

SAYS CARDINAL IS YET UNDER ARREST

Amsterdam Paper Correspondent Refuses To Accept German Denial.

BERLIN PAPER EXPLAINS

Says Archbishop Withdraw Instructions to His Clergy.

[Canadian Press.]

AMSTERDAM (via London), Jan. 8.—The Amsterdam paper correspondent of the newspaper Tjld sends a dispatch in which he insists that Cardinal Mercier, Archbishop of Malines, was arrested and imprisoned in his palace and that even now he is detained in Malines. The correspondent says that the Cardinal has been arrested personally that in his own palace he was deprived of his personal freedom, that his palace was guarded by military and that he still is forbidden to leave Malines.

The Cardinal declined, says the correspondent, to go to Brussels on request of the officials, and when he learned that some priests had been arrested in Malines, he refused to accept the responsibility for what he had done. The Cardinal's attitude is explained by the fact that he had received a message from Malines telling the Tjld correspondent this morning with the greatest emphasis that the dispatch to the newspaper had been received from the Cardinal's office and that he had decided to leave Malines until a final decision was received from Berlin.

German Officers Denies It. AMSTERDAM (via London), Jan. 8.—The newspaper Tjld has received a dispatch from its correspondent at Bergen-Op-Zoom, reporting an interview with a German officer at Brussels, who declared that Cardinal Mercier, the Archbishop of Malines, had not been arrested, was not imprisoned in his palace, and that the prelate is free to go where he pleases.

The German officer also flatly contradicted reports that priests had been arrested and imprisoned for refusing to read the German Emperor's Christmas letter.

Berlin Glosses Incident. LONDON, Jan. 8.—The Reuters' Amsterdam correspondent sends the following: "According to a telegram from Berlin tonight's issue of the North German Gazette published the following: 'The Archbishop of Malines, Cardinal Mercier, issued a Christmas pastoral letter, which he directed should be read from the pulpits of all of the churches of his diocese on Jan. 1 and the following day. In addition to remarks of religious matters, the letter contains a series of political statements, which are irreconcilable with the present state of affairs. The German authorities, therefore, were obliged to take measures to prevent further propagation of the letter. 'When the governor-general drew the attention of the cardinal to the matter, the latter declared verbally and in writing that his letter was not in any way meant to be a political statement. On the contrary, he added that his intention was to pacify the people, and endeavor to remind them, without hurting their feelings, of the fact that they were living in a time of peace, to be submissive, in demeanor, at least, to the existing German authority.'

"However, as the governor-general was of a different opinion with regard to the letter, and feared it would have an inciting effect, Cardinal Mercier did not insist upon the execution by his clergy of his directions for continued reading of the letter from their pulpits. Before this the governor-general had prohibited the publication and propagation of the pastoral letter. 'The incident can now be regarded as closed.'

PRINTER FINED.

AMSTERDAM, Holland, Jan. 8.—(via London)—In a dispatch from Rotterdam, the correspondent of the Amsterdam Tjld says that M. Dessein, who printed Cardinal Mercier's pastoral letter, has been fined 300 marks (\$125), and is under an alternative threat of imprisonment.

Continuing, the correspondent declares that the vicar of Hemix was kept a prisoner in the fort at Hohenlohe from Saturday noon until Sunday morning. The vicars of Duffel, Contich, Brassat and Schooten also were imprisoned. All of these priests are prepared, the correspondent of the Tjld declares, to continue to read the Berlin semi-official telegram denying that any priests have been arrested for reading the pastoral letter of Cardinal Mercier.

WILL ELECT OFFICERS

[Special to The Advertiser.] DORCHESTER, Jan. 8.—The annual meeting of the North Dorchester Agricultural Society will be held in the town hall at Dorchester on January 13. This meeting is for the election of officers for the coming year. There have been no further outbreaks of smallpox in the village. Miss Louie Rath is spending a few days in London. Dorchester School will open on January 18. Miss Patton will return to her school on Monday. Miss Nettie Edwards is spending a few days in Dorchester.

Devastation of Belgium by Germans Unequalled by Any Great Earthquake

Only One Happy Village, Spared Because of Kindness To Kaiser's Son—Terrible Picture Painted By Sister Marie Felicie.



