

THE POISON THAT DESTROYS

(Continued from page 1)

Lord Grey's Secret Diplomacy

The crime and the tragedy would never have come about had the British people been aware of their commitments to France. For had they known them, they would have realised the Russian pit which lay at the end of them. All British Parties distrusted Russian external policy, and every progressive influence in the country loathed her internal policy. The legend of "wantonly" attacked France had to be invented in order to conceal the truth from our people — the truth that France, under her Poincaré, Millerand, Barthou, and Delcassés, had been dancing to the tune of the Russian pipes. By no one has that truth been so ingeniously revealed as by the Ambassador appointed by M. Poincaré to Petrograd. That fatuous individual — M. Paléologue — tells us in his memoirs that a month after the war broke out — in September, 1914 — he held a conversation with Russia's most famous statesman, then retired from the active politics of his country, Count Witte. Witte denounced the war as a "stupid adventure" which would be fatal to Russia, and from which France and England might, perhaps, alone reap advantage. It should be brought to an end, he said, "as soon as possible". Whereupon Paléologue gives the whole show away, providing us with an epitaph for those endless miles of graves in France and Flanders:

"Allow me to recall to you," he says in indignant tones, "that if the world is to-day given over to blood and flames, it is for a cause in which Russia was pre-eminently interested, a cause eminently Slav, a cause which concerned neither France nor Britain."

To which Count Witte dryly answered that "Serbia should have been allowed to receive the chastisement she deserved." And some of us have been called friends of every country but our own because, in September, 1914, we told our fellow-countrymen what Witte was, at the same moment, telling Paléologue and what Paléologue was admitting to Witte: because we have been telling them so ever since; because we thought that the massacre should be brought to an end "as soon as possible," instead of being indefinitely prolonged by sacrificing the youth of the nation in a "cause which concerned neither France nor Britain."

(To be continued.)

1) "The Game of Diplomacy." By a European diplomat. (Hutchinson.)

2) Interview of the Serbian Premier, Pašich, with the Tsar on February 2, 1914. (See Bogitschewitch the Serbian diplomat's "Causes of the War" English version, Allen & Unwin.)

3) "Un livre Noir" (top, etc.).

4) "The Russian Plot to Seize Galicia" (Hall & Co., London.)

5) Raccoign agreement with Italy (De Siebert documents (top, etc.) and Manchester Guardian, June, 1922.)

6) "Diplomacy Revealed" (top, etc.).

7) De Siebert documents (top, etc.).

8) "Pre-War Diplomacy" (top, etc.).

9) "The Black Hand" (Lazarevitch, (Lausanne: Edition nouvelle.) See, too, Bogitschewitch (top, etc.).

10) French Yellow Book, 1922. For summary, see "Pre-War Diplomacy" (top, etc.), pp. 43-7. Substantially the agreement was this: (a) The party that first mobilised was recognised as the aggressor. In first mobilising, Russia

stands, therefore, self-convicted, especially when it is borne in mind that the agreement (b) stipulated that mobilisation was to be regarded as equivalent to a declaration of war — mobilisation is "war" (in the text) — to which the Tsar explicitly adheres in the agreement. In brief, Russia, when she ordered mobilisation, in effect declared war on Germany, militarily speaking, but avoided an actual declaration, which was a diplomatic advantage — the diplomatic (and common) interpretation of "aggression" synchronising with an actual "declaration of war." In diplomacy, Russia and France were singularly astute, and Germany singularly fatuous. Her declaration of war was characteristically pedantic. If she had let the Russians advance without declaring war, her

"diplomatic" position in the eyes of the world would have been immensely strengthened, but the facts of the case would have been unaltered.

11) See the Russian dispatches published in De Siebert collection and in the "Livre Noir" also for specimens of the French chauvinist literature of the period. de Tourny's "Jaurès et le parti de la guerre" and Demartial's "La guerre de 1914: comment on mobilisa les conscrits."

12) Messrs Poincaré and Viviani, in the course of the recent debate in the French Chamber, made much of the alleged efforts to stop the Russian general mobilisation which, as already stated (top), was, by the terms of the Franco-Russian military convention, to be regarded by the general staffs as equivalent to a declaration of war. But one of two things is clear: either that these official efforts were merely put forth in order that they might be referred to later on as proving the French desire for peace, or that the head of the staff of the French Foreign Office and the French Ministry of War were pursuing a totally different policy to that which M. Poincaré and M. Viviani were supposedly pursuing. For the head of the French Foreign Office staff told Levol'sky, on July 30, that the French Government would in no way interfere with Russia's military preparations, while the French Minister of War cynically remarked that there was nothing to prevent Russia continuing and even intensifying her preparations, whatever public declarations she might make!

