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AUSTRIANS FLEEING FROM VICTORIOUS ALLIES ITALY

ENEMY LOSSES ESTIMATED MORE THAN 200,000; ITALIANS CROSS PIAVE AND CONTINUE ATTACK ROUTED DIVISIONS

Complete Failure of Karl's Offensive—Retreat Becomes Rout, With Austro-Hungarians Falling Back in Disorder—Few Remain on Allied Side of Swollen River—Montello Again Completely in Hands of Defenders—Further Heavy Losses by Austrians Expected—Worst Defeat of War, Apparently—Emperor Returns to Vienna, Probably to Face Chaotic Internal Conditions—Italians Score in France

(By the United Press)

Rome, June 24.—Italian cavalry has crossed the middle Piave in addition to bridging the lower river. The horsemen are chasing the fleeing Austrians along the West bank. Two thousand Austrians were captured at Montello last night.

Amsterdam, June 24.—Emperor Karl hurried to the front Sunday, according to a Vienna dispatch. The last previous report said Karl was at Austrian headquarters north of the Asiago plateau. It is probable he returned to Vienna because of the food demonstrations and ministerial crisis.

Austrians Fleeing.

Rome, June 24.—The Italians have crossed the Piave in pursuit of the fleeing Austrians. Infantry and cavalry forces have crossed the flooded river in the region of Cabo Sile, it is semi-officially stated. The western bank of the river has been practically cleared of Austrians. Montello has been entirely retaken. The enemy occupy only a few points on the right bank of the Zenson southward to the sea.

Italian Success in France.

Paris, June 24.—Italian troops holding positions at Bligny Mountain, eight miles southwest of Rheims, have repulsed a German attack after sharp fighting, inflicting heavy losses on the enemy and taking prisoners, the French war office announced.

Retreat Becoming a Rout.

Rome, June 24.—Austria's retreat across the Piave continues along the entire 40-mile front from Montello to the sea. The Italians are closely pursuing the enemy, cutting the pieces. Infantry, cavalry, airplanes and light artillery are cooperating in defeating the Austrians, who have attempted rear guard actions.

Great numbers of the enemy have been wiped out, it is announced. Huge hauls of prisoners are expected hourly. All Italian guns lost on this front last week are reported recaptured.

Nine Austrian divisions (108,000 men) have been completely annihilated. Fifteen others are worn out in the San Dona Piave region in which entire regiments have been destroyed. The total of Austrian losses in the drive is estimated to be over 200,000. The Italian losses in killed, wounded and captured number 40,000, says an official statement.

BRITISH SHIP IS SUB. VICTIM, SAID

(By the United Press)

Norfolk, June 24.—The Navy Department declines to issue a statement regarding the landing of 20 men and a dog supposed to be survivors from a British ship sunk at sea by a German submarine. Lieutenant Bushnell, head of the bureau of naval intelligence, said no information concerning the crew could be given out by his office.

WEEKLY WEATHER FORECAST.

Issued by the Weather Bureau, Washington, for the period June 24 to June 29:

For South Atlantic and East Gulf States: Fair weather will prevail, with temperature slightly below normal; probably showers in the mountain districts after Thursday.

AUSTRIA WILL TALK PEACE WHEN ALLIES ARE JUST AS READY

Premier Says Vienna Always Ready for Mutual, Honorable Agreement

RESIGNATIONS HELD UP

Emperor Refuses Accept Them, Reported—New Ministry Expected—Cabinet Crisis at Budapest Rumored in News

(By the United Press)

Amsterdam, June 24.—The Austrian cabinet at a special meeting at Vienna decided to resign, advised from Vienna declare. Two deputies and the editor of the Arbeiter Zeitung called upon Foreign Minister Burian and presented resolutions of the Vienna municipal council protesting against reduction of the bread ration and demanding immediate settlement of pressing economic and political questions, including peace negotiations.

Burian replied: "Our opponents will always find us ready to conclude a mutual and honorable peace."

Karl Won't Accept Resignations.

