

HOLE BLOWN INTO ITALY'S DEFENSES

Austro-Germans Claim Important Gains in South Battle Front.

4000 PRISONERS CAPTURED

Deep Snow and Cold Weather Render Progress Difficult for Invaders, but Hindrances Are Overcome.

VIENNA, Thursday, Dec. 6, via London, Dec. 7.—(British Admiralty, per Wireless).—The Austro-Hungarian general headquarters today issued the following official communication: "The enemy has suffered a heavy defeat. Early Tuesday, after powerful artillery preparation in which German batteries co-operated with the troops under Field Marshal Conrad von Hotzendorff, we launched an attack against the mountain positions in the Maelva region."

"The deep snow and severe cold rendered progress difficult, but the careful preparation for the attack and the bravery of the attackers—natives from all parts of Austria-Hungary—were able to overcome every counter measure."

"Early Wednesday, Monte Badenece and Monte Tondarecar fell and at midday Kaiserjäger Regiment No. 3, stood on Monte Giffa. Toward evening the Italian resistance on the Maelva ridge broke down before our encircling and storming attacks. Enemy reinforcements coming up from Valstagna were taken on the flank by the fire of our batteries."

Italian Defenders Yield.
"During the morning hours yesterday, the enemy, after a bitter struggle, lost Monte Bello and the rear positions near Pozza. At 3 in the afternoon the brave Italian defenders who had been completely cut off for 24 hours on Monte Castelomberto laid down their arms. All the terrain north of Frenesella ravine is in our hands."

"In addition to their important sanguinary losses the enemy suffered two days lost with more than 11,000 prisoners and over 60 guns. Our losses were small."

BERLIN, via London, Dec. 7.—Four thousand more Italians have been captured in the new Austro-German offensive on the northern front, bringing up the total to 15,000, according to today's official communication. Monte Sisselmo captured by storm, the statement says.

BATTLE RAGING ON PLATEAU

Enemy Assaults Fall, Says Official Italian Report.

ROME, Dec. 7.—On the Asiago plateau the battle is continuing without interruption, says today's official report.

In the afternoon, after the most violent artillery preparation, carried out from north of the Ronchi Valley to Monte Koberla, the enemy attempted with large forces to break through our line south of Gallo. The attempt failed, owing to the bravery of the Bersaglieri brigade, which, opposing the enemy at Monte Sisselmo and engaging him in a strenuous struggle lasting for 12 hours, gave time for our line to link itself up at that point also in accordance with the plan. After six attempts had been repulsed by our counter attacks the enemy, having suffered severe losses, was compelled to arrest his advance at Monte Sisselmo.

The latest reports of this (7 P. M.) show that detachments of the 7th, surrounded on Monte Castelomberto, preferred death rather than surrender, and either fell by their own hands or were cut to pieces in the fierce assaults by the enemy columns which had completely surrounded them.

WITH THE FRENCH ARMY IN ITALY, Thursday, Dec. 6.—(By the Associated Press).—Extensive precautions have been taken to protect the cities of Northern Italy from ruthless German bombardments by airplane and by guns should the enemy get near enough. To bombard many of the cities and towns in Northern Italy would mean the cause incalculable ruin to famous old buildings and art objects which can neither be removed nor protected adequately.

FIVE MEN DIE IN FRANCE

Reports of Deaths Show Paul Lindley, Addy, Wash., in List.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—Deaths from natural causes of men in the American Expeditionary Force in France were reported today as follows: Private Adolph Biedzycki, East Chicago, Ind., engineer, November 25, heart disease.

Private Paul Lindley, Engineers, December 4; measles, complicated with broncho-pneumonia; acute. Mrs. E. C. Lindley, mother, Addy, Wash.

Mechanic Charles C. McNett, field artillery, December 4; rupture spleen, abdominal hernia; Harry Beale, uncle, Casper, Wyo.

Private William S. Mathews, stove-roving regiment, December 4; fracture of skull; Baltimore, Md.

Private Abner L. Clark, East Hampton, Mass., infantry, December 2.

