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# The Toronto World

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VOL. XXXVII.—No. 13,344

## ITALIANS SMASH AUSTRILIANS, TAKE 9000 PRISONERS

### Important Mountain Peaks, a Town and Several Villages Captured in Second Stage of Great Offensive, and Enemy's Counter-Attacks Effectually Crushed—Austrians Lose Fight Also in Gorizia.

## Canada Placed Today Under Four Hundred British Soldiers a Rigid Passport System

### ITALIAN FORCES BREAK THRU AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN LINES

#### Ally's Latest Coup Takes Nine Thousand Prisoners on Front Between Castagnavizza and Sea—Towns and Heights Fall Before Advance.

Rome, May 24, via London.—Italian forces yesterday broke thru the Austro-Hungarian lines from Castagnavizza to the sea, taking more than 9,000 prisoners, says the official statement issued today, by the Italian war office.

The Italian war office announced that Italian forces had occupied part of the area south of the Castagnavizza-Bosomolo road, had passed Bosomolo and had captured the town of Jamiano and strong heights east of Pietrascosa and Bagli. While the Italian official said the Austro-Hungarians at first were surprised and nonplussed, "towards evening they launched counter-attacks, but were repulsed."

Italian airplanes, numbering 130, dropped ten tons of bombs on the Austro-Hungarian lines. The British battleships co-operated with the Italians. "On the Carso yesterday, after ten hours of violent bombardment, the gallant troops of the third army assaulted and broke thru the well organized lines of the enemy from Castagnavizza to the sea. While they were heavily engaging the enemy on the left, our troops, after carrying some trenches in the centre and on the right, occupied the heights of Pietrascosa and Bagli. Hills 77, Hill 58, Bagli, and Hill 21.

The enemy was first surprised and nonplussed by the sudden onslaught, but towards evening he counter-attacked in force, supported by an exceptionally heavy bombardment. He was repulsed with severe loss. "During the day we captured more than 9,000 prisoners, including more than 300 officers."

"Aerial squadron, consisting of 130 machines, including a group of navy airplanes, dropped ten tons of bombs on the enemy's lines and brought their machine guns to bear on masses of the enemy. Our airmen all returned safely."

Ten British batteries, which are on the Carso, have evidence of the brotherly co-operation of our ally, made a large contribution to the artillery preparation. Our naval guns also proved very effective.

"In the Gorizia area our troops repulsed heavy enemy attacks, captured a strong point on the northwest slopes of San Marco, and after severe fighting made considerable progress in the Monte Santo and Vodice areas."

London, May 24.—(Via Reuters' Ottawa Agency.)—The Straits Settlements, which last year provided by new taxation a contribution of £100,000 annually for ten years to the British Government, have adopted new legislation imposing a special war tax on the basis of income, which is expected to yield over £200,000 a year, in addition. This colony has also been paying one-fifth of its ordinary revenue to the war office as a military contribution, and raising a local loan at six per cent, and lending the proceeds to the British Government at five per cent, for war purposes. The loan now amounts to nearly £2,000,000.

These contributions are exclusive of money by the colony states. The government of Malaya has also given £1,000,000 for the war office.

#### DINEEN'S IMPORTED HATS.

A well assorted shipment of Christy's hard and soft felt hats have just been received. Consignments of English hats are being received at intervals, so make your selection early. Dineen's, 140 Yonge street.

### VIVIANI PRESENTS REPORT TO FRENCH WAR COUNCIL

#### People Generally Greatly Approve Reception Given to Delegates in United States—Delighted With Coming of Troops.

Paris, May 24.—The council of war met today under the presidency of M. Poincare, with M. Viviani, the minister of justice, and General Foch, chief of staff of the ministry of war, present, this being the first official participation of M. Viviani since his return from the United States.

### GERMAN AIRSHIPS FAIL IN RAID UPON ENGLAND

#### Four Enemy Aircraft Penetrate Inland into Eastern Counties and Drop Many Bombs—One Man Killed in Norfolk Village.

London, May 24.—Four or five German airships raided the eastern counties of England last night, according to an official statement issued this morning. The airships dropped bombs and escaped although pursued.

### FOES OF CONSCRIPTION EXPECT LAURIER'S HELP

#### Big Mass Meeting at Montreal is Told Liberal Leader Will Take Stand in Opposition to Borden's Program.

Montreal, May 24.—Demonstrations on a scale not witnessed in this city for many years occurred in the streets of Montreal tonight, all in opposition to conscription. A dozen processions of men, mostly young men, were in progress at the same time, finally converging at an open mass meeting organized by two Liberal clubs, the Le-tellier, of which O. Pelletier is president, and the Garneau-Taschereau, of which Ald. Lamarr is president, the two club chiefs acting as joint chairmen.

Mayor Martin, one of the speakers, said: "I ask you in the name of Laurier that you be not violent, that you do not destroy property. I ask you as a favor not to do anything of violence."