Copenhagen, June 24.—Emperor Karl refuses to accept the resignation of the Austrian cabinet, according to a dispatch from Vienna. The political crisis is expected to be solved by the reconstruction of the ministry.

The Hungarian cabinet is reported to be about to resign. Count Tisza, former premier, will form a new ministry at Budapest, a dispatch today stated.

WEIGHING KINSTON BABIES TO AID IN KID CONSERVATION

A house-to-house canvass was conducted here last week by the Mothers' Club for the registration of children under the age of six.

This census was a preliminary step in the child welfare campaign to be made in every city, town and county in the Union. North Carolina has pledged to try to save 3,130 little lives during 1918.

Block Matrons.

Kinston was divided into sections, each division being headed by a block matron who this week is supervising the weighing and measuring of the babies in her section. Physicians and trained nurses are cooperating. Following are the block matrons, of whom Mrs. R. F. Hill is chairman:

Mrs. C. F. Harvey, Mrs. Marietta Brown, Mrs. E. Y. Speed, Mrs. J. Spencer, Miss Newton, Mrs. S. C. Sitterson, Mrs. Nan Howard, Mrs. R. F. Hill, Mrs. J. F. Taylor, Mrs. E. G. Barrett, Mrs. G. Andrews.

BULLETINS

(By the United Press)

THE CASUALTIES.

Washington, June 24.—Sixty-two casualties are reported—eight killed in action, four deaths from wounds, two from disease, 45 severely wounded, three to degrees undetermined. Ed. Helms, Waxhaw, Union County, S. C.; E. S. Little, Irvington, Va., and W. A. Thompson, 308 Austin Avenue, Durham, N. C., are severely wounded.

COTTON

	Open.	Close.
January	24.31	24.18
March	24.30	24.20
July	26.50	26.47
October	24.80	24.70
December	24.45	24.29

AMERICANS GO OVER FOR 400-YARD GAIN IN BELLEAU WOOD

Huns Resist Desperately—Machineguns Taken by Sammies—Enemy Holds Only Fringe of Important Forest Now

(By the United Press)

With the Americans on the Marne, June 24 (4:20 p. m.)—The Americans in Belleau wood drove forward 400 yards today despite fierce German resistance.

They inflicted severe losses upon the enemy and captured a number of machineguns.

Only a little fringe of the wood remains in the hands of the boches. The Germans heavily bombarded an American unit northwest of Chateau Thierry with gas shells.

Pershing Communique.

Washington, June 24.—Pershing's communique today states that though harassed by enemy fire American troops northwest of Chateau Thierry yesterday further improved their positions. The artillery on both sides was in continuous action in this region. An attempted enemy raid in the Vosges region was repulsed.

Federal Council to Control Road Work to Work With States

(Special to The Free Press)

Washington, June 24.—All functions of government agencies relating to streets and highways hereafter are to be coordinated in a body called the United States Highways Council composed of one representative each from the War Department, the Department of Agriculture, the United States Railroad Administration, the War Industries Board and the Fuel Administration. The council was formed primarily to prevent delays, financial loss, and uncertainty incident to the method of taking up each highway problem in its turn with a separate and distinct government agency. It will continue the close contact already established, both formally by law and informally by practice, with the state highway commission in each state of the union.

Huns to Run Up With Tough Proposition in This Sleepy Youngster

(Special to The Free Press)

Atlanta, June 24.—"I shall never look at a red-headed boy again without thinking of the most persistent sleeper in captivity," writes Alfred H. Gurney, a Y. M. C. A. secretary in France who was aboard the ship Oronsa when she was torpedoed by a German submarine April 28. "Three times after our ship had been fatally hit by a German torpedo this young sleeping beauty got back into the bed from which he had been pulled and three times tried in vain to go to sleep again."

"He was only a broth of a boy, making his first trip. I saw him often on deck and my mental picture of him was a shock of red hair surmounting a broad grin. That same grin spread from ear to ear as, five hours after the sinking of the ship, he stopped sipping a mug of hot soup in a railway station on the coast to admit to me that it was very moist, very mean of Fritz to break up his night's sleep."