SISTER MARIE FELICIE OF THE FRENCH RED CROSS. (Readers of Mary Boyle O'Reilly's articles from Belgium early in the war will, perhaps, remember the story of the efforts made by Sister Marie Felicie and Miss O'Reilly to get milk through the German lines to the babies of Brussels. Every effort failed until the climax which was produced by Sister Marie Felicie, who bearded the German governor in his office and demanded that she herself be given permission to drive the farmers' carts past the barriers. The following story is from the same Sister Marie Felicie.—Editor.)

[By MARY BOYLE O'REILLY.]

LONDON, England, Dec. 18 (by mail).—"Mon dieu! I've seen the devastation of a cyclone, the utter ruin wrought by earthquakes—yet never, never anything like the Belgian countryside overwhelmed by the German army!"

"Nurse Marie Felicie, of the French Red Cross, has escaped from Brussels to London with a first-hand tale of the awful devastation of the stricken land. 'All Flanders,' she said to me when I met her here, 'is filled with Belgian fugitives, returning now to find if their little homes have been spared. Spared? Good God! Everything—EVERYTHING—has been destroyed. 'You see, I, I, for I have travelled over all this country on foot—a fugitive with the other footmen fugitives—Nurse Marie Felicie explained.

Nurse to 5,000 Wounded. I last saw her in Brussels August 29, ten days after her capitulation. Though she was French, she told me then that she was determined to stay with the

wounded in spite of German occupation. 'Since then,' she said to me today in London, 'I must have nursed 5,000 wounded Germans! All were childishly ignorant about the war, all pitifully eager for peace. Scores of them died of hidden diseases. The Germans no longer care what they ruin; they know that they cannot remain.

"As for me, I am an old man, ignorant of affairs military. Alone, on foot, I worked out this poor map. It is for the allied armies. 'When the German Field Fortress. 'If you enter Belgium I will not be there. Let their generals be warned. From Waterloo to Marbais (Belgium), dressed as peasants to deceive the allied armies, have constructed quagmires lined with electrified wires. Trainloads of the snare have been laid out in miles wide by at least a hundred long. Everywhere are buried mines. That means savagery to the victors. 'Above all, the German engineers have set guide stones across the marshes. These show best at night, being covered with phosphorus. 'It is an indication of the end. When the invaders retreat they will take with them as prisoners of war the men who have worked for months mining the fields toward Marbais and weaving wire entanglements. All the villages round about will be destroyed and destroyed to clear the range for gun fire. 'For here and at Liege the Kaiser's hosts must make their last stand. 'The German Field Fortress. 'The retreat which every man and woman in Belgium confidently awaits.

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"German officials acknowledge the startling increase of suicide. When the war was planned the German war of memory remembered everything except the

human beings who must do the fighting. Now they realize their mistake. Ordered to Berlin, Flanders. 'These patients will all die unless we get them away from this accursed country,' the chief doctor said to me. Nurse Marie Felicie, who will go with the wounded to Berlin. 'To Berlin! Me, a Frenchwoman! I thanked him circumspectly and that night I vanished. My Red Cross papers passed me at the barrier. 'After that I was free—and a refugee, alone, penniless, without food, in the land of bondage.

"That explains how I came to travel across broken Belgium on foot. Wherever I went I saw little boys toiling at men's work, old people wandering dazed among unrecognizable ruins, and women, half mad with grief, mourning beside black wooden crosses. 'On the road beyond the Brussels barrier I met with half a hundred women refugees. Picture to yourself how we walked through the night to Waterloo. There was no moon. The darkness was absolute, for the hamlets of Flanders show no lights; matches cannot be had.

"There are two recollections of that country of sorrows which stay with me. Standing on the plain at Waterloo, it is as if the one little village in all that desolate land which remains peaceful, populated and happy. 'One Happy Village. 'Profondeville, with its people, lives on untroubled and secure, knowing nothing of war but the echo of artillery. Only one road passes Profondeville, for the women and little children of the broken-up families have taken refuge. 'The Kaiser, who fears little else, fears friction with the Belgian army. Military governors have orders to let the priests remain. 'One good old priest gave me a map he had made for the Allies. 'For two months I have watched these invaders,' he said. 'From Waterloo to Gembloux they have zigzagged so plain with mines. Belgium has become a vast field fortress, line after line of hidden defences. The Germans no longer care what they ruin; they know that they cannot remain.

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"That explains how I came to travel across broken Belgium on foot. Wherever I went I saw little boys toiling at men's work, old people wandering dazed among unrecognizable ruins, and women, half mad with grief, mourning beside black wooden crosses. 'On the road beyond the Brussels barrier I met with half a hundred women refugees. Picture to yourself how we walked through the night to Waterloo. There was no moon. The darkness was absolute, for the hamlets of Flanders show no lights; matches cannot be had.

