

GERMAN PLOT TO BLOW UP WELLAND CANAL FOILED

Maps and Drawings of the Canal Found in Possession of Men Arrested in New York

A despatch from New York says: A plot to blow up the Welland Canal is charged in connection with the arrests of three prominent Germans in New York. The arrests are said to be the prelude to a series of startling exposures of German propaganda in this country, which may link together a number of events that have occurred in the United States.

The first man arrested was Paul Koenig, head of the Bureau of Investigation of the Hamburg-American Line, and believed to be the head of the German secret service in this country. Koenig is a well-to-do man, and has been conspicuous in German circles. He took out his first papers in connection with his plan to become an American citizen ten years ago, but never applied for his second.

The second man is Richard Emil Leyendecker, retailer of art goods at 347 Fifth Avenue, and living at 640 Morris Avenue, the Bronx. He is a naturalized American citizen, and these arrests make the first instance where the so-called "hyphenated Americans" have been arrested in connection with the German propaganda.

The third person arrested was Fred Metzler, alias F. R. Reimer, who was arrested in Jersey City.

These men are charged under section No. 13 of the Federal Criminal Statutes with planning a military enterprise or undertaking of hazard against a country friendly with the United States. The penalty on conviction is three years in prison or \$3,000 fine, or both.

The precise details of the alleged plot are withheld by the Federal authorities, but it is understood that Koenig and Leyendecker had employed spies, who went out from Buffalo and Niagara Falls to photograph the canal, prepare plans and make arrangements for blowing up the waterway at its most important point, and that nitro-glycerine was to have been used as the explosive.

Koenig and Leyendecker were in Buffalo about four days, according to the authorities, and returned to New York with the execution of the alleged plot left in the hands of their agents. As far as its known by the Department of Justice, it was said, they still contemplated the carrying out of the plot when the arrests took place when the opportunity offered.

With the arrest the special agents of the Department of Justice, under Wm. F. Offley and Jos. A. Baker, and the detectives, under Captain Tunney, of the bomb squad, raided the offices, they packed up a great mass of material concerning the movements of German secret agents. Secret codes, which were changed every week to elude any person who might have been shadowing them or listening over the telephones, also were found.

These codes showed that when Koenig or any other of his men telephoned to another "to meet me at south ferry," that meant Pabsts, 125th Street, or some other place. In addition to these codes there were found many other documents of great importance, including maps and drawings of the Welland Canal.

LORD KITCHENER TO MARRY WIDOW

His Engagement to Dowager Countess of Minto Will be Announced Shortly.

A despatch from London says: It is claimed on excellent authority that the engagement of Earl Kitchener of Khartoum to the Dowager Countess of Minto will be announced shortly.

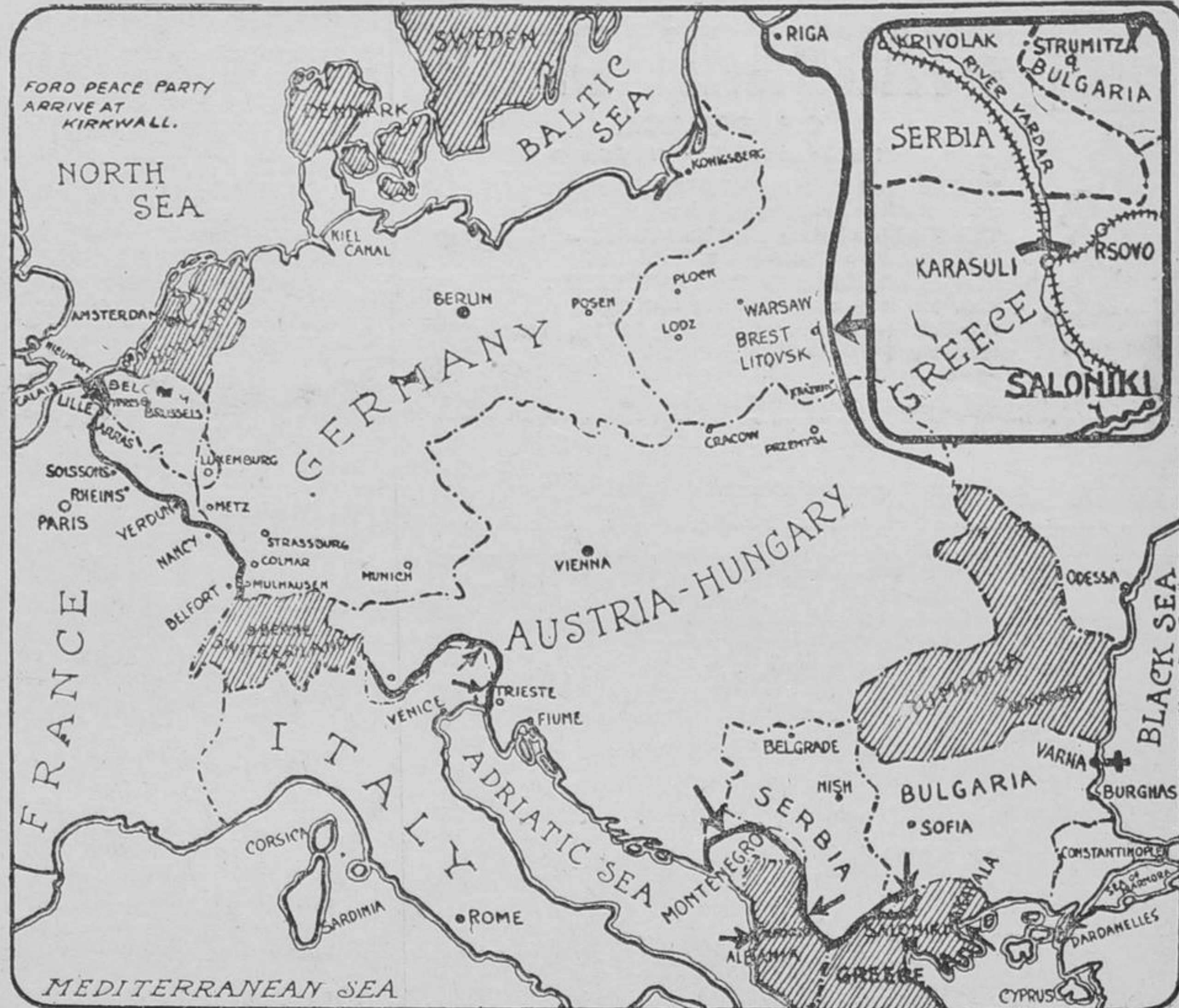
The Countess has been a widow for almost two years, her husband, the late Earl of Minto, having died on February 28, 1914. He was Viceroy of India in succession to Lord Curzon of Kedleston, who resigned the Viceroyalty because the Home Government supported Lord Kitchener, then Commander-in-Chief of the Indian army, in his dispute with Lord Curzon