Of 11 officers who went into the trenches together Captain Vickers, non-combatant, and an unfortunate in a madhouse are the only survivors. He said that in England the teeming millions are sacrificing to the limit. They are ruled by a despot, the great, generous Lloyd-George. Democracy made him an uncrowned czar.

The Dark Part of It.

At Loos came the bullet in his head. Off of pay, Vickers accepted charity. He blesses the Red Cross.

Captain Vickers' lecture Saturday night concluded the regular program of the 1918 chautauqua.

They'll Help America Win the War; 700 Men of Enemy Races at Camp

(By the United Press)

Camp Lewis, Tacoma, Wash., June 24.—More than 700 Germans, Turks and Austrians are in training for military service here.

The soldiers have been naturalized, and will be used for guard duty in the United States.

Reclaiming Many of the Physically Unfit North Carolina Now

(Special to The Free Press)

Raleigh, June 24.—In every county of the State physicians have been answering the call made for the treatment of registrants under the selective service law who are physically disqualified for military duty. Assisting the members of the medical profession in this work are the dentists, who have also volunteered to do their part toward making the men physically fit. This work of healing will be done without charge. Out of a total of more than 180,000 men in the State who registered, more than 11,000 were rejected.

EIGHTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS THE SUM FEW MINUTES' WORK AT SAVINGS RALLY AT CHAUTAUQUA SUNDAY P. M.

Dr. Parrott, Vickers and Pledge-Takers Work Big Audience Into Patriotic Frenzy—Pledges Flow Like Water. Some Give Until it Hurts, (Hundreds Liberally—\$20 a Head Lenoir's Aim—Half a Million Dollars to Back Up County's Sons Overseas—Parade a Spectacular Affair—Reserve Militia, Children and Adult War Thrift Boosters March in Sunday Pageant—Pep at the Zero Hour

With neighborhood rallies throughout the county, a quite gaudy parade here just before dusk, and a monster meeting at the chautauqua tent, Gordon Street between Queen and Heritage, at 8 o'clock, Lenoir Sunday stood for war thrift. More than \$100,000 must have been pledged during the day, for very nearly \$85,000 of it was raised within an hour at the chautauqua rally.

YOU DO NOT KNOW A THING ABOUT THIS WAR; JUST LISTEN

Here's a Man Who Gave Until it Hurt and Wants to Give More—Vickers, Who Went Down Into the Dark Places—He Knows

Capt. Leslie N. Vickers, Royal Scotch Fusiliers, lectured at the chautauqua Saturday night, to a colored audience Sunday morning, and at Sunday night's war thrift rally.

Vickers described the "Contemptibles" and their valorous sacrifice. He corrected prevailing impressions as to some conditions at the front and told about Germany's sins visited upon the innocents of Belgium and France.

His Part.

The Scotch officer—an ex-officer then—was in America when the war broke out. Vickers and his wife with their meagre savings left the United States. In England the wife took up a life of sacrifice such as few American women have had to endure. The ex-officer enlisted. He entered the mounted service.

At Loos came the bullet in his head. Off of pay, Vickers accepted charity. He blesses the Red Cross.

Stirred Up.

Interesting patriotic exercises were held at the chautauqua tent. When the call for pledges was made scores of trained canvassers flocked down amongst the audience and harangued the sons and daughters of democracy. Dr. Parrott from the platform kept up a running fire of war-savings talk. He invoked the "personal touch," called Jim by his name and George by his, made a number of after-dinner speeches although he had probably gone supperless like a lot of others, and with his magnetism charged his hearers' hearts to draw their owners' bank accounts fluttering to them. The scene was inspiring to the last degree.

The first call was for \$1,000 subscriptions. Then it went on down the line to the widow's mite and the stocking's content.

Mr. Edward Tells the Story.

