

WORK OF THE SPIES

ENORMOUS RISKS RUN TO SECURE SECRETS OF NATIONS.

English Service Journal Aroused Indignation in Germany by Publishing Description of a New Krupp Gun, While German Paper Caused Consternation in England by Publishing Interior of Dreadnought.

Every now and again there is a spy scare in England, and occasionally an arrest, but prosecutions are not so frequent as in Germany and France.

Only last year, however, a foreigner, speaking very little English, was arrested at Leenan Fort, the strongest fort on the North Coast of Ireland.

The man was said to have been making sketches inside the inner battery, though no one is allowed within the fortifications at all.

For lack of sufficient evidence, the man got off.

Serious loss of life and damage to property would have resulted if the nefarious plans of unknown spies had succeeded at Perth a few years ago, when an attempt was made to blow up a powder magazine.

When the outrage was discovered, the doors had been forced open with a crowbar, and a fire had been lighted about a yard from the 700 lbs. of blasting powder and gelatine with which the building was stored.

But fortunately the fire burnt out before reaching the explosive.

At the beginning of the present year considerable indignation was aroused in Germany by the publication in the English Service Journal, "The Navy," of a minute description of a new Krupp 28-centimetre gun, with details of various trials at Kiel.

Only gross carelessness or bribery could account for the leakage.

On the other hand, some weeks before the launching of our first Dreadnought, a German paper published a photograph of the interior of the vessel.

And the ship, be it remembered, was constructed under conditions of the utmost secrecy!

Two years ago a case of espionage came to light in Germany which revealed that such extensive and valuable information had been given to France as necessitated the replacing of the whole system of Western fortresses, and also sweeping changes in field artillery.

The spy was one Herr Schwara, an ex-journalist, who had become a brewer manager. His method was to entertain non-com's and soldiers to champagne suppers, and by this means he was able to pump them of the facts he required.

That his game was a paying one may be gathered from the fact that he was shown to have received as much as \$1,000 for individual items of information.

He had carried on his operations for three years before being found out; but then he was condemned to twelve years' hard labor.

Four years' penal servitude was the sentence meted out only last year to a charming governess, tried in Berlin, and said to have been in the employ of two great powers.

According to the evidence at the trial, Franklin Petersen, from Hamburg, obtained a post as governess in the home of a naval officer's widow.

This position enabled her to get acquainted with a number of young naval officers, whom she attracted by her charming personality to such a degree that she was able to get from their charts, plans, and secrets that it was treason to disclose.

At least one payment to this clever woman was traced to Brussels, whence she regularly sent \$125, regularly every month, said to be from an agent of France.

It is remarkable to what limits of audacity the spy will go in order to obtain what he knows his employers will pay well for.

Some three years ago a well-dressed man of gentlemanly appearance arrived at the entrance to the Breakwater Fort at Portland, and presented to the sentinel a card, purporting to come from the admiral then in command.

He was shown all over the fort, and not till the card he had presented was returned in due course to the commanding officer was it discovered to be a forgery.

Again, in 1903, sixteen submarines, accompanied by the depot ship Thetis and a torpedo destroyer, while engaged in carrying out manoeuvres in the North Sea found themselves always within range of a steam trawler.

When twenty-six hours had passed, a commanding officer came to the conclusion that the trawler must be fishing in an unusual sense.

He steamed up to her, when what was his amazement to find on the bridge with the British captain and two Germans, furnished with powerful marine-glasses.

The names of the vessel and her captain were taken, and she was warned off.

THE INDIAN POLICEMAN

An Ex-inspector Chats on the Perils of the Oriental Peeler.

The European officers of the Indian police are the hardest-worked body of officials in the world, and their duties, more particularly in the country and jungle districts, are of an exceedingly varied and difficult nature.

From the earliest morning until far into the night they are on the alert, now quelling hordes of the basant or religious riots, now in pursuit of dacoits and cattle thieves, or probing apparently unfathomable mysteries of daring robberies and murder outrages.

Then, after having passed the day in the arduous task of protecting the law-abiding citizens against the vast army of criminals, and trying to bring the latter to book, they are often called out to secure absconding elephants, running riot and causing devastation in the plantations, or to free an outlying village from the attentions of a man-eating tiger.

