

COUNTER BLOW BY ITALY MAKES GAIN

Austria Tries Desperately to Cross Piave

ALLIES TAKE 4500 CAPTIVES

Enemy Forces Resisted Tenaciously by Italians Along Entire Battle Front.

VIENNA CLAIMS SUCCESSES

Advance Alleged Near Coast and Total Prisoners Are Said to Equal 12,000.

ROME, June 17.—In their attacks between Zenson and Fossalta along the Piave, the Austrians have been stopped everywhere, says an official statement issued tonight by the Italian War Office. In the mountain region and around Montello, there have been no infantry attacks by the enemy.

The allied troops have taken several hundred additional prisoners and some machine guns.

LONDON, June 17.—The Austrians are reorganizing their effectives along the British line of the Italian front after their "severe defeat," according to an official statement issued tonight on the operations of the British with the Italians.

ROME, June 17.—Italian troops, in conjunction with their French and British allies, yesterday began a counter offensive against the Austro-Hungarian forces, which had launched an attack on the Italian mountain front.

The Italian and allied troops, according to an announcement made today by the War Office, were able to gain partial successes and to rectify their lines.

Enemy Losses Heavy.

The statement says the Austrians, disregarding their losses, continued their endeavors to cross the Piave River, but that the Italians are bravely holding their positions.

More than 4500 Austrians have been made prisoner by the Italians, British and French.

The Italian troops and their allies are holding the enemy strongly, tenaciously resisting him in the new offensive and making repeated counter attacks, said Premier Orlando in a statement to the Chamber of Deputies.

VIENNA, via London, June 17.—The number of Italians and allied prisoners captured by the Austro-Hungarian forces in their new offensive on the Northern Italy front has been increased to 12,000, says the Austro-Hungarian official statement issued today.

The Austrians have captured Capo Sile, on the southern end of the Piave line and on the west side of the river, and also have captured ground to the west of San Dona di Piave, the statement adds.

WASHINGTON, June 17.—An official dispatch from Rome dated 11:55 o'clock last night says the battle on the Italian front will assume gigantic proportions, the Austrians attempting to break down the Italian defense by a great pincer movement. It adds that the battle will last several days before a decision is reached.

Italy Not Surprised.

The dispatch follows: "The Austrian offensive, directed by General Boreovic, is developing along a front of 150 kilometers. Two armies are operating along this front—the army of General Conrad on the Asiago plateau and that of General Kuchbach along the Piave. The element of surprise is completely lacking. The stronger attack has been made against the defenses of Montecello and along the right bank of the Piave River down to Capo Sile.

"At 9 o'clock yesterday morning (Saturday) the Italians got into contact with the Austrian infantry on the Asiago plateau, on the Grappa and the Lower Piave. The battle continued the entire day and night and is growing in intensity at this moment. It is evident that the battle will assume gigantic proportions, and that the plan of the enemy is as follows: "While General Conrad tries to

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NON-PARTISANS PROBABLY BEATEN

DEFEAT IN MINNESOTA PRIMARY INDICATED.

Early Returns Show Two-to-One Vote for Burnquist—Unusually Bitter Campaign Is Ended.

ST. PAUL, June 17.—Primary election returns from about one-fourth of Minnesota's precincts tabulated early today, give for the Republican candidates for Governor, Burnquist \$1,951, Lindbergh 34,343. Returns were received from 713 precincts in 69 of the 86 counties.

ST. PAUL, Minn., June 17.—Governor J. A. Burnquist, opposed for the Republican nomination for Governor by Charles A. Lindbergh, who was endorsed by the Non-Partisan League, gained a notable lead on the face of the first scattering returns received from 26 counties tonight.

Shortly before midnight Republican leaders at the state capital forecast Burnquist's renomination by a heavy majority. It was pointed out, however, that some rural precincts had polled majorities for Lindbergh and that more probably would go the same way.

