

# AN ENEMY TO BE GUARDED AGAINST

(Toronto Globe.)

The Providence Journal has earned the right to speak with authority about German plots. Much of the material which convinced the government of the United States that Dernberg, Von Papen, Boy-Ed, Dumba and other German and Austrian representatives and agents in the United States were using their position to organize an industrial war, to plot the destruction of munition plants, to direct the operations of desperadoes like Horn, the bridge wrecker, and Paul Koenig, who made preparations to blow up the Welland Canal, came from the Providence Journal. It has the most efficient anti-espionage equipment in the United States today. When the Journal states that three weeks ago it notified the Department of Justice at Washington that it had received, directly through employees of the German embassy, information that the Parliament buildings at Ottawa, Rideau Hall and munition plants throughout the Dominion were to be made the next object of German attack, the Globe places absolute reliance in the statement.

Colonel Sherwood, head of the Dominion police and of Canada's distinctly primitive secret service, says no warning was received from Providence. He misses the point. The authorities at Washington may have failed to notify the government at Ottawa of the German threats, in the mistaken belief that they were nothing but threats. It is clearly the duty of the government of Canada to ask the Department of Justice of the United States whether information such as that spoken of by the Journal was imparted to it, and if so, why no steps were taken to put a friendly nation on guard against such a fiendish method of carrying on warfare.

Let there be no mistake about the situation. If the German agents in the United States see a way to injure Canada they will stop at nothing to compass their ends. Arson to them is a commonplace, and murder an incident in the day's work. The destruction of the Parliament building may have been the result of accident, but the general belief at Ottawa is that it was the work of an incendiary.

The testimony of Frank Glass, M. P., which on first glance seems to exclude any other origin than the dropping of a cigar stub or a half-smoked cigarette by some careless member or visitor, does not altogether satisfy.

Mr. Glass was at one of the stands in the reading room looking over a newspaper file. "Presently," he says, "I felt an unpleasant heat from behind and turned. I then noticed that smoke was coming from a pile of newspapers under the file desk behind me. It looked so simple, no flame or anything. I walked to the glass doors and called the policeman who is stationed at the entrance to the Speakers' chambers. 'There's a little blaze here,' I said, not thinking the matter was very serious, and believing that he would smother it with his coat. Instead of that he rushed in, looked at it, and then ran down the hall for an extinguisher. By the time he had returned the flames had of course broken out and the moment he opened the door and threw on the chemical the smoke and fire burst out so suddenly that he was driven back."

The policeman was probably not absent more than twenty seconds, for it is inconceivable that Mr. Glass would stand inactive many seconds watching a smouldering heap of papers that threatened the safety of a great building without taking steps to call for additional help. When the policeman returned the flames had actually broken out, and when the chemical from the fire extinguisher was thrown on the pile of papers that had been only smouldering a few seconds before, the "smoke and fire burst out so suddenly that the policeman and Mr. Glass were driven back and the flames began to sweep through the building."

Why this terrible exhibition of instantaneous energy? Was the thing that Mr. Glass saw so innocent and accidental as it seemed? The form of the stands and the position of the reading room in relation to the Commons Chamber would almost inevitably lead an incendiary to choose it for the starting of a fire. There were hundreds of papers on file. A few petroleum wafers, such as were used in Belgium, hidden in several of the files, and a match hurriedly applied to them, could not fail to cause a great

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blaze almost instantly. Entrance to the reading room was limited to members of the House to the staff of the Commons and to persons having the entry to the library of parliament, but there was ample opportunity for quick work by a practical incendiary.

The inquiry to be instituted by the government should be of the most searching nature. The possibility that the fire was the work of someone in the public service must not be dismissed as unworthy of consideration.

There are still men of German birth in places of responsibility at Ottawa, and the fact that they seem to be good Canadians ought not to be regarded as conclusive evidence that they are.

This Journal has no desire to fan the flames of race hatred, but it does feel called upon to insist that no one of doubtful loyalty shall remain in a position where the temptation of Bernstorff's gold may prove too great for him. The tragedy at Ottawa brings home to the Canadian people in a way perhaps nothing else could, the solemn truth that the Dominion is at war and that only increasing vigilance will enable us to guard against the cowardly enemy within the gates whose weapons are the torch and the bomb.