Chamberlain's Tablets.
Chamberlain's Tablets are intended especially for stomach troubles, biliousness and constipation, and have met with much success in the treatment of those diseases. People who have suffered for years with stomach trouble and have been unable to obtain any permanent relief have been completely cured by the use of these tablets. Chamberlain's Tablets are also of great value for biliousness. Chronic constipation may be permanently cured by taking Chamberlain's Tablets and observing the plain printed directions with each bottle.—Adv.

Comfort Your Itching Skin With Cuticura
Soap 25c. Ointment 25 and 50c.

BELLANS
Absolutely Removes Indigestion. Druggists refund money if it fails. 25c.

AMERICAN FLIER ESCAPES FROM GERMANY BY GREAT DARING.



LEUTENANT PATRICK O'BRIEN.

Lieutenant Patrick O'Brien, an American member of the British Royal Flying Corps, who was brought down in a one-sided battle by the Germans and who had been taken into Germany on his way to a prison camp, jumped from a train which was going 30 miles an hour and, by many heroic and clever moves, managed to get into Holland and then back to England. O'Brien was reported missing last August 17, and his reappearance was a great surprise to his friends. On the morning of August 17 enemy guns forced him to land, but, fortunately, he got back to his own lines. Later in the day he was again flying over the enemy's lines and he, with five other machines, was engaged by 20 German airplanes. O'Brien alone engaged four of them. He accounted for one of the machines before he was shot in the hip. He fell with his damaged plane 8000 feet. He cannot explain why he was not killed.

When he regained consciousness O'Brien was in a German war hospital. Later, when he was being taken to Germany, he jumped from the moving train and, by walking at night, swimming rivers and subsisting only on food that he could get from the fields, he managed to reach Holland. He was a fugitive for 72 days.

BIGGER CROPS VITAL

1917 Production, Record-Breaker, Must Be Surpassed.

MR. HOUSTON IS OPTIMISTIC

Secretary, in Report to Congress, Testifies to Unbounded Faith in Ability of American Farmers to Meet Emergency.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—With record crops grown this year, the Nation's farm and livestock production must be stimulated to still higher efficiency during the coming 12 months if domestic demands and the needs of the allies are to be adequately met, Secretary Houston says in his annual report to Congress today.

"That the farmers of the Nation have generously responded to the appeals for increased production, and that much has already been done to insure a large supply of foods and feedstuffs," says the report, "justifies no let-down in their activities or in those of all agricultural agencies. On the contrary, even greater efforts must be put forth in the coming months."

There must be no breakdown on the farm or failure of food, feedstuffs or clothing. I cannot emphasize too strongly the urgent necessity of doing everything possible to bring about a still further increase in the production of all essential commodities, particularly of the staple crops and livestock.

While the precise figures for meat, poultry, dairy products and vegetable oils are not yet available, the Secretary says, "the report indicates that these commodities are greater than for 1915 and 1916."

An increase of 1,000,000,000 bushels over the five-year pre-war average was effected in this year's crop of staples. Unrevised estimates contained in the report are as follows: 3,191,000,000 bushels of corn, 659,797,000 of wheat, 1,550,000,000 of oats, 201,653,000 of barley, 56,000,000 of rye, 15,813,000 of buckwheat, 32,256,000 of rice, 73,380,000 of kafir, 439,685,000 of Irish potatoes, 84,727,000 of sweet potatoes, 19,957,000 of cornmeal, 8,606,000 of peas, 11,419,000 of beans, 177,733,000 of apples and 7,821,000 of sugar beets.

The number of milch cows and other cattle, the report adds, "has shown an increase during the last four or five years, the estimate for the former for the present year being 23,906,000 as against 22,768,000 a year ago and 497,000 in 1913, before the European war began, while that for the cattle is 32,291,000 as against 30,849,000 a year ago and 36,030,000 in 1913. Unfortunately, the number of sheep continues to decline; the estimate for 1917 is only 46,059,000 as against 48,482,000 a year ago and 51,482,000 in 1913. It is estimated that the number of hogs, which during recent years has shown an upward tendency, decreased over 4,000,000, or from 67,642,000 to 62,747,000.

"In considering the whole meat situation it should be kept in mind that there is a close relationship between the production of livestock and the supply of feedstuffs and that for more than a year past there has been a relative shortage of grains and of forage. The large production of these necessities during the present crop season should conduce to more satisfactory conditions for the producers of live-

stock and should, other things being equal, tend to bring about an increase."

