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Forty-eighth Year. Daily—Thirteenth Year.

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ITALIANS CAPTURE 45,000 AUSTRIANS DRIVE ENEMY BACK ACROSS THE PIAVE

DISASTER OF MAGNITUDE FOR ENEMY

Italian Victory Growing Greater—Immense Numbers of Prisoners Captured and Huge Numbers of Guns—Austrians Slaughtered by Wholesale as They are Caught Between Flood-Waters of Piave and Italian Armies—Bridges Destroyed.

WASHINGTON, June 24.—Counting of 45,000 prisoners, and enormous stores of war material by the Italians in their counter offensive which has driven the Austrians across the Piave is announced in an official communique received today by the Italian embassy from Rome.

"Offensive operations by our troops began Sunday," says the dispatch. "After violent artillery preparations that destroyed all bridges except one, the infantry drove toward with irresistible impetus. The flooded Piave contains thousands of enemy corpses. Divisions which had passed the Piave were decimated by our artillery infantry."

Attacked in Three Columns
"Montello was attacked in three columns. Enemy lines were broken at Cella Della Madonna and Nerve and reconquered. From Maserada to Sordana the Austrians first resisted our attacks desperately but finally were forced to retreat to the left bank. Battle continues fiercely in the Sordana sector. Forty-five thousand prisoners and enormous booty captured by the Italians."

"American airmen displayed great bravery in the first encounters. Lieut. Young, attacked by two Austrian planes, was obliged to land on the lower Piave."

Extremely Heavy Losses
ROME, June 24.—Extremely heavy losses in men and materials have been suffered by the Austrians in the defeat which the Italians have administered to them on the Piave front, the war office announced today. The enemy has been driven from the entire west bank of the Piave, except at one point and was able to cross the river only under the deadly fire of the Italian artillery.

Italian troops have crossed the old channel of the Piave river, west of the main stream and recaptured several of their old positions there, according to a semi-official announcement tonight. From Capo Sile enemy detachments are advancing toward the main stream of the river.

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HUNS REPULSED IN RHEIM SECTOR

PARIS, June 24.—The Germans launched a new attack against positions held by the Italians at Bagny on 11 o'clock last night.

After hard fighting the Germans were completely repulsed with serious losses, leaving prisoners in the hands of the allies, according to a statement issued by the war office today. The French have repulsed a German attack in the region of Anthenay (west of the Oise.) The statement says.

LONDON, June 24.—The British made a successful minor attack on German positions south of Meteren (in the Lys valley) last night. Many Germans were killed and 50 prisoners and some machine guns were taken by the British, according to a statement issued by the war office today.

AUSTRIAN FLIGHT ITALIAN SIGNAL FOR AN ADVANCE

Italian Forces Attack All Along Line and Austrians Flee. Leaving Cannon and Machine Guns—All Bridges But One Destroyed and That Under Fire—Eight Days Rain.

ITALIAN ARMY HEADQUARTERS, June 23.—(Night.)—(By the Associated Press.)—The Italians have taken large numbers of prisoners, great quantities of ammunition and other booty since the Austrian retreat began.

The great retreat by the Austrians along the Piave front began under a veil of darkness on Saturday night. The retreating troops left their cannon behind them.

Italian detachments are pursuing the enemy east of the Piave. Austrian troops left to cover the retreat used their machine guns to set up a barrage fire.

Attacked All Along Line
When it was observed that the Austrians had begun a retrograde movement, the Italians began to attack was quickly pressed and became line from Montello on the north toward the mouth of the river. The attack was quickly pressed and became more insistent, accompanied by violent artillery fire.

The number of guns left behind by the Austrians as they retreated has not been computed, but is said to be very great.

The work of the American aviators who appeared on the front last week for the first time contributed notably to the disorganization of the Austrian forces which had crossed the Piave, according to Rined, correspondent of the Milan Secolo.

The Italian attack began at dawn on Sunday. With the Montello on the left flank, the attack was carried on along the line through Cadenon to the San Dona Di Piave.

