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GERMAN VICTORY IS STILL BELIEVED IN

Educated Classes Say Downfall Brought About by Revolutionary Movement in Germany.

Wiesbaden, Germany.—Thus the military party in Germany and all its supporters have learned nothing by the war is, of course, a fact which everybody that has been watching developments in Germany ever since the armistice is well aware of.

Former officers of the army and navy, Prussian Junkers, university professors and their students and a certain section of the bourgeoisie belong to that large body of educated Germans who still maintain that their country was not defeated by the Allies, but that the downfall was brought about by the revolutionary movement working from the interior of Germany. The army fighting at the front was stabbed in the back by the revolution among the civilian population, that is the tale which has been deliberately and systematically spread ever since the armistice was signed, and it is largely the educated classes in Germany that support this opinion. The German universities have always been veritable hotbeds for Pan-German and militaristic propaganda.

If any further evidence is required to prove the unchanged mental condition of these militarists, it is furnished by a recent interview given by General von Ludendorff to the representative of the "Correia da Manha," a Brazilian paper. The General is the present-day head of the German military party, and he is probably more popular and has more supporters than at any time since the armistice. In his interview with the Brazilian newspaper in question, he again repeated the old fable of the German defeat being caused by the revolution. General von Ludendorff also openly declared that he and his supporters would do all in their power to bring about a return of the Hohenzollern regime, Germany, in the General's opinion, owed all her former success and greatness to the Hohenzollerns and only a return of a monarchical form of government and especially his dynasty would give the German people real freedom and happiness. Whether such a change would be possible in view of the present temper of the vast majority of the German working classes was quite another question, and if attempted it would most likely result in civil war.

A county of 65,000,000 inhabitants that has for many decades been systematically developed into a military power par excellence whose whole institutions were made to serve military ends, will require time for a complete change of the national thought. In Germany, as Jerome K. Jerome remarked many years ago, all you had to do was to get born, the rest would be arranged by the police. In other words, the real power and government was in the hands of comparatively few and the governed had little or nothing to say in the affairs of their country. This notwithstanding the fact that the enfranchisement of the people was on a very liberal scale, for the real power was held by the Kaiser's ministers who were not subject to parliamentary control.

The vast majority of Germans were quite satisfied with this condition of things when the bombshell of 1914 burst and the old system finally disappeared in the melting pot. Now the people find themselves suddenly presented with enlarged opportunities to exercise control over the destiny of their country. Instead of a paternal government making all the arrangements the individual citizen is now beginning to be imbued with a sense of political responsibility.

Time only will show whether the German people will make the most of their present political opportunities and whether by adhering to democratic theories they will do their share in making the world safe for democracy. But the reactionary military party also knows that time is working against their ideas, and that when the great advantages of wholesale disarmament and the abolition of compulsory military service become more and more apparent, their chances of getting the people to subscribe to their doctrine will grow less and less.

In the meantime, it has to be remembered that Germany has gone through a tremendous change and that the great mass of her population still lacks political experience. They remind one of captives that have been set free and that do not know exactly what to do with their liberty. Then there is the present sad economical

and financial plight of the country which causes many to look back to the good old times before 1914, forgetting all the while that their present lamentable condition was brought about by the terrible mistakes made by their former rulers and overlooking the great forward stride they have undoubtedly made in obtaining a larger measure of freedom.

Improved conditions all round may do much to strengthen the hands of democracy in Germany and this, it is generally felt, will be for the benefit of the whole world.

Aunt Sarah Wycoff Not as Innocent as Reported

Hickory, Feb. 10.—Persons who resided in the vicinity of the Weslie Wycoff murder in the lower edge of Catawba county many years ago, were amazed by the recent stories sent out from Raleigh as to "Aunt Sarah" Wycoff, alleged victim of circumstantial evidence, receiving information several months before her death that somebody else had confessed to the crime for which Bob McCorkle, negro, was hanged in Alexander county. Those who do not care to read further may set it down that "Aunt Sarah," however well she might have behaved during her long term in the State prison, was no innocent and modest woman during the days that she reigned on a throne of immorality.

