

Italian Forces Penetrate Austria; America Issues Proclamation of Neutrality; Teutons' Flying Wedge in East Forced to Give Ground

AUSTRIAN TOWNS IN ITALIAN HANDS

Active Military and Naval Operations Between Italy and Austria-Hungary. ITALIAN DESTROYER RAIDS COAST TOWN German and Austrian Ambassadors and Ministers Leave Rome and Vatican For Their Homes.

Rome, May 24.—(Via Paris, May 25.)—The war office has announced that Italian forces have penetrated Austria and have occupied Caporetto, the heights between G u i n d o and Isonzo and the towns of C o r m o n s, Cervignano and Terzo.

Washington, May 25.—A neutrality proclamation by the United States covering Italy's entry into the European war was made public today by the state department, under date of May 24.

Rome, May 24.—(Via Paris, May 25.)—Baron Von Macchio, Austrian ambassador to Italy, and Prince Von Schoenburg-Hartenstein, Austrian ambassador to the Vatican, with their staffs, left here for Vienna on a special train tonight at 8 o'clock. There was a large crowd at the station but no demonstration.

Prince Von Buelow, the German ambassador, and the German ministry to the Vatican and their staffs left for Berlin at 9 o'clock. They were followed 15 minutes later by the Bavarian ministers to the Quirinal and to the Vatican and their staffs.

Rome, May 24.—(Via Paris, May 25.)—The following official statement was given out by the Italian general staff tonight:

"An Italian destroyer entered the port at Buso, near the Austrian frontier and destroyed the landing stage, railroad station, barracks and several motor boats. The destroyer was not damaged and none of the crew was wounded. Two of the enemy were killed and 47 were taken prisoners. The prisoners included an officer and 15 non-commissioned officers and men who were brought to Venice.

"According to supplementary information two of the enemy aeroplanes which appeared over Venice dropped 11 bombs but there was no serious damage done. The fire of the defense works put them to flight. Damage to railroads by the attacks of warships and aeroplanes early in the morning was unimportant and already has been repaired. The Austrian cannonade sank a

the eastern frontier Italian and Austrian advance guards have fired the first shots. The plan of the campaign has not yet been disclosed, but it is generally believed attempts to inflict a quick and decisive defeat, or, at least, one that will discourage the Italians, will be undertaken, largely by the Germans under Field Marshal von Hindenburg.

It is said the German troops, with heavy guns, aeroplanes and Zeppelins, already are passing through the valley of the river Adige in the direction of Verona, and that rapid and fierce blows will be delivered almost immediately at the Italian center. This, the Germans doubtless believe, would serve to hold off an Italian advance from the province of Venice, where the flat nature of the country would give the Italians a greater chance of success.

Throughout Austria and Germany there is bitter denunciation of Italy which, for the moment, has replaced England, as the most hated enemy. In the allied countries, on the other hand, Italian intervention is hailed with delight and in the Italian quarters of London and Paris there have been enthusiastic demonstrations and cheering farewells to the Italians leaving to join the colors. Rumania, Greece and Bulgaria have made no move. The government of Bulgaria has reiterated that it will continue neutral so long as Bulgarian interests are not directly affected, and it sees no reason why they should be. The opposition, however, is voicing the opinion that Bulgaria should seize the opportunity to join the allies.

Bulgaria may be drawn in through a question which has arisen with Turkey over the seizure by Turkey of a number of Bulgarian railway cars loaded with goods. Sofia has lodged a protest against this action. Rumania may be affected by a change of fortune in the battles in middle Galicia. Russia here is delivering a strong counter offensive and has regained some ground along the San north of Jaroslavl.

Berlin, May 25.—The following statement has been issued at the war department: "Several British attacks between Neuve Chapelle and Givinchy and French attacks on the north slope of the Lorette Hills at Adain and north and south of Neuville were repulsed with heavy losses to the enemy."

Petrograd, May 24.—Austro-German forces in Galicia are now on the defense and their active operations consist chiefly in counter attacks, according to an official statement issued last night by the Russian general staff. Slight Russian progress is claimed on the left bank of the Lower San river and it is said that all the Austro-German assaults in the southeastern theater of operations have been repulsed.

Constantinople, May 24.—Official announcement is made today that attacks by the French and British yesterday on Turkish positions near Sedul Bahr on the southern end of the Gallipoli peninsula were repulsed. It is stated that the allies left 2,000 dead on the field.

FOR PROHIBITION BY STATE ONLY

General Assembly of Southern Presbyterian Church Does Not Support National Prohibition.

SUSTAINS PROTEST BY KENTUCKY SYNOD

Today Busiest Session Thus Far of General Assembly—Many Important Matters Considered.

Newport News, May 25.—A brief business session this morning with nothing advanced for special order, a trip to Norfolk, near here, and a popular meeting tonight were on the schedule of the general assembly of the Presbyterian church today. A number of committee reports were expected to be submitted this morning and questions of importance may be taken up. Tonight the commissioners will discuss evangelism in schools with Dr. R. F. Campbell of Asheville, president.

