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TELEPHONE, BEERMAN 2200.

Only the Executive Can Conduct the War, but the Legislative Branch Can Properly Investigate.

If Senator CHAMBERLAIN'S resolution for an investigation by the Senate Military Committee of our aircraft and other army affairs is what it seems to be, is what the committee describes it to be, the grounds on which President Wilson protests against it are not so sound as he generally is. He holds that for the Senate to adopt this resolution would be to "pass a direct vote of want of confidence in the Administration." He holds that the adoption of the resolution would constitute "nothing less than an attempt to take over the conduct of the war." He holds that such an investigation as it provides for would be an invasion of the constitutional rights of the Executive.

But if this resolution provides for an investigation in the usual way and in the ordinary routine of Congress's functions it does not so seriously invade the constitutional rights and prerogatives of the Executive as the Executive invades the constitutional rights and prerogatives of the Senate if it commands that body not to investigate anything the executive department has done or may do.

If the resolution means what those behind it say it means it cannot be intended to take over, or to attempt to take over, the conduct of the war. If all this is true, then the adoption of the resolution does not mean anything at all but an investigation of facts and conditions—just as legislative bodies have made investigations hundreds and thousands of times—to inform the American people what is being done in this department or that department, and with what good results or bad results.

There is no more reason to say that the adoption of the resolution for a legislative investigation to determine facts is any more a vote of lack of confidence in an Administration than a vote of confidence. The very adoption of the resolution may tend, in fact, to make for a vote of confidence in the Administration. The very investigation, by the facts uncovered, may in truth become an actual vindication of the Administration. But whether or no, that is not the point in question. The point in question is the duty and rights of each branch.

Now, for what does the resolution in question provide? It "authorizes and directs" the Committee on Military Affairs "to inquire into and report to the Senate the progress of aircraft production in the United States, or into any other matters relating to the conduct of the war, by or through the War Department."

If this does not look like ordinary legislative procedure for an inquiry or investigation, under the unquestioned privileges and rights of the Senate, what does it look like? If it proposes to take over the war, where does it propose to take over? If it attempts to take over the conduct of the war, how does it attempt to?

Those who are in favor of the adoption of the resolution say that none of these things is intended, as none of them is declared. Yet if the mere phraseology of the resolution disturbs the Executive, then the phraseology might be amended so as not to disturb the Executive. But neither the Senate nor the House should ever concede that it cannot perform the functions which it is sworn to perform without voting want of confidence in the Executive and without attempting to take over the functions of the Executive.

If the Senate believed that the Senate contemplated an invasion of the constitutional rights and duties of the Executive in the conduct of the war or of anything else, it would be the last paper to assent to so preposterous a proposal. But the Senate believes nothing of the sort. The Senate does not see how anybody can believe anything of the sort. The Senate expects and demands that the Executive shall conduct the war. But the Senate ought to go straight ahead with its duty of inquiry into matters that it is proper and necessary for the Sen-

ate to consider and investigate. The Senate does believe that the Senate and the House are willing to abandon those rights and duties, in obedience to the injunction that the exercise of them means taking the conduct of the war away from the Executive, then Congress might as well write a blank check for the Executive and go home, leaving the whole United States Government to the Executive.

Colonel House's Good Fortune.

We congratulate Colonel E. M. House on the fact that he has attained the age of 50, and consequently is not liable to classification under the law signed by the Governor on Monday by the terms of which all men between 18 and 50 must be "habitually and regularly engaged in some lawful, useful and recognized profession, business, occupation, trade or employment until the termination of the war."

Colonel House is one of a large number of American citizens possessed of a competency who have retired from business, and living on their accumulated property, devote their time to the pursuit of pleasure. Colonel House's disposition is to indulge in politics, which he does, we are informed, with unusual skill and unquestioned assiduity; and his status at present is, and for some time has been, that of an unpaid, unofficial adviser of the President of the United States.

However respectable his labors may be, they cannot be regarded as constituting a "recognized profession, business, occupation, trade or employment." Obviously, were Colonel House under the age of 50 it would be necessary for him, to avoid prosecution under the new law, to abandon the life he now leads and establish himself in some occupation whose practitioners comply with the language of the statute. The circumstance that his birth occurred in the year 1858 alone relieves him of this obligation, and his freedom therefrom must be a matter of sincere envy to every contemplative student of human affairs who is not so happily situated.

