

Translator's Introductory Note

blanche in her dealings with Serbia, thus committing the German Government to a policy which was practically certain to provoke a European war. Who the Austrian representatives were was not stated; but Dr. Muehlon attributed a full share of the guilt to the German Emperor and named Herr Krupp von Bohlen and Herr Helfferich as his informants.

The Memorandum became known in Germany some time before its publication in the *Berliner Tageblatt*, and appears to have created considerable excitement. It was debated, together with Prince Lichnowsky's Memoir,* at a meeting of the Main Committee of the Reichstag on March 16th, 1918.

The Imperial Vice-Chancellor, Herr von Payer, speaking for the Government, tried to dismiss the Memorandum by asserting that Dr. Muehlon was a "neurasthenic who could not even come into a room if it contained a few gentlemen with whom he was personally unacquainted. . . . The document could only be regarded as pathological." Readers of the Diary will be able to form their own conclusions as to this insinuation.

* An English translation of Prince Lichnowsky's Memoir, "My Mission to London, 1912-1914," has been published (Cassell and Company, Ltd.).