

children. In the name of civilization let America protest. This was only assassination."

There was some rumour that Seaman would be disciplined for this non-neutral message. But on September 2nd there was another Zepp raid on Antwerp and again he cabled the Herald:

"The second Zeppelin attempt yesterday morning was more clearly than ever aimed at the murder of human beings. Fortunately the shrapnel of the assassins failed in that, though ten were wounded. Official photographs prepared for American officials calculate the weight of each bomb dropped at 300 kilos (660 pounds)."

In the light of these attacks what are the chances that the Zepps will do much damage to London or Paris or to the British navy in the North Sea? According to some writers of the Jules Verne variety, once the Zepps are let loose from their sheds at Cologne, Metz, Cuxhaven and Freidrichshaven and Potsdam, London and Paris might as well take to the caves and the British navy convert itself into a fleet of submarines to keep out of danger. This earth-quaking prospect is based somewhat on the "tour de force" of the LIL, which before the war made a diabolical enveloping trip over the whole of Germany from Metz to Heligoland, from Potsdam to the Baltic in 35 hours, at an average speed of 62 miles an hour, with enough fuel left in her tanks for 16 hours more. She carried tons of explosives and was equipped with a wireless covering a range of 469 miles, and an electric searchlight of 40,000 c. p. effective at an altitude of 4,500 feet. Another of these trips was made across the Channel and gave London a scare, merely by way of paying compliments. Germany is said to have several of these air-demons in her sheds at various points over a wide area. The nearest to France is at Cologne, where it will be remembered machine guns have been mounted on the cathedral roof—for the main purpose of guarding the Zepp sheds.

One of these Zepps may carry ordinary bombs such as were dropped into Antwerp and might be dropped into London. Another may carry a launching tube and torpedo for the destruction of battleships. Each has been tested in times of peace, in dropping explosives, in launching torpedoes, in

firing vertically and at an angle of 45 degrees, in firing at an object suspended from anchored balloons; according to reports, with deadly accuracy. The difficulty of hitting an object as small as a battleship must look at a height of one mile, when the Zeppelin is in motion, is said to have been overcome by steering the dirigible in a circle and dropping from a point calculated as the mean average centre. Each Zepp of the tube-launching variety carries four tubes, each six feet four inches long; and each bomb weighs 85 pounds. The bomb is steel-capped. It penetrates armour plate and explodes after it enters. It is fired from a cabin amidships furnished with two telescopes in opposite directions. It is estimated that a Zepp scheduled to strike London would naturally leave Ostend, where the Germans expected to bring up a few of these pets.

Great expectations. So far it is not proved that any Zepp cannot be hit by an air-gun from below. Already the French and Belgian gunners have played hob with a few bomb-fingers from the blue. And the Allies have not yet begun to bring into play their actual air fighting navy.

Sir Edward Grey, Devil? or Perhaps too Clever a Diplomat

MR. ROBINS, lecturer in German at Victoria University, Toronto, was at Marburg, Germany, when the war broke. He has reached home, via Holland, and states that: "The prejudice against Sir Edward Grey is the only exhibition of racial feeling against the English that the Germans make. Individually they have the same regard for us that they always had. I saw one cartoon in a newspaper that illustrated the German regard for Sir Edward Grey very well. He was shown with horns, a forked tongue and tail with His Satanic Majesty standing behind him slapping him on the back. The devil was represented as saying, 'Good Boy, Good Boy, you can go one better than even I.'"

Is Sir Edward Grey a devil? Has he misled the

British people, or was he keen enough to see through the German plans and quick enough to frustrate them?

These are questions which cannot be answered finally for years to come. The historian of to-morrow will write the last word on the subject.

Mr. A. G. Gardner, the well-known English journalist, once wrote a sketch of Sir Edward which has passed into permanent form in a volume entitled "Prophets, Priests and Kings." Curiously enough Gardner does not represent him as a man working for the cause of peace. To the outside world, he is essentially a man who has no other thought than to perpetuate the era in which human liberty has developed so fast and so speedily. Gardner pictures him a student of nature, a cultivator of the rose, a student of the garden and the stars, a lover of retirement, and an ardent disciple of the "Compleat Angler." Yet in his diplomacy, Gardner seems to have noted a dangerous streak. To quote:

"The unrivalled confidence which he commands in the country is not wholly shared by those who regard England as the banner-bearer in the cause of human liberty. For this cause he has done little. His policy is governed by a fixed idea—the idea that peace must be preserved by having 'friends' and that the Concert of Europe is a creed outworn. Under the inspiration of this idea he has committed this country to the support of the most reactionary government in Europe, and has given a tendency to events which is rapidly hardening Anglo-German relations into a condition of permanent antagonism. The entente under him had taken a sinister colour, and the inflexibility of his mind, unqualified by large knowledge, swift apprehension of events or urgent passion for humanity, constituted a peril to the future. His aims are high, his honour stainless; but the slow movement of his mind and his unquestioning faith in the honesty of those on whom he has to rely render it easy for him to drift into courses which a more imaginative sense and a swifter instinct would lead him to question and repudiate."