And, in order to cope with all such eventualities, an inspector of a district, comprising particularly forty or more villages, each separated from the other by miles of impenetrable jungle, is given only one or two white constables and a posse of native policemen.

Their work is mostly that of the Pathans, a physically well-developed and strong people, but, unfortunately, quite unreliable and often treacherous.

Moreover, to increase further the difficulties of the position, the people in towns and villages show an open antipathy, not to say hostility, to the police force.

Instead of assisting, they place difficulties in the way, and mislead the officers, even though they might be in possession of clues as to the identity of whereabouts of the wanted criminals.

If, further, we take into consideration the fact that the criminal gangs are invariably closely organized secret societies, such as societies of burglars, cattle thieves, housebreakers, dacoits, etc., the reader will be able to gauge the enormity of the problems with which the Indian police have to cope in the course of their daily routine.

Perhaps routine is hardly the word to describe conditions offering so much variety and excitement.

Thus, a couple of years ago, I was in charge of an extensive jungle district in the Punjab, some eighty miles to the south of Khan.

At the time we were pestered with a particularly audacious gang of robbers, whose deeds and tactics proved them to be at the very height of their profession, and well acquainted with local conditions.

They operated indiscriminately in the European and native settlements, and had even forced their entrance into the police and military posts, with a view to stealing weapons, and all kinds of valuables on which they could lay their hands.

A peculiar feature of their mode of procedure was that they invariably administered some insidious drug to their intended victims, and while the latter were under its effect quietly raided the place and disappeared before the alarm could be given.

This fact satisfied us that the native servants were party to the conspiracy; but whether the robbers shared in the proceeds, the most stringent examinations and inquiries proved abortive.

Promises of reward and threats alike failed to loosen their tongues, and in the end, after a long and fruitless search, we were obliged to arrest them.

When a fresh Great Seal is made, either at the accession of a new sovereign to the throne, or during the reign, it is brought into use at an interesting ceremony.

A meeting of the Privy Council is called, and attended by the King in person. The two Seals, the new and the old, are laid on the table.

Then the King, in the presence of his councillors places his hand on the new Seal, thereby constituting it the Great Seal of England, and acknowledging that any document to which an impression of it is attached is his act and deed, after which His Majesty commits it to the keeping of the Lord Chancellor.

The old Seal next undergoes a process known as "demasking." At one time it was the practice to cut it into four quarters and deposit the pieces in the Tower; but for many years it has been defaced simply by the Sovereign making a few small punctures over its two sides with a pointed hammer.

These marks are regarded as sufficiently indicating that the Seal can never again be used as a state instrument.

Jews For Australia? The London Jewish Chronicle says that the Government of Western Australia is considering a business proposition for the purchase of an extensive area in that state on which to settle a million Russian Jews.

This is a very astonishing statement, seeing that the total population of Western Australia at the last census in 1901 was only 124,124. If anything like a million Russian Jews were dumped down in Western Australia they would enormously outnumber the rest of the population, and the country would practically become a Russian colony with alien language and customs.

It is difficult to believe that the English-speaking Western Australian can have contemplated so momentous a change. There are over 5,000,000 Jews in the Russian Empire.

X-Rays For Consumption. The use of X-rays in the cure of consumption is the subject of important observations recently made by the radiographers at several of the principal London hospitals.

Over 1,000 consumptive patients have been studied, and as a result the radiographer in charge of the X-ray department at Guy's Hospital has stated his opinion that the X-rays are an indispensable aid to the treatment of consumption.

He says that by their aid he can locate the exact part of the body where the disease is most active.

If any girl were to have the ill-fortune to marry her ideal the fate would need to be kind to her.

"CATCH MY PAL."

Temperance Movement Has Spread With Great Rapidity.

The history of the social reform has rarely presented so remarkable a development as the movement known as the Irish Protestant Total Abstinence Union, or, as it is better known, the "Catch My Pal" Society, whose first anniversary was celebrated in Armagh recently with several demonstrations.

Started in 1872, when a mere sum of £164,501 was realized; the Dudley sale of 1893, which yielded a turnover of over £39,000, and the Day sales last year, which produced an aggregate of £30,820.

