

SECRET SERVICE WATCHES THE SPIES FROM EUROPE

Many Foreign Agents Are Now Active in the United States.

COULD BE QUICKLY STOPPED

Declaration of War Would Cause Instant Arrest of Spies—Work of Chief Flynn's Bureau Not Spectacular, But is Wonderfully Efficient.

New York.—A few days ago the following dispatch was printed in the New York newspapers, showing that our navy is awake to the possibilities of agents on shore co-operating with a hostile fleet attacking us:

"A highly important development in the war game was announced by Rear Admiral Benson, chief of naval operations, who said that spies working for the invaders had set fire to all the coal piers at Norfolk.

"This means that theoretically this important base of supplies was left unguarded and could have been destroyed. The navy yards are all part of the great war game, and the first blow against the protection of the coast occurred at Norfolk. Word immediately went forward to arrange for coaling ships of the defending fleet in the vicinity of Norfolk by other emergency means. How this will be done has not yet been reported."

For the first time in the war maneuvers of the navy account has been taken of the possibility of hostile spies working in our navy yards and coal piers. Rear Admiral Benson has put his finger on the spot which has long been declared weak by secret service men and certain members of congress who have been endeavoring to procure an increased appropriation for a secret service which more closely approximates the intelligence department of European and Asiatic nations, says the New York Herald.

Many Spies in United States.

Just how realistic are the conditions hypothesized by Rear Admiral Benson in the recent war game is shown by the statement of a man high in the United States secret service that there are scores of known foreign spies in the United States.

If war should be declared on the United States today by any one of four European or Asiatic powers, the telegraph instruments in the office of the secret service, Washington, would click out a message that would cause the arrest of more than one hundred men and women known to be working in the interest of foreign governments.

The work of the secret service is not spectacular. Few realize to what extent it is being carried on. Occasionally Chief Flynn's men make a sensational raid on a band of counterfeiters, and for a few days the secret service is talked about. Many persons believe that running down counterfeiters is the sole activity of Chief Flynn's bureau. They do not know that his operatives—men known only to him, and not even to one another—are constantly watching clandestine enemies in the very heart of our government.

The investigation bureau of the department of justice, under A. Bruce Bielanski, once in a while attracts attention because of the exposure of internal revenue frauds, but thousands of readers are unaware that Mr. Bielanski's men have under surveillance scores of spies whom they allow to go their way within circumscribed limits in order that they may, to a greater extent, betray the workings of their system.

Against most of these workers no charge can be brought which would justify an arrest. They have not violated any law. The only possible course open to Uncle Sam's secret watchers is to do their footsteps and bar the way if they begin to nose out important information.

Fighting One Another.

At present, owing to the war in Europe, not only are these European spies operating against the United States, but they are fighting one another. In general they work something like this: There is one man or woman in charge of a certain piece of work. Under him are many other persons. He knows them all, but they do not, as a rule, know one another.

A certain government official or the representative of another nation is supposed to have information wanted by the agent of some power. His men are scattered about Washington so that the object of their interest is almost continually under the eyes of the organization. One man acts as a waiter in the hotel or restaurant where the object of interest eats. Another gets a position in the barber shop where he is shaved. A woman acts as a manicurist. Still another seeks his personal acquaintance through clubs or social functions.

No one of these secret agents may know very much, but each reports to his chief, for whom the various threads weave a perfectly legible story.

Some time ago a line officer of the navy made some improvements in the code, with which he was familiar through commanding vessels at sea. Every night when this officer finished work he burned all the scraps of paper on which he had scribbled code manuals, signs or other symbols during the day. One morning when he came to work an old sailor who was engaged as an attendant in his office approached him with a worried air and said:

Interested in Blotters.

"Sir, there is something going on here that you ought to know about. You burn your papers every night, but what do you do with your blotters?"

"Why," said the officer, "I leave them on the desk and you throw them away, I presume."

"Yes, I throw them away," said the old man, "but I could sell them—and for a good price, too. That's what I thought you ought to know about."

The officer turned pale.

"Have you one of those used blotters about?" he asked.

The seaman handed the officer a blotter he had left on his desk the previous evening and which the faithful fellow had saved because of his suspicions.

The officer snatched it and held it before a small mirror. The inverted signs made by the blotting were thus rendered legible. "By heavens!" he exclaimed; "tell me about this offer for the used blotters!"

