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LONDON, WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 16.

PEACE AMIDST STRIFE.

THE world is shaping for eternal peace—the dream of the ages. Yesterday the United States signed peace treaties for one year with Great Britain, France, Spain and China. There may, or may not, be significance in the fact that Germany is not included in the list. Each of the nations declares that it will not go to war for any cause against any of the other nations without striving to arrange difficulties diplomatically, and failing that, to leave the question in dispute to an international commission.

This is good neighboring. Germany will, no doubt, be anxious to make the same arrangement with the United States and other neutral nations, and it will be interesting to see whether Secretary Bryan gives the Kaiser's representative the invitation.

The pact, though it may be temporary, is the forerunner to some such international arrangement that will last for all time. Every word uttered for peace within the last century will have greater weight at this time than it could at any other. Though it may seem paradoxical, should the war be decided for the Allies, it will have done more to achieve disarmament than any other happening in history. That it will mean disarmament and a general cutting down of the military department of all nations seems inevitable. President Taft stands a greater man today than ever before, because the memory of his work for peace comes home to all Americans, and to most Britishers. Taft was the big man of the United States, from the humanitarian standpoint, at any rate.

There will come a world nausea against slaughter and brutality that will spell peace. There will be an end to wholesale murder and wholesale punishment of murder.

THE GERMAN CODE.

BERNHARDI'S prophetic book, "Germany and the Next War," has been issued in a popular form by Edward Arnold at 50 cents. A comparison of this work (published originally in 1912) with one published last year, "Pan-Germanism," by Professor Roland G. Usher, of Washington University, St. Louis, throws much light upon the recent doings and ideas of Potsdam. Most of us hardly believed civilized Germany capable of such flagrant contempt of ordinary moral order. But the German Bernhardi and the American Usher had no doubts about it.

The text of Bernhardi's book is that war has been "the greatest factor in the furtherance of culture and power." Culture attends upon power, of course. In approval of this view, he quoted many distinguished German authors, and above all Treitschke, perhaps the greatest educational force in modern Germany. Biology has been misunderstood by Germans to teach a better moral law than can be found in old religions, the law of survival of the fittest. German biologists and their pupils throughout the nation have made out that right and wrong have a meaning only in relation to the immediate vital needs of a physical organism.

Bernhardi argues, again, that as Germany fought wars to consolidate her nationality, there remains for her a greater and inevitable war, to wrest world leadership from Great Britain. Like many other Germans, he considered the British power as in reality a sham. The German race, as the more fit and the more numerous, would win, and he suggests the conduct of the war.

Professor Usher calmly quotes German authorities to show that Germany has had in mind an attack on British wealth, and on British moral standards which might be supposed to favor Great Britain as against Germany. An American spectator of the impending conflict of German and Anglo, he concludes that the German aim was not only at the political union of the German-speaking peoples, including Low-German Holland, but to dominate the world. He considers that this ambition has been enthusiastically taken up by the masses of the Vaterland. "The whole nation is fired by this spirit, and is working as a unit in accordance with the directions of its leaders."

Mr. Usher develops the nature of the German view of British wealth. This is part of his summary of that view:

"England has vast capital invested in distant countries, without out the material means of defending it. Whatever is written on paper is paper, and is not to be made into tangible assets by any process of jugglery. Things are, and writing on paper does not change the thing or its position."

The world has paid England tribute, but the world need not continue to pay that tribute only so long as it wishes. The moment the borrowers refuse to recognize the validity of her claims upon their revenues and begin to realize that they hold, with a clutch which she cannot loosen, the actual substance of wealth, then they will begin to see that her wealth is not real, but depends purely upon their willingness to continue to pay her revenue, which they may stop paying at any moment without suffering any consequences. To be sure, such notions as these presume the violation

of every notion of commercial morality and expediency at present existing in the world, but, as the Germans say, if they were violated, what could England and France do to avert destruction? It is true, they admit, that such a wholesale repudiation of debts would undoubtedly make it difficult for nations to borrow from each other for some time to come, but they retort, if such a repudiation took place, the debtor nations would not need to borrow for generations to come. The Germans contend that the moral code of the financial world, like the moral code of the political world, is based upon the notions of England and France, upon ideas obviously themselves the result of a peculiar situation, on whose continuance the welfare of England and France depends. Their moral code is based on their ownership of the world and their desire to continue it in perpetuity, and their moral code, therefore, condemns Germany to insignificance. The Germans refuse to recognize anything as moral which jeopardizes their national existence. They claim the right to protect themselves by any weapons which will secure the desired result, and they have no intention of foregoing the use of these terrible economic weapons, simply from a humane acceptance of so-called ethical notions, whose very presumptions militate against them."