When the primary election polls closed throughout Minnesota tonight after a day of heavy balloting, one of the most bitter and perhaps the most spectacular campaigns in the history of the state was finished.

The contest between Governor Burnquist and ex-Congressman Lindbergh overshadowed all other issues. Loyalty was the leading issue of campaign. Burnquist's supporters charged that Lindbergh's speeches were un-American and that the policies of the Non-Partisan League were unpatriotic. Lindbergh asserted he was loyal and said his war criticism was aimed at "unscrupulous profiteers."

Burnquist polled a two-to-one vote over Lindbergh in the first precinct which reported primary election returns tonight. The first 22 precincts of the state to report gave Burnquist 2159 and Lindbergh 1082. The first precinct to show strong Lindbergh strength was in Kandiyohi county, where the vote was Burnquist, 5; Lindbergh, 127.

Forty precincts out of 3119 in the state gave Burnquist 4580 and Lindbergh 1788. The vote included 15 precincts in Ramsey (St. Paul) County.

Returns for Governor from 16 precincts out of 3118 in the state gave Wheaton, Democrat, 251, and Comstock, Democrat, 723.

Early returns for the Republican nomination for United States Senator showed that Senator Knute Nelson was maintaining a 2-to-1 lead over James A. Peterson of Minneapolis. Nelson's renomination was practically conceded.

EX-JUSTICE IS SENTENCED

Misappropriation of Funds Brings Term in Penitentiary.

MARSHFIELD, Or., June 17.—(Special.)—A. E. Shuster, the North Bend Justice of the Peace who was convicted of appropriating \$300 of county and state money to his own uses, was sentenced this morning by Judge John S. Coke, of the Circuit Court, to spend from one to seven years in the State Penitentiary and pay a fine of \$1300.

The major portion of the funds misappropriated by ex-Justice Shuster was money collected in fines from men doing an illegal liquor business since the prohibition law went into effect. The ex-justice was married two or three years ago. There is some talk of appealing the case to the Supreme Court.

OKANOGAN CROPS MENACED

Unprecedented Water Shortage Threatens Ruin.

WASHINGTON, June 17.—Because of an unprecedented shortage of water in the Okanogan reclamation project in Northern Washington, the Department of the Interior today asked Congress for an appropriation of \$125,000 to pump water from a distance.

Unless water is obtained soon crops and orchards will be ruined and the work of many years' development will be severely retarded, the department's report said.

OLD SEDITION CASE REVIVED

Loyalty of President Buchanan Attacked in Senate.

WASHINGTON, June 17.—The Senate today by a vote of 51 to 11 adopted a House resolution authorizing the erection in a public park in this city of a statue of James Buchanan.

Senators opposing the resolution attacked the loyalty of the former President.

AUSTRIAN KING AT FRONT

Monarch Watches Fighting in Which Germans Are Not Represented.

AMSTERDAM, June 17.—Emperor Charles is with his troops on the Italian front, according to a Vienna dispatch to the Nieuwe Rotterdamse Courant.

No German troops are participating in the offensive, the dispatch adds.

CHILE GETS DIVERS IN U. S.

Six Submarines Reported to Have Reached Balenita, Ecuador.

LUMBER PLANT AT LENTS IS BURNED

Rice-Kinder Mill Loss May Be \$70,000.

POLICE SEEKING INCENDIARY

Ship Timbers Piled Outside Sawmill Consumed.

MAN SEEN RUNNING AWAY

Night Watchman Hears Noise in Machine Shop Shortly Before Roof Bursts Into Flame Directly Over Main Saw.

Fire, believed to be of incendiary origin, completely wiped out the plant of the Rice-Kinder Lumber Company, located at 10th street and Foster road in Lents, at 6:30 o'clock last night. The loss is estimated at between \$60,000 and \$70,000, covered by \$15,000 insurance.