It seems that the night before a rather shabbily dressed man had stopped the sailor on his way from work and asked him if he would be willing to make a few cents extra each week by selling the waste blotting paper. He declared that attendants in offices where a number of clerks were employed were doing the same thing. He offered to pay \$2 a week for the blotters from the office in which the aged sailor worked. This seemed too big a price for the extremely few blotters saved, although the stranger said he wanted them for a new process of making ornaments of a sort of papier mache.

"What did you tell him?" asked the officer.

Secret Service on Job.

"I said I would give him an answer soon," the seaman replied, "but he seemed in a big hurry and left me a telephone number, insisting that I call him today."

The flier sent a messenger to the secret service bureau and operatives were at once put on the case. In a matter of minutes a device had been attached to the telephone wire running to the number the man had given and an operative could hear every word that passed over the line without any interference with the connection.

Everything being in readiness, the attendant was sent out to telephone the suspected man that he could have the blotters. Meanwhile it had been learned that what the stranger had said about buying used blotters from the clerks' offices was true, and as nothing of importance could have been learned from these it began to look as though suspicions of a plot were unfounded. Still there was a possibility that this had been done only as a blind.

The secret service operative at the receiver of the wire-tapping device heard the aged man call the suspect and tell him he could have the blotters. A little while later this man called a number and a woman's voice answered.

"Any success?" she asked.

"I can let you have some of the very best old blotting paper," he replied. "Daily deliveries C. O. D. It's only used slightly and you can reclaim a fair percentage, I believe."

To the secret service operative "C. O. D." meant code. "Very best" meant navy, as the navy code is recognized as the very best in existence, and the remainder of the sentence meant that as the blotters were not badly smeared with ink they ought to yield a few

MISS OWEN LLOYD-GEORGE



The engagement of Miss Owen Lloyd-George and Capt. C. T. Carey Evans was announced recently, and their marriage is expected to be celebrated early in the autumn.

Miss Lloyd-George is the elder of Lloyd-George's two daughters. Captain Evans is in the Indian medical service. He won the military cross in Gallipoli and subsequently went to Mesopotamia.

facts each day. It is a recognized fact that in almost all codes if a few signs are known the whole system can be evolved by experts.

They Went Away.

A man was at once assigned to watch the house of the woman in the case, and that evening a taxicab stopped in front of her residence and she joined a man inside. They were driven to a fashionable cafe, and when the man left the taxicab he was recognized as a hanger-on of one of the embassies. Of course, the couple were shadowed, and the waiter who served them heard the woman tell her companion that the blotters were obtainable.

Now, at the embassy in question all knowledge of these activities was denied and probably with perfect truth. All embassies have a certain number of more or less disreputable hangers-on who are more of an embarrassment than anything else, except when they actually accomplish something. For instance, in this case had the foreign government been able to obtain a copy of the navy code it probably would have paid well for it. Yet it was not under their orders that the attempt was made and they could very justly repudiate it.

The three would-be villains in this little drama immediately left Washington. The secret service could not arrest them, but the chief of the bureau could tell, if he would, just exactly what was said to them that persuaded them the climate of the District of Columbia was anything but healthful.

FOOD JAR SKUNK TRAP

Winsted, Conn.—Skunks escaping from a skunk farm in Lovely street caused residents in that section no little trouble. Recently several entered Daniel Ryan's cellar and pushed aside a heavy cover from a stone jar and ate the foodstuffs in it.

A miscalculation in this maneuver, however, resulted in a skunk falling into a crock and the cover slid back into place, imprisoning the animal. Ryan will not apply for a patent on the skunk trap. Anyone is privileged to use it, he says.

IS THE RICHEST NEGRO BOY

Lad is Heir to Land Allotments in Rich Oil Field in Oklahoma.

Tulsa, Okla.—Adam Manuel, a Creek freedman, died in Colorado recently, and already there is a race on among some of the residents of Muskogee county to get the appointment of guardian for his children. There are five of the children living, and the elder Manuel inherited the allotments of two who are dead, but the guardianship is sought because of Luther Manuel, a minor son, who is believed to be the richest negro boy in the world.

When the allotments were made for the Manuel family, those of Luther, thirteen, and Rafield, his younger brother, were in a locality where the land was worthless for farming purposes. Their father complained that the land was valueless, but he was unable to have any change made.

It turned out that the allotment of Luther, believed to be worthless, was in the heart of the Cushing oil field. Since that field was developed nearly six years ago, his income from it has amounted to \$20,000 to \$25,000 a month. The allotment of Rafield Manuel is not so valuable. The allotments of the other children are good for agricultural purposes only.