This we already knew from Professor Prokowsky's publication in the *Pravda* of Russian Imperial State Documents (see "Pre-War Diplomacy" (top, etc.). But the culminating proof is conveyed in a telegram from the Russian military attaché in Paris, dispatched in the night of July 31 — August 1 to his Government, the text of which was published in the *Berliner Tageblatt* of December 31, 1921, and will, it is understood, appear in the second volume of the "Livre Noir" (top, etc.). — the official edition of the documents in the Russian imperial archives. This telegram reads as follows: —

The Minister of War assured me, in impressive and hearty terms, that his Government is firmly resolved to go to war, and he asked me to confirm the hope of the French General Staff that we should direct all our efforts against Germany, and treat Austria as a negligible quantity.

France had, therefore, resolved upon war before Germany had declared war on Russia. This, of course, was obvious before. But it is interesting to have such a black and white confirmation of it. And no one is going to believe that Messrs. Poincaré and Viviani were not fully acquainted, both with the terms of the Franco-Russian Agreement and with the views of their colleagues at the War Office.

13) The Times, December 23, 1920.

14) Lord Haldane's admission on pp. 31 and 35 of his book (top, etc.) is significant. He shows us that from the very first beginnings of the secret military collaboration with France, the military collaboration of Russia was also reckoned on in his "problem". Imagine what the feelings of the Liberal and working-class voters who sent the Liberal Government to power would have been had they known that from 1906 to 1910 a "problem" was being worked out providing for the association of the British army with the Tsar in a war with Germany!

15) "La Russie des Tsars" (Paris: Plon), pp. 120-121.

Rural Municipality of Ayr.
No. 339

Meeting held on April 3rd. Resolutions carried: 1) to request the Department of Highways to add a specified road to the map of main roads of the municipality — 2) to form a new school district, as requested by the school committee — 3) to engage Carl Weber to run the municipal tractor for the season of 1923 at \$8.00 per day of ten hours — 4) to hire F. Hannah to operate the grader at 45c per hour — 5) that the engineer of the grading outfit be the foreman of it — 6) that the following wages be paid per day of 8 hours in 1923: man and 4 horses, \$8.00; man and 2 horses, \$5.00; laborers, \$3.00; foreman, \$4.00 — 7) that in any division wherein the 1922 appropriation has been over-expended, such over-expenditure shall be deducted from the 1923 appropriation, and any councillor expending more than the balance left after such deduction shall be dealt with as provided in resolution No. 18, passed on June 5th 1922 — 8) that the rate of assessment for municipal purposes in 1923 be 10 mills on the dollar. Follow appointment of foremen and payment of bills.

J. H. SHAKESPEAR, Sec.-Treas.

Rural Municipality of Wolverine.
No. 340

Minutes of council meeting held April 26th. Reeve and Councillors for divisions 1 2 3 4 5 attended.

Minutes of meeting held April 2nd were read and adopted.

The following accounts were passed for payment: Grants \$100.00; Dr. Downing \$31.50; Schools \$300.00; Tyson & Co. \$31.10; Stationary Supply, \$14.60; Relief, \$103.00; Stamps, \$31.00; H. McDonald \$49.92.

By resolution submitted by A. W. Armatage, the council fixed the month of June as the time to receive tenders for the purchase of lands now vested in the municipality after the usual 3 weeks' period has expired of notice in the public press as provided by law.

Only two replies having come to hand from the schools Re Anti-Toxin treatment the question was held over till next meeting. It was decided that if reasonable terms can be made with the Doctors and, also with the parents to tax their children, the municipality bear the cost of the treatment.

The following were appointed as road overseers for 1923 Div. 1 W. G. Daniels; Div. 2 C. Trainer; Div. 3 D. Sutherland; for the north half; Div. 4 Jos. Scheiber for the north half, Alex Saretzky for the south half; Div. 5 M. Stewart.

Provisions were made for a grant to the Guernsey R. E. A. for \$25.00.

The amendments to the R. M. Act Sec. 187 was considered by council whereby a council may now pass a by-law to compel the owner or occupant of lands wholly or partly undercultivation, to become responsible for the destruction of weeds on roads adjoining such lands. The council after some discussion decided not to pass a by-law to that effect for this year at least.

The council adjourned to meet again on June 4th.

R. H. Cash, Sec.-Treas.

CLEAN UP WEEK

Posters advertising "Clean-up Week" are being sent to the municipal authorities of every town and village in the province by Arthur Fisher, provincial fire commissioner. There is no set date for this week except that the month of May is considered the most suitable, each centre deciding upon the week for that particular town.

"We have had splendid co-operation from the majority of municipal authorities in the province," stated Mr. Fisher in speaking of the importance of clearing up the rubbish that accumulates during the winter, "and the slight decrease in the fire loss for the province the past year shows that the people of the province are beginning to reduce the fire waste which is altogether too large and is especially so in a new and growing province like Saskatchewan.

There were 31 lives lost through fire in the province last year and property destroyed to the value of \$2,900,000. As the great percentage of fires are due to carelessness and the fire waste can be greatly reduced by getting rid of rubbish, besides improving the appearance of the place and making it a more healthful as well as more attractive place to live in; we hope that the "Clean-up Week" campaign this year will be more popular than ever."

