

AUSTRIANS DRIVEN BACK OVER PIAVE OR RENDERED HELPLESS BY VIGOROUS DEFENSE PUT UP BY THE ITALIANS

Invaders Succeeded in Crossing the River at Three Places but Were Met by Such Stern Resistance That Advantage Has Been Largely Nullified

ENEMY WERE PREVENTED FROM DEBOUCHING AFTER CROSSING

Austrians Suffered Heavy Losses and Many Were Taken Prisoners, But at the Same Time the Italians Lost Many Men—They Are Confident

The situation along the great front in northern Italy seems satisfactory. The Austrians have accomplished little. From the lower Piave and northward along that stream come encouraging reports, telling of the enemy being checked and at some points being hurled back across the stream.

It now appears the Austrians made three successful attempts to cross the Piave. One was south of Montello, where the battleline leaves the Piave river and mounts to the westward into the Alps. One was between Candelu and Zenson loop, where the Austrians effected a crossing last November and held a bridgehead for some time.

The reports of the battle show that the tactics followed by the Austrians were similar to those which brought success to the Germans in the Somme and Aisne offensives. The enemy advanced under cover of a smoke barrage from bombs and smoke apparatus in comparatively small parties. These were directed against portions of the line believed to be lightly held.

With the Italian Army, Sunday, June 16 (By Associated Press).—The Austrian troops which forced the Piave river have been driven back. The fighting along the river is most intense. Nowhere else along the front of attack has the struggle been so severe as on the Piave line.

One of the most brilliant of the Italian actions was the defense of the Monte Moechin salient, protecting the important Brenta positions. Here the Austrians suffered heavy losses. Many of their machine guns were captured.

The prisoners are ragged and ill-fed. Many of them are undersized youths. One of them remarked to the correspondent that he had no interest in the war.

At Italian army headquarters, satisfaction is expressed over the situation on every part of the front. The general commanding the artillery corps in the Monte Grappa region expressed this feeling to the correspondent.

"Now send us only four divisions of Americans," the general added. "We will first shake hands and then travel together into Austria."

The severity of the fighting on Monte Grappa may be understood from the fact that the Italian artillery fired 70,000 shells in 12 hours.

SIXTY DIVISIONS FACING ITALIANS

Though Feeling the Strong Pressure, the Italians Seem Confident That They Will Win the Battle.

Rome, Sunday, June 16.—The situation on the Italian front in its entirety seems very reassuring, declared a semi-official note last night. It says the great battle which broke out Saturday has only begun. Although having a strength of 60 divisions, the enemy has not succeeded in passing the Italian advanced area at any point.

Austrian pressure continues very strong along the entire front. The enemy is using most powerful attacks astride the Brenta and across the Piave and it is still possible for the fighting line to flow backward and forward.

The enemy based his enterprise on various facts to assist him locally, says the semi-official note. There was a relatively brief but extremely violent artillery preparation with a large number of gas shells intended to destroy the Italian front line and paralyze the Italian artillery. Then, under cover of an artificial fog from bombs and smoke apparatus, the enemy advanced in open formation. He placed such faith in this preparation that he fixed his objectives for the first day's fighting more than 15 kilometers in advance and planned to descend from the mountain area and also reach the city of Treviso from the Piave river.

The Italian army was prepared for the Austrian attack and there is confidence it will be able to break the force of the blow.

Throughout the country there is a feeling of tense expectancy. The grave, solemn faces of the people are expressive of the seriousness of the hour, but also of the pride which is felt in the army. The churches were more crowded than usual to-day, throngs of women praying for victory and for the safety of those at the front. Many brought jewels as offerings.

It is believed the Austrian general attack is a repetition of the enemy's maneuver of last October, when he took the offensive from Caporetto to Montefalco with the intention of disguising his main plan of breaking through the Alps and forcing the Italians to retire in the Bainsizza and Carso regions. Now the enemy's front apparently is intended to conceal the development of a plan long cherished by Field Marshal Conrad Von Hotzendorf, to break through from the high Asiago plateau to the Venetian plain, thus obliging the Italian army to avoid an outflanking movement.

ITALIANS RESIST VERY TENACIOUSLY

Premier Orlando Told the Chamber of Deputies, and They are Making Repeated Counter-Attacks.

Rome, Sunday, June 16.—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 last night in the Chamber of Deputies.

