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TUESDAY, OCT. 30, 1917

ITALY IN EARNEST

One speculation is as good as another, but it is interesting to consider in connection with the Italian reverse of the past few days the reports that opinion had been divided in Italy as to the wisdom of making war on Germany, though the country was united in fighting the Austrians, who for centuries had been oppressors of the Italians.

It should be remembered while we are contemplating the Italian defeat that heretofore Italy has escaped disaster. At the beginning of the war Russian army rolled over East Prussia and Austrian Galicia, the German machine crushed Belgium, and the French army was forced to retreat for miles before the Franco-British forces were able to hurl back the monster.

First Russia and then Italy punished Austria severely, the Russians in their several campaigns capturing more than a million Austrians, Italy's captures have numbered many thousands. The loss of men is not the worst feature, though the loss of guns is a great blow.

Since Austria, with the help of a few thousand Germans, has been able to continue in the fight, there is no reason why Italy should not do as well. France, England and the United States could place a few hundred thousand men on the Italian front, and this doubtless will be done.

SYMPATHY FOR RUSSIA

Probably you have been impatient when you read from time to time that the United States government had made another loan to Russia.

Russia was not fighting, and you probably believed that it would never fight again. If you haven't felt like our government was throwing away good money, then you were different from a great many people.

But what are the facts? In spite of every possible handicap, the Russian armies are still maintaining 1,200 miles of trenches and holding at least 1,500,000 Germans, Austrians, Bulgars and Turks on the eastern front. If Russia had made a separate peace, these troops would have been released for service against the Anglo-French in the west, and Germany might have burst through. At least, Germany would have kept our allies on the defensive. That would have made the task of the Americans all the harder.

Not the worst phase of a separate peace with Russia would be the releasing of nearly two million men for operations on the western front. Great quantities of Russian supplies would be available for the Germans, and the forces of democracy, as just as their cause is, could not defeat the war lords in less than three or four years.

These are two good reasons why we should appreciate what Russia has done. Everything is disorganized in Russia, but the leaders are holding true to their ideals and insist on keeping in the war. Winter is at hand in Russia and by spring organization may replace chaos and the Russian armies may be able to turn the tide.

As a writer in the New York Times declares, we should lend the Russian government every encouragement. Our salvation, unless we are to suffer many losses, must come from the east.

Now if the Italians have held up the Germans, as early dispatches from Rome indicate, the situation won't be so bad after all.

Persons who have purchased Liberty Bonds will do well to hold on to them. The big insurance and trust companies will desire the bonds later, but they will be worth just as much to the average holder as to the big fellows.

The Record could not condone strikes of any kind, but it has more sympathy with the railroad clerks, most of whom are underpaid, compared to other kinds of railroad work. Everybody is trying to get more.

President Wilson asks aid for the Armenians and Syrians, some of whom escaped death at the hands of the unspeakable Turks. It is Christian charity to succor the poor mortals who escaped the brutes.

The news from Italy thus far "is disappointing rather than alarming," observes the reliable Springfield Republican. It makes no difference where the Italian lines are so that the Italians are in the fight.

The Cincinnati preacher who was given a sound flogging was not using his talents in the cause of humanity, or he would not have been whipped by the mob.

The First Baptist church has bought a \$500 Liberty Loan, thus not only showing its colors, but proving that it knows a good investment.

CHURCHES BACKING WAR

News and Observer.

The action of the board of bishops of the Northern Methodist church in upholding the entrance of the United States into the war in an issuing a message to the people of America appealing for support of the president, brings to mind the fact that the leading clergymen of the country are supporting the war.

This is significant. If there was any question as to which side was in the right there would have been found a large number of ministers in opposition to the war. But the ministers of the country have been loyally standing by the president. The position taken by the Methodist bishops at Atlantic City is that of the clergy everywhere.

Clergymen are reading men. They have kept well informed of the significance of the war from the beginning. They realize the awful blow to religious freedom that would be dealt if Germany were to win in its struggle for world mastery. They are convinced of the necessity of warfare as the only means of protecting the nations of the world from the ambitious designs of the rulers of Germany, and they do not believe that a nation is called upon to tamely submit to all manner of wrongs and indignities at the hands of another nation.

The stand taken by these men who have studied the war question and whose training and habits of thought would tend to lead them to oppose the war is a great lesson for those who have not thoroughly informed themselves.

SYNOD VOTES NEAT SUM FOR CATAWBA COLLEGE

Newton, Oct. 30.—President J. D. Andrew of Catawba college and Rev. Walter W. Rowe have returned from the synod of the Reformed church, held at Hagerstown, Md. The next session goes to Middletown, Md., where Dr. Snyder is pastor. The synod voted a neat sum for the support of Catawba college and showed its hearty indorsement of the work of this institution. This amounts to about \$2,800 interest on pledge made by the synod some years ago. The following were nominated members of the board of trustees for the college: Clarence Clapp, C. M. Rowe, D. M. Carpenter, Dr. Webber of Baltimore, and Dr. Ruppely, of York, Pa. Rev. W. W. Rowe was nominated to fill Dr. Murphy's unexpired term on the board. Both President Andrew and Dr. Rowe report the most harmonious session of synod they ever attended.

Special at PASTIME THEATRE This Afternoon and Night "THE WORLD AND THE WOMAN" featuring JEANNE EAGLES A GOLD ROOSTER PLAY IN FIVE PARTS. Admission 5 & 10c. Special Music Tonight

AMUSEMENTS

MARY PICKFORD AT PASTIME THURSDAY "A Poor Little Rich Girl" should charm everyone that sees it regardless of age, and teach a moral that is well worth learning.

SPECIAL AT PASTIME TODAY The special attraction at the Pastime today will be a Pathe Gold Rooster play in five parts called "The World and the Woman." The following is a synopsis of the story: Out of the night shadows, into the bright lights of the city emerged the frail girl grown cynical by the never ending struggle for an existence on the only path left open to her.

Train Schedules SOUTHERN Westbound No. 15 Ar Hickory 7:40 a. m. No. 11 Ar Hickory 11:20 a. m. No. 21 Ar Hickory 4:45. No. 35 Ar Hickory 12:02 p. m. Eastbound No. 36 Ar Hickory 9:05 a. m. No. 22 Ar Hickory 11:23 a. m. No. 12 Ar Hickory 5:28 p. m. No. 16 Ar Hickory 6:50 p. m. C. AND N.-W Southbound No. 9 Ar Hickory 2:35 p. m. Northbound No. 10 Ar Hickory 11:40 a. m.

You need not be an "ad writer" to use these columns. State your wants simply, and above all truthfully.

Or telephone this office and we will write your ad.

Want ads are the biggest little investments you can make.

NO RELIEF FOR SHELBY'S SUGAR FAMINE IN SIGHT Shelby, Oct. 30.—There is a sugar famine in Shelby and the wholesale houses say they see no relief in sight.

PLEDGE CARD FOR UNITED STATES FOOD ADMINISTRATION If you have already signed, pass this on to a friend. TO THE FOOD ADMINISTRATOR: I am glad to join you in the service of food conservation for our nation and I hereby accept membership in the United States Food Administration, pledging myself to carry out the directions and advice of the Food Administrator in my home, insofar as my circumstances permit.

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Auction Sale ---OF--- 1 Car Load of Mares Of the finest Western Stock will be sold at public auction for the highest dollar Saturday, November 3rd 10:30 A. M., Hickory, N. C. This will be your best opportunity to get a good mare at your own price. C. HILDEBRANDE, Owner, WYLIE BROWN, Auctioneer