The Daily Aerial Post.

Those who saw the first flight of the aerial mail to Washington had not quite the thrill of MILITARY watching his great runner start for Athens; for the victor of Marathon was not at all sure that his messenger would ever reach the capital, while those who cheered Flight Lieutenant Weas yesterday at Belmont Park had no doubts about the outcome. A few years ago it would have been different, perhaps, but the performance of the airplane in war have convinced people that it will do almost anything.

Daily air post service between the metropolis and the capital is a handy thing. It may bring us the Congressional Record and the Official Bulletin hot from the press. It will enable eager constituents to send illustrated suggestions to members of Congress with impressive rapidity. Inventors will rise at dawn with a new military device in their brains and send the plans flying from Queens county so early that they may be considered by the Inventors Section of the General Staff at luncheon.

The aerial post is important, too, for it promises to be the beginning of swift service in all parts of the land. It carries things which cannot be transmitted by wire or by wireless. What it will have developed into twenty years from now makes interesting speculation. This much is sure, that it will advance just as rapidly as speed and safety are advanced in aircraft.

It was a coincidence that this demonstration of a commercial conquest by the newest form of transportation should have taken place on the very day when man was taking further advantage of the second oldest form, as the buzzing planes with their light burdens started with terrific speed to and from the South, the first barges of the year were moving their comparatively sluggish way along the great canal system of this State, at last open. Their cargoes, while not as stimulating to the fancy as the contents of the airplane mail bags, are, we imagine, more important to the winning of the war.

The post plane goes eighty miles an hour, the barge eighty miles a day; and both do their bit for the nation. When the plane is as old as the barge, what a sight the roads of the air will be!

Dairy Foods Unrestricted.

A welcome announcement is made by the executive committee of the New York State Food Commission in regard to the use of butter and milk. The chairman of the committee, Dr. JACOB GOLD SCHEIDT, speaks for his colleagues as follows: "Many housewives are still laboring under the impression that dairy products must be conserved, whereas unless they are used more plentifully a serious milk shortage will result in the near future. Butter and cheese are piled up in storage in unprecedented amounts. Many of the cheese factories will not be able to open this summer."

matter of profits for the dairyman, but in the broader sense that herds and herds were becoming perilously small. Obviously the only way to stimulate the industry was by the sale of more milk, butter and cheese.

The advice of Mr. Hoover's department was not at all encouraging to the dairymen. Why should they save beef calves and feed them to the milking age when the Government was advising their customers to use less of dairy products? We are glad to see that Dr. SCHEIDT and his colleagues have decided that the law of supply and demand, which some of the experts have stricken out as a dead letter, is worth using a while longer. If the consumer will spare him the milk that Mr. Mars spends him we shall see bigger dairies here in this State, and when the price of feed returns to normal the consumer will find himself paying less for dairy products.

Of course no sensible housewife will take the removal of the butter restriction to apply to some other and widely different foods. Wheat still must be conserved, for it is needed by the allied armies. Meat, too, must be used sparingly lest America be obliged to return to meatless days.

The Tuckahoe.

The 5,500-ton steel cargo steamship Tuckahoe, which was built in twenty-seven days at the yards of the New York Shipbuilding Company at Camden, was delivered yesterday to her skipper, Captain RUPERT WAY, fully equipped and provisioned, thirty-seven days after her keel was laid. Thus a world's record for celerity in construction was made, and the Tuckahoe begins her career in the water with a reputation already acquired.

The unprecedented expedition attained in the construction of the Tuckahoe was made possible by the effective cooperation of her builders, from the superintendent of the yard to the water boy, and the unflinching supply of materials and parts necessary for her completion. To each of the men engaged on her credit is due, and it will not be withheld.

The Meeting of the Kaisers.

