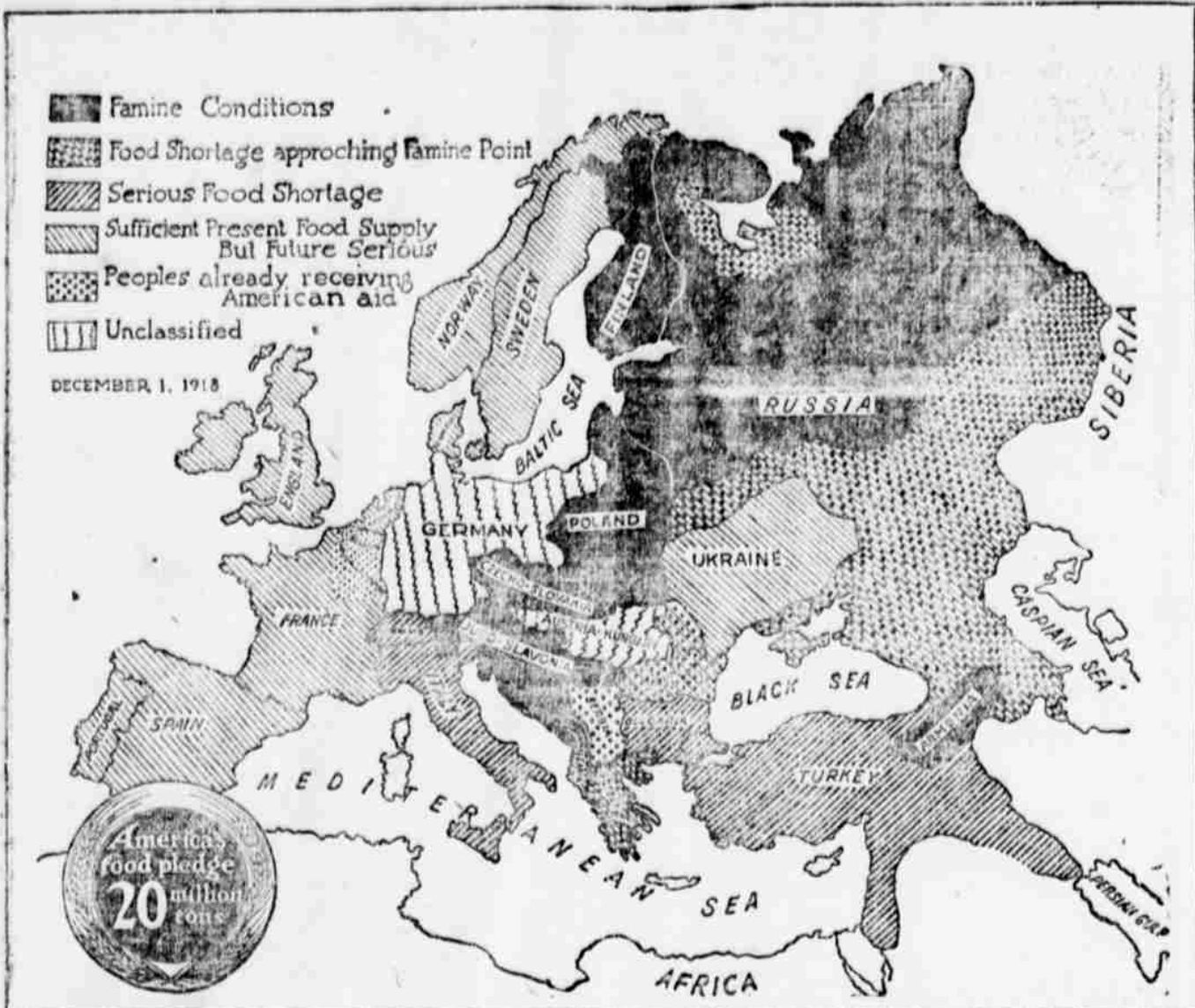


HUNGER DRAWS THE MAP



A food map of Europe today shows not a single country in which the future does not hold threat of serious affliction, and only a small area which is not a daily agonizing famine point. With the exception of the Ukraine only those countries which have maintained marine connections have sufficient food supplies to meet actual needs until next harvest, and even in the Ukraine, with stores accumulated on the farms, there is famine in the large centers of population. Belgium and northern France, as well as Serbia, appear on the hunger map distinct from the rest of Europe because they stand in a different relation from the other nations to the people of the United States. American has for four years maintained the small war rations of Belgium and northern France and is already making special efforts to care for their increased after-the-war needs, which, with those of Serbia, must be included in this plan, are urgent to the extreme and must have immediate relief.

