

GERMAN FORCES CAMOUFLAGED INTO GREAT ARMY

By Paul Scott Mowrer
Special Cable to The Journal and The Chicago
Daily News.

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Paris, April 9.—Raymond Poincaré in the latest number of the Revue des Deux Mondes affirms that Germany not only still has 12,500 cannon but can mobilize today more than 2,000,000 organized men armed with rifles, machine guns and mine throwers. This affirmation is apparently no mere alarmist fantasy. There is information in the hands of the French staff which indicates that Germany can now mobilize not merely 2,000,000 but actually nearly 3,500,000 men.

ARMY IS CAMOUFLAGED

The builder of this carefully camouflaged army was Gustav Noske. I am unable to give the details of the remarkable scheme by which the German minister of defense hoped to prevent the strangling of Germany's proud military power by the treaty of Versailles.

In the months immediately following the armistice between November, 1918, and March 1919, this power was, indeed, broken. The regular army fell to 100,000 men of poor quality. True, there were already various rudimentary home guard organizations known as burgerwehr (citizen guards), volkwehr (people's guard) and heimatschutz (home guards), but they totalled not over 100,000, giving Germany altogether about 900,000 very inferior soldiers.

NEW FORCES APPEAR

It was in the second period, from March to October, 1919, that the new organization began to appear. This organization consists of regular and auxiliary troops. The regulars or so-called reichswehr (imperial guards) numbered in October some 250,000 men, to which must be added 250,000 of the army, which had neither demobilized nor been transformed into reichswehr. The value of these 500,000 regulars was still mediocre.

The auxiliary troops, which are Noske's principal invention, are divided into three categories. First are the sicherheitswehr (safety guards) camouflaged as police, all the members of which are required to be former officers or sergeants of the German army. These numbered in October 250,000, and all were obviously crack men. Second are the temporary volunteers and technical auxiliary troops, also all crack men, who totalled 75,000.

KEEP ARMS AT HOME

The third are the einwohnerwehr, or civic guards, scattered through all the towns and villages of Germany, and keeping their arms at home as in the Swiss system. These numbered 300,000 ordinary soldiers. The German auxiliary troops at this period numbered 400,000, making a total army of 1,000,000.

The third period which extends from last October to the present reveals an extraordinary picture of German organizing efficiency. In accordance with the terms of peace the reichswehr or government regulars had been reduced to 200,000, but the process apparently was simply to turn them back into the remnants of the old army, which had been increased to 400,000. The total of the regulars now, therefore, is still 600,000, just as it was six months ago. It is in the auxiliary bodies that the big result has been accomplished.

VOLUNTEERS ARE INCREASED

The sicherheitswehr now numbers 120,000. The volunteer and technical troops have been increased to 200,000, while the einwohnerwehr subject to mobilization and to periodic training have been increased to no less than 2,500,000, giving Germany a total army of 3,400,000 men.

What would happen in case of mobilization? The reichswehr and sicherheitswehr, with the gendarmes and customs

officers, would form cadres or skeleton organizations for the rest. The temporary and technical volunteers would immediately be amalgamated with the reichswehr. The existing brigade staffs would automatically become corps staffs. The resultant organizations would be the equivalent of the active corps of the old army.

TROOPS HIGH CLASS

Perhaps the finest body of troops in this new army is the sicherheitswehr. The members are required to be not only officers or sergeants of the old army, but must be under 30 years of age, strong, sure, loyal, devoted and unmarried, or, if married, must have had at least nine months of active war service.

The members are exempt from military service but can be assimilated into the reichswehr any time by a decree of the minister of war. The sicherheitswehr are divided into "abteilungen," which correspond more or less to battalions, and each commanded by a former major or a veteran captain. Companies are commanded by a young captain or senior lieutenants of the old army and platoons are commanded by first or second lieutenants of the old army.

RECENT OPERATIONS CITED

Only a moment's study of the sicherheitswehr as it operated recently in Berlin gives a still more complete picture of this extraordinary organization. Berlin's sicherheitswehr is commanded by Colonel von Schoenstedt and has a regular staff. It is divided into three groups or abteilungen. Each abteilung consists of six companies and a technical company. The disposition of the staff are two parks of arms, machine guns and reserves, one squadron of airplanes, one liaison detachment and one platoon of cavalry. Each technical company consists of from 100 to 200 men, with all the latest engines of war and plenty of camions. Each group polices one third of the city and totals about 3000 men.