"There are two recollections of that country of sorrows which stay with me. Standing on the plain at Waterloo, it is as if the one little village in all that desolate land which remains peaceful, populated and happy. 'One Happy Village. 'Profondeville, with its people, lives on untroubled and secure, knowing nothing of war but the echo of artillery. Only one road passes Profondeville, for the women and little children of the broken-up families have taken refuge. 'The Kaiser, who fears little else, fears friction with the Belgian army. Military governors have orders to let the priests remain. 'One good old priest gave me a map he had made for the Allies. 'For two months I have watched these invaders,' he said. 'From Waterloo to Gembloux they have zigzagged so plain with mines. Belgium has become a vast field fortress, line after line of hidden defences. The Germans no longer care what they ruin; they know that they cannot remain.

"As for me, I am an old man, ignorant of affairs military. Alone, on foot, I worked out this poor map. It is for the allied armies. 'When the German Field Fortress. 'If you enter Belgium I will not be there. Let their generals be warned. From Waterloo to Marbais (Belgium), dressed as peasants to deceive the allied armies, have constructed quagmires lined with electrified wires. Trainloads of the snare have been laid out in miles wide by at least a hundred long. Everywhere are buried mines. That means savagery to the victors. 'Above all, the German engineers have set guide stones across the marshes. These show best at night, being covered with phosphorus. 'It is an indication of the end. When the invaders retreat they will take with them as prisoners of war the men who have worked for months mining the fields toward Marbais and weaving wire entanglements. All the villages round about will be destroyed and destroyed to clear the range for gun fire. 'For here and at Liege the Kaiser's hosts must make their last stand. 'The German Field Fortress. 'The retreat which every man and woman in Belgium confidently awaits.

"Brussels is a huge hospital. Not two in a hundred stricken men die from wounds. Rather they die of scurvy or are killed by 72 hours of standing up to their knees in water when their clay trenches are like brooks. The flooding of Flanders started an epidemic of pneumonia and typhoid. The fumes from lyside shells poison exhausted men. Poor food, prolonged depression do the rest.

TO ASK EMBARGO ON WHEAT EXPORT

Chicago Retailers Would Take This Means To Check High Prices.

Chicago, Jan. 8.—Two dollar wheat means that Americans eat bread at a price which is said here today by prominent dealers in grain. A national agitation to induce Congress to place an embargo on the export of wheat and flour as well as on arms and ammunition will be considered at the next meeting of the Chicago Retail Grocers' and Butchers' Association, it was announced today.

S. Westerfield, chairman of the National Association of Retailers, planned to begin in this manner a determined fight against the high cost of flour and incidentally of home-baked bread. Leaders on the exchange predicted today in some instances that if the price of wheat went much higher, there would be a general turning to corn in place of wheat bread both in this country and in Europe. Other dealers declared that bakers' complaints that they could not make a barrel of flour costing \$7.50 would make \$7.50 leaves of bread, which the retailer sold at 15 cents, five cents a loaf.

One well known export put the bread situation this way: 'It is not so much a question of the price for wheat as a question of supply. It would be enough to feed two continents.' If wheat goes to \$2 it will mean eating of corn as never before.

In this connection one of the principal firms on the board of trade made public dispatches received indicating that farmers' ideas as to corn were away up—that many growers said that they would sell a bushel of corn at 15 cents.

Washington Watching. WASHINGTON, Jan. 8.—Department of Justice officials tonight expressed interest in the statement that the price of a loaf of bread was about to jump from 50 to 55 cents in New York, Chicago, and possibly in other cities. No complaints had reached the department, and no action is in immediate prospect.

Attorney-General Gregory has kept a close watch on any efforts to raise the cost of living through combinations of producers in any line, and it is considered likely that a rise in the price of bread would be looked into at once.

It is realized at the department that with wheat far above normal figures, bakers undoubtedly have been forced to face the prospect of higher flour. Officials are interested, however, in learning whether there is any conspiracy among bakers over the country effect of raising the price of their commodity. Concerted action that involved bakers in different states would allow prosecution under the anti-trust act.

Diurnal Trains of Dead. 'And my other most vivid remembrance is one of death,' resumed Marie Felicie. 'Every night trains of dismal mystery clank