

ENGLISHMAN ACCUSES PROPAGANDA CHIEFS OF TELLING LIES ABOUT GERMANS

LONDON, (UP)—British wartime propaganda officials are busy denying or explaining allegations that many of the tall stories told about the Germans' conduct of the war were sheer inventions designed to arouse combatants and neutrals.

The discussion was started by the Marquess of Tavistock, the socialist heir to the Duke of Medford whose properties are worth at least \$50,000,000. The young Marquess was speaking at a dinner-hour church service in Birmingham, and his astonishing remarks about "unscrupulous people who took advantage of the lack of knowledge of the world in general" caused several members of the congregation, including ex-service men to walk out with indignation. In speaking of war propaganda the Marquess said:

"Incidents in which there was no vestige of truth were stated by English public men to have occurred during the war. They were fictions in the broadest sense of the word, and fictions used for propaganda purposes.

"The Kaiser was said to have talked about our contemptible little army. He said no such thing. He stated publicly after the war that he had always warned Germany about under-estimating the English army.

"A medal was stated to have been made in Germany to commemorate the sinking of the Lusitania. That was false. The medal was made in England and was for propaganda.

"London newspapers published

CONSTANCE MACKAY SUGGESTS AMATEUR PLAYS FOR XMAS

"In hundreds of places it has been found that the inspiration and impetus lent to a community by a Yuletide drama is often the starting point for something of worth and beauty which will continue through succeeding years," says Constance D'Arcy Mackay in the December McCall's, where she tells what plays have been most effective for community or school use at the Christmas season.

Says Miss Mackay: "All this magnificence of effect was obtained for a small amount. Under the right lights inexpensive flannel became violet velvet; bronzed and silvered oil-cloth was sumptuous and gleaming. Softly tinted veils of dyed mosquito bar floated from the coils of the ladies.

"The production 'Why the Chimes Rang,' by Elizabeth McFadden, stirred such interest with the young people of Evanston, Ill., that they established an art workshop for their books, materials and craft-work.

"If you wish to undertake a pageant the 'Evergreen Tree,' by

photographs of a German crowd cheering this event. These were, in fact, taken on the Kaiser's birthday in 1912.

"This was propaganda used for unscrupulous purposes. The 'corpse factory' story was entire fiction. I recently met a man who told me he originated the idea. He was employed on propaganda and his words to me were, 'I was paid to produce such ideas and I produced them.' Such is the unscrupulousness which follows war."

C. F. Masterman, who was in charge of British propaganda at the time, has answered the Marquess by saying that Britain did not tell any war lies. He said the policy of the propaganda department was, "Nothing pays except telling the truth." He explained that many of the wartime stories, like the 'corpse factory' tale, did not come from official departments.

Percy MacKaye, with music by Arthur Farwell, will undoubtedly fill your need. It represents medieval times and has been acted both in parks and in auditoriums.

"A Chester mystery play, a quaint poetic piece has been edited by Frank Conroy, and is available for the price of a Christmas card. Old English carols accompany it. The carolers go from street to street and square to square, sometimes in inexpensive colorful pre-Elizabethan costumes, and sometimes just with a bunch of holly or vivid streamer added to their everyday clothes, but always with lighted lanterns—and the greater variety of these the better.

Or, if you live in a village, you may want to stage a Miracle play in your church or town hall, such as was given in Pomfret, Connecticut. Directions for this very play can be found in a recent book on religious drama. If a secular play is needed for such a community nothing could be more refreshing than "The Old Peabody Pew," by Kate Douglas Wiggin. It can be given by a cast of women in old-fashioned dress."

CANDIDATE OF REPUBLICANS

(U. N.)—Governor Al Smith of New York is "fast becoming the candidate of the republican leadership for the democratic nomination for president because they know they can beat him," Senator Heflin, Alabama, democrat, declared in a statement today.

"There is no doubt in my mind that if the republican leaders could select the democratic candidate for president they would be unanimous in their choice of Governor Smith," he said.

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