

Hearing of Secret Papers Defended

Ex-Premier Justifies Public Men

Publication of Confidential Information Is Minister's Only Defense from Attacks, Says Lloyd George.

Good Name Is at Stake

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London, March 17.—A storm is working up over the publication by public servants of information which came into their possession in the course of their official careers.

It is rather late in the day to make all this fuss about publication of war documents, for generals, admirals and ministers in all lands, including ours, have during the last three years been inundating the European and American public with a flood of reminiscences, explanations, criticisms, attacks and defenses on the conduct of operations, either with the great war or the great peace, in which they were engaged.

On the other hand, statesmen have been engaged in disclaiming responsibility for particular parts of the Treaty of Versailles, and where blame has been attached to them either by opponents or supporters.

One disclosure has led to another. One revelation has rendered another inevitable. A general, admiral or minister criticizes on the strength of half-disclosed minutes or documents some other public functionary, military, naval or political.

Take the case of the minister who played an important part in the conduct of war or peace, and whose actions have been subjected to malignant and persistent misrepresentation.

Reprints Misquoted. In attacking these ministers, statements are made which if accepted by the public would irretrievably damage or even destroy their reputation.

It is not to be allowed to repeat the omission or to correct the misquotation. The cabinet and does not hesitate to quote textually secret memoranda and dispatches written by himself and others. The late admiral of the fleet, Lord Fisher, gives in his book, "Memories," examples of his own intervention at war council meetings.

In his autobiography, "From Private to Field Marshal," which appeared some time later, Field Marshal Sir William Robertson, who was for over 20 years the confidential adviser of the cabinet, and as such attended all war councils and most war cabinet meetings, when it suits his argument gives to the public his account of what passed around the table.

President Wilson was strongly of the opinion that these documents ought to be treated as purely private conversation, and he objected to communication of accounts given in notes of private conversation in which all present had spoken their minds with full freedom, as improper use might afterward be made of these documents.

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Whatever general rules may be laid down they must in all fairness take into account these exceptional circumstances. Those who are now taking a prominent part in emphasizing the enormity of giving to the public documents which were acquired in public service had not a word to say when portions of those documents were used for purposes with which they were in sympathy.

So far as the British are concerned, the writing of books of the type alluded to was started, I think, by Field Marshal Lord French of Ypres in his book, "1914." This work is of the nature of an apology and the writer, to assist in establishing his case, alludes to discussions with the cabinet and does not hesitate to quote textually secret memoranda and dispatches written by himself and others.

What happened in reference to transactions of secret conclaves held in connection with the framing of the peace treaty, affords an illustration of the way these revelations occur. The question of publication of these proceedings was definitely discussed at Versailles after the signature of the peace treaty with Germany on the 28th of June, 1919.

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No Bounds to Wrath. In addition, there have been endless articles in magazines and newspapers, some signed, some written anonymously, all attacking either ministers, generals or admirals, and most of them clearly supplied with secret information by men who must have acquired it in their official capacity.

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lic. M. Clemenceau did not think that such documents could be regarded as private property, whilst M. Sonnino thought they need not be considered as official documents.

Excuses Accepted. That is undoubtedly what impelled Ex-President Wilson to hand over his documents to Ray Baker with a view to presentation of the case from the standpoint of the American delegation.

Impression Unfair. M. Clemenceau expressed his defense in his book, "The Truth About the Treaty," gives most of his attention to the drawing up of that international instrument, but deals with the last portion of the war period and quotes from proceedings of inter-allied conferences and also the supreme war council, giving opinions of individuals. He does the same with the deliberations of the peace conference.

Trade Terms in Far East. Moscow, March 17.—Many Japanese commercial firms are applying for the privilege of uniting with Russian concerns in exploiting the fishing and lumber projects of the far eastern republic, according to Hamm Kantor, head of the Russian trade commission to the far eastern republic, who has recently returned to Moscow.

Omaha Soon Will Have Two Broadcast Stations. Omaha soon will have two active, high power broadcasting stations in operation.

Paint and Varnish Products Prevent Destruction. They lay a pall of ugliness over the beauty of the rooms. Their defiling fingers strangle the charm and besmirch the cleanliness of the home.

FREE DIAGRAM AT YOUR DEALER. FRESHMAN PRODUCTS— ESPECIALLY ADAPTABLE FOR THE SUPER CIRCUIT.

Variable Resistance Leak. With 50025 mfd. Micon. \$1.00. Without Condenser. 75c.

ANTENNELLA. No antenna or aerial needed. Eliminates all the inconveniences in radio operation from any light socket. Price \$2.

RED PEPPER HEAT STOPS BACKACHE. The heat of red pepper takes the "ouch" from a sore, lame back. It can not hurt you, and it certainly ends the torture at once.

Clears the Complexion, Relieves Sick Headache, Jaundice, Indigestion. Red Cross Liver Pills, a treatment of tried experience acts by removing the cause; milder of these remedies best suited for the cure of liver, kidney, stomach and bowel troubles.

WHEN IN NEED OF HELP TRY OMAHA BEE WANT ADS. Ask any druggist for a jar of Rowley Red Pepper Rub. Be sure to get the genuine, with the name Rowley on each package.

to the very sarcophagus where the body of the king lay, then as we came out gathered a small specimen from one of the huge alabaster originally covered and, tired and hungry, started for Cairo after one of the blocks with which the pyramid was most wonderful days of all our lives.

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La Fontaine's Fables Held as Elixir of Life. Paris, March 17.—The problem of how to live to the century mark has been solved again.

FRESH! Puritan Malt. Puritan Malt has no time to get stale—it moves too rapidly off the retailers' shelves.

PURITAN MALT. HOP FLOVED SUGAR SYRUP. PLAIN EXTRACT WITH FRESH PRESSED HOPS. "Highest Quality"

DEVVOE Paint and Varnish Products. Prevent Destruction. Dust Devils! Millions ride in on every breeze.

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Dr. McCarthy. 80% saved on all styles of glasses during this sale. FOR EXAMPLE: \$29 Glasses\$10.00

THIS PURE CREAM ENDS HEAD COLDS. Apply in Nostrils—It Opens Air Passages Instantly.

King Tutenkhamun's Land Is Visited by Nebraskan. Former Omaha Pastor and Wife Explore Famous Pyramids and Descend Into Tombs—Travelers Find Sacred Egyptian Beetle, Scarab.

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