

oft-repeated contention that to the last she did her utmost to avert war? She has fastened the blame, now upon Russia and now upon England. Here she appears as the center and the director of a cold-blooded and deliberate plot, in which she and her accomplices consider weeks beforehand how they shall make it impossible for Serbia to accept their demands and impossible for Russia to tolerate them. Herr Michaelis looks forward to 'the day when the history of this war lies open before us.' Let him begin to open it now, if he dares. Let him give his version of 'the meeting of July 5, 1914,' and support it by the publication of the whole correspondence between Berlin and Vienna for that fateful month. The Allies have challenged Germany again and again to produce those papers.

"We trust that in any case the Allied Governments will no longer hesitate to bring forward the evidence which they possess of the relations between the conspirators in the period before the war."

The official *Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung*, of course, has promptly denied that any such meeting took place, but, remarks the Leeds *Yorkshire Post*, "there is nothing else for it to do." Meanwhile, some confirmations of the *Times*'s story are forthcoming. Mr. Jules Cambon, who was French Ambassador to Berlin at the time, remarked to the Associated Press:

"I have reason to believe that these revelations, which place at this date the responsibility and initiative of the war, conform to the truth, and I am not surprised that the German Government attempts to divert the discussion by accusing us of seeking annexations which are absolutely contrary to the feelings of all reasonable Frenchmen."

The "special agent of the American Embassy at Constantinople," in 1915, Mr. Lewis Einstein, also writes in confirmation to the London *Times*, and says:

"Marquis Garroni, late Italian Ambassador at Constantinople, related to me there that on July 25, 1914—his birthday—Baron Wangenheim, then German Ambassador to Turkey, who had returned from Berlin the day before, told him that Emperor William had summoned a conference, where he had been present, at which war was decided upon. The Archduke's murder was to furnish the pretext.

"The plan was, after a few weeks' interval, to present an ultimatum to Serbia which she could not accept and from which war would ensue in forty-eight hours. Garroni related this incident also in Italy, and it was publicly referred to there by Signor Barzilai.

"I heard the same story while in Constantinople from another diplomatist whom Baron Wangenheim told that a month before the outbreak of hostilities the Kaiser had summoned leaders of the army, finance, and industry and asked them if they were prepared for war. All replied that they were, while Wangenheim gave him his assurance that he was ready to answer for Turkey."

Straws proverbially show how the wind blows, and another correspondent of *The Times* produces a straw, but one of no little significance. He writes:

"With reference to your important statement as to the Potsdam meeting of July 5, 1914, may I suggest that an explanation be sought how it was that the German five-mark war-notes were dated August 5, 1914. Engraved plates with dates such as these are not made and put into use in a day or two days or three."

THE DUTY OF KINGS—The Athens *Hestia* reports a speech of Eleutherios Venizelos—the uncrowned King of Greece—in which he gently and not altogether indirectly told Alexander—the crowned King of Greece—exactly what his duties are. He said:

"Kings are not responsible to God, but to their people, whose will keeps them on their thrones. We want kings who, bowing to this principle, are willing to give an account of their actions in this world and not in the next. If they also have special accounts to settle with God, they can do so after their death if they reach Heaven. If kings are to succeed in remaining and reigning after the present maelstrom that is visiting the world has passed they will do so only if they respect and meekly submit to the will of the people over whom they reign. Kings nowadays are but presidents of republics who, instead of being elected every four or five years, receive their offices hereditarily."

AMERICA'S "BRUTAL" EMBARGO

INTENSE RESENTMENT against America continues to be manifested in the neutral countries affected by our embargo, while the German papers are doing their utmost to keep the minds of the Dutch and Scandinavians inflamed against us. The effects of this campaign are most clearly seen in those countries nearest to Germany—for example, Holland's hardly veiled threat to Washington that if the embargo were not modified the Dutch would be "driven into the arms of

Samstag, 7. Juli 1917.

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Der Vernichtungsfeldzug gegen die kleinen Neutralen.

Brutaler Vorstoß der Amerikaner.

