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Trying to instill into the public mind the fact that we are selling Hardware and Tools of every description of much better quality than can be elsewhere procured and at a much lower price. We have long been known as the great bargain house for Hardware and Tools, whether for bench or agricultural work. We have Tools for all trades at low prices.

**Plowden Hardware Company.**

**PROPAGANDA WORK BEGAN**

**BEFORE THE WAR**

Becker Reveals Germany's Scheme to Include America

**WELDING THE EVIDENCE**

Von Skal Agreed in 1909 to Do Berlin's Bidding, Says State Attorney

New York, Aug. 18.—A detailed statement intended to show some ramifications of Germany's scheme to include America in a world-wide propaganda campaign launched even before the outbreak of the war was issued tonight by Alfred L. Becker, deputy state attorney general, who declared his department is fast "welding together the evidence."

Geo. von Skal, of New York, who worked under Capt. Franz von Papen, military attache of the German embassy, had been "arraigned" as early as 1909, he had admitted, according to Mr. Becker.

"I happened to be in Berlin in 1909 and met the chief of the intelligence office," Mr. Becker says von Skal stated, "He told me he had often thought of men, because if a war broke out, they wanted to have somebody here in the military attache's office who could be in touch with the press and who could tell them what might be done with the press."

Von Skal, who is a naturalized American, agreed to do the work as long as America did not become involved in any war, according to Mr. Becker.

**Propaganda in Turkey**

Evidence which has been secured, Mr. Becker declared, showing Germany began propaganda work in Turkey at least a year before war was declared on France and Russia.

Sali Gurdji, now living in New York, but formerly president of the Ottoman Telegraph Agency, the official news organization of the Turkish Government, was approached by the German ambassador in Constantinople and offered 40,000 marks to exploit German propaganda through the agency. He later was offered 100,000 marks, but refused both offers.

Then according to Mr. Becker, he was summoned before the chief of police and ordered to close his agency, which was taken over by the German agents. Gurdji fled for his life and it took all the skill of neutral diplomats to save the lives of his family.

In America, Mr. Becker said, the propaganda work was actually started as soon as Dr. Bernard Dernberg arrived here. Mr. Becker said he has traced 40,000 as paid in 1915 from the joint accounts of Dr. Heinrich F. Albert, former financial attache of the German embassy, and former ambassador von Bernstorff to various alleged propagandists.

—W-S-S—

**AUSTRIA REPORTED ON  
BRINK OF STARVATION**

London, Aug. 18.—Turnips, weeds, nettles, and an occasional sick dog, costing \$25, form the chief food for the great bulk of Austria-Hungary's population, according to a comprehensive review of the economic situation in the dual monarchy by a frontier correspondent of the Daily Express. Thousands of deaths occur weekly as a result of underfeeding or actual starvation. The economic situation in Germany is described as almost equally bad. It is declared doubtful if Austria-Hungary can last through another winter without an empire-wide hunger revolution.

A few ounces of indigestible bread, weeds and nettles, called "spinach substitute," constitute the daily dole for which tens of thousands of Vienna men, women and children are scrambling. Factories are idle. The workers have not the strength to work.

Mail trains passing through country stations are besieged by mobs of half-starved villagers begging and fighting for a few crumbs from the tables in the dining cars. Even the crowded hospitals are short of food.

The daily papers print many columns of advertisements inserted by starving citizens. A feather bolster is offered for ten pounds of flour; baby clothes and bed linen for dripping; a winter jacket for a couple of eggs.

Germany herself, reduced to starvation rations, is unable to help her ally. Some of the stock of food that had been reserved for the German army has been sent to Austria-Hungary to avert revolt in the dual monarchy, but this supply was insignificant and the only result has been increased dissatisfaction and hostility in both countries.

Germany will reap the new harvests in a few weeks, but all reports are that it falls far short of expectations, and it can do nothing to alleviate the damage already done to the national efficiency and the industrial and military output.

Hunger, typhus, dysentery and consumption are rampant.

Meanwhile the rich have little or no trouble securing food, though at exorbitant prices. Smugglers risk their lives bringing butter and bacon from Holland or Denmark for which they obtain \$5 a pound. Eggs can be bought for 18 cents a piece.

**CATARRH CANNOT BE CURED**

with LOCAL APPLICATIONS, — as they cannot reach the seat of the disease. Catarrh is a local disease, greatly influenced by constitutional conditions, and in order to cure it you must take an internal remedy. Hall's Catarrh Medicine is taken internally and acts thru the blood on the mucous surfaces of the system. Hall's Catarrh Medicine was prescribed by one of the best physicians in this country for years. It is composed of some of the best tonics known, combined with some of the best blood purifiers. The perfect combination of the ingredients in Hall's Catarrh Medicine is what produces such wonderful results in catarrhal conditions. Send for testimonials, free.

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All druggists 75c. Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

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