

SPIES CAUSE STRIKES

Admiralty Finds Germans in England at Old Tricks

No more remarkable illustration of the thoroughness, in every detail, of the German system of espionage has been afforded than by the admission of the Intelligence Division of the Admiralty that there is an extensive conspiracy being carried out by German agents in Great Britain to foment strikes among workmen in order to hamper the fulfilling of war contracts. The methods adopted in the industrial centres appear to be the employment of paid agitators who, carefully concealing their true motives and origin, mingle with workmen in public-houses and other places adjoining the docks or workshops, and seek to persuade them of grievances with a view to encouraging them to strike, or at least waste time. These agents are also actuated by the further motive of acquiring, when the workmen have become their dupes, information as to war work which would be of value to the enemy. Plentifully supplied with money, these originators of strikes are very liberal in the gifts they make to workmen, and there is distinct evidence that the strikes which have broken out since the war began have been fomented in a great measure by German spies.

Those acquainted with the extraordinary ramifications of the German spy system are not surprised at this admission on the part of the Admiralty, for it is remembered how they have undermined the industrial and economic conditions in France, and led to the disastrous labor upheavals of late years. It has been revealed how in France, German spies found employment in municipal offices, on the railways, and in the great industrial areas, while others posed as Socialist agitators, always endeavoring to stir up discord among the working classes. The French authorities have proof that the organization of the disastrous strikes which have occurred of late years in France were the direct result of German machinations.