

GERMANY'S POLICY IS TO FORCE NEUTRALS FOR OR AGAINST HER

If the Huns Cannot Get the Supplies and Advantages They Require by Peaceful Means They Will Steel Them Just as They Did in the Invasion of Belgium.

(By Gabriel Hanotaux, former French Minister of Foreign Relations.)
 PARIS, April 20.—Chancellor von Bethmann Hollweg's Reichstag address, combined with recent events, shows unmistakably that Germany has definitely adopted the policy of forcing the neutral nations to declare finally for or against her. Germany must have wheat, rubber, copper, petrol and cotton. She must have ports as bases for her sea operations, and coast line and territories, which her staff consider indispensable.

If the neutrals do not all her to obtain these things peacefully she will seize them just as she invaded Belgium. She is now putting a heavy strain on Swiss neutrality by deliberately dropping bombs in Swiss territory. In order to be able to violate Dutch neutrality she accuses England of planning to land troops in Holland. Neutral newspapers are still flooded with German offers to buy leather, copper, rubber and petrol, and trade with Germany's continental neutral neighbors has reached abnormal proportions. Secret contraband traffic is also being carried on through the mails.

But Germany is no longer satisfied with the attempt to supply her needs by the occult ways. She intends to

force the neutrals either openly to help her or to sugar invasion. The fact is that she is bound to act in this way and accordingly as the neutrals reply with strong measures or submit to indignities the war will end early or late. We can confidently rely on these nations to protect themselves.

The Verdun battle has demonstrated that Germany is incapable of striking a smashing and decisive blow. The long and carefully concealed plans, and the fifty days of desperate fighting with a loss of at least 200,000 men, has resulted in a gain of only a few kilometres.

The lesson is obvious. Whatever Verdun's fate may be, Germany's military strength is vastly lower than after the battle of the Marne. If Germany should capture the town she would again have to accumulate supplies and munitions to sustain fresh and bloody sacrifices in order to gain a few more kilometres and this while the great allies' offensive is breaking out on all the other fronts.

From the military viewpoint the war can end only with a victory for the allies, but whether this is obtained through great attacks or through attrition, the neutrals will have to jump one way or the other, because Germany intends trying to get more help from them.

THE HARVEST OF THE SEA

INTERESTING AND USEFUL TO THE FISHERMEN OF THE COLONY

AN INTERESTING FISH

THAT fish is a very important factor in economics has received a decided illustration of late; and the following incident is we believe unique in the annals of the fish business.

Some time ago we made reference in this column to the activities of the Canadian Fisheries Association in bringing to the notice of the military authorities in England the desirability of providing a supply of fish for the Canadian troops. Major Green was entrusted with the matter of exhibiting the fish products of the Dominion, in England, and he has evidently met with a large measure of success. So much so, that the matter was referred to some days ago in the House of Commons, in Ottawa.

Mr. Devlin, Member for Wright, asked if the new office of "Fishmonger General" had been regularly authorized by the Dominion Government, and in a facetious speech discussed the career of "Maggie"—which Major Green was exhibiting in England. Many of the Members of the House were absolutely unaware, of course, that there was such a member of the finny tribe; but Mr. Devlin explained to a very interested audience that "Maggie" was just an ordinary specimen of aquatic vertebrate which Major Green had labelled in order to push the fish industry in England. "Maggie" must have caused quite a flutter,

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as we notice that "she" (or he) has even been honored with an editorial in an Ottawa newspaper:

"According to Mr. Devlin, a Canadian officer in full uniform is exhibiting a tame fish to admiring Britishers. We imagine Major Hughie Green appears in a diver's suit, or at least in the distinctive garb of a submarine officer. There is nothing like Alton effects to impress the average conservative Britisher with our progress in the matter of aquatic vertebrates. The common conception of a Canadian fisherman conjures up a picture of a rough garbed individual clothed in a soiled sweater and smoking a short pipe. Maggie we are glad to say, by the indisputable evidence of the camera is properly chaperoned.

"Major Green is doing a valuable work not only in demonstrating that Canada is a piscatorial paradise, but in removing false impressions of us abroad. There is danger at this time, particularly

in view of recent political developments, that the conviction may become widespread that Canada's national fish must necessarily be a lobster. (Evidently the witty editor of The Citizen must be referring to the mess in which Colonel John Wesley Allison and Sir Sam Hughes are now being featured!)

"If Maggie is really 'gold fish' (the editor is still thinking of Alton's rake-offs, presumably), she will convey a more truthful impression of us by her very appearance!

"Though the Canadian Government has disavowed Maggie, it should not be forgotten that it is just now very intensely interested in a fishy transaction, and one of its prominent members will presently be invited to enact the role of Jonah and the whale.

"We have heard a facetious gentleman remark that this Green business sounds 'like a huge cod.' Whilst on this subject, we would respectfully suggest that our own Government try a little advertising on the other side. We have several individuals who are sporting brass buttons and other military paraphernalia who would make excellent agents for our piscatorial products, as they are thoroughly accustomed to fishy transactions.

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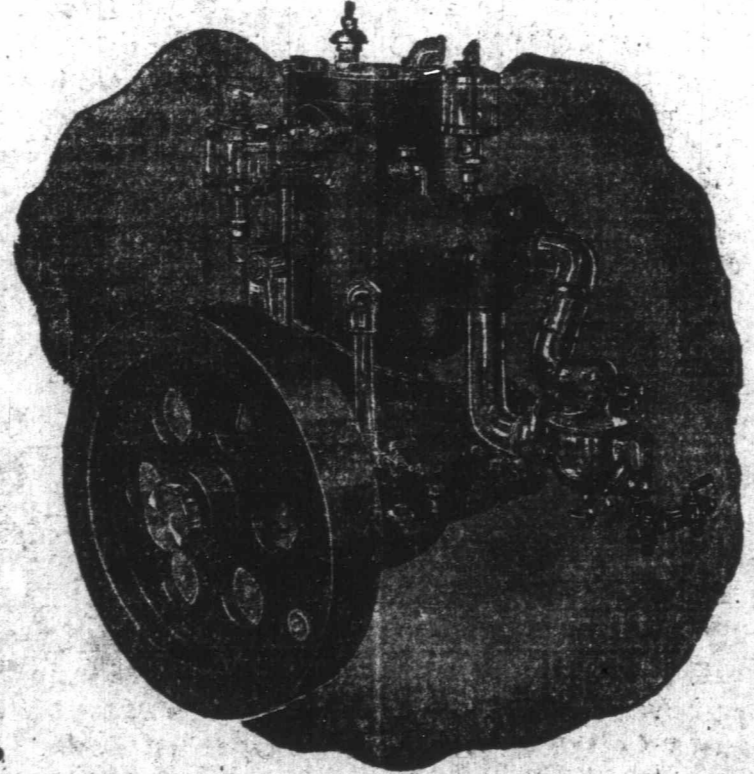
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