

## AUSTRIANS FAIL TO OVERWHELM ITALIANS

### DRIVE HALTED ALMOST FROM ITS INCEPTION

Long-Delayed Attack in Italy Results in Check For Kaiser.

### DEFENDERS BLOCKED IN GREAT THRUST

Italians, With British and French Allies, Fully Prepared and Austrians Are Forced to Fall Back After Crossing Piave River at Several Points—May Be Prelude to More Determined Effort.

Altho the situation along the great crescent-shaped battle line in northern Italy remains somewhat obscure, it seems that the Austrians have accomplished little at the inception of their drive against the Italian and allied armies. From the lower Piave river and northward along the stream come encouraging reports telling of the enemy being checked and at some points hurled back across the stream.

From the Piave to the Brenta, where the Teutons advanced thru mountain ravines in their attempts to break thru the allied lines, the situation seems to be well in hand.

It appears the Austrians made three attempts to cross the Piave. One was south of Montebelluna where the battle line leaves the Piave river and mounts to the westward into the Alps. One was between Candelo and Zenson loop, where the Austrians effected a crossing last November and held a bridgehead for some time. The other was at S. Dona di Piave, about eleven miles from the mouth of the river, while the others have not been able to develop any advantage from their early success.

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 Alsace offensives. The enemy advanced under cover of a smoke barrage and in comparatively small parties. These were directed against positions of the line believed to be lightly held. In France the Germans succeeded by this method in gaining the rear of strongly held portions of the line.

Along the Italian front, however, the foe was not able to penetrate far into the allied positions and counter attacks soon drove him back to his lines.

The result is as yet in the balance. So far German troops are reported only in one sector on the mountain front, but it is not improbable that they will be dispatched to aid the Austrians if they can be spared along the French front.

Furious fighting is said to be continuing and it is probable harder blows will be launched by the enemy. The fact, however, that the first onslaught did not result in success, as when the Germans and Austrians attacked along the Somme last October, speaks volumes for the Italian morale.

In two days of fighting Vienna claims the capture of 10,000 prisoners on the Piave and 6,000 in the mountain region. Fifty guns were taken on the river front.

In their counter attacks, begun Saturday night, the Italians already have captured 3,000 of the enemy.

[By the Associated Press.]

With the Italian Army, June 16.—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 along the Piave line.

One of the most brilliant of the Italian actions was the defense of the Monte Meschin salient, protecting the important Brenta positions. Here the Austrians suffered heavy losses, many of their machine guns being captured. The prisoners were ragged and ill-fed. Many are underaged youths.

The feeling of the Italians is boyant. At Italian headquarters satisfaction is felt over the situation on every part of the front. The general commanding the artillery corps in the Monte Grappa region said:

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

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

Rome is Optimistic.

Rome, June 17.—The situation on the Italian front in its entirety seems reassuring, says a semi-official note issued tonight. It is added that the great battle which broke out Saturday has only begun. Altho having a strength of six divisions the enemy forces have not passed the Italian advance area at any point.

Austrian pressure continues along

along the entire front. The enemy is concentrating most powerful and fierce attacks astride the Brenta and across the Piave and it is still possible for the fighting line to flow backward or forward.

Vittorio Orlando, the Italian premier, in an interview, said the Italian troops by tenaciously resisting the Austrian-Hungarian troops in their new offensive in northern Italy and by repeated counter attacks were strongly holding the enemy. The struggle, he added, was most bitter on the eastern slopes of Montebelluna and to the west of Sandona di Piave.

Austrians Expected Much.

The enemy based his enterprises on various factors to assure him a victory, says the semi-official note. There was a brief but violent artillery preparation with a large number of gas shells. This bombardment was to destroy the Italian front line. Then under cover of an artificial fog from bombs and smoke apparatus the enemy in open formation advanced to the attack.

The enemy placed such faith in this preparation that he fixed his objectives for the first day's fighting fifteen kilometers in advance and planned to descend from the mountain area and reach the city of Treviso from the Piave river.

The enemy's bombardment was frustrated by the formidable fire from the Italian artillery, which destroyed lines and shelters and made full hits on massed troops as well as entrenched his battle emplacements with gas.

Met With Machine Gun Fire.

When the enemy infantry advanced in the front line zones they found resistance had been prepared for by Italian machine guns and had to meet a counter attack from the supporting troops. This resulted in a loss from the advantage he had gained and he left prisoners and machine guns in the hands of the Italians. This is what happened to the Austrians along the whole front of attack.

North of Katuna an advance group of British which had been passed and surrounded by the Austrians, rested until a counter attack freed them and at the same time captured 200 prisoners.

