

GERMANS BRED TO 'FRIGHTFULNESS'

Cruelty and Barbarism Not an Outcome of Present War—Nature of the Hun—American Women Insulted by Kaiser's Officers in Berlin

That barbarism is not a trait of the Germans that has been developed by or is an outcome of the war is demonstrated by stories told by people who visited Germany prior to the declaration of war. It seems to be imbedded in the German. According to some authorities it takes generations to breed a gentleman, and if that is so imagination can scarcely conceive of a German bred to cruelty and "frightfulness" even if the movement had been started several generations ago, instead of about two.

Visiting the city recently was Mr. Walter Archer Frost, a noted short story writer and author of several books, the best known of which is perhaps "The Man Between" a story founded on the witch doctors of Africa, with the machinations of a few white men to add to the interest. Mr. Frost is an American by birth and was brought up in the United States, and as a neutral his opinion of Ger-

man methods of warfare is extremely interesting.

In New York, as a member of the Harvard Club, Mr. Frost has an opportunity of discussing such matters with leaders of American thought.

"There are many Germans in New York, but it is ridiculous," says Mr. Frost, "to say they favor the German propaganda. I know of one family who are German to the extent of using the German language in the home, but they are strongly against the atrocities perpetrated by the Germans. As for the Americans they strongly favor the cause of the Allies.

"A misunderstanding which is often met in Canada is the prevalent idea that America was bound by treaty to enter the war on the side of the Allies. This is not so. The treaty reads to maintain the neutrality of Belgium, but not to the extent of going to war. It is silly to say that if we entered the war on the side of the Allies we would have civil war at home. We might have a few riots, such as occurred in Vancouver and Montreal, but not civil war.

"From the standpoint of preparedness? The population of the U.S. is somewhat over one hundred millions. The standing army is comparatively small, but it could be used to train the volunteer regiments and the effect would be the same as in Canada and Great Britain."

With regard to the election, Mr. Frost stated that he would vote for Mr. Hughes, but could give no judg-

ment as to who would be the next president.

A Boorish German
Mr. Frost relates some interesting stories from Germany.

About seven years ago his brother and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Hood, were travelling in Germany. While on a boat en route to Sweden, a German officer who sat near them at table snatched some food from Mrs. Hood's plate. Mr. Hood became incensed and struck the officer across the face. Later he was challenged to fight. Mr. Hood in accordance with etiquette in such matters he chose fists, which was refused. The situation became so serious that the capt. of the boat put into a port and Mr. and Mrs. Hood travelled by another route. The German refused to fight and yet demanded satisfaction.

American Woman Insulted

Another is about a young American girl who was a student at one of the music conservatories in Berlin. While walking along a street she was accosted by a German officer who tried to force his attentions on her. She snubbed him, and finally asked a policeman to arrest him or prevent him from annoying her.

The officer gave a twist of his moustache and turning to the policeman said:

"On the contrary this woman accosted me. You must arrest her for an undesirable."

The girl was arrested, taken to jail and it required months of arguing and "red tape" to secure her release and return to America.

As illustrations of German justice and German principles these cases are inimitable.

Mr. Frost is at present engaged on a play based on "The Man Between". His new book "No Questions Asked" is in the hands of the publishers and is being eagerly looked for. Samples of Mr. Frost's work can be found in many of the Lasky "Famous Players" films, as he is now editor of their literary and fiction department. For a time he was also on the staff of the "Good Housekeeping Magazine" and with the Munsey Co.

Intense Political Activity Manifest At The Capital.

OTTAWA, Oct. 23.—There is a great coming and going of Federal members and party workers at the Capital these days. Cabinet Council meetings from which no news emanates are also frequent, and the atmosphere is full of mysterious rumors. In fact, the political plot is simmering and bids fair to boil over at an early date.

The latest rumor is that the Conservatives contemplate the holding of a huge Dominion convention at the Capital at an early date and prior to the reassembling of Parliament during the new year. At this convention, it is stated, a frank expression of opinions will be invited and a general unburdening of grouches and complaints encouraged. By this means, it is hoped the present murky atmosphere may be dispersed, a better understanding within the party reached, and members and party helpers sent back with a better heart for the work ahead.

Reconstruction of the Cabinet is also being discussed freely, but the Government seems to be having considerable difficulty along this line. Not only is it difficult to secure men who could with advantage to the party be calculated to fittingly substitute for the weaker brethren now on the Council, but the question of the growing list of open seats for the election or re-election of new material is a serious one. It would immediately re-open the whole question of the filling of the existing fifteen vacancies in the Commons, and the Government does not relish the idea of risking any reverses before a general election. A resolution of the difficulty is suggested through the appointment to vacancies in the Senate of men of Cabinet calibre who could fill portfolios in the Cabinet without being called upon to stand for election. Precedents are to be found in the case of Sir Richard Scott and Sir Richard Cartwright, who both held portfolios while sitting in the red chamber.

The case of Lieut-General Sir Sam Hughes is still agitating political circles here. From present indication, General Hughes is in about the same position as King Constantine of Greece—a king without regal rights. It is announced to-day that Mr. F. B. McCurdy will return and take over the routine work of the department, leaving Gen. Hughes a free hand to supervise troops and organizations, etc.

The new National Service Commission is to take charge of recruiting. The authorizing of new battalions is under the jurisdiction of the Prime Minister, and war purchases are carried out by the war purchasing committee. So there appears to be little more than routine work left for the department to perform.

The British to Keep Pounding

LONDON, Oct. 23.—The objects of the British advance in France were outlined by Major General F. B. Maurice, Chief Director of Military Operations at the War Office. He emphasized as one of the principal purposes, already gained, that "the British push into the German lines has extended the fighting front by a length of 20,000 yards, so that if stationary trench fighting were resumed, the Germans would have that much increased frontage to defend."

General Maurice was surrounded by maps, showing in detail the topography of the country and the posi-

tions of the troops at different stages of the advance since July 1.

"As we get on our difficulties get less and less," he remarked, pointing out that the country thus far gained was hilly and strongly defended, and that the British had now reached the lower rolling lands. Whereas the positions captured were intricate systems of defence, he said, the British now confront a single line of trenches.

"They (the Germans) are hard at work making another line here," he went on, indicating a line drawn on the map behind the present battle front. "When we get there they will be working on yet another line back here. Our work is to get ahead faster than their digging."

"We have never proceeded further

or faster than we could with safety. Proof of that fact is that we have never been pushed back. We do not expect to maintain our recent rate of progress uniformly. From time to time we strike harder ground."

By way of illustration he pointed out a ridge, affording the Germans a good elevated defence position lying before the British Army in one region, and continued:

"Our rate of progress may slow down when we get further on. We are prepared for that."

The General made it plain that the British plan was to keep on hammering.

"Can you keep on during the Winter?" the General was asked.

He replied in the affirmative, with the qualifying statement: "Of course,

the shorter the days the less shooting you can do. The worse the weather the harder is observation for artillery."

The teacher was trying to make his pupils understand that all good comes from one source.

As an illustration, he told them of building a house and putting water pipes with taps in all the rooms, these pipes being connected with the main in the street.

"Suppose I turn on a tap and no water comes, what is the matter?"

He naturally supposed that some of the boys would answer that the water was not turned on at the main; but they didn't. On the contrary, one boy at the foot of the class called out:

"You didn't pay your water rent."

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