The gratitude of the Belgian nation for the help America has extended to her during the war constitutes the strongest appeal for us to continue our work there. The moment the German armies withdrew from her soil and she was established once more in her own seat of government the little nation's first thought was to express her gratitude to the Commission for Relief in Belgium for preserving the lives of millions of her citizens. Germany, on the other hand, most notorious in such a map for American famine because there is no present indication that we shall be called on at all to take thought for the food needs of Germany. Germany probably can care for her own food problem if she is given access to shipping and is enabled to distribute food to the cities with dense populations, which are the trouble centers.

England, France, the Netherlands and Portugal, all of which have been maintained from American supplies, have sufficient food to meet immediate needs, but their future presents serious difficulties. The same is true of Spain and the northern neutral countries—Norway, Sweden and Denmark—whose ports have been open and who have been able to draw to some degree upon foreign supplies.

Most of Russia is already in the throes of famine, and 40,000,000 people there are beyond the possibility of help. Before another spring thousands of them inevitably must die. This applies as well to Poland and practically throughout the Baltic re-

gions, with conditions most serious in Finland. Estonia, Serbia, Roumania and Yugoslavia have already reached the famine point and are suffering a heavy toll of death. The American population is falling each week as hunger takes its toll, and in Greece, Albania and Roumania so serious are the food shortages that famine is near. Although starvation is not yet imminent, Italy, Switzerland, Bulgaria and Turkey are in the throes of serious straits.

In order to fulfill America's pledge in world relief we will have to export every ton of food which can be handled through our ports. This means at the very least a minimum of 20,000,000 tons compared with 6,000,000 tons pre-war exports and 11,820,000 tons exported last year, when we were bound by the ties of war to the European allies.

If we fail to lighten the black spots on the hunger map or if we allow any portions to become darker the very peace for which we fought and bled will be threatened. Revolt and anarchy inevitably follow famine. Should this happen we will see in other parts of Europe a repetition of the Russian debacle and our fight for world peace will have been in vain.

When the German troops entered Tripoli, Russia, at a later time they captured vast quantities of American-made hospital supplies.

"We were just figuring what situation amounted to, and my army doctor was strutting around as if they owned the world," declared the pilot. "When one of my officers was approached by a group of half-breed gypsy Jews, who claimed that these supplies belonged to them. They say our private property, we bought them and we would be compensated if you seize them," they contended. "Did he pay for them?" my officer asked. "No, we didn't pay for them, but we gave our notes," they replied. "Then," said my officer, "when you take up their notes we'll pay for these stores; if the meanwhile we'll just take them. We secured hostages, serum—everything in fact, that we needed so very badly, and we got them all for nothing!"

I did not know at that time that the German army lacked medical supplies but later I saw paper bandages in use. I have previously referred to the Kaiser's defense of the use of Zeppe-lins against Paris, London and other nonmilitary cities. He claimed that it was proper to make war on civilians because England was endeavoring to starve Germany. On one occasion I pointed out to him that in 1870 the Germans had besieged Paris and had starved its population.

"The cases are entirely different," he answered hastily. "Then we were besieging a city and the civilian population had plenty of opportunity to evacuate it before the siege began. England is besieging a whole nation and trying to starve my women and children, who have nothing to do with war!"

I couldn't help thinking of the "whole nations" which had been absolutely crushed under the Kaiser's heel—of Belgium, Serbia and Poland. The Kaiser never admitted that the destruction of the Lusitania was a result of special instructions from him to the U-boat commander, but in discussing the general subject of submarine warfare he asked:

"What right have Americans to take passage on these vessels, anyway? If they came onto the battlefield they would not expect us to stop firing would they? Why should they expect greater protection when they enter our war zone than when they enter the United States?"

"Don't ever forget," he went on, "to bullet from a plane. I have known in which our U-boats were forbidden to attack whether they are neutral and not carrying contraband? I what you say is a neutral should in fact prove to be a belligerent, or if a belligerent should I leave to its subsistence? I could not safely issue a boarding party, yet when a ship that from the sea was a question word and in as the Kaiser's question was American people by his war against us to the Kaiser's question. It is not our business to stop firing would they? Why should they expect greater protection when they enter our war zone than when they enter the United States?"

"International law! There is no such thing as international law any more!"

The murder of the Archduke Franz Ferdinand, the successor to the Austrian throne, and his wife by a Serbian on June 28, 1914, gave Germany the excuse for which she had been waiting so long to start a European conflagration and found Austria as anxious for war as her ally.

But even had Emperor Franz Joseph shown reluctance to plunge his nation into war and had Austria refused to chastise Serbia for the murder of the Archduke I doubt very much whether the Kaiser would have allowed that event to have gone unavenged.