South of Neumar the French recaptured a strong point and took 185 prisoners. From Meschin to Monte Fenera the fourth army completely regained its advanced positions on the Azolette, Pertica, Solorolo and Perte di Salton, where the enemy had made slight progress. A storming detachment retook Col Meschin, with 250 prisoners, in ten minutes. The prisoners included twenty-five officers. Also between the Brenta and the Piave 959 prisoners were captured.

Austrians Falling Back.

South of Montebelluna the enemy crossed the Piave with considerable forces but is being gradually pushed toward the river by the Italian reactions.

Along the lower Piave the enemy passed the river between Candelo and Zenson loop in the region of S. Dona di Piave. The enemy was immediately checked and driven back by a counter attack to the bank of the river. One thousand five hundred forty-five prisoners, including one colonel, two majors and forty-two other officers, were made prisoner by the third army. Altogether 3,000 prisoners, including eighty-nine officers, were taken by the Italians and their allies in the last day of the struggle which was to have been a great success for the Austrians, but which resulted in a dismal failure.

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 Montebelluna, with the intention of degauging the main plan of breaking thru the Alps and forcing the Italians to retire in the Bainsizza and Carso regions. Now the enemy's feat apparently is extended to conceal the development of a plan long cherished by Field Marshal von Hindenburg to break thru from the high Asiago plateau to the Venetian plain, thus obliging the Italian army along the Piave to retire in order to avoid being caught by an outflanking movement.

Ukraine on Eve of Revolt.

Washington, June 17.—A dispatch today from Stockholm says the whole Ukraine is on the eve of revolt against Germany.

Enemy Plane Over England.

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

### CROWDER MAKES NO BASEBALL RULING

Rumors That Major Leagues Were Exempted From "Work or Fight" Order Without Foundation—Ruling to Come in Regular Way.

Washington, June 17.—Persistent rumors from the pro-war marshal general's office that the "work or fight" orders will not interfere with major league baseball teams, led today to the statement that no such ruling had been made. General Crowder said the question would be decided in the regular way when the occasion arises on an appeal from a local board's decision.

The "work or fight" order becomes effective July 1.

Escaped Convict Captured.

Independence, June 17.—Frank Morris, a convict who escaped from Fort Madison ten days ago, was captured at his home at Littleton and has been returned to the penitentiary.

Morris, who was serving sentence for a statutory charge, was seen by a neighbor who notified the sheriff.

Requisition Hungarian Crops.

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.

### YANKS UPSET HUN PLAN TO RAID SECTOR

American Lines in Toul Sector Attacked by 600 Germans.

### HAD BEEN DRILLED DAYS FOR EXPLOIT

American Airmen Report Preparations and Yankee Artillerymen Lay Down Barrage and Frustrate Plans—Battle Lasts Several Hours—Germans Incensed and Bombard Villages Behind Lines, Killing Civilians.

[By the Associated Press.]

With the American Army in France, June 16.—In their attack on the Xivray, on the Toul sector, today the Germans hoped to enter the village and carry off a large number of prisoners, but the alertness of the American artillery observers completely overturned their plan.

Examination of Germans captured disclosed the enemy planned the raid a week in advance and that the 600 troops who took part in it were rehearsed behind the enemy lines.

The plan was to send a large force forward without preparation by 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 and the approaching communicating trenches, while the heavier artillery was to bombard the area in the rear.

American artillery observers saw a large number of Germans in "no man's land" and signaled for a barrage. The American artillery and machine guns went into action immediately and before the enemy barrage could get started had inflicted heavy casualties on the enemy in "no man's land."

The original enemy plan was for the attacking party to divide into three sections and to enter Xivray from three different directions. Only one section actually reached the outskirts of the village, but only after it had been badly cut up by the American barrage. A small group got into the village, where they were quickly surrounded by the Americans and were either captured or killed. Eight prisoners, including a lieutenant, remained in the Americans' hands.

A majority of the American casualties resulted from the German artillery fire. Casualties among French civilians occurred when villagers were emerging from a church. Many of the French wounded were cared for in American hospitals.

This afternoon the American artillery opened a retaliatory fire against the area behind the Germans lines, while the Germans, apparently angered by the failure of the raid, bombarded villages as far as eight miles behind the American lines.

The whole Toul sector now echoes to the heaviest gunfire in many weeks.

Prisoner Captured Captors.

The Germans captured an American soldier in their attack on Xivray today, but he did not remain a prisoner very 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 German lines. Reaching the wire entanglements the American drew a revolver and forced his captors to march back across "no man's land" into the American lines.

After turning his prisoners over the wounded man fell unconscious from loss of blood.