All kinds of Meat
can be had at

Pitzel's Meat Market

The place where you get the best and at satisfactory prices.

WE BUY Cattle, Hogs, Sheep and Poultry. If you have them to sell, let us know, we pay highest prices.

Pitzel's Meat Market

Livingstone St., HUMBOLDT, Phone 52.

COLLEGE COLUMN

MY ADVENTURE.

During one of my expeditions in the West I had the misfortune of falling into the hands of Indians. To avoid detection they made forced trips, thereby keeping at a distance from the surrounding civilization, at night they encamped in the dense brush- es so their trail could not be traced and their camp fires could not be seen.

Never dreaming that I had intentions of escaping, they were satisfied after a time to merely tie my hands; for my good behavior caused them to relax their strict guard. I had anxiously been waiting for an opportunity to escape, so one night I pretended to be very tired and feigned a deep sleep. When I noticed that they all slept soundly, I quietly drew a jackknife with my teeth from my guard's side, steadied it between my knees, cut the rope which bound my hands, and in an instant I was free. Seizing one of their rifles and taking the knife I had just used, I slipped from the group, mounted one of their horses and spurred it on in the direction whence I supposed we had come.

In my haste I overdrove my courier, and soon the poor animal fell exhausted and dead to the ground, thus leaving me alone in the midst of the great Arizona desert.

After walking a long time in the sand I came to a small eminence at the foot of which I found a cave. I stepped into it and dropped weary to the ground, for I was worn out. Soon I fell fast asleep. In the middle of the night I was disturbed by an extraordinary sound; I sat up and looked around; the profound silence and darkness raised the hair on my head; straining my eyes I perceived two faint amber lights close to me. At first I thought the lights to be a delusion of my

vision, but gradually the surroundings became more vivid and I saw a huge animal lying at rest within about three feet of myself.

Was it a lion, a bear, a boa? After an age of motionless anxiety the reflection of the moon, as it descended the horizon, lit up the cave and brought into plain view the body of a mountain tiger. This beast of the desert lay asleep, rolled up like a cat, now and then opening its eyes for a moment and closing them again. A thousand thoughts confused my mind. Should I kill the beast with a shot from the rifle? But there was not enough room to take good aim, the muzzle would reach beyond the animal's head, the bullet miss the mark and then the sport would begin. Twice I held my jackknife ready, intending to sever the animal's head, but the difficulty of cutting the close-haired skin made me renounce this daring attempt. The day before yesterday I thought the Indians would kill me, now I pictured myself the victim of a ferocious wild beast.

Patiently, and resigned to my fate, I awaited the awakening of my enemy. The sun was slowly rising when the cat-like monster stretched her legs, yawned and showed me her frightful armament of teeth. "Good," I thought, "make yourself ready and presently we shall bid each other good morning." I had my knife ready when the monster arose and crept towards me. I raised my hand and was about to strike when she crouched down and looked at me in a pleading, almost human manner. Leaving her advance a little nearer until I could reach the head I passed my hand over her brow. This seemed to soothe her. Being assured that my companion was harmless I ventured to rise and walked out of the cave. Scarcely had I gone a short

distance when she came bounding after me, rubbing herself against my legs and purring like a tame cat. I continued my walk and she followed me; presently I came upon a spring where I found the carcass of a horse. Undoubtedly it was my own horse which the tiger had dragged towards his den and feasted on the night before. This assured me all the more of my safety, for now I was certain she was not hungry and would not think me a delicate morsel.

Another day followed. While I sat under the bright mid-day sun with my newly found friend, an eagle appeared soaring in the sky. When my companion saw this bird of prey she began to roar and growl in a furious manner. Suddenly she turned on me and seized my leg. Imagining that the brute intended to devour me, I drew my knife and plunged it far into her throat. She rolled over with a cry that rent my soul, it was as if I had murdered a human being. In about an hour some mounted police who, on finding a flag I had planted on a height, had been in search of me since my absence, came to my rescue. They found me in tears, weeping over my dead companion, whom I had slain so rashly.

On our way out of the desert I chanced to spy an eagle flying away with a brown kitten in his claws. No doubt it was that of the dead tiger.

DO YOU KNOW that the students of St. Peter's College enjoyed the entertainment very much, given by the "Muenster Dramatic Club"?

DO YOU KNOW that our College Column appears until the end of the school-year, or perhaps longer?

DO YOU KNOW that somebody is trying to invent a noiseless alarmclock for the prefects?

DO YOU KNOW that the Muenster Baseball Team LOST on the 29th of April and on the 10th of May when playing the students of St. Peter's College?

DO YOU KNOW that the students lost the last game played with the Faculty?

Finally do you know that if you take part in the "Grand Prize Contest" of the St. Peter's Bote you can win a free ticket from Muenster to Vancouver and return?



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Die Deuts

Roman

(Zu

Frau Sewal
Sohne, die ihr
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