It touched him to one of his most vulnerable spots, the sanctity of royalty is one of his most cherished ideas. He felt sponsor for the monarchies of the world, as we feel sponsor for the democracies. A thrust at a throne was a stab at the Kaiser's heart, and with or without the cooperation of Austria I firmly believe he would have gone to any lengths to have avenged the crime of Sarajevo.

It is true that the Kaiser sent a message to the czar of Russia in which he pointed out that Austria ought to be allowed to chastise Serbia without interference from the other European powers, remarking, "We princes must hold together," but there can be no doubt that that was very far from the Kaiser's heart, and the punishment of Austria I firmly believe he would have gone to any lengths to have avenged the crime of Sarajevo.

How firmly the Kaiser was wedded to the dynastic idea and how deeply he abhorred the spirit of democracy was revealed throughout the whole course of the Kaiser's reign. The Kaiser's expression to show which side he was thoroughly he decided in the "Kaiser's right of kings."

"I saw him shortly after Wilson's election in 1912.

"What will America ever accomplish with a professor at its head?" he asked scornfully. "Davis, your country will never be truly great until it becomes a monarchy!"

"On another occasion he sneered at conditions in England.

"Look at England today," he remarked. "She is ruled by Lloyd George, a socialist. Why, England is virtually a republic, as bad as France! What's become of the King of England? One never hears of him any more! Why doesn't he assert himself? The tone of disgust with which he gave vent to these sentiments was more significant, perhaps, than the words he used at the time."

"Your president is trying to overthrow me and my family from the throne of Germany by his notes," he commented bitterly, when I saw him shortly after the publication of the president's reply to the pope, "and his little ambassadors to law legal are my people and a few faithful officers will prove. They held meetings recently all over the empire, in every city and village, and shame! their allegiance to me in an unswerving way and your president received the answer from my people that he deserved!"

I wonder whether the Kaiser was aware of the fact that all these statements had been fully exposed by the press, and whether he had ever again made use of his monarchic ability.

"All these things are presented as the crimes of socialism," he declared in his answer which was apparently not long from the Kaiser's mind, "and it is my business to show the world that the Kaiser's ability."

It was the year he steadfastly refused to receive a delegation of socialist and never more gave an audience to the leaders of the socialist party in the Reichstag, although the heads of the committees of all the other political parties were all times ready to be seen.

While the Reichstag was little more than a children's debating society, the growth and increasing power of the socialist party, which was constantly clamoring for the reform vote, could not be ignored, and no doubt had a great deal to do with the militarists' anxiety not to postpone the war too long.

After mobilization was ordered, however, the Kaiser decided to recede from his position somewhat, and from the balcony of the palace in Berlin, in front of which an enormous crowd had gathered, he declared significantly: "I recognize no parties. We are now all Germans."

If anyone imagines, however, that his kowtowing to the socialists in this instance was evidence of a permanent change of heart, he little appreciates how deeply rooted is the Kaiser's abhorrence of socialism and democracy. Indeed, one of the principal things the Kaiser hoped to accomplish by prosecuting the war to a triumphant conclusion was the blow it would deal to socialist progress. He felt that victory would make his army the idol of the people and that their monarch would shine in the reflected glory of their martial achievements. A successful war, he believed, would set socialism back a hundred years.

Certain it is the war brought no change in the Kaiser's personal habits. Even to curry favor with the socialistic element he never unhesitated to the slightest degree in his outward display of kingly attributes. In all his career the German people had never

seen their Kaiser other than in his royal uniform, and at all military parades or reviews he always rode a white horse, that he might be most conspicuous, and bore the royal mace which his ancestors had carried centuries before him. With the death struggle between medieval monarchy and democracy raging about him the Kaiser was determined to yield not a tithe of his prerogatives. His automobile still made its coming known by its distinctive "tee-tee-tee" and the royal palaces were maintained in all their accustomed pomp.

But while the Kaiser's armies were triumphant in the field, the principle which he was combating was everywhere gaining ground. On March 15, 1917, the czar abdicated and Russia, whose autocratic form of government had long been the envy of the German aristocracy, became a republic.

"The downfall of the Russian empire was brought about by England because she feared that the czar was about to make a separate peace," the Kaiser commented to me. "As a matter of fact, however, neither the czar nor his government ever approached us on that subject, and when England overthrew the Russian monarchy she defeated her very purpose. With the czar on the throne Russia would probably have gone on fighting us."

Although the Kaiser bore no particular love for the czar, whom he was fighting, he had no desire to convert the empire into a democracy, and his bitterness toward England for what he thought was her part in the establishment of the Russian republic was very pronounced.

When, a few months later, the abdication of the czar was followed by the abdication of King Constantine of Greece, the Kaiser sustained another blow which hurt him more than the defeat of one of his armies would have done.

