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AUSTRIANS SUFFER DEFEAT AT HANDS OF THE ITALIANS

Italians Report 200,000 Austrian Losses.

MORE TRIALS

MAY COME

Diaz in Complimenting His Soldiers Upon the Great Victory Warns Them that More Trials May Come, Austrians Lose Tremendously in Men and Supplies. Fear of Revolution.

Rome, June 25.—In announcing to his victorious army the repulse of the Austrians, General Diaz, the Italian commander in chief, says the fighting for the present is confined to local actions. He calls upon the army to prepare for new trials. In an order of the day to his officers and men General Diaz says:

"The enemy who, with furious impetuosity, used all means to penetrate our territory has been repulsed at all points. His losses are very heavy. His pride is broken. Glory to all commands, all soldiers, all sailors.

"The country understood at once that the barrier set up by our heroes was unshakable and that your strength is the purest of immortal vigor. Our people and our allies, who have so many glorious representatives amongst us, applaud our success against the eternal enemy.

"The great battle is, for the time being, reduced to local actions.

"The army has deserved well of the country. We are sure of our right and of the holiness of the cause we are defending. New trials which undoubtedly await us will again show the enemy that Italy has lost none of her faith, strength and abnegation.

"For Italy, for king, for civilization, let us persevere in our sacred duty."

Austria's armies again are beyond the Piave and the river line once more bars the enemy from the Venetian plain. The crushed Austrian forces not only were pursued to the river but the Italians at points have occupied strong bridgeheads on the eastern bank.

How thorough the Italian victory has been is not yet clear as every hour brings reports of increasing Austrian losses. Many thousands of the invaders were killed in their attempt to regain the eastern bank of the river and the latest announcement from General Diaz places the number of prisoners alone at 40,000. One report places the Austrian casualties at 200,000 men. In addition the enemy lost large stores of munitions and supplies and many guns.

Apparently the sudden torrent in the Piave which played havoc with Austrian communications fell as quickly as it rose and the river bed was dry when the Austrian retreat began. This enabled the enemy to get many of his troops across, otherwise his losses would have been measurably greater.

Vienna blames the weather and the high water in the river for the retirement and gives no credit to the stout Italian resistance which held the enemy on the western bank and was gradually forcing him back to the river. It says the order to withdraw was given Thursday and leaves the impression that the retreat was carried out unobserved by the Italians.

It has been reported that Baron Burian, the Austro-Hungarian foreign minister, told the German commander that grave events, possibly revolution, would follow in the dual monarchy if an Austrian attack, which Germany insisted upon, was repulsed. There have been no reports that the disorders and unrest within the Hapsburg empire have ceased. In fact late news dispatches give scanty intelligence as to the state of affairs in Austria.

If the Austrian offensive was expected by the German command to relieve the situation on the western front the Teuton strategists have had a bitter disappointment. Austria probably will be unable to take up a new forward movement on the Piave line for a few days at least. In fact, the Piave front appears to be stronger now than at the beginning of the present battle. Operations on the mountain front are still being carried on by the Austrians.

CANDIDATES COME SLOWLY.

Only Two Announced Candidates so Far for the House of Representatives.

With the announcement this week of Mr. S. H. Goggans, of Cross Hill, as a candidate for the House of Representatives, the number of candidates for this office is increased to two and there are three offices to be filled. Even Dame Kumor is not evincing much interest in political announcements, so the announcement of Mr. Goggans has about exhausted the names even mentioned as probable candidates for the House. It is true that Mr. R. Coke Gray, the well known young business man of Laurens has been discussing the matter with his friends and has indicated that he would run if he got sufficient encouragement, still Mr. Gray has not yet committed himself and there the matter stands.

County Treasurer Ross E. Young and Supervisor Humbert are the only incumbents who have any announced opposition so far and very little is heard about other opponents to the court house officials. Mr. Young will be opposed by Mr. R. Judson Lanston of Madden Station and Mr. Humbert, so far, is opposed by Mr. S. S. Farrar and Mr. John D. W. Watts, Judge of Probate O. G. Thompson and Auditor J. Waddy Thompson are not being opposed this year. No announcements have been made for county commissioners, of which there are two whose terms expire this year.

NEWLY REGISTERED MEN TO BE DRAWN THURSDAY

Seven Hundred Thousand Will Learn the Order of Service That Day.