The meeting of the German and Austrian Emperors at the German general headquarters Sunday has resulted in that long foreshadowed increase in the German overlordship of Austria-Hungary. The objects attained as diplomatically declared were a strengthening of the alliance between the two monarchies and the recognition of this alliance in the national laws of each country, and a customs and a military union. The Zeitung of Frankfurt, a semi-official organ, announces the meaning of these terms in the thoroughly understandable statement that "henceforth Austria-Hungary will have no more liberty as regards Berlin than Bavaria or Saxony has."

When Emperor CHARLES went to the conference he left the Dual Monarchy facing three seriously complicated national problems: hunger, for which the administration had been unable to devise any remedial measures; impending bankruptcy, growing out of a depleted treasury and a constantly increasing war expense; a suicidal race strife precipitated by the hitherto suppressed Czech and South Slav people.

It is in no wise enlightening on the situation to assign as a special provocation for Germany's high-handedness the Prince Sixtus letter or the peace utterances of Count CERNIN. Germany's course was clearly defined earlier in the war when she permitted Austria-Hungary to be defeated in Serbia, Galicia, Rumania and Italy, and then at the last moment stepped in and turned defeat into victory. With each eleventh hour aid she rendered, Germany tightened her grasp upon her ally, first by taking over her military and then her civil establishments. But Berlin demanded a supreme control of Austrian affairs.

Austria was unquestionably expected to begin an offensive in Italy that was to coordinate with the German offensive on the French front. Weeks ago there was evidence of this in the mobilizing of troops and the accumulation of military stores along the Piave and in the mountainous region of Italy. There was no attempt made to advance. The most evident explanation of this was that Austria mistrusted her forces; there were daily desertions to the Italian army of bodies of Czechs and Slav troops and revolts and uprisings among the people of the Italian and South Slav provinces.

The Berlin Government considered itself seriously inconvenienced by the constant talk of peace in Austria-Hungary. It at last secured a denial of the authorship of the Prince Sixtus letter from the Emperor, the retirement of Count CERNIN and the appointment of Baron BURIAN in his place. But BURIAN was too strong a man to remain a tool of Berlin, and a few days before the conference of the Emperors he said in a speech at Budapest: "Our King has made use of every possibility of peace, and to-day it is still his determination and will to utilize every opportunity to conclude an honorable, lasting peace by understanding. We are on the lookout for peace with our being limited by certain formalities."

Immediate retirement from the Premiership and protested against any further peace offensives by Austria. The German control of Austria-Hungary is a definite advance of the Pan-German party to the control of Central Europe. It carries with it the defeat of the Austro-Polish plan for the establishment of a Polish kingdom. It erects instead a merely subservient Polish state, a part of Prussia, adding another to a row of weak, insignificant little vassals that Germany is building up along the Baltic coast. It carries with it, too, the complete future domination of Rumania. Germany has found in the heroic opposition of the English-born Rumanian Queen to the peace terms imposed upon that unfortunate country an excuse for reviving the attacks upon her so insidiously and industriously circulated at the beginning of the war from Vienna. Prussia professes to find in that a reason for the overthrow of the present Rumanian ruling house and the substitution thereof of a dynasty headed by a Prussian Prince.

The downfall of Austria has been the design of Prussia since the time of FREDERICK the Great; it was thoroughly manifested in the war of aggression undertaken in 1900. In fact, for two centuries Prussia has treated Austria with scarcely disguised hostility and for years she secretly conspired for her dismemberment. Berlin has merely taken advantage of the conditions of war to carry out long formulated plans for the reduction of a helpless ally and the aggrandizement of the German power.

Fresh Causes for More Preparedness.

It is a waste of brain power further to bewail the former neglect of preparedness on the part of the Administration; but whatever may be urged by way of palliation or excuse so far as that is concerned there will be absolutely no possibility of escaping blame if the Government fails now to prepare for dangers which threaten us in the immediate future. Unless the world is being misled by Teutonic mendacity the naval branch of the Imperial German Government is constructing giant submarines of a new type, surpassing in speed, power and armament any vessels of the kind ever yet built. They will be capable of carrying a whole fleet of aeroplanes as cargo; and having brought these to a convenient port off our Atlantic coast the German fleet can be let loose to shower death and destruction on every American seaport from Boston to Charleston. Scipites challenge such a supposition as grossly improbable; but it does not compare in improbability with feats which the Germans actually have performed. When it was announced that they were shelling the city of Paris from a spot seventy-three miles distant some ordnance seipites at Washington greeted the statement with the polite ejaculation "Punk"; but it turned out to be a sort of punk that shows itself as shell and flame and is apt to be fatal where it falls.