Within one hour from the time the fire burst through the roof of the main sawmill plant, the main plant, planing mill and drykiln were a smoldering mass of ruins. Four engine companies and one truck company of the fire department responded to the call. Chief B. F. Dowell and Chief Harry Johnson directed the firemen in fighting the blaze.

The plant, which is owned by the East Side Lumber Company, is a total loss. The property was appraised at \$99,000 by the fire underwriters. In addition to the loss of the plant by fire, between \$8000 and \$10,000 of sawed lumber piled in the yards of the mill was destroyed by the blaze. Three freight cars standing on the siding at the lumber yard were consumed by the blaze. They were partly filled with lumber which had been loaded for shipment. In addition, several logging cars on the main track next to the mill were burned up and the trolley wires of the Estacada line, which hauled the logs to the mill, were melted by the blaze and fell across the track.

The fire was noticed to burst from the roof of the main sawmill plant at 6:30 o'clock by workmen and neighbors in the vicinity. Without warning, a sheet of flame and smoke burst through the roof and quickly spread to other parts of the mill.

Police Seek Suspect.

The police are looking for a man whom it is alleged may be responsible for the fire. About 10 minutes before the blaze started the night watchman, Robert Earl, said he heard some one tinkering in the machine shop. Shortly before he saw the blaze leaping from the roof of the mill he said he saw a man running down the track between the cars on the siding. It is this man that the police are looking for.

Captain Inskip and Chief of Police Johnson were closeted with R. G. Kinder, one of the lessees of the plant, and N. D. Jamieson, secretary of the East Side Lumber Company, in connection with the fire.

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LEONARD WOOD TO STAY IN AMERICA

GENERAL FINALLY LOSES FIGHT TO FACE NATION'S FOE.

Instructions Detailing Warrior to Train Camp Funston Recruits Issued by Washington.

WASHINGTON, June 17.—(Special.)—In losing the Leonard Wood fight his fight to go to France in command of troops, temporarily at least, when orders were issued today reassigning him to train troops at Camp Funston, Kansas.

From statements of officials there is no present intention of sending General Wood to France in command of this new division after it is trained. An official statement on this point was withheld, however, Secretary Baker refusing to speculate "about General Wood's future."

In losing the new order assigning General Wood to training duty at Camp Funston, Secretary Baker cancelled orders previously issued assigning General Wood to command the Western Division at San Francisco.

This was in response to the plea made in person by General Wood to President Wilson and Secretary Baker for a command with troops, instead of an administrative post, if he were to be denied the opportunity to go to France with his men.

The decision to keep General Wood in this country will leave General Pershing the ranking general officer in the American forces abroad. All the other general officers who ranked Pershing in seniority have been disposed of by assignment to training or administrative posts in this country.

General Tasker H. Bliss is General Pershing's only senior in France, but he is assigned to the Inter-allied War Council and is not connected with the expeditionary forces.

CARLTON TAKEN TO TASK

Labor Deplores Attitude of Western Union Telegraph Head.

ST. PAUL, Minn., June 17.—A resolution protesting against the attitude of Newcomb Carlton, president of the Western Union Telegraph Company, in the controversy with the telegraph operators employed by that company was adopted today at the convention of the American Federation of Labor.

According to the resolution, President Carlton's action in calling a convention of Western Union employes to be held in Chicago on July 19 is for the purpose of perfecting a "company-controlled association," and is a continuation of his denial to workers of the right to belong to a legitimate trade union.

OFFICE BOY, AGED 95, BEST

Oakland Employer Finds Solution of Difficult Labor Problem.

SAN FRANCISCO, June 17.—Oakland has a 95-year-old office boy, possibly the oldest in the United States. He is in the office of W. R. Alberger, vice president and general manager of the San Francisco-Oakland Terminal Railway.

The "office boy" is a former well-to-do business man. Mr. Alberger needed an office boy. He had been forced to engage one every few days, as the boys continually left his employ to work in shipyards at higher wages. So he hired the man of nearly a century as his "office boy."

