judgment upon himself!

meantime. To make matters clearer,

Hindenburg's Letter.

Your Imperial and Royal Majesty:

I have little that is pleasant to re-

fairy tale of German war-guilt must

The spokesman of the enemy alli-

ance, Mr. Lloyd George, is little dis-

turbed by the fact that on Dec. 20 of

last year, he declared that no states-

man wished war in the summer of

1914, that all the nations had slipped

or stumbled into it. In his speech at

calmly remarked that Germany's re-

sponsibility for the war was funda-

at the London conference. I agree with your majesty to

Tables" compiled by your majesty, a

in the German press

May God help further!

My Dear Field Marshal:

o be barred from co-operation.

You stood beside me during the

dark, fatal days of November, 1918.

As you know, I forced myself to the

difficult, terrible decision to leave

the country only upon the urgent de-

claration of yourself and the rest of

people and spare it a bloody civil

The sacrifice was in vain. Now

as well as before, the enemy wishes

to make the German people explate

Silent Under Attacks

In my endeavor to subordinate al

personal considerations to the wel-

fare of Germany, I keep myself com-

pletely in the background. I am

silent in the face of all the lies and

slanders which are spread abroad

concerning me. I consider it beneath

my dignity to defend myself against

In accordance with this policy of

torical Tables" mentioned by you

restraint I have also kept the "His-

attacks and abuse.

war.

(Signed) VON HINDENBURG,

House Doorn, April 5, 1921.

humble servant.

nental, that it was the basis on

Hanover, March 30, 1921.

the marshal, is also given.*

scored in the text.

be adhered to.



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My treatment will relieve that depressed, tired, sleepy feeling, giving you renewed energy and vigor, a result of the loss of your superfluous fat.

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The Kaiser's Memoirs

By WILHELM VON HOHENZOLLERN, (Former Emperor of Germany)

CHAPTER XIII. The Enemy Tribunal and the Neutral Tribunal.

WHEN the entente's demand that I and the German army leaders should be surrendered for trial before entente tribunals became known, I immediately asked myself whether I could be of use to my Fatherland by giving myself up before the German people, and the German government had expressed themselves regarding this demand. It was clear to me that, in the opinion of the enseriously shake the prestige of Gertime, that we could never again take to the matter in question are underout place, with equal rights, equal dignity and equal title to alliances, in the first rank of nations, where

we belonged I recognized it as my duty not to sacrifice the honor and dignity of Germany. The question resolved itin the illness of my wife. She is not self into deciding whether there was yet out of danger. any way to give myself up which might benefit the German nation and not subject it to the above-mentioned disadvantages. Were there such ous than they are represented to be a way I should have been ready without hesitation to add another that they will soon be suppressed. sacrifice to those already made.

The question of my giving myself up has also been debated-as I know -in well-meaning and earnest German circles. Wherever this was due to psychological depression or failure to realize the impression which selfchastisement, self-debasement and fruitless martyrdom in the face of the entente must arouse, all that was needed was to recall the materially political origin of the entente's demand cursorily mentioned above, in order to arrive at a clean-cut decision-in other words, at an em-

phatic refusal. It was otherwise with the considerations based upon the assumption that I might, by taking upon myself, before the eyes of the whole world the responsibility for all important decisions and acts of my government connected with the war, contribute toward making the fate of the German nation easier. Here was not as act of unpolitical sentimentality, but, on the contrary, a deed which, in my eyes, had much to commend it. The thought that, according to the constitution of the empire then in force, not I, but the chancellor alone as was well known-have the responsibility, would naturally not have

bothered me with regard to this. Had there been even the slightest prospect of bettering Germany's situation by taking such a step, there would have been no possible doub for me personally as to what I should do Already I had shown my personal willingness to sacrifice myself when I left the country, and gave up the throne of my fathers, because I had been erroneously and deceivingly assured that I could, by so doing, make possible better peace terms for my people and prevent civil war. I should likewise have made this fur ther attempt to help my people, despite the fact that in the meantime one of the considerations in favor of it which has been urged upon meviz., the prevention of civil war-had already turned out to be false.

alls Plight of Versinget There was, however, no possibility of helping the German people by such Surrender of my person would have had no result beyond our bedience to the demand from the ntente that I be given up. For no tribunal in the world can pronounce a just sentence before the state archives of all the nations participating in the war are thrown open. as has been done, and is still being

done, by Germany.

