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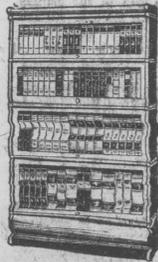
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ADVERTISE IN THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE

German Hate Rivalled By Belgian Hatred of Germany

Apaches kill the sentries, but most of the population of Brussels restrain their rage—
the men and boys partition the Belgian Capital

London, March 22.—Brussels is a city of spies, a city of whispers, a city of hatred, and armed camp of stern discipline for conquering army and conquered civilians alike. I have spent several days in Holland but I have met numerous persons who have been in Brussels, relief workers and such. What follows I have learned from them.

The people of Brussels have spent six months under the rule of the Germans and so great is the rage of the native population that this term of attempted subjection has failed to subdue them in the slightest. Unprejudiced observers tell me that whatever the feeling of Germany toward England, and vice versa, it is but a fraction of the intense hatred of Belgians for Germans. Riots are narrowly averted daily. French troops from Germany have been accused of tearing flags from the coffins of Belgian soldiers and from women on the streets, although I have not seen an actual instance.

What a Bad Defeat We Had

However, the German civil and military authorities, all under the direction of Gen. von Bissing, the governor-general of Belgium, have warned the troops against interference with the civilian population except under orders. But amid all the pathos an occasional humorous incident inserts itself. A Belgian business man received a call from a German officer a few days after the British naval victory off Heligoland. The latter noticed the clock over the desk was set at Belgian time, an hour earlier than German time.

"Your clock is wrong," said the officer. "It is nine, not eight."

"It is eight o'clock in Belgium," replied the Belgian.

"It is nine o'clock in Germany," the officer came back. "This is now Germany and you are a German."

"I am a German," repeated the business man, "and you are a German? We are both Germans."

"Yes," said the officer.

"So," mused the Belgian. "Then that was a bad defeat we had in the North Sea last week."

Papers Smuggled In

Brussels is not uninformed of the outside world. English newspapers are smuggled into the city in the most mysterious way and try as they do the German authorities cannot discover how they reach the city. Sometimes a paper passes through a dozen hands before it reaches the person to whom it is intended. Even though two or three weeks old a London paper will bring a fancy price any time.

The German garrison is now composed of the men and boys unfitted for the arduous work at the front. Returning persons say a battalion of boy scouts recently detained from Germany and marched with defiant goose step toward headquarters. Also, they have seen elderly men, men not hard to picture as grandfathers but difficult to imagine as goose-stepping to martial music, patrolling the city streets. One of them a sergeant, had long white whiskers.

In the "Apache" Quarter

Although the people of Brussels are silent, they are no more cowed than would be the people of Berlin under similar circumstances. In the "Apache" quarter no German sentry never travels alone these nights. Too many of them disappeared in the most un-

accountable way. Now the night patrols consist of three German soldiers and a Brussels gendarme. These Marolliens, as the people of that neighborhood are called, delight in reversing the German official bulletins, so as to make it appear, for instance, that 4,000 Germans captured 200 British or French.

The little urchins of the locality are not less mischievous than their elders. They delight in giving military parades, with carrots stuck in their paper hats to represent helmets and stove pipe lashed to little toy carts to represent the famous 42-centimeters. But if these are designed to irritate the Germans officers they fail of their purpose. The officials approve of the demonstrations and declare that it is awakening the proper military spirit in the boys.

Search for Metal

The Germans continue their never ending search for metals, of which there is a great shortage in the fatherland. Roofs of public buildings have been stripped of the copper and zinc sheathing and all transported to Germany. The massive gates of the Antwerp central railway station have gone the same way. Great reels of copper wire from telephone exchanges have been taken. A heavy tax is imposed for the use of a telephone and the Germans display startling energy in ferreting out the persons who have not paid.

German civil employes in Brussels are increasing in number daily. The postoffice is entirely manned by Germans, the Belgian employes having refused in a body to work under the conqueror.

Priests Play Marbles

Civil and military prisoners are being housed in the foreign office, and they have a pretty dull time of it, usually whiling away the hours reading documents that passed between diplomats decades ago. They turn with childish relief to games of any kind. One man who was imprisoned in a room with two priests and attorney tells that they spent their time with dominoes until some marbles were obtained. Then the priests tucked their cassocks in at the knees and joined with their companions in a spirited contest of marbles, much to the astonishment of the sentry.

Cow Paths at Summerville

(Editor Mail and Advocate)

Dear Sir.—Will you please allow me space in your valuable paper to say a few words concerning the roads here at Summerville. They are really only cow paths and cannot be called roads at all. As long as men and women keep to the middle of the road, it is alright, but if you chance to go half an inch over, you will find yourself head over heels over the cliff. It is not safe for anyone to leave his home without a light.

I think it would be a good plan for Sir Tax Morris to pay a visit to these days, although I fear he would need his legs on him if he wanted to walk out. We scarcely know down here whether we have a Premier or not and we wouldn't know that there was a House, except for Mr. Conker and the Advocate. It would be far better if some of the money put into Branch Railroads was put into mail roads, for I am sure it would be made better use of.

Thanking you for space and wishing the Mail and Advocate success.

I am,
Yours truly,
SUMMERVILLE, B.B.
Summerville, B.B., April 11th., 1915.

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