

SECRETARY DESCRIBES MURDER OF EDITH CAVELL.

Germans Were Brutal. Pleas for Mercy Met With Sneers. Died a Heroine.

Hugh Gibson, first secretary to the American legation in Brussels, has written the story of how Edith Cavell, the English nurse, was shot by the Germans. Probably the finest tribute that was paid to her was the admission of the German army chaplain who was with her at the end: "She was courageous to the end. She professed her christian faith and said that she was glad to die for her country. She died like a heroine."

Mr. Gibson describes the trial and execution of Edith Cavell as marked by stealth and deception. In his official capacity Secretary Gibson tried to save Miss Cavell but at every point he was met by German evasion and even by falsehood. Extracts from his narrative which appears in the October number of World's Work, follow:

"When Minister Whitlock received a communication from the ambassador at London transmitting a note from the foreign office stating that Miss Cavell had been arrested and asking that steps be taken to render her assistance, Mr. Whitlock addressed a note to the German authorities requesting authorization for Maitre Gaston Leval, counsellor of the legation, to consult with Miss Cavell. No reply was received to this and on September 10, 1915, the legation addressed a further note to Baron von Lancken, chief of the political department, asking that he enable the legation to take such steps as might be necessary for Miss Cavell's defense."

The reply of the German official was that Miss Cavell had confessed, and as a matter of principle the German authorities would not allow any person to communicate with the prisoner. The legation employed a counsellor named Kirchen to defend Miss Cavell at the trial.

Not only did the German military authorities refuse to permit him to talk with or see his client before the sitting of the court, but they would not allow him to see the documents in the case. It was impossible to prepare any defense. The trial began October 7 and ended the following day.

Miss Cavell was prosecuted for having helped English, French and Belgian soldiers to cross the frontier into Holland, in order that they might get to England. She was tried under paragraph 58 of the German military code, which says: "Any person who, with the intention of aiding the hostile power or causing harm to German or allied troops, is guilty of one of the crimes of paragraph 90 of the German penal code, will be sentenced to death for treason."

Subsequent developments are shown by the following extracts from a journal made at the time: "Brussels, October 12, 1915—When I came in yesterday morning I found information which seemed to confirm previous reports that Miss Cavell's trial had been concluded on Saturday afternoon and that the prosecution had asked that the death sentence be imposed. Monsieur de Leval promptly called the political department and talked to Herr Conrad, repeating our previous requests that he be authorized to see Miss Cavell in prison. He also asked that Mr. Gahan, the English chaplain, be permitted to visit her. Conrad replied that it had been decided that Mr. Gahan could not see her, but that she could see any of the three Protestant clergymen (Germans) attached to the prison; that DeLeval could not see her until the judgment was pronounced and signed.

"At 8:30 I had just gone home, when De Leval came for me in my car, saying he had come to report that Miss Cavell was to be shot during the night. We could hardly credit this, but as our information was positive, we set off to see what could be done. I sought out the Spanish minister to join us in our appeal to von der Lancken, and he willingly went with us. We found that von der Lancken and all the members of his staff had gone to spend the evening at one of the respectable little theatres that have sprung up for the entertainment of the Germans. He came in about 10:30, followed shortly by Count Harrach and Baron von Falkenhausen. I explained our visit and presented a note from Minister Whitlock asking for clemency.

"We pointed out to Lancken that Miss Cavell's offenses were a matter of the past; that she had been in prison for some weeks, thus effectually ending her power for harm; that there was nothing to be gained by shooting her, and, on the contrary, this would do Germany much more harm than good and England much more good than harm.

"We pointed out to him that the whole case was a very bad one from Germany's point of view; that the sentence of death had heretofore been imposed only for cases of espionage and that Miss Cavell was not even accused by the German authorities of anything so serious.

"When everything else had failed we asked Lancken to look at the case from the point of view solely of German interests, assuring him that the execution of Miss Cavell would do Germany infinite harm. We reminded him of the burning of Louvain and the sinking of the Lusitania, and told him that this murder would rank with those two affairs and would stir all civilized countries with horror and disgust.

