

Whence the Big Gun? And German Efficiency? Most Simple Answer—Germany Encourages Ideas.

Don't overlook one fact, when hunting around for explanations of German achievement.

Why did Germans have such magnificent passenger steamers, why did they build up German shipping marvelously in so short a time?

Because the German GOVERNMENT encouraged shipbuilding, realizing that if a nation needs ships, it is the GOVERNMENT'S duty to see that the nation gets them.

Even after war broke out, Congress, corporations and financiers in the United States were fighting every effort at national ship building, putting everything in the way of the President and McAdoo, his Secretary, who were striving to organize a government shipbuilding program.

Why do you read that Germany has developed and is using on Paris a gun that fires nearly a hundred miles?

The answer is that when a German approaches his government with the idea that he can make a gun to fire a hundred miles, the GOVERNMENT SHOWS AN INTEREST IN HIM.

He is not told by an office boy to see another office boy.

In Germany the man came along—probably twenty men have come along in the United States—suggested a plan for building a new kind of cannon. The GOVERNMENT tried it, and Paris unfortunately sees the result.

You will say that this is the greatest country for inventions and new ideas. Quite true.

It is also the greatest country for GOVERNMENT indifference toward inventions and new ideas.

The submarine was invented here, not with the help or encouragement of Government.

Where was it PERFECTED?

In Germany, where they built the submarine that crossed the ocean—in Germany, where they are building submarines now that can rise to the surface and launch flying machines from their decks for attack on land.

The flying machine started in America. True. But the Wright brothers had to fight it out for themselves, and fly for themselves. Government did not help them.

And when they really wanted to realize something on their work, and some encouragement, they had to go to France.

One trouble is this. The man too long in uniform is apt to stop thinking and to dislike having thought intruded upon him. (There are exceptions of course.) A soldier is apt to think that it is almost presumptuous for anybody but a soldier to invent something useful to the army. And so it is with the navy officer, and the navy.

Yet, as a matter of fact, inventions usually come from minds quite foreign to the field in which the invention works.

The man that invented the sewing machine could not sew. It wasn't a seamstress that invented it.

Somehow in Germany they manage to do this thing differently, apparently.

When France and England were making aniline dyes, for instance, and on the high road to fortune, somebody in Germany discovered that aniline dyes were needed, and that by-products of the aniline industry are useful in making high explosives.

Within a few months, Germany was the center of the aniline business of the world.

Somebody in the German government seems to know that there is nothing real in the world except AN IDEA.

Men, animals, and plants are products of the creative idea.

The steam engine is a product of the idea born in the brain of Watt, or Papin.

The German government pays attention to ideas, as we in this country pay attention to manufactured articles.

That gives them the best flying machines—invented in this country; the best submarines—invented in this country—and the gun that shoots a hundred miles.

Proud officials resenting the presumption of little men who think they have an idea should remember the often cited case of Napoleon sitting on the edge of the English Channel wishing the wind would change so that he could cross and invade England with his sailing vessels.

He sent word to an American who wanted to see him: "Tell him I can give him just three minutes."

Napoleon gave the American three minutes, didn't listen, and the American went away without having interested Napoleon.

That particular American was Fulton, who invented the steam engine, and only wanted a chance to tell Napoleon how he could cross the Channel without paying any attention to the wind.

WEATHER: Cloudy and colder tonight and tomorrow; temperature tonight about freezing. Temperature at 8 a. m., 42 degrees; average for April, 50; for last 30 years, 51 degrees.

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"HAD TO DO IT" SAYS TAKOMA MAN AS HE KILLS INTRUDING CALLER

CAPITAL NOW MUCH BETTER ORGANIZED FOR WINNING WAR

Change Noticed in Last Fortnight—People of Nation Awakened to Stern Effort Country Faces.

By DAVID LAWRENCE. (Copyright, 1918, by New York Evening Post Company.)

Something of a change has come over the National Capital in the last fortnight that bears directly on the winning of the war, and to a certain extent that change reflects a similar metamorphosis of public opinion on the war throughout the country.

The fact is that Washington is better organized mentally for war than it has been in the months preceding.

Greater Efforts Needed. Instead of a half-hearted effort based on the theory that the war would soon be won by the allies, that peace was coming shortly and that much of our army and much of our material would never be used, the feeling is deeply rooted that not only are the preparations America now is making going to be used but that even greater effort must still be exerted before the conflict can end.