There you have Professor Usher's exposition over a year ago of the German general idea that right, that contract and treaties are only "scraps of paper," that Germany has a right to any road to success. How the Germans might persuade other peoples to repudiate their debts is not easily explained, unless, perhaps, they would effect this by example. But these biological morals do not exalt a nation.

THE IRREPRESSIBLE TURK.

THE government of Turkey showed some judgment in keeping out of the fight. Had it done anything it would very naturally have been on the side of Germany. And that would have meant the end of Turkey in Europe, unless Germany should be the victor. There was some common sense, therefore, in keeping neutral. But there has been a decided lack of sense in offending all the great powers of the world, which it has done by abrogating certain treaties with foreign nations. Under these treaties, many of them of long years' standing, foreigners in Turkey had a right of trial in consular courts—that is, in the courts of their own countries. This was found necessary in order to secure Christians that justice they could not always get in Mohammedan courts, and which the Turkish Government, no matter how desirous it might be, could not always enforce. Now these treaties, without a word of notice or consultation with the representatives of foreign nations, have been calmly wiped out. It is a general defiance of an offensive character. And it is to be noted that Germany, in common with the Allies, has protested against it.

On top of the action by the Sublime Porte, the Turkish ambassador to the United States has put his foot in it. He has made a public declaration explaining and defending war has been used. But, instead of confining himself to a simple and dignified statement, he goes out of the way to scold the Americans for what he considers the unfair assertions made as to the danger of Christian massacres; and tells the people that instead of finding fault with deeds of violence in Turkey, they had better stop similar acts, like lynchings at home.

Such a discussion of the domestic affairs of a nation to whom he is accredited is a violation of etiquette on the part of an ambassador that under ordinary circumstances would have resulted in his recall. The announcement in the United States papers that the President and Mr. Bryan, after careful consideration, had agreed to let the matter drop, and pay no attention to the "back talk" of Rustem Bey, is not to be taken as an indication that the United States Government is indifferent to such breaches of etiquette, or regardless of its own dignity. It simply means that the offender is not justified of sufficient importance to consider it. It is the indifference of the Newfoundland dog to the yelping of the poodle.

But while the United States will not trouble itself about the ambassador's unruly tongue, it may be depended on to take action with his government as to the original cause of the dispute. Those treaties which the Turk has abrogated are the defence of foreign Christians, in so far as treaties can serve defensive purposes. Under ordinary circumstances they would not have been touched. But with the general conflict in Europe, the nations at war have no time to bother about a matter like this. The Turkish ambassador coolly admits this. The war, he says, was Turkey's opportunity. But his government might have had sense enough to know that taking advantage of the disturbed condition of Europe to offend all his neighbors can only result in prompt retribution as soon as they have time to attend to him. Instead of being called on to renew the treaties, the Turk may find himself served with notice to leave Europe.

CHAMPION AGAIN.

A DISPATCH to the Whole Cloth Agency, from Lunyville, via Rotterdam, gives particulars of the distinguished conduct of Col. John Johnson, heading the Senegambian wing of the now famous Senegambian troops in the recent victory. It seems it was really this battalion and not the mysterious Russian contingent that delivered the winning punch which drove the Germans beyond the Aisne.

The last we heard of Johnson was when he reported for service at the front. He dove into the mass of the conscript army and now burrows his way out to light again, the hero of the hour, as the reliable Whole Cloth has it.

Having risen to leadership by sheer blood and iron, he proved himself a wonder at in-fighting, out-fighting or in-an-out fighting. It was a fatal moment for the last lingering resistance of the Teutons, when Le Colonel Johnson, got inside their lines and

knocked them down in rows. He and the other Fuzzy Wuzzies lived right up to Kipling's poem and a few inches beyond.