Since, therefore, our Government has had ample warning of the construction of these German super-submarines, and since they will certainly be more dangerous than their predecessors, whether they bring aviators to our shores or not, we are entitled to assume that the authorities at Washington have taken note of this new peril of the seas and are amply prepared to deal with it effectively.

Furthermore, our German foe is not content with operations on the Atlantic. A few days ago a newspaper dispatch from "a port on the Pacific" brought us word that a German raider had made its appearance on the Pacific Ocean and was likely to loot and sink the merchantmen of any of the Entente Allies, with the indifference of a pirate to the fate of passengers or crews. This announcement suggests a pertinent inquiry: The Germans have had raiders in the Pacific before. It was reasonably to be expected that they would send out new ones, if possible, to replace those which have heretofore been wrecked or captured. This expectation now appears to have been realized. What steps have been taken to deal with these practical marauders on the Pacific? We do not ask for details, but it would be reassuring to know that something had been done in this direction. Thousands of Americans annually traverse the Pacific en route to and from Hawaii and the Philippines. They are entitled to some sort of protection. A fast naval cruiser like the old Columbia, which, we believe, once crossed the Atlantic in seven days, could catch any German raider afloat; and perhaps our Government has such a craft hidden somewhere on the Pacific coast, ready to spring out, hunt down and destroy the foe. The dictates of preparedness call for some such cautionary measure on our part.

The mystery of the Cyclops is so suggestive of the necessity of greater precaution of some kind, although we cannot undertake to say exactly what. Here was as fine a collier as there is in the world, staunch, seaworthy, fully manned, perfectly equipped and well supplied with every requisite of a sea-going vessel. She left Brazil with a cargo of manganese, all well on board, bound for the United States; and she disappeared as utterly and completely as though she had jumped off the earth on to another planet! Her rig was so distinctive that she could be identified as far as she could be seen and her homeward route was along a track frequented by many vessels, yet so far as is known the Cyclops has never been reported. The intimation that a mysterious faction in her crew may have turned her over to the Germans seems to have nothing but a fantastic imagination to rest on. We assume that

the Navy Department maintains standards concerning the personnel of a vessel's crew which would preclude the possibility of such an occurrence. The doctrine of preparedness calls for the exercise of unceasing vigilance, and vigilance is the price of liberty now more than ever before in the history of the world.

Women have been drawn into the loneliest American occupation, that of herding sheep.—Cheyenne dispatch.

Little Bo Hoop receives her keep, and forty per cent to mind them.

The German Government is said to be making the greatest efforts to conceal the fact that the effectiveness of the submarine campaign is declining. German science is resourceful, but there is no permanent substitute for truth, however highly flavored or colored the "truth tablets" may be.

The Kaiser and his advisers have brought together the English speaking peoples more closely and more rapidly than the fondest dreamers after more intimate relations between them had dared to hope.—The London Times.

The union of the "contemptible" and the "idiotic."

The best part of Adjutant-General SHERRILL's report relating to the State Guard organized under the law of 1917 is, "We have organized a force of 20,000 men, 90 per cent. of whose officers were trained in the old Guard." These former officers of militia are reported for duty almost to a man. General SHERRILL said recently that two retired Majors of a former National Guard regiment volunteered and are now serving in the State Guard as Lieutenants. It would serve a good purpose, we believe, if Washington would release General SHERRILL from the silence imposed upon him concerning some interesting performances of members of the State Guard which he reports in his "Annual Report on Duties" "somewhere in New York."

The previous question as a war measure in the Senate has been proposed by Senator UNDERWOOD of Alabama. Outrageous! Because the Alabama Senator speaks seldom and brief, he has been organized in fronting Senators who make thirty-two speeches a week, even by offering an amendment of the Senate rules providing that

"After there has been debate for two calendar days on a pending bill or resolution in the Senate, the previous question shall be in order."