# FIERCE FIGHTING IN ARTOIS AND CHAMPAGNE REGIONS

Russians Tighten Their Grip on Dvinski—Anxiety Felt for Safety of a French Cruiser—Germans Attack French Positions.

London, Feb. 14.—The Germans are fiercely attacking the French positions in the Artois section, as well as in Champagne. In the latter district Berlin reports the capture of a front of about 700 yards, while the French admit that the Germans have gained a footing in some of their advanced trenches.

In Artois, near Frise, to the southwest, the German attacks followed one another in quick succession, there being four during the course of the afternoon. Pushing forward in the face of a hail of bullets and shells, the Germans on their fourth attack succeeded in entering one of the French first-line trenches, which, however, they failed to hold, being almost immediately driven out with considerable loss.

Nearby at St. Eloi a German attack, preceded by a bombardment, resulted in the capture of a French trench near the C. way road, but here also they were thrown out, leaving their dead on the field.

On the British end of the line there have been slipping operations and bombardments by both sides.

All around Solignies the German artillery was busy, preparatory to infantry attacks, but the attacks did not eventuate, owing to the French use of their guns in a series of fire volleys.

Consistently progress has been made to German positions in the Argonne forest by the French. Artillery duels are in progress in Lorraine and the Argonne. No important changes have occurred on the Russian front.

In the Isonic region the Austrians have taken from the Italians entrenched positions in the Rombon zone, while the Italian artillery has bombarded Austrian positions at various points.

French Cruiser Believed Lost.

The following statement was given out here today: "The ministry of ma-

rine fears for the fate of the cruiser Admiral Charner, which has been patrolling the Syrian coast. No news has been received from the cruiser since February 8, when, according to German telegrams, a submarine sank a French warship."

Zeebrugge New German Base.

Amsterdam, via London, Feb. 13.—The Telegraph says the German scout vessels in the North Sea are believed to have gone out of Zeebrugge, as it is known armed trawlers are stationed there, and that some vessels which formerly were not at that port have been lying under steam.

Havre, Feb. 13.—A despatch received from the Belgian forces operating on Lake Tanganyika, Africa, says the German gunboat Hedwig Von Wissmah has been sunk in a naval combat off Albertville. Two of the German crew were killed and the remainder of the men on board the gunboat were made prisoners.

Paris, Feb. 13.—Austrian aeroplanes made a raid yesterday over Ravenna and the neighboring towns of Codigoro and Bolzicchio, in northern Italy, near the Adriatic.

A despatch from Rome says 15 per-

sons were killed and a number of others wounded. A hospital at Ravenna was damaged.

Grahame-White Seriously Wounded. Hazebrouck, France, Feb. 14.—Clara Grahame-White, the British aviator, has been wounded gravely. No details have been obtained. He was commissioned a lieutenant last month.

Lieut. Grahame-White, one of the best known aviators, won international prominence several years ago by his spectacular flights in England and America. He enlisted in the naval corps at the outbreak of the war and was appointed temporary flight commander. A year ago he had a narrow escape from death. After participating in a raid he fell into the sea but was picked up by a cruiser.

Lieut. Grahame-White's wife, formerly Miss Dorothy Taylor, of New York, obtained last month a decree for the restitution of her conjugal rights, an action which in England is a preliminary step to a suit for divorce.

Victories for Russia.

London, Feb. 13.—Reuter's Petrograd correspondent says significance is attached by the Russians to the capture of the village of Garbounvoka. It is said possession of this town renders the defence of Dvinsk more secure.

Petrograd, via London, Feb. 13.—The War Office communication issued today says:

Western Russian front—In the Riga sector there has been an intense artillery duel in the Oli and Beresmunde regions. Our artillery caused an explosion in the enemy's lines.

Near Jacobstadt the Germans tried to approach our trenches, but our troops pushed them back.

