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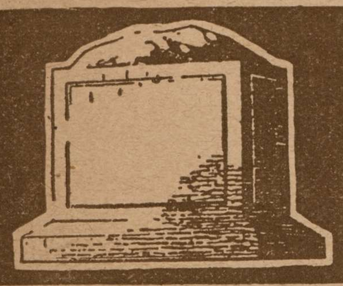

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## GERMANY'S DAYS OF DOOM —ITS PEOPLE AND REST OF WORLD HAVE NOT BEEN DECEIVED AS TO ITS MISERY.

(Continued from Page 4)

ent of the Paris Temps that under the circumstances in Germany it is impossible to speak and act except "in accord with the official fiction," which is that "France wishes to destroy us." Mr. Harden is quoted further as saying:

"Only children can be talked to in such terms, and yet the official legend repeats them from morning till night. Now, of two things one must be true: either they are really convinced that France wishes the death of Germany, and in this case they should not negotiate with her, but should break and follow the path of despair. If they do not do this it means that the charge is a lie, destined to deceive the world so that the Treaty shall not be executed and no reparations shall be paid. This is the actual case. Germany can pay. With all the money that has been spent for passive resistance, for public works, and for the upkeep of illegal troops, and with all the useless and furtive expenses that the Reich has been incurring up to the moment, by adminitsrative waste and subventions in all directions, they might have paid Germany's debt—at least, the deliveries in kind—up to the year 1928. France would not have refused to make an arrangement with a people that had sincerely shown the desire and the honest wish to pay, to keep her word; but official Germany has had and continues to have the contrary attitude because it is pushed thereto by England. The end of this all must be that England must be excluded from any sway in Continental politics. She has the entire empire of the seas, she has Asia, America, Oceania. What does she want with Europe? She wishes to make of our Continent a mere card in her world-wide high play, and they do not understand in Germany that she wishes at any cost to prevent a Franco-German understanding, which is her greatest fear. But despite England this Franco-German accord is inevitable. The one thing needful for this is that the idea and the truth of it be understood in Germany."

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## QUACK DOCTORS BY THE THOUSAND.

There are few more respisable crimes, than that of "letting loose a lot of ignorant and unscrupulous persons to prey upon the lives and pocketbooks of the American people." Yet out in Missouri, the authorities recently discovered a supposed medical college which, they say, existed only for the sale of doctors' diplomas, and Connecticutt officials say they have traced a connection between this institution and one of their State boards of medical examiners. A more cold-blooded exploitation of human need could hardly be imagined and Governor Templeton, of the State, made famous by the manufacture of wooden nutmegs, agrees that the exposure of the "diploma mill" is the greatest scandal in the history of the State. An extraordinary grand jury is inquiring into conditions under which certain doctors' diplomas were obtained. Meanwhile the licenses of some fifty "graduates" of one of the "schools" under fire have been revoked by the State Department of Health.

One of the men charged with selling fake high school diplomas in order that the prospective student's path to a medical college diploma might be made easier, and now under indictment in St. Louis, maintains that the "diploma ring" operated throughout the entire country; that it has "turned out" in recent years between 15,000 and 25,000 "doctors," and that the only States free of the menace are a few with strict laws, like Minnesota. Many fakers have been able to obtain licenses to practice medicine, it is said, by having a competent physician take the examination for them under an assumed name. Another scheme is to buy up the diplomas and licenses of deceased physicians, and assume the name of the former owner. Harry T. Brundige, a St. Louis newspaper reported, whose investigations and revelations in Kansas City and St. Louis are said to have brought about the present inquiry, claims to have had no trouble at all in becoming a full-fledged physician in three days. Where photographs are required on licenses for identification purposes, unfixed prints, which fade to a blank white paper in thirty days are used. Three officials of a medical examining board the statement of a witness now under indictment, furnished the "diploma mill" officials copies of the examination papers to be used on the following day. "The diploma sharks would then retire to a room, find answers to the questions, mimeograph the answers and distribute a copy to each candidate." We are told that fake diplomas have been issued from fifteen schools in all sections of the country. Special cars were used to bring recruits from St. Louis to Hartford. Four trips were made each year, and the candidates for doctors' 'shingles' included barbers, drug clerks, carpenters, soda dispensers, plumbers, automobile mechanics and traffic cops."