Alternately one third are on duty, one third in reserve and the other third are at rest. In case of alarm those in reserve are immediately thrown upon the scene by camion.

HOUSE GUARD APPEARS

Within the last few weeks still another auxiliary organization has appeared, namely, the hauswehr (house guard). In each house all the able-bodied men assemble and choose a chief to insure defense of the house. There is a regular liaison between the houses, while unarmed youths on the houseposts act as observers. The hauswehr are in constant communication with, and under, the command of the einwohnerwehr by means of posts established at the street corners. By means of these hauswehr the rearming of Germany seems once more practically completed.

There is no apparent reason why in case of mobilization it should not be possible to call out every able bodied male in Germany. Just as every man in the country was recently a soldier so now each one has become a "policeman," but a policeman having a regular military equipment in his own home, belonging to a military organization and subject to call by the minister of war. Such at least is the information gathered by the French staff.

Italy Will Retain Fiume, in Adriatic Agreement Reached

London, April 9.—Italy and Jugoslavia have reached an understanding on the Adriatic settlement, according to apparently reliable dispatches. The agreement is said to include these main terms:

First—Fiume is to remain Italian.
Second—Scutaria is to be given to Jugoslavia.
Diplomatic circles avers Premier Lloyd George is the real author of this compromise scheme.

Poles Rejoicing at Recent Victories Over Russian Army

Special Cable to The Journal and The Chicago Daily News.

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Riga, Livonia, April 2.—(Delayed.)—Reports from Poland announced that there is great jubilation over the recent Polish victories over the Bolsheviks who for six days made fierce attacks. These were actually the first they had made in any strength against Poland. In previous campaigns the Bolsheviks usually retired without battle. The recent attacks were definitely arrested and Poland is breathing easily again.

Peace is now the chief topic in the Warsaw provinces. Correspondents report that there has been a change in the attitude of the Polish newspapers towards France, many of them attacking the French eastern policy. The Polish peace delegation is headed by M. Patek, the foreign secretary; M. Wahslievsky, a former minister representing the Polish socialist party; M. Grabsky, chairman of the parliamentary committee on foreign relations and three other members of parliament.

Pettite as well as the "white" Ruthenian representatives were rejected by Poland which will represent both countries. The soviet Russian delegation is headed by M. Tchitcherin and the Ukrainian soviet republic by M. Rakovsky, chief of the people's commissariat.

Verdict Is Unusual

London, April 9.—(U. P.)—That deceased was burned to death while trying to burn his employer's books to hide defalcations, was alleged at a Paddington inquest on a cashier. The jury accordingly returned a verdict of felo de se.

France in Favor of Slav Federation as Safeguard to Peace

By Constantia Stephanova
Special Cable to The Journal and The Chicago Daily News.

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Sofia, Bulgaria, April 9.—Charles Rivet, well known French writer and specialist on Balkan matters, declares that France favors the federation of Serbia and Bulgaria. On arriving here after making a tour of Jugoslavia, he made the following statement to me:

"Yes, there has been established a Croatian board of directors. That is the first concession to the Croatian movement for autonomy which the Serbian government has been forced to make. The Protitch cabinet for more than a year persisted in imposing imperialistic and centralistic principles and simply helped to alienate the Croatian and Montenegrin people, who have long-established tradition and histories. If it had not been for the Italian danger the disruption of Jugoslavia might have resulted. I wish the Serb patriots were more far-sighted, more prudent and liberal, for only thus can they bring about the consolidation of the pan-Serb tribes."

"My country, France, has every interest in encouraging a strong, united Jugoslavia. Belgrade should avoid the former blunders of petty statesmanship and the dangerous intrigues of European diplomacy. M. Protitch and his government should not treat the Serbs as a conquered people, but should work out a decentralization plan leading to a true Jugoslavia federation. To such a state the doors of other Slav countries in the Balkans, Bulgaria for instance, should be open. France is for a federation of all the southern Slavs, believing that such a union would be a strong safeguard for European peace."

