

Special Cables From The Journal-Chicago Daily News Correspondents

NATIONALIZATION OF RUSS WOMEN WAS MERE JOKE

Report Had Its Inception in Facetious Article Published by a Humorist in Petrograd.

THE IDEA PROVOKES MIRTH

Possibility of Such a Thing Coming to Pass Creates Only Laughter Among Both Sexes.

By Isaac Don Levine. Special Correspondence of The Journal and The Chicago News.

Stockholm, Sweden, July 8.—"Are you nationalized?"

With this question on my lips I started out the first day of my arrival in Russia to ascertain the truth regarding the story of the nationalization of women in Russia, widely circulated abroad.

RUSSIANS LAUGH AT IT

As soon as one finds one's self in Russia in the company of the fair sex, the story of nationalization of the Russian women appears as a huge falsehood, so ridiculous that one cannot discuss it without mirth.

PRODUCT OF HUMORIST

How did the fairy tale of the nationalization of women originate? There was a humorous weekly in Petrograd.

plifying marriage, conceived the idea of going a little further and outlining a decree for the nationalization of women. This product of the fertile imagination of a clever humorist was duly carried abroad and translated and published in Great Britain as an authentic government proclamation.

CIVIL MARRIAGES RECOGNIZED

"The Russian republic henceforth recognizes only civil marriages."

"Civil marriage is performed in accordance with the following regulations: 'The persons desiring to contract a marriage apply either personally or through a written declaration to the section for the registration of marriages and births at the city, district, county or village administration board of their place of residence.'

"Note. Religious marriage, contracted parallel with the compulsory civil marriage, is the private affair of the marrying persons."

"2. Declarations of intentions to get married are not accepted: (a) From males under 18 years of age and females under 16, in transit; (b) From direct line relatives, full and half brothers and sisters; (c) From people who are married, and (d) From demented persons."

NO FALSE STATEMENTS TAKEN

"3. The persons wishing to marry appear in the section for the registration of marriages and births and declare under their signatures that the above prohibitions are not violated by them and that they contract the marriage of their own free will. Those who are found guilty of making intentionally false statements are held criminally responsible and their marriage is declared void."

"4. Upon the affixing of their signatures, the director of the section registers the marrying couple and declares the marriage legally performed. The marrying persons are given the freedom to determine whether they should go under the name of the husband, the wife, or their joint name. In testimony of the event of the marriage the married couple immediately receive a copy of the marriage certificate."

WHY DIVORCES WERE MANY

Indeed, marriage in soviet Russia is not much different from marriage in the United States. The same is true of the home. A communist's home differs little from that of a bourgeois, unless it be by the fact that the communist lives in a flat furnished not by him. I had the good fortune of falling into a typical Bolshevik home upon my arrival in Petrograd. My host was the youthful commandant of Belostrav, a Petrograd factory workman of Finnish origin, 24 years of age. He had been married for three years, but had not been divorced even once! And this in spite of the comparative ease with which a divorce can be obtained in soviet Russia. In the first months there were hundreds of thousands of divorces in Russia, almost exclusively among people who had been unable to separate legally under the old

regime. But things soon stabilized, and now the number of divorces is surprisingly low."

APARTMENT WAS NOT LOOTED

The home in which I lived in Petrograd was situated in one of the finest apartment houses in the city. It formerly belonged to a woman of the demi-monde, whose picture still adorns the reception room of the house. It was luxuriously furnished. After the coming of the Bolsheviks into power she escaped, leaving the apartment in charge of a servant. That was more than a year ago. There were thousands of others who did likewise. The surprising thing about it all is that these apartments have not been looted. It was amazing to find the dishes, the rugs, the paintings, the grand piano, the many leather chairs—and leather is a precious article in Russia—the silver and even the bric-a-brac untouched. Every article in the house had been registered and tagged. The same was done with the other houses. Altogether 3000 such dwellings, mostly deserted by their owners, were taken over by the government, and workmen from tenements and basements moved into them.

One is not allowed to occupy alone a whole flat or house. If a family of three, for example, had a home of eight rooms, the government would requisition three or four of these rooms and allot them to some needy persons. In the six-room flat which my host occupied, paying 400 rubles a month (\$200 to the city treasury, as all houses have been municipalized, there dwelt three more persons. One of them was the son of the host. Another was Kuzmin, one of the leading members of the central executive committee of the Finnish communist party. My first evening in Petrograd I met Sirola and Rajala, two other members of the same committee, and to my great surprise I found myself in the midst of the Finnish reds, who have been described abroad as the terror of Petrograd."

RED FINNS ARE GENTLE

The so-called red Finns, instead of being terrorists, turned out to be the gentler of men. Sirola and Kuzmin, former members of the Finnish Socialist government, were not afraid to state their disapproval of some of the Bolshevik measures and declared themselves to be only recent supporters of the soviet idea. To claim that these red Finns run Petrograd, as Heisingford would have the world believe it, is absurd. Perhaps if they did, Petrograd would be the better for it. For they are much more moderate than the Russian Bolsheviks.

Let's Want to Buy Flour in Stockholm

Special Cable to The Journal and The Chicago Daily News.

Stockholm, Sweden, Sept. 5.—The American supplies in Lettland having proved to be gravely insufficient, the Lettish government's representative here has asked the Swedish government to permit the purchase of flour in Stockholm from her state stores and from private persons. The harvest in Lettland has been delayed because of cold and wet weather and Riga is confronted with famine. Small pox and other dangerous diseases are also harrasing Riga.

