

GERMAN ATTACHE DENIES ENGAGING IN BOMB PLOTS

Baron Von Brincken Demands Evidence Against Him Be Made Public ALSO INVOLVE VON PAPAN

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Dec. 15.—On the heels of the revelation that Captain Franz von Papan, military attaché to the German Embassy in Washington, was involved in an alleged plot to blow up a California powder mill, George A. McGowan, attorney for Baron von Brincken, and father-in-law of the attaché, has today issued a statement denying the conspiracy charge against him.

The fact that Federal agents have obtained telegrams, showing that the question of price to be paid for the destruction of a powder mill at Fresno, Cal., was to be put up to von Papan, and the statements of denial, were the latest developments in the investigation of German activities peculiarly of recent date. The statement follows: "Lieutenant von Brincken is a man of high standing in his own country, a member of an honored family and an attaché of the German Consul. He stoutly maintains his innocence of any wrongdoing and demands an immediate hearing to confront his accusers and refute statements not founded upon the truth. "The action of the Federal Government in denying a hearing before Commissioner Krull and thus withholding the actual evidence from the defendant has, we contend, subjected himself to public criticism. It is, indeed, a peculiar kind of testimony and evidence which will not stand the light of an immediate public hearing. "This indictment we feel to be nothing short of an outrage. Lieutenant von Brincken never will or caused to be written or had anything to do with the letters set forth in this indictment, nor did he know anything of them or their contents. "The reputed charges made by von Koolbergen are totally denied. This man is utterly unreliable, an adventurer, a British spy and a convicted felon serving a sentence in a penitentiary. "Von Brincken, Charles C. Crowley, formerly a detective for the German Consulate here, and Mrs. Margaret Cornell, Crowley's employe, are under indictment and at liberty on bonds of \$10,000 each on charges of conspiring to destroy commerce with the Allies and using the mails to incite arson and murder. "The Federal authorities today tried to determine possible connection between the dynamite plots and an attempt to smuggle four Tonutons into the United States aboard the United States transport Sheridan, frustrated with the arrest of the aliens and four American soldiers on the transport. The Americans are said to have aided in the smuggling plot. The transport arrived from Honolulu. "The men arrested were United States army uniforms, and when questioned, passed themselves off as discharged soldiers returning from a tour of foreign duty. "Immediately following their seizure N. Peterzon and George King, masters at arms on the transport, and Emil Gering and Jacob Kianhaus, ship bakers, were placed under arrest, and are being tried to smuggle undesirable aliens into the country. Later charges of accepting bribes may be placed against the men. "Both the military and civil authorities are working on the investigation as to how and why the foreigners got aboard the transport. The plot to smuggle them into the United States was unearthed in Honolulu, and the arrests were made here following the advice of Brigadier General John P. Wisser, commanding the Hawaiian department of the army, that the men were aboard the transport when the investigation was at Honolulu. Two Germans, Paul Simbach and Lynatz Tobolek, also wearing United States army uniforms and claiming to be discharged American soldiers, were seized by the military at the same time and taken into jail as men fraudulently wearing the uniform. "Closely questioned after the transport had left Honolulu for the United States the men said they were German sailors who had been interned at Manila. They said they had bribed men on the transport to smuggle them into San Francisco. It is stated that they declared that the men on the transport had received in all \$500 to get the men safely on American soil. "Before the transport was 200 miles from Honolulu the men, who were others were on board the transport, and they gave the names of Peterson, King, Gering and Kianhaus as the quartermaster employe who had engineered the plot of setting the men into the United States. "General Wisser cabled what he knew about the matter to the western department here. Yesterday wireless advices were sent to the transport and then began the work on board of locating the refugees. There were more than 1000 troops on board, among them hundreds of casualties, men for discharge from the army, men going to the reserves and men already discharged. "Every man aboard had to either show his papers or be identified by an officer or a non-commissioned officer, and after several hours the bogus soldiers were located. "The four Austrians and Germans arrested here and the two apprehended in Honolulu claimed that they were sailors from German merchant ships interned for the war at Manila. The Federal authorities, however, believe it will be, under the circumstances, a mighty good thing to look mighty closely into the why and wherefore of the men traveling with American troops on a Government transport and wearing the uniform. "The big bribe for smuggling them in here, alleged to have been offered, leads the authorities to think that very possibly the men are not simply common sailors. "Peterson, King, Gering and Kianhaus are being held by the Federal authorities in \$1000 bail each. This will be increased if additional charges of accepting bribes are brought against them. "Indian Rights Association to Meet. The Indian Rights Association will hold its 33d annual meeting in the assembly hall of the College of Physicians, 15 South 23d street, at 8:15 o'clock. Addresses will be made by the Rev. Dr. Carl E. Grammer, Arthur C. Parker, secretary of the Society of American Indians; William Alexander Brown, S. M. Brown, Washington agent of the Indian Rights Association; and Mr. W. S. Swifton, secretary of the same organization. The latter's talk will be illustrated with lantern slides.

