

"WE WAIT IN PATIENCE FOR DAY OF RETALIATION," SAYS MERCIER

"Not on This Earth, However," Cardinal Writes Von Bissing; "That We Have Already, for the Occupation Is Abhorred by Everybody in the World Who Has Sense of Honor"

Explanatory Comment

THE refusal of the Malines priests to have their identity cards stamped was patriotically in line with the whole Belgian policy of resistance to the utmost of the infamous deportation machinery.

The Governor General was, of course, shamming. He knew perfectly well and the primate knew that Von Bissing knew that the refusal of many of the magistrates to deliver to the German authorities a list of the unemployed had occasioned a new procedure.

The Cardinal's conviction, eloquently expressed in the appended correspondence, that the triumph of justice was inevitable, had come to be that of virtually his entire nation.

Cardinal Mercier's Story

Including his correspondence with the German authorities in Belgium during the war, 1914 to 1918, edited by Professor Fernand Mayence of Louvain University and translated by the Benedictine Monks of St. Augustine's, Ramsgate, England.

[Continuation of Chapter XXX—The Deportation of the Unemployed.]

POLITICAL Department of the Government General of Belgium, Brussels.

January 28, 1917. L. 918. To His Eminence Cardinal Mercier, Archbishop of Malines.

The Governor General has directed me to inform your Eminence of the following facts: To enable him to select those of the unemployed who are to be deported from Malines and to facilitate the investigation of each individual case, the Kreischef summoned various classes of persons to the Meldeamt, each one on a different day during the month of December, and among these were included ecclesiastics.

The Governor General deems it fitting to inform your Eminence of these facts. His Excellency cannot but perceive an open contradiction between the priests' declaration signed in the first place by Canon Vrancken and the proposal made by your Eminence to seek the advice of the priests in the selection of the unemployed.

The Cardinal merely acknowledged the receipt of his letter of January 28 from Baron von der Lancken. He replied to the interim Governor General of Belgium, Baron von Huene, upholding the conduct of his priests and pointing out how odious were the steps taken against them by the Governor General.

Archbishop's House, Malines, January 31, 1917.

To Baron von der Lancken, Chief of the Political Department of the Governor General of Belgium.

I have received the dispatch of January 28 you were good enough to send me on behalf of the Governor General.

The answer herewith inclosed which I have the honor to address to his Excellency deals with such delicate questions that it appears to me more judicious to write to him directly on the subject.

Magistrates Refuse to Act

Archbishop's House, Malines, January 31, 1917.

To his Excellency Baron von Huene, interim Governor General of Belgium, Brussels.

Your Excellency intrusted to the chief of your political department, Baron von der Lancken, the task of writing me to the effect that you fail to understand the attitude of the Malines clergy who deemed it their conscientious duty to decline the offer of having their identity card stamped.

It seems to you that this attitude is out of harmony with this passage in my letter of November 29, 1916: "Priests who know the common people better than any one else would render the recruiters valuable assistance."

The military government has sentenced each of these ecclesiastics to a fine of 100 marks, and your Excellency declares that to your regret you cannot but ratify the sentence.

The action of the clergy of Malines was taken with full deliberation just as your Excellency supposed, and their reasons for thus acting were given in writing to the Kreischef. That the intentions of this gentleman were well meaning in the case of certain ranks of society, I do not doubt, but his method of procedure, though welcome to the middle class, was a menace to the working classes. In order to organize more methodically and more surely the calling up of a part of the Belgian people destined to serve by fair means or foul the economic interests of the enemy, and therefore indirectly military interests, the occupying power ordered the communal

authorities to draw up a list of the unemployed. Most of the magistrates of Belgian communes, fully realizing that they were intrusted with the duty of safeguarding national integrity, refused to furnish under the heading "unemployed" a list of free citizens destined to be transformed the next day into a list of proscribed ones.

Checked by this refusal, the military authorities resorted to a roundabout way. The "unemployed" not being registered, their only remaining resource was to register those who were "employed."

After the threat addressed to the burghers, the two attempts made by the military authorities had the same end in view; namely, to bring Belgians to cooperate in organizing the deportation of their fellow-countrymen. Both were to have the same result, viz., the snatching from their homes of a class of citizens as innocent and as free as any other Belgians and to force them into exile and to work for the enemy.

The lines your Excellency quotes from that same letter of November 29 are in harmony with the attitude adopted by the Malines clergy as well as with all my correspondence dealing with the deportations.

"Kidnapping of Thousands"

In my letters of October 19 and November 10 and also in most of mine of November 29, I made a protest with all the energy of which I was capable and with which the love of justice and charity had inspired me, against the kidnapping of thousands of our countrymen.

But there is a barrier before which military force is held up and behind which is entrenched inviolate right. On this side of the barrier, it is we, the representatives of moral authority, who speak as masters. We cannot and will not let the Word of God be shackled.

We will wait in patience for the day of retaliation, not retaliation on this earth, however; that we have already, for the occupation regime you have forced upon us is abhorred by everybody in the world who has any sense of honor.

Accept the assurance of my sincere esteem, (Signed) D. J. CARDINAL MERCIER, Archbishop of Malines.

(CONTINUED TOMORROW)

EXAMINE KAISER DEMAND

Premiere Look Over Text of Note to Be Sent Holland

Paris, Jan. 15.—(By A. P.)—Premiers Clemenceau, Lloyd George and Nitti will this morning examine the text of the demand to be made upon Holland for the extradition of former Emperor William, according to the Matin.

SUPPRESS REDS IN RUSSIA

Berlin Press Reports Allies Will Give Germany Mandate for Purpose

London, Jan. 15.—(By A. P.)—The Berlin Press, according to a wireless message received here from the German capital, calls attention to an alleged intention of the Entente powers to give Germany a mandate for the suppression of bolshevism in Russia.

The Entente as mentioned in the Berlin wireless message has not been reported from any of the Entente countries. Nor has the question of a mandate to any country for the suppression of bolshevism in Russia been under discussion by the representatives of the Entente powers so far as is known.

D'Annunzio Sued in Paris

Paris, Jan. 15.—(By A. P.)—Suit has been brought here against Captain Gabriele D'Annunzio, Italian poet-aviator and leader of the raid on Fiume by "irregular" Italian troops, by a maker of theatrical costumes.

Gabriele D'Annunzio, Italian poet-aviator and leader of the raid on Fiume by "irregular" Italian troops, by a maker of theatrical costumes. The costumes, it is alleged, were ordered for actors who appeared in D'Annunzio's play, "La Chrevefeuille," which was given here and which proved a failure. When the case was called yesterday the defendant was not present and the case was postponed for two weeks to give him a chance to appear.

Mountain Valley Water advertisement featuring an image of a bottle and text: "HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE Why Suffer Longer? Drink Mountain Valley Water The famous curative water from Hot Springs. Endorsed by Physicians. Mountain Valley Water Co., 718 Chestnut St. Phone Walnut 3407"

Davis-Buick Co. advertisement featuring a Buick logo and text: "DAVIS-BUICK MOTOR CARS Davis-Buick Co. 312-316 W. Chelton Ave. SALES and SERVICES Authorized Buick Dealers for New and Used Cars Local Service for Buick Owners Phone, Germantown 5375"

BLAUNER'S Anniversary Bluebird Sale advertisement featuring various clothing items, prices, and a large central title. Includes sections for girls' dresses, wool serge dresses, raincoats, and fur coats.