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THE DAILY MAIL

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 23, 1917

THE ORIGIN OF THE WAR.

The Christian Science Monitor, of Boston, publishes an etxract from a private letter written by Viscount Grey, who was Great Britain's foreign secretary at the time the war broke out. The letter is of remarkable and historic interest, embodying as it does the deliberate opinion of a man who is familiar with every phase of world policy during the past twenty-five years, and who is undoubtedly one of the world's foremost diplomats.

Writing to a friend from Fallodon Switzerland, Viscount Grey says;

"We know that the origin of our entente, first with France and then with Russia, was a desire to avoid war and to put an end to our quarrels with those powers and to the embittered feeling on their side and ours that had so often brought us or seemed to bring us to the brink of war. This was our motive, and a policy of encircling Germany was not in our thoughts

"Latterly the restlessness, ill concealed ill will and enormous strength of Germany on sea and land made us feel that isolation was dangerous. But we made no binding alliance with France or Russia before the war; we kept our hands free as regards par ticipation in war, and France and Russia knew that aggression upon Germany or even an aggressive policy, would get no support from us. With this they were content, and I never found an aggressive spirit in French or Russian policy.

"We wished to keep our friends, but also to keep the peace of Europe, and in the European conference in London over the Balkan war we gave proof of this and came through that without reproach and indeed with the credit o fhaving worked for peace.

"One of the tragedies of the situation is that this conference showed clearly that there was in London maed again. to the personalities of the Ambassapean powers, including of course Licknoivsky and Mensdorff, the German

var there were some outbursts (from one German professor, I think) that said this quite definitely, and the con clusion of the matter is that there is no greater danger to the world than a nation which beliees that itself is superior to all law ,and that others

have no rights as against it." Sydney Record: There has been no action approaching conscription of wealth in Canada so far. In propor tion to their means the people in mod erate circumstances hae given at least as generously to patriotic causes as

have those citizens who are richer in worldly goods. The taxation which has been imposed by the Ottawa cabinet, ostensibly to meet war needs but in reality partly because of the waste and extravagance of Sir Robert Borden and his colleagues, has borne more heavily upon the people of small means than upon the rich. The war supplies business has made many people wealthy, and the profits from the business have scarcely been touched by the taxation measures.

Here is a striking paragraph in a despatch from Ottawa: ".J W. Borden, accountant and paymaster general of the Militia Department, gave interesting evidence yesterday afternoon before the special committee dealing with the returned soldiers problem. to a number of errors and complaints and he attributed these to the improper working of a staff in the appoint ment of which he saw politics played

some part." Mr. Borden went on to say that appointments had to be made on recommendation of local political chiefs. "If he were organizing a big endeavor to get the best and most ef-

ernment which will attempt to carry it out. Having made a mess of about

everything which it has tackled so far in connection with the war, the government can be counted upon to live up to its record if it adopts conscrip-

Commodore Stewart, ex-M. P. P., of chinery and personnel that could have and advice from the editorial chair to settled honorably and fairly every dis- Premier Foster and Speaker Currie. pute such as that of 1914, if it had If the worthy Commodore had not been permitted to try and been trust- made the mistake of kicking over the That this was so was due milk pail at the wrong time, he would have been in a position to do his critidors in London of the five great Euro- cising from the floor of the House.

Mr. J. W. deB. Farris, M. P. P., of and Austrian Ambassadors. I would Vancouver, has been appointed Athave trusted every one of them to torney General of British Columbia, work for peace again in 1914 as they vice Hon. M. A. McDonald, resigned.



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FARMERS URGED

His attention was directed But Warned Against Some Recently Imported Seed---May Not Be Suitable.

Ottawa, May 22—The Minister of Agriculture, Hon. Martin Burrell, in is-suing a statement to the public urging chiefs. "If he were organizing a big company," Mr. Borden said, "he would ada, warns farmers to beware of using as seed beans recently imported from Japan or Manchuria. Recently one of endeavor to get the best and most er ficient men." The Mr. Borden refer red to is a brother of the Prime Min-ister of Canada. There are a whole lot of people who, while they believe that a policy of se-lective conscription would be the right thing in Canada at the present time, have very little faith in the gov ernment which will attempt to carry the Agriculture Department is worry-ing as to whether these beans, now

well scattered among Canadian farm-ers, are really suitable for the Cana-dian soil and climatic requirements. Canning Companies Help The department, as a result of an investigation that has been conducted,

finds that while most seed dealers still possess small quantities of beans, the

situation was such that it was deemed advisable to secure the co-operation of Chatham, hands out some criticism the principal canning companies, with the result that eight thousand bushels now in hand, and as much more as 'may be required, is being held for seed purposes until after the middle of June. The canning companies, being desirous of increasing the production of beans, are making available their supplies at actual net cost to them. They will not enter into the retail trade, but will make bulk sales to the seed trade ingeneral.

It is considered very desirable that the production of beans should be increased. During the last year hun dreds of carloads have been imported to meet the needs of Canadian ing houses to fill contracts for army

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