"During the day the enemy by a strong reaction hindered the counter-offensive and pressure of our troops and those of our allies on the Asiago plateau and in the Monte Grappa region," said the premier. "The Austrians also attacked violently all along the Piave in order to establish solid bridgeheads on the right bank of the river."

"Our troops, by tenacious resistance and repeated counter attacks, are strongly holding the enemy. The struggle is most bitter on the western slopes of Montello and to the west of Sandona, and on the Piave."

GIGANTIC OFFENSIVE. Austrians are Trying to Work Pincer Movement on Italians.

Washington, D. C., June 17.—An official dispatch from Rome, dated 11:55 o'clock last night, says the battle on the Piave front will assume gigantic proportions, the Austrians attempting to break down the Italian defense by great pincer movement. It adds that the battle will last several days before a definite conclusion can be obtained.

TREVISO WAS OBJECTIVE. And Austrians Were Due to Reach It Saturday Night.

Italian Headquarters in Northern Italy, June 16.—(By Associated Press).—In their attempt to cross the Piave in great force Saturday, the Austrians had the city of Treviso as their objective. In getting across the Piave the Austrians paid a tremendous sacrifice before the machine gun fire of the Italians on the western bank.

Counter attacks by Italian infantry and heavy Italian artillery fire have forced the enemy to retire from most of his gains along the Piave.

An order found in the pockets of prisoners was to the effect that the Austrians were to be at Preganziol, south of Treviso, on Saturday night.

FRENCH CAPTURED HUNDRED PRISONERS AND IMPROVED LINE

Minor Success Won Near Hautebraye—Between the Oise and Aisne Rivers—Enemy Surprise Attacks Were Repulsed.

Paris, June 17.—The French troops improved their positions north and northwest of Hautebraye, between the Oise and the Aisne, in a local operation early to-day. One hundred prisoners and some machine guns were captured, says the official statement issued to-day.

The statement reads: "Between the Oise and the Aisne the French early to-day carried out a local operation which resulted in improvement of the French positions north and northwest of Hautebraye. The French took 100 prisoners and captured several machine guns. "In the Cavieres wood and in the Vosges our troops repulsed enemy surprise attacks. There is nothing to report from the rest of the front."

BRITISH RALLIED AND STOPPED RAID

Their Effort Was East of Arras and Enemy Move Was Near Givenchy.

London, June 17.—A successful raid was carried out last night east of Arras by the British, who took a few prisoners, it is announced officially. "We carried out a successful raid last night east of Arras and captured a few prisoners. A raid attempted by the enemy yesterday morning near Givenchy was repulsed. "For a short period during the night the enemy's artillery heavily bombarded positions northwest of Albert. Elsewhere only normal activities were reported."

GERMAN AIRPLANE CHASED BACK

It Crossed the Kent Coast in England Soon After Noon To-day But Was Thwarted by Anti-Aircraft Guns.

London, June 17.—A German airplane crossed the Kent coast of England soon after noon to-day. It was chased back to sea by the British anti-aircraft guns.

GOVERNMENT BUYS SPRUCE TIMBER LAND IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

Secures 2,756 Acres in Grafton and Coos Counties at Average Price of \$10.80 an Acre.

Washington, D. C., June 17.—Purchase of 54,672 acres of land for national forests in the White mountains, southern Appalachians and in Arkansas has been approved by the national forest reservation commission, the forest service to-day announced. In the White mountains, 2,756 acres in Grafton and Coos counties, N. H., were approved at an average price of \$10.80 an acre. They contain considerable valuable spruce timber.

HUNGARY TAKES CROPS.

All of the 1918 Product Has Been Requisitioned.

Amsterdam, June 17.—All new crops have been ordered requisitioned by the Hungarian government, according to a report from Budapest. All flour mills have been put under government supervision.

CALL ALL DRAFT MEN WHO CAN BE TRAINED

House Military Subcommittee Gives Its Unanimous Approval to Provision Authorizing President to Use Them.

Washington, D. C., June 17.—Unanimous approval of a House provision authorizing the president to call all men of draft age who can be trained and equipped was voted to-day by the military subcommittee considering the army appropriation bill.

IS A PRISONER.

Lieut. Paul F. Baer, American "Ace," Missing Since May 22.

