

# GERMAN BRAINS PLAN FOOD RIOTS IN UNITED STATES

### Secret Service Men on Trail—Rioting Seen as a Coup to Stir Up Movement for an Embargo on Shipments to the Allies and Aid Germans in Efforts to Starve Out England.

By J. HERBERT DUCKWORTH.  
NEW YORK, March 1.—German brains are behind the food riots that are breaking out simultaneously all over the United States and English secret service agents are today on the trail of those who are directing the campaign.

I learn from a source that is in close touch with the British agency in this country, whose duty it is to safeguard allied interests in the way of munitions, shipping and food from the machinations of German plotters, that four of the cleverest investigators from the British foreign office were hastily dispatched this week to Chicago, from which city the food riots are being organized.

These agents will turn over any material they may unearth to the department of justice at Washington for action.

"These food riots," my informant told me, "have not taken the British authorities by surprise. They have known for some months that they were coming, and I am betraying no secret when I say that their arrival was dreaded."

#### German Propaganda.

"Of all the propaganda the Germans have started in the United States, this is considered to be the most formidable and difficult to handle.

"The British realize only too well that were these food riots to become really widespread and the great mass of Americans to become convinced that the tremendous shipments of supplies of all kinds to the allies was the only reason for the present high cost of food, the changes for a fight for an embargo on the exportation of meat and other food-stuffs would be excellent.

"The present riots have broken out at the psychological moment for those who look to Berlin rather than to Washington for guidance.

"This is what the Germans hope to gain from these riots: They will embarrass President Wilson in his difficult task of handling the German submarine menace, divert the attention of the American people from thoughts of war and from contemplation of the fact that Germany is holding up 1000 ships in port, thus virtually blockading the United States—and, if successful in moving the government to stop permitting further shipping of goods to Europe, will supplement the work of German submarines in their efforts to bring about the starvation of England.

#### Tools of Men Higher Up.

"Those who are organizing the riots throughout the country are nothing more than tools of men 'higher up.' There is no denying that food prices are exorbitantly high and that the poor are suffering. Under the circumstances, it is childishly easy to foment riots.

"The men in Chicago who are pulling the strings are using ready-made tools for their propaganda in Washington. Take for instance the members of congress who are in favor of an embargo. They are all dead-on-the-wood-peddlers.

"Horland of Missouri, Kent of California and Mendenhall of Wyoming are well-known pacifists. Nelson of Wisconsin comes from a notoriously German constituency, and Garner of Texas is a 'little navy' member. Warren Worth Bailey of Pennsylvania is the leader of the pacifist group in the house. He is a personal friend of William Jennings Bryan, and has consistently voted against all preparedness measures.

#### Food Barons' Connection.

"The British agents in Chicago are now trying to find out how far the food barons are involved in this gigantic food embargo plot.

"Most of the big men who control the food of the country are of German origin. These men are not so loyal to Germany, perhaps, that they would sacrifice big profits for the sake of the Fatherland, but what is to prevent any losses they might meet by a food embargo and the fall in prices that would follow from being made good by the German government?

"It would be worth hundreds of millions of dollars to Germany to have Great Britain starved out. This war means life or death to her.

"And it is not necessary for Germany to ship over gold to reimburse these food barons for losses. There are German bankers in Wall street

# SENATE ASKS FULL DETAILS OF GERMAN PLOT

### Senator Lodge Introduces Resolution Requesting President to Make Public Further Information in Possession of Government Relative to Activities of German Government.

WASHINGTON, March 1.—The communication of Germany to Mexico and Japan, proposing an alliance against the United States, as published today, was brought up in the senate when it convened by Senator Lodge, who introduced a resolution proposing that the president inform the senate if the note signed "Zimmermann" is authentic.

Senator Swanson of Virginia said he was authorized to state that it is substantially correct.

Senator Swanson informed Senator Lodge that the democratic senators had been authorized by the president to state that the account of the Zimmermann note as revealed by the Associated Press was substantially correct.

#### Asks Full Information.

Senator La Follette of Wisconsin said he would not object to passage of the Lodge resolution providing it was amended to ask the president to state when the Zimmermann note had come into possession of the United States government.

Senator Lodge added to his resolution a clause requesting that the senate be supplied with all other information regarding this matter if not incompatible with the public interest.