On the other hand, Gardner's opinions are not without their weaknesses. Writing, in the same volume, of the Kaiser, Gardner describes him as a man with a dove-like character. "For twenty years he has had the peace of Europe in his keeping, and for twenty years not a German soldier has fallen in war." He goes even farther when he says, "He keeps his powder dry and his armour bright. But he stands for peace—peace armed to the teeth, it is true, peace with the mailed fist; but peace nevertheless."

And yet we now know that the Kaiser planned his attack upon France. The German officers had definite information as to how the armies of the Fatherland would descend upon France and race to the gates of Paris. They had plans of every Belgian fortress and roadway. They had determined in advance that Belgium neutrality would not be allowed to stand in their way. The army was ready to move. When war was declared, there was no hesitation and no delay. "The day" had come and every man knew what that meant. The terrible swiftness with which the armies moved showed that everything was arranged. Such actions could not follow upon a plan for defence—it was a plan of attack.

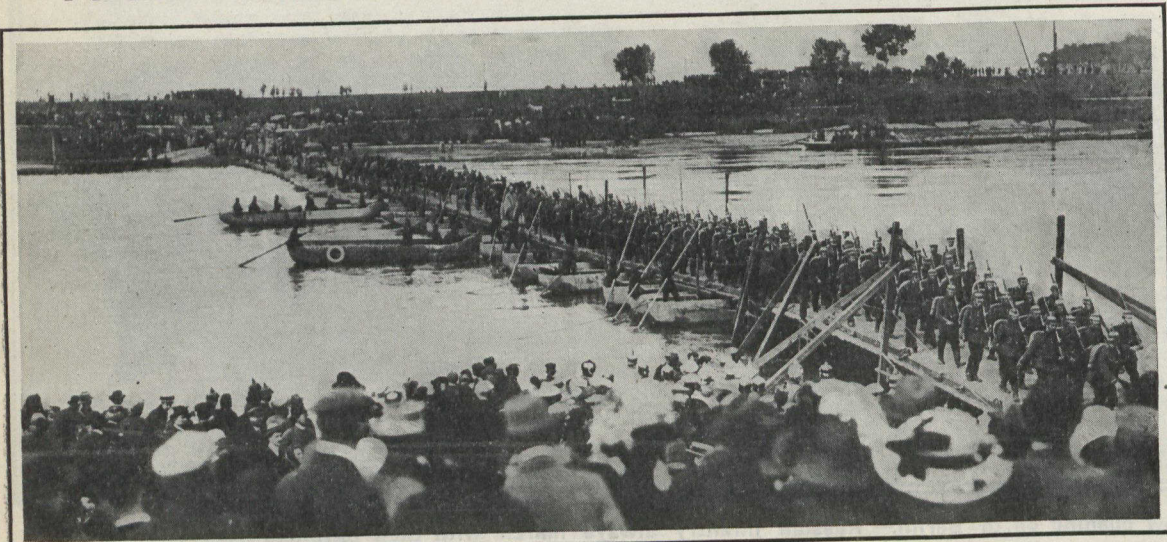
The German press agents are trying to create the impression that the Kaiser was misled and that the German Chancellor, and the Crown Prince were to blame. They say that if the Kaiser had been at home, instead of summering in the firds of Norway, there would have been no such catastrophe. And yet we know that when Bismarck and Caprivi and Hohenlohe and Von Buelow crossed the royal master they had to go. Von Bethmann-Hollweg, the present chancellor, is the Kaiser's man and has always served his master faithfully. To picture him thrusting Germany into war in spite of the Emperor's desire, is asking too much of the imagination.

At best, the German Emperor hoped to keep Britain out of the fight. So far as France and Russia were concerned, he was ready—and he invited it.

This much then, is to be said for Sir Edward Grey—he apparently knew the German mind better than the majority of informed Englishmen. Patiently, year after year, he has drawn the lines closer and closer around German diplomacy. He, sphinxlike, saw all that was going on in Germany and was prepared. That preparation took the form of alliances with France and Russia and Japan. It explains the great British fleet and all that makes it to-day the defender of the world's commerce. He prepared Great Britain for the mad charge of the German army through Belgium into France. He foresaw the great emergency when mediaevalism should make its last great attack upon democracy. He is not a devil—he is a cool, calculating, far-seeing statesman who perceived what was inevitable, and created the ways and means to meet it.

This at least is the popular view, and the cards are all on the table. The Kaiser talked peace, but planned war. Sir Edward Grey knew of the planning and he was ready with his counter move. Whether he was right in his estimate of the Kaiser, whether he took the proper steps to meet the greatest occasion in the history of the world, and whether he left anything undone which might have prevented this useless slaughter of a million men and this fierce destruction of thousands of happy homes, is a question to which the biographer and historians of the future alone may answer.

FROM THE ELBE TO THE CANADIAN THAMES



Much has been heard of armies crossing and recrossing rivers after bridges have been blown up. This picture of the German soldiers crossing a pontoon bridge over the Elbe was taken not far from where Napoleon crossed on his mad march to Moscow.



Not seasoned veterans—merely the 7th Militia Regiment of London, Ont., marching to the station on their way to Valcartier.