



1—Major General Branner of the British air force, who is in America to arrange for transatlantic airplane flights. 2—Two corps of Czech-Slovak troops arriving in Vladivostok on their way to France to help the allies. 3—Italian and French officers at Lake Garda looking over the region where it was believed the Austrians might resume their attack.

NEWS REVIEW OF THE PAST WEEK

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By EDWARD W. PICKARD.

The grand offensive of the Austrians in Italy, a failure almost from the start, developed into a defeat, and then suddenly into a disastrous rout last week. The hungry armies of Emperor Charles, unable to advance against the gallant Italians and their allies, took advantage of the sudden subsidence of the flood in the Piave to retreat under cover of darkness, but the dawn of Sunday revealed their movements and General Diaz struck swiftly. From the Montello to the sea the Italian artillery poured a murderous fire into the throngs of Austrians who, abandoning their guns, were trying to get across the river. Then the infantry, and even the cavalry men, were called into action and speedily completed the rout. The Piave was almost choked with the enemy's dead.

Within two days the Austrians had not only lost all the ground they gained in their first rush, but had been driven entirely across the river to and in some cases beyond their former lines. Their losses were conservatively estimated at 250,000 in killed, wounded and prisoners. In addition the Italians captured great numbers of guns and quantities of munitions and equipment.

The Austrian rear guards fought most stubbornly at the Montello and at the Zenson bend, those at the latter place protecting the two remaining permanent bridges between there and the mouth of the river. The enemy suffered severely from the work of the allied air forces and in this the new American aviators were conspicuous.

All Italy celebrated the great victory and the overenthusiastic, there as elsewhere, expected the Italian army to follow it up by driving the Austrians out of the country. But General Diaz is too wise to fall into a trap similar to the one that caught the enemy. The Austrians have been there long enough to have organized a very strong defensive line, and moreover, the Germans were rushing troops to their support all last week. Diaz did not fail to follow up his advantage in the mountain region, however, for it is there that the next attack is expected. His troops improved their positions very considerably, especially at Monte Grappa, the height that is the key to the passage down to the plains between the Brenta and the Piave.

The crushing defeat of the Austrians had an enormous moral effect in all the belligerent countries. The news caused a profound depression in Austria and Germany that was contrasted by the jubilation in the allied nations. Italy said that all it now asks is the presence of American troops on its front, and these, presumably, are on the way if not already there.

troops necessary to suppress any uprisings. Putting Austria out of the war is not yet the way to a general peace.

German military leaders were reported very much disgusted with the failure of their Austrian allies, and it is believed they will now try their hand again on the west front in France or Flanders. Their arrangements for a resumption of the offensive were said last week to be about completed, and a great increase in the activity in the air heralded a new drive. But the comparative calm of several weeks had enabled the allies also to prepare, and their commanders expressed the utmost confidence in their ability to stop the Huns again, wherever they might elect to attack. Early in the week the American government let it be known that there were then in France 900,000 Americans, of whom 650,000 were combatants, and that by July 1 the number would be 1,000,000. These men are being put into the front lines with extraordinary rapidity, and are now holding sectors of varying length in at least six places.

The Americans in the Chateau Thierry region were the heroes of the main operation on the west front last week. Finding the Germans had established machine-gun nests in a corner of Belleau wood, they routed them out completely in a swift and brilliant night action, and then went on to clean up an enemy stronghold south of the village of Torcy. This required seven hours of fierce fighting, but at the end of that time the Americans were in undisputed possession of the objective, a wooded hill which commands the German positions in either direction. They had killed some 700 Huns and captured several hundred more, including a dozen officers. The work of the artillery in this operation was remarkable. The losses of the Americans were not out of proportion to the importance of the results.

As usual after a big offensive, Germany put forth another peace feeler, though without waiting for the full measure of Austria's failure to develop. This time Dr. Von Kuehlmann, secretary of foreign affairs, was the mouthpiece. His address in the reichstag not only was received with scorn by the allies, but served to arouse the anger of most of his own countrymen, for two reasons. First, he admitted that the central powers no longer had a chance to win victory by force alone; second, he declared that Russia was chiefly to blame for the war, and that France and England were next in order of culpability. So far as war aims and peace offers were concerned he said nothing new. The reichstag heard his address in gloomy silence and then the party leaders attacked it bitterly. It was reported Thursday that Dr. Von Kuehlmann was about to resign. He might be given a job as court jester in view of his statement that a preliminary condition of the exchange of peace views "must be a certain degree of mutual confidence in each other's honesty and chivalry." The honesty and chivalry of Germany lie at the bottom of the ocean with the Lusitania, in the ruins of ravished Belgium and in the wreckage of bombed Red Cross hospitals.

Russia came to the front again last week in a sensational way. First was the news, first denied and then confirmed, that Nicholas, the former czar, had been killed by the bolsheviks at Ekaterinburg. One story said he was assassinated by soviet troops during their retreat to that city. Another report was that the bolshevik authorities there had convicted him after a short trial, condemned him to death and shot him.