Sarah Rector has been considered the most fortunate of all those among the Creek freedmen who took allotments in that section of country, but her fortune is far less than that of Luther Manuel.

RELATIVES FIND HIS GRAVE

After Search of Seventy-Eight Years Marker is Discovered on Resting Place of Tennessean.

Danville, Ill.—After a search of 78 years by near relatives, the body of Elijah Brown, who left Nashville, Tenn., in 1838 for Illinois, was found recently near Allerton, Ill.

Brown was a well-known Baptist preacher in Tennessee at that time and started overland to northern Illinois with his wife and seven children, but died en route and his body was buried by the wayside.

A marker was made for the grave, but the place was forgotten. The marble slab was broken, but the name and date of death in 1838 made identification possible.

Confesses Old Crime.

Smith Centre, Kan.—A mystery of 26 years was cleared up when C. G. Ray of Downs, near here, received a letter from a man in Omaha, who confessed to setting fire to the Ray barn in September, 1893. The writer then was a boy six years old. His excuse for confessing the crime at this late date is that he "had no luck" at anything he undertook, and he finally decided that things would change if he confessed the wrong done so many years ago.

Canadians Pull Stumps to Music.

Toronto.—To the music of their brass bands, four battalions of Canadian soldiers uprooted stumps from their camp ground near Toronto. From the sandy ground the stumps were easily pulled, piled in heaps and fired. The flames could be seen for miles over the plains at night.

Strikes a Man at a Listening Post

Newport, R. I., and E. C. Johnson of Rochester, N. Y., and have returned home on leave of absence.

Descriptions of the latest Tonic bomb, which is used for searching out listening posts and patrols at night, were given by the young men. It consists of a light metallic shell, so thin that even a slight jar will rupture it. This is filled with a phosphorescent substance. When it hits an object the shell is broken and the liquid contents, ignited by combustion with the air, throws out a brilliant light. If a bomb strikes a man at a listening post or one of the members of a patrol, the man becomes a glowing torch and machine guns are turned on him.

Traveled 15,000 Miles to Wed; Failed.

Rozonke, Va.—Thomas Gilbert, a youthful Briton who left home in Sydney, Australia, several weeks ago and traveled 15,000 miles to Rozonke, Va., to marry his fiancée, Mrs. Hattie E. Nance, has just reached his destination to find that his sweetheart recently married his uncle, Jacob Harvey.

MAKE MONEY AT HOME

Children Reap Good Profits From Back-Yard Gardens.

Many Cities Throughout the Country Are Now Adopting the Plan Proposed by Uncle Sam.

Uncle Sam is obtaining good results in the movement for the establishment of home gardens under direction of the public schools so that there may be created productive occupation for school children, especially those in manufacturing towns and mill villages. By creating such productive occupation outside of school hours children are enabled to make about as much money from their home gardens as if they were employed in factories.

This plan of home gardening directed by the school has been adopted by about one hundred cities. Fifty thousand children are cultivating back-yard gardens under school supervision in these cities, some of the children making as high as \$150 from their gardens for one season. The city of Chattanooga, Tenn., which has adopted the government plan, now has 11 garden teachers in charge of this work.

"Garden surveys," to determine the adaptability of conditions for home garden work, have been made by the United States bureau of education in San Francisco, Cal., Richmond, Ind., Nashville, Tenn., and several other cities. The survey of Richmond showed that even in a city of this size 85 per cent of the children were without employment during the summer, but that they had sufficient garden space available to produce at least \$85,000 worth of vegetables every season.

The bureau's plan provides for a teacher, trained and skilled in gardening, for each elementary city school with its two or three hundred children; for an intensive system of gardening, and for the application of business methods, intelligent direction and close supervision.

FIRST-AID MEASURES TO PREVENT IVY POISONING

Uncle Sam Finds Time to Issue Warning Against Danger That May Be Encountered in the Woods.

Uncle Sam, among all his other activities, has found time to make a little study of the poison ivy and to issue



Poison Ivy.

some first-aid instructions for the benefit of those who may come in contact with the plant while wandering through the woods. He urges those who do not know what poison ivy looks like to become familiar with its appearance and then keep as far away from it as possible. The leaves of the plant are irregular, oval pointed and course toothed. They are always in groups of three. The plant, which sometimes takes the form of a low shrub, sometimes a graceful vine and again sends out horizontal branches like a tree, has clusters of small greenish white berries.