T. A. Sherrill, well known Hickory man, living within two miles of the Wycoff home, knew Weslie Wycoff and his wife and Bob McCorkle personally and got all the news in court and out of it as to the character of woman she was. Discussing her case Mr. Sherrill said that if the officers, spurred on by public opinion as they are today, had made half the effort to clear the mystery in the Wycoff case, probably a white man would have been hanged and "Aunt Sarah" still would have gone to prison. The negro on the scaffold muttered something about others as guilty as he, but he did not give his white friend away. He never denied shooting Weslie Wycoff.

The case was tried twice, the second time in Alexander county, because of feeling in Catawba in the matter. McCorkle was found guilty of murder and the Wycoff woman as an accessory before the fact. The chain of circumstances was conclusive.

To begin with the court had a very bad woman as one of the principals. Her immorality was generally known and it was practiced at the home of her husband, a good natured but worthless fellow, whose force of character did not commend him to anybody.

Some white man in the community, whose name has been mentioned privately a thousand times, was believed to be at the bottom of the murder. He wanted Weslie Wycoff out of the way and his unfaithful spouse was a party to the conspiracy. The evidence showed, that ended in his murder at his barn, where he had been lured. The correspondents all get the facts straight about Bob McCorkle, Mr. Sherrill said, because that was such an interesting detail that it appealed to them. It was a fact that McCorkle carried a single-barreled muzzle-loading shotgun with him everywhere he went and everybody in the country knew it by the sound. He also carried a pistol in his coat and when he removed his coat he left it close by, always placing it near him when he went away for any distance. McCorkle was impudent but not regarded as mean.

When his gun went off on that fatal night, a man sleeping in the neighborhood was awakened and remarked to his wife, "That's Bob McCorkle's gun." By means of comparing paper wadding shot from the gun with paper found in his shot pouch, the authorities were able positively to connect McCorkle with the case. He refused to make a confession on the scaffold, but he admitted that somebody else was in it.

The alleged confession, to which reference has been made on one or more occasions, was never made in the opinion of Mr. Sherrill. No names were given and no date, and the mutterings of an old woman who had caused much trouble in her neighborhood, were seized upon to tell the world that an innocent person had been convicted on circumstantial evidence.

J. W. Blackwelder, of Hickory to whom Warden Busbee wired when the old woman died, also bore out Mr. Sherrill's statement as to the facts in the case. Mr. Blackwelder said he preferred to let the public forget the affair, but he was astonished at the importance given the old woman without any apparent investigation.

LIEUT. PEARSON SAFE AND SOUND AT TEXAS TOWN

Aviator Lost Reached Sander-son Just as Hope Was Abandoned.

Sanderson, Tex., Feb. 17.—A guard of soldiers today kept intruders away from the hotel where Lieut. Alexander Pearson had the first real rest since he left El Paso last Thursday on a flight in an army airplane to San Antonio.

With uniform in rags, face unshaven, worn out from privations suffered in Texas' most desolate waste lands, the 25-year old aviator rode into Sanderson last night on a horse borrowed from ranchers.

Less than three hours' flight from El Paso he made a forced landing at 1:20 p. m., last Thursday in Reagan Canon, some 95 miles from Sanderson, miles away from wire communication and human habitation. For three days he wandered without food, taking water from the airplane radiator to quench his thirst. On the fourth day he struck the Rio Grande and floated down the stream on an improvised raft until he was discovered by ranchers who gave him food and a mount. His arrival came as the sixty-five army aviators who had combed Texas in search for him since last Friday had almost given up hope.

Lieut. Pearson was on his way from Douglas, Ariz., to Florida to make an attempt at a trans-continental flight in 24 hours on Washington's birthday.

A strong north wind drove the aviator from his course and then his engine choked, stopped before he could choose a landing, and damaged the wings on striking the ground.

