

MANY OF FRANCE'S TREASURES OF ART ARE LOST FOREVER

Reparation of One Billion Francs Is Demanded by Fine Arts Ministry.

NOT COVER REPAIR

Proposal To Make Germany Replace Loot With Her Own Masterpieces.

PARIS, March 9.—The French ministry of fine arts has presented a bill to the reparations commission, for collection from Germany, for damage done by German invaders to France's art treasures and monuments in a statement the ministry says that more than 1,000,000,000 francs are needed to repair the German damage to these art treasures and monuments, and even then the story of the Teutonic invasion and of marauding and heartless sacrilege will remain to counterbalance any propaganda the German historians of the future may make.

When it is remembered that the bill represented hundreds of cases of damage which money can never repair, it must be admitted that France has approached at least one side of her reconstruction work in a sense of unusual moderation.

Before the war art lovers of all nations studied the public and private collections in northern and eastern France, where the heritage of generations of artists—work rather than things—found in the Louvre, the Brissard or in the Luxembourg Palace—were gathered. As a result the Germans found much to their surprise, that they would not have to reach Paris in order to capture most of France's art treasure, and under the plea of protecting them they transported thousands of canvases, sculptures and wood carvings to the Valenciennes museum, with the intention of selling them to German bidders as soon as Germany's victory in the west was assured.

Majority Are Returned.

But a majority of these art collections taken by the Germans have been returned, more or less damaged or ruined, to their original owners in Germany, when it became doubtful to them whether they would be able to hold their western front, transferred these art treasures to Brussels, where the patriotic director of the Royal Museum of Belgium, M. Gevaert, sheltered the French art possessions, after assuring the Germans it was folly to risk further damage to them by leaving them exposed. From the Brussels castle, M. Gevaert personally directed their removal to the museums of Lille, Leam, Cambrai, Douai and La Fere early in 1920. Some of the famous tapestries of Lille had been torn ruthlessly by German officers who used them as coverings for windows which had been broken by shelling. Ceramics from the same museum had been shattered, while plain field grey soldiers peered the eyes of scores of famous portraits, which had been attracted to students from all over the world to Douai.

The Cambrai museum suffered more than the others, for some of its ancient legacies, such as porcelains and pottery of the seventeenth century and several Watteaus, the finest, including the "Return from a Campaign," never have been traced.

The 1,000,000,000 francs asked of Germany naturally cannot be applied to the restoration of these treasures, but will be applied to the reconstruction of the damaged buildings throughout the invaded regions.

Private Collections Raided.

More than 500 editions and statues, classified by the ministry of fine arts as "public monuments," are known to have suffered from the German invasion, some of them having been raised. Rhineland alone needs 150,000,000 francs to restore the art treasures of the Rhine and the ancient walls of St. Remy. Alfry's account reaches 130,000,000 francs for the restoration of the famous abbey of St. Remy. Alfry's account reaches 130,000,000 francs for the restoration of the famous abbey of St. Remy.

ACTRESS CLAIMED THRONE.

Just about a century ago a woman claimed a throne in France by claiming to be the daughter of Philip, Duke of Orleans, and by insisting that Louis Philippe, then upon the throne, was the son of a jailer, who had been substituted for her at her birth.

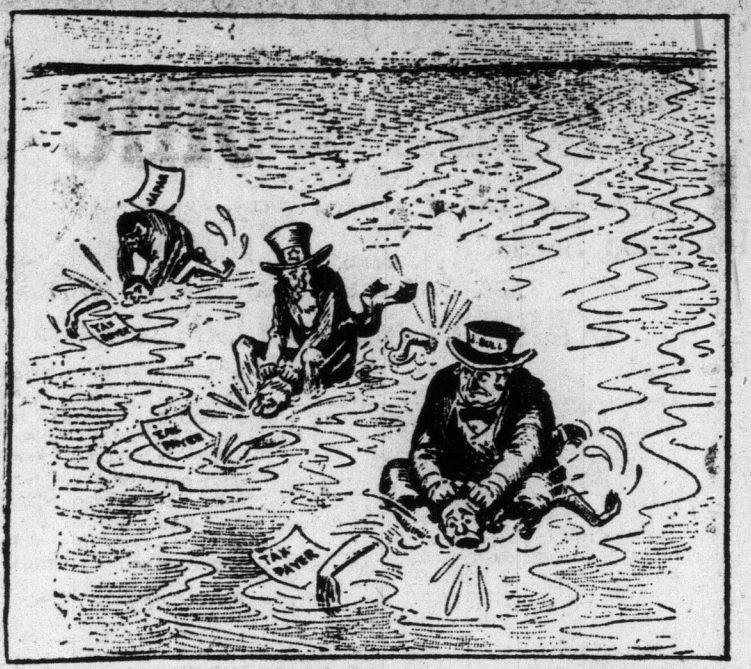
This woman, best known in history by the name of Marie Antoinette, was born in a small Italian town in 1773. The man whom she regarded as a father, until he was convicted of her death, that she was not his child, was Louis, the king, who had charge of the jail in the city.

She went on the stage while she still but a child, and quickly attracted the attention of Lord Newborough, an elderly widower. She said that she was utterly devoted to him, but that her parents compelled her to marry him. Maria Stella was only 13 years old when she was married.

