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German Official Documents Which Show the Permittation with Which War was Started

Paris, Feb. 5.—Publication of German documents was begun today by the Petit Parisien, which are alleged by the newspaper to establish that the war was premeditated and pre-organized by the Berlin authorities. The documents were brought to France by a "famous French scientist," who obtained them from a celebrated Russian revolutionary paper. The names are not given, it is said, as their publication would endanger the lives of the men. The most important document is actually dated June 9, 1914, in which the German general headquarters ordered all owners of factories to open the mobilization envelopes in their possession.

A circular dated Nov. 2, 1914, informs military agents on the frontiers of Russia, France, Italy and Norway that unlimited credits have been opened at German banks in Sweden, Norway, Switzerland, China and the United States, which general headquarters authorizes them to use for the purpose of destroying factories belonging to the enemy, provoking strikes, damaging ships, burning supplies and destroying electricity centres. Special agents were being placed at their disposition, it was added, to bring about explosions and fires.

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More Honey Is Wanted

An Opportunity For Bee-keepers

Sugar is an important war food, its price is high and there will probably be a shortage in the near future. Honey, the unequalled natural sweet that sugar cannot wholly replace, is being effected in sympathy. The unusually large crop of honey produced in Ontario, Quebec and Manitoba in 1916 was sold quickly at prices slightly above those of the previous season. Present indications point to still greater demand and higher prices for the new crop. Thus, by producing as much honey as possible this year, the bee-keepers of Canada will not only increase their returns but will be helping the Empire. These remarks refer to extracted honey. An increased demand for comb honey cannot be predicted.

The appeal for greater production is especially to those who are neglecting their bees or are not managing them in the best manner. There are many apiaries in good locations for profitable honey production more particularly in Eastern Canada, where colonies in box hives or in seldom opened frame hives, now producing from 20 to 40 pounds of honey each, could be made to produce 80 to 100 pounds or more in an average season. If time cannot be spared to give the bees the attention they need, they might be handed to a member of the family who would take an interest in them, or they might be sold to a professional bee-keeper. But well managed bees often pay as well as, or better than, one's regular occupation for the amount of time spent with them. The different operations in modern apiary practices are briefly described in "Bees and How to Keep Them" (Experimental Farms Bulletin No. 26 Second Series) which may be obtained free on application from the Publication Branch of the Department of Agriculture, Ottawa. A good way to become acquainted with the better methods of bee-keeping is to arrange to attend one of the apiary demonstrations that will be held early in the summer, under the auspices of several of the Provincial Bee-keepers' Associations. A list of the Bee-keepers' Associations with the addresses of the Secretaries is given in the above-mentioned bulletin.

Another class of bee-keeper that may profit greatly at this time is the expert apiarist located in a good honey producing region, whose time is not fully occupied with the bees. His principal problem will be how to increase the number of bees to the fullest extent in time for the honey flow, so as to make the most of his valuable knowledge of bee management. The early replacing of unsatisfactory queens is important. Judicious feeding during the dearth that in many places immediately precedes the honey flow will help under some conditions. By dividing strong colonies not less than six weeks before the middle of the main honey flow an increased crop of honey will be obtained, provided fertile queens are on hand to be given to the queenless part. These queens may be procured from breeders in

the Southern States at from 80 cents to \$1.00 each. This process is chiefly applicable to the reared and goldenrod districts; as a rule the clover honey flow comes too early for it. Two-pound packages of bees with unselected fertile queens obtained from the south by express in May or early June costing about \$4.00 each, including transportation charges, will be found a paying investment, if they arrive in good condition and can be placed on combs.

There should be a sufficient supply of supers for extracted honey, with frames and foundation, or combs on hand to take a maximum crop, and this year it is more than ever necessary to order supplies and honey containers early. Two-comb supers may be fastened together to make one deep super for extracted honey production. Particulars of an attractive container for honey that has been designed to meet a possible difficulty in obtaining sufficient tin pans or glass jars will be supplied on application to the Apiarist Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa. Beeswax is very scarce and all discarded combs and scraps of wax should be saved to be turned into foundation. It will be wise to retain some combs of clover honey in case they are needed for winter stores, because sugar may be very dear in the autumn.

How Germany Got Material

New York, Feb. 3.—In the first few weeks of the European war the German Government realized that as the war progressed and the British blockade tightened it was going to need all the wool, cotton, jute, resin and other raw materials it would possibly smuggle past the Allies' navies. The result was the formation of a great secret organization, principally of banks, to go out into the world's markets and buy these materials and then get them into Germany. The men charged with getting the raw materials were told to go into all countries, enemy as well as neutral and buy everything in sight, and when necessary to pay with drafts on banks in enemy lands.

