

COUNT DE BEAUFORT NOW HERO, ONCE KICKED DOWN STAIRS

Married Irma Kilgallen, Chicago Heiress, but was Divorced--Now International Spy.

London, April 14.—A British hero, one of the boldest of international spies, is a young man whose name was once on many a lip in America, but in mention far from heroic. He is Count Jan Mourik de Beaufort, who married Irma Kilgallen, the Chicago heiress, and is said to have been kicked down stairs by her irate father "Mike" Kilgallen.

Irma afterward married Joe Howard, a song writer, and finally killed herself in an Omaha hotel.

But Beaufort, who left America after his unfortunate marriage, became a secret agent and his recent revelations of German defences along the North Sea and Heligoland have proved of great value.

Five years ago Count de Beaufort told an interviewer: "I am going to prove to the American people that a count can be a man in spite of his title."

He has Made Good. That remark is now recalled by American correspondents in London. They think he has made good, if it did need the opportunity of a world war to do it.

Once, in the United States, the Count went on the vaudeville stage, his turn being a droll account of his adventures while a Kilgallen son-in-law and manager of the Kilgallen interests in New York.

In the hearing that resulted in annulment of the Beaufort-Kilgallen marriage, Father-in-law Mike alleged that the Count beat his bride and dragged her about the house, and that she fell 30 feet over a balustrade while trying to escape him.

Irma spent some weeks in a hospital

before her divorce. One of the Count's war feats was interviewing Field Marshal Von Hindenburg in the guise of a newspaper correspondent, before making his trip along the North Sea coast and entering the secret rooms of the German Admiralty.

In the Admiralty Beaufort found large scale maps of British harbors and dockyards—better maps than he had seen in England.

On Coast Defences. But his most valuable work was in connection with coast defences. His discoveries along the North Sea have proved of great value to the British Admiralty and may interest the American Navy Department if the United States gets into activity.

He mapped the mouths of the Elbe and the Weser, including Cuxhaven and Wilhelmshaven, and the 27 forts and many batteries that guard this little strip of coast.

He also obtained a war map of Heligoland, the tiny islet that is Germany's North Sea Gibraltar. Now England knows the exact location of the guns on the Heligoland rocks, the Zeppelin sheds, etc.

Accompanied by a German naval officer, Beaufort inspected the Kiel canal, although he was allowed to bring nothing from the canal.

He also listened to a naval lecture by Admiral von Koester of the German fleet, and returned to England through Holland.

Beaufort's title is Dutch, and he posed in Germany as a correspondent for Dutch newspapers.

MEXICO WILL MAINTAIN NEUTRALITY

Mexico City, April 14.—Official notification was given tonight by Alberto J. Pani, Minister of Commerce and Industry, that no restrictions would be placed on the export of Mexican oil from the Tampico fields. The statement of the minister is generally taken here to indicate that Mexico will maintain neutrality in the present crisis.

The statement says oil products may continue to be exported by all foreign purchasers, regardless of their nationality or the purpose for which the oil is to be used. Assurance is given in the statement that the Agunlar company, controlled by Lord Cowdray, and the Dutch shell company, which have been large purveyors to the British navy, will be unmolested as long as they obey the regulations of the Mexican government. The same rule will apply to all foreign countries, including the United States.

MEXICANS ANXIOUS TO RESTORE PEACE

Mexico City, April 14.—In its answer to the American government's notice of the existence of a state of war between Germany and the United States made public here tonight, the Mexican government announced in effect that it regretted the United States had been unable to solve its differences with Germany in a peaceful manner, but that Mexico, inspired by the desires expressed in her recent peace note, would omit no effort to contribute to the bringing about of peace.

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AUSTRIAN HOUSE TO MEET IN MAY

Amsterdam, via London, April 14.—A Vienna despatch says that the Austrian parliament will be summoned to meet in the middle of May. The German newspapers say that not only is Philip Scheidemann, leader of the majority Socialists, on his way to Stockholm, but that he is accompanied by three prominent German Socialists, Addler, Erzberger, and Heaz. The four men are travelling on special passports and it is believed in Berlin Socialist circles that they will meet envoys of the Russian government with whom they will proceed to Petrograd.

DUTCH BRANDT LOST

Waterbury, Conn., April 12.—Frankie Burns of Jersey City decisively defeated Dutch Brandt here tonight in a fast 12-round bout. Ten of the rounds went to Burns, the other two even.

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