In a nutshell, Washington believes the war is going to last at least a whole year more and the great majority of officials are becoming convinced that the struggle will have to go two years in order to make Germany comprehend the necessity for a complete reversal of her world policies.

Menace Realized. The change in atmosphere began before President's Wilson's speech in Baltimore; in fact Mr. Wilson's utterance in behalf of the unstinted use of force was an outgrowth of a new spirit of determination which came to the surface when the German offensive was started.

Never before did the war seem so close—the mere thought of a defeat for the allied armies brought quick realization of the menace to America in the dominion of the Teuton. What had previously seemed academic became a sudden immensely concrete and practical. On every side there was a noticeable speeding up.

President Wilson's offer to France that American troops be brigaded with the allied armies—an act of self-denial, the importance of which has not generally been appreciated for it means that the American army will not fight as a unit this year as had been fondly hoped for by military men—was a manifestation of the willingness of the American Government to make good its pledge of all resources for the common cause.

Sense Stimulated. Government departments and bureaus have sensed the same kind of stimulated interest in the war on the part of the people. Complaints about food and fuel orders have diminished considerably. The response to the Liberty loan is beyond expectations. The organization for the loan campaign is better than on any previous occasion. There is growing evidence that people are going to buy more bonds this time than they have before. The draft machinery is working smoothly. Troops are moving with amazing rapidity to Europe. The country would be gratified to know how many transports (Continued on Page 2, Column 7.)

U. S. Gun Crew Fought Till Sea Enveloped U-Boats

In a twenty-minute running battle with two German submarines, in which many shots were fired on both sides, the American armed guard of the El Occidente put both of the U-boats to flight. One of the divers suffered a demolished periscope, shot away by the Yankee gunners. The fight occurred February 2.

Fought Till Sea Enveloped Guns

Torpedoed by an enemy submarine February 25, the Santa Maria, manned by an American gun crew, fought gamely until the sea enveloped her forward guns, the Navy Department announced today. John Webern, chief bo'sun's mate, U. S. N., was commended for bravery by Secretary Daniels. The torpedo passed under a convoy, struck the ship in a tank, and the oil exploded.

JUST BACK FROM GERMANY

FOOD SHORTAGES IN CIVIL LIFE, WHILE ARMIES ARE WELL FED, CAUSE BITTER HATE OF MILITARISTS.

This is the third of a series of articles written by Miss Blanche Slocum, the last person to leave Germany.

For weeks before her departure she had been virtually a prisoner, as the authorities considered her dangerous by reason of her knowledge of the war conditions resulted in these articles.

The common people in Germany are saying: "This accused war can go on indefinitely; our government takes everything for the army while we wretches behind the lines are made to starve and shiver and starve." They subscribe grudgingly to the war loans in order to extract contributions from soldiers, it has frequently become necessary to deny them furloughs unless they give. Everywhere the feeling of the people is becoming more and more bitter. It is true that in certain parts of Germany privation is less acute than in Berlin. Munich, just before my departure in January, 1918, had vegetables and fruit on sale. There was more butter than in Berlin. Limburger cheese, a small portion to each citizen, was greatly prized; people who had detested it before the war now went and got their malodorous little packages and chucked. People said the feeling of the Bavarians against the Prussians was so bitter that the government was afraid to take so much of their food away. Then, too, Bavaria is a rich farming country. I have heard that Americans return-

FATE OF EUROPE IN BALANCE, SAYS BRITISH PREMIER

LONDON, April 9.—Premier Lloyd George declared in the House of Commons this afternoon that while the most critical phase of the war is in a lull, the "hurricane is not yet over."

The fate of the empire, of Europe, and of liberty may depend on the success with which the final attack is resisted, he said, declaring it will probably involve extreme sacrifices by the people. "Until the strain is relaxed, said the premier, it will be difficult to ascertain exactly what has happened. At the beginning, the German strength on the west front, he declares, was about equal to that of the allies.

CONG. SABATH WED THREE MONTHS BUT KEPT SECRET WELL

Congressman Adolph J. Sabath of Chicago, Ill., has a horror of being "kidded." So when the time came for him to marry, he eloped and kept the wedding secret for more than three months—or until today.

In announcing that he had married Miss May Puert, of Chicago, last New Year Eve, Congressman Sabath said: "I belong to so many clubs and lodges in Chicago that I knew I would be 'kidded' to death if I announced that I was going to marry. So Miss Puert and I eloped on New Year Eve and the ceremony was performed at South Bend, Ind."