DOCTOR IS TORPEDO-PROOF

(Continued From First Page.)

key had retired and was awakened by the noise of the explosion. He rushed to the deck, but was told to go to his stateroom and dress. He did dress, putting on all of his clothing but his leather leggings. By the time he reached the deck against the hull was sinking. He wore his Army overcoat and had his life-belt on, and noting a lifeboat into which passengers were scrambling, he rushed to the boat just as the sinking ship gave a mighty lurch. He jumped, missed the lifeboat and as the Antilles sank he was caught in the swirling suction.

The iron sides of the big ship tore away his life-belt and scratched and bruised him horribly. He says he tried to resist being drawn down, but in spite of the fact that he is a powerful swimmer, the great suction drew him down. He was not even conscious of having been rescued until he was thrown to the surface near a raft upon which three shipwrecked victims were battling. When he regained consciousness his three rescuers were working over him. As soon as the salt water had been drawn from his lungs, all of them gave a terrible battle with the cold and heavy sea then running.

Only half clad and wet to the buff the four U-boat victims, with the aid of a line which they rigged up, waded violently and for three hours, until they were picked up by the Alcedo, they did their crazy dance to keep warm. Of this terrible experience Dr. Sharkey says that one thing stands out very vividly. One of the men on the raft was a big Irishman, and every time he lifted a foot in the wild Irish jig, or was thrown to the raft by a lashing big wave, he would spout and curse the Kaiser and the submarines.

The Alcedo took the rescued men back to a French port. Dr. Sharkey was again fitted out by the American Army quartermaster and he was ready for his second experience. He took passage on the Finland and an American newspaper readers are familiar with what happened to that ship.

Dr. Sharkey says there was no excitement on board when the ship was hit by the torpedo, but as a precaution all were ordered to the lifeboats. After getting off quite a distance all of the lifeboats were ordered to return to the Finland and she was able to return to a French port.

American soil was the charm, although Fritz and his undersea boats tried very hard to use the deadly torpedo. The name of the ship upon which he returned I am not permitted to print. The experience gives truth to the story printed here that the U-boats are now hunting in schools.

Just how many submarines the flotilla and convoys ran into, Dr. Sharkey does not know, but many torpedoes were fired at the ships and one came within 100 yards of hitting the ship he was on. He saw the wake of the torpedo as it passed the stern of the ship.

In spite of the fact that Dr. Sharkey has been sent home for medical observation and treatment and in spite of his two thrilling experiences and his long sea bath, he is in splendid health. Dr. Sharkey is a tall man, standing over six feet, and weighs about 195 pounds.

Keeping the Quality Up.
LAXATIVE BROMO QUININE, the World-Famous Cure for Colds and Grip, is now 20c per box. On account of the advance in the price of the six different Medicinal Concentrated Extracts and Chemicals contained in LAXATIVE BROMO QUININE, it was necessary to increase the price to the present. It has stood the test for a Quarter of a century. It is used by every Civilized Nation.—Adv.

ROMANIANS JOIN ANTI-STARKE

Hostilities Suspended Along Entire Front While Negotiations Are Had.

FRATERNIZATION IS TABOO

German General Is Very Indignant at Conference Because of Russia's Temerity in Suggesting Certain Terms.

JASSY, Rumania, Dec. 6.—It has been decided that the troops will associate themselves with the Russians in the proposed armistice, though the Rumanians have rejected every attempt at fraternization, says an official announcement made here today.

Hostilities were suspended today on the whole front.

LONDON, Dec. 7.—A Reuter dispatch from Petrograd says:

"When General Hoffman (Von Hoffmeister) chief German delegate to the armistice conference, heard the Russian terms for an armistice he became very indignant and said: 'If you repeat them we will fight.'"

LONDON, Dec. 7.—The Petrograd correspondent of the Times says there is only too good reason to corroborate the statement of Leon Trotsky, the Bolshevik Foreign Minister regarding the existence of a feeling of resentment against British residents in Russia. The feeling, he adds, is nowise universal, but is growing daily among the Bolsheviks.