The trip back to civilization was made part of the time thru a terrific sandstorm.

Awarded Big Damages

Fayetteville, Feb. 15.—Fifty thousand dollars damages was awarded by a Superior court jury here this afternoon to Mrs. Daisy Watson Smith for the alienation of her husband's affections by Mrs. Theresa Werner, of Atlanta, Ga.

Mrs. Werner's husband, J. L. Werner, residing in another state, was made a defendant in the suit.

They gave Mrs. Smith \$30,000 as compensation for her suffering and for the alienation of the affection of her husband and \$20,000 punitive damages.

Mrs. Werner formerly lived in Fayetteville, coming here from Pittsburgh, and her relations with J. Hampton Smith, husband of the plaintiff, formed the basis of the suit, which was for \$250,000.

The hearing began Monday, and the case went to the jury shortly after noon today. The sum awarded Mrs. Smith is probably the largest amount ever given as damages by a jury in this county.

White Man Suing For Divorce From Negress

Danville, Va., Feb. 16.—An action for divorce was instituted in the Corporation court today by John Fulton Wells, a white man, against Lena Slade Wells, a negress. The declaration filed by Wells states that in October, 1920, while he was on a "drunken spree" he was persuaded by Lena Slade, both being residents of Danville for many years, to go to Philadelphia with her and be married. They left Danville together and were actually married at Philadelphia but Wells did not realize this, he states, until he had recovered from his intoxicated condition. The declaration adds that he would not have done so had he been able to realize what he was doing. Finding out what had happened he prevailed upon his wife not to accompany him back to Danville and he came alone. Since then, he sets forth, the woman has threatened to come to Danville and live with him and he begs, on the ground of miscegenation to be released from wedlock. It is the first case of its kind ever recorded in the local courts.

The Southern Furniture Market association will hold a furniture exposition at High Point June 20th through July 2nd. An eleven story building of concrete and steel, declared to be fire proof has been erected for this purpose and each floor has a floor space of 29,600 square feet the building will be ready for occupancy by April 1st and it is believed that by the time the show opens in June the building will be filled with samples of furniture manufactured in the south.

NEW TARIFF WOULD HIT THE PEOPLE HARD

Senator Harris Figures it Would Cost Each Family \$52 Year

Washington, Feb. 14.—Startling figures on the cost to the American consumer resulting from the Fordney so-called emergency tariff bill, if it shall become a law, are contained in a tabulation made public today in a statement by Senator William J. Harris, of Georgia.

The figures on which Senator Harris' statement is based were furnished by a treasury department expert, and are reliable.

The figures show that if the Fordney bill becomes a law, it will mean a direct tax for the ten months it is intended to be operative of \$1.16 per week upon the necessities of life for a family of six members. The cost per family for the ten months of the law's life will be \$49.88.

Using his home state, Georgia, for example, Senator Harris gave out the following illuminative statement of how the law will operate.

"The provisions of the pending Fordney bill are little known to the general public, so far as turning the rates into actual money and adding these sums to the consumer. The Georgia farmer has little chance for assistance in the proposed measure, and peanuts is the only product in our state affected to any extent. In the case of cotton seed oil, the raw produce has passed from the hands of the farmer, and the life of the proposed tariff is only ten months, which does not give full time for the next crop.

"There is no protection for cotton as grown in the South, because a great volume is exported. The various products of the Western farmer get large rates under this bill.

"Interesting figures can be presented on the estimated cost to the family household by adding to many articles which comprise the daily meal. Figures have been compiled by a high government expert, showing the weekly budget for a family of six members for certain articles mentioned in the Fordney bill. It seems an increase of more than one dollar per week for a family.

"It is estimated that there are more than 560,000 families in Georgia, as the 1910 census showed 553,264 families. This shows a weekly increase in the cost of these foods \$649,600, and for ten-months, which is the period proposed for the emergency tariff, it means a total of \$27,932,800 to the families of Georgia.