Americans Repulse Attacks.

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

No Iowans in Casualty List.

Washington, June 17.—The army casualty list today contained thirty-nine names, divided as follows:  
Killed in action, 6; died of wounds, 2; died of accident, 1; died of disease, 1; wounded severely, 24; wounded, degree undetermined, 1; missing in action, 1.

The list included no Iowans.

Killed on German Soil.

Award of the French war cross of honor 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 today by the war department.

Guyton belonged to the American forces operating in the Vosges.

AMERICANS IN ALSACE.

Take Over Sector Near Swiss Border—Pictureque Surroundings.

[By the Associated Press.]

With the American Army in France, June 16.—To no other American forces engaged in the war has there been assigned such a picturesque country to defend as to those who crossed the German frontier of 1914 and went slipping down at night to relieve the French in the Alsace sector near the Swiss frontier on May 21.

At daybreak the next morning the

Americans found themselves gazing out over the wide valleys to the blue mountain ridges opposite, where a thin dark line revealed the enemy trenches nearly a mile away.

A good point in this sector the trench lines run in a zigzag course down the mountainside into a valley where the barbed wire entanglements are so close together that the Americans could shout to the Germans if they felt so inclined.

Among the large part of the front the American infantry perched upon one ridge gazed across at the German infantry on a ridge opposite. The artillery is doing virtually all the fighting, shells booming across the valleys at night rousing a thousand echoes.

Warfare in Foothills.

The nature of the warfare in these foothills of the Alps is best shown by the fact that the Germans on Friday morning attempted a raid which was easily repulsed and in which only one of our men is missing. High peaks afford an excellent view far behind the enemy lines, some days the line itself being visible by the aid of a big telescope swinging in a wide slot cut in the mountain side.

Thousands of mountaineers gave the Americans a royal welcome as they moved in toward the line the third week in May. They were the first Americans to appear in this mountainous country, and consequently the villagers came pouring out to the line along dusty roads winding in and out of the mountains. The villagers cheered the Americans and showered wild flowers on them as they passed.

### OBJECTORS MUST SERVE SENTENCES

Terms Ranging From Eighteen Months to Twenty Years Approved by Baker—Favors Deportation of Objectors at Close of War.

Washington, June 17.—Sentences ranging from eighteen months to twenty years imprisonment, imposed by court martials on so-called conscientious objectors at Camp Upton, N. Y., and Camp Gordon, Ga., were approved today by Secretary Baker. Most of the men objected to fighting against Germany or Austria because they have religious beliefs.

In approving the findings Mr. Baker went on record in favor of returning such men to the countries of their choice after the war.

Twelve objectors were sentenced as follows:

Hyman Polkes, fifteen years; William J. Seider, twenty years; Joseph White, fifteen years; Anton Zeldak, ten years; Julius Levinthal, eighteen months; Louis Silverman, ten years; Mayer Sufkind, ten years; Louis H. Blumenthal, fifteen years; Samuel Speir, five years; Carl Bauer, ten years; William Charles Schwab, twenty years, and Michael Clups, ten years.

ARMY OF 3,000,000 BY AUG. 1.

Crowder Tells Senate Committee of Plans For Army Increase.

Washington, June 17.—Three million Americans will be under arms by next Aug. 1, the senate military committee was told by Provost Marshal General Crowder.

Requisitions from the draft to complete the 3,000,000 total by Aug. 1. General Crowder said, have been made. Of these 2,000,000 will be draft registrants and the others volunteers and national guardsmen.

"Everybody thinks there will be heavy calls during the first six months of 1919," was a significant statement made by General Crowder. General Crowder approved the general principle of the bill introduced by Senator France, of Maryland, extending the registration age to from 18 to 45 years, thereby providing additional men for military and industrial service. He did not, however, approve the age limits fixed in the bill.

After outlining the plans of the war department for additional calls, General Crowder said that at the present rate Class 1 will be exhausted by the end of the present year and that unless the age limits are extended and another registration held, it will be necessary early next year to call men in Class 2 and probably soon thereafter in Class 3.

Final figures of classification of the first registration totaling 8,689,447 were given. The registrants were shown to have been divided as follows:

Class 1, 2,428,729; Class 2, 509,666; Class 3, 4,277,800; Class 4, 3,483,326; Class 5, 1,839,242.

General Crowder submitted figures showing the progress of the draft this year. A total of 1,347,512 men, all from Class 1, will have been called by the end of July divided by months as follows:

January, 23,268; February, 38,779; March, 132,484; April, 177,777; May, 360,230; June, 283,354; July, 290,000.

SALVAGE 407 SHIPS.