British workmen in a Petrograd factory lately were warned by their Russian comrades that they had better leave the country, as trouble may be brewing.

Marie Palace Occupied.
An armed Maximist force has occupied the Marie Palace and has expelled the all-Russian commission in charge of the elections for the constituent assembly.

The Russian charge d'affaires in London sent his government a communication on August 7 last, stating that the allied conference there had opened with a proposal by David Lloyd George, the British Premier, to send Russia a message categorically pointing to the danger to the allies of an unstable government and lack of discipline in Russia.

Albert Thomas, French Minister of Munitions, who was France's representative at the conference, is mentioned in the communication of the charge as expressing himself strongly against the proposal, pointing to the disastrous effect it would have in Russia. The charge reports himself as saying he took it for granted that Premier Lloyd George desired to help Russia, but the protests of this sort would have the opposite effect—that Premier Kerensky would insist on her former husband's policy of not strengthening Russia and therefore encouragement and not criticism was needed.

Ultimately the communication carried a message of greeting to Russia.

Britain's Attitude Disclosed.
Another communication from the Russian charge in London, dated October 31, 1917, referred to the attitude of Great Britain toward the Polish question. The message said that the party of R. V. Dmowski, of Warsaw, Polish nationalist leader, desired a Poland independent and without an outlet to the sea, but that the party of Alexander Lednitsky, of Minsk, would be satisfied with the union of Poland and Russia, leaving open the question of Posen.

Great Britain, the charge reported, considered the Dmowski policy the best guarantee against exploitation of Poland by the central powers and therefore more advantageous to Russia and her allies. At the same time Great Britain was ready to consider Lednitsky's policy, if reliable information on the subject could be obtained.

PETROGRAD, Dec. 7.—It is stated that M. Prokopovitch, former minister of supplies, after having signed the recent proclamation in the name of the Kerensky government, insisting on the calling of the constituent assembly, escaped arrest and joined General Kaledine, head of the Don Cossacks, in the south.

There are also at Kaledine's headquarters four other former ministers of the provincial government. Under former procedure the five ministers constitute a quorum. General Kaledine has come to an agreement with the Ukraine not to invade Ukrainian territory. It is also said that Bashkirev occupies parts of Orenburg, Ufa, Perm and Samara governments have declared themselves autonomous and have issued a call for an assembly, which is to convene in Orenburg tomorrow.

Fifteen hundred Bolshevik troops are reported to have arrived in Vladivostok, Russia's principal seaport on the Pacific.

The above report, if true, probably would indicate that the Bolshevik government is now in control of the Trans-Siberian Railway, which runs from Petrograd to a distance of 5521 miles to Vladivostok.

ALAMEDA SITE FAVORED

BAY CITY IS LIKELY TO GET NEW NAVY YARD.

Cost of Plant to Be Built Estimated at \$30,307,000—No Purchase of Land Necessary.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—Alameda was recommended as the site for a new national Navy yard on San Francisco Bay, in a report to Congress today by the special board headed by Rear Admiral Hight.

The reports say no purchase of land will be necessary, that the site is adjacent to excellent deep-water anchorage, with a minimum of dredging work necessary and that it has convenient terminal and connection to all the San Francisco Bay cities. It concedes that San Francisco has an advantage by reason of the fact that a drydock could be built there on solid rock, but says that all things considered, Alameda is the most suitable of all the sites considered.

OAKLAND, Cal., Dec. 7.—The tide-lands affected in the recommendation of the special naval base investigating commission embrace a large area, probably between 2000 and 3000 acres. They extend toward San Francisco from the western shore of Alameda and stretch out into the bay to the pierhead line about parallel with the seaward line of Alameda mole. Surveys will be necessary to determine the exact extent of the state tidelands.