Rear Guard Actions

South of the Zenson bend the Austrians are fighting rear guard actions to cover the retreat of their main body over the two bridges they have left at San Dona and Grosoleri—three and a half miles from the Adriatic.

The Austrian retreat which began in an orderly manner soon became wildly disorganized and confused. Many thousands of Austro-Hungarians surrendered at the first opportunity when overtaken by their pursuers.

Rain which had been falling for eight days broke forth more violently about daylight today at a time when Italian artillery and machine guns began to open up on the retreating Austrians who were struggling knee deep in the mire.

The Italian cavalry took part in the pursuit, harrying the fugitives.

Threw Away Equipment
As the Austrians were pressed by the Italians they threw away their guns and equipment. They even left on the Montello stacks of bread, canned meat and preserves which Austrian soldiers had been eating.

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CONGRATULATIONS WIRED TO ITALIANS

WASHINGTON, June 24.—Secretary Baker today cabled the American ambassador at Rome for congratulations upon the victory of the Italians army over the Austrians. He said:

"The people of the United States are watching with enthusiasm and admiration the exploits of your brave army."

STRIKERS VOICE DEMANDS FOR SPEEDY PEACE

Austrian Workmen Formulate Demand That Austrian Government Show Itself for a General Peace and Invite Enemy Governments to Enter Negotiations.

LONDON, June 24.—Strikers in the various factories in Vienna on Saturday formulated a demand that the Austrian government show itself for a general peace and invite the governments of enemy countries to enter into peace negotiations, says a dispatch from The Hague to the Times. Representatives of the workers submitted the plea to Baron Burian, the Austro-Hungarian foreign minister.

ZURICH, June 24.—The Austrian troubles are extending according to a dispatch from Munich quoting the Neueste Nachrichten of that city. The Vienna Zeit, according to these advices, states that the strike has become general.

Only Half a Ration
AMSTERDAM, June 24.—There is only sufficient corn for half a bread ration in Austria, declared Food Director Paul in an interview with the Vienna correspondent of the Lokal Anzeiger. The food department is attempting to make up this deficiency with other foodstuffs and in addition to 250 grammes of beef, two woumgs of horse flesh per person will be distributed weekly.

Military mobile kitchens will be used to supply 100,000 persons daily for four weeks with a warm meal consisting of soup, 100 grammes of meat and vegetables.

Cabinet Crisis
AMSTERDAM, June 24.—Emperor Charles, says a Vienna dispatch, has reserved his decision regarding the resignation of the Austrian cabinet. In the meantime he entrusts Premier von Seydler with the further direction of Austrian affairs.

AMSTERDAM, June 24.—In discussing the crisis in the Hungarian government Budapest newspapers, says the Lokal Anzeiger of Berlin, mention Count Tizsa, presumably as successor to Premier Wekerle.

AMSTERDAM, June 24.—Emperor Charles, a Vienna dispatch to the Lokal Anzeiger of Berlin says, undoubtedly will refuse to accept the resignation of the Von Seydler cabinet, which will remain as constituted except probably for the Polish member, Herr von Twardowski, who will retire.

PRAISE GUNNER FOR HITTING U-BOAT

WASHINGTON, June 24.—Chief Gunner's Mate Harry R. Chambers of Atlanta, Ga., commander of the naval armed guard on an American steamer, was today commended by Secretary Daniels for efficient conduct displayed during an engagement between his vessel and an enemy submarine on May 12. After the submarine had unsuccessfully fired four torpedoes, Chambers' gun crew opened up and fired four shots at the open area and the fourth shot striking the conning tower as the U-boat submerged.

It was not stated whether the submarine was sunk but the navy department's account of the engagement said "a heavy black smoke rose over the U-boat from the explosion of the shells."

DEFEAT AND STAVAT ION MENACE THRONE.



