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Helps Gather War News

Fats About a Great European News Bureau.

NEW YORK, Sept. 21.—The war news of Europe is furnished to the American press largely by the three agencies, the Wolff of Germany, the Havas of France, and Reuter's Telegram Company, of London (pronounced Royter.) Reuter's is a general news bureau, and extends over all Europe. It is regarded as the most reliable agency in Europe and has the confidence of the readers, the censors and the government heads alike.

Reuter's Telegram Company was founded by Paul Julius Reuter. From a mere two-office bureau—one operated by his wife, the other by himself, with the only means of communication between them furnished by carrier pigeons—the news service has expanded until now it is regarded as the most comprehensive and the most accurate in all Europe.

Begin With Pigeons

Early in life Reuter formed a childish affection for a professor who was much interested in the development of the telegraph. Out of that friendship grew a deep interest in electricity and Reuter, under his friend's guidance, acquired more than an ordinary knowledge of the telegraph. With that knowledge came the dream, and in 1849, when telegraph lines had been built in Germany and France, he saw his opportunity in the gap that lay between Aix-la-Chapelle and Berlin. Himself a German, he organized a news agency and stationed himself in Berlin, his wife at Aix-la-Chapelle. Carrier pigeons were used as a means of communication.

Later, when the carrier pigeons were supplanted by the telegraph and the gap between the two countries bridged, he tried to establish an international bureau, but was discouraged by Germany and repulsed by France. He went to London in 1851 and established Reuter's office. Later he became a naturalized Englishman and centered his entire organization in London.

First Hit of Bureau

Desiring for concessions while being constantly repulsed by the press marked his early London experiences, but, like Franklin, he received inspiration from rebuke. A few private dispatches, scattered commercial communication and meager news sales limited the scope of his bureau until the London Times, in a rash piece of extravagance according to the viewpoint of that date,

printed the Reuter conveyed speech of Napoleon III in 1858. This speech scored a success and marked the real birth of the agency.

In 1868 Reuter secured a concession from France to join with the Anglo-American News Company and built a cable between France and the United States. Before the completion of this cable Reuter built a line from Cork to Cookhaven, getting the Civil War news from incoming vessels and telegraphing it over Europe hours in advance of the docking of the steamer.

Reuter Made a Baron

Queen Victoria made Reuter a baron in 1871 and further declared that his title should pass to his heirs and be granted perpetual succession. He died in Nice February 25, 1899. His son, August Julius Clement Herbert Baron de Reuter, succeeded his father as managing director of the company.

Reuter's Telegram Company, made a limited liability company in 1865, is now in its sixty-fourth year and is the greatest news selling bureau in Europe. It conducts an interchangeable service with the Associated Press, of America, and with all reliable news agencies the world over.

The Havas, of France, and the Wolff, of Germany, are reliable bureaus operating wholly within their respective domains. Each of these, in times of war, is regarded as a government mouthpiece. Each is subsidized, each is under government control. It was recently urged by Reuter's that they accept the Wolff bureau as the authentic source of German news.

The reliability of the service and the accuracy of its information makes Reuter's the absolute spokesman for war-torn Europe. As evidence of its accuracy, Reuter's first gave information to the American press that England and Germany were in a state of war and prophesied that at 6:00 on that day the declaration would be made. Promptly at 6:00 the declaration was made.

While Reuter's Telegram Company is represented by correspondents at every news source and at every bureau, it is absolutely independent of affiliation or control. No news bureau is in possession of more confidential or official information and no bureau in Europe is more accurate, more conservative than Reuter's. To the present Baron de Reuter's only son, Herbert Julius, ultimately will fall the supervision of the great news agency founded by his grandfather.

Americans Paying Heavy "War Tax" On All Drugs

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 21.—The people of the United States are already paying a heavy war tax in the higher prices for drugs and medicines, according to H. C. Swartley, of Llewellyn's drug store. He told the Philadelphia Rotary Club at the St. James Hotel that advances of 300 per cent and more in the price of some popular remedies were shown.

South Belgium, Germany and France, Mr. Swartley explained, grow many plants possessing medicinal virtues, and Germany, with her established research laboratories, has led in obtaining the derivatives and utilizing by-products. Germany, too, has benefited by lower priced labor. It was stated.

Derivatives from belladonna leaves were cited as among the drugs that have been scarce in price. One article, formerly selling at \$45 an ounce, now commands \$180, and another has advanced from \$20 to \$120. Opium has gone up 23 per cent and 100 per cent has been added to the cost of gum camphor from Formosa.

