## The Italians Hold Their Positions

 And Turn Vigorously on the Foe
## THE ARMY OF ITALY LAUNCHES A STRONG COUNTER OFFENSIVE

Italian Troops in Conjunction With Their French and British Allies Open Onslaught on AustroHungarian Hordes and Partial Successes, Rectifying the Lines At Several Points. Along the ( Front-More Than 4,500 Austrian Prisoners Captured.

Emperor of Austria on the Field of Battle-Enemy Disregarding Losses Continue Their Endeavors To Cross Piave River, But Italians Bravely Hold Positions-Activity on British FrontAustrians Claim 12,000 Prisoners.


Rome, June 17-Italian troops in conjunction with their French and British allies began a counter offensive against the Austro-Hungarian forces, which had launched
an attack on the Italian mountain front. The Italian and al lied troops, according to an announcement made today by the war office were able to gain partial successes and to rec tify their lines at several points along the front. The statement says the Austrians, disregarding their
losses, continued their endeavors to cross the Piave river, bu losses, continued their endeavors to cross the Piave r
that the Italians are bravely holding their positions. More than 4,500 Austrians have been made prisone
the Italians, British and French. by the Italians, British and French.







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IEN ARE LIKELY TO RETURN SHORTL


Italian Danger Lies
In the Alpine Flank
Toward the North

Special Cable to New York Tribune and St. John Standard.
(By Hilaire Belloc). (By Hilaire Belloc)
London, June 17 -In the last dispatches the positions on the lalian front were just the reverse of what
was the principal peril on that front as at first indicatwas the principal perii on that front as at inrst indical-
ed. The Italian front follows the Piave river through ed. lhe lana and then.bends around through the foothills
the pla
of the Alps, making a flank facing north. This flank of the Alps, making a flank facing north. This flank
facing north has just behind it the main Italian comfacing north has just behind it the main Italian com-
munications by road and railway. It is therefore cermunications by strian success in this sector, where Brit-
tain that an Aus
ish trion ish troops m
est results.
It was here that the chief pressure was exercised
by the enemy on the Asiago plateau and by the enemy on the Asiago plateau and both sides of
the Brenta plateau, but it was here during the first two the Brenta plateau, but it was here during the first two
days of the battle that the enemy had the least success. His principal advance was in the plain across the Piave. Here he seized several bridge heads on the western bank, one at the main railway crossing ten miles above
the river at St . Dona, one at the middle railway crossthe river at St. Dona, one at the middle railway cross-
ing called Ponte DiPiave, which also carries a maining called Ponte just under the foothills at Nerviza. But if the necessary retirement from these points are served by well covered lines of communications and so long as the front holds there is no fear of disaster. It is on point lies beoause even a slow orderly retirement here
would soon reach lins of communication. first day's
The two important features of the fir fighting are the presence of German troops and the seat vigor of the allied counter attacks. The identifi-
cation of the position of the German troops, which has cation of the position of the Cerman healed, will materialy help us to judge where the enemy expects to drive through. As to al-
lied counter attacks, it is noticeable that their chief success has been in the mountain regions which most threaten the front a
most serious results.

Canada Food Board


## 10 RECURRENCC OF HEAW FIGHITING ON THE WESTERN FRONT

Counter Attacks Against French in Newly Won Positions Between Oise and the Aisne Repulsed -Germans Gassing the Americans-Austrians No Longer Able To Ford the Piave River.

Hard Fighting Is Still in Progress Along the Italian Front With Austrians Bringing the Strongest Kind of Pressure To Bear Against the Allied Armies.

There still has been no return to the heavy fighting of last week on the battle fronts in France, although several engagements of greater importance than the usual raiding
operations have taken place. Counter attacks against the rench in their newly won positions between the Oise and the Aisne delivered by the Germans Monday were repulsed. The French captured 370 prisoners and twenty-five machine guns in the fighting.
Northwest of Chateau Thierry, especially in the Belleau Wood, the Germans are freating the Americans to large waves of gas and shells. Their efforts have gone unrewarded, however, so far as breaking the line is concerned. Some patrols east of Chateau Thierry again have crossed
the Marne, attacked the Germans and returned to their base. In Persia the Turks are reported orsia.
iz, after Teheran, the largest city in Persia.
Emperor Charles which crossed the










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