Washington, June 25.—The draft lottery for the newly registered 21-year old men will be staged at the Senate office building at 9:30 o'clock Thursday morning, Secretary of War Baker announced today.

At that time 700,000 young men will learn the order of their call to military service.

All arrangements have been completed for the event. Approximately 1,200 lottery numbers will be placed in capsules and drawn from a large bowl in the conference room of the Senate office building. The drawing will require about two hours.

The first large call for draftees for general military service for the month of July, is expected to be issued tomorrow by the Provost Marshal General.

WARRANT SWORN OUT FOR JOHN T. DUNCAN

Columbia, June 25.—Warrant was issued today for the arrest of John T. Duncan, candidate for Governor, charging breach of trust in the sum of \$5,000. It was sworn out before Magistrate S. M. Busby by J. W. Westlinger.

against Italy the next enemy attack may come from this front unless the Italians continue their advance eastward from the Piave, of which, however there are no indications at present.

Along the front from the North sea to Switzerland the allied armies are awaiting another blow from the Germans. Premier Lloyd George has told the British house of commons that another gigantic enemy effort is coming within a few days, possibly within a few hours. The allies are ready to combat it.

British and French troops on the Flanders battlefield have carried out local operations successfully on the plateau north of Le Port, west of Soissons and along the Aisne the French have improved their positions and captured 170 prisoners.

In a local effort in Belleau wood, northwest of Chateau-Thierry American troops have completed the capture of the wood by clearing the Germans out of the northwestern portion. Some prisoners and five machine guns were taken. In Alsace several Americans are missing as a result of enemy raids. There is no confirmation of the Berlin official report that 40 French and American prisoners were captured in a raid on the western front.

Two Kinds of People.



A spirited appeal has been made to South Carolinians by C. G. Rowland, president of the National Bank of South Carolina, at Sumter, S. C. So inspiring is the letter which he has mailed to hundreds of people in this state that the War Savings Committee for South Carolina feels that his message merits wide publicity. The letter follows:

"Dear Fellow American: I believe the biggest job the United States, this bank, and you have on hand just now is to win the war. That is, why I am making every effort all the time to do our part to bring this about. That is why I am spending this bank's money for stamps and stationery, to call your special attention to the Liberty Loan bonds and War Savings Stamps.

"The demand is that every man, woman, and child in the United States must help. The young man goes to the trenches. The older men, not liable for duty in the trenches, as well as those too young or otherwise not available for trench service, have just as important a duty to perform in providing the ways and means to take care of the young man who is in the trenches. That, too, is the duty of the women.

"It is a full grown man's job to carry this war to a successful issue and the most energetic and positive team work is necessary in order to do it. Will you fall in line and do your part by helping in a financial way?

"When this war is over there will be two kinds of people in this country—those who did help and those who did not help. We hope that every South Carolinian will be one of those who did help, will be prepared to meet the heroes when they come back from the front and tell them so. The sacrifice should be made by every one of us, and we should feel that it is a great privilege to make it. I hope that you will heed the call and come down and buy your part of the bonds and war savings stamps which will make victory possible for our army.

REVERSE STRIKES BLOW AT HUN

Germany's Entire Offensive Program May Have Been Upset by Crushing Defeat of Karl's Forces on Piave River--Italians May Be Opposed Soon by Other Teutons.

The defeat of the Austrian armies on the western bank of the Piave River is complete. Admission is made by the Austrian war office that the troops of Emperor Karl have been forced to evacuate the Montello plateau, over which they had hoped to press their way and gain the Venetian plains, and "some sectors" of the positions they attained last week on the bank of the river between the plateau and the point where the stream empties into the Adriatic. Bad weather and the rising of the Piave under the heavy rains are assigned as the reasons for the withdrawal of the Austrians. But the Rome war office asserts that it was the impetuous attacks of the Italians that brought about the failure of an operation which was started with the intention of crushing the armies of General Diaz and forcing the Italians, like the Russians, to accept a Teutonic allied peace.

All along the river the Italians have pressed back the invaders of their territory until only small units remain on the western bank, and across the stream King Victor Emmanuel's men are keeping well on the heels of the retreating enemy, who is fleeing in disorder. Again the cavalry has been thrown into the fighting and is sorely harassing the enemy, while machine guns from the ground and from aircraft, some of the latter operated by American aviators, are working havoc among the fleeing Austrian columns.

