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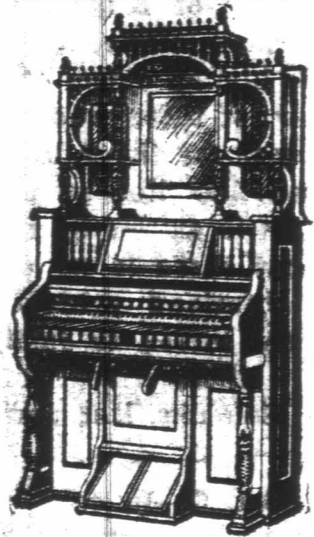
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Papen Explains "Idiotic Yanks"

Says He Meant N.Y. Newspaper—Terms Publication

"Deuced Bad Form"

San Francisco, Sept. 25.—Captain Franz von Papen, military attache to the German embassy at Washington, who is here with Prince von Hatzfeldt of the embassy, denied to-day that the expression "idiotic Yanks" contained in the letter entrusted to J. F. J. Archibald and intercepted by the British authorities, was intended to apply to the American people.

"The much discussed letter was to my wife," he said. "In passing it may be said that publishing a man's letter to his wife is deuced bad form. When the British authorities at Falmouth found these letters on Mr. Archibald, they pounced with avidity on the two worlds that have made all this trouble."

Meant The Newspaper

"They published only an excerpt of my letter, thus changing its meaning entirely. My wife, or any one else, reading the letter from start to finish, would have gathered that the expression 'idiotic yankees' referred to the publishers of a New York newspaper (the World)."

"The newspaper had been calling us conspirators and other objectionable epithets. It grew especially vehement after a portfolio containing certain of our private papers that had been stolen from one of our men on a train. In writing to my wife I dealt with these publications."

Capt. Von Papen, who insisted that his explanation be considered as an amicable discussion, not as an interview, said that he was here for a few days to visit the exposition and amuse himself, and that after his vacation he would return to his post at Washington.

Big Conscription Plot In British Cabinet?

London, Sept. 23.—A political sensation of the first magnitude has been caused by the publication in The London Daily News of particulars of an alleged plot whereby a minority of the most powerful members of the Cabinet have determined to force the issue of conscription in the Cabinet at an early date; next week is mentioned.

Failing an agreement on the subject, The Daily News declared, the Ministers in question intend to resign their offices, precipitating a Cabinet crisis, which would be attended by great peril to the nation.

It is stated that the object of the conscriptionists is to force a general election on the issue of compulsory service.

The gulf which separates the advocates of compulsory service and of the voluntary system is becoming wider. It has already been stated in these despatches that Lord Kitchener is as wide.

The conscriptionist members of the Cabinet are Lord Curzon, Lord Lansdowne, Lloyd George, Winston Churchill, Bonar Law, Austen Chamberlain, Lord Selborne and Sir Edward Carson.

yet uncommitted either way. Bonar Law, Mr. Long and Austen Chamberlain were not inclined a short time ago, at any rate, to press compulsion if it meant a split in the Government. It may be added that Lord Curzon is one of its strongest advocates.

Publicity The Cure.

It is hoped by many Liberals that Lloyd George may not go to extreme lengths with his policy, although he is believed to favor a general election. Churchill probably will be found to be more in favor of a referendum. Lord Lansdowne is rumored to have weakened in his advocacy of late. But these qualifications as to individual attitudes are details. Nothing will stay the crisis with which Britain is threatened unless it be publicity. A conscriptionist Minister is already behind the scenes busy canvassing his friends in view of the coming crisis in the Cabinet.

The issue will be forced on a majority report by Lord Crew's committee favoring compulsory service, signed by Lord Curzon, Austen Chamberlain, Winston Churchill and Lord Selborne. On consideration of this report there is opportunity for delay which the majority in the Cabinet may seize, but the next three weeks is the limit of time which the conscriptionists see themselves.

Chauffeurs' Horn Code

Some chauffeurs think that they need only to blow their horns and the pedestrian will leap out of the way. The chauffeurs, in their arrogance, will be getting up a horn code for the pedestrian to learn and obey something like this:

"One toot—Throw a quick back handspring for the sidewalk. Two toots—Dive over the car. Three toots—Lie down calmly; it is too late to escape, but we will go over as easily as possible if you keep very still. One long and two short toots—Throw yourself forward and we will save both your arms. One short and two long toots—Throw yourself backward and one leg will be saved. Four toots—It's all up with you, but we promise to notify your family."

[What code have they adopted in St. John's?]

Why London Is Attacked

Berlin, Sept. 23.—An official statement issued here yesterday says:

"Mr. Balfour, first lord of the British admiralty, declared in the house of commons that London was an unfortified place, and therefore ought not to be exposed to aerial attacks, according to the rules of civilized warfare."

"As the minister cannot possibly be ignorant of the fact that London is fortified by a great number of powerful fortifications, and by a still greater number of field works, there is no question here of deliberate misrepresentation."

"The minister has forgotten to mention that German airships have always been bombarded by the British previous to their appearance over London. He also forgets to mention the fact that ally aeroplanes continue to attack open German towns outside the area of military operations, where harmless travellers on passenger trains are not in a position to defend themselves."

