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VON HOETZENDORF'S MEMOIRS THROW LIGHT ON WAR'S START

The Events Surrounding the Drafting and Despatching of the Austrian Ultimatum to Serbia Which Inaugurated the War Given Their First Amplification.

Berlin, April 8.—(Correspondence of The Associated Press.)—The events surrounding the drafting and despatching of the Austrian ultimatum to Serbia which inaugurated the world war are given their first amplification in the forthcoming publication of the recollections of Conrad von Hoetzendorf, the former Austro-Hungarian Field Marshal.

The advanced proofs of the volume which is entitled "The Road to the Catastrophe" indicate that it will prove a significant parallel to General Ludendorff's memoirs because of its dramatic and intimate revelations of Austro-Hungarian diplomacy and war policies and because of the candor with which it discusses Emperor Charles, the co-operation of the German and Austro-Hungarian general staff, the relations of the former Emperor Francis Joseph and the German Emperor William, the social and political intrigues of the Austrian Emperor Zita and the whole hierarchy of the Austrian grand dukes.

The volume is compiled by Karl Nowak, an author and journalist and formerly war correspondent of the Cologne Gazette, who for two years was assigned in a personal capacity to Marshal von Hoetzendorf's headquarters. Nowak reported the war on all the eastern fronts and while his name nominally appears on the title page, the volume is known to be von Hoetzendorf's authorized and personally revised recollections.

Discussing the events immediately following the assassination of Archduke Frederick at Sarajevo, Nowak states that few, if any people knew the plans of Count von Berchtold, then Austro-Hungarian Foreign Minister. Not even the high military officials were informed nor was it known whether he was communicating with Berlin, according to the writer.

"Indignation in political and diplomatic circles ran high as a result of the murder," reads the memoirs. "Military leaders quoted von Moltke's words, 'we know the catastrophe will come some day; the sooner the better for us.'"

This was the situation Marshal von Hoetzendorf found on his return from a furlough holiday in the Tyrol, where he went after the killing of the Archduke at Sarajevo, in order to create the impression that the situation was not menacing to the peace of Europe. Nowak describes the episode of the ultimatum to Serbia as follows:

"The ministers were summoned to Ballhausplatz (Foreign Office). Count von Hoetzendorf, then chief of the general staff, was hurriedly recalled from Tyrol where he was on leave granted him after the Sarajevo catastrophe. Count von Berchtold was conducting the deliberations on the general staff. His opinion was sought only in connection with the military prospects. The diplomatic situation was not mentioned nor was any reference made either to the Serbian ultimatum or to any other ultimatum."

"Count von Berchtold frankly analyzed every possible hostile constellation and did not conceal his conviction that the Austro-Hungarian monarchy was unequal to the demands of war on three fronts. He referred to similar views previously expressed in the preceding years, in which he had pointed out exactly such complications and entered upon minute consideration of every emergency growing out of a possible international clash."

"Count von Berchtold asked him whether the proposal for the monarchy would improve in the course of the next few years. Von Hoetzendorf spoke of Hungarian opposition to huge armament credits and the speed with which other nations were arming. He declared that he would be guilty of lying if he said the chances of the monarchy later on would be more auspicious. On the contrary, he believed they were bound to grow worse in the face of the prevalent disinclination to grant war credits and the growing nationalistic propaganda. His advice represented the frank judgment of a military expert given solely in reply to the Minister's demand. Count von Berchtold sought no further information and the conference disbanded."

"For a decisive conference on the ultimatum the ministers were summoned three days later to Count von Berchtold's residence. Emperor Francis Joseph was not present but Count Tisza, the Hungarian Premier, Count von Sturgk, the Austrian Premier, Marshal von Hoetzendorf, Minister of War Korbuth and one naval expert were present. Count von Berchtold again conducted the deliberations. Two ministerial officials were called in to assist in the technicalities of drafting the note. Von Berchtold read the ultimatum. Nobody objected. Count Tisza alone wavered for a moment. The complications which might threaten to affect the national problems of Hungary made him appear ill at ease but he too finally gave his consent."

"The note contained several points. It was plain to everyone that the monarchy would insist its representatives be permitted to attend the Belgrade investigation (of the Sarajevo murder) because suspicion was very pronounced that not only Premier Pachitch but the royal house of Serbia was implicated in the assassination. "That the note should receive drastic formulation was to be expected in view of the prevailing attitude that the monarchy thus was broadly challenged could not do otherwise than demand complete satisfaction and a guarantee that Serbian machinations should stop for good."

"The conference of then proceeded to give the ultimatum its final textual formulation. The diplomats present discussed this phase thoroughly before two experts rendered the note into the French language. The soldiers present had no part in the decision. The final official version was once more read aloud and the conference promptly adjourned."

Nowak describes the scene in the Schoenbrunn (imperial palace) shortly after the conference as follows: "The old Emperor never for a moment lost self-control. He now was fully aware that the monarchy had been undermined and that its fate was in the balance. He asked von Hoetzendorf concerning the state of mobilization and whether everything was in order. The Chief of Staff reassured the aged monarch. Without outward sign of emotion, Francis Joseph, in the presence of the Foreign Minister signed the declaration of war."

According to Nowak, he believes that the men in the Ballhausplatz actually expected the Belgrade government would succumb to the Austro-Hungarian bluff or that if it resisted, the issue would be decided by a swift military campaign which would be carried out with such speed as to accomplish realization of the war and prevent other European powers from intervening.

Vittorini's next releases are: "Beating the Odds," with Harry T. Morey; "Passing the Buck," a Larry Benson comedy; 19th, "The Third Degree," with Alice Joyce, based on Charles Klein's play; 26th, "This Joe," with Corinne Griffith; June 2, "The Little Boss," with Beanie Love; 16th, "A Woman's Romance," with Marie Williams.

The Famous Players-Lasky Corporation announces the following releases to the remainder of the month:

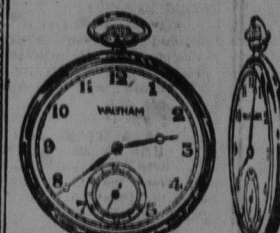
"Come Out of the Kitchen," with Margaret Clark; "The Home Town Girl," with Vivian Martin; "The Lady of Red Butte," with Dorothy Dalton; all Paramount pictures. Douglas Fairbank's next Antares picture, "The Bachelor," with Charles Ray, Fox-Parsonage; "The Final Close-Up," with Shirley Mason, Paramount. "The Woman Thou Gavest Me," a screen version of Hall Caine's novel, a Fox-Parsonage-Artcraft Special; "Thou Shalt Not Kill," with Dorothy Gish, Paramount; "The Haunted Bedroom," with Euid Bennett, Fox-Parsonage.

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Mix the ham with the milk, then pour it into a hot water, then
pour the sauce over it and add the cheese. Bake in a hot oven for
15 minutes, and serve. Turn the ham on its side, pouring
with milk, spread over with the ground
cheese, and garnish with parsley.

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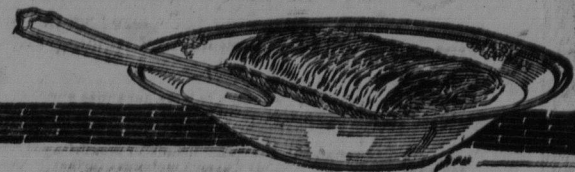
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