According to the Whole Cloth Agency, Johnson is no ordinary Senegambian. Besides having defeated all-comers in the roped circle, he is said, on no less authority than his own statement, to "retch his blood" from men of royal lineage. To be descended from princes of Ethiopia, in fact, from Othello and the Pharaohs. He takes after his ancestor in marrying a doting Deadamona and in waging fierce and faithful battle for the white city of his adoption. Long live the champion of the Marne, the savior of Paris, from whom Germans ran screaming in terror and to whom the beautiful daughters of France wave handkerchiefs of praise. Hall John Martel!

THE WAR SITUATION.

THERE is no reason to doubt now but that the Allies have won a great battle along the Marne River and in the vicinity of the fortress of Verdun. In some quarters, notably on the left flank, where the British are engaged, the German retreat resembles panic-stricken rout. There does not seem any other way of explaining the heavy captures of men, guns and ammunition that have been officially reported. That General Von Kluck and a large army have been forced to surrender seems too good to be true, and yet if the Allies' enveloping movement succeeded this is just what might happen.

But even if this should prove correct, it is well not to judge too hastily the success of the Allies or the defeat of the Germans. It will be several days yet before an exact appraisal of the operations can be made. It is not at all likely, however, that the Kaiser's splendid fighting machine is hopelessly crippled. Teutonic thoroughness has, no doubt, prepared for just such an emergency, and an army that displayed the vigor and stamina of that terrific advance through Belgium must still have plenty of fight despite the great strain it has gone through. Furthermore, even should the Allies clear France and Belgium of the invaders, once on German soil the armies of the Kaiser will be more difficult to subdue. France has demonstrated this by her own magnificent defence. Every foot of the way will be in a hostile country densely populated. The leaders of the allied forces, however, have shown themselves capable, resourceful, cautious, courageous. They may be depended upon to conduct the campaign from this point in a way to avoid the near-disaster that has overtaken the German arms.

PISGAH.

ONE of the most melancholy places of life is Pisgah. Moses came to it and saw the land of milk and honey which he could not touch. Haman, the Carthaginian marvel, after years of campaigning in Italy, advanced to a point three miles from Rome, but more was not given him. Richard the Lion-Hearted, crusader, stood upon a hill and gazed at Zion, only to turn back in despair. The Germans came like a torrent towards Paris, till their guns were held by the city, and then, swerving, were hurled back almost in rout, from the goal almost attained. Those Pisgahs are cruel tests of fortitude. Will the Germans rally?

THE BRAVE TRAWLERS.

TRIBUTE should be paid to the brave British North Sea trawlers, who, co-operating with the destroyers, are engaged day and night sweeping the waters clear of the Kaiser's floating mines.

These men form a sort of volunteer branch of the navy, and with their intimate knowledge of currents and tides, are proving of great assistance. There is no war service that calls for a finer courage than this hunting for the infernal submarine machines. The work lacks the uplifting, stirring settings of a naval fight. There is none of the glorious exaltation that is inseparable from the clash of battle, where death stalks boldly and is as boldly met. On the contrary, the trawler is dealing with a peril that lurks in submarine shadow and gloom. There are few men but are courageous in the face of a foe that can be seen. Heavy odds seem trivial and to die fighting for a good cause is a good ending. But the trawler, as he cruises amongst the fog and mist, fishing for the mines, never knows what moment death in a terrible guise may spring at him.

The admiralty records that scores of these instruments of destruction have been gathered by the heroic fishermen, but it has been at the cost of many lives. Every few days we hear of some trawler that has gone down with her crew. It is hoped that when the war is over the dauntless fellows who survive this perilous service will be fittingly rewarded, and those who have perished fittingly remembered.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Will the Russians please hurry-up-ski?

The Cosacks are happily hunting the Hapsburgs.

The Eskimo has not yet declared neutrality.

Coming or going, those Germans make fast time.

"Somebody Else is Getting It." is a new "rag." It should be popular in London and Paris just now.

A correspondent asks for synonyms for "Kaiser." Here are some: "Oboliterate," "Smash," "Crush," "Rage," "Kill," "Slash."