The principal sale of the year was that of the remaining portion of the Alexander Young collection, with its magnificent examples of the masters of the Baroque and Modern Dutch schools.

In three days £154,000 was obtained, a result which has only been exceeded on one occasion.

The wonderful records achieved by Turner in 1876 and 1899 paled before the £120,000 guineas fetched by Corot's 12,000 guineas lot.

The idea of the society was admirably illustrated by Mr. Patterson, who said: "The men who drink to excess are the men who make the drink problem solve it."

Let the drinkers take the pledge, and go and get their 'pals' to do the same. Let the responsibility of the reform of the drinker be largely left to the shoulders of the drinkers themselves.

No fiery cross of old traveled with the pledge as an example to his fellows, the moderate drinker, and the secret drunkard, and the police court habitué.

The phrase "hopeless drunkard" holds no place in the lexicon of the union, as it is maintained, and the history of the movement seems to justify the contention, that there is none so degraded but has at least a spark of good in him.

From Ulster the organization spread to other parts of Ireland, and now branches to be found in Canada, the west, and the Channel were crossed, and several of the large industrial centres in Scotland came under the influence of the movement.

Crashes being formed in Glasgow, Edinburgh, Aberdeen, Paisley, and other towns.

A most gratifying feature of the work is that the union has united all the Protestant churches of Ireland under its banner, and to quote one instance, the unique spectacle was witnessed in a Presbyterian church in Londonderry of the bishop of the diocese, Dr. Chadwick, occupying the pulpit at a demonstration of members.

The pledge of the union is as follows: "For God and home and native land, I promise, by God's help, to abstain from all intoxicating drinks (beverage), and to do all that in me lies to promote the cause of total abstinence by getting others to join the union."

The Prince's Investiture. Those who are behind the scenes are immensely amused at the fierce fight that is going on at the present time between the members of the other Welsh towns, as to which shall have the honor of witnessing the formal investiture of the Prince of Wales with his time-honored title.

As a matter of fact, the Prince and Queen have definitely made up their minds that there shall be no formal investiture of their eldest son at all, and that he shall not take any part in public functions of any description until he is eighteen.

At the same time His Majesty is very keenly interested in the discussion that is now taking place for the valuable sidelights that it sheds on Welsh history, and in following the history of the rival towns most carefully.

He is extremely cautious, however, not to express any opinion in favor of any one place, though he has been directly invited to do so by those who are at liberty to approach him upon the terms of intimacy.

And Wrong at That! Those almost perfect "doubles" George Du Maurier and Sir Lawrence Alma-Tadema, were nearly indistinguishable. The story goes that a woman sitting beside Du Maurier at dinner, started conversation by pooling all ideas of a resemblance.

"You know, Mr. Alma-Tadema, I think it's absurd to say that you and Mr. Du Maurier are so really alike. There's really no resemblance at all. Don't you agree with me?"

"Quite," was the polite answer; "but, you see, I happen to be Mr. Du Maurier."

Fell Dead After Saving Child. Standing on her doorstep in a street in Carmarthen, Wales, the other day a widow named Hannah Owen saw a five-year-old girl knocked down by a motor-car.

She rushed forward, snatched the child towards her, and took her into the house where she found that the little one was only scratched on the arm. The incident, however, had such an effect upon the woman that she fell dead.

The Expensive Premier. "That man's time is worth 500 a minute," said the mathematician of the "More than that," replied the reckless investor. "He once gave me five minutes of his time when I was looking for advice, and it cost me several thousand dollars."

The people who fear you won't find out who they are unless they tell you the history of their lives may be informative, but they are boring.

After going to the buyer coal goes to the collier.

FORTUNES ON CANVAS.

Some of the Great Sums Realized in the London Art Sales.

Over £1,300,000 has been spent on art treasures at Christie's Rooms in London, England, during the year 1910. The picture sales of the season compare favorably in interest with famous picture sales in the past, such as the great Gilt sale in 1872, when a sum of £164,501 was realized; the Dudley sale of 1893, which yielded a turnover of over £39,000, and the Day sales last year, which produced an aggregate of £30,820.

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—Mrs. MARY WOOD, R.F.D. 2.

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