Then word came from Moscow that Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovitch, a younger brother of the deposed ruler, had put himself at the head of the new Siberian government and issued a manifesto to the Russian people. The Czech-Slovak army in Siberia was reported to have taken Irkutsk and to be fighting in Ekaterinburg, and, what is more remarkable, it is said to be commanded by General Alexieff, former Russian commander in chief.

Meanwhile, the allies have been trying to determine what they can do to

aid Russia and rid her of her Teuton conquerors. President Wilson declared himself for peaceful, not forceful intervention, and it is probable a commission of distinguished men, perhaps including representatives of all the allied nations, will be sent with offers of assistance and powers to arrange a plan of co-operation. Kerensky, who appeared unexpectedly in London on his way to America, is confident Russia will soon rejoin in the fight against the central powers. He and other Russian leaders, however, agree that the country will not tolerate foreign intervention in its internal affairs. It is economical and financial aid that Russia needs, and needs at once.

The Germans in southern Russia are making their way toward Smolensk, probably en route to Moscow, despite the protests of the bolshevik foreign minister. They also have landed a strong force at Poti, on the eastern coast of the Black sea.

In eastern Siberia General Semenov and his anti-bolshevik army, after having been driven across the Manchurian border, are again advancing because the forces opposing them were ordered to the protection of Irkutsk.

Germany is now receiving some food supplies from Ukraine, but these are mostly from the German army commissariat which buys them from the peasants at exorbitant prices.

Secretary of War Baker seemingly changed his mind suddenly about extending the draft age limits, for last week he and General March, chief of staff, appeared before the senate committee and agreed in urging that legislation to that end be postponed until the fall. At that time, they said, the war department would be able to submit a vast program for army enlargement, and would know how many soldiers could be transported overseas and how far it would be necessary to extend the draft to obtain the number of men required. Provost Marshal General Crowder said he still believed immediate action necessary, but being only a subordinate, he bowed to the decision of his superiors. The senate committee, which had agreed on twenty to forty years as the new draft limits, voted to defer action.

This provoked a storm of protest in congress, chiefly from Republican leaders who declared the delay was another evidence of the administration's procrastination and devotion to unpreparedness. The Democrats promised action in September and said there were enough men in class 1 to meet all requirements until then. To show that there is no need for immediate action Senator Hitchcock said: "The information given to the committee is, in substance, this: That when we have exhausted all available men in class 1 of the present draft we will have an army of 3,300,000 men in August. In addition, there will be about 140,000 Canadians that we will bring into the army as the result of the treaty just ratified, so that we will then have an army of 3,450,000 men. Now, the highest estimate of the number of men we can have in France at that time is 1,450,000, so that we will have in this country when this congress reconvenes after its proposed recess in September over 2,000,000 men."

On Thursday the drawing of numbers to determine the order in which youths of the class of 1918, about 744,500 in number, shall be called to the colors was conducted in the senate office building, with much of the ceremony that marked the first drawing a year ago. Secretary Baker, blindfolded, drew out the first capsule, with the number 246 inclosed. It was necessary to draw only 1,200 numbers. The new registrants will be placed at the foot of the lists in the classes to which they are assigned by their boards.

The senate agricultural committee, disregarding the advice of many prominent persons, adopted the amendment to the \$11,000,000 emergency agricultural bill providing for national prohibition after June 30, 1919, and during the continuance of the war.

AMERICAN IS NOT SONGSTER

Seems That Real Musical Instinct Has Yet to Be Awakened in the United States.

The last quarter of a century the general feeling has spread abroad that America was quite a musical nation, and it is true that in the large cities of the eastern seaboard and quite far into the middle West there is a good deal of listening to music in the form of opera and concerts, given, for the most part, by imported musicians; but when we reach the great heart of the country we find that the natural instincts of the people are almost entirely starved, or at any rate, very poorly nourished. For a musical nation is not one which merely listens to music made by others, any more than a people is athletic if, instead of exercising themselves, they watch others indulge in gymnastics.

A musical people is one which considers music such an indispensable food and tonic for their own spirits and imaginations that they sing and play in every activity of daily life just as freely and naturally as they laugh and speak. For many centuries this has been true of all the great European nations—the Italians, French, Scotch, Irish, Scandinavians, Russians and others—and the result is the great body of folk song and folk dance which is the priceless heritage of all these nations.

Just why the American has not yet become a singing animal (as Aristotle said everyone was a social animal) is a difficult matter to explain, although, doubtless, if sufficient time were taken, reasonable causes might be suggested; but, at any rate, it is a fact. Surely one of the most direct products of this war will be the bringing home to the whole body politic of the value of music, for by means of the stress of war which is bringing the whole country together, a love of music may be carried into the most remote parts of the country.

Good regimental bands have always furnished one of the most sympathetic bonds between the body politic and the government of any given country, and we earnestly hope that more and more, both during the war and after it, we shall have in America a number of such bands which will consider it their pleasure and duty to play at all public and patriotic meetings, especially on national holidays, thus impressing upon all citizens the stimulating effect of martial music.