Glycerine, produced in the manufacture of soap and used in explosives, is 40 per cent higher as a result of the war. Ichthyol, a dried fish product, is off the market entirely. Salvarsan, an arsenical preparation,

selling at \$3.50 before the war, is quoted at \$10.

A patented preparation selling in Canada at 25 cents, under a label "Not for exportation to the United States," commands \$1.00 here and a mineral oil, from Russia, is up 300 per cent.

All brittle goods are higher. England, France and Germany, it was stated, produce 50 per cent of all the brushes, and of the remainder, 50 per cent comes from Japan. Caustic potash, for soap making, is quoted at 23 cents a pound, against 3 7-8 cents wholesale while Europe was at peace.

France has led in developing perfumes and toilet articles, as Germany has in chemicals, and the dainty extracts, such as still are available, are bringing fabulous prices. A cake of French toilet soap costing \$2 was contrasted with a United States product sold at 35 cents.

Price, it has been made to appear, is a matter of the seller's conscience or the importance with which he regards a customer. While some wholesale drug houses are quoting \$1.25 a pound for citric acid, one, at least, offers it to customers for 80 cents. An ounce of citric acid goes into a bottle of citrate of magnesia.

Of course, British tenacity and British courage always come in, and they always will. But let us remember that British cash tells, too.

GERMAN CHURCHES CRUSHED.

Methodist Communicants Affected, Great Suffering Anticipated.

NEW YORK, Sept. 21.—Methodist congregations in Germany are facing the necessity of closing the doors of their churches, and in a great many instances selling their property for whatever it will bring, owing to their inability to meet financial obligations, according to a letter received at the home office of the board of foreign missions of the Methodist Episcopal church from Bishop John L. Nuelson, who is in charge of the work in Europe.

The members of the German congregation, Bishop Nuelson wrote, are crushed by the heavy burdens imposed upon them by the war, and great suffering is anticipated among the families of some of those who have fallen in battle.

BELGIUM WILL NOT BE FORGOTTEN—POINCARÉ

BORDEAUX, Sept. 21.—King Albert of Belgium wired Raymond Poincaré as follows: "Belgium heartily congratulates the French arms on their notable successes. The admirable cruelties which our population is suffering only increase our ardor." In reply President Poincaré wired: "When the hour of reparation arrives, none will forget what the heroic Belgians have done for the triumph of the common cause of civilization and liberty."

Belgium's Huge Disaster.

The Belgian government estimates that the actual monetary damage resulting from the war totals 200 million dollars.

ROAD TO PARIS TOO COSTLY

Evidence That the Germans Are Altering Their Plans—May Force Sweden In

LONDON, Sept. 21.—The Germans have found the road to Paris too rough and costly, and are taking the course of wisdom in withdrawing and mending up the ragged holes in their columns. Best estimates place their losses in Belgium and on the French border at nearly 500,000 men killed and fully as many more wounded and incapacitated for service for months. It must be remembered also that they have reached the zenith of their strength while the allies are constantly bringing up fresh troops. Hereafter Germany must move more cautiously, for this is to be a war of extermination. It can expect very little help from Austria, which is already on the brink of destruction.

Appeal to Italy for Aid

Germany and Austria have made another important appeal to Italy to abandon its neutrality and help them out of their critical position. There does not seem the slightest chance that Italy will respond. If it enters the fray it will be against Austria.

May Force Sweden

It was felt that when dire extremity comes, Germany may force Sweden to assist it. The treaty with Sweden gives that country no option. It must come to Germany's aid when called, in any war where Russia is involved, or otherwise. Sweden has been mobilizing for months, but it may follow Italy's course, and refuse to do more than defend itself.

Fight to Last Man

"One day last week a small party under a non-commissioned officer was cut off and surrounded. After a desperate resistance it was decided to go on fighting to the end. Finally the non-commissioned officer and one man only were left, both of them being wounded. "The Germans came up and shouted to them: 'Lay down your arms.' The German commander, however, signaled to them to keep their arms and then asked permission to shake hands with the wounded non-commissioned officer, who was carried off on his stretcher, with his rifle by his side. There are hints here and in Paris that when the Kaiser fully realizes the failure of his plans, he will prefer to have the British and French capture Berlin before the Russians can break through, as he would get

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