

Eliot Blames German Barbarity

Harvard's Former President Declares That Desire on the Part of the Tentons for World-Emire is Prime Source of the Present Conflict--Germans Have Developed Doctrine That Might Makes Right--Never Feared Russia.

In a letter to the New York Times Charles W. Eliot says-- Each one of the principal combatants in Europe seems to be anxious to prove that it is not responsible for this cruellest, most extensive, and most destructive of all wars. Each Government involved has published the correspondence between its chief executive and other chief executives, and between its chancellery or foreign office and the equivalent bodies in the other nations that have gone to war, and has been at pains to give a wide circulation of these documents.

To be sure, none of these Government publications seems to be absolutely complete. There seem to be in all of them suppressions or omissions which only the future historian will be able to report--perhaps after many years. They reveal, however, the dispirited state of the concert of Europe in July, 1914, and the flurry in the European chancelleries which the ultimatum sent by Austria-Hungary to Serbia produced. They also testify to the existence of a new and influential public opinion about war and peace, to which nations that go to war think it desirable to appeal for justification or moral support.

These publications have been read with intense interest by impartial observers in all parts of the world and have in many cases determined the direction of the reader's sympathy and good will; and yet none of them discloses or deals with the real sources of the unprecedented calamity. They relate chiefly to the question--Who struck the match and not to the question--who provided the magazine that exploded, and why did he provide it? Grave responsibility of course attaches to the person who gives the order to mobilize an army, or to invade a neighbor's territory; but the real force of the receding horrors is not in such an order, but in the governmental institutions, political philosophy and long-entrenched passions and purposes of the nation or nations concerned.

GERMANY'S DESIRE THE PRIME CAUSE

The prime source of the present immense disaster in Europe is the desire on the part of Germany for world-empire, a desire which one European nation after another have made its supreme motive, and none that has once adopted has ever completely eradicated. When this desire, which has attacked one nation after another through all historic times, struck Germany, it exhibited in her case a remarkable malignity, moving her to expansion in Europe by force of arms and to the seizure of areas for colonization in many parts of the world. Prussia, indeed, had long believed in making her way in Europe by fighting, and had repeatedly acted on that belief. Shortly before the achievement of German unity by Bismarck, she had obtained by war in 1864 and 1866 important concessions of territory and leadership in all Germany.

FORCE OF ARMS BELIEVED NECESSARY

With this desire for world-empire went the belief that it was only to be obtained by force of arms. Therefore, united Germany has labored with the utmost intelligence and energy to prepare the most powerful army in the world and to equip it for instant action in the most powerful manner which science and eager invasion could contrive.

ARMY BECAME THE NATION

In order to assure the completeness

of this military idea, the army became the nation and the nation became the army to a degree which had never before been realized in either the savage or the civilized world. This army could be summoned and put in play by the chief executive of the German nation with no preliminaries except the consent of the hereditary heads of the several States which united to form the Empire in 1870-71 under the domination of Prussia, the Prussian King, being some German Emperor, being commander-in-chief of the German army.

At the word of the Emperor this army can be summoned, collected, clothed, equipped and armed and set in motion toward any frontier in a day. The German army was thus made the largest in proportion to its population, the best equipped and the most mobile in the world. The German General Staff studied incessantly and thoroughly plans for campaigns against all the other principal States of Europe and promptly utilized--secretly, wherever secrecy was possible--all promising inventions in explosives, ordnance, munitions, transportation and sanitation. At the opening of 1914 the General Staff believed that the German army was ready for war on the instant that it possessed some small advantages in fighting--such as better implements and better discipline--over the armies of the neighboring nations.

THOUGHT ENGLAND UNPREPARED

The intense desire for colonies and for the spread of German commerce throughout the world instigated the creation of a great German navy and started the race with England in navy building. In this pushing her colonization and sea-power policy Germany encountered the wide domination of Great Britain on the oceans, and this encounter bred jealousy, suspicion and distrust on both sides. The German should not have been helped in the quest for foreign possessions was annoying, but that England and France should have acquