gotten abroad as to the institution harboring deserters or defaulters under the military service act and orders-in-council, and he wishes emphatically to deny these and any other allegations of a like character.

"Particular pains had been taken at all times to accept none into the order that were subject to the act or any regulations or orders-in-council. Representatives of the government had visited the Novitiate and made enquiries, all of which had been fully answered, and the representatives had been given every opportunity to make any investigation they saw fit.

"It is understood that an official statement will be issued promptly by the government dealing with the whole matter."

Government Investigation.

An officer from the Department of Militia at Ottawa was yesterday in Guelph, investigating the whole affair.

As reported to Ottawa, three young men, suspected as eligible for military service, were apprehended temporarily, when the visit was made, but satisfied the authorities they were not eligible. The son of Hon. Mr. Doherty entered the order when he was 18 years of age. He is now 19 years old. It is said he joined the order after medical examination reported he was not physically fit to be a soldier.

Minister's Statement.

Toronto, June 20.—A despatch to the Telegram from Guelph today quotes Rev. W. D. Spence, president of the Guelph Ministerial Association and pastor of the Congregational church at Guelph, as follows:

"About ten days ago the Guelph Jesuit Novitiate College, near Guelph, was visited by the Dominion police. Forty-six men were found on the premises, and of this number twenty-two were entered since the M. S. A. came into force. The police were not able to effect any arrests, because of instructions from Ottawa. It has been definitely learned that some of these young men have no intention of studying for the priesthood, and are merely making the institution a hiding place where they will be safe from the operation of the act.

"Amongst the twenty-two who have entered since the act came into force in fact, one of the most recent arrivals is the twenty year old son of Hon. Mr. Doherty, minister of justice. It has been decided that the status of these twenty-two men is to be left in the hands of the department of justice."

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### Germany Planning To Send Powerful Army Into Another Drive

Ludendorff Has More Than Six Hundred Thousand Men Trained Especially For Offensive Operations and Ready To Hit in France When He Feels He Can Surprise the Entente — Minor Operations on Western Front Thursday.

Draper Declares That Until German Army Is Beaten It Is Well To Accept Warning of Balfour and Asquith Against Over-Confidence and Foolish Optimism—Men At Home Can Help Greatly To Win the War—Hardest Blow May Be Coming.

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

London, June 20.—Both Asquith and Bonar Law sounded a note of warning in their speeches in parliament when they said that we are in the middle of a great battle and that the Allies have faced no graver period in the whole war.

That Ludendorff has hit his hardest blow is not the opinion of those who are in the best position to judge. July and August are bound to be the hardest fighting months of the year and everything hitherto has been only preliminary to the real effort of the German military machine to achieve a knockout.

Fight To Finish.

Ludendorff has an army to manoeuvre which has been trained to hit when he considers the time ripe for a fight to the finish. Any general having fifty divisions (more than 600,000 men) trained especially for offensive operations holds a serious threat. Somewhere around Cambrai Ludendorff has an army of this size and soon he will send it into battle. Until that army is beaten it is well to accept the warning of the British statesmen against over-confidence and foolish optimism. There is a tendency to exaggerate the losses of the enemy and minimize the casualties in the allied ranks.

### SERIOUS RIOTS IN AUSTRIA!

One Hundred Thousand War Workmen Strike in Vienna.

London, June 20.—More than 100,000 persons have gone on strike in the Vulcan Arsenal and the Warschawski Airplane Works in Vienna, according to a despatch from Zurich to the Exchange Telegraph. The despatch adds that riots have occurred at Favoriten, Margerthen, Ottakring and Brigittenau, suburbs of Vienna.

FROST IN CARLETON

East Florenceville, June 20.—The frost of Wednesday night killed all the beans and to a large extent hurt the potatoes in this vicinity, although many potatoes that were not above ground were, of course, not injured. Ice was formed in many places in Carleton and Victoria counties on Wednesday night.