Big Profits From Making Rifles

New York, Sept. 27.—Manufacture of rifles will be great profit-making for Westinghouse. The usual cost of manufacture of such guns in lots of 1,000 is between \$9 to \$10 to the Westinghouse Company, the cost will not exceed the latter that means gross profit of slightly more or less than \$31,000,000. While net profits have not yet been determined but estimates that directors had before when it was under consideration, figure at \$10 a piece which means \$18,000,000 on 1,800,000. Net profit of 18,000,000 from the rifles would mean almost exactly 50 per cent on present outstanding issue of common shares. These profits will not be shown in company's income until shipments commence and dividends are declared by New England Westinghouse company and other large munition contracts, are continually being offered to the Westinghouse and it is safe to say that it has not reached its highest figure of war orders. Shell orders alone may yet be made 100,000 more rifles are likely to be signed up indicating an additional net profit of \$2,000,000.

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WILL SETTLE BIG QUESTION

Chinese Council of State Want Convention on the Constitution

Peking, Sept. 28.—The council of state, sitting as the provisional congress, advised President Yuan Shi Kai to call a citizens' convention before the end of the present year to settle the question as to whether China is to be a republic or a monarchy. The provisional constitution provides that a citizens' committee called by the people must approve constitutional changes, but the memorandum of the council of state suggests that Yuan Shi Kai may "devise other proper and adequate means to consult the people's will with a view that a fundamental solution be found so that the general situation may be settled and the people's mind be eased."

Yuan Shi Kai's Responsibility.

This recommendation transfers the responsibility to Yuan Shi Kai. It is generally believed he will call a citizens' convention promptly, although there are rumors to the effect that he will designate the council of state as a citizens' convention, thus avoiding the necessity of holding an election.

The action of the council of state reopens the question of the future form of China's government which was believed to have been settled. A Peking despatch on September 6 said the government had decided tentatively to maintain the form of a republic instead of restoring a monarchy, but that the presidency would be made permanent and hereditary. In a message to the council at that time President Yuan Shi Kai said it was "my special duty to maintain the republic as the form of government." He said he regarded the proposed change as unsuitable to the circumstances of the country, but he pointed out that the form of government was dependent upon the will of the people.

War Strength Of The Balkan States

Bulgaria—Active forces on peace footing, 120,000; first line reserves, 300,000; all other reserves, 300,000. Total, 720,000.

Roumania—Active forces on peace footing, 100,000; first line reserves, 150,000; all other reserves, 320,000. Total, 600,000.

Greece—Active forces on peace footing, 70,000; all reserves estimated 330,000. Total 400,000.

Assuming that Greece and Roumania will enter the war on the side of the Allies if Bulgaria joins the Austro-Germans, the Allied forces on paper would be reinforced by nearly one million troops and the Austro-Germans by 720,000. Greece's forces are widely scattered, and Greece probably would be slow in mobilization.

Norwegians Hungry But Piling Up Gold

Scarcity of Food Alarms the Nation and Prices Soar

Christiania, Norway, Oct. 12.—Something very close to a panic is spreading over Norway and Sweden, as a result of the alarming scarcity of provisions and the unprecedented prices which are demanded for the simplest kind of food. Norway is on the point of following Sweden's lead in prohibiting the export of all provisions.

The advance in prices in Norway is approximately the same as in Sweden, but in some cases it has been even more marked. Herring, which is one of the main articles of food among the peasant population, are from 2 to 4-1-2 and 5 cents apiece, and the price of oatmeal is 250 per cent. higher than it was before the war. Meat prices have reached the highest level ever known in Norway.

However, Norway's economic and financial condition is better than before the war. Norway's tremendous exports, while they have drained the country of necessary provisions for home consumption and carried masses of the people to the verge of starvation, have brought a tremendous amount of money into the country.

The Bank of Norway—the Government's bank—had a year ago \$20,000,000 in gold in its vaults. To-day it has \$40,000,000. A year ago it had issued paper money to the extent of \$5,500,000 beyond its deposits, while to-day with the same amount of paper currency in circulation, it has a reserve of \$3,000,000.

Typhus having been cleaned up in Serbia, American doctors will please stand aside while her enemies do the rest.

HOOPS FOR SALE.

We have a quantity of Half-Hogshead and Drum Hoops for sale at Current Prices.

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In neat patterns, good quality, ONE-HALF the Regular Price.

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Strong and Durable 70c pair.

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Good Nap, assuring warmth and comfort. 50c each.

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Made from Fresh Strong Webbing. Can be comfortably worn in all seasons; no metal parts touch the leg. 22c pair.

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In Assorted Stripe Patterns. 65c each.

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Good washing material and will wear well. 40c each.

Boys' Braces, 10c pr. up

Boys' Fleeced Underwear
From 22 inches to 34 inches. All First Quality.

Men's Stud Sets, 4c set
Including Collar and Sleeve Studs.

Cuff Links and Tie Pin
The set for 17c.

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Are Flannellettes noted for their strength and softness and the beautiful patterns which are most effective when made up into Garments. We have many designs from which any woman's taste can be satisfied. 19c yard.

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9 different patterns in very effective Silk Stripe Mohair; all 28c yard. 25 inches wide.

Blouse Special!

Made from a nice fine soft finish Cashmerette in Navy, Saxe Blue & Cardinal colors 80c each.

Apron Checks, full 36 in. wide. 11c yd. up

Honeycomb Toweling
4c. yard up.

Honeycomb Towels, good size, 6c. each up

Handsome Designs in 6 ft. wide

Floor Oilcloth

Also in Stair Canvas, and Stair Oilcloth. All at Lowest Prices.

Single Width Cretonnes
A splendid range of patterns 11c up. from

Double width reversible CRETONNES
Assorted patterns from 20c yd. up

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