Napoleon Seguin, M. L. A. for St. Mary's, in whose constituency the meeting was held, said: "After the meeting, each of you go home and wait for Sir Wilfrid Laurier. In the course of a few days you will see that Laurier is for you. Some newspapers are trying to make out that he will follow Borden, but they lie. Laurier is against conscription. Wait for events in parliament. Laurier is still there to defend you."

### STRICT SYSTEM OF PERMITS TO CROSS BORDERS

#### Males Between Eighteen and Forty-Five Years Come Under Regulations.

#### REQUIRE PHOTOGRAPHS

#### Four Signatures to Sworn Declarations Are Also to Be Insisted Upon.

Ottawa, May 24.—To cross the border to the United States today and hereafter, a Canadian, between the ages of 18 and 45, needs, in addition to his ticket, the good offices of a photographer, an immigration inspector, four respectable citizens as references, a justice of the peace or commissioner of oaths, a bank manager, and either a chief of police, clergyman or government officer.

### BRITISH TRANSPORT IS SUNK

#### MANY PASSENGERS RESCUED WHEN FRENCH LINER SINKS

#### Sontay Torpedoed in Heavy Sea, But Quick Launching of Boats Saves All But Forty-Four Lives.

Paris, May 24.—It is officially announced that the French liner Sontay, bound for Marseilles from Salonica with 344 passengers, was torpedoed on April 15, with a loss of 44 lives. The steamer sank rapidly in a heavy sea, but the prompt and methodical manner in which the small boats were launched saved the majority of those on board. Capt. Mages went down with the ship.

### LAURIER STILL SILENT

#### RUMORS STIR CAPITAL

#### Liberal Leader Understood to Be Averse to Conscription Plebiscite, But He May Demand General Election—Political Outlook is Befogged.

Ottawa, May 24.—Sir Wilfrid Laurier still maintains a sphinx-like silence on the subject of conscription. Those nearest to him say that his decision will not be known until he himself announces it in the house of commons. They protest that he has given no one the slightest intimation as to which way he leans on the question, but they also declare that he will not propose a plebiscite or referendum.

### BRITISH TRANSPORT IS SUNK

#### MORE THAN 400 LIVES LOST

#### Admiralty Announces Transylvania, Fourteen Thousand Ton Steamer, Was Torpedoed in Mediterranean Sea on May 4—Light Japanese Naval Craft Now Co-operating in Mediterranean.

London, May 24.—The British transport Transylvania was torpedoed on May 4, with the loss of 418 persons. The Transylvania was torpedoed in the Mediterranean.

The following official statement was given out today: "The British transport, Transylvania, with troops aboard, was torpedoed in the Mediterranean on May 4, resulting in the following losses: 29 officers and 372 of other ranks; also the ship's captain, Lieut. S. Brenell, and one officer and nine men of the crew."

Built Three Years Ago. The Transylvania, a British Line steamship of 14,315 tons gross, has been in the service of the British Government since May, 1914, when her sailings were cancelled. There have been no recent reports of her movements. When she was first taken over by the British Government she was engaged in transporting troops to Gallipoli.

#### CARE OF SURVIVORS.

New York, May 24.—The Anchor Line steamship Transylvania, was sunk in the Mediterranean on the 4th of the month. It was learned here today. The survivors—how many is not known, have—were taken into Savona, Italy, by rescuers. They remained until May 12, cared for by the population and administered to by Red Cross authorities. When they left Savona on another vessel for an unnamed destination a throng of thousands of persons gathered on the shore and cheered the departure.

#### JAPANESE CO-OPERATING.

London, May 24.—The arrival of a considerable number of Japanese naval craft in the Mediterranean, to co-operate with the naval forces of the allies, was announced in the house of commons today by Lord Robert Cecil, minister of blockade.

A Paris despatch last Friday said a number of Japanese gunboats had arrived at Marseilles to assist in the operations against German submarines in the convoy French merchantmen. If the experiment has satisfactory results it is to be extended.

### FRANCE IMMEDIATELY CHECK ENEMY ON VAUCLER PLATEAU

#### French Immediately Check Enemy on Vaucler Plateau—British Artillery Fire Increases in Intensity—German Raids Fail.

Paris, May 24.—German counter-attacks in the region of the Vaucler plateau were repulsed last night with heavy losses, according to an official statement issued this morning. Since May 1 the French have taken 3,600 prisoners in this district.

### RUSSIAN FRONT HAS REVIVAL IN ACTIVITY

#### GERMANS NOTE IMPORTANT ALTERATIONS, PARTICULARLY NEAR GULF OF RIGA.

Berlin, May 24, via London.—Reviving activity at several points on the Russian front is announced by army headquarters today, the Riga district, near the Baltic coast, being particularly mentioned. The statement on the Russian front operations reads: "Eastern front: Fighting activity has been revived at several points. East of Tukum, in the neighborhood of the Baltic coast, Russian reconnoitering parties were driven off."

The statement says that there is nothing important to report from the Macedonian front.

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