"Count Harrach broke in at this with the rather irrelevant remark that he would rather see Miss Cavell shot than have harm come to the humblest German soldier. And his only regret was that they had not three or four old English women to shoot."

Von Lancken in request to a final appeal to touch with the military governor, who refused to interfere. The little party pleaded with him un-

til after midnight, begged him to allow them to get in touch with the Emperor to telephone and showed how the execution of Miss Cavell would horrify the world. They were dealing with callous and indifferent officials, and finally they went home. The closing scenes are thus described: The day brought forth another loathsome fact in connection with the case. It seems the sentence on Miss Cavell was not pronounced in open court. Her executioners, apparently in the hope of concealing their intentions from us, went into her cell and there, behind locked doors, pronounced sentence upon her. It is all of a piece with the other things they have done.

"Last night Mr. Gahan got a pass and was admitted to see Miss Cavell shortly before she was taken out and shot. He said she was calm and prepared and faced the ordeal without a tremor. She was a tiny thing who looked as though she could be blown away with a breath, but she had a great spirit. She told Mr. Gahan that soldiers had come to her and asked to be helped to the frontier; that knowing the risks they ran and the risks she took she had helped them. She said she had nothing to regret, no complaint to make, and that if she had it all to do over again she would change nothing.

"They partook together of the Holy Communion, and she who had so little need of preparation was prepared for death. She was free from resentment and said: 'I realize that patriotism is not enough. I must have no hatred or bitterness toward any one.'

"She was taken out and shot before daybreak. "She was denied the support of her own clergyman at the end, but a German military chaplain stayed with her and gave her burial within the precincts of the prison. He did not conceal his admiration, and said: 'She was courageous to the end. She professed her Christian faith and said that she was glad to die for her country. She died like a heroine.'

How Germany Raises War Loans.

If German financiers had so fertile a field as the United States in which to operate, they would have made short work of getting the second Liberty loan heavily oversubscribed, says the New Republic. In the first place, they would have all the banks and trust companies take liberal amounts, on the understanding that no actual money would be required, but credits, involving no special reserve, against which the government might draw in payment for goods and labor. In the second place, they would exact subscriptions from all the munition makers, steel manufacturers, and other producers directly and indirectly interested in government contracts, with the understanding that such subscriptions would not need to be paid in before equivalent sums fell due on contracts.

These producers would also have the further understanding that the bonds taken by them would be treated by the bank as collateral for bank loans bearing interest not greater than that borne by the bonds. By similar methods we could quickly raise many billions in government loans. Why do we not employ them? Because they are essentially of the character of inflation. When we subscribe to the Liberty loan we make shift to furnish real money, saved out of our incomes. We enable the government to spend a billion by refraining from spending the billion ourselves.

When the Germans subscribe, what they place in the hands of the government is a collection of IO U's, which the government realizes on in the purchase of supplies at such terms as it can get. In this country the German plan would produce an astounding rise in prices. All persons of fixed income or practically inflexible income, including the whole working class, would find their command of the necessities and comforts of life reduced. Speculators would find their incomes greatly increased. For the moral gain of a loan promptly oversubscribed we should pay by higher costs of living to those of our citizens who already find costs high. That is why our Treasury is pursuing the difficult but honest method of raising loans by direct appeal to the people.

War-made Potash Guards Constantly.

The war-time shortage of potash that has resulted because Germany has heretofore been the principal source of supply for that product, has given a great stimulus on the Pacific coast to the production of potash from kelp, which is to be found in vast beds in the ocean. On the water front of San Diego is an extensive potash plant which is only two years old and is engaged in turning out large quantities of several different products. A remarkably fine panorama of this plant is reproduced in Popular Mechanics Magazine for November. The uninterrupted operation of the works is of such vital importance at this time that an armed guard, equipped with machine guns and powerful searchlights, is on duty day and night, while patrol boats ply the water front. The employees are subjected to the most rigid examination before entering upon their tasks.

Dutiful Son.

The old gentleman tucked his baggage away in the train and then turned to his host's pretty daughter, who had motored him and his son to the station.

"Goodby, my dear," said he. "I won't kiss you; I have such a cold." The son shot a sidelong glance at the girl.

"I say," said he, "can I do anything for you, father?"