Emperor Charles of Austria-Hungary, who led the Austrian army into defeat, Empress Zita and children. The emperor risked all upon an offensive and lost. German troops are being rushed to his aid, but his empire is seething with discontent, strikes and riots over food shortage are in progress and discontent smouldering into revolution amongst the oppressed nationalities constituting his polyglot empire.

ALLIED TRANSPORT CHARTERED BY U. S. SUNK BY U-BOAT

WASHINGTON, June 24.—Sinking of an allied transport under American charter on June 18 about 700 miles east of the Delaware Capes was reported today to the navy department. The transport had no troops aboard and was westward bound.

Reports indicate that the submarine struck the ship. After the torpedo struck the stern, the crew took to the boats after the vessel settled and it was futile to use the guns. The U-boat appeared on the surface and fired nineteen shots into the ship.

Three boats with about sixty-seven members of the crew are missing. The crew of 145 got away from the vessel in seven boats, four of which have been located. The total rescued so far is given as 81 men. Two boat loads arrived by steamer at New York; one by steamer at Hampton Roads and one by sailing vessel at Bermuda.

Under an agreement with the British admiralty the navy department is not permitted to announce the name of the vessel sunk. Unofficially reports have reached here from New York that she was the Dwinak, a British steamer flying the Russian flag.

In view of the fact that the vessel was attacked far outside the European zone of submarine activities, some officials here think she may have encountered a submarine heading for home after participating in the raid on the American coast.

WASHINGTON, June 24.—A supplemental wage scale announced today by the shipping board fixes the pay of refrigerating engineers employed on ships operated by the board at \$85 a month; electricians \$90; deck engineers \$85; and pump engineers \$85. The rates are retroactive to May 1.

85 LOST LIFE IN CIRCUS WRECK PROBE ORDERED

WASHINGTON, June 24.—Director General McArdle today ordered an investigation of the circus train wreck on the Michigan Central railroad near Gary, Ind.

CHICAGO, June 24.—According to O. Timm, flagman of the circus train wrecked with heavy loss of life near Gary, Ind., yesterday, there was no one visible on the engineer's side of the cab of the engine a moment before it crashed into the snow train.

Timms estimated that he was 35 car lengths back of the circus train and having frantically signalled the train to stop, stepped to one side and fired a fuse through the window of the engine cab. He reported to his superiors that the engineer was not visible to him at that time.

Sixty-two bodies have been recovered and according to E. M. Boyce, general manager of the Hagaback-Wallace circus, 23 of the employees are still missing and are supposed to have been destroyed by the fire which consumed the wooden circus cars.

KALAMAZOO, Mich., June 24.—Alonso J. Sargent, engineer of the circus train of empty Pullman cars which crashed into the Hagaback-Wallace circus train near Gary, Ind., was discharged from custody this forenoon.

SALEM, Ore., June 24.—State Engineer will leave tonight for Medford to confer with the directors of Medford Irrigation district relative to the proposal to take the water supply for that district from Big Beaver creek instead of Beaver creek. Whether the plan will be found feasible will be determined as investigations are made. The Medford directors believe that Big Beaver creek will furnish a safer supply of water. Arrangements have not yet been made for the sale of bonds.

HUN WORKERS ON STRIKE FOR MORE TO EAT

Extensive Strikes in Rhine Cities—20,000 Munition Workers Quit—"Unless We Get More to Eat We Shall Not Work" Declare These Toilers in Munition Factories.

LONDON, June 24.—Extensive strikes broke out Thursday in Cologne and Mueselheim, on the Rhine, owing to a reduction in the bread ration, 20,000 persons quitting work in munition factories, according to a dispatch to the Daily Mail, from The Hague.

A Dutch working man returning to The Hague reports that the military and police interfered but failed to prevent a street procession of more than 9,000 strikers at Cologne. The strikers, who include women, gathered in a dense mass to an open place where a mass meeting was held. All the speakers, who included workmen and forewomen, made this declaration:

"Unless we get more to eat we shall not work."

The Dutchman said that snidbox is increasing greatly among the Krupp workmen at Essen.

