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PART I.

PREVENTION OF WAR.

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In one of the most interesting lectures given before the Alberta Military Institute, Major-Gen. MacBrien, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., Chief of the General Staff of Canada, asks: "Has an era of everlasting peace arrived?" and proceeds: To answer this question correctly, one must consider the following in order to arrive at a correct conclusion:—

One must study history and human nature.

We learn introspection by retrospection.

We must study cause and effect.

(a) What is war ?

(b) How is it caused ?

(c) What conditions should be existing in the world if everlasting peace has come ?

(d) Does history repeat itself ?

What is War ?

Sherman said: "War is hell."

War was once an invigorating and manly occupation in which chivalry had a fair field. Nowadays it has been robbed of its attractions through the progress of science and the application of chemical discoveries and mechanical devices. The late war was marked by horror and was a monstrosity of destructiveness and cruelty.

History shows that learning and prowess of arms excel and flourish in the same men in the same age.

Bacon says: "Learning does not soften men's minds nor make them less apt for the honour and exercise of arms."

Scientists destroyed the enemy wholesale while we professional soldiers had to do it on a small scale in comparison.

War is the continuation of politics by other means;

War is a political instrument; a continuation of political commerce;

The act of one government imposing its will upon another by force.

Disraeli said: "War is only an aggravation and not a cure of trouble between nations."

This is true as the Great War did not end wars as many hoped it would.

CAUSES OF WAR.

In by-gone days war was caused by the ladies, such as Helen of Troy; ladies now only cause domestic wars.

Again it has been caused by the ambitious kings and soldiers; religion, or conquest for commerce.

In the future they may be caused by governments seeking world power; competition for world commerce; or as an outlet for population.

War is the effect or action of one government trying to impose its will upon another—effect of natural ambitions.

Are the causes of war diseases ?

In order to eliminate war, its causes must be removed.