Niemals hat sich Brutalität
 schamloser zur Schau gestellt, als in diesem Freischieß rohester
 Gewalt, das aus gottgefälligem Gemüt amerikanischer
 Weltbeglückter aufsteigt. Es erheben sich Anklagen von er-
 schütternder Gewalt: der Ausschrei freier nordischer Bürger,
 vor deren Augen sich die Holzerkammer öffnet Milliarden-
 verträge und Milliarden Gewinn in der Zukunft und die
 Zermalnung des Nordens, wo England ganz Häfen finden
 könnte, das ist die Kriegsblitz jenes Präzidenten, der Glück
 und Frieden der Zukunft Recht und Freiheit der Menschheit
 mit wahrhaft christlichen Reden zu feiern vermocht hat. Was
 England zu tun sich geistert, das mag der Amerikaner —
 denn es ist sein eigener Vorteil. Amerika überwindet nicht
 nur die Neutralen, es wird sich auch zum Herren der Enten-
 machen!

WE "BRUTAL AMERICANS."

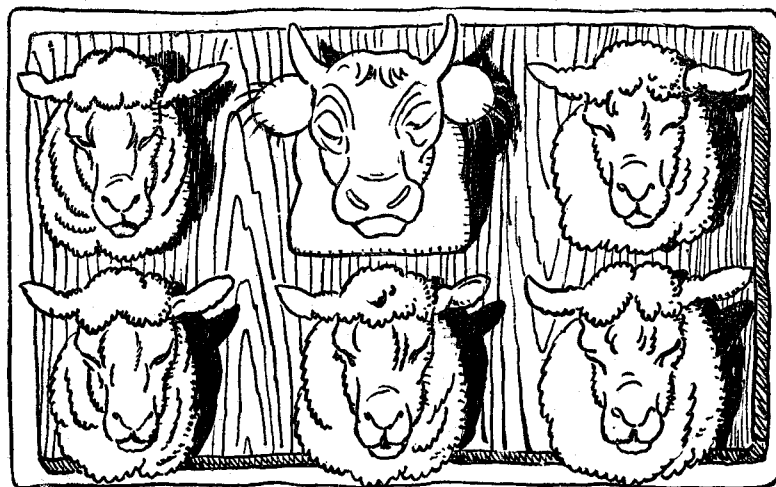
Here is a facsimile of the *Frankfurter Zeitung*'s gentle characterization of America appearing in this article. Some have thought that a paper of such standing would not descend to mere abuse, but here is the sad, but incontrovertible, evidence.

Germany," while no little acrimony is found in the press of Denmark. The Copenhagen *Ekstrabladet* writes of our "yellow press," which it seems to think responsible for the embargo:

"The smaller neutral States must now regard the future with the greatest apprehension. The great warring Powers have inaugurated a new epoch for us. With America at the head, they have set themselves against us and our neutral friends, and, if we can believe their press, have taken such steps as to make the situation what we must describe as desperate. By the observation of the strongest and strictest neutrality which has been recognized time after time by each of the warring Powers, we have up to this moment, by the happy cooperation of our Government and chambers of commerce, managed to cope with the economic situation. But when America with such a flourish came into the war, we were apprehensive that harder times were coming. This feeling has all too soon proved to be right. Up to the present moment, we had a working understanding with England as regards our trade, and we can recall how Blockade Minister Cecil stood out for our rights against the yellow press. But in America there appears to be no one who has the vaguest idea of the rights and wrongs of our situation. Noisy sheets, like the *Washington Post*, call us and all the rest of Scandinavia 'pseudoneutrals.' Were the times not so grave, utterances of this sort would merely be laughed at. . . . All we ask is the right to keep on living

without starving. If, notwithstanding the high-sounding speeches coming from the White House, our existence is threatened, how can the Allies keep up with grave face their great struggle for freedom, law, and civilization?"

This sort of writing is held by many to be due to the influence of the German press. No language seems too abusive, no tale too absurd for the German papers to print if only it concerns America. We have recently quoted some examples, and some of our readers who knew the German press before the war have found it hard to believe that such a paper, for example, as the



A SWISS VIEW OF THE EMBARGO.

"As President Wilson sees the European neutrals."

—Nebelspatter (Zurich).

Frankfurter Zeitung, which ranks—or ranked—in Germany as the *Chicago Tribune*, the *Springfield Republican*, or the *New York Times* do here, could indulge in such wild talk. We take the following gentle paragraph from an issue, recently received, which is headed, "The Campaign of Annihilation against the Little Neutrals," and followed by the subhead, "Brutal Assault by the Americans." The *Frankfurter Zeitung* says, and we reproduce the paragraph in facsimile:

"Never has brutality been more shamelessly displayed than in the glorification of violence of the roughest kind which ascends from these complacent American friends of the world. On the other hand, we hear complaints that are overwhelming in their strength—the cry of the free citizens of the North, before whose eyes the torture-chamber is opening.

