*Seizure Would Come as Great Shock to a People Germany Has Bound Herself to Protect and Who Should Be Spared Fresh Sorrows," Cardinal Tells German Chancellor, Count von Hertling

Explanatory Comment

IN PROTESTING to the German authorities against the iniquities of their rule in Belgium, Cardinal Mercier seldom went over the heads of the officials of the occupying machinery.

It is noteworthy, however, that on two major occasions he addressed higher imperial representatives with success. His manifesto sent directly to the Emperor concerning the crime of the Belgian deportations

attained something of the desired effect. The comprehensive plan of systematic slavery was abandoned. Such deporting as was conducted was on a much smaller scale than had originally been intended.

It is noteworthy, however, that on two major occasions he addressed higher imperial representatives success. His manifesto sent directly to the Emperor concerning the crime of the Belgian deportations ned something of the desired effect. The comprehensive plan of systematic slavery was abandoned. The second time in which the primate scored a substantial victory by taking his appeal to a higher that it is second time in which the primate scored a substantial victory by taking his appeal to a higher of the Empire. There was indefeasible logic in the Cardinal's position upon the articles of The econvention. Of even greater potency in this case was the attitude of the Belgian public toward their red bells.

The seizure of them would without question have inflamed the populace. It would have constituted only an affront to religion but an outrage to national sentiment.

The ordered inventory of all the bronze bells and zinc organ pipes in Belgium was ineffective. The See was aroused and forwarded its own protest against confiscation. No formal announcement of the Belgian deportations with feverish cageness—she had no greater desire just now, than too that no greater desire just now, than too the date of reaster desire just now, than too the log strain strains on the date of reaster attorney's falled. In his present dark mood, in which he could not see values in their sport that the representative self in exposing the selfish reasons which had kept her silent all this while. And for the sport had no greater desire just now, than too the proportions, he did not spare she had finished, her statements were corroborated and supplemented by the little clevator man, by the waiter, and by Uncle George, who at last had been freed to tell what he knew.

The district attorney is a strained in the proportions, he did not s court was in February, 1918, when the subjoined letter was dispatched to Count von Hertling, then Chancellor of the Empire. There was indefeasible logic in the Cardinal's position upon the articles of The Hague convention. Of even greater potency in this case was the attitude of the Belgian public toward their beloved bells.

not only an affront to religion but an outrage to national sentiment.

The ban against bell confiscation must have been a severe blow to the Germans in the later stages of the war when the shortage of metals was acute. The substance of large bells is a mixture of tin and copper in the proportion of four to one. Zinc and lead are used in the smaller ones. But no agents of destruction were made from a single bell in any of the churches that survived the first fury of the German invasion.

The Cardinal's triumph was unequivocal.

The ban against bell confiscation must have been a severe blow to the Germans in the later stages of the district attorney was a relentless prosecuter in the courtroom, but he was nonetic. The district attorney was a relentless prosecuter in the courtroom, but he was nonetic the courtroom, but he was nonetic to have assumed a new personality. And even so, except for him, she would not now be in her extreme predictance in the courtroom, but he was nonetic the courtroom being out of it.

"Edwards." he said briefly, "it seems pretty thoroughly established that you were on the Grantham roof at the time Murdock was killed—it seems that you have been necessary for her to have assumed a new personality. And even so, except for him, she would never have been necessary for the converte and of their secret meeting in the courtroom, but he was no rosecuter in the courtroom, but he was no rosecuter in the courtroom being out of it.

"Edwards." he said briefly, "it seems pretty thoroughly established that you were on the Grantham roof at the time Murdock was killed—it seems that you have been necessary for him, she would never have been necessary for her to have assumed a new personality. And even so, except for him, she would never have been necessary for her to have assumed a new personality. And even so, except for him, she would never have been necessary for her to have assumed a new personality. And even so, except for him, she would never have been necessary for her to have assumed a new personality. And even so, except for him, she would never have been necessary

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.

EVENTS were soon to show that the fears of the Belgian people as to the seizure of their church bells were not ill-founded. Early in February, 1918, Baron von Falkenhausen informed the Cardinal that he was ordering inventory to be made of all existing bronze bells and all zinc organ pipes in Belgium. This was the prelude to the definite act of seizure.

Government General of Belgium, Brussels, February 8, 1918.