### SIR GEORGE E. FOSTER COMING TO PROVINCE

Will Spend Three Weeks Here Hon. C. J. Doherty To Be Acting Premier.



SIR GEORGE E. FOSTER.

Special to The Standard. Ottawa, June 20.—Sir George E. Foster left today for a three weeks' holiday in New Brunswick, and in the absence of Sir George, Hon. C. J. Doherty, Minister of Justice, will be Acting Premier.

### WILL CONSIDER A PEACE OFFER ON ITS MERITS

Reasonable Suggestions Will Be Heard By Allies Says Mr. Balfour.

### SEVERE CRITICISM OF BRITISH PACIFISTS

Foreign Minister Declares War Aims of Britain and United States Identical.

London, June 20.—(Via Reuters Ltd.)—Philip Edward Morrell, Liberal, Burnley, representing a small pacifist group in the house of commons today started as his group does on every possible occasion, a debate on the question of peace by agreement and moving the following resolution:

"That this house desires that the government will lose no diplomatic opportunity to settle the problems of the war by agreement; and that to that end it expresses its opinion that secret treaties with allied governments should be revised, since, in the present form, they are inconsistent with entering the war and are, therefore a barrier to a democratic peace."

Motion Lost

The motion was negatived with division.

In moving his resolution, Mr. Morrell said that the people were anxious about the progress of events and entitled to a restatement by the government of its war aims and its opinions as to prospects of achieving them. He charged that statements made in behalf of the allies bolstered up "Kaiserism."

Philip Snowden, Socialist, Blackburn, in supporting the resolution asked Rt. Hon. Mr. Balfour, secretary for foreign affairs, to define what he meant by "peace offensive." He agreed with Mr. Morrell that nothing like a stable peace could be obtained until secret treaties were denounced.

Rt. Hon. Mr. Balfour.

Rt. Hon. Mr. Balfour began his reply by explaining that by peace offensive he meant any effort, by speech or otherwise, under the guise of seeking an honorable termination of the present war, to divide the Allies and Continued on page 2.

### All Reports From the Valiant Italian Army Indicate Big Victory

To All Outward Appearances the Austrian Offensive in Venetian Theatre Thus Far Has Met With Failure All Along the Line From the Alpine Heights To the Adriatic and Italians Have Gained Much Ground.

Nowhere Along the Wide Front Has the Enemy Advanced Without Paying a Heavy Price and Nowhere Has the Italian Defense Been Penetrated To a Considerable Depth — Crucial Fighting at Montello.

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

London, June 20.—All the later reports from the Austrian-Italian theatre are eminently satisfactory. The Austrians are buying their positions at a tremendous cost. Nowhere along a wide front has the enemy advanced without paying a heavy price and nowhere has the Italian defense been penetrated to any considerable depth. The Italians have retaken several important positions. The middle and lower Piave have been the scenes of the hardest fighting, the region of the Montello being stubbornly contested with the advantage still in favor of the Italians. According to the latest despatches the enemy holds rather less than a third of the hill, the positions at the highest point remaining in the hands of the Italians.

Along the mountainous front the enemy still makes a show at offensive tactics, but his main efforts are feeble. Near the sea Von Wurm's army continues to advance slowly, but after four days it is still far from any important objective. Archduke Joseph's army, assigned to the task of taking the Montello and flooding onto the plains, is persisting constantly in the efforts.

Counter Blow Did It

At one time here on Monday the situation seemed rather unfavorable for the defenders, but a smart counter blow hurled the enemy back at the critical moment and he has not recovered since.

Everywhere the Italians are fighting gallantly and the morale of the army remains excellent. Behind the Italian lines are large reserves which stand ready to enter the battle whenever General Diaz needs them. In this theatre the conditions are reversed and the defending army is at least numerically equal to the attacking forces. Even accepting the enemy's claim of 30,000 prisoners as accurate, the record of offensives will be searched in vain to find a parallel for the present operation in which the defenders have taken their fifth stand of prisoners. Either the Austrians have failed to carry through the tactics which brought the Germans such big successes, in the west or the Italians have solved the problem of defensive which evidently consists of an immediate counter offensive.