This is ghastly business. To what extent tombstones throughout the United States tell the story of this hideous fraud will never be known. The particularly sinister feature of the Connecticut story is the alleged connivance of members of the medical examining board with the fake medical college. This is as despisable and dangerous an abuse as unscrupulous men have been able to perpetrate. For the abuse of confidence of which the fake physician is guilty ,involving as it does not only the purse but the health —even the life—of his victim, is of the cruelist character. The effrontery of these quacks and their cold-bloodedness are beyond normal comprehension.

These parasites and their accomplices give pause to the thought that human nature is being purged of cruelty. Plain thuggery and crimes with special motives of enmity are not so sickening as the homicides of these impostors, who set up as physicians and surgeons knowing that they are more likely to kill than cure.

To find here and there a man so perverted as to make a profession of malpractice is not staggering, but that an organized service could exist to foist fake doctors on the country would challenge credibility if the facts which have already come out did not support the charge."

Quackery in surgery or medicine is no new thing, but these disclosures are important and disturbing in their revelation of the extent to which quackery has been made an organized business. The Connecticut investigation should lead to a general inquiry. Moreover, the various medical societies should take the initiative, for the public looks to them for protection against these dangerous pretenders. This matter, which has become a most serious scandal, should be probed to the bottom.

It is quite manifest that the laws of Connecticut are decidedly lax in regard to the licensing of physicians. If they were not, it would have been impossible for the 'diploma mill' in Missouri, a State which is the seat and centre of this business of foisting false 'doctors' on the community, to insinuate its 'graduates' into medical practice in the East through the agency of a Connecticut licensing board. It may be that the laws of more States than Connecticut, and including Massachusetts in the list, are too lax along this line. The public in every part of the Union is entitled to protection against the operations of fakirs who pretend to be doctors, when they are not, and who are likely at any time to cause untold suffering and death.

The State of Missouri has reason to be thoroughly ashamed of its record, now long and ghastly in the making of bogus physicians and surgeons. Connecticut certainly does not want to incur a similar shame. The people of that State should be aroused to a contemplation of the discreditable effects of the laxity of the State's laws. It is time for Connecticut to clean house.

The quack, to be sure, we shall no doubt always have with us. There will always be a numerous class of sufferers who prefer the chalatan. No State can endow its citizens with common sense. But the State can at least prevent such wholesale exploitation of the credulity of the ignorant as now prevails.

In the Connecticut-Missouri scandal, a striking lesson in the propriety of setting up a single State examining board, and asking the medical profession to keep an eye upon its standards. Connecticut has had six boards, with a resulting lack of responsibility.

Standards of medical education in the United States are now at a safe height. School after school, State board after board, has adopted the rule that two years' collegiate work shall be required before admission to the medical course, till it is in general force. The American Medical Association and the Council on Medical Education declared in 1916 for a standard of four years' actual medical training, followed by one year in hospital, and this has been widely accepted. But we still have to guard against scoundrels who are outside the law, and against representatives of various pseudo-scientific 'isms' who try to climb over the law.

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## AN "OUTSIDE LOOP" IN FLYING.

Referring to the "outside loop" in flying. I have never seen this stunt completed either in stationary or rotary motored planes, and I have seen some of the best stunt flyers in the Royal Air Force. At Camp Hicks, near Forth Worth, Texas, I twice saw Curtiss JN4 Canadian Type planes come from over 3,000 feet to the ground in an upside-down dive, seemingly entirely out of control, and this is one position you have to go through in an outside loop.

Training in England I accidentally got into this position myself in a Sopwith Camel, with a 140 H. P. Clerget rotary motor. I was trying to get an absolutely vertical dive, and cut under by mistake. As soon as the plane passed the vertical the rudde rand elevators became limp and useless, and after a short dive the plane went naturally into a slow outside spin, from which I was able to recover by jockeying the motor.

I believe that in the upside-down dive position the slipstream from the wings, which is a partial vacuum at high speed, envelops the tail surfaces, making them useless, and I do not see how the loop could be completed. My one experience with the cut-under dive put the wind up in me so high I would not try it again under any consideration, nor would any of the other men in the squadron in France.

This is an interesting subject to me, and I hope we get some other dope on it.—John R. Hogan, ex-2nd Lieut., 148th U. S. Air Squadron.

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