"And he's the best office boy I've ever had," the traction manager says.

U. S. MAKES GRAFT RAIDS IN 70 CITIES

Nation-Wide Blow Hits War Order Plot.

MUCH EVIDENCE OBTAINED

Illegal Commissions Figure in Hundreds of Contracts.

4 BOSTON MEN INDICTED

Secretaries Baker and Daniels Keep in Close Touch With Proceedings—President Wilson Informed of Situation.

WASHINGTON, June 17.—A nationwide conspiracy between manufacturers and contractors' agents in Washington to solicit Government war orders under an agreement to pay commissions illegally to the agents was disclosed today by the Department of Justice. Simultaneously with the announcement, raids were made on hundreds of manufacturers' business offices throughout the United States in search of papers showing the scope of the illegal practice, and four Boston businessmen were indicted in Washington on charges of acting as contingent agents.

Hundreds of contracts, involved. Even before the results of the raid were fully reported here tonight, officials indicated they had evidence that scores, perhaps hundreds, of contracts have been made with manufacturers who were under pledge to turn over to contract commission agents in Washington, New York and elsewhere a percentage of their profits.

Officials said the manufacturers were led to enter into the agreements by assurances of the agents that they had special influence with Army officers or others in charge of letting contracts, and under threat to use that influence against the manufacturers.

Thousands Made in Fees.

Evidence was said to have been secured that some of the agents have already made thousands in commission fees.

This development led to investigation of the relations between certain Army officers and these agents. Although there is no definite indication that these officers are knowingly involved in the conspiracies, Secretary Baker is making a thorough investigation in co-operation with the Department of Justice, and tonight authorized the statement that he would go to the bottom of any suspicious case.

Secretary Daniels is keeping in close touch with the investigation. The situation has been called to the attention of President Wilson.

Conspiracy to Be Charged.

The commission agents guilty of these illegal practices will be prosecuted under conspiracy statutes and all contracts made by them or with their aid are subject to annulment.

Ramifications of the plot may lead to other cities.

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38 HUNS DIE WHEN U-BOAT HITS MINE

SOME OF CREW ARE SUICIDES WHEN HOPE IS LOST.

Survivors Describe Cries of Victims, When End Came, as Most Horrible They Ever Heard.

LONDON, June 17.—Details of the destruction of one of the largest German submarines are given in a dispatch from a neutral correspondent. This submarine was one of the last to leave Zebrugge before the entrance to the harbor was blocked by British forces.

The U-boat struck a mine and out of the crew of 40 only two survived on reaching the surface after a struggle with death for an hour and a half, 20 fathoms below the surface. Some of the crew committed suicide, having lost all hope of leaving the boat alive.

The only chance of escaping was to force open the conning tower and the forward hatches and trust to the compression of air in one part of the vessel to force each man, like a torpedo, to the surface. The air pressure in the submarine had become so high most of the crew could not keep their mouths closed.

The compressed air shot them to the surface and hardly had they reached the sea level when the air pressure burst their lungs and about 20 of them sank like stones. The survivors described the yells of the men, when the end came, as the most horrible noise they had ever heard.

The attention of a British trawler was attracted and it hastened to the rescue. The condition of the survivors showed that their experiences in the submarine had been of a dreadful character.

YANKEES MAY HELP ITALY

No Announcement Will Be Made Until Troops Land, Says Baker.

WASHINGTON, June 17.—There are no American combatant troops in Italy with the exception of "observing missions," Secretary Baker said today. In replying to questions he said no announcement would be made of America's decision to send troops to Italy, of the composition of such an expedition or of its strength or commander "until the force had safely landed."

U. S. EX-ATTACHE IS HELD

Charles Strangeland Held for Violating Trading-With-Enemy Act.

