

# GERMANY ITALY'S FOE

## Austrian Aeroplanes Attack Italian Arsenal; Berlin Declares War; Russians Are Stronger

### KAISER MAY HAVE TO SHORTEN LINES

#### Report That Germans Are Leaving Flanders to Meet Attacks of the Italians.

### VIENNA IS GIVEN WARMEST SUPPORT

#### Austria Takes Stringent Measures To Control Her Italian Subjects --- Martial Law Prevails.

London, May 24.—The Exchange Telegraph company says the Wolff agency has announced that Germany has declared war against Italy and has recalled Prince Von Buelow, the German ambassador at Rome.

Rome, May 24.—Official announcement is made today that Austrian aeroplanes have attacked the government arsenal at Venice. The machines were driven off. Porto Corsini, Ancona, Barletta and Desi were also attacked.

London, May 24.—After being virtually in a state of war for several days with her former partners of the Triple Alliance Italy began today ratifying this condition by a formal declaration of war against Austro-Hungary. Germany is reported to have indicated her support of Austro-Hungary by a formal declaration of war against Italy. General mobilization of the Italian army and navy are said to have been completed and a state of war has been declared throughout the northern provinces of Italy. On the Austrian side of the frontier martial law has been declared in the Trentino; the age limit for military service has been raised to 50 years and stringent measures have been taken to control the Italian population in Austria.

Demonstrations enthusiastically approving the war are reported from all parts of Italy, while Vienna has offered the warmest support to the Austrian government in her operations against her new enemy.

The latest Petrograd official announcements are the most optimistic that have been issued for the last fortnight. They not only intimate a pause in the Austro-German advance along the San but claim that the Russians have adopted a counter-offensive which is meeting with some success.

Although it is not confirmed officially it is reported that Germany, now facing Italy as a new foe in the south, will have to shorten her western line and consequently is preparing to withdraw her advance line in Flanders. The reported evacuation of Bruges is said to have been a part of this move.

**\$20,000,000 in Ship Prizes.**  
Rome, May 23, via Paris, May 24.—The value of Austrian and German ships now in Italian ports and subject to seizure as prizes is estimated to be over \$20,000,000.

Feeling along the frontier was further intensified when the Austrian barracks at Rovereto, a town in the Tyrol, with about twelve thousand Italian inhabitants, was blown up. While there was no evidence to connect the Italian residents with the incident, the police immediately made wholesale arrests among them.

The Austrians are concentrating large forces along the upper Adige river, which flows from the Tyrol

Other reports received from Trieste say there is much distress in that seaport. The city is virtually without bread, and even cornmeal for the "polenta," or porridge of the people, is extremely scarce.

**Declaration of War.**  
Amsterdam, May 23.—(Via London, May 24.)—A dispatch from Vienna says the Italian ambassador to Austria, the Duke of Avarna, this afternoon presented to Baron von Burian, the Austro-Hungarian foreign minister, the following declaration of war:

"Vienna, May 23.—Conformably with the orders of his majesty, the king, his august sovereign, the undersigned ambassador of Italy has the honor to deliver to his excellency, the foreign minister of Austria-Hungary, the following communication:

"Declaration has been made as from the fourth of this month, to the imperial and royal government of the grave motives for which Italy, confident in her good right, proclaimed annulled and henceforth without effect, her treaty of alliance with Austria-Hungary, which was violated by the imperial and royal government, and resumed her liberty of action in this respect.

"The government of the king, firmly resolved to provide by all means at its disposal for safeguarding Italian rights and interests, cannot fail in its duty to take against every existing and future menace measure which events impose upon it for the fulfillment of national aspirations.

"His majesty, the king, declares that he considers himself from tomorrow in a state of war with Austria-Hungary.

"The undersigned has the honor to make known at the same time to his excellency, the foreign minister, that passports will be placed this very day at the disposal of the imperial and royal ambassador at Rome, and he will be obliged to his excellency if he will kindly have his passports handed to him."

(Signed) "Avarna."