The poison is contained in an oil secreted by the plant and which does not penetrate the skin rapidly. If one thinks he has been exposed he should wash the exposed parts with salt water or hot water and soap, and afterwards bathe thoroughly with alcohol or kerosene. If no soap is at hand, the hands may be given a good scrubbing with sand or mud in the first stream encountered. This may wash off the oil before it has had time to get through the natural protective coating of the skin.

If poisoning develops, the following formula is recommended by Uncle Sam as a remedy:

- Carbolic acid.....2 grains
- Resorcin.....2 grains
- Bismuth subgallate.....4 grains
- Equal parts water and lime-water to make.....250 c. c.

This solution may be dabbed on the affected parts several times a day.

Area of Canal Zone.

The area of the Panama Canal zone within the limits of five miles on either side of the center line of the canal, including land and water, but not including the area within the three-mile limit from the Atlantic and Pacific ends, is 441.5, made up of: Land area, 332.35 square miles; Gatun lake, 106.4; Miraflores lake, 1.9; and the area of the channels from the coast to Gatun and Miraflores locks, 0.85 square mile. Including all the waters of Gatun lake, over which the Panama canal has absolute control, the total area of the Canal zone, according to the Canal Record, is 502.5 square miles.

Scraps Yield Big Sum.

The value of the copper, lead, zinc, tin, aluminum and antimony recovered in the United States from scrap metals, skimmings and drosses in 1915, was \$114,304,960, against \$57,039,708 in 1914, a 100 per cent increase, according to statistics prepared by the United States geological survey.

Buy Waterworks Plant in U. S.

Consul General Frederic W. Goddard reports to Uncle Sam from Guayaquil, Ecuador, that the first order for machinery for the city waterworks of Guayaquil, Ecuador, has been secured by a New York firm for \$2,000,000, which at the present rate of exchange equals \$13,500,000.

PLANS GREAT NEW INDUSTRY IN U. S.

Uncle Sam Seeks to Promote Manufacture of Linen in This Country.

HOME PRODUCT IN DISFAVOR

One of Big Problems is to Convince American Public That Goods Made Abroad Are Not Necessarily of Better Grade.

Uncle Sam is planning to establish a great new industry in the United States. It is proposed, if possible, to create a real linen industry here, inasmuch as this country is the greatest consumer of linen in the world. The high price of linen and the fact that from which linen is made has centered attention on the project recently.

There seem to be two big problems which must be solved before success is assured. One is to find some artificial method of preparing the flax straw for the spinner, thus relieving the flax grower of this task, and the other is to convince the American public that just because an article is made abroad it is not necessarily any better than one made at home. These and other minor problems are discussed in a report by W. A. Graham Clark, just published by the bureau of domestic and foreign commerce.

The only country in which the production of flax fiber has increased consistently in recent years is Russia, the report states. In the British Isles and in France the production has decreased in spite of all efforts to keep the industry growing, and in Austria-Hungary, Belgium and the Netherlands the industry has not been able to hold its own. The American production has never been of importance. Thanks to liberal government aid and to cheap labor, the Russians had gradually been getting a monopoly of the business up to the time the war broke out.

Flax Raised Here for Seed.

In the United States flax has been raised almost entirely for the seed, which is used to make the well-known linsced oil so necessary for the production of good paints and varnishes. Of some 3,000,000 acres of flax raised in this country in 1915, the department of agriculture estimates that only 2,000 acres were devoted to flax for fiber. The bulk of the straw from the seed-bearing plants is burned and used for fertilizer. It should be borne in mind, however, that flax growing for seed and flax growing for fiber are separate and distinct industries. Some flax is grown for both seed and fiber, but a decision must be made as to which is to be the more important product.

In Europe the farmer not only raises the flax, but prepares the fiber for the spinner. This preparation requires several processes, one of which, known as "retting," requires considerable cheap labor and much time and is in addition a most disagreeable process for the workmen. The problem in this country is to find some chemical process of retting that can be carried out at a factory and thus allow the farmer to confine his attention to the agricultural end of the industry. This is the only condition on which the American farmer will take to growing flax for the fiber, Mr. Clark thinks. Some progress is already being made in chemical retting, and at least two concerns are now buying flax stalks from the growers for further treatment. Chemical processes have been tried before without much success, but one of the new concerns is now selling chemically retted fiber to Europe and the other is making coarse linens for use in clothing and for curtains.

Must Create Home Market.