"It is time," said Senator La Follette, "that we should know how long the president or any other branch of the government has had the document in its possession."

Senators Reed and Hardwick objected to hasty passage of the Lodge resolution and had it re-read.

#### Lodge Resolution.

The text of the Lodge resolution is as follows:

"That the president be requested to inform the senate whether the note signed 'Zimmermann,' published in the newspapers of the morning of March 1, inviting Mexico to unite with Germany and Japan in war against the United States, is authentic and in possession of the government of the United States, and if authentic, to send to the senate, if not incompatible with the public interest, any further information in the possession of the United States government relative to the activities of the imperial German government in Mexico."

Senator Lodge declared that when "a great news gathering association like the Associated Press put forward seriously and solemnly what purports to be a dispatch from the secretary of foreign affairs of Germany inviting Mexico and Japan to unite to make war on the United States, it was time the congress and the people should be informed of the matter."

While Senator Swanson was assuring Mr. Lodge that he was authorized to state that the announcement by the Associated Press was correct, full confirmation was being given officially at the white house and state department.

#### Confirmed by White House.

Senator Hardwick of Georgia, democrat, objected to immediate consideration of the Lodge resolution and other senators urged him to withdraw it.

Senator Work, republican, of California, argued that it should be adopted.

"It is exceedingly important," said he, "that we have explicit information whether the president, at the time he asked congress to confer extraordinary powers upon him, knew of these conditions as disclosed in the newspapers. If the president had the information at that time it was due congress and the people of the United States that he should lay before congress all of the circumstances that might affect the action of congress. Congress is dealing with that situation and we should have all the information before taking any steps."

Senator Reed deplored what he said appeared to be criticism of the president, although Senator Lodge declined any intention to embarrass him.

#### No Embarrassment Sought.

"I am very deeply impressed with the gravity of the situation," said Senator Thomas, democrat of Colorado. "We are confronted with a crisis that may be very serious. It is a coincidence that the Associated Press publication comes when the

# ASTOR BABY SPENDS \$75 A DAY WHILE TENEMENT TOTS ARE CRYING FOR BREAD

## WOULD FEED 225 OF THESE!



NEW YORK, March 1.—While East Side mothers are rioting because they can't buy food to feed themselves and babies, young John Jacob Astor, going on 5, is struggling along on \$75 a day.

Poor kid! His mother and step-father, Mrs. and Mr. William Dick, make him pay his way out of the fortune left by Astor, and won't help him out at all.

A special guardian is piling down the expense account submitted by

Mrs. Dick, and keeping the youngster's expenditures down to the allowed \$75.

At 33 cents a day, on which, or less, life is sustained among the Ghetto's tenements, Baby Astor's daily pin money would feed 225 persons.

His daily toy bill equals the average East Side family's income for six weeks.

With potatoes at \$4 a bushel, little Jake could eat 75 pecks of spuds every day. A year ago he could have had 300 pecks. What chance has he of escaping indigestion?

The Astor baby spends much of his hard-earned (but not by him) cash in philanthropic endeavor, according to Mrs. Dick's expense account.

There is, for instance, the item of half a dozen cigar lighters, at \$3 per. These were intended, it is assumed, as presents for his grown-up friends.

This half dozen cigar lighters would have bought a quart of milk and a loaf of bread for 180 East Side babies. But Jake, of course, doesn't know anything about the starving babies on the east side. Perhaps Mamma Madeleine Fore's-Astor-Dick never told him.

Jake plays among his costly toys in the mansion at Fifth avenue and Fifty-seventh street, two miles from the Ghetto, and never dreams that a little girl on Houston street would give her right arm for his \$10 doll buggy, that it might be hooked to buy a doctor's time and medicine for her baby brother.

Then there's the \$185 baby robe that covers Jake whenever he is taken out to ride his \$3 rollmobile; that robe's cost would keep a Ghetto tot in milk from his birth to his fifth birthday.

# FEBRUARY COLDEST IN RECENT YEARS SNOW HEAVIEST

February was the coldest February in recent years, according to the weather bureau. The total snowfall at Medford was the heaviest for many years, with 17.5 inches. The total precipitation was 3.37 inches, greater than that of any February since 1909 and only .28 under the average. The seasonal average at this date is 18.39 inches, the total seasonal rainfall 9.07 inches, leaving a fifty per cent deficiency.

The record in detail is:

Date	Max.	Min.	Pre.	Snow
1	34	16	T	T
2	38	28	T	T
3	40	34	T	T
4	41	33		
5	39	33		
6	51	29	.02	
7	59	25		
8	59	23		
9	54	26		
10	55	34	.01	
11	52	41	.01	
12	60	42	.02	
13	53	27		
14	58	26		
15	60	25		
16	50	40	.08	
17	46	28		
18	43	30	.26	.7
19	42	31	T	T
20	44	29	.33	3.2
21	48	30	.69	.8
22	43	29	.39	5
23	25	27	.22	
24	25	30	.46	
25	41	28	1.01	5.1
26	41	25	.47	
27	42	28		
28	45	22		

Sum ..... 1307 826 2.37 17.5  
Mean ..... 46.68 29.29 .120  
Mean maximum 46.68; mean minimum 29.29; mean 37.98. Maximum 60, on 12th. Minimum 16, on 18. Greatest daily range 36.  
Total precipitation 3.37. Greatest in 24 hours 1.01 on 25th.  
Total snowfall 17.5 inches. At end of month 6 inches.  
Days with .01 inch or more precipitation 13; clear 6; partly cloudy 2; cloudy 20.

W. C. Thurien of Portland arrived in the city Wednesday evening.

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# PENFIELD EXPECTING REPLY TO AUSTRIA

VIENNA, March 1.—The American ambassador, Frederick C. Penfield, informed the Associated Press today that he expected the reply of the Austrian government to the American memorandum concerning the new submarine warfare regulations in about one week.

The statement is made here that a break between the two countries is now less probable. The correspondent is informed that the reply of the Austro-Hungarian government will be extremely conciliatory, and while it may not dispose definitely of all pending questions, it will leave the way open for further discussion between Washington and Vienna.

With Medford trade is Medford made.

# PROPOSED UNION OF JAPAN AND MEXICO AGAINST AMERICA

(Continued From Page One.)

ble elsewhere on the western hemisphere, where the United States, by the Monroe doctrine, is morally obligated to maintain order.

#### Submarine Bases.

Reports of German submarine bases in the Gulf of Mexico, hints of possible German influences behind the uprising in Cuba; repeated assertions that German influences were playing upon all revolutionary factions in Mexico with the sole purpose of embarrassing the United States; reports of resentment being stirred up against the United States in Colombia, which already has a grievance because of the partition of Panama; the recent purchase by the United States of the Danish West Indies, for the openly announced reason that the United States could not afford to have them fall into the hands of a hostile power—all these things, in the opinion of officials here, take on a decidedly definite form with the disclosures made in Germany's instructions to her minister in Mexico.

The investigations of the American military intelligence officers and the secret service along the border have disclosed many German activities there which now, in the light of these revelations, can be assigned to their proper place in the sequence of events.

#### Germans Back of Villa.

At Columbus, N. M., it is charged that German influences were responsible for the Villa raid, with the object of forcing intervention by the United States, which was expected to draw the attention of the American military forces and munitions and consequently set down the munitions exports to the allies.

The army intelligence officers are in possession of information which seems to imply possible connection of Theodore Kook, or Kouch, German vice-consul at Parral, Mex., with the attack by Mexican troops on the American cavalry under Major Tompkins while in pursuit of the Villa bandits. Although American officers said they did not find Kook at Parral when they were there, they have received reports that he urged the Mexicans to attack the American troops in order to prevent the capture of Villa, fearing it would be followed by revolutions of the alleged German influence behind the raid. One high army officer said:

"I am positive that Kook had something, if not a great deal, to do with the trouble at Parral."

#### Influencing Carranza.

From other sources information has come to the government of other German activities and influences in Mexico. Dr. Krum-Heller, a German native in Mexico many years, is reported to be very close to General

# 2500 PRISONERS TAKEN BY BRITISH

LONDON, March 1.—It was announced that more than 2,500 prisoners had been taken by the British since February 24 and that since the commencement of the offensive on December 20, some 3,000 Turkish prisoners had been taken. The total Turkish casualties in killed and wounded was estimated by General Maude at more than twenty thousand.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 28.—In order to assure passage of the emergency revenue bill the senate finance committee has practically agreed to withdraw all its amendments when time for voting begins at eight o'clock tonight. This would obviate any necessity for a conference and the bill could go to the president after the senate votes.

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