### RESTRAINING ORDER IS DENIED BY JUDGE WEBB

Judge James L. Webb this morning in Superior court denied the petition for a restraining order which was asked by John P. West of the Blount school district against the county commissioners and county board of education. The restraining order was asked by Mr. West, on the grounds that he did not believe it was constitutional for the county school funds to be used in paying the expenses for the special school tax election, which was ordered for tomorrow. Since the election has been called off by the county commissioners, attorneys stated to the court that they desired a ruling on the matter in order that in case the matter was brought up again it would not have to be threshed out in court.

Arguments were made before Judge Webb Saturday afternoon by Judge J. D. Murphy on behalf of the county board of education, who objected to the restraining order and Kingsland Van Winkle and J. P. Kitchen who asked for the restraining order. It is understood that the matter will be taken to the Supreme court for a ruling by that body.

The matter of a restraining order asked by several citizens of Avery's Creek was not taken up. R. R. Williams, one of the attorneys being out of the city. It is understood that this matter will be brought up the latter part of this week.

### BENTLEY OF STATESVILLE PAROLED FOR THREE YEARS

Statesville, May 24.—Judge T. J. Shaw, who is presiding over the May term of Superior court in Iredell county, announced his decision in the Bentley case. It will be remembered that W. C. Bentley was on trial for having set fire to the stock of goods in his grocery store a month ago.

The judge paroled Bentley on good behavior for three years with a bond of \$500. Much interest has centered around the case. The grand jury is still investigating the case and there are rumors about the courthouse that other startling developments in the case may take place.

### RUSSIAN SHIP SUNK 1400 DIE

Berlin, (By wireless to Sayville) May 24.—The Overseas News agency publishes the following: According to a Bucharest dispatch the Russian armored man-o-war Winteleiman has been sunk with the loss of 1400 men in the Black sea.

### ASK ORDER CANCELLING ELECTION FOR BONDS

J. G. Merrimon and Richmond Pearson Ask Commissioners to Revoke Order.

Up to noon today no legal machinery had been set in motion to stop the holding of the school election in West Asheville. Rev. Dr. Millard Jenkins will be one of the speakers.

Making the argument that the legal 30 days notice had not been given for the elections on the question of issuing school bonds in Emma and West Asheville districts, Richmond Pearson and J. G. Merrimon late Saturday afternoon appeared before the county commissioners asking for an order revoking the call for the elections ordered for May 25.

In Emma district an issue of \$10,000 is proposed while in West Asheville the voters have been asked to vote on an issue of \$35,000.

The funds in each district would be used for the erection of school buildings.

The commissioners indicated that they were favorable to the proposition of withdrawing the order for the elections, but stated that the board of education ought to submit to the commissioners a petition for the revocation of the order, as they had done in the case of the special tax election for the whole township outside the city of Asheville.

Mr. Pearson and Mr. Merrimon both stated to the board that if the districts should be bonded as the result of the voters' action at the polls the legality of the election would be tested in the courts.

### FOREIGN MINISTER OF AUSTRIA HAS RESIGNED

Also Reported That Emperor Had Insisted on His Retention in Office.

Rome, May 24.—A report has been received here that Baron Burián, Austrian foreign minister, has resigned. This is generally accepted as true. His reported fall is attributed to his failure in the Austro-Italian negotiations and to Italy's declaration of war.

A report of Baron Burián's resignation but also Emperor Francis Joseph had insisted on his retention of office came from Geneva Friday, but has not been confirmed.

### NEWS FROM THE STATE CAPITAL

Meredith Girls Hear Baccalaureate Sermon by Rev. Dr. W. J. McGlothlin of Louisville, Ky.

**SPEAKER'S DISCOURSE GIVEN IMPRESSIVELY**

Gov. Craig Going to Greensboro—Other Commencement

News of State—Electrocution for May 28.

(By W. T. Bost.)

Raleigh, May 24.—The Baptists threw all their churches into the big city auditorium yesterday and made the baccalaureate sermon to the Meredith girls a message universal.