To His Eminence Cardinal Mercier, Archbishop of Malines.

I have the honor to inform your Eminence that I shall at an early date is ue an order providing for a general inventory of all bronze bells, etc., and all sinc organ pipes throughout Belgium.

In view of my letter of September 24, 1917, I did not wish to fail giving you this information. I offer your Eminence the assurance of my sin-

cere esteem

VON FALKENHAUSEN. Lieutenant General.

Letter to Chancellor

In the face of this decision the Cardinal, considering all negotiations with the Governor General fruitwrote directly to the Chancellor of the empire, Count von Hertling, in these terms:

Archbishop's House, Malines.

February 14, 1918. Mr. Chancellor-The Governor General of Brussels, Baron von Falkenhausen, has informed me in a letter dated February 8 that he will very shortly proceed to seize the bells and organ pipes in our

In September, 1917, it was already being noised abroad that our bells were in danger. We tried then to pacify the minds of our flock by inviting an assurance from the Governor General that in accordance with the oft-repeated promises of his predecessors he the rights of the church ould uph Bishops of Namur and Liege joining their signatures to mine. The answer of the Governor General, dated September 29, was evasive. That of February 8 now announces that we must no longer cherish any illusions under this head and that failing the august protection of his Imperial Majesty, the sacrilege will be perpetrated in the course of a few days.

Our only remaining hope, Excellency, is in your gracious intervention.

Article 46, of The Hague convention, imposes upon the occupying power the duty of respecting both the exercise of public worship and private property, whether held individually or collectively. Again Article 53 limits all requisitions in kind to the needs of the army of occupation.

It is superfluous to add that bells and organ pipes are not used to meet the needs of the army of occupation. They come under the head of private property and are used in the exercise of Catholic wor-

In the name of international law, subscribed to by the highest authorities of the German Empire and the Kingdom of Prussia, I beg your Excellency to prevent the publication of the order with which Belgium is threatened. Being a Catholic, like ourselves, your Excellency cannot be unaware that the forcible seizure of a church bell is a sacrilege. A bell is a consecrated object, which means that it is irrevocably dedicated to the service of God. The bishop has not merely blessed it, he has anointed it with hely oil and sacred chrism in order that, according to the language of the liturgy, it may be sanctified by the Holy Ghost ("santificetur a spiritu cancto") and the faithful recognize in its call the voice of the Church summoning her children to harter to her bosom ("Vasculum ad invitandos filios sanctae ecclesiae praeparatum, ut festina antes ad piae matris ecclesiae gremium cantent in ecclesia sanctorum canticum novum)."

The voice of the bell summoning you to lead the life of a Christian and which will summon you again to the tribunal of God, your Excellency recognizes, reveres and regards with affection. Now that you are chancellor of the empire, its appeal still reaches your heart just as it did when you were yet a simpler member of the faithful. The realities of the spiritual life and ecclesiastical law are unchanged by human greatness. You can neither order nor authorize the ordering of the profanation of bells consecrated to Catholic worship without at the same time participating in a sacrilege.

Let me add. Excellency, that this encroachment on the rights of the Church announced by the Governor General of Brussels would come as a great shock to a people who have never wished Germany anything but good-a people Germany has bound herself by oath to take under her protection and who should by now be spared fresh sorrows.

Among the cherished hopes of your compatriots is assuredly that of one day renewing friendly relations with our country. The remembrance of a violation of religious rights so very dear to each diocese, parish and every Christian family in our country, would linger in the minds of our people for several generations, fostering hatred instead of love. Will of your Excellency therefore come to the conclusion that the economic future of Germany is inevitably nd up with the vindication of international law

and the rights of conscience? Our venerable colleagues in the German and Aus-

principles, but they have had to resign themselves to

the removal of bells from their churches with feelings

of despair in their souls. If perchance they were so blinded by patriotism as to tolerate an evil they were

powerless to prevent, our patriotism on the con-

trary only gives additional force to the law of re-

sistance. We should, indeed, be traitors to our

church and our country were we to be guilty of the

cowardice of supplying the enemy with material for

engines of destruction destined only to bring death

into the ranks of the heroes who are sacrificing their

career has been devoted to the service of right, to a

Christian who has always considered it an honor to

champion the rights of the Church and of the con-

to receive the expression of my sincere esteem.

sciences of Catholics.

impending confiscation.

subject in February, 1917.

benefit of Germany.

