

of war between the United States and the Imperial German Government which has thus been thrust upon the United States is hereby formally declared; and that the President be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed to employ the entire naval and military forces of the United States and the resources of the Government to carry on war against the Imperial German Government; and to bring the conflict to a successful termination all of the resources of the country are hereby pledged by the Congress of the United States.

CHAMP CLARK,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

THOS. R. MARSHALL,

Vice President of the United States and

President of the Senate.

Approved, April 6, 1917,

WOODROW WILSON.

3. GERMAN CONCEPTIONS OF THE STATE, INTERNATIONAL POLICY, AND INTERNATIONAL LAW.

Because the good old rule

Sufficeth them,—the simple plan,

That they should take who have the power,

And they should keep who can.

(a) *Frederick the Great (1712-1786)*

To keep up the rôle of an honest man with knaves is very perilous; to play a sharp game in the company of cheats is desperate. Success in such an attempt is very doubtful. What, then, is to be done? Either war or negotiation, just as your very humble servant and his minister are now doing. If there is anything to be gained by it, we will be honest; if deception is necessary, let us be cheats.¹

Since it has been agreed upon among men that cheating one's fellowmen is a cowardly act, an expression has been sought for which might soften this act and the word Politics has been chosen to that end. This word has most certainly been employed only in favor of sovereigns, because in decency we cannot be treated as rogues and rascals.

But be that as it may, here is what I think of politics. My dear nephew, by the word Politics I understand that we must seek to deceive others; it is a means of having the advantage, or at least

¹ Frederick the Great to Minister de Podewils, dated the Camp at Mollwitz, May 12, 1741. (*Politische Correspondenz Friedrichs des Grossen* [Berlin, 1879], vol. 1, pp. 244-245.)

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