Property Recovered From Vessels in British Waters.

London, June 17.—From January, 1915, to the end of May, 1918, 407 ships sunk by the Germans in British waters have been salvaged.

Up to December, 1917, 260 ships were discovered. In the present year, to the end of May, 147 have been salvaged, the increase being due to improved methods and not to the greater activity of U-boats.

IOWA SUBSCRIBES \$2,400,000.

Red Cross War Fund 60 Per Cent Over State's Quota.

Des Moines, June 17.—Iowa's second Red Cross fund has reached \$2,400,000, an oversubscription of 60 per cent, according to Chairman John P. Wallace, in an announcement issued today.

Several counties, Chairman Wallace said, have reported oversubscriptions of 200 per cent, and it is believed every county in the state has "more than gone over the top."

### BATTLE LULL PREVALS ON FRENCH FRONT

Activities Limited to Local German Attacks and Raids.

### KAISER MAKES BOASTFUL TALK

Replies to Congratulatory Message on Thirtieth Anniversary of His Accession to Throne—Declares God Laid Upon Him Burden of Carrying Out Plans of Prussian Militarism—Congratulates Crown Prince.

[By the Associated Press.]

On the front in France the fighting activity has been limited to local German attacks at isolated points. Against the French along the Matz river the enemy failed.

On the front held by the British the allies carried out successful raids.

Replying to felicitations on the thirtieth anniversary of his accession to the throne, Emperor William boasts of the accomplishments of Prussian militarism in fulfillment of the burdens imposed upon him by God.

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 today. One hundred prisoners and some machine guns were captured, says the official statement.

German attacks were repulsed in the Caveres wood and in the Vosges. The statement reads:

"Between the Oise and the Aisne the French succeeded in carrying out early today 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 Caveres wood and in the Vosges our troops repulsed enemy surprise attacks. There is nothing to report from the rest of the front."

British Take Prisoners.

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.

WAR FORCED, SAYS KAISER.

German Ruler Boasts of Burden God Has Placed on His Shoulders.

Amsterdam, June 17.—Prussian militarism will bring victory to Germany, says Emperor William in reply to a telegram of congratulation on the thirtieth anniversary of his accession to the throne from Count von Hertling. The telegram reads:

"I express cordial thanks to your excellency and the state ministry on the day on which, thirty years ago, I ascended the throne. When I celebrated my twenty-five year jubilee as ruler I was able with a special gratitude to point out that I had been able to do my work as a prince of peace.

"Since the world picture has changed, for nearly four years, forced to it by my enemies, we have been engaged in the hardest struggle history records. God, the Lord, has laid a heavy burden on my shoulders, but I carry it in the consciousness of our good right, with confidence in our ship, our sword and our strength and in the realization that I have the good fortune to stand at the head of the most capable people on earth."

For Home Consumption.

"Just as our arms under strong leadership have proved themselves invincible, so also will the home-land, exerting all its strength, bear with good will the privations which now are keenly felt.

"Thus, I have spent this day midst my armies and it moved me to the depths of my heart, yet filled with profound gratitude to God's mercy.

"I know that Prussian militarism, so much abused by our enemy, which my forefathers and I, in a spirit of duty have nurtured, has given Germany's sword and the German nation strength to triumph and that victory will bring a peace which will guarantee the German life.

"It will then be my sacred duty, with all our power, to see to the healing of the wounds caused by the war and to secure a happy future of the nation.

"In most faithful recognition of work hitherto performed I rely on your strength and the help of the state ministry. God bless our land and people."

Crown Prince Congratulated.

Emperor William has congratulated the crown prince on his recent successes, according to an official dispatch from Berlin.

"Under your leadership," the emperor telegraphed, "the armies of General von Boehm, General von Bulow, and General von Hutier have severely defeated the enemy and shattered the storm of his hurriedly brought up army reserves. Eighty-five thousand prisoners are outward signs of this great army success. To you and to the participating commanders and troops I express my thanks and those of the fatherland."

"The fighting spirit of my incompar-

able troops guarantee our final victory. God will further help."

BULGAR CABINET QUILTS.

People Dissatisfied With Peace Portion of Roumania.

Sofia, June 16.—Premier Radoslavoff has tendered the resignation of the cabinet and King Ferdinand has accepted it. The ministers were requested by the king to maintain their portfolios until a new cabinet is formed.

[The downfall of Premier Radoslavoff most probably is due to the feeling in Bulgaria that he did not make the most of his opportunity in the negotiations during which peace was forced on Roumania compelled to give up the Dobruja. Many Bulgarians felt it has been reported, that the Dobruja should have been ceded outright to Bulgaria. There also has been dissatisfaction over whether the control powers would back up the Bulgaria's claims in Macedonia.]