Fort Wayne, Ind., June 17.—Lieutenant Paul Frank Baer, the American "ace," who has been reported missing since May 22, is a prisoner in a German camp, according to confirmatory telegrams received here to-day by the aviator's mother.

FIRST AMERICAN TO DIE.

Private W. J. Guyton's Memory Honored by the French.

Washington, D. C., June 17.—Award of the French cross of war to Private W. J. Guyton, as the first American soldier to be killed on German soil, is announced by General Pershing in a continuation of yesterday's communique received to-day at the war department. Guyton belonged to the American force operating in the Vosges.

The despatch follows: "Section B—Private W. J. Guyton, who belonged to the American troops operating in the Vosges, was killed by machine gun fire on the day after his unit entered the line. He received the croix de guerre as the first American to die on German soil. As the division to which he belonged has now been identified, this information, which was transmitted confidentially on May 27, may now be published."

AMERICANS REPULSE FOE DEPORTATION FOR OBJECTORS

German Local Attacks in the Woivre and Chateau-Thierry Regions Fail

GEN. PERSHING MAKES REPORT At Xiray All Germans Who Got Through Barrage Were Then Attended To

Washington, June 17.—Repulse of local enemy attacks in the Woivre and Chateau-Thierry region was reported to-day in General Pershing's communique for last night.

With the American Army in France, Sunday, June 16.—(By Associated Press).—In their attack on Xiray, on the Toul sector, to-day, the Germans hoped to enter the village and capture many prisoners, but the fire of the American artillery completely frustrated the plan. Examination of the Germans captured in the fighting disclosed that the enemy arranged the raid a week in advance and that the six hundred special troops were rehearsed.

The enemy was to send forward a large party without preparatory artillery fire. They were to take up a position near the American barbed wire and signal for a box barrage to cover Xiray village and the approaching communication trenches while the heavier artillery was to bombard the villages in the rear.

American artillery observers saw a large number of Germans in No Man's Land, and thinking they composed a large working party, the artillery was signaled for a barrage. The American artillery and machine guns, before the enemy barrage could get started, inflicted heavy casualties on the unprotected Germans in No Man's Land.

The original plan was for the Germans to divide and enter Xiray from three directions. Only one section actually reached the outskirts, but only after it had been cut up badly by the American barrage fire. Of these only a small group got into Xiray, where they were quickly surrounded by the Americans and either captured or killed. Eight prisoners, including a lieutenant, remained in the American hands.

A majority of the American casualties which do not include any gassing, resulted from the German artillery fire. Among French civilians casualties occurred near a church as a procession of villagers was emerging from mass. Many of the French wounded were cared for in American hospitals.

This afternoon the American artillery sent retaliatory shells behind the German lines, while the Germans, apparently angered by the failure of the raid, bombarded villages as far as eight miles behind the American lines. The entire Toul sector is now echoing to the heavy gunfire in many weeks.

FOY—TROUP.

Marriage at St. Monica's Church This Morning.

At St. Monica's church this morning at 8 o'clock Miss Kathryn Troup, daughter of Mrs. Catherine Troup of 157 North Seminary street, and John Foy of Chester, Pa., were married, the nuptial mass being celebrated by the parish priest, Rev. Fr. P. M. McKenna. The bride was attended by Miss Ruth Nelson, and Carl Nelson of Chester, Pa., an intimate friend of the groom, acted as best man. A number of soloists from St. Monica's choir sang during the service. Mr. and Mrs. Foy are to pass a few days in Barre before going to Chester, Pa., where the groom, who was formerly connected with the Barre creamery, has a position.

MORE VERMONTERS WANTED.

Government Calls for 365 Men to Go to Burlington About July 15.

Another call for men to respond to the need of America's protection has been received by Gov. Graham. It arrived Sunday and was this morning turned over to the adjutant general, who sent a copy of it to the different boards of exemption. These men will go to Burlington on about July 15 in response to a call for 365 men who have seen mechanical training or an aptitude for that line of work. The call is almost identical with that received the middle of May. Registrants may self-induct until June 21, after which the county quotas not filled will be filled by drafting. The county allotments were being figured this afternoon.

NOT A SINGLE CONTEST.

In the Maine State Primaries, Which Were Held To-day.