She maintained that the Duke of Orleans and his wife were married, when the duchess gave birth to a daughter. She said that at the same time Marie Antoinette was born. The Duke was no savior to have time but that he induced Chippendale to exchange his baby.

It was a strange and piquant mystery that the Duke of Orleans, an Italian courtier, had been married, and that the Duke of Orleans, an Italian courtier, had been married, and that the Duke of Orleans, an Italian courtier, had been married.

THE GREAT NAVAL ENDURANCE RACE



—Knott, in the Dallas News.

291-CARAT SAPPHIRE STOLEN IN WARSAW DISCOVERED IN PARIS BY ITS POLISH OWNER

PARIS, March 9.—A sapphire which was lost in Warsaw in July, 1918, has been found in Paris, with this difference, that when it was lost it was one stone weighing 291 carats, and when it was found in Paris it was in half a dozen pieces, which, together, weighed only 136 carats.

The stone belonged to Count Xavier Branki, who, when the Germans entered Warsaw, slipped it into his trousers pocket for safety. It was his most precious possession, and had been handed down in his family since his grandfather bought it in 1840 in Frankfurt. It was one of the most wonderful sapphires in the world, and had been shown at the Vienna exhibition in 1887 and in Paris in 1878. With it in his pocket Count Branki felt that he would always be able to live in comfort.

For a time he walked around Warsaw with his fortune thus hidden from the Germans.

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THE LONDON ADVERTISER, LONDON, ONTARIO, THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 1921.

EVEN

FRENCH DIPLOMATS AIM TO RECONCILE POLES AND CZECHS

Poland Must Forget Grievances To Secure Support of France.

BIG ISSUES AT STAKE

Possibility of Forceful Action Against German Influence in Negotiations.

PARIS, March 9.—French diplomats are making a great effort to bring about a rapprochement between the Poles and the Czechs, whose foreign ministers, Prince Zapski and M. Benes, are now in Paris.

As the situation stands at present the Poles and the Czechs have concluded an arrangement which may not go so far as an offensive and defensive alliance, but which certainly is the utmost in the event of an attack by a third party, but the Czechs are on bad terms with Poland, and the Poles are not friendly to the Rumanians. The Poles were bitterly offended first by the Czech refusal to allow the passage of their army through the Czech Republic during the worst period of the Bolshevik drive last summer.

So far as the French are concerned, they are friendly enough with the Poles, but have apparently not quite enough confidence in Marshal Pilsudski to rely on him for support in their financial help, which the Polish president requested. Czechoslovak relations were somewhat strained last year, not only on account of the Polish military incident, but because the Czechs looked askance at French activities in Hungary.

Conditional Support.

The French also was modified by the attempted Communist revolution last fall, which, though abortive, was for 48 hours a good deal of trouble to the French government.

Looking Ahead.

It is here that bigger issues are at stake. The Polish and Czech foreign ministers are now in Paris, and the French diplomats are making a great effort to bring about a rapprochement between the Poles and the Czechs, whose foreign ministers, Prince Zapski and M. Benes, are now in Paris.

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FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL

POOR ROADS RESPONSIBLE FOR ADVANCE IN PRICE.

APPLES IN DEMAND

Fresh Eggs Lower—Large Supply of Vegetables.

Plenty of farmers were at the local market on Thursday morning, and large supplies of vegetables were offered. Eggs and butter were in abundance, and buying was active in both lines.

There was only a small shipment of live hogs to Toronto on Wednesday, and the market for dressed hogs was around 35 per cent.

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TRINIDAD

PORT OF SPAIN, Trinidad.

is the latest point at which this Bank has opened.

The branch is under the management of Mr. H. C. Miles.

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

Shall the importation and the bringing of intoxicating liquors into the province be forbidden?

1. Nearly all the provinces of the Dominion have voted against the sale of intoxicating liquors for beverage purposes.

2. Five of the provinces have already applied through their legislatures for Dominion legislation prohibiting importation. Federal legislation was granted, subject to referendum.

3. Four provinces have already held such a referendum and carried prohibition of importation.

4. Ontario will vote on this question April 18.

5. Absolute control of the distribution of liquor within the province will rest with the people, if the majority vote "Yes" on April 18.

Vote and Vote, "Yes"

Close the door of Ontario to the traffic in "imported booze"

Ontario Referendum Committee

Doomed by German Junker Secret Court, Young Traitor to Reaction Shoots Himself

BERLIN, March 9.—The violent death of a young soldier, Otto Grebe, about a week ago, revealed the existence of a secret court within the notorious "Orge" which prosecutes its victims as traitors, and cruelly as the Spartacists.

A week ago young Grebe shot himself in a room of the "Orge" club, his body not being found until the next day.

He was identified as a man who had given the government information leading to the discovery of the "Orge" arsenal. This was under the supervision of the notorious Dr. Hehl, who was connected with the Kapp coup.

When it was discovered that Grebe still lived, he was told by the "Orge" agents that he would certainly be killed unless he immediately obeyed the command to commit suicide. Grebe now saw no hope of escape, and with his last money bought a bottle of wine, drank it, and shot himself.

Young Grebe was not ready to obey the order when the appointed time came, and so his death was announced at a meeting of the organization 24 hours after it really took place. When it was discovered that Grebe still lived, he was told by the "Orge" agents that he would certainly be killed unless he immediately obeyed the command to commit suicide. Grebe now saw no hope of escape, and with his last money bought a bottle of wine, drank it, and shot himself.