over the reorganization of the army, Earl Minto went to India from Canada, where he was Governor-General for six years.

The Countess of Minto is the daughter of the late Gen. Chas. Grey, and a first cousin to the present Earl Grey.

BRITAIN AND FRANCE CLOSER POLITICALLY.

A despatch from London says: A project for the formation of a committee of the House of Lords and Commons to cultivate closer relations with the Foreign Affairs Committee of the French Senate and the French Chamber has been successfully launched. An executive committee, with Viscount Bryce as chairman, has been organized to carry out this plan. It is expected that, although the work of the committee will be entirely unofficial, valuable results will be obtained.



The Week's Developments in the War.

British and French troops, landed at Saloniki and sent to the aid of the Serbian army, have withdrawn before numerically superior forces and now occupy a strong position on both sides of the river Vardar, at a short distance north of Saloniki.

It is expected that, if the Bulgarian army or Austrian and German forces cross on to Greek territory, the Allies will defend this position until the defensive works at Saloniki are completed.

The Entente Allies are said to have some two hundred thousand men now in the Balkans and their retirement from Serbia was made without serious losses.

On the western front heavy artillery duels have been in progress and an early resumption of the offensive on the part of the German forces in this theatre is anticipated.

On the eastern front German forces have been weakened and the German line has been withdrawn a considerable distance toward the strong fortress of Brest-Litovsk.

The Italian troops are still hammering away at Gorizia and minor advances are reported.

There has been some naval activity in the Black Sea, off the Bulgarian port of Varna, in which the enemy suffered minor losses.

Outside of the situation in the Balkans and a new Austrian movement against Montenegro, the week has not been productive of important developments. Many factors, however, indicate that big battles are impending on several of the fronts.

REPLY OF GREECE TO THE TEUTONS

Central Powers Protest Against Erection of Fortifications at Salonica.

A despatch from London says: Athens despatches say that the work of fortifying Salonica against the expected Teutonic attack continues night and day with feverish haste. Transports are arriving daily with ammunition, food and additional troops. The allies are now credited with having an army of 200,000 at Salonica, and along the Vardar south of the Serbian frontier.

The railway from Guevgheli, just inside the Serbian border, south through the Vardar valley to Salonica is being destroyed by French troops. This will be the route of the principal attack toward Salonica. The allies have moved heavy artillery forward from Salonica and stationed it on the heights near Sariguel and Kilkie.

Greece has issued a formal reply to Austro-German representations protesting against the erection by the allies of fortifications around Salonica. The Greek Government replied to the protesting Teuton diplomats that Greece was powerless to prevent the fortifications as they are "indispensable to the safety of the Anglo-French expeditionary force." The safety of the Anglo-French troops, the Greek reply is quoted as pointing out, has been formally guaranteed by Greece. The reply also emphasizes that Greece is still Serbia's ally.

This reply intensifies the crisis, in that it increases the danger of German invasion of Greece with the object of driving out the allies. It is not the presence of the allied troops, but their fortifying Salonica that forms the chief point at issue in the German representations at Athens.

ROUMANIA IS FRIENDLY WITH THE ALLIES.

A despatch from London says: In a written reply to a Parliamentary question, Lord Robert Cecil, Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, states that the relations between Roumania and the Entente allies are perfectly friendly, but that he is not in a position to reveal the military plans of Russia.

Those Pessimists Again.