General, Brussels.

our most pressing needs.

tion of hands and energy?

I make this my appeal to the man whose noble

In conclusion I beg the chancellor of the empire

The Holy See on its own account also made press-

It was owing to these various representations that

the threat of the Governor General remained a dead

letter and the bells in the Belgian churches were saved.

CHAPTER XLV

The Cardinal Proves That the Scarcity of Agri-

cultural Products in Occupied Belgium Is

trals." These organizations, created by the occurving

power ostensibly to regulate the equitable distribution

of produce among the inhabitants, had for their main

ourpose the filching of the greater part of it for the

To His Excellency Baron von Falkenhausen, Governor

The letter with which your Excellency has fa-

vored me through the obliging medium of Baron von

der Lancken informs me that the quantity of coal

allotted by your government for distribution among

the Belgian people consistently grows less and less,

so that not only private houses but also schools and

churches will have to suffer from the general scarc-

ity. I do not complain of the extension of the same

treatment to all alike, but I fail to understand how

this regime of famine comes to be imposed upon us.

Belgium is a rich country and yet our people are im-

of the mines are carried on with a marvelous inten-

sity and behold, after three years of occupation the

factories are closed down and we are told that the

available agricultural products will not suffice for

the coal-producing industry yielded in 1910 twenty-

four million tons and in each of the four following

years twenty-three million tons. If we deduct from

these figures the quantity consumed in the collieries,

this leaves an annual average of twenty-one million

tons available for sale and distribution. Taking the

Belgian population at a rough estimate of six mil-

lion, each inhabitant ought to be allotted more than

miners are less numerous and their work less produc-

tive, but who is to be held responsible for the reduc-

and are sold at exorbitant prices. One simple in-

stance of this will suffice: Potatoes have been sold at

from 2f 50 to 3f a kilo (roughly from 48c. to 58c.

per pound). Our land yields sufficient quantity to

supply each inhabitant with about one and one-third

pounds per day, even after deducting the amount

necessary for feeding cattle and for use in certain in-

dustries, but the Brussels people actually received

from September, 1916, to September, 1917, approxi-

dismayed by the outlook for the winter, I beg your

Excellency to call to mind the promises made by your

predecessers and realize your own responsibilities in

(CONTINUED TOMORROW) Cappright, 1920, by Public Ledger Co. right, Canada, 1920, by Public Ledger tional Coppright, 1920, by Public Ledge

Therefore, in the name of our starving people,

mately two ounces of potatoes per head per day!

I am not unaware that at the present time coal

Agricultural products are almost unobtainable

three tons, i. e., 3000 kils, of coal per annum.

Official statistics, which I have by me, prove that

Normally, agriculture, industry and the working

poverished to the point of being hungry and cold.

Archbishop's House, Malines.

November 24, 1917.

D. J. CARDINAL MERCIER,

Archbishop of Malines.

were on the Grantham roof at the time of the Murdock was ki'led—it seems that you have a perfect alibi. If this stands up under further examination, and I think it will, I shall ask for your dismissal in court temotrow morning. That's all, Edwards."

all, Edwards."

As Harry was led out the district attorney said in a crisp voice to an at-tendant: "Get out papers for the arrest f Sam Conway for the Murdock mur-ler, and get him at once." Then he turned to Jennie; his voice.

not unkind, was firm with officourse, you understand, Mrs Harrison' - Jennie shivered a little at the use of her married name - 'that you

are under arrest for this Harrison for slip upon her father's shoulder. Black Jerry held her to him in a flerce, de-fiant love. She felt his great chest heaving again; but she had no sense of what was going on within his soul other than a feeling that he loved her. She felt herself a weak, broken creature dreams she had had. How she had fallen!—how she had disappointed a'l those who had loved her! For herself she did not care very much. This was the and

ing appeals to the imperial government to prevent the the end. Presently Casey touched her shoulder. She rose submissively, and followed him back across the Bridge of Sighs.