Four thousand people heard Rev. Dr. W. J. McGlothlin, the great preacher professor of Louisville seminary. Four thousand heard a chorus of Meredith voices come to grand climax in Handel's Messiah, a piece perfectly fit as accompaniment to the Messianic dreamer, Isaiah, from whose prophecy the preacher took his theme. And four thousand saw sixteen girls in cap and gown with more than 300 undergraduates in pure and perfect white, march out from the great hall and back to Meredith, the outward procession and the visible sign of Meredith's inward and spiritual enterprise.

The Baptist pulpits empty showed what a host the Baptists are in Raleigh. The other churches had their services and the congregation was made up largely of Meredith's faith. The minister found it necessary to speak to the outermost fringes of the crowd, but he did it without effort and gave the people a rare example of that rare, but simple oratory, the tete-a-tete talk of a platform master.

The girls formed with their faculty a procession on the college campus and marched down Blount street to the big building on Davis and Martin. The seniors took two rows of seats in the front and the student body sat behind them in the middle of the auditorium. The large chorus on the stage was assisted by the college orchestra. The festival march was played, then the invocation by Rev. Dr. T. W. O'Kelley, pastor of the First Baptist church followed, with the hymn, "Oh, Could I Speak the Matchless Worth," sung by the congregation. The anthem "The Heavens are Telling," the scripture lesson and another hymn, "In the Cross of Christ I Glory," brought the program to the sermon.

**The Sermon.**  
Dr. McGlothlin read the first nine verses of the sixth chapter of Isaiah, the poetic story of a young man called to a ministry. "And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send and who will go for us?' Then I said, 'Here am I send me.'"

He brought out the elements of assertion, of prayer and command in the text.

"I do not think it too fanciful a thing to call this sixth chapter of Isaiah an account of an ancient commencement," he said. "It is the modern commencement. It is the beginning of a great life.

"In much the same way the college commencement is the beginning of a life. It is to many a crisis. The baby prattle, the cradle song, the love and care of the mother, the counsel of the father, these are all behind and the future is hidden by a veil which moves only as we move.

**Is Release to Some.**  
"To some students commencement is a release. Many have traveled the road to culture and have been longer on it than they wished. Commencement to them is not a prelude, but an interlude in life. They would stop in its midst, would lie down in the meadows by the haystacks, would be in truth intellectual hayseeds. Life to them will be a return to the life from which they came. But to this young man Isaiah commencement was a serious thing."

Here the minister drew a fine inspiration from other Israelitic commencement periods, Jacob in his

### CALLS ITALIANS IN U.S. TO ARMS

school of deception and later of deprivation, then his wrestling with the angel; Moses in his murder and outlawry, followed by the call through the flaming bush; Peter on the house top at Joppa. The call of these men he said had marked new roads in the life of nations and religion.

The choir sang the Hallelujah chorus from Handel and Rev. Mr. Dodge of the Pullen Memorial church gave the benediction. The retiring president, Rev. Dr. R. T. Vann, announced the annual concert for Monday night and the commencement address of Dr. R. S. MacArthur for Tuesday.

Governor Craig today goes to Greensboro to be present at the Normal commencement to deliver the annual address.

Governor Craig and other members of the state administration are invited to attend the dinner this evening to Secretary W. B. Wilson, of the department of labor, who makes the address to the A. and M., students Monday evening. The conflict in arrangements and dates may interfere with the governor's attendance.

Charles M. Walters, chief of police, is able to sit up after an illness of desperate nature.

The chief took his bed two weeks ago and within a week was so dangerously ill that physicians conceded him but few chances. He should recover within another week barring bagets.

Chief Justice Walter Clark has accepted the invitation to make the address before the two literary societies of the University of Virginia June 14.

This is the main speech of the commencement period at Charlottesville. Ex-Governor Manning of South Carolina, will make the address to the alumni of the Virginia institution the following day.

Warden T. P. Sale, who has been quiet ill many weeks, is again on his feet attending to the warden's duties at the state's prison.

