

and that it is not merely Ireland that awaits the coming of international justice, but the whole world. Even Belgium has more cause for disappointment than Ireland."

A Sample of Propaganda Work

Readers will recall that some months ago we had fablegrams to the effect that President Wilson had said to a Senator at a banquet that as Irish affairs were a domestic concern for England, America could not interfere. That was duly and assiduously promulgated by the "Propaganda." From American papers we learned that as soon as the foregoing report was published President Wilson's private secretary wrote to the press an emphatic denial of the malignant falsehood. We have no vivid recollection that the Propaganda went to much trouble to circulate that part of the story. Last week another fablegram came through. This time it was alleged that President Wilson was said to have said to some Senators *privately* that the Irish-American envoys discredited themselves by their sympathy with a people's demand for self-determination, or in other words, with Sinn Fein. No attempt was made to explain why President Wilson was likely to say such a thing knowing what its result would be for himself. Nor were we informed where the Senators were found who were in such a hurry to betray *private* information. On the face of the thing it was just one more malignant fabrication of the type we have come to expect normally from British pressmen. Anyhow, it was good enough for one editor of a "daylie" to issue an Olympian editorial on it. He supported it by quoting the arch-liar, MacPherson, and an unnamed correspondent. He wound up by telling his readers, in so many words, that unless Irishmen acted according to *his* views there was no hope for them. Well, it is a standing joke in Ireland that the *Skibbereen Eagle* once said that it had its eye on the Government. That joke pales into insignificance beside the Rabelesian and Munchausen absurdity of the self-assurance of the editor of a morning paper renowned for the quality of its "tripe." As a matter of fact, President Wilson told the envoys when they interviewed him in Paris that he was doing, and would go on doing, all in his power for Ireland. Here is their account of what he said to them in June—*long after* their experience of Irish persecutions:—"We have had a conference with the President to-day (June 12), in which he stated that the American commission could not take up the case for Ireland *officially* with the Peace Conference, but he himself and others had done and would continue to do unofficially what they could." Apropos of the envoys, let us note here that they have given the lie to MacPherson once more. They stated that the Government threw Countess Marciewicz into gaol again because she had told them how women were ill-treated in English gaols. The "Moralist" issued a denial, saying that she was arrested on account of a speech inciting to boycotting, which (he did not say) was made many months before! The envoys repeated their charge, and said that they knew that she was followed by spies and threatened during the time she was treating with them. What a pitiful, vindictive, cowardly bully John Bull is, after all! Note that a fablegram on Monday relates that Mr. Marconi George once more appeals to the Convention as a proof of what he did for Ireland. He does not explain: (1) that the Convention was packed; (2) that he refused to allow Irishmen to choose their own delegates; (3) that he refused to promise to ratify its findings; (4) that its chairman publicly accused him of breach of faith; (5) that he tried conscription before reading the report of the Convention. But anyhow, the tripe is good enough for the asses who read our morning papers.

Alsace-Lorraine

Before the war natives of Alsace-Lorraine told us more than once that as a result of the infidel persecutions of the French Masonic Government, and of the evil moral effects of the French godless schools—of which our own are a bad imitation—the old attachment

to France was fast waning and people were beginning to recognise that they were freer under the rule of Germany. During the war this was corroborated by the well-known fact that the French Government dared not consent to have the fate of the two provinces determined by a plebiscite. Naturally, enthusiasm for France in the hour of her victory may have turned the scale for the present, and the population may be more willing to come back to the motherland. However, events are happening which are disquieting to many, and it is being made clear that if they do come back they will not submit to the despotism and wickedness of the friends of Viviani and Caillaux. The Masonic *Ligue de l'Enseignement* is active in the provinces, and vain attempts are being made to hoodwink Catholics as to its true nature. *La Croix* issues a warning to Catholics against the insidious efforts to introduce an infidel campaign in the Rhenish provinces, and shows that this League of Education is Masonic in origin, in spirit, and in operation; that it is directly anti-Catholic, and that if the Alsations allow themselves to be deceived they will suffer as their co-religionists suffered in France. The people of Alsace-Lorraine have already made their wishes clear to France. They are expressed in a speech made by Dr. Pflieger, member of the National Council, before a large assembly at Strasburg:

"As far as our traditions, our customs, and our convictions are concerned, we find in France a certain state of affairs, which in vital points is quite contradictory to our manner of life. We must look to it that during this period of transition no attempt is made by devious ways to introduce this new state of things. We ought therefore declare immediately and with all frankness to Senator Debierre, of whom so much is being said lately, that he will not find supporters of his ordinance amongst us. The neutral French school does not accord with our wishes; on the contrary, we wish to retain our denominational schools. As a consequence we do not wish religion to be banished from our schools. On the contrary, we wish the denominational schools to be re-established in France. . . . As for separation between Church and State, we declare that we will not sacrifice our religious liberties, and that we will not accept a persecution of the Church."

The French generals and statesmen guaranteed that religious liberties should be maintained in Alsace-Lorraine, and the people are going to see that no Masonic influence shall interfere. General Joffre declared that "France, happy to open her arms to Alsace, so long and so cruelly separated from her, has no doubts that victory will soon effect the deliverance of the provinces torn from her by force, France will restore them to the heart of their native land, and will respect their traditions and their liberties." President Poincaré endorsed this pledge when he told the Alsatian mayors that "he came to give the people of Alsace confirmation of the declarations already made to them by General Joffre." In November, 1918, General Mangin proclaimed: "The army of the Republic brings to the land of Lorraine liberty and justice. Your institutions, your traditions will be respected." During the same month General Gouraud said: "France comes to you as a mother to her beloved child that has been lost but found. She will respect your customs, your local traditions, your religious beliefs, your economic interests: she will bind up your wounds and give you food." On November 14, 1918, the following was issued from General Headquarters:—

"The French Republic intends to resume in the lands which have been restored to her the traditions of liberation which our fathers established in them. How can the people of Alsace doubt that their customs and local traditions, their religious beliefs and their economic interests must be respected, when they are aware of the manner in which France for four years has governed and administered the Alsatian cantons which it succeeded in reconquering in 1914?"

Already the Masons are beginning to deny that General Joffre ever gave a pledge of religious liberty. Now that the fight has been won, the schemers and the corrupters of society are emerging to play their dirty

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