Who, after the unprecedented judgment of Versailles, could still summon up antimism enough to believe that the entante nations would place their secret documents at the disposal of such a tribunal? Therefore, after careful reflection on my part, I gave the decisive importance that was their due to the above-mentioned weighty considerations of personal and national dignity and honor, and rejected the idea of giving myself up. It was not for me to play the role of Vereingetorix, who as is well known, relying upon the magnaminity of his foes, surrendered himself to them in order to obtain a better fate for his people. In view of the conduct of our enemies during the war, and in the peace negotiations, it was surely not to be assumed that the entente would show any greater magnanimity than did Caesar when he threw the noble my counsellors who had been sum-Gaul into chains, subsequently had moned that only by my so doing him executed, and in spite of what would it be possible to obtain more Vereingetorix had done, enslaved his favorable armistice terms for our

I wish to remark in a general way that it has always proved wrong to follow the suggestions of the enemy or to heed them to any extent. The well-meant suggestions regarding my the alleged guilt of "Imperial Ger giving myself up, emanating from many." Germans, also grew from the soil of the enemy demands, though perhaps partly unknown to those making them. For that reason it was necessary to refuse to heed them.

Thus the only solution remaining is an international, non-partisan court, which instead of trying individuals shall examine and pronounce judgment upon all the hapleading to the World War, in all the countries taking part therein, after all the national archives,

not merely those of Germany, have been opened up. Germany can well was directed solely to the maintenwas directed solely to the mainten-ance of peace. Its one and only aim ticipating in the war. agree to this mode of procedure. ance of peace. Its one and only aim ticipating in the war.

was to protect our sacred native soil.

Such an honest suggestion was offithreatened from the west and the cially made in Germany after the end duty for Germany to collect, sift and out permission prohibited. Whosoever opposes it pronounce My standpoint on the subject here east, and the peaceful development discussed is expressed in the letter reproduced below, which I addressed, of our commerce and political econunder date of April 5, 1921, to Field

Had we ever had warlike inten-Marshal von Hindenburg, and which tions we should have struck the blow in 1900, when England's hands the letter which preceded it, from were tied by the Boer war. Russia's by the Japanese war, at which time almost certain vic-*This letter and the letter from tente, such a surrender would so the field marshal which preceded it tory beckoned us. In any event, we are reprinted herewith. The parts assuredly would not have singled out many, as a state and people, for all which are most important in relation the year 1914, when we were confronted by a compact, overwhedmingly superior foe. Also, every impartial man must acknowledge to himself that Germany could expect nothing from the war, whereas our I beg to thank your majesty most respectfully for his gracious interest enemies hoped to obtain from it the complete realization of the aims which they had based, long since, upon our annihilation.

The fact that my zealous efforts port from our country. The troubles and those of my government were in Central Germany are more sericoncentrated, during the critical July by the Prussian government. I hope and August days of 1914, upon maintaining world peace is being proved more and more conclusively by the The effects of the Versailles peace most recent literary and documentdecree lie ever more crushingly upon the German people, and the object of ary publications in Germany, and, this peace—the policy of annihilation most especially, in the enemy tries. The most effective proof thereof our enemies—comes more plainly of justifying this policy of force the

to the fore every day. For the purpose of is Sazonoff's statement: "The German Emperor's love of peace is a guarantee to us that we ourselves can decide upon the moment of war.' What further proof of our innocence is needed? The above means that the intention existed to make an attack upon one who was absolutely

unsuspecting Calls Accusation Futile.

God is my witness that I, in order to avoid war, went to the uttermost limit compatible with responsibility for the security and inviolability of dear Fatherland.

which the peace of Versailles was It is futile to accuse Germany of erected, and that, if the admission of war guilt. Today there is no longer this guilt should be refused or given any doubt that not Germany, but the up, the treaty would become untenalliance of her foes, prepared the war Now as before, the question of waraccording to a definite plan, and intentionally caused it. guilt is the cardinal point in the future of the German nation. The ad-