NEW YORK, June 17.—Arrested in Bethlehem, Pa., last Saturday on a charge of violating the trading-with-the-enemy act by conspiring to smuggle a mysterious message into Denmark, Charles Strangeland, a widely known financial economist and until recently second secretary of the American embassy in London, was held here today in \$10,000 bail by the Federal authorities.

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HUN GAS FAILS TO BUDGE U. S. TROOPS

Yankees in Belleu Wood Brave Heavy Fumes.

BOCHE FED AMERICAN GAS

American Patrol Crosses River, Marne and Locates Enemy.

VOSGES RAID IS REPULSED

Badly Punished Teutons Fail to Renew Attacks Following Disastrous Defeat Sunday, in Which Their Losses Were Above 200.

WITH THE AMERICAN FORCES ON THE MARNE, June 17.—(By the Associated Press.)—The Germans today began using gas to a greater extent along this front than they have done heretofore. The Bois de Belleu came in for its share, but notwithstanding the heavy gas and other shelling the American lines remain intact.

An American patrol crossed the River Marne last night east of Chateau Thierry and at once established contact with the Germans. After an exchange of shots the Americans recrossed the river safely by means of boats.

Rain Drenches Troops.

Heavy rain began falling late this afternoon.

WASHINGTON, June 17.—Aside from patrol activity in Picardy, Lorraine and the Vosges, no important developments at points held by the American troops in France were reported in tonight's communique from General Pershing. In the Vosges a hostile raid was broken up by the American fire.

WITH THE AMERICANS ON THE LORRAINE FRONT, June 17.—(By the Associated Press.)—The Germans failed to renew their attacks on the American front northwest of Toul today. The enemy losses sustained yesterday morning when the Germans were defeated in an attempt to take American prisoners, were estimated at a number in excess of 200.

Yankee Losses Small.

The American casualties were considerably fewer.

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN FRANCE, June 17.—(By the Associated Press.)—The Germans captured an American soldier in their attack on Xivray today, but he did not remain a prisoner long.

At the edge of the village three Germans came upon a wounded American. He was placed under guard of a German private and started for the enemy lines. Reaching a point near the enemy wire entanglements, the American suddenly drew a revolver and forced his surprised captor to march back across No Man's Land into the American lines. After turning his prisoner over to a fellow soldier, the wounded man fell unconscious from loss of blood.

Huns Are Disappointed.

In their attack on Xivray the Germans hoped to enter the village and carry off a large number of prisoners, but the alertness of the American artillery observers completely overthrew the enemy plan. Examination of the Germans captured in the fight disclosed that the enemy planned the raid a week in advance and that the 600 special troops who took part in it were rehearsed behind the German lines.

The enemy's plan was to send forward a large party without preparatory artillery fire. This party was to take up a position near the American barbed wire and then send up a signal rocket for a box barrage to cover Xivray village and the approaching German command trenches, while the heavier artillery was to bombard the villages in the rear.

American artillery observers saw a large number of Germans creeping about in no man's land, thinking they completely surrounded the party, the artillery signaled for a barrage which was to bombard the villages in the rear.

The American artillery and machine guns went into action immediately and before the enemy barrage could get started had inflicted heavy casualties on the unprotected Germans in no man's land and played havoc with the plans for the raid.

There has been an increase in the artillery and aerial activity along the Marne front, but the infantry has not been engaged in the last 24 hours.

The enemy artillery fire in the section east of Chateau Thierry has been increasing for some time and the American fire has increased proportionately. The Germans last night started to construct a foot bridge across the Marne at this point, but were discovered and abandoned the attempt even before the American machine gunners on the bank could get into action.

Gas Used in Large Amounts.

In the west the Germans have taken to drenching certain localities with mustard gas. One of these places is Belleu Wood, the Germans apparently thinking this was the only way to drive the American troops out. But it was not, for they are still holding all their positions and at the same time are giving the enemy some clouds of American gas to worry about.

German airplanes today and late last evening were very active. There was hardly a moment when the hollow bark of the Archie was not heard. The

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