For over two years the plan worked almost to perfection and Germany was able to get millions of dollars worth of sorely needed supplies, especially cotton, wool, and jute. The cotton she obtained in the United States. The wool in this country and in South Africa, and the jute in India. And all the time that the big foreign purchasing machine was functioning there was locked up in the safe of Hugo Schmidt, the agent in New York of the Deutsche bank, an almost complete history of all the German transactions in enemy and neutral countries and had Bolo Rasba remained away from the United States these documents would probably still be in the possession of Schmidt, or some other trusted agent of the German Government.

But Bolo Rasba came to New York in 1916 and entered into negotiations with Ambassador von Bernstorff, the head of German secret activities in the United States, to get financial backing for a plot the purpose of which was to debauch the French press in favor of a separate peace of pro-German lines.

FROM BRITISH SOURCE

Bolo, with one, Adolph Pavenstedt acting as the go-between, and Hugo Schmidt as the paymaster, obtained from the German Government through Bernstorff, more than \$1,700,000; and then returned to France. On his return he found that the French authorities had grown suspicious and had requested the governor of New York to investigate his activities during the period he was plotting with Bernstorff in New York and Washington. In the course of this investigation Attorney General Lewis seized all the papers in the possession of Hugo Schmidt, and it was as a result of the close examination of those papers that the story of how Germany got wool and jute from British firms

and cotton and other things from the United States came to light.

These papers show that in 1914, in the first few weeks of the war, there arrived in New York one Eugene Schwerdt who had been an agent in Belgium for Alfred Everitt, an exporter of Cape wool, with headquarters in East London, and King William's Town, South Africa. Schmidt then started negotiations for the utilization of the wool supply controlled by Everitt, and in December 1914, he wrote the Deutsche bank in Berlin regarding the possibility of getting wool from British source in South Africa.

He began by saying that in the event it was found possible to get wool from that part of the British dominions it would be necessary to "pay in pounds sterling drawn on London."

"This, however, should present no difficulties," he wrote, "for I could arrange for the final payment through the Guaranty Trust Company of New York. The greatest difficulty is the fact that we must arrange for an American firm to act as the 'shove in between' as purchaser. However, that can also be accomplished. I am considering for this purpose the Boney Worsted Company, Passaic, N. J., and have already spoken with Director Stuber, of the company. I have also spoken to the firm of Furstmann and Hoffmann, Passaic." This opportunity, it seems to me, should interest our friends.

CREDIT IN SOUTH AFRICA

In this same month the Schmidt letters show that the Germans established a credit of \$125,000 in the Standard Bank of South Africa, Limited, at East London, the credit to be drawn on by Everitt at ninety days sight, through the London Branch of the Guaranty Trust Company. This was in payment to New York to the Furstmann-Hoffmann Company, and subsequently transferred to a Scandinavian port.

As regards the jute shortage in Germany, the following is an extract from a letter found in Schmidt's files, dated January 20, 1915, which is addressed to him, and is signed by a man whose name appears to be Kolenkaer, off.

"Purchases of jute from Calcutta are somewhat difficult because most of the ships (in Calcutta) refuse to ship to the United States except to bona fide manufacturers. Believe, however, that business can be done with Messrs. Ensthausen, Limited (of Calcutta), whose local agent has shown more inclination than any other to entertain business. The shipment of jute to Germany is difficult, because neutrals refuse to accept it. However, it can be stored."

On January 25 following Schmidt communicated with his banking superiors in Berlin, announcing the purchase of 500 bales of jute from Ensthausen, Limited, of Calcutta.

As for cotton there are scores of entries indicating the shipment of huge quantities to Scandinavian and other neutral European countries, every pound of which was bought with German money for war purposes.

Torpedo Shortage Restricts U-Boats

BASE OF AMERICAN FLOTILLA IN BRITISH WATERS, Jan. 20. (Associated Press.)—Shortage of torpedoes is one of the most serious facts with which the directors of the German U-boat war are now faced. It is a well known and admitted fact that German factories are at present absolutely unable to turn out first class torpedoes in any quantity near sufficient quantities for the needs of the submarines. In fact, the underwater craft are being turned out faster than the torpedoes, with the result that recourse has been had to various expedients to keep the submarines supplied with their chief weapon.