For the purpose of concealing this, mission of our alleged "guilt" regardthe allied enemies extorted the false "admission of guilt" from Germany ing the war, forced from the German representatives at Versailles against in the shameful peace treaty and detheir judgment, is wreaking frightful manded that I be produced before a vengeance; equally so the untrue hostile tribunal. You, my dear field acknowledgment of Germany's "commarshal, know me too well not to be plicity," which Minister Simons gave aware that no sacrifice for my beloved Fatherland is too great for me. Nevertheless, a tribunal in which the enemy alliance would be at once ittermost depths of my soul-in my plaintiff and judge would be not an long term of military service I have had the good fortune and honor to organ of justice, but an instrument enter into close personal relations of political arbitrariness, and would with your majesty. I know that all serve only, through the sentence the efforts of your majesty throughwhich would inevitably be passed out your reign were bent toward upon me, to justify subsequently the maintaining peace. I can realize how unprecedented peace conditions imimmeasurable hard it is for your posed upon us. Therefore, the en majesty to be eliminated from posiemy's demand naturally had to be tive co-operation for the Fatherland.

rejected by me. "Comparative Historical But, in addition, the idea of my being produced before a neutral tribprinted copy of which your majesty unal, no matter how constituted, cansent me recently, are a good contrinot be entertained by me. I do not bution to the history of the origin of recognize the validity of any sentence the war and are calculated to remove many an incorrect conception. I have whatsoever, be he never so exalted in regretted that your majesty did not rank, upon the measures taken by me most conscientiously as emperor and them instead to a small circle. Now king-in other words, as the constitthat the tables, owing to indiscreutional, not responsible, representations, have been published in the fortive of the German nation-since eign press, partly in the form of inwere I to do so, I should thereby be complete excerpts, it seems to me adsacrificing the honor and dignity of visable to have them published in full the German nation represented by

To my great joy I have heard that there has been an improvement reguilt and punishment, instituted solely cently in the health of her majesty. against the head of one of the nations lay God help further! which took part in the war, deprive with the deepest respect, unlimited that one nation of every vestige of equality of rights with the other na-tions, and thereby of its prestige in the community of nations. Moreover, ndelity and gratitude, I am your imperial and royal majesty's most this would cause, as a consequence, the impression desired by the enemy that the entire "question of guilt" concerns Field Marshal only this one head of a nation and the one nation represented by him. It must be taken into consideration, moreover, Accept my warmest thanks for that a non-partisan judgment of the your letter of March 30 ult. You are "question of guilt' is impossible, if the legal proceedings are not made to right. The hardest thing of all for me is to be obliged to live in foreign parts, to follow, with burning anof the enemy powers, and if their conguish in my soul, the awful fate of duct is not subjected to the same in our dear fatherland, to which I have vestigation, since it goes without saying that the conduct of the aforesaid on devoted the labors of my entire life,

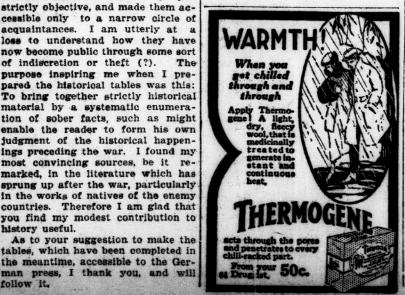
> Corns Go Blue-jay

nation at the outbreak of the war can

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was partly refused, partly found un worthy of any answer at all. Further nore, Germany, immediately after the

"Comparative Historical Tables from 1876 to the Outbreak of the War in 1914," were published in December, 1921, by K. F. Koehler, Leipsic.
Truth will hew a way for itself—mightly, irresistible, like an avalanche. Whoever does not close his ears to it against his better judgment must admit that, during my twenty-six-year reign previous to the war, Germany's foreign policy was directed solely to the mainten-

This has meanwhile been done. The be judged correctly only if there is of the war, but, so far as I know, it make public, by every comparative Historical Tables from simultaneous consideration of the ac- was partly refused, partly found unevery bit of material Unfortunately, the condition of her

war, unreservedly threw open her archives, whereas the enemy alliance has taken good care so far not to follow such an example. The secret documents from the Russian archives, now being made public in America, as but the be-

of the enemy alliance in itself, com-

majesty has become worse. My heard is filled with the most grievous worry. God with us! Your grateful (Signed) WILHELM.

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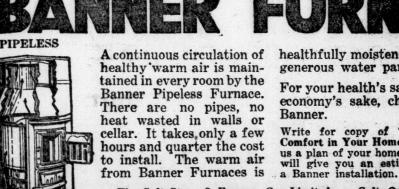
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