GERMANS DESTROY FOUR ANGLO-FRENCH AEROPLANES Kaiser's Airmen Successful in Raid on English Ship

BERLIN, Dec. 15.—Today's official report from the General Staff announces the destruction of four enemy aeroplanes by German artillery and a successful attack by German aviators on a British steamship in the western war theatre. "The report follows: "An English steamship was successfully attacked by German aviators yesterday. "Four aeroplanes, including one battle-aeroplane with two motors, were lost by the enemy, who made attacks with several aircraft detachments at Bapaume and Peronne, in Lorraine, and at Mulheim, in Baden. They were destroyed by the German defense artillery."

FRENCH GUNS DESTROY BRIDGE AT ST. MIHIEL

German Defenses in Champagne Also Damaged by Heavy Shell Fire

PARIS, Dec. 14.—French artillery succeeded today in the bombardment and destruction of the bridge over the Moselle River at St. Mihiel, in the region of the Moselle. The base supplies of ammunition that have reached the front by the French troops appear to be not only maintaining but adding to the advantage gained in earlier artillery duels. "The official communique follows: "Artillery duels were very violent last night in Artois, where, to the southwest of Beaurain, we destroyed a German work also to the north of the Aisne and in Champagne, in the region of the battle of Meuse. "At St. Mihiel our batteries seriously damaged the single German bridge which had reached the front. The French troops had left resting on the St. Marie side north of St. Mihiel. Our fire seriously damaged an enemy blockhouse. "Late reports furnished by our observers show that our bombardment of the Bouchot woods on the heights of the Meuse had excellent results. Some German trenches were completely shattered and several rapid-fire guns destroyed."

BULGARS STOP PURSUIT OF FOE AT GREEK LINE

Continued from Page One. "The Greek Government, at the insistence of the General Staff, thinks first of the soldiers' needs and comfort of the needs of civilians comes later. "The first mention of actual confiscation of foodstuffs in Germany was made in the Reichstag yesterday, during a stormy scene precipitated by Dr. Karl Liebknecht, the "stormy petrel" Socialist of that body. "Doctor Liebknecht wanted to know just how far the Government was prepared to go to bring about an equitable distribution of food, but this and other questions were drowned in the storm which followed. "Afterward a hostile demonstration was made toward the Socialist leader. "If the supplementary credit of \$2,500,000 sought by Dr. Karl Liebknecht, Secretary of the Imperial Treasury, is granted, the war will have cost Germany \$10,000,000,000. "The bill for a supplementary war credit of \$2,500,000,000 has been given to the Reichstag Committee on Finance. "In supporting the measure Dr. Karl Liebknecht, secretary of the Imperial Treasury, declared that Germany's financial position is more sound than that of England or France. He said that whereas French rents had declined more than 20 per cent and British consols more than 12 per cent, German 5 per cent bonds had lost only 7 1/2 per cent of the ante-bellum value. "The German war secretary called the Empire's war loan in the United States a failure. "There is no gold in common circulation. Only the fear which the Government inspires prevents opposition to the acceptance of currency on the part of the merchants. "MONEY IS SCARCE. "Although the Government is keeping down prices, the scarcity of money has the same effect that higher prices ordinarily would have. "One of the big problems is the milk supply for the babies. Germany is called upon to feed not only the people in Poland, Belgium and France. The resources of Austria-Hungary are already taxed to the limit, and there are indications that Germany will soon have to extend aid in that direction. "Reports circulated in England that many persons were killed by the police in Berlin last Thursday during bread riots, but hopes of peace must come from the Allies. "Thousands of men and women from all classes were flocking to subscribe to the new loan to continue the war. "Today was the closing day for subscriptions. Long lines formed outside the postoffices and the shops of the tobacconists where subscriptions were being received in Paris. There was every indication that the loan would prove a great success. "Other cities reported similar scenes. Subscriptions were being taken in all