Germany's fleet of U-boats must carry thousands of torpedoes. Thousands more must always be ready in reserve. In fact, the reserve supply should be larger to day than a year ago, to allow for the more frequent calls made on it. The augmented destroyer patrol is responsible for this. They have made the submarines use up more torpedoes and have caused them to return to their bases more frequently for reloading.

Eight may be said to be the average number of torpedoes carried in one submarine. The number ranges from four to twelve, according to the type of submarine. The U 53, which raided shipping off the Atlantic Coast of the United States, carried ten. More recent types load as many as twelve. Mine layers can accommodate two, four, or six depending on their size.

In connection with this shortage is the fact that all U-boat commanders now are strictly "rationed" as far as their supply of torpedoes is concerned, and are not permitted to waste torpedoes on long "chance shots" except in circumstances which they must explain in detail as justifying the expenditure of the underwater missiles. Recently the German factories have

been turning out a smaller torpedo which is less accurately tested but which may be used with a fair degree of certainty at close range. Of late very few German torpedoes have proved effective unless at fairly close range, and it has become unusual for a U boat commander to make any attempt at a merchant ship unless he can get within 500 to 600 yards.

The Germans are now using two types of torpedoes. They may be described as short charge and full charge torpedoes. The short charge is the one used mostly against merchant shipping and is fired at 500 to 600 yards. The full charge, which has probably twice the destructive force and is better made, is reserved for men of war. It is fired at a greater distance and is used less frequently than the cheaper torpedo.

But the comparative immunity of the American destroyers from torpedo attack—despite the loss of the Jacob Jones and the slight disablement of the Cassin—is noteworthy in this connection. The Germans hate the American destroyers as one of their worst enemies in their most fertile field of war action, and their is scarcely an American destroyer but has had one or more German torpedoes fired at her, yet only twice have the torpedoes found their mark.

The Americans and the British, with whom they are co-operating so successfully in this game of hunting "tin fish," attribute their immunity to the mobility of the destroyer. The alertness of the American naval men, coupled with their well known keeness for offensive tactics against the submarine, have been responsible for their slight losses. Sharp lookouts and skilful manoeuvring enable them to cheat the Germans so often.

In Paris By April Says Hindenburg

The Hague, Jan. 19.—(Correspondence of the Associated Press.)—Travelers from Germany bring an account of a recent conference at Berlin, at which Field Marshal von Hindenburg received the editors of thirty German newspapers and discussed the food situation with them. The editors told von Hindenburg that by next May there would be no food in Germany. "My reply is," said the field marshal, "that by next April I shall be in Paris."

Amsterdam, Jan. 19.—(Correspondence of the Associated Press.)—Advertisement of what Germany is planning to do on the western front, before American military power can be a conspicuous feature of the German newspapers.

"The next six months will be the deciding period," says the Frankfurter Zeitung. "During that momentous period the Central Powers will, with absolute certainty have the strategic superiority, for the hopes of the Entente for American help cannot possibly be fulfilled within that time. The Central Powers will concentrate their whole strength on the west front for a decisive blow. French soil, those fertile, flourishing fields which have already suffered seriously and have drunk much blood, will be the scene of a final struggle which will surpass the fiercest struggles of the past year. If we do not share the light-heartedness with which the problem of American help is often set aside, we also consider it certain that the United States cannot in the next few months increase the very great moral and economic support which they have given the Allies."

The Deutsche Tages Zeitung, in an article declaring that all eyes are now focussed on the west, declares that the greatest battle of the war is now about to begin there. "We must not allow the belief to arise, however," it says, "that the increase of our strength in the west will force the French to lay down their arms or the English to run away. It may come to this, of course, and Hindenburg said a year ago, we are already doing it, my children. Our Emperor, the supreme warrior, has said that the decision is now to be fought. Will to victory and readiness for peace are combined in his words. If the enemy does not wish peace we must bring peace to the world by breaking in the gates of those who do not want peace, with mailed hand and flashing sword."

The German fleet, too, is to participate in the coming offensive, according to the Telegraph. "The German fleet, relieved of anxiety and pressure in the rear," says the newspaper, "can now turn to the west with its full strength. The task of the British fleet, even if it is supported by its allies, will be difficult. We have great faith in the German navy, which has so often exhibited its victory and its capacity to fulfil its duty."

The Soviet has issued a decree, signed by Nikolai Lenin and other members of the defacto government, absolutely separating church and state, eliminating church income from the state and confiscating all church realty, furnishings and paraphernalia. The decree stipulates that religious societies may continue to use the property exclusively for religious services, although the title is vested in the state. Protests have been made.