"It is true that no one can accurately estimate the selling price of an article in advance of the placing of a tariff rate, but it is reasonable to assume that the increase will be at least the amount of the duty as it is to propose other arguments.

"The sweepings rates proposed in this bill are higher than any in the history of the county. In my judgment the Southern farmer was offered just enough to secure his sympathy, but not enough to do him any good.

"A careful perusal of the figures which I have presented does not make the Fordney bill an attractive measure for the farmers and the buying public of Georgia.

"If the bill is to become a law, then I want to see the very few articles touching Georgia amply protected, such as peanuts, peanut oil and cotton seed oil, and I am giving these items my support in the framing of the bill."

Bringing the case home to North Carolina, the figures show that that state will pay an added weekly tax to what they are already paying of \$580,000 per week. Figuring forty-three weeks in the ten months the law would be in force, the total North Carolina would have to pay would be \$24,940,000. This estimate is based on the assumption that there are approximately 500,000 families in North Carolina.

North Carolina's population is one-fourth that of the United States. Hence the whole country will pay forty-four times what North Carolina pays, or a total of \$1,097,360 as a direct result of the Fordney law. And the tax is on life's necessities and is in addition to taxes the consumers are already paying, and of which they have long been complaining for relief.

Senator Harris is a pretty good authority. Before entering the senate he was a member of the federal trade commission, and prior to that was director of the census. The figures employed by himself and the treasury department expert ought to be fairly reliable.

ENFORCEMENT OF PROHIBITION LAW

Statement That Secretary of the Treasury Has Nothing to Do With it is Incorrect, Says Anti-Saloon League Counsel

New York, N. Y.—"The published statement that the Secretary of the Treasury has nothing to do with enforcement of the prohibition law is not correct," said Wayne B. Wheeler, general counsel for the Anti-Saloon League of America, who is in New York.

Manufacture, sale and distribution of all intoxicating liquors for non-beverage purposes are under regulations promulgated by the enforcement department, he said. Section 1, Paragraph 7, of the Volstead act provides: "The term 'regulation' shall mean any regulation prescribed by the commissioner with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury for carrying out the provisions of this act, and the commissioner is authorized to make such regulations."

"There are more than 40,000,000 gallons of distilled spirits in bonded warehouses," continued Mr. Wheeler "that can be withdrawn under regulations dictated by the Secretary of the Treasury. It is at this point where we have had the most trouble in the enforcement of the law. The regulations have not been as strict as they should be, and, for this reason, large quantities of liquor have been withdrawn, presumably for non-beverage use. It is manifest therefore, that the enforcement of the law can be greatly crippled by weak regulation.

"It is not at all certain that the enforcement department will be transferred to the Justice Department. All of the arguments pro and con for this were considered when the bill was originally passed, and it was decided that the proper place for the administration of the law was in the Revenue Department. The control of the making and distribution of liquors for non-beverage use and the collection of the taxes on such liquors will necessarily have to continue in the Internal Revenue Department. The collection of the prohibitive tax on outlawed liquor is one of the most effective means for suppressing the illegal business. This necessarily is administered by the Internal Revenue Division. If it should be transferred to the Justice Department it will simply mean that the government will have to sustain two law-enforcement divisions instead of one. The best way to get a better enforcement of the law is to enact a measure to provide for the summary removal of federal agents, inspectors and officers who fail to do their duty to enforce the law."

Economic Effects of Prohibition

Indianapolis, Indiana.—Crime in Indiana showed a substantial decrease under prohibition in the year which ended September 30, 1920, according to a report on prison and jail sentences issued by Amos W. Butler, secretary of the Board of State Charities. The report says the number committed to these institutions during the year was 718 and the number arrested was 17,182. The report shows that the total number committed to the reformatory, state prison and woman's prison during the year was, with one exception, the lowest in five years. The average daily population of the institutions was the lowest in ten years.