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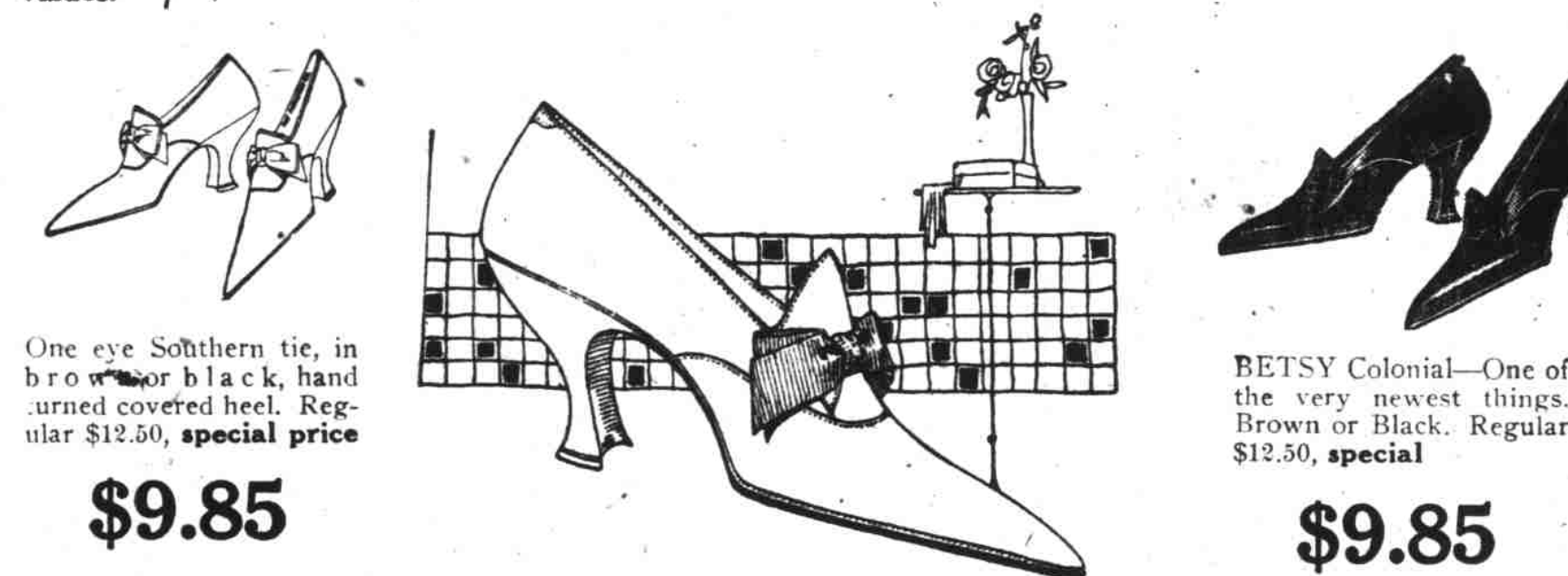
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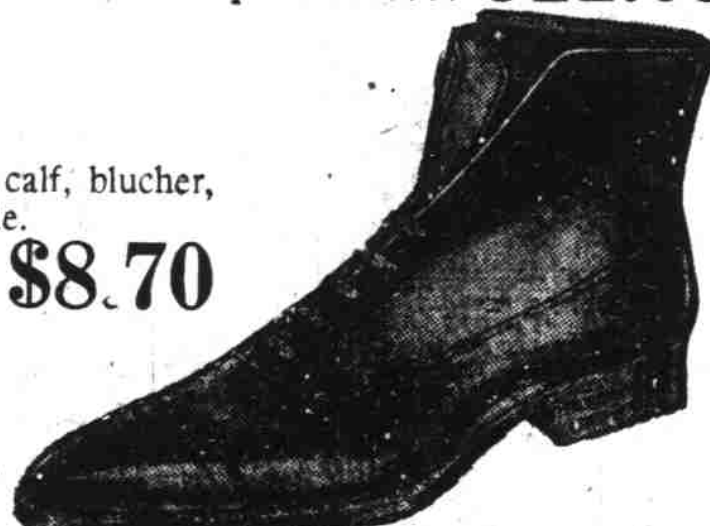
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Dancing Honeycomb—Fox-trot	Metropolitan Opera House Orchestra	\$1.60
Fee Fi Fo Fum—One-step	Art Hickman's Orchestra	A-2888
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