"Two calendar days! Are the Honorable BORAH, MCCORMACK, REED, THOMAS, HARDWICK to be 'scratched' as non-starters?"

MR. FRANKFURTER to assist Secretary of Labor WILSON—in to link various activities.—Headlines in Mr. CARMEL'S Official Bulletin.

The second verb agrees with the subject.

It is understood that the aircraft division is going in for more production and less production.

The Department of Justice authorizes the following: "The Attorney-General has issued a circular to district attorneys of the United States asked to further facilitate the collection of statistics regarding information regarding disciplinary cases and utterances."—From the Official Bulletin.

Even handed Justice splits an infinitesimal as well as any one.

THE MILLIGAN CASE.

It Involved a Citizen's Right to a Trial Before an Impartial Jury.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—The statement in Mr. Henry Foster's letter in last Sunday's SUN that "the case of Milligan is not the only one involved or decided" in the Milligan case is surprising, since the Supreme Court decided in that case that an American citizen could not be deprived of his constitutional right to a "speedy and public trial by an impartial jury," and that Congress has no power to suspend the provisions of the Constitution which guarantee the rights guaranteed by the Constitution when violated in the case of Milligan; and if so, what are they? And in the course of his opinion he says:

"This nation, as experience has proved, cannot always remain at peace, and has a right to expect that it will always be wise and necessary to have a military commission and sentenced to death, the court being in doubt as to its power to issue the writ certified certain questions to the United States Supreme Court. The case was argued and argued by Mr. Attorney-General Speed and Benjamin F. Butler for the Government and by David Dudley Field, James A. Garfield and Jeremiah Black for the petitioner. Mr. Justice David Davis, who wrote the prevailing opinion, put the case in this way: 'The rights guaranteed by the Constitution were violated in the case of Milligan; and if so, what are they?' And in the course of his opinion he says:

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THE ANTI-LOAFING LAW. Is It Unconstitutional Because It Applies Only to Men? TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Sir: You comment on the Governor's reference to the doubtful constitutionality of the so-called loafing law, but there is among others one serious objection to it, and that is its discrimination between the sexes.

A year or two ago a State law clearly within the scope of the police power, and an equally beneficial in its purpose was set aside by the courts on the ground that it applied only to women and not to men. I refer to a medical law against street walkers. But in the case of the present law, while it is of more than double the police power, there is scarcely a single argument that can be advanced to justify forcing a respectable man of, say, 45 to work, though under no financial necessity so to do, that would not apply equally to the other sex if the ground for thus depriving him of his liberty for such it is in the nebulous one of the good that might accrue to the community as a consequence. In fact the necessity of such a law applies with tenfold more force in the case of women than of men because of the relatively far greater number of the former who would be affected by its provisions.

I fail to see how any one with even a superficial acquaintance with the decisions of the courts with respect to arbitrary discrimination in legislation could fail to see that if subjected to such a test the anti-loafing law would be held to be invalid.

New York, May 15.

KEEP SPENDING.

Advice From an Opponent of the Latest Economy Campaign.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Sir: Let me enter my protest right at the start against the so-called economy campaign, apparently originated in official circles in Washington. Secretary McAdoo is having his shoes half soled instead of buying a new pair. If the Secretary will consult the census reports and the Department of Commerce he can find out how many persons depend for their livelihood on the manufacture of men's, women's and children's shoes.

The statement was made some time ago that supplies of leather and hides in this country were greater than ever before. The same thing applies to many other branches of business, manufacturing, wholesale and retail.

Of course if there is a scarcity of any necessary commodity, as in wheat or sugar, the American people will be found ready and willing to curtail their consumption as far as necessary or do without altogether. To stop the usual currents of business is to reduce the ability of the business community to pay taxes and invest in Liberty bonds.

There may be "non-essentials" where curtailment of production will release needed supplies, such as coal and steel, where they are needed for ship building, munitions or other things necessary for an energetic prosecution of the war.

The manufacturers of automobiles and pianos have already protested that they are not in this class. Mr. Vanderbilt some weeks ago made an address in favor of personal economy, with the reservation that he thought that his preaching would do no harm for he thought that it would be generally disregarded.