SOLDIERS IN AUTO WRECK.

Two Boys From Camp Dodge Hurt Special to Times-Republican.

Fort Dodge, June 17.—Corporal Benjamin McGee, of Humboldt, and Corporal Blanchette, of Grand Forks, N. D., on leave from Camp Dodge, and Joseph Olson, of Humboldt, were injured when a new Marmion car turned turtle on a hill west of Fort Dodge. Sunday McGee's finger had to be amputated. Blanchette suffered a broken collarbone and Olson a broken rib and lung injuries. Olson's condition is most serious. McGee was driving the car, owned by E. W. Lovrien, of Humboldt, who was in the car. The car turned over twice.

PRISONERS WELL TREATED.

Germany Denies Stories of Abuse of Captured Americans.

Amsterdam, June 17.—American war prisoners are not being ill-treated in Germany, says a dispatch telegraphed to Amsterdam by the semi-official Wolff bureau of Berlin. The prisoners, it is declared, are not used as show objects to the German public and not subjected to insults and throwing of stones, as reported, as the Germans "do not excite themselves over a few Americans among the thousands of war prisoners.

"Adequate food" is not lacking in the camps where the American prisoners are quartered.

HOT WAVE NOT INJURIOUS.

High Temperatures Regarded as Beneficial to Crops.

Des Moines, June 17.—The heat wave of yesterday, general throught Iowa, halves the station report temperature of 100 or higher, was not injurious to crops, and if not accompanied with hot winds will be highly beneficial to corn and especially the small grain, according to Charles D. Reed, director of the local weather bureau.

Temperatures reported from throught the state today were considerably lower and in some sections rain was reported.

J. D. McNAMARA DEAD.

Webster Line Official, Native Iowan, Victim of Auto Accident.

St. Louis, June 17.—J. D. McNamara, traffic manager of the Webster railway system, died early today in a hospital as a result of injuries received in an automobile collision last night.

Mr. McNamara was born in Keokuk, Iowa, 46 years ago, and began his railway career in 1885 as a ticket checker for the Burlington at Keokuk.

IOWA CROPS DAMAGED.

Heavy Electrical and Hail Storm Visits Northern Counties.

Waterloo, June 17.—Much damage to growing crops is reported from north Iowa sections as the result of a terrific electrical and hail storm last night in early today. Buchanan county was hardest hit. Hail stones six inches in circumference are said to have fallen near Independence.

O'LEARY CAPTURED;

ARRESTS TO FOLLOW

Irish-American Leader, Charged With Treason and Espionage, Found in Mountain Cabin in Washington—Other Irish Agitators to Be Taken.

Washington, June 17.—The capture of Jeremiah O'Leary, Irish-American leader, under indictment in New York, in a mountain cabin in Washington, will be followed soon by the arrest of a number of Irish agitators in the United States on charges of espionage and treason.

The government has considerable undisclosed evidence against O'Leary and his companions. It was learned today. Officials intimated that today the government might not press its charge against some conspirators if they disclose what they know of Irish radicals in this country and agents of Germany working to promote rebellion in Ireland.

O'Leary now is on his way back to New York under guard of federal agents.

German Papers Lose Printing.

Clinton, June 17.—Mayor T. M. Corson today issued an order effective immediately, to City Clerk F. W. Leedham to withhold the publication of city documents from local German papers unless the editors agree to publish the proceedings in the English language.

Fragile Imitation Rubles.

Imitation rubles are subject to injury when exposed to extreme cold. They have been known to crack open in a single night, even when stored in a safe.

### FOGH MAY HIT HUN AS DRIVE IN ITALY FAILS

If Austrians Are Held First Counter Blow May Come on Italian Field.

### GERMAN DIVISIONS MAY BE SENT SOUTH

Breakdown of Austrian Offensive, With Counter Thrust by Italians, Will Compel German Command to Hurry Reinforcements From Western Battle Line—Austrian Drive May Be Due to Home Trouble.

[By the Associated Press.]

Washington, June 17.—The Austrian drive on Italian front already shows marked signs of failure, in the opinion of officials here. The advances achieved in the initial assault are so limited as to indicate that the Austrians virtually have been halted in their tracks. Details received are meager. Nothing has come that will permit officers to form conclusions as to the strategic plan the Austrian leaders are following.

There are indications the blow was struck more to offset internal troubles in Austria-Hungary than because a military plan has been worked out.

Reports of American observers with Italian armies have been received. It was learned today, raising the Italian army as among the best equipped and prepared of the allied forces.