Portland, Me., June 17.—For the first time in seven years there were no contests in the state primaries to-day for the Republican and Democratic nomination for United States senators, congressman and governor. Governor Miller, Senator Mert M. Fernald and the four congressmen, all Republicans, had no opposition for re-nomination.

Clarendon Man Wounded.

Ottawa, Ont., June 17.—The overseas casualty list given out last night includes the following names of Americans: Died of wounds: P. P. Acker of Boston; wounded, G. Patch of Clarendon, Vt.

JUDGE GULTINAN DEAD.

Was Magistrate of Bennington Municipal Court.

Bennington, June 17.—Judge Daniel A. Gultinan of the Bennington municipal court died yesterday, aged 44. He was a native of Bennington, was admitted to the bar in 1896 and had held a number of state offices. He was a member of the commission to revise the Vermont statutes in 1914-15, and was clerk of the revision committee of the legislature in 1915-16. He was also referee in bankruptcy for six years, a past state deputy of the Knights of Columbus and a member of Bennington lodge of Elks.

TO MEET IN BARRE.

5th Annual Convention of Universalists of Vermont and Quebec.

The 5th annual session of the Universalist convention of Vermont and Quebec is to be held in Barre August 20-22.

YOUNG AMERICA CARRIED PATRIOTISM TO THE CITY PARK

More Than 700 Sunday School Children Gave Patriotic Songs, Assisted by Some of Their Elders.

City park and bordering streets were crowded Sunday afternoon with more than 700 children, representing all Sunday schools in the city, lifted their voices in patriotic melody. It was one of the most unique demonstrations of loyalty in a year, and the park has seen some pretty stirring times since the United States entered the war on the side of righteousness. Preceding the big juvenile singing in the park, there was a parade in which the American flag and the flags of our allies appeared in a blaze of color. Smiling skies favored the affair and from first to last the program was carried through without a hitch. Patriotism soared far above the narrowing levels of denominationalism, for there were children of all churches singing lustily to the glorification of a common cause.

Choirs of several churches crowded into the bandstand to lead the youngsters, but instead of the usual choir music, including the entire student body from the seminary as well as friends and relatives of those who are to graduate Friday. Ferns, evergreens and seasonal flowers were used effectively in decorations about the rostrum, and the services were made more impressive by special music which the head of the musical department, under direction from the seminary figured creditably. The class motto, "Euse Quam Videre," in the class colors, had a place over the rostrum.

Several tiers of seats toward the front of the church were reserved for the student body and members of the faculty. Dr. Edmund Milne acted as marshal, and by 10:30 a. m. when the services began, the church was filled to capacity. Rev. Mr. Morrell was assisted by Rev. J. B. Reardon, the pastor. The processional, by Mailey, was rendered by Miss Mary Lease, who played the "Marche Solennelle." The girls' glee club then sang "I Waited for the Lord" (Mendelssohn). The pastor officiated at the invocation and the responsive reading, and at the close the glee club sang "Lead Us, Heavenly Father" (Blumenschein). Rev. Mr. Morrell gave the scriptural reading and offered prayer, the glee club singing as a response, "Lift Thine Eyes" by Mendelssohn. At the offertory Miss Lease rendered "Ave" (Frey), and Miss Natalie Jameson sang "The Lord Is My Strength" (Wooler).

"The Importance of Youth" was the subject of a timely sermon by the baccalaureate preacher. It was appropriately interwoven with a patriotic appeal to all members of the congregation. At the outset Rev. Mr. Morrell spoke in laudatory vein of the spirit of the American Goddard spirit, and from his own fund of experience at St. Lawrence university told his hearers of how that spirit has been transplanted to the Canton institution by young men and women who have gone there from Goddard.

In the final analysis, said the clergyman, the spirit of America in 1776 is the spirit of God. It still lives. Ideals and principles called that spirit into new emphasis in the war of 1812 and again in 1861, when it was more clearly exemplified than ever. Now, in a new crisis, with the issue a world issue, the old pioneer spirit of America is re-creating the spirit inspired of God, re-creating it, self, the preacher declared that it has worked a wondrous change on the American people in the space of a year, and that in its re-expression a good many people have found themselves.

Youth and age may not wholly interpret the spirit of God, he continued, without having recourse to some of the fundamentals of religion, although youth under present circumstances may go far toward correct interpretation by reason of the gift of vision, which is given to youth alone. And the accurate translation of God's message is possible in the proportion that one is a man of foresight and vision. Rev. Mr. Morrell urged his youthful hearers to see to it that the spirit of God obtains in their school even though their eyes are strained toward that future to glimpse the first signs of that which the future has in store for them.

