

to threaten at any moment the conflagration of war over the whole of Europe.

For some years past it became apparent that Germany in time would again seek to crush the Republic of France. In a work published last year entitled 'Germany and the Next War,' by General Frederick Von Bernhardi, one of the Generals of the German army, no concealment is made therein of the policy of Germany not only towards France but towards France and her allies. On page 104 of this work we find this significant statement:

'In one way or another we must square our account with France if we wish for a free hand in our international policy. This is the first and foremost condition of a sound German policy, and since the hostility of France once and for all cannot be removed by peaceful overtures the matter must be settled by force of arms. France must be so completely crushed that she can never again come across our path.'

This avowal of policy was equivalent to a declaration of war with England. Were Germany able to carry out this policy of absolutely crushing France, Germany would assert itself as the master of Europe. Even under those conditions and after Germany's declaration of war against France had been issued England withheld its hand until Germany grossly violated the neutrality of Belgium. England thus had no other recourse than to join arms with France in seeking not so much to break the power of Germany as to maintain its own Imperial existence.

In all the historic wars upon which England has entered, fighting as she has done for centuries on sea and land not only for her own existence but for the liberty and freedom of the subject against the tyranny of the despot, never in all those historic wars has she so up-held the traditions of her honour and her glory as in this war. She has cast in her lot with France to uphold her national honour and to observe the carrying out in its integrity the pact of an unwritten treaty. Words also cannot express the profound admiration of the world at the courage and gallantry of Belgium in thus far resisting the overwhelming army of Germany in defending not only its own soil, but at the risk of its national existence fighting an almost invincible army to maintain its obligations of neutrality to the other powers of Europe.

Also at this critical time we on this side of the Atlantic cannot fully express our admiration for the supremacy of England's fleet, which in its wonderful organization is now so protecting the trade routes of the

ocean, that shipping between our own ports and those of Great Britain enjoys an immunity almost as secure as if we were at peace with the world.

Of late years much has been said of universal peace. Its advocates in all sincerity have made extraordinary efforts to bring the great powers within the sphere of settling national controversies by peaceful methods, but alas for human frailty, universal peace seems to be as distant as it ever was. Notwithstanding our boasted civilization and our preachments for universal peace and for the abolition of war we have but touched the shadow leaving the substance in all its activity and hideousness. So long as human passions throb in the breasts of nations so long will war be an actual fact. Probably at no time in the world's history as within the last few years, have such widespread efforts been made to establish the nations on a footing of peace, but strange to say with each effort has the carnage of war made progress in a greater inverse ratio.

At such a time and under such provocation peace at any price by England would not only have been cowardice but it would have cost the Empire its national existence. The peace of Europe for the next generation at this time can only be secured through the success of British arms in the titanic struggle upon which England has entered. Peace, national peace, can only be purchased at such a time through the pouring out of lives and treasure in maintaining those great principles of liberty and freedom for which England in the past has shed its best blood on the historic battlefields of the world. Canada at this time recognizes the struggle upon which Great Britain has entered. The success and glory which await its arms and the assured security and destiny of the British Empire are the greatest guarantee that the world can have for the future peace and prosperity of the nations.

May I say in conclusion that we realize the gravity of our duty at this time. It is not in the spirit of martial display that Canada has answered the call of Empire but from a deep sense of loyalty and devotion to those great national institutions that so long have stood for the highest and best interests of the human race.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND—Hon. gentlemen, all the efforts of the men of good will, throughout the world, in favour of permanent peace have been unavailing. During the last fifteen years I have been in close