Friday night my little boy asked his grandpapa the difference between a pessimist and an optimist. "An optimist thinks the times are ripe—the pessimist thinks they are rotten," said the gent.

AUSTRIAN CONSULS PREPARE TO LEAVE THE UNITED STATES

Little Doubt Remains That Diplomatic Relations Will Be Broken Off Between the Two Countries

A despatch from Washington says: A cipher telegram has been sent by Baron Zwiedinek, the Acting Austrian Ambassador at Washington, to every Austro-Hungarian Consular office in the United States. This telegram instructs the Consuls to make everything ready for their immediate departure and to consult at once with the Bulgarian or Turkish official in their city, so as to acquaint him with

the routine of each office in order that such officials may take immediate possession and carry on the work on behalf of the Austrian Government when the expected break with the United States comes.

There is little doubt here that Austria's answer to the second United States note will be unsatisfactory and that diplomatic relations between the two countries will be severed.

KOOLBERGEN WILLING TO EXPOSE TEUTONS

A despatch from Lethbridge, Alta., says: With regard to the existence of gigantic German plots to destroy American commerce and also to blow up all bridges on the C.P.R. system in Canada which were hatched in San Francisco, admission that he accepted the commission from Baron von Brincken to carry out the Canadian end of the plots (but acted the role of a double traitor and gave information to the Canadian Pacific), is made by Johannes von Koolbergen, alias von Montford, who now lies in the provincial jail here, serving a sentence of one year on a charge of forgery from Calgary.

Von Koolbergen is the man who is wanted by the United States officials at San Francisco as the star witness in the prosecution of Baron von Brincken and Crowley, charged with

the conspiracy to destroy American commerce with the allies, to blow up munition plants and burn flour mills. Von Koolbergen does not know whether he will be taken to San Francisco to give his evidence, but says he is perfectly ready and willing to give his evidence if he is taken there.

KING OF SERBIA TO LIVE IN ITALY.

A despatch from Paris says: It is reported from Rome that King Peter of Serbia, driven from his country by the Teutonic invasion, will take refuge in Italy. A Rome despatch to the Matin says the King has accepted Italy's offer of the palace at Caserta, near Naples, which is now being prepared for his use.

And many a man after losing a political job is compelled to do real labor.

ALL OVERSEAS DIVISIONS ARE TO BE PURELY CANADIAN

No More Units to be Supplied From Imperial Forces—Cause of Falling Off in Urban Recruiting

A despatch from Ottawa says: If a fourth Canadian division is placed in the field by Canada, as is not unlikely it will be purely Canadian. The same may be said of the third division, which is now being organized to take its place on the firing line beside the Canadian army corps already there, and consisting of the first and second divisions.

It has been the practice in the past,

of course, to have Canadian units comprise the Dominion's army in the field, but some of the smaller units have been supplied from the Imperial forces. On the other hand, the Princess Patricia Regiment, raised in Canada, was for a time brigaded with a British division. Now all branches of the Canadian divisions, no matter how many in number, will be altogether Canadian.

SUPER-ZEPPELIN DESTROYED, SUBMARINE SENT TO BOTTOM

All of the Forty Members of the Crew of the Dirigible Were Either Killed or Wounded

A despatch from Copenhagen says: The reports of the destruction of the super-Zeppelin L-22 was received from Schleswig by a Copenhagen newspaper. Nearly all the 40 members of the crew were killed or wounded. The loss of the Zeppelin was due to the accidental explosion of a bomb as the airship was leaving its shed. The explosion demolished the shed. The Zeppelin had been in service only a few weeks. It is described as a sister ship of the Z-18, recently reported destroyed by an explosion at Tondern. It was of the latest type, with invisible gondolas, platforms at the top of the envelope, and detach-

able rafts for use in case of accident while crossing the sea.

A despatch from Paris says: The Milan Secolo's correspondent at Athens announces that a German submarine has been sunk in the Black Sea near the Bulgarian port of Varna, and a Turkish torpedo boat has been destroyed by the British in the Sea of Marmora.

A despatch from London says: Capt. Smith, of the Royal Flying Corps, was burned to death while flying an aeroplane at Farnborough. While in the air the aeroplane suddenly burst into flames. The pilot tried to reach the ground, but succumbed just before landing.

TWO GERMAN WARSHIPS SUNK BY SUBMARINE IN THE BALTIC

A despatch from Amsterdam says: It has been officially announced in Berlin the German cruiser Bremen and a torpedo boat accompanying her have been sunk by a submarine in the Eastern Baltic Sea. The announcement stated that a considerable portion of the crews of both vessels were saved.

The torpedoing of the German cruiser Bremen occurred on the night of December 17 close to Libau, while she was returning with her lights out from a tour of inspection in the Gulf of Finland. Many bodies and wreck-

age continue to come ashore from the German vessel Bueuz, which sank or was destroyed two days ago. Fog prevented an investigation of the disaster and it is not known what caused the sinking of the Bueuz.

Some believe that she ran into a German mine field, while another version is that she was torpedoed by a British submarine.

The Bremen was built in 1903. She had a displacement of 3,250 tons, was 340 feet long and 43½ feet beam, and in peace time carried a crew of about 300 men.