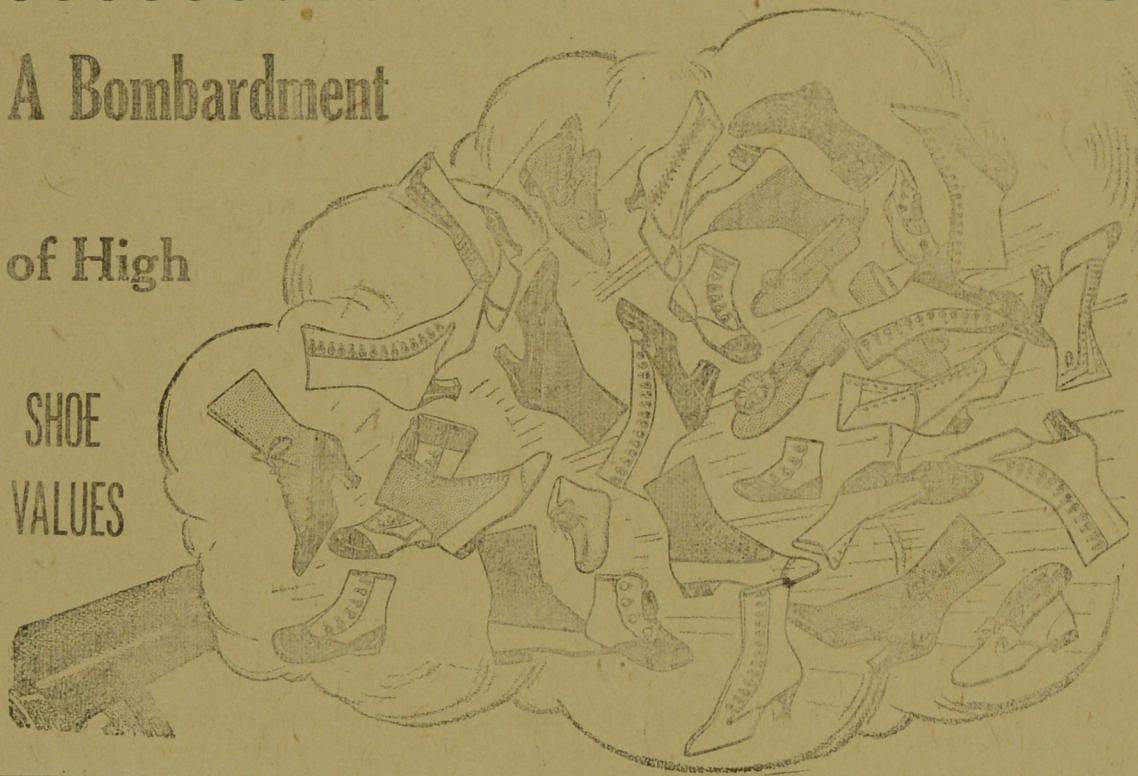
On the Dvinsk sector the firing has been intense. The Germans threw hand grenades which emitted asphyxiating gas. A German attempt to surround the village of Garbounvoka,

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## A Bombardment

of High

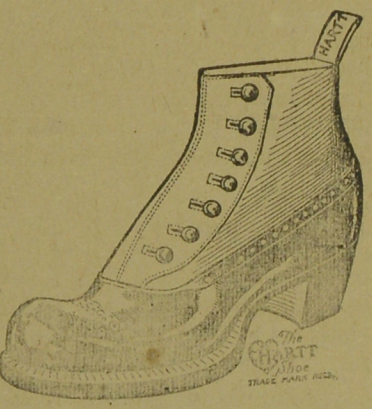
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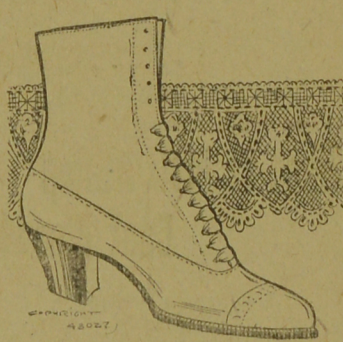
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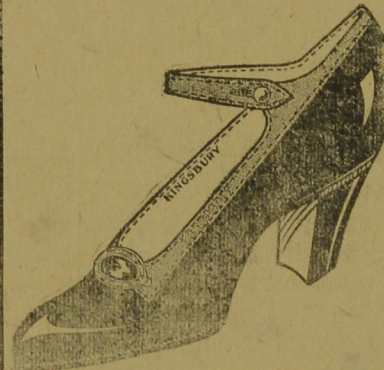
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