"THE STORE THAT UNDERSELLS BECAUSE IT SELLS FOR CASH"

A Decidedly Attractive Showing and Special Sale of Women's Fashionable Coats

Clever Models in Fine Velours and Other Popular Materials Especially Priced at... **\$11.95**

For Saturday's sale we have undervalued an exceptionally fine lot of Women's Fashionable Fall and Winter Coats. They come in the popular 48-inch styles, with plenty of sweep. The materials are fine velours and solid color cloths, in navy, brown, green, plum, black, etc. Belted and plain models, with collar of self material or plush. All sizes 16 to 42. On sale Saturday at... **\$11.95**

Holiday Sale of Men's Bath Robes

At **\$3.98** and **\$5.98**

Fine eiderdown Bath Robes—well made, in popular styles and colors. All sizes. This sale at **\$3.98** and **\$5.98**

For Saturday We Announce an Underpriced Sale of IVORY SOAP

Five Bars For 25c

For Saturday we will place on sale this well-known Soap at a reduced price. Limit 5 bars to a customer. None delivered except with other goods. No phone orders.

An Important Sale of Women's Novelty Neckwear

Especially Appropriate for Gift Purposes—at **98c**

A wonderfully attractive showing of the new season's styles—such as pretty Stock Jabots of fine white or cream nets trimmed with Val or Venice lace; also of Oriental lace with Venise edge—others of native bangaline silk, brocade, broadcloth and combinations of corded silk and broadcloth; both plain and handsomely embroidered styles in all popular shapes. At the same price you may select from dozens of fine Georgette crepe, plain, embroidered or lace trimmed. In order to induce immediate selections we have undervalued the entire assortment and at this sale you have unrestricted choice at... **98c**

Store Opens at 8:30 A. M. Saturdays at 9 A. M.

Store Closes at 5:30 P. M. Saturdays at 6 P. M.

Roberts Bros. THIRD & MORRISON The Most in Value—The Best in Quality

WIFE IS KEPT IN CAGE

G. K. ROOT TELLS OF \$10,000 HOTEL BILL PAID BY MATE.

Daughter of Wealthy Detroit Wards Suing for Accounting of \$300,000 Spent While Prisoner.

TACOMA, Wash., Dec. 7.—(Special.)—Perle Ward Root, daughter of the wealthy Ward family, of Detroit, was kept in an iron cage for a year or more in a New York sanitarium, according to the testimony of her husband, George K. Root, before Attorney William H. Pratt, Tacoma, today.

Depositions from Mr. Root are being taken this week to be used in a demand for an accounting by John Brainerd, to whom Mrs. Root entrusted the power of attorney in the administration of her \$2,000,000 estate and whom she now accuses of having wrongfully used nearly \$300,000 while she was being held as insane in various private sanitariums.

Testimony of her husband brought out today the fact that for three years Mrs. Root was kept in a private sanitarium and that he and others were led to believe that she was violently insane and would commit suicide if given an opportunity. In the meantime, Mr. Root testified under cross-examination, he was receiving \$25,000 a year from Brainerd for personal expenses, \$10,000 a year of which went to pay his hotel bill at the Holland House.

Mrs. Root obtained a divorce from her husband, to whom she had been married more than 25 years, in 1914. He is now a resident of Tacoma.

Mrs. Root is in Tacoma for the legal proceedings here.

Mexican Train Is Looted.

BROWNSVILLE, Tex., Dec. 7.—Barrage

Something New in Wrist Watches

I wish you would call at my store when you are downtown today. I have some new wrist watches which I think are just a little bit better in style and value than any you have previously seen.

They could hardly be excelled as Christmas gifts. Their price is **\$15 AND \$20**

Felix Bloch
324 Washington, Opposite Owl Drug Co. Credit accommodations without extra charge. "My special \$50.00 and \$100.00 Diamond Rings have no equal."

OAKLAND, Cal., Dec. 7.—The tide-lands affected in the recommendation of the special naval base investigating commission embrace a large area, probably between 2000 and 3000 acres. They extend toward San Francisco from the western shore of Alameda and stretch out into the bay to the pierhead line about parallel with the seaward line of Alameda mole. Surveys will be necessary to determine the exact extent of the state tidelands.

THEATRE THAT IDENTIFIES ITSELF WITH THE PARAMOUNT AND ARTCRAFT TRADE-MARKS IS SIMPLY SAYING, IN THE FEWEST POSSIBLE WORDS—

"This is the place you had in mind"

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ARTCRAFT PICTURES

FAMOUS PLAYERS—LASKY CORPORATION

TRADE MARK