Reports from England show that the munitions and other war workers are receiving such high wages that business in many lines is greatly stimulated and that money is being put in circulation making possible the payment of the heavy taxes, income and other, and also provides capital for taking up the enormous government loans.

My suggestion is that we should go slow about interfering with the currents of trade and not disturb the ability of our people to pay their taxes. It might cause business depression, which might lead to disaster. Also that a close study should be made of methods and results in other countries at war.

If there are not any profits, excess or other, to tax it might be difficult to finance the enormous demands which are being suggested by Congress.

JOSUAP D. HOLMES, New York, May 15.

THE LOYALTY LINE.

A Puzzled Reader Would Like to Know How He Is to Draw It.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Sir: What is the meaning of all this talk about loyalty and the putting forward of the proposition that no candidates should be put in the field for Congress this fall whose names are on the list of "loyal" candidates being defeated by whom? Who is going to pick out the "loyal" candidates? Is every member of the present Congress to be considered loyal? Is it to be understood that no one may raise a voice in opposition to the election of any man who now has a job? Where is the line to be drawn as to loyalty?

According to the newspapers the really "loyal" members of Congress are a mere handful; certainly the number must be very small because, as they are frequently stated by THE SUN, they spend most of their time in the United States and prevent and will continue to prevent really effective participation in the war. How many of the present Congress does President Wilson want returned? If he would make up a list it would simplify things.

Is it this proposition "non-competitive" campaign a sort of camouflage to beguile the whole issue? If such an agreement is really entered into between the Democratic and Republican parties, there is bound to be a new party in the field just as loyal as, and I might say more loyal than, either of the old parties. Judging by the actions of some of the representatives of the old parties in Congress, in an effort to replace many of these reactionaries in Congress.

Before any further "non-competitive" talk is indulged in let us have a list of those "loyalists" who are to have the exclusive right to seek reelection this fall. This list should be an authentic one, and let it be an official list, so that any one who wishes to criticize it will know exactly where he stands as to whether he is really loyal to the Administration.

New York, May 15.

THE DEARTH OF RUBBER THAT IS NOW CRIPPLING GERMANY. Failure of the Efforts to Produce a Satisfactory Substitute by Artificial Process. Officials of the post and telegraph in Germany have made public their progress in finding new sources of rubber within the fatherland. They lament the dearth in the national resources resulting from the war and admit that the quest after plants which contain rubber must be pursued with all possible haste and thoroughness. It is not clear from the official statement whether rubber is especially needed for military purposes, but it may be assumed that this must be the case. This matter has already been discussed and debated in the press, and with ever increasing acrimony. The presence of rubber is needed by both military and industrial; that is to say, the lack of rubber is apparently crippling industries and Government departments, the electric, telephone and telegraph companies. In support of this view may be cited the fact that the German experts are busy searching for the "Kraut rubber" which is used in these industries. Raw or crude rubber or old rubber is not the special object of this particular official investigation.

Synthetic rubber, which has been manufactured in Germany during the war, has proved unsatisfactory. The cost of production is very high, yet in spite of this it seems impossible to obtain a profitable price for the artificial product. The best processes of manufacture seem to fail in giving it the essential qualities of pure rubber—its elasticity and density combined with its strength. These qualities are necessary for the finer uses of rubber, and in default of finding an artificial product of this kind the Germans have had to fall back on their native plants and resources for pure rubber. They allege a considerable quantity of "Kraut rubber" which is judged from the fact that they are willing to publish the results. There is still another motive for this new departure in German industry and policy. The Teutons are threatened with a permanent shortage of rubber unless they can produce a satisfactory substitute within the boundaries of the Central Empire.

That the Germans were almost entirely dependent upon British possessions for rubber is shown by Henri Junelle, professor of the faculty of sciences in Marseilles. In recent years of the war, he states, that Great Britain is the chief producer of rubber, while the United States is the chief consumer. American industries took 48,000 tons in 1914 and 59,000 tons in 1915, while the world's production

for that year was 144,700 tons. Of this England took only 24,000 tons, and France only 7,000. He thence infers that the American industry of manufacturing rubber goods is in a most flourishing condition. While the output of raw rubber is increasing, there is no danger of overproduction, although the yearly increase of supply will reach 50,000 tons. The needs of the Allies will take care of this surplus. In 1915 Germany obtained about 5,000 tons of rubber, much of it imported before the war from 1,000 to 20,000 tons. She will need three times this amount when peace is declared. The sources of supply open to her will be very limited. The Brazilian output can hardly be much increased and is already engaged, and the other rubber producing countries are mostly British possessions. There remain the Dutch colonies as a source of supply, and this fact doubtless has an influence on German policy toward Holland.