The losses to the enemy are described as enormous both in men killed, wounded or made prisoner. An official statement from Rome to the Italian embassy in Washington asserts that the Austrians have lost 45,000 men in prisoners alone. The Italian war office communication mentions only 10,000 Austrians as having been captured but it is probable that this communication antedated that sent to the embassy and that the captives in the hands of the Italians greatly exceeded this figure.

The probability that this is true is

enhanced by the fact that the river was swollen out of bounds and most of the few bridges that had not been carried away by the freshet had been shot to pieces by the Italian guns, compelling the enemy either to surrender or take his chances of being able to swim the turbulent stream.

So hurriedly was the retreat of the Austrians at some points they did not take time even to attempt to save their guns and stores, great quantities of which now are in Italian hands.

As yet there has been no sign that the enemy purposes again to renew an early date another offensive in the mountain region, notwithstanding the fact that reports emanating from Switzerland have said that he was bringing up large reinforcements and great quantities of supplies along the front behind the lines from the Swiss border to the upper reaches of the Piave.

That another offensive is expected—and at any moment—has been made known by David Lloyd George, the British premier to the house of commons. Where it is to come was not stated, but it was asserted that on the blow the issue of the campaign might depend.

On the front in France and Flanders the operations continue of a minor character. The Italians again have defeated the Germans near Bilgny in the Marne sector, inflicting heavy casualties on them and taking a number of prisoners.

In the same region the Americans at last have succeeded in clearing the Belleau Wood, north of Chateau-Thierry of the Germans who had been clinging stubbornly to positions which were regarded as almost impregnable. Prisoners were taken and five machine guns were captured by the Americans. The German official communication asserted that trenches near Baderviller occupied by French and American troops have been invaded by the Germans who inflicted heavy losses on the defenders. There is no confirmation of this.

To Operate Cannery.

The management of the Laurens Cotton Mill has moved the frame building formerly used as a drug store on Fleming Street to a lot adjoining the mill building and will install canning machinery immediately for the use of the operatives and others who may desire to take advantage of it. The canning outfit is for the use of the operatives, primarily, but Mr. Smith stated yesterday that he thought that other people could be accommodated to a considerable extent. The mill also has plans on foot for the erection of a small ice plant to supply the mill and the community with ice.

Company D In France.

In a letter received by Mrs. B. A. Sullivan from her son, Lieut. B. A. Sullivan, Jr., is contained the information that his company has arrived "somewhere" in France. Lieut. Sullivan is an officer in Co. D, 118th Infantry, in which are many other Laurens boys, including its commanding officer, Capt. Arthur Lee. The regiment has not yet been sent to the front.

WAR SAVINGS CAMPAIGN CLOSES ON FRIDAY NIGHT

MRS. JAMES H. IRBY.

Died at her home in Manchester, Ga., Friday afternoon and was buried here Sunday.

Mrs. Ora Lyles Irby, widow of the late James H. Irby, of this county, died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. W. R. Parsons, at Manchester, Ga., at the age of 77 years. Death was due to a collapse incident to advancing age. The body was brought here and interred in the Laurens Cemetery Sunday afternoon, Rev. C. T. Squires, pastor of the First Presbyterian church, of which the deceased was a member, conducting the services. During her married life Mrs. Irby had been a member of this church and she had never moved her letter of membership, although she had been living in Georgia for about ten years.

The deceased is survived by the following children: James H. Irby, manager of the state farm at Boykin, S. C.; Wm. M. Irby, of this city; Sims Irby, of Boykin; and Mrs. W. R. Parsons, with whom she had made her home in recent years. Mrs. Irby was a sister-in-law of the late Senator John L. M. Irby, the late Dr. W. C. Irby, the late Mrs. J. J. Wilson, the late Mrs. J. Willie Jones, and Mrs. Rosa L. Caine, of this city.

New Books at the Library.

In these days of work and war, everyone wants to devote the spare moments to reading about the war, so the "best sellers" among war books are included in an order which the public library expects to receive in the next ten days. The man or woman who is seeking information will find it in Gerard's "Four Years in Germany", "Dere Mable", written by one of the officers at Camp Wadsworth and illustrated by another, will make you "smile, smile, smile" while "The Glory of the Trenches" by Dawson, who writes of the spiritual side of the war, and "The Return of the Soldier" by Rebecca West, belong to the beautiful in literature.

Other books ordered are "The First Hundred Thousand", "Out to Win", "The High Romance", "The Family", "The Threshold" and "Greatheart".