Weightless Weeks in Store

LONDON, June 24.—Measures weeks for Germany is a possibility of the near future. Dr. August Muller, under secretary for food distribution, at a meeting of the reichstag food committee Saturday, says an Exchange Telegraph dispatch from Copenhagen, announced that it would be impossible to increase the meat ration. He said that most likely it will be necessary to lower it or introduce weightless weeks for the whole of Germany or at any rate certain parts of the population.

AMSTERDAM, June 24.—Chancellor Von Hertling, according to the Vossische Zeitung of Saturday, will speak today at the opening of the debate in the reichstag on the estimates for his office and the foreign office.

AMSTERDAM, June 24.—The reichstag this week will be asked to pass a new vote of credit of 1,500,000,000 marks, according to the Berliner Tagesblatt. This will raise Germany's war debt to 139,000,000,000 marks.

ENUF AMERICANS TO SATISFY ALLIES

LONDON, June 24.—Premier Lloyd George announced today that the next couple of months would be anxious ones. There might be a great blow coming in the next few hours, he said, and certainly in the next few days and on this blow the issue of the campaign might depend.

The entente allies, he added, never felt better prepared to meet it. Premier Lloyd George said the Austro-Hungarians were in full retreat. The question now was, he added, whether they would be able to effect retreat.

The premier, who made this announcement in the house of commons referred to the raising of organization which was bringing American troops to France.

"Enough Americans," he added, "have arrived to satisfy the allies and to disappoint and ultimately defeat our foes."

The remodeling of the former Daniels store room, corner of East Main and South Central, which will be occupied July 1st by the Medford Pharmacy and Teddy's jewelry store, is about completed.

HUN TROOPS SENT TO AID AUSTRIANS

Kaiser Rushes Divisions From French Front to Aid Defeated Ally—Confident Allied Aid Will End War This Year—Enemy Began Precipitate Retreat Saturday Night, Pursued by Italians, Who Cross Piave and Press Fugitives.

BY ASSOCIATED PRESS, June 24.—Confidence at Rome that the war may be brought to a victorious close this year, if the allies give the offensive a full measure of support against the Austrians, is reflected in official wireless dispatches received today from the Italian capital.

These messages say the Austrians retreat across the Piave, in which the Italians already have taken 45,000 prisoners, has become a veritable route, but that information from several sources shows that many divisions of German troops have been detached from the front in France and are being rushed to the aid of the Austrian army.

Italy's victory over the Austrians on the Piave front appears likely to assume the proportions of a veritable triumph for the Italians and a disaster of great magnitude for the defeated enemy.

Already it is announced in official dispatches from Rome the Austrians have lost 45,000 men in prisoners and great quantities of material, while the extent of their other casualties may be indicated by the thousands of bodies floating in the waters of the swollen river.

Unable to force his way further than the immediate vicinity of the west bank of the river and with bridges thrown across the stream swept away by the swirling waters of the flood pouring down from the mountains, the enemy began a precipitate retreat Saturday night.

He left a great many cannon on the west bank of the Piave, while his retreating infantry columns, according to news dispatches are already being pressed over by Italian detachments thrown over to the easterly side of the stream.

From the Montello plateau southward to the Adriatic comes the same story of the Austrian retreat. The Piave river formerly emptied into the sea quite near Venice but in recent years its course was changed to its present location. In the first rush of the Austrian offensive, the enemy succeeded in crossing the old river bed, which is now a canal. From their positions there the foe has been driven and the Italians are relentlessly pressing the pursuit.

DRAFT DRAWING HELD BY THURSDAY

WASHINGTON, June 24.—Wednesday or Thursday of this week maybe fixed as the date for the drawing of order number of young men who registered for the army draft on June 5. Announcement of arrangements for the drawing awaits reports from half a dozen local boards whose records are incomplete. The drawing will be held with formal ceremony in the capitol, like that which fixed the order of nearly ten million registrants a year ago. The plan has not been made public but it is said to be a modification of the original scheme. A very large proportion of the nearly 800,000 registered are expected to go into class one.