A healthy increase during the past year in all branches of Sunday school work of the Southern Presbyterian church will be shown in the report of the co-executive committee on publication and Sunday schools to be submitted this afternoon.

The following salient features will be shown in the report: Total number of schools 2,836; total membership 210,278, an increase of over 3,000.

Contributions for foreign missions, \$28,739; for home missions \$30,352; Christian education and ministerial relief \$5,760; Sunday school extension and publication \$15,871; schools and colleges \$2,190; Bible societies \$615, an increase of \$100; orphans' home \$28,192, an increase of \$5,900.

Current expenses of schools \$169,546, an increase of \$20,000.

Newport News, May 25.—The general assembly of the Southern Presbyterian church has adopted the partial report of the bills and overtures committee sustaining the protest of the Synod of Transylvania against the action of the 1914 assembly declaring in favor of national prohibition. It emphasized in the report as in the overtures protest that the action of the assembly is in no way a retraction of the stand in favor of measures taken by states against the evil of the liquor traffic.

The busiest session of the general assembly thus far was scheduled for yesterday when several committees were to report. Many questions of importance were brought to the attention of the assembly. Two business sessions and one popular session last night were on the program. At last night's session there was an interesting report on Christian education and ministerial relief.

The report of Henry H. Sweets of Louisville, Ky., secretary of the committee on this work was submitted. The annual report showed that \$108,216 has been contributed for this cause this year, an increase of \$5,363 over the previous year.

WOMEN BEATEN IN NOTARY CASE

Supreme Court Holds Legislative Act Is Unconstitutional; Mrs. Knight Loses Her Commission.

DECISION ON GRIER CASE MAY NOT COME

Superintendent of Wadesboro Silk Mill Denies Prevalence of Tuberculosis in His Factory.

Raleigh, May 25.—The Supreme court decides the act of the last legislature giving women authority of notary public is unconstitutional, and Mrs. Noland Knight of Asheville loses her commission. Judge Allen writes the opinion and Judges Walker and Hoke concur. Chief Justice Clark dissents and Judge Brown concurs.

(By W. T. Post.) Raleigh, May 25.—The notary agitation is not new. It has had some interesting history, not the least of which is that in the late general assembly. The act went through the house one day when nobody was looking, when sex consciousness was fast asleep. But Judge Will Allen's nephew Matt called the house to book, got a rehearing, loved traditional woman, pulled his plug but got to her, apostrophized the uncrowned queen, apostrophized Michele's creation and received in full house another beating, but he gave the protagonists of equal rights a fearsome race.

Then it went through the senate and Governor Craig named Mrs. Nolan Knight.

But the agitation was older than this. In Goldsboro several years ago attorneys concluded to commission a woman notary. A young widow making her own living, a woman belonging to a prominent North Carolina family, was the choice. Her appointment was opposed. She was a woman and therefore "could not be trusted with a secret." Notaries stamp lots of private papers. "Imagine a woman's putting the seal upon a private paper and keeping it a secret." Then it was a man's job. "It was 'unwomanly to say the least.'"

A man was appointed. The widow lost. She came to Raleigh and is now the attorney general's stenographer. The man came also. He had been a banker and he could keep a secret. Keeping a secret was his long suit. Not even his right hand kept up with his left, not even the directors of the bank or the state examining him. The notarial state examining him the oyster-mouthed man tell what he knew and the private things he did. He is in Raleigh now—serving seven years in the penitentiary.

Commutes Jackson Sentence. Governor Craig has commuted to an indefinite term the death sentence of J. G. Jackson, colored, of Burke county, who was to have been electrocuted Friday of this week.

Jackson is a preacher 64 years old and was convicted by a Burke jury of having committed the worst of the crimes against a woman of his own race. Certain incidents in the case quickly led the governor to conclude that death is too harsh a judgment. But he was much puzzled to know just what should be the punishment. Judge W. J. Adams tried the case. Governor Craig was not able to determine just what should be done to the old preacher-reprobate. The element of crime was undoubtedly present but the governor is not certain how aggravated it is and will study the case with a view to final action. Jackson will be put in some department of the penitentiary this week.

Inheritance Tax Instructions. The corporation commission spent a good part of its work hours in preparing instructions and giving advice as to appointment of inheritance tax collectors. The commission having won its point before the Supreme court last winter in having all realty taxed for inheritance, is unable to say how much this will raise the collectible moneys in the state. The lowest estimate made prior to the court's decision was \$100,000.

MORE SIGNS OF GERMAN CHECK

President Talks of Trade Routes of Private Capital Doesn't.

PRESIDENT TALKS OF TRADE ROUTES

He Says Gov't. Will Provide Pan-American Routes if Private Capital Doesn't.

