

COHALAN AND OTHER IRISH LEADERS NAMED IN NEW EXPOSE OF GERMAN PLOTS; VON IGEL PAPERS BARED WIDE CONSPIRACY

JUSTICE IN ROLE OF ADVISER

Cohalan Said to Have
Suggested Air Raids
on England.

DEVOY AID OF CASEMENT

Editor of Gaelic-American Agent
for German Funds Sent
to Irish Rebel.

BOMB OFFER BY VIERECK

Committee on Public Informa-
tion Gives Out Startling Chain
of Official Evidence.

Within a few days a German newspaper published in this country employed as the headline to an article dealing with a rumor of German-American disaffection in this country the derisive legend, "Lieb' Washington, magst ruhig sein."

This is, of course, a parody on the refrain of "Die Wacht am Rhein," the German national hymn:

"Lieb' Vaterland, magst ruhig sein."
"Loved fatherland, be restful (or undisturbed").

In the parody it carries a sneer comprehensible only to one who understands the German mode of speech and thought.

Of itself the instance is slight. But it typifies a certain important phase of the German propaganda which subtly but persistently seeks to present Germany's course in America in the most favorable light, even to the extent of defending the improper activities of the Teutonic diplomatic representatives before their passports were given them. Because of this continuing propaganda certain documents in the possession of the Department of Justice now assume peculiar importance, in that they prove undeniably the intimate relations between the accredited representatives of the Kaiser in the United States and plotters against the laws and the security of this country, whose enterprise did not fall short of projected wholesale destruction of life and property.

Such of these documents as were essential to legal proceedings brought against the Germans have been published. Others are here made public for the first time. They form a curious, if disjointed, chapter in the diplomatic history of the war.

Von Igel's "Advertising Agency."

In the Fall of 1914, when the German plots against Canada were fomenting in this country, there was established on Wall Street an "advertising" office presided over by a big, suave man of Teutonic aspect named Wolf von Igel. There were two peculiar features about this office. One was that it was frequented during two years of singularly quiet and unbusinesslike existence chiefly by Germans who had nothing whatsoever to do with advertising. The other was a large safe, bearing the insignia of the German Imperial Government. To this office there came one morning in April, 1916, while von Igel was preparing a mass of papers which he had taken from the safe for transfer to the German Embassy in Washington, four United States Secret Service agents from the Department of Justice, who made their way past the guardians always on duty, put von Igel under arrest, and undertook to seize the papers. The German was large, powerful, and brave. With the aid of one associate he stubbornly fought the officers, striving to rescue the papers, to close the safe, to get to the telephone, and communicate with his superiors. Revolvers were drawn by the Secret Service men. They produced no effect upon the intrepid von Igel.

"This is German territory," he shouted. "Shoot me and you will bring on war."

How the Papers Were Seized.

There was no shooting. But after a protracted struggle the defenders were overpowered and the papers seized. The German Embassy at once entered its protest. These were official papers. They were sacrosanct. The diplomatic prerogative of a friendly nation had been overridden and the person of its representative insulted. To this the State Department replied that the invaded premises at 60 Wall Street were described in the contract as a private business office for the carrying on of advertising, and that von Igel had not been formally accredited as a German representative. When the papers were examined by the Department of Justice the reason for von Igel's determined fight became apparent. Here, in the form of letters, telegrams, notations,

Continued on Page 6.

COHALAN NAMED IN GERMAN PLOTS

Don der Kaiserlich Deutschen Botschaft in Washington

\$5,000.00 (Five thousand dollars) for Propaganda

empfangen ja haben, befreit hiermit

Washington, D. C., 19 April 1915
James J. Archibald

Facsimile of James F. J. Archibald's Receipt for \$5,000 from the German Embassy for Propaganda Work.

Street, New York City, and branches in Cleveland, Detroit, Bridgeport, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, and Chicago.

The head of this enterprise was Hans Liebau, from whom it took its familiar name of the "German Propaganda Agency." During the trying days which followed the arrest of the Welland Canal conspirators it was a wavering concern, but Liebau's concern was a bona fide employment agency and nothing else, with no object other than to secure positions for German, Austrian or Hungarian workmen seeking employment. That was for publication only. In von Igel's papers the truth appears, brought out by the refusal of the Austro-Hungarian Embassy to continue its subsidies to the bureau.

The Austrian Embassy Involved.

That the Austro-Hungarian Embassy had taken official cognizance of the bureau previously, however, is disclosed in the letter written by the Ambassador to the Austrian Minister for Foreign Affairs which was found in the possession of James F. J. Archibald by the British authorities Aug. 30, 1915. In this letter the Ambassador stated: "It is my impression that we can disorganize and hold up for months, if not entirely prevent, the manufacture of munitions in Bethlehem and the Middle West, which, in the opinion of the German military attaché, is of importance and amply outweighs the comparatively small expenditure of money involved; but even if the strikes do not come off it is probable that we should exert, under pressure of circumstances, more favorable conditions of labor for our poor, down-trodden fellow countrymen. So far as German workmen are found in the hands, means of leaving will be provided immediately for them. Besides this a private German employment office has been established which provides employment for persons who have voluntarily given up their places, and it is already working well. We shall also join in the widest support is assured us."

The following representations on behalf of the bureau's efficiency were made under date of March 24, 1915, in a letter to the German Ambassador, von Bernstorff:

Engineers and persons in the better class of positions have been recruited for the bureau to workmen (which, of course, were not furnished in connection with reviewing later conditions in the munitions industry. The commercial employment bureaus of the country have no supply of unemployed technicians. Many disturbances and suspensions which would materially hinder the bureau's work, are not always possible to remove quickly, but which, on the contrary, often lead to long strikes, may be attributed to the propagandist propaganda of the employment bureau.

von Igel's close connection with the enterprise is indicated by a number of items. For example, there is a notation to the effect that H. Hanson had established a Liebau branch office in Detroit, an entry of \$80 paid to Dr. Max Niven of Chicago, in February, 1915, for the "labor fund," and an inquiry addressed by a bureau official to von Igel asking for a receipt for Magneto Works manufactured fuses for shells, the bureau having evidently been applied to for workmen for the Bosch plant. The receipt, in negative, stated that the company was "universally known for its friendly attitude for the Germans."

Devo, the Irish Revolt, and the Germans.

Several lines of communication between the German Diplomatic Service and the Irish revolutionary movement are indicated in the captured documents. John Devo of New York City, now editor of the Gaelic American, a violent anti-British paper, was one of the active agents of this connection. Significant entries appear in the Devo diary; references to messages from the German Embassy at Washington and the German Consulate at New York; mention of a secret code to be employed in communicating with him and of a "cipher Devo"; also a notation, the details of which remain undiscovered, concerning communication with the manufacture hand grenades. Devo it was who acted, for a time at least, as go-between for the German Secret Service dealings with Sir Roger Casement, executed by the British for treason. There are several references to money and messages for Sir Roger Casement, or more briefly, "Roger," and a reference of a check for \$1,000 for Casement, evidently handled by Devo.

Devo's intimate connection with the German cause is disclosed in two letters to the German Ambassador, the texts of which follow:

New York, April 8, 1915.
The following communication from confidential man John Devo was duly transmitted:

"Letter dated March 22, delayed by censor, seems conclusive as to the matter of the cable with proposal to send supplies and that cable was suppressed. Second also safe. Third, with change of plans due about April 15, 1915. John Devo further requests that the following telegram be dispatched to Sir Roger Casement: 'No letter now possible. All funds sent home. Sister and M's family well.' Should you be absent from New York, J. D. requests that the telegram be delivered to John Month. (Signed) K. N. St."

To his Excellency the Imperial Ambassador, Count von Bernstorff, Washington, D. C.

New York, April 15, 1915.
Herewith enclosed a report received by us today from John Devo. Kindly order further steps to be taken. The important parts of the report were sent there today per telegram. (Signed) K. N. St.

The State Department Execuplated.

In view of the involvement of these prominent Irish-American leaders in the Casement plot and its German ramifications, it is little to be wondered at that they should have endeavored to shoulder upon the American Government the responsibility for the arrest of Casement. The Gaelic American, Devo's paper, and other sympathetic German American press charged this Government with having, on the strength of information obtained from the seized von Igel papers, advised the British Government of the revolutionary plot and Casement's part therein.

The Department of State and the Department of Justice promptly rejected the charges. When the von Igel papers were seized in New York the district attorney and his assistants busied themselves in a search for information to sustain the indictments which they had obtained against von Igel, and overlooked for the time being the great mass of other evidence which pointed incriminatingly to others.

Department of Justice officials admit that the papers relating to Casement were sent to Washington the night before Casement's arrest was reported, but they were not received by the Attorney General until the afternoon of the day upon which the British authorities picked up the Irish leader, and were not presented to the State Department until 7 o'clock that evening. Meanwhile, Casement had spent several hours in an Irish prison.

Justice Cohalan Proposes Dreadful Things.

It is not improbable that the signature at the bottom of the extraordinary message which follows is in the "cipher Devo" referred to in the von Igel papers. New York Supreme Court Justice Daniel F. Cohalan has long been prominent in Irish-American circles, though he has never been directly identified with violent action. In high favor by the pro-German element of this country is evidenced by the fact that Viereck's Weekly, in making selections revealing the most important political offices in this country, put him forth for the position of United States Senator from New York.

Harvard Club
27 West 44th Street
New York, April 11, 1915.

My dear Count von Bernstorff,
Since writing to you last I have received by registered mail your cheque of \$1,000 for travelling expenses, for which I thank you very warmly.
etc. etc.

Edwin Emerson

Facsimile of Edwin Emerson's Receipt for \$1,000 from von Bernstorff.

The German below Emerson's name may be translated thus: "Conformity with the signature of the documents of the Imperial Embassy confirmed.—Cedar No. 1, 1 July, 1915."

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