The German authorities realize the danger to their military and industrial position that a shortage of pure rubber means. They have taken the problem in hand with the utmost energy. They plainly declare that for war purposes artificial rubber is not sufficient. The different plants which grow in the Central Empire have been carefully analyzed for rubber, and if the results are to be taken seriously they appear to have found an abundant source of rubber. The natural rubber plant of the rubber euphorbia, they declare, grows thickly over Germany and Austria, and is well known in the United States. This plant produces a milky juice which contains 3 per cent. of pure rubber. The dried plants are gathered and powdered, and the rubber extracted with ether and alcohol. The official statement declares that a hectare will produce plants enough to yield 10 kilograms of raw material and 10 kilograms of pure rubber. As the plant is now very abundant because that enormous quantities of rubber will be produced, making Germany independent of outside sources.

It is difficult to decide whether the claim can be substantiated or not. If it turns out to be well founded it denotes an important step in rubber manufacture. The best evidence for it is the fact that the French authorities are interested in this German announcement and are making it the subject of investigation.

GERMAN IN THE SCHOOLS. A WORD FOR WHISKEY.

A Canadian Hotly Opposes the Teaching of It. The Drink Defended but the Teacher's Scored.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Sir: It is too soon to teach our soldiers about German to of any strategic value, for the war will be over before they can be taught. It is too late to teach the children for everything "made in Germany" will be shunned for a lifetime.

If we use nothing made by the barbarians, their trade and commerce will be destroyed and their competition made negligible, so that our commercial interests can have no use for the hated goods.

Is it not absurd to think of "teaching Americanism through the medium of the German language?" The SUN knows that the balance of school power, of text books, of professors, teachers, administrators, is clearly an anti-American one in many localities, for which we have to pay the price in blood and treasure. Is there a well populated city or county in the United States free from the treacherous, liberty killing German influence that is responsible for our being unprepared for war, blowing up our own ships, and ordering and bedeviling everything from a shell to an airplane?

Encourage nothing German. Shout it out wherever can be traced the wicked German trail. COBALT, Ont., May 15.

TRADE BRIEFS.

Consul John H. Bradley reports that there is an opportunity in Punta Arenas, Chile, for the establishment of a modern cannery that could produce meat products daily. The cannery is a capable construction of one floor, but little known because market for it have not been developed. It is located in Punta Arenas, Chile, and South Africa. The cannery could also be used to pack mutton, as about 1,000,000 head are killed annually in the immediate vicinity.

English dealers are in the market for stationery and photographic products to be sold to European residents in the Congo. Care should be taken in the packing of these goods.

A Mexican concern wishes to buy machinery and equipment for a small plant to make insulated copper wire for electrical purposes. Information regarding suitable firms for selling reformed copper wire will also be wanted.

Extensive improvements are being planned by the Municipal Council of Sofia, Bulgaria, and a bill providing for the appropriation of \$10,000,000 to carry on the work is under consideration. The city will benefit by the improvements, which include new municipal buildings, a modern water system, electric street cars, and a new sewerage system. The most beautiful office will be one of the world's most beautiful offices. They will undoubtedly be a big demand for American construction materials when the work is begun.

There is a market in Bordeaux, France, for brick making and clay molding machinery. Vice-Consul A. D. Bueley has sent a list of dealers who are interested in importing these supplies to the district office of the Bureau of Customs and Protective Commerce, 224 Custom House, New York City, where it can be examined by referring to the No. 10,000.

American manufacturers who are interested in developing trade in the following lines at the end of the war with Europe should include dealers in: other, hosiery and Domestic Commerce, U. S. Customs House, New York City, requesting information and referring to the No. 10,000.