FOOD AND MONEY CRISES COME TO HEAD IN GERMANY

Conditions Grave, but Kaiser's Treasurer Calls Finances Sound

FRENCH MAKE REPLY

Germany's financial and economic situation apparently has reached the climax of acute crisis, according to what appears to be an informed estimate made by an Amsterdam editor. "Food riots, absence of gold from circulation, discount at high prices among the proletariat, fear on the part of financiers of a general panic are among the factors analyzed. "On the other hand, Dr. Karl von Helfferich, Imperial Chancellor, in supporting the new war loan of \$2,500,000,000, declared today in the Reichstag that Germany's financial position is more sound than that of Britain or France. "He again placed responsibility for continuance of the war on the Allies. "France meanwhile is "financially" rallying to the support of the war chest. Today, the closing day for subscriptions to the vast new loan asked for to continue the war, Parisians and provincials flocked to the Treasury agencies to purchase bonds with their thrifty hoards. "AMSTERDAM, Dec. 15. "Despite the far-sightedness, efficiency and preparedness of the German Government, the internal situation of Germany is causing grave anxiety in Berlin. "It is becoming exceedingly difficult for travelers to get in and out of Germany. All news coming out of the Empire is rigidly censored. The two items of chief concern are food and money. "It is impossible for the Government to disguise the seriousness of the food situation—a situation which is going to become accentuated before the winter is over. "TROOPS CARED FOR FIRST. "The Government, at the insistence of the General Staff, thinks first of the soldiers' needs and comfort of the needs of civilians comes later. "The first mention of actual confiscation of foodstuffs in Germany was made in the Reichstag yesterday, during a stormy scene precipitated by Dr. Karl Liebknecht, the "stormy petrel" Socialist of that body. "Doctor Liebknecht wanted to know just how far the Government was prepared to go to bring about an equitable distribution of food, but this and other questions were drowned in the storm which followed. "Afterward a hostile demonstration was made toward the Socialist leader. "If the supplementary credit of \$2,500,000,

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Responsibility for continuance of the war must rest with the Allies, Dr. Karl Helfferich, Imperial Secretary of the

FRENCH ANSWER HOLLAND BY REPLENISHING WAR CHEST

The people of France were today answering the statement of the German Chancellor that proposals for peace must come from the Allies.

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French colonies and in foreign countries. Because of this fact it will be several days before the returns can be tabulated. Exact figures on the present loan may be still further delayed because large numbers of people took advantage of the Government's offer to convert Government bonds which they held at a lower rate of interest.

Government officials are highly pleased at the results of the call for funds. They refused to estimate the sum raised, but pointed out that it had been unnecessary to extend the time limit for the closing of subscriptions.

KAISER'S FINANCIER SEES WRITING ON WALL FOR ALLIES

Responsibility for continuance of the war must rest with the Allies, Dr. Karl Helfferich, Imperial Secretary of the

Treasury, told the Reichstag in discussing Germany's finances.

"We stand like rocks in the soil of our home country," said Doctor Helfferich, "and on the columns of the British Empire are written in glowing letters the same words as on Balaazar's palace. "Responsibility for the blood which will flow from now on, for the misery which comes upon the world, for the danger to which civilization is exposed, falls not upon Germany, but upon those who cannot resolve to draw the conclusion from Germany's military successes which nobody can any longer dispute. The responsibility falls upon those who, in foolish criminal illusion, still now speak of Germany's annihilation and partition and of winning a war of exhaustion. "Great applause followed his statement that Germany has now opened "the iron door of the Danube, barring the way to the Far East."

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Facts Versus Fallacies FACT is a real state of things. FALLACY is an apparently genuine but really illogical statement or argument. DESPITE all FALLACIES circulated in the wide-awake State of Ohio, a Commonwealth in which such national Prohibitionists as W. J. Bryan centered their efforts to bring about "dry" conditions, the Buckeye State's citizens have rejected a Prohibitory law for the second time in two years. NOTWITHSTANDING the FACT that Prohibition has been turned down twice in two years by Ohio's people, with decisive majorities that leave no doubt regarding the wishes of that State's citizens, Anti-Saloon League agents and other paid "reformers" continue their agitations to disrupt the public peace. COMMENTING upon such pursuits, Bishop Warren A. Candler, of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, remarked: "FOR one I am tired of revolutionists who call themselves 'reformers.' Weary of men who would pull down our system of government in order to correct evils which lie beyond the utmost power of wisest legislators and most skillful legislation. What we need is not more revolution, but religion. We will have bad business by individuals and corporations, despite Congresses and Courts, until the nation is Christian in FACT as well as in name. Let every man be sure that his own life and his own methods are above reproach before he tries to reform others." SURELY this good Bishop's observations, of how society is constantly kept in turmoil by Prohibitionists and others with FALLACIES, is a timely criticism of professional disruptionists who do more harm than good. Philadelphia Lager Beer Brewers' Association (The Next Article Will Appear Saturday, December 18th)

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