Associated Press Summary

To all outward appearances the Austrian offensive in the Italian theatre thus far has met with failure all along the front from the Venetian Alps to the Adriatic Sea.

In the hill region additional ground has been captured from the invaders, while along the Piave River, where intensive fighting is in progress, at some points with fluctuating results, the balance toward ultimate victory seems to swing in favor of the Italian army.

South and east of Asiago the French and Italians in brilliant counter offensives have retaken Ponnar, Bertigo and Costalunga, past which the Austrians had hoped to put their front and gain the Astico River Valley which leads to Vicenza on the plains below.

Positions Regained.

Not alone were the positions regained, but more than two hundred prisoners fell into the hands of the

### TRANSPORT TORPEDOED, 638 LOST

The Santa Anna Sunk By Submarine in Mediterranean in the Night.

### GERMAN AIRPLANES ATTACK NAVAL SHIPS

American Steamer Chased By U-Boat South of Sandy Hook.

Paris, June 20.—The transport Santa Anna proceeding from Bizera for Malta, has been torpedoed and sunk in the night, according to the Havas Agency. There were on board 2,150 soldiers and native workmen, of whom 1,612 were saved.

Bravery of Troops

London, June 20.—Via Reuters Ottawa Agency—The Admiralty reports a striking instance of the discipline and bravery of Indian native troops aboard a sinking British transport in the Mediterranean, which had been torpedoed by a German submarine. The natives coolly proceeded to the boat stations and stood at attention. As the boats were being lowered a second torpedo struck the vessel which was rapidly sinking. The soldiers were thereupon ordered to heave the rats overboard and jump into the water after them. These orders were carried out with commendable calmness and all except three reached the rafts. The survivors were picked up by patrol vessels and safely landed.

British Squadron Attacked

London, June 20.—German airplanes attacked a British naval squadron north of Heligoland Bight on June 18, the British Admiralty announced today. The German machines made no hits and one seaplane was destroyed. The text of the Admiralty statement follows: A British squadron while on reconnaissance north of Heligoland Bight on the morning of June 18 was attacked by German airplanes. No hits were made by the enemy. One enemy seaplane was brought down by gunfire.

An Atlantic Port, June 20.—The Associated Press carries the following:—An American steamer arriving here today from a Central American port, reported that at four p. m., yesterday afternoon 180 to 200 miles south of Sandy Hook, they sighted a submarine and was pursued by the U-boat.

The captain said he put on full speed, zig-zagged, and escaped by outdistancing the U-boat. His ship carried 27 passengers. This is the first report of the appearance of a German raider so far north since ships were sunk by submarine attack off the Jersey coast the latter part of May.

### PREMIER BORDEN AT A WAR CONFERENCE

Later He Visits Houses of Parliament and Sees General Smuts.

London, June 20.—Sir Robert Borden this morning attended the imperial war conference. This afternoon with his colleagues, he inspected in the houses of parliament the black rod to be presented to the senate of Canada by the empire parliamentary association on Friday, to replace the one destroyed in the burning of the Canadian Houses of Parliament.

Later Premier Borden had extended conferences with General Smuts and the Australian premier and subsequently conferred with Mr. Paul Craven and Major Gricecomb, who represent General Pershing at the war office.

### N. B. MAN KILLED

Bansor, Me., June 20.—Gordon S. O'Donnell of West Holden has been killed in action in France. He came from New Brunswick six years ago and was the oldest son of a family of nine. He was 21 years of age.

### FORESTERS' HEAD

Hamilton, Ont., June 20.—Rev. Walter Cox of Gananoque, was selected Grand Master and Guy O. Luke of Hamilton, Grand Marshal, of the Grand Lodge, I. O. O. F. The other elections will not take place until tomorrow.