During Mr. Sale's illness there have been no executions, but his return to health is to be followed by one Friday, May 28, unless Governor Craig interfere in behalf of J. G. Jackson, colored, of Burke county, Jackson is under condemnation for criminal assault upon a colored girl. It is understood that Governor Craig leans to clemency and life sentence may be the result.

### KILLS COUSIN AND COMMITS SUICIDE

Jess Plemmons Shot Cousin in Madison County Yesterday and Killed Himself.

According to information brought to Asheville a serious shooting affair took place yesterday morning on Spring creek, Madison county, in which Jess Plemmons is said to have shot and killed his cousin Arthur Plemmons and then turned the gun on himself, inflicting a wound that caused almost instant death.

No details of the shooting, or the causes for it, could be learned, but it is stated that people residing in that section are very much excited over the affair. Officers from Marshall were dispatched to the scene of the shooting. It is stated and a thorough investigation is being made, although this morning it was stated that no arrests had been made, nor had any reason been found for the shooting.

### MASS MEETING TONIGHT AT WEST CHAPEL

As announced Saturday, there will be a mass meeting this evening at 8 o'clock at West Chapel for the consideration of the school interests in the three districts of Biltmore, West Asheville and West Chapel, Rev. Dr. R. B. Swope, Julian P. Kitchen and others will address the citizens of these districts on subjects of importance to all who are interested in the welfare of the schools.

Italian Citizens and American Citizens of Italian Birth Summoned to Colors by Government.

MORE THAN 4000 HAVE ALREADY ENROLLED

United States Takes Charge of Italian Interest in Berlin and Vienna, Austrian Interest in Rome.

New York, May 24.—A call to Italian citizens and United States citizens of Italian birth to enroll for service in the Italian army has been published today in papers of the Italian language. The call is signed by G. Fara Forno, Italian consul general and is addressed to men between the ages of 19 and 35, inclusive.

The Italian military laws hold that all men of Italian birth of this country are subject to the call regardless of the fact that they may have taken out papers as American citizens. The penalty for refusal to respond is imprisonment in the event of return to Italy.

It is estimated that there are 125,000 Italians in this city of military age and more than 4,000 of these have enrolled.

Washington, May 24.—Last night the Italian and Austrian embassies here began the preparation of a neutrality proclamation to be issued by President Wilson probably today when Ambassador Thomas Nelson Page advises the American government of Italy's action.

The United States government, in accordance with requests received nearly a month ago, will take over the custody of Italian diplomatic and consular interests in Austria and Austrian interests in Italy, arranging for the care of prisoners and the safe conduct of consuls and diplomatic officers and the protection of embassy archives.

It was taken for granted in diplomatic quarters here that as a result of the declaration of war against Austria, Germany and Turkey, as the allies of that country, will announce a state of war with Italy. Switzerland will look after German interests in Rome while the United States is expected to take charge of Italian interests in Berlin and Constantinople.

One subject on which information is wanted with much interest is the attitude of Italy toward the naval operations of the allies, whether Italy will subscribe to the order in council, making impossible all commercial intercourse with Germany and Austria through the Mediterranean, and whether the same rigid rules as to contraband will be enforced by the Italian fleet as by the Austro-French fleet.

The cutting of commerce to Germany and Austria through the Mediterranean, it is thought in allied quarters here, soon will be seriously felt by the central powers. The entrance of Roumania, shutting off a wheat supply from Southeastern Europe would be another important factor.

### HIGHLAND LAKE PROPERTY AT HENDERSONVILLE SOLD

Hendersonville, May 24.—The Highland Lake property has been sold to Mrs. Mary L. Williams of Montgomery, Ala. Mrs. Annie L. Martin of Asheville has leased the property for the summer and will open it for boarders from June to September. Fleet school will re-open in the fall, and a greatly increased attendance is expected.

### RUSSIANS HAVE TAKEN VOTE IN ASIATIC TURKEY

Tiflis, Trans-Caucasia, May 24, via Petrograd and London, May 24.—Russian detachments have occupied Van in Asiatic Turkey and have relieved the Armenians besieged by the Turks. The Turks retreated toward Tiflis.