Now to proceed with the community war publicity agent's account: (By D. T. Edwards)

Sunday was War-Savings Day in Kinston. It was a day suffused with patriotism. The weather was perfect. The sun was glorious in his majesty. The balmy air was all that one could ask, and great crowds entered into the spirit of the day.

If there were any slackers they concealed themselves and nothing but patriotic loyalty was allowed to see the light of day.

Chairman J. M. Parrott and his war-savings committees had done much preliminary work and the day's program was well arranged. Following on the heels of the most successful chautauqua week Kinston has yet experienced it was possible to secure the services of some of the chautauqua talent who were yet in the city. And this was done.

Captain Leslie Vickers of the Royal Scotch Fusiliers; Dr. William Bohn, chautauqua superintendent, and Misses Ethel Bating and Wilhelmina Kenniston, the last of the concert artists to visit us, all helped. Capt. Vickers and Dr. Bohn speak to Negroes.

Counties to Get War-Savings Honor Flags; Design is Described

(Special to The Free Press)

Winston-Salem, June 24.—State headquarters for war-savings makes the statement that to every county that pledges its quota in war-savings on or before June 28 will be issued a war-savings honor flag. In design it will be similar to the national service flag, except in the center a large W. S. S. emblem will take the place of the stars.

EXPLOSION ON SHIP HURLS WRECKAGE 6 MILES; HULK BURNS

Government Supply Vessel. Navy Department Won't Make Statement—Two Killed—Oil Leaked Into Engine Room

(By the United Press)

Norfolk, June 24.—The passenger steamer Fennimore was burned to the water's edge today while riding at anchor in an American port. Two members of the crew were killed.

An explosion said to have been caused by oil leaking from a barrel into the engine room caused the accident. The Navy Department declines to issue a statement. The ship recently was taken over by the Government for a supply ship. It was heavily loaded with ammunition and supplies at the time. The force of the explosion threw wreckage for six miles. It occurred at 2 a. m.

Engine Whistles a 'Home, Sweet Home' Tune to Americans

By Frank J. Taylor

(United Press Staff Correspondent)

With the American Army at the Front, May 29 (By Mail).—One of the things that gets deeply into a doughboy's blood is the whistle of a good old American locomotive in France, and the clang of its bell.

It sounds like home. The American locomotives are big, husky ones, making the French engines look like toys.

When the first American locomotives arrived in France, the natives were astonished at the deep-toned bells and whistles.

A truck load of doughboys was bouncing over the road near a wood from which a railroad emerged, in the vicinity of Verdun. Suddenly there came a deep-toned blast of a locomotive from the woods, followed by the panting chug that reminded you of a train going over the Rockies.

Who Cares for Shells?

"We're liable to get shelled here," said the truck driver, "but if you fellows are game, I am. I'd take a chance on shells any day to see a Baldwin locomotive go by."

The group insisted on stopping and the locomotive, hauling a host of tiny French freight cars, came puffing out of the woods. The doughboys broke out into cheers.

Starry Flag in the Shrine of Joan; U. S. Men Pay Homage

By Frank J. Taylor

(United Press Staff Correspondent)

With the American Expeditionary Forces at the Front, May 28 (By Mail).—With characteristic French appreciation the Stars and Stripes have been placed in a position of honor at the church of the village of Domremy, home of Joan of Arc.

Across from the iron-fenced yard with the tall evergreen trees and the tiny house once the home of Joan of Arc, is the old church in which Joan used to worship and give thanks for France's successes. In it are the flags of the principal Allied nations.

Another bright American flag is in the beautiful church on the hillside back of sleepy Domremy in which Joan saw her visions. Domremy is on one of the main roads back of the American sector, and never a day passes without many doughboys and officers stopping to visit the home of Joan of Arc and the churches in which she was inspired.

(By the United Press)

Denver, Colo., June 24.—The boys' division of the Denver Y. M. C. A. is asking every boy to spend his summer vacation in productive work, preferably in food production. The National War Garden Commission is cooperating and furnishing the boys with canning and gardening manuals.

(BUY WAR-SAVINGS STAMPS)