"They are trying to force their rotten form of democratic government on Greece," he declared fiercely. "The only thing that has saved my people from the hands of Greece is a shame and a disgrace. We will never let our invasion of Belgium, and their poison in Greece are such a success. I have studied the English people for twenty-five years, and they always try to cover their acts with religion and the talk of benefits to civilization and humanity, but, hypocrites that they are, they continue to grab all they can get their hands on just the same!"

The fact that Greece had a treaty with Serbia which required her to take up arms if Serbia were attacked and that she had failed to meet her obligations in that respect was naturally of no significance to the Kaiser, to whom treaties were but scraps of paper.

The keynote of the Kaiser's military program lay in the fact that he realized that it was necessary for him to win in order to hold his throne. I feel quite sure that if the allies were willing to concede to Germany all the territory she has conquered—Belgium, Serbia, Poland, Roumania, Russia and part of France, and restore all her colonies, upon condition that the Kaiser stop down from the throne, he would reject the proposition without a moment's hesitation.

"Your country would like to make a republic out of Germany," he commented, "a republic like France, perhaps, going down and down all the time—a country ruled by lawyers! And he mentioned half a dozen of the great French statesmen who were members of the legal profession. "It is a sad thing for a country when it goes into the hands of the lawyers. France and Italy are already controlled by them, and America and England are rapidly following their example!"

The Kaiser regarded the German people as his own property to do with as he liked. When I referred to the "German people" in conversation he would deliberately correct me by referring to his realm as "my people." When, for instance, I said on one occasion, "I understand, your majesty, that the German people are anxious for peace," he answered, "Yes, Davis, my people are strongly in favor of peace, but they want a German peace—no allied peace!"

He believed that just as the universe is ruled by God so should the earth be dominated by an earthly ruler and that God had selected him for the task. To displace him in favor of a republican form of government, to substitute a ruler elected by the people for a monarch designated by God was in his opinion the basest sort of sacrilege, and the unfortunate part of it all was that the majority of his people coincided with him. They preferred to be ruled by a hand of iron rather than to rule themselves. Some day they may be awakened to the blessings of self-government, but up to the present time they have not shown the slightest indication that they would prefer to rule than be ruled, and because they submit so willingly to the Kaiser's domination he has become obsessed with the idea that the rest of the world should follow suit.

CHAPTER VII.

The Japanese.

According to the talk of the German diplomats before the war the expectation was that Japan's power would be used against America at the first opportunity. Whether the object of this campaign was to stir up trouble between Japan and America or only to awaken this country to a sense of the danger which the Germans professed to believe threatened her I don't know. I do know, however, that prospect of a Japanese-American war seemed to worry the Germans considerably more than it worries us.

Study the Future Well.

The future contains your meek block of Parian marble. Beware how you smite it. Do not touch it until you have a plan, an idea, to work out of it. You may so mar the marble as to hinder the highest expression of your soul through it.

Rebuff Discourteous.

Augustus Daly, who was regarded by the general public as one of the most frog-blooded of men, was standing in the lobby of his theater one evening when he was approached by an actor, who presented his card and inquired: "Do you recognize the profession?" "Did you ever see me stop and speak to one of them?" was the freezing reply.

To be continued.

Notice to Creditors.

In the County Court of Webster County, Nebraska. In the matter of the estate of Anna Katrina Burg, deceased. Creditors of said estate will take notice that the time limited for presentation and filing of claims against said estate is April 17th, 1919, and for the payment of debts is May 14th, 1919. That I will sit at the county court room in said county, hear and allow all claims duly filed which are first or second lien upon said estate, and on the 18th day of April, 1919, to examine, hear, allow and adjust all claims and objections of general creditors duly filed.

Dated this 17th day of December, A. D., 1918 (1918). A. B. RANNEY, County Judge. E. G. Caldwell attorney for estate.

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(Work Guaranteed)
Electrical Goods of all Kinds
Will Wire Your House And Furnish You the Fixtures

The Kaiser as I Knew Him For Fourteen Years
By
ARTHUR N. DAVIS, D. D. S.
Copyright, 1918, by the McClure Newspaper Syndicate.

When the Firemen Appear
The insured man's first thought is one of thankfulness that he is so. How about your thoughts if a fireman should appear at your home?

The Day Before the Fire
is the day to insure. As that day may be to-morrow for all you can know or do, it follows that prudence would impel you to stop in our office to day and have us issue you a policy.

O. C. TEEL
Reliable Insurance
Study the Future Well.
The future contains your meek block of Parian marble. Beware how you smite it. Do not touch it until you have a plan, an idea, to work out of it. You may so mar the marble as to hinder the highest expression of your soul through it.
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