

BERLIN HATES TO TELL TRUTH OF MEMEL AFFAIR

Touched on Raw by Disastrous Visit of Sma 1 Body of Nations Reserves — Hostage Talk All Lies

Petrograd, April 3.—The Germans have issued their usual clever perversion of truth about the Memel affair. It appears that the capture of Memel was a sporting venture of an inconsiderable body of national reserve men, fewer than three thousand in number. Yet they routed two German Landsturm regiments, seized Memel, compelled the Germans to concentrate hither some regiments of their active army and even disturbed the tranquillity of the holiday-making German fleet at Kiel.

What they did not do was to take three thousand hostages from Memel and afterward allow the victorious Germans to rescue them gloriously, as the German version has it. These three thousand fugitives, if there were so many, fled

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from Memel and took the only route on which no fighting was in progress, namely, in the direction of Krotingen where they quietly awaited the arrival of the German regiments.

It is interesting to note what the Russians found in a mass of mail captured in the village of Domanic, near the Pilsna, when the Germans were driven out



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It appears the soldiers had just been writing home and among the letters found were many containing complaints about the hardships of the war. From the statements of the men, they have had to remain in the trenches without food until they were half-starved, and the German losses are appalling. The hope that "this accursed war" will soon end is frequently expressed.

Sheet-iron helmets worn by troops killed in the fighting north of the Vistula bear the letters F. R. on the eagle in the front with the customary motto. They are a few ounces heavier than the familiar leather Pickelhaube, but are exactly the same shape and painted a sage green all over, including the brass spike and eagle, thus avoiding the necessity of a khaki covering. They have an inadequate leather lining, which must cause torture to the wearers when there is a severe frost.

The old pattern rifles in the hands of men wearing these novel helmets are of dates as far back as 1891, and they have new barrels shrunk over the original barrels, evidently to give strength and permit the use of modern explosives. The bayonet fits on the side and not under the barrel.

Back of the sight is the old-fashioned slide stick-up. Some very clumsy old cavalry carbines are also among the trophies.

SLEEP BEFORE MIDNIGHT.

Is there not something substantial in the old-fashioned view that sleep before midnight carries a special and particular merit? There may be, says the "Hospital," a simple and obvious explanation of this creed, but we are satisfied that, in any event, the practice it proposes is beneficial. To take a single illustration — it is widely known by medical practitioners that anemic girls may long be treated with want of success until they are compelled to cultivate the habit of early to bed. And though strong and vigorous young men may with apparent impunity continue to hear the chimes at midnight, middle-age announces itself by some dullness of the faculties on the days following such experiences. That different individuals need different amounts of sleep is certain, and it is perhaps true that sleep, like other habits, may be carried to excess; yet once the elasticity of youth is gone most of us are better and more fit when we avoid late hours.



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KITCHENER'S WAY.

A certain well-known firm recently obtained a large contract from the War Office. To ensure it being carried out to time, it was necessary for the work-people to work overtime. This they were perfectly willing to do, being paid at the union rates.

After a few days the secretary of the trade union called upon the head of the firm concerned, and advised him that unless the overtime was stopped all the "hands" would be called out. As there seemed no way out of it the employer concerned went to the War Office and succeeded in seeing Lord Kitchener and placed all the particulars before him.

Lord Kitchener asked for the name and address of the trade union man and said: "Be here tomorrow at eleven o'clock." At that time the next day Mr. ——— was admitted into Lord Kitchener's presence, the trade union man being also there.

The following conversation then took place:—

Lord Kitchener: "Now Mr. ——— kindly repeat what you told me yesterday as briefly as you can."

Mr. ——— did so.

Turning to the trade union man Lord Kitchener said: "Mr. ———, are these facts as stated?"

"Yes, my lord, but it is strictly against our rules to —"

Lord Kitchener: "Are the facts right?"

"Yes, my lord; but —"

Lord Kitchener: "If you call those people out on strike I will get you seven years under the Treason Act for preventing the supplying of His Majesty's Forces. Good morning, gentlemen." — London Express.

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The Mississippi River has had more than a dozen native names, different designations being given at different points in its course. The Algonquians called it the Meeche Sebe, other tribes termed it Chicagou, Mico, Tuhmalasen, Tapala Ri and other names. The Algonquin name was finally adopted by the whites for the whole river. The meaning is "father of waters," or "the whole river." Twenty-seven spellings are noted in the writings of early explorers.

New York State spent \$18,200,000 on 1,107 miles of improved highways during 1914. There are 6,315 miles of good roads either completed or under contract in the state. There are still 5,671 miles of state and county highways to be improved.

King George has placed York House, London, at the disposal of Lord Kitchener, Secretary of State for War, as a residence during the duration of the war.



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