Truth, righteousness and wisdom belong to eternity, as does holiness, but there never was a time in the existence of America when religion was so divinely manifested. It is closely allied to the principles and ideals for which men are gladly laying down their lives, and for which women are making every sacrifice. A year ago, the preacher asserted, he who sought to preach a workable theory of religion might have found his course a precarious one. America was at the cross roads, and no one could be sure about the direction that its people would follow. A year had wrought a marvelous change. On the eve of the struggle in which she was to be tried in the balance, France was said to be a democracy, her people given over to pleasure seeking. Yet she faced the crisis with a challenge; she proved to the world that there are no more courageous soldiers than hers; France quailed.

It was said of America that the people were more materialistic than spiritualistic, that they were given over to a struggle for wealth, and the enjoyment of pleasure. Then came the crisis and the sublime response far exceeding expectations. Our achievements in one year of war, said the clergyman, bear witness to our belief in ideals that have the very foundation in religion. It is a human religion, a religion of democracy. In this connection the preacher referred to the whole-hearted support which the American people are according the conscription act. Before its passage, there were many who said that it must of necessity meet failure. It was altogether contrary to American ideas. Yet when the test came America gladly gave its manhood in the manner that the government directed.

Our progress in this great conflict for ideals and world democracy, asserted the speaker, serves only to re-emphasize the importance of youth. Thus far it is not what we have obtained, but rather the promise of the future that counts. If a man who has attained the age of 40, or who is moving on toward 50, was destined to contribute anything to the world, he has already made that contribution. With youth there is a difference. Our hope for the future is wrapped up in the young manhood and young womanhood of the nation.

Who can tell the value of youth? (Continued on fifth page.)

STIRRING PLEA TO GODDARD '18

Uttered by Rev. H. Philbrook Morrell of St. Lawrence University

BACCALAUREATE TALK AT COMMENCEMENT

The Speaker Emphasized the Meaning of the Word Service

A baccalaureate sermon by Rev. H. Philbrook Morrell of St. Lawrence university, Canton, N. Y., with the customary class Sunday exercises at the Universalist church yesterday ushered in the 49th annual commencement week of Goddard seminary. A large congregation listened to the stirring patriotic message brought by the preacher, the attendees including the entire student body from the seminary as well as friends and relatives of those who are to graduate Friday. Ferns, evergreens and seasonal flowers were used effectively in decorations about the rostrum, and the services were made more impressive by special music which the head of the musical department, under direction from the seminary figured creditably. The class motto, "Euse Quam Videre," in the class colors, had a place over the rostrum.

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Who can tell the value of youth? (Continued on fifth page.)

VERMONTERS MUST PLEDGE \$7,365,000 FOR WAR STAMPS

Best Security in the World Offered for Investment—Drive for Pledges Will Be Conducted From June 24-28.

The plans are complete for Vermont's intensive drive from June 24 to June 28 for pledges to buy United States war savings stamps. Beginning Monday morning, June 24, a personal appeal will be made all over the state for men, women and children to show their patriotism by pledging to purchase stamps to the limit of their ability during the remainder of 1918. They are not going to be asked to give something; they are going to be asked to invest—to invest in the best security the world affords at the present time and at a good rate of interest.

These war savings stamps represent the United States government and all the wealth of the United States. They have the same backing as Liberty bonds. They bear interest at the rate of 4 per cent, compounded quarterly. They will be redeemed by the United States government in 1923. They can be purchased at all postoffices, at banks, at many stores and in other specially designated agencies.

Why are Vermonters to be asked to invest in these war savings stamps? For this reason: To meet the explicit call on Vermont to raise \$7,365,000 for war purposes during the year 1918 under a system which has proven popular in Great Britain and well as the remainder in Liberty bonds. A great many of the people must invest in denominations of \$100, \$500 and \$1,000. The government limits individual holdings of these securities to \$1,000, maturity value, but that does not prevent individual membership in a family from purchasing the stamps. And the "limit club" must have a crowded membership if the old state of Vermont is to meet its quota. At the same time smaller pledges are necessary.

(Continued on fourth page.)