As the children have been asking for the Elsie books and the animal stories of Thompson Seton, some of these old favorites are on the list.

The works of Sims which are full of thrilling stories of our own state and a good set of Scott's are in the library already.

In fact there are more good books in the library than many people are aware of. Anyone interested, will be wise to investigate and see what the book-shelves contain. Mrs. Edward Swain is in charge from five to seven on Tuesday and Friday and will welcome visitors. Ten cents will give a month's membership to the library. In what other way will ten cents buy the same amount of pleasure?

Sensational Rise in July Cotton.

New York, June 25.—July cotton made a sensational rise this afternoon, gaining 153 points within an hour, almost without reaction.

Later positions were affected but a similar advance was prevented by increased offerings. There was a notable scarcity in July contracts, however, when 28 cents was reached.

The advance resulted from the heavy discount at which July futures were selling under spot prices. This was not considered justified by the actual value of the certified stock available.

Another Call Made for July 20th.

Columbia, June 25.—A call for 1,541 white selectmen and 4,000 negroes has been sent out by Captain R. E. Carville, officer in charge of the selective service regulations. The white selectmen are to be entrained during the 5-day period beginning July 20 and the negroes during the 5-day period beginning July 16, the white men to go to Camp Wadsworth and the negroes to Camp Jackson. Laurens county must furnish 70 whites and 90 negroes under this call.

Lieut. and Mrs. L. S. Bolt have been spending a few days in the city with the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jos. W. Sibley, who left Bolt taking a short vacation.

Reports Indicate Large Subscription.

ORA IS FIRST OVER THE TOP

Chairman Aiken has Received Fertilized Reports from Various Sections of the County, but Reports Indicate that Committees are Hard at Work and Subscriptions are Gradually Increasing.

The War Savings campaign is scheduled to end Friday night at the close of what has been termed "War Savings Day". All those sections of the county that have not been thoroughly canvassed by that day are expected to be covered by the committee then and the reports made to the county chairman immediately.

Chairman Aiken stated yesterday that Ora, which was apportioned \$15,000, was the first to report its quota. Ora made a fine record in the Red Cross drive, so the early reports from that community was not unexpected. Reports from Cross Hill are to the effect that the quota is about reached in that community, but no official report has been made yet. Messrs. Sam Thompson and Lacey Cooper, of the Bethany section in Youngs township, were in the city yesterday and reported that the committee in the community had about raised the quota there and was fairly certain of going past the minimum.

The reports for the city of Laurens have not been tabulated, but committees were actively at work yesterday and it is thought that the total pledge so far are near the \$75,000 mark with many yet to see. Encouraging reports are coming in from other parts of the county and the indications are that a large subscription will be made before Friday night.

Arrested as Deserter.

Cleve Allison, colored, was arrested while at work on the P. & N. railroad near Donalds last week and brought to Laurens as a deserter. Allison failed to show up when summoned by the local exemption board. He has been sent to Camp Jackson for service.

Captured Small Still.

Rural Policeman Abercrombie located and took possession of a small moonshine still on the east bank of the Tumbling Shoals pond last week and brought it to the sheriff's office Thursday. The still was ingeniously contrived from an old automobile gas tank used for a boiler with a plain wash tub and gas pipe for a condenser. It is estimated that about a gallon of whiskey a day could be made with the outfit. Evidences around the spot indicated that it had been used a few days before, but no one was around when the discovery was made and consequently there were no arrests.

Not in the Race This Year.

Mr. W. D. Byrd, at present a member of the county's delegation in the lower house of the General Assembly while in the city last week stated he did not intend to offer for re-election this year on account of business affairs and his duties as Food Administrator. Mr. Byrd stated that he hoped that during his term he had been able to do something in a progressive way for the county as his efforts had been directed in that line. Mr. D. R. Boozer has not publicly announced his intentions as to the race. Capt. W. R. Richey, Jr., being in France, of course will not be a candidate.

Not Enrolling Fast.

Mr. W. S. Power, who is looking after the enrollment books for the Laurens precinct, states that enrollment for the primary so far has been very light. Hardly more than 125 voters have so far placed their names in the book. The books close the last Tuesday in July or July 30th, after which no more names may be added. In order to avoid a rush at the last, Mr. Power requests that the voters come in and enroll as early as possible.

Mr. J. Rhett Reid has resigned his position with Mr. J. M. Philpot and has accepted a similar position with the...