In a number of the camps in the middle West and in Texas we were told by officers and song leaders that there were drafted men who had come in from remote towns and settlements who had never seen any musical instruments, such as a pianoforte and violin, and who had no idea that men could make pleasing sounds with their vocal organs in connection with the uttering of words.

Economical Husband.

The conversation in the lobby of a Washington hotel turned to a subject of war-time economy when a fitting anecdote was related by Congressman Porter H. Dale of Vermont.

Recently the Browns moved into a new house, and not liking the wallpaper in the dining room, Mrs. Brown decided to have it repapered at her own expense. The work was done while Brown was at the office.

"I want you to look at the dining room, Jimmy," said little wifey when the old man returned at the dinner hour and was proudly led into that apartment. "How do you like it?" "I like the paper all right," replied Brown, just a little emotionally, "but why in the world did you use paste in putting it on?" "Paste?" was the wondering rejoinder of the good woman. "How else could I have put it on?" "You should have put it on with tacks," declared the economical husband. "You don't suppose we are going to live in this house forever, do you?"—Philadelphia Telegraph.

Munition Brass to Cost Less.

Perfection of a new type of electric melting furnace that will reduce materially the cost of making brass for munitions, devised by H. W. Gillett, a government chemist, was announced by the bureau of mines. Patents have been assigned to Secretary of the Interior Lane as trustee.

Cornell university and brass manufacturers were among those who assisted during five years of development of the device. It is intended to supplant open crucibles in which zinc and copper are melted by fuel heat under present manufacturing methods.

Navy Superstition.

A visitor on a British battleship was dining with a group of officers when his fork accidentally struck a glass tumbler. As the glass resounded the officers shouted as one man, "Hun." On asking for an explanation the visitor was told that the ringing of a glass meant bad luck. One officer declared that on one ship he formerly commanded every time a glass was rung a man fell overboard. This is why officers now cry "Hun" when a table accident occurs, they hoping to transfer their bad luck to the enemy.

Population of the Earth.

In 1787 the population of the earth, according to Busching, was about 1,000,000,000; in 1800, according to Fabri and Stein, only 900,000,000; in 1833, according to Stein and Horschelmann, 872,000,000. In 1858 Dietrich estimated it at 1,268,000,000 and Kolb, in 1895, at 1,220,000,000. According to the latest calculations the earth is inhabited by 2,400,000,000 happy (?) human beings.—New York Tribune.

Spent Yeast Put to Many Uses.

The spent yeast which collects in breweries and distilleries is put through a process which turns it out in the form of buttons, doorbell plates and knife handles. Formerly this left-over material was considered to be a bothersome waste; now it is utilized, every bit of it. As it is gathered from the vats the yeast is of a dirty, gray-brown color. The first operation is to dye it and then to work it over until it assumes the form of powder and can be hot pressed into any form. In this stage it is called "ornolith." It may be saved, scrapped, filed, drilled, engraved, turned to an edge and polished.—Popular Science Monthly.

Reverse Methods.

"You are the same kind of a scamp your father was before you." "Well, then, why is it he is now always after me?"

Some men take what is in sight and hustle for more.

Hard Boiled Sergeant.

At a regular Saturday morning inspection, a private was not wearing his belt.

First Sergeant—Have you a belt? Private—No, sir.

First Sergeant—You report to the quartermaster sergeant for a new one, and don't forget to tell him to charge you for the one you lost. I'll stop this carelessness!

Private—All right, top, but I loaned you the belt about two months ago. —Corp. S. C. Samuels, Battery C, One Hundred and Twenty-Sixth Artillery, in Judge.

Discreet.

She—That dealer is a fraud. He said the parrot knew a lot of words.

He—Maybe they are words he doesn't like to say in the presence of a lady.—Boston Evening Transcript.

All in the Expression.

"Gibbes in a fight? Why, I thought he was a pacifist." "Yes; only he calls it a pass-a-fist."

The Effects of Opiates.

THAT INFANTS are peculiarly susceptible to opium and its various preparations, all of which are barotic, is well known. Even in the smallest doses, if continued, these opiates cause changes in the functions and growth of the cells which are likely to become permanent, causing imbecility, mental perversion, a craving for alcohol or narcotics in later life. Nervous diseases, such as intractable nervous dyspepsia and lack of staying powers are a result of dosing with opiates or narcotics to keep children quiet in their infancy. The rule among physicians is that children should never receive opiates in the smallest doses for more than a day at a time, and only then if unavoidable.

The administration of Anodynes, Drops, Cordials, Soothing Syrup and other narcotics to children by any but a physician cannot be too strongly decried, and the druggist should not be a party to it. Children who are ill need the attention of a physician, and it is nothing less than a crime to dose them willfully with narcotics.

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No Appetite? Mouth Dry? Tongue Stiff and a Fierce Thirst? Here's Relief!!

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EATONIC is absolutely guaranteed to do all this and you are to be the judge. If it doesn't rid you of stomach and bowel misery most common in hot weather—you get your money back at once, right from your own druggist whom you know and can trust. No need of your taking a chance of suffering. Start EATONIC today. You will see.

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