For 1916, commitments were 895, daily average population, 2657, suspended sentences, 244, and paroles, 872. For the last year commitments numbered 718, average daily population, 1663, suspended sentences, 185 and paroles, 666. Persons placed in jail in 1910 numbered 33,478, of whom 14,820 were convicted and served sentences. In 1916 arrests totaled 40,075, with 12,560 convictions, including 2322 sent to the penal farm. Last year the arrests totaled 17,182, convictions 3276 with 993 going to the farm.

A petition is being circulated in Burlington calling the citizens to meet Feb. 24th to organize a law and order league. The purpose of the organization is to create a public sentiment against the violation of law, hoping in this way to check, in their own community, the wave of crime and lawlessness that is sweeping the country with its demoralizing results.

Chinese eggs are selling in Minneapolis at 52 cents per dozen. Half a million arrived without one egg being broken in transit.

CABINET MEMBERS ARE TO TAKE CHAIRS HOME

Souvenir Will Cost Each Member About \$100—Daniels Gives Farewell Reception.

Washington, Feb. 15.—The secretary of the navy and Mrs. Josephus Daniels gave a farewell reception tonight in honor of the North Carolina society of Washington. Several hundred Tar Heels now residing in the national capital thronged the large home of Secretary and Mrs. Daniels in Wyoming avenue and expressed regret that their hosts were soon to leave the official and social life of Washington.

Previous to the reception and the dance which followed Mr. and Mrs. Daniels entertained the members of the North Carolina delegation in Congress at dinner. Mr. and Mrs. Angus W. McLean were also guests at the dinner party.

Last night Secretary Daniels was the guest at a dinner given by the members of the house committee on naval affairs, with whom he has been thrown in official contact for eight years.

The final group photograph of President Wilson and his cabinet was taken at the White House this afternoon and in this Mr. Daniels also figured. It has been several years since the Wilson cabinet assembled for a full group picture, but on the virtual eve of the wind-up of the Wilson administration the President and his official family posed for the photographer.

Most members of the cabinet are planning to take home with them the chairs in which they have sat during the Wilson administration. The souvenir at Washington service will cost each member approximately \$100, as the superintendent of public buildings and grounds ascertained that it will cost \$100 to replace the 10 chairs of the present cabinet. When the chairs were bought they cost around \$45, but the price has doubled since.

Republicans Are Still Nagging In The South

H. E. C. Bryant, Washington correspondent of the Charlotte Observer, says North Carolinians are beginning to sit up and take serious notice of the movements on foot among the Republicans to embarrass or belittle the south.

Representative Tinkham of Massachusetts had a plan to reduce the representation in Congress because of the loss of the negro vote. This was not taken seriously in face of the apparent fact that G. O. P. leaders are trying to eliminate the negro wherever it can be done without causing too much of a row.

Next came Representative Simeon D. Fess, chairman of the Republican congressional committee, with his barrel of gold, to finance Southern contests.

Now it is proposed to rig up some sort of an amendment to the repositionment bill through which North Carolina and other states entitled to enlarged memberships in the House will be held to their present quota, while Vermont, Maine and other Republican States are saved from losing representation. It is an old-time New England trick, and it may work out. Senator Sutherland, of West Virginia is chairman of the committee which has the reapportionment bill under consideration, and he is said to favor the proposition. Southern congressmen fear delay for they think the present Congress is better than the next one will be.

"It looks as if—the Republicans were bent on mistreating the South if they can find a way to do it," said Senator Overman. "There never was a more monstrous proposition than the one presented by the Republican congressional committee in advancing money to promote a contest its members must sit in judgment on. What are we coming to in this country, with such things as that going on?"

"The plan to deprive North Carolina of her extra member of the House based on the present census figures is unfair," said Representative Brinson. "We are entitled to eleven members, and the extra one cannot be taken away from us except by political hook and crook."

The Progressive Farmer suggests that "to all these drives for Red Cross funds, tuberculosis hospitals, Salvation Army support, charities, etc. all of which are worthy, there should be one more added, because more important than all others combined, a drive for a milk cow and an ample supply of milk for every home."