DISPUTED CITY IS NOW PROPERTY OF THE JUGO-SLAVS

Marburg Incident, by Which Ethnical Boundary Is Disregarded by Allies, Seen as Menace.

ITALY RESENTS THE ACTION

Americans and British Rally to Support of French in Upholding Claims of the Jugo-Slavs.

By Paul Scott Mowrer

Special Cable to The Journal and The Chicago Daily News. (Copyright, 1919, by Chicago Daily News Co.) Paris, France, Sept. 5.—The Marburg incident seems to have thrown confusion into the final deliberations on the Austrian treaty. Marburg is a town of 30,000 inhabitants, mostly German Austrians, and is an important junction point on the Trieste-Vienna railway. It lies on the north bank of the river Drave, which, according to American experts, marks a natural ethnical boundary between the German Austrians and the Slavs. The Jugo-Slavs want control of this junction and also want the Marburg-Klagenfurt railway, which runs partly north of the river.

The original text of the Austrian treaty provided a plebiscite for the Klagenfurt region. This provision was suddenly withdrawn and then put back again and still stands.

Signor Tittoni made a formal proposal to extend the region of the plebiscite eastward to include Marburg, which everyone agrees is a German town, but which the treaty has accorded outright to Jugo-Slavia.

The American and British delegates promptly supported the Italians. The French, representing Jugo-Slav interests, made counter proposals tending to extend the zone of the plebiscite so far southward into territory inhabited by Slavs that a Slav majority in the plebiscite would be assured. Last week, to the amazement of the Italians, the British and American delegates rallied to the French viewpoint, thus practically insuring Marburg to the Jugo-Slavs. The Italians express the fear that if this position is maintained nothing can save the Renner government in Austria, for the Styrian and Carinthian deputies, to the number of 37, have given Renner a warning that if he does not obtain the German towns of Klagenfurt and Marburg for the Austrian republic they will vote against him.

At that time it was the residence of the powerful provosts of Martinmas. In 1634 the property became the feudal duty of Frederick Henry, prince of Orange. After having changed proprietors a few times the house became the property of the well known Dutch aristocratic family Lebouche. The extent of the property is 577 hectares (1384 acres). Meanwhile the former duke and duchess of Brunswick have bought a big residence in The Hague, where they intend to establish themselves in October. The former duchess is Victoria Louisa of Prussia, daughter of the former kaiser, who in 1912 was married to Duke Ernst of Brunswick, grandson of King George V of Hanover. Dutch newspapers now warn against the pacific

Ambitious Program Announced by Party of Young Japanese

By Ernest W. Clement. Special Cable to The Journal and The Chicago Daily News. (Copyright, 1919, by Chicago Daily News Co.) Tokyo, Japan, Sept. 5.—Forty prominent publicists and rising young men have organized for the purpose of re-

constructing the political, social and educational systems in Japan. The reforms planned include universal suffrage, abolition of class distinctions, the sweeping away of bureaucratic diplomacy, the establishment of political parties, the reform of the imperial household department, official recognition of

trades unions, the reform of taxation, the reform of colonial administration, security for national life and the emancipation of education from the old feudal system. Such an ambitious program significantly illustrates the democratic trend in Japan.

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CAN YOU ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS?

- (1) What is Labor's Duty to the Public ?
(2) Must We "Work Another Hour a Day" to Reduce Prices ?
(3) Should the Shantung Award to Japan be Stricken from the Treaty ?
(4) Does America Want a Department of Aviation . . . ?
(5) What is Industrial Democracy . . . ?
(6) What are the Principal Provisions in the New German Constitution . . . ?
(7) Is Germany Doing Secret Progaranda Work in Spain . . . ?
(8) Is England Drinking More Now Than Before the War . . . ?
(9) Are Cattails Suitable for Food . . . ?
(10) Can the Earth's Surface Be Accurately Represented on a Flat Map . . . ?
(11) What Great New Harbors Has the War Developed . . . ?
(12) Is There More Democracy in the German Theatre Than In Ours . . . ?
(13) How Are France and England Honoring the Dead . . . ?
(14) Of What Does the American Merchant Marine Consist . . . ?
(15) On What Dates Will Foreign Securities Held in the United States Mature . . . ?

Where Two Million Americans Find Answers to Their Questions
In this week's number THE LITERARY DIGEST, dated September 6th, there are splendid articles that give satisfying answers to all the questions asked here, and many more. Besides, you will be interested in reading what is best in Current Poetry, in Finance and Commerce, in Personal Glimpses of Men and Events, etc. In addition to this feast of text-matter "The Digest" is graphically illustrated with half-tone pictures and reproductions of the most humorous cartoons from the American and European Press. Get "The Digest" this week!

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Ex-Kaiser Wilhelm Buys 'Heus te Doorn' For Permanent Home

By Leopold Aletirao. Special Cable to The Journal and The Chicago Daily News.

Amsterdam, Holland, Sept. 5.—The fact that the former German kaiser has bought the country house "Heus te doorn" near Amerongen in order to reside definitely in Holland has stirred Dutch public opinion. Holland has already paid 20,000 guilders (\$3000) since November, 1918, for what was his residence before the late fall. The house remains unaltered. The "huis te doorn" is a very old manor-seat dating from the early part of the fourteenth century.



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