One who has been intimate with him for years declares the Kaiser dislikes flowers. We are ready to believe he detests the lilies of France and the roses of England.

Parisian ladies are busy making nice crisp pink and white monogrammed nighties for the soldiers at the front.

---and the Worst Is Yet to Come



PRESS COMMENT ON THE WAR

LITTLE REST.
[St. Thomas Journal.]
The Kaiser seems to have gone to a retreat. But judging from the way the British bulldog is hanging to his flank, he doesn't seem to be getting much of a rest cure.

ONLY UNDER THE BRITISH FLAG.
[Calgary News-Telegram.]
Sergeant Vorster, who fought against Britain with the Boers in South Africa, goes as one of the volunteers from Port Arthur, this time to fight for Great Britain. It is only under the British flag that such things happen.

GLORIOUS WAR.
[Topeka State Journal.]
When the floating junk heaps go into a naval battle the lifeboats are all thrown away. That, as may be pointed out, gives the poor sailor an obese chance when said junk pile drops from under him, but it saves funeral expenses.

CAN FIGHT AND WRITE.
[Brantford Courier.]
Kitchener and French are both great generals, and they are also remarkable writers. Nothing for direct and arresting simplicity could have beaten Kitchener's initial address to the soldiers, or the vivid yet unvarnished account which French sent with reference to the heroic conduct of the British when French soldiers survived, but that when Col. D'Arche finally surrendered the utterly ruined fortress he was allowed to keep his sword by the admiring victor, the Crown Prince Frederick William. Would that more such stories

This war is developing horrors never dreamed of in past campaigns.

The Hohenzollerns continue to patronize the Almighty. The wounded Prince Joachim bestowing his blessing on God for his wounds. Perhaps he is overjoyed at getting away from the firing line.

The news of the capture of Von Kluck caused a sensation in military circles wherever it was read. This German general has been the brains of the German movement, according to the record of events. Verification will bring the end of the war within close range.

The garages of the city are crowded with farmers' automobiles this week. Time was when the hotel stables had to take care of all the vehicular equipment that came to the city. Now there are hundreds of farmers from the counties of Western Ontario who own good motors and who use them.

HELP!
[Washington Post.]
The bombardment of a defenseless public by British war poets is a plain violation of the laws of humanity.

AN IDEAL HUSBAND.
[Kansas City Journal.]
"Yes, I may say I have an ideal husband."

"An Apollo for looks," a Chesterfield for manners," rhapsodized the girl. "These things don't count in husbands, my dear. Mine stays fairly sober, and brings most of his salary home."

TO BE DULY RETURNED.
[New York Sun.]
The wife of George Meizinger, a distinguished French soldier, whose son, a captain in the army, was recently wounded, was travelling from Switzerland to Lorraine a short time ago. She says she overheard a conversation between two German officers during a rainstorm.

"One said: 'Oh, I left my umbrella in a hotel in Paris.'"

The other replied: "Never fear, you will be able to go and get it next week."

"Try to not trouble yourselves," interrupted Mme. Meizinger; "my son, who is a captain in the French army, will undertake to bring it himself."

The two officers alighted at the next station.

HUMOROUS.
[Pittsburgh Dispatch.]
The Turkish ambassador at Washington protests against the cartoonists and

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humorists making fun of the Sublime Porte's position. Thus the ambassadorial itch for censorship grows.

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YES.
Recent events cast a shade of doubt on Mr. Kipling's remark as to the comparative deadliness of the male and the female of the species.

THE DEAD VOLUNTEER.
[London Spectator.]
Here lies a clerk who half his life had spent

Tolling at ledgers in a city grey,
Thinking that so his days would drift away

With no lance broken in life's tournament;
But ever 'twixt the books and his bright eyes

The gleaming eagles of the legions came,
And horsemen charging under phantom skies

Went thundering past beneath the oriflamme,
And now those waiting dreams are

satisfied
For in the end he heard the bugle call,
And to his country then he gave his all

When in the first high hour of life he died,
And falling thus, he wants no recompense

Who found his battle in the last resort;
Nor needs he any hearse to bear him hence

Who goes to join the men of Agincourt.

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