Mrs. Sabath arrived in Washington today after having lived with her parents, who were in ignorance of the fact that she was the bride of a Congressman. She is the daughter of Otto Puert, for many years editor of a Bohemian paper in Chicago, but more recently organizer of a Czech-Slovak regiment, to fight under the American flag.

POTATOES GLUT MARKET. HAGERSTOWN, Md., April 9.—While everything else in the food line continues to advance in price, potatoes, which have become a glut in this section, continue to get cheaper every day and have reached the remarkably low figure of 55 cents a bushel.

MAY AIM NEW BLOW AT RAIL LINES FEEDING BELGIAN ARMY

Heavy Bombardment Along Eleven Miles Near Belgian Frontier Presages Big Attack—Guns Roar on Somme.

Hindenburg evidently is preparing for a blow at the British lines in Flanders.

Haig, in his official report, described a heavy enemy bombardment on the eleven-mile line between Armentiers and the Labasse canal today. The former place is only a mile south of the Belgian frontier and Labasse is five miles north of Lens, the previous northern extremity of the German offensive front.

Important Railway Center. Armentiers, which lies about two miles behind the British lines, is an important railway center, but is not closely associated with any of the important cities farther to the south in the path of the German advance.

A drive along the front now under bombardment in this region would be entirely independent from the main enemy offensive, geographically, but might serve to forestall some expected attack on the south.

Artillery On Somme. The only other activity reported by Haig was enemy artillery fire on a seven-mile front, astride the Somme. This was in the neighborhood of Villers-Bretonneux, three miles south of the Somme, at Corbie and Mericourt l'Abbe, six miles southwest of Albert. It is along this front that Hindenburg has been striving desperately to split the British and French armies and reach Amiens, nine miles to the west.

PARIS, April 9.—Heavy fighting was reported on a wide portion of the Somme, at Corbie and Mericourt l'Abbe, and Noyon and between Montdidier and Noyon and between (Continued on Page 2, Column 3.)

HYDROPHOBIA IS FEARED AS RESULT OF BULLDOG BITE

Her right hip torn by the teeth of a bulldog, little Rose Walter, fourteen years old, today lies in her home at 682 Orleans place northeast, fearing the dog may have been mad, and she may become a victim of hydrophobia.

The dog attacked her in the shoe repairing shop of his master, Elarion Tator, at 1001 Sixth street northeast, yesterday. The girl had taken a pair of shoes to the shop and was leaving when the dog ran at her, burying its teeth in her hip. Shrieking, she ran into the street. A policeman went to her assistance, and seeing that the wound was deep, summoned an ambulance and took her to Casualty Hospital. The wound was cauterized, and the girl allowed to return home.

Tatur, the shoemaker, told The Times today that the girl had been bothering him to have the shoes repaired earlier than he could promise. Hearing her talking to his master, the dog ran from the kitchen in the rear of the shop. The girl, frightened, ran out and the dog chased her. He admits that several months ago the dog attacked a boy of fifteen years.

Mrs. Rose A. Walter, mother of the child, the dog ought to be shot. We will have it impounded and observed for symptoms of rabies. We are so afraid that it may be mad and that little Rose will catch hydrophobia." The dog will be taken to the District pound this afternoon for observation.

EIGHT-HOUR DAY STRUCK OUT; \$120 INCREASE IN BILL

Striking out the Borland amendment to increase the working hours of the Government workers and increasing the pay of the Government clerks and employes \$120 per year, the Senate Appropriations Committee reported the legislative bill to the Senate today.

The increased pay applies up to the \$2,500 grade. The House increase applied to the \$2,000 grade.

QUARTER MILLION ARE AFFECTED.

A quarter million employes will be affected by the increase.

The action of the committee on the Borland amendment probably sounds the death knell of that proposition. The language of the bill as reported by the committee on the subject of pay increase in part is as follows: "That all civilian employes of the Government of the United States and the District of Columbia who receive a total compensation at the rate of \$2,500 per annum or less, except as otherwise provided in this section, shall receive, during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1919, additional compensation at the rate of \$120 per annum.

Provided, That such employes as receive a total of annual compensation at a rate more than \$2,500 and less than \$2,600 shall receive additional compensation at such a rate per annum as may be necessary to make their salaries, plus their additional compensation, at the rate of \$2,600 per annum, and no employes shall receive additional compensation under this section at a rate which is more than thirty per centum of the rate of the total annual compensation received by such employes."

Exceptions to the pay increase provisions are about the same as in the House bill. To them are added employes paid from lump sum appropriations and persons employed by or through corporations, firms, or individuals acting for or on behalf of or as agents of the United States or any department or independent establishment of the Government in connection with construction work or the operation of plants.

The \$2 and 10 per cent increase in effect now are not to be considered as salary in computing the pay. The Senate is expected to indorse the committee action.

The bill as reported carried a little over \$70,000,000, and is increased less than a half million over the House bill. Salaries of Capitol police were increased \$49,000.

Germany is today carrying on a campaign to embroil the United States and Mexico, according to testimony offered before a sub-committee of the Senate Judiciary Committee today by Dr. Earl Sperry, of Syracuse University.

There is a German organization in Mexico now which has for its sole purpose the causing of war between the United States and Mexico, Dr. Sperry said. The witness has been engaged in Government work during the past winter and has had access to the records of the Department of Justice and his testimony is considered as official by the committee.

Germany's tentacles have been spread over the United States as in every nation, Dr. Sperry declared. Three branches of the Pan-German League were founded in this country, he said, and propaganda in their behalf was carried on by Dr. Karl Peters.

Church societies have carried on the work of "Kaiserism" in the United States and both Catholics and Protestant clergymen have done much work in instilling German ideas in their congregations, the witness said.

The following organizations were indicted by Dr. Sperry as being for the purpose of carrying on German propaganda in the United States: The American Embargo Conference, The Friends of Peace, The American Neutrality League, The American Independence Union, The American Truth Society and Labor's National Peace Council. All of these organizations were favored and supported by members of the National German-American Alliance, Dr. Sperry said, with the purpose of having the support of individuals rather than of the organization in order that the organizations might have clear skirts.

Frans Von Rintelen was a "free lance" sent to the United States to further this work, Dr. Sperry said. He declared that von Rintelen came here with more than \$500,000 and "went to make direct bribes to Congressmen." More than \$301,000 was spent by von Rintelen he said to arouse labor against America's preparation in the war and a large part of this sum was spent through Jeremiah O'Leary, Dr. Sperry declared. As indicative of the success of the German "octopus" in this country, there are at the present time 487 German schools in the United States, Dr. Sperry said.

The Mexican organization of Germans which is engaged in arousing feeling against the United States is known as the League of German Citizens, Dr. Sperry told the committee later.

TAKES THE SHERIFF TO SCENE OF SHOOTING

Explains How Phelps Threatened Him and He Shot in Self-Defense When Intruder Pointed Gun at Him.

While his two babies slept in the front room of the pretty little bungalow in Takoma Park, Md., that he had built with his own hands working nights and Sundays, Uriah Heeter, aged twenty-eight, last night at 10 o'clock shot and mortally wounded George Phelps, who was attempting to enter the house after having been warned by Heeter never to show himself there again. Phelps died three hours later in Garfield Hospital.

Heeter says he shot in self-defense, firing only after a pistol was pointed at him by Phelps. The single bullet fired by Heeter from a .32-caliber revolver took effect in Phelps' abdomen. The report of the gun attracted the attention of Former Sheriff Fulton Gates, who lives some distance away, but the two babies slept peacefully.

TELLS OF PLOTS TO EMBROIL U. S.

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D. C. FLYER HURT AS MOTOR STALLS AT TEXAS FIELD

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., April 9.—Cadet Roger B. Smith, 116th Aero Squadron, suffered a broken leg and other injuries when the motor of his airplane stalled during a flight and the machine fell 300 feet here today.

Smith's home is in Washington, D. C. Roger B. Smith, Jr., twenty-one years old, is the son of Roger B. Smith, sr., of 610 M street northwest.

Young Smith joined the aero squadron at San Antonio on March 5 and has been in training for little more than a month.

ISAACS CONFESSES TO KILLING GIRL ON ODENTON ROAD

ANNAPOLIS, April 9.—Archie Isaacs, the negro held here charged with the murder Friday of Miss Dora Ebert, near Odenton, this afternoon confessed to the crime.

He told Sheriff Joe Bellis and State's Attorney Nicholas H. Green that he could not remember what instrument he used nor the motive.

The negro also said that his story that he had seen two negro soldiers from Camp Meade kill the young woman was false. He emphatically denied that he had criminally assaulted her.

FAVOR TWO PLATOONS. The House District Committee at a special meeting today ordered a favorable report on the bill for a two-platoon system for the Fire Department of the District of Columbia.