How Black Jerry Set Right the World BLACK JERRY had kept in the back-D ground of the various scenes since Jennie had driven up to the Tombs, not merely because this had been adisable, but because the chaos in his soul knew no purpose, because he was inarticulate. And now that he had a few moments with her in the Tombs. Due Solely to the Action of the German and a plan was beginning to grow into "Centrals"—He Denounces Certain Serious dim shape out of the chaos, he still was almost wordless.
"Dad—I'm so sorry—after all you've Outrages Committed by German Soldiers in

Churches and Complains of the Support
Given by the German Authorities to a Campaign Directed Against Himself by the
"Activists"

L'ARLY in the winter of 1917-1918, though the output of the Belgian coal mines had not sensibly lessed coal was almost unobtainable. The occupying sensed coal was almost unobtainable. The occupying the control of the Support of the Suppo

power limited more and more the coal ration of the ever happens, Jennie, just you remem ber that your father at Acting on the instructions of the Governor General, Baron von der Lancken informed the Cardinal that look, ching to her face in fierce pain

t was needful to practice the greatest economy in the ove-as though he would keep her with him always. Then he pressed a swift, crushing kiss upon her lips and consumption of coal. This letter was a reproduction. more or less, of one he had already written on the same abruptly walked away. 'Dad—dad!'
Jennie called after him, but he did not
so much as look back upon her. And His Eminence replied directly to the Governor Genso much as look back upon her. And when Uncle George started to leave with him Jerry roughly told his old friend he wanted nobody's company, and he strode out of the Tombs alone. Fifteen ministes later Black Jerry was in the little room at the rear of the Pekin, his office, where so many eral, proving by figures that if the scarcity of coal were great the blame must be solely attributed to the German requisitions. In general the scarcity and consequently the prevailing high prices of agricultural products were due to the sinister action of the "Cen-

have grows up and lived without ever being under the ignominy of his name. And he saw himself in the future—whatever her future might be—as being a handicap. So long as he lived, so long as his name was remembered, she would be known as "Black Jerry's daughter," and forever he would be dragging her down! Black Jerry may not have been judging truly, but in this dark orgasm of his soul this is how he reasoned, how his whole being reacted and functioned * * And Slim Jackson, who had betrayed A DAUGHTER of TWO WORLDS

A Story of New York Life By LEROY SCOTT

Author of "No. 15 Washington Square." "Mary Regan," etc.

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She was just a little surprised—not knowing how thorough Uncle George had been in his telephoning—to find two other persons waiting in the district attorney's office—the little, wizened, furtive elevator man who had carried her to that secluded bower on the Grantham roof the night ghe had met Harry there, and also the waiter who had served them.

She answered the district attorney's questions with feverish eagerness—she had as a served they are the district attorney's questions with feverish eagerness—she in a limit of the had been determined. The door was locked, his elbows were on the table, and his hands were gripping bls thick dark hair. Grief, love, a sense of complete failure, hatred, revenge, surged in a wild tumult in his soul. He had always been a primitive elemental man, and never in all his life—not even in the long ago when Jennie's life had been determined. The door was locked, his elbows were on the table, and his hands were gripping bls thick dark hair. Grief, love, a sense of complete failure, hatred, revenge, surged in a wild tumult in his soul. He had always been a primitive elemental man, and never in all his life—not even in the long ago when Jennie's life had been determined. The door was locked, his elbows were on the table, and his hands were gripping bls thick dark hair. Grief, love, a sense of complete failure, hatred, revenge, surged in a wild tumult in his soul. He had always been a primitive elemental man, and never in all his life—not even in the long ago when Jennie's life had been determined.

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And Slim Jackson, who had betrayed her, and Kenneth Harrison, who had begged her to commit this forgery to save him and then had thrown the whole blame upon her—his whole being was clenched with an overmastering desire for vengeance upon these two! For vengeance—and some thing more. * * His passions did not subside but his brain became more composed and began to work carefully, constructively, remorselessly. began to work carefully, constructively, remorselessly. For an hour he sat thinking—thinking with a care and an intensity with which he had never thought before. Shortly after 6 he relaxed. He had thought out everything. He carefully wrote out three brief messages. Then he wrote a short note to Jennie, stepped out to his bar, and handed it to his bartender. "Bill," he said, in an even voice, "I'm going out and may not be back for a day or so. Get word to Uncle George to come by this way in the morning and ask him to take this to Jennie down at the Tombs."

(CONTINUED TOMORROW)

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