Washington, May 25.—With preliminary work over the delegates to the Pan-American congress here settled down to real work. The day was given over to general discussion, group conferences and special committee meetings. One of the most important questions to be taken up for consideration was that looking to the establishment of steamship lines independent of Europe to ply between the principal ports of the two Americas.

Washington, May 25.—President Wilson speaking at the opening of the Pan-American financial conference yesterday expressed the hope that the Americas might show the world the path of peace. He was loudly applauded by the delegates representing 18 South and Central American nations.

President Wilson declared the people of the Americas were not trying to use one another but trying to be of use to each other. He spoke of "handsome rivalry which he said was good for nations. Lack of the physical means of communication between the Americas, he said stood somewhat in the way of the development of commerce and friendship. In advocating more shipping for the Pan-American trade and the opening of new trade routes, he said that if private capital does not soon provide this government must undertake it.

Some of the obstacles which war across the Atlantic has thrown into the paths of industrial and commercial prosperity and the march of trade in the western hemisphere were outlined. The outstanding thought of the conference as expressed by many speakers was the need for improvement of transportation, for a readjustment of methods of financial exchange and for uniformity of laws north and south of the equator in relation to subjects of international importance. Steps were taken at the close of the day to pave the way for uniform statutes through appointment of a committee with a representative from each invited nation and several representatives of the United States.

Besides delegations from eighteen Latin-American republics participating in the conference which is to continue throughout the week, are members of President Wilson's cabinet, the federal reserve board, the federal trade commission, treasury officials and more than a hundred representatives of great American banks, industrial corporations and commercial houses. The American business men and financiers were named by Secretary McAdoo as official representatives of the United States at the conference.

THE "CHAPLIN" WALK TAKES IN NEW YORK

New York, May 25.—The "Charlie Chaplin Walk" is spreading to Fifth avenue. Have you noticed how many of the "death" boys in tweed suits, malacca canes, and speckled gingham vests are strolling along with their spat-clad feet turned in at the heel and out at the toes? Fact. Fifth avenue barbers report, too, that the spring fashion in moustaches follows closely upon the lines of the bizarre adornment worn by Chaplin in his recent reel comedies.

Energetic Russian Counter Offensive Telling on What Seemed Overwhelming Teuton Attack.

GERMANS PENETRATE BRITISH LINE TWICE

By Use of Asphyxiating Gases, Says French, Who Claims He Is Regaining Some Lost Ground.

London, May 25.—On the eastern front signs of the check of what at first seemed an overwhelming Austro-German offensive are becoming more apparent. Even the flying wedge which was driven into the Russian center along the River San is being compelled to give some ground by the energetic Russian counter attack.

In the west General French reports that the Germans by the use of asphyxiating gases succeeded in penetrating the British lines at two points, but claims that some of the trenches he lost have been regained in subsequent fighting. The contest is still raging.

Domestic politics continue also to absorb attention in England. The members of the new cabinet have not been announced. The delay, according to the Manchester Guardian, a ministerial organ, is due to the insistence by unionists on eight places in the cabinet. A clean sweep is looked for in the admiralty, where Baron Fisher as well as Winston Churchill will go.

The most important battle, in the east, is that raging southeast of Przemysl, where the Austrians and Germans are making repeated attacks in an endeavor to break the Russian line and thus relieve the pressure the Russians are bringing to bear on the Germans who crossed the San. Fighting also is in progress in Courland, along the east Prussian frontier and in Central Poland, where the Germans have attempted an offensive along the Rawka river. None of these actions apparently has been decisive although heavy losses have been suffered on both sides. Russia expresses satisfaction with the situation along her front.

Heavy fighting has been resumed in the west from Arras to the sea and both Germans and French claim the advantage. It is evident that the allies do not intend to relax their efforts on this front although a general movement has not yet been undertaken the present preparations having as their object improvement in their positions and forcing the Germans to counter attacks.

The allies have landed additional troops on the Gallipoli peninsula, and although progress there must continue slow, there is every confidence here that the resistance of the Turks will be long broken. The loss to the allies is heavy, as is shown by the casualty lists, but it is asserted that the Turks are suffering much more severely, as they are under cross fire from the ships.

\$4,800,000 BELGIAN DEFICIT. London, May 25.—A dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph company from Amsterdam, says: "Gen. von Bismarck, the German governor general in Belgium, has published the Belgian budget for 1915. It gives the revenue for the year as \$39,831,906 and the expenditure at \$39,831,906. The statement says that means for providing for the deficit of \$4,800,000 will have to be found later.

TOBACCO COMPANY UNDER GERMAN SUPERVISION. All Property of British-American Co. Placed Under German Supervision.

Amsterdam, May 25.—All the property of the British-American Tobacco company in Germany has been placed under German supervision, according to the Berlin correspondent of the Telegraph. James B. Duke is president of the British-American Tobacco company, which has a capital of \$50,000,000. One of the principal German subsidiaries of the company at Dresden was sold in November to Germans with the consent of the British board of trade.

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