Right On the Job.

A lady stopping at a hotel on the Pacific coast rang the bell the first morning of her arrival and was very much surprised when a Japanese boy opened the door and came in.

"I pushed the button three times for a maid," she said sternly as she dived under the bed covers.

"Yes," the little fellow replied, "me is she."—Pittsburgh Dispatch.

Manure Not a Balanced Fertilizer for General Farm Crops.

The general fertilizer experiments of the experimental station, minor tests and farm practice throughout the State show that for production of general farm crops practically all types of Pennsylvania soils need phosphorous more than any other fertilizer element.

In the college experiments the application of nitrogen and potash, unless accompanied by phosphoric acid in some form, has always been at a very considerable loss. The use of \$18.60 worth of nitrogen and potash figured at normal prices brought an increased crop return of \$2.17. At present prices this treatment would cost \$58.24 and the increased return in crops would be \$4.65. Phosphoric acid applied in connection with nitrogen and potash increased financial returns from \$4.65 to \$70.36, figuring costs at present prices.

When manure as produced on the farm is used without the addition of any phosphoric containing material, either to the manure or to the soil on which it is applied, the conditions are quite similar to those obtained where nitrogen and potash alone are used. While it is true that manure contains some phosphorous, the amount is not sufficient to insure the utilization of all the nitrogen and potash which it contains.

At present prices the farmer who applies 12 tons of average manure is treating his soil with about \$55.00 worth of nitrogen and potash but only about \$5.00 worth of phosphoric acid. At normal prices these values would be \$22.20 for nitrogen and potash and \$3.12 for phosphoric acid. To insure the complete utilization of the nitrogen and potash applied would necessitate the addition of about 75 pounds of phosphoric acid more than is contained in the 12 tons of manure. This would be supplied

in an available form by 480 pounds of 16 per cent. acid phosphate, or about twice that amount of finely ground raw phosphate rock. When lighter or heavier applications of manure are made, these amounts should of course, be varied accordingly.

At the Ohio Experiment station, the average returns from a ton of open yard manure was \$2.93 per year for a period of 13 years while that from a ton of stall manure treated with 40 pounds of the acid phosphate was \$5.43 for the same period. Although acid phosphate has increased 40 per cent. to 60 per cent. in the last few years, crops have more than doubled in value during the same period. The percentage of profit which may be expected from the use of these materials today is greater than the above results.

Therefore, in order to get from the manure what it is actually worth for the growing of general farm crops, and in order to prevent the waste of the nitrogen and potash which it contains it is imperative to add some form of phosphate.—R. H. OLMSTEAD, County Farm Agent.

How England Obtained Canada.

Acadia—now Nova Scotia and New Brunswick—and the Hudson's Bay territory were ceded to Great Britain by France by the treaty of Utrecht in 1715. To be sure, Britain had an older title to the Hudson's Bay territory by reason of discovery and occupation, and the territory came to mean about all the Canadian West of today. Old Canada—today the provinces of Quebec and Ontario—were ceded to Great Britain by France by the treaty of Paris, signed on February 10, 1763. By this same treaty France gave up any claim to the Ohio valley and other territory now forming much of the central West of the United States.—Ex.

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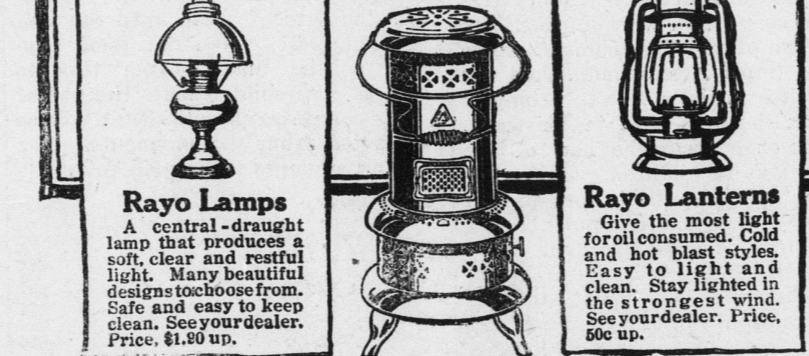
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