"Contracts for millions and profits of millions in the future and the crushing of the Northlands, where England can find good harbors—that is the profit account of war for this President who has been prevailed upon to prate of the good hap and peace that are coming, of the rights and freedom of mankind, in such truly Christian speeches. The American dares what England shrinks from, because it is in his own interest. America not only overcomes the neutrals, but she will also master the Entente."

In Norway alone, of all the affected countries, do we find any indication of good-will for America and distrust of German assertions. The *Christiania Dagbladet* says:

"Our nation has the highest confidence in President Wilson's discernment and fairness, and in his power to resist indiscriminate agitation. The man who has declared that his nation is conducting war against official Germany, and not against the German people, will not agree to a commercial policy which might eventually prove a cruel declaration of war to small neutral nations."

Turning to another aspect of the embargo, we find the *London Times* has some hard things to say on the attitude of Holland:

"We note that the Dutch Minister at Washington has been talking somewhat excitedly about the position of Holland, and claiming, *inter alia*, that while Holland sends 'millions of

guilders' worth of certain commodities to Germany each month, she sends still greater quantities to Great Britain.' This we believe to be a deliberate misstatement of the facts. As the recent potato trouble showed, Holland has sent to Germany so much of her produce that her own people have gone short. Certain classes of Dutch subjects have found such traffic with Germany extremely lucrative and have engaged in it, by smuggling and otherwise, to the full extent of their power. It is essential for the achievement of the Allied purpose—and in its achievement the Dutch are vitally interested—that the enemy should not thus be revictualled; and the United States Government rightly insists that, before supplies can be allowed to reach Holland and other neutral countries from America, these countries shall show a clean bill of health in the matter of voluntary exports to Germany. We are fully aware of, and have often recognized, the difficulty of the Dutch position in regard to Germany, and are anxious not to increase it or to inflict avoidable hardship upon the Dutch people. But the Allies can not allow the war to be protracted merely out of consideration for Dutch profiteering interests."

The Dutch contention that starvation threatens is controverted by American correspondents there who, in their cable dispatches, quote "a leading journal of economic and statistical news," which states that Holland has wheat enough to last till March, 1918.

THE FINANCIERS' PEACE-PLOT

THE PEACE-MAKING ITCH seems to have affected almost every international organization, and all sorts of conferences are being held with a view to finding some solution which will be acceptable to all belligerents. We have discussed the effort

of the Roman Catholic Church, as put forth in the Pope's note, and the attempt of the International Socialist bodies in the Stockholm Conference. Now, from the *London Tablet* we learn that the Freemasons have tried their hand at a conference of the members of the Grand Orients of both France and Italy recently held in Paris. Next comes another effort of an international group, that of high finance, which is somewhat abruptly treated by the *London New Europe*. It says:

"We learn from an unimpeachable source that the secret conference of international financiers which recently took place in Switzerland, and at which French, British, and German representatives were present, was inspired by somewhat different motives from those which the initiated ascribed to it at the time. Acting purely in the interest of the great capitalists of all countries, it aimed, above all, at an immediate peace such as would arrest the growth of international socialism and the rising tide of revolution throughout Europe. It sought to forestall the holding of the Stockholm Conference by a direct arrangement between the belligerents, in which national claims would be entirely subordinated to considerations of world-wide finance."

The *New Europe* asserts that the financiers have secured influential support in certain Roman Catholic circles, but doubts if anything will come of it:

"The unconscious puppets of this movement are to be found in many opposite camps—among sentimental pacifists and honestly doctrinaire 'Maximalists,' among the numerous agents of Berlin, Vienna, Budapest, and Sofia, who swarm on Swiss soil, and among the inveterate Austrophils and Bulgarophils of the Entente. Some of those who are personally interested in Turkish credit stand close behind the scenes. The movement has also found some support in certain Ultramontane circles, which, despite their talent for intrigue, are too short-sighted to realize that the Church's only hope for the future is to lead the peoples and not to follow the dynasties. It may be doubted whether there exists a genius capable of harmonizing so many varied and mutually conflicting interests: for humanity is in the grip of events far too vast to be arrested by such artificial intrigues. But it is none the less necessary to keep a vigilant eye upon certain tendencies which seek to seal the exploitation of the peoples by a disgraceful 'hole and corner' pact."