Even if a good all-American linen is produced in this country, however, there still remains the great problem of finding a market for it. That means that time and effort will be required to persuade the consumer to buy the domestic product instead of the imported. Many people invariably choose the imported article when it is displayed alongside of domestic products, almost regardless of quality. The president of a mill now making dyes and bleached dress linens from American flax has found that, small as is his product, there is difficulty in getting the jobbers and department stores to handle it. The tendency is to assume that, even though it is apparently of excellent quality, it cannot equal the old established linens from abroad. There will never be a better time than the present to popularize the domestic product, for the imported article is scarce and high-priced. In normal times our imports of linen goods vary from \$25,000,000 to \$30,000,000, and the demand had been steadily increasing up to the time of the war.

AMONG THE FLOWERS

Cut flowers of annuals that seed freely and prolong the season of bloom. If allowed to mature seeds, they cease to bloom.

Don't neglect the potted plants; water well, and shade from the afternoon sunshine.

When shade is recommended, darkness or dense shade are not meant. All plants require a good light.

FERTILIZER. OUTPUT GROWS

Big Increase is Shown in Production in United States—Largest Number of Plants in South.

Few industries in the United States have shown as big a growth in the past few years as has the manufacture of fertilizers. Uncle Sam's figures, based upon the census of manufactures taken in 1914, just made public, show that the output of fertilizers in this country increased 49.8 per cent in quantity and 50.5 per cent in value in the five-year period between 1909 and 1914. The number of establishments primarily devoted to this industry grew from 550 in 1909 to 784 in 1914.

The geographical location of the industry is predominantly in the South, harmonizing with the notable consumption of fertilizers in that section. Of the 1,124 establishments engaged in the industry, 293 were located in Georgia, 108 in Alabama, 85 in South Carolina, 99 in North Carolina, 66 in Pennsylvania, 61 in Virginia, 56 in Maryland, 51 in Ohio, and 80 in New Jersey. Other states contain less than 30 each.

This year's strawberry crop of the United States was worth \$20,000,000.

The HOME BEAUTIFUL

Flowers and Shrubbery—Their Care and Cultivation



A Driveway Made Beautiful With a Fine Effect of Massed Planting.

EFFECTS IN MASSING

By L. M. BENNINGTON.

Two recent photographs showing handsome California homes, one at Berkeley, and the other the Smith home at Oakland, illustrate nicely one of the principles of art that the maker of a garden will do well to study.

It is the general scheme producing an effect with masses of plants, and with foliage thrown daintily into background or foreground with little apparent thought for the individual plant.

It follows the idea of the little darky who came home one day with a crude drawing made in school. The little boy held up proudly the product and said:

"See, nimmay, here am what I done drawed today."

"What dat?" inquired the mother. "Hits er cow," said the little fellow.

"Yas, hits er cow, all right," said the mother, "but whar am de tall?"

"De teacher she done tole me," responded the child, "dat so long as de general effect am good, neber mind de tall."

That is the theory shown strikingly by these two California pictures. In one is found a heavy massing of green effects in the background, with the same general scheme of mass being applied to the plants and grasses bordering the driveway. Not a single one of the trees or plants stands out individually, but they all blend into a general purpose.

In the second picture the mass is transferred from background to foreground, leaving the house itself to stand boldly forth against the skyline. In directly opposite ways the pictures show effects of mass arrangement. It belongs to its school of art, and to art as applied to the garden, as clearly as the same theory has place in painting in oils.

And it must be remembered that it takes more real work to get effect from a seemingly disordered mass than it does to care for striking, individual and isolated elements.

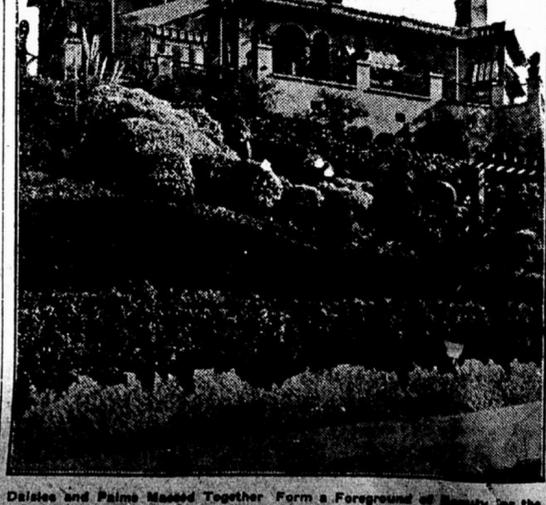
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When shade is recommended, darkness or dense shade are not meant. All plants require a good light.

For potted plants that must have sunshine, set the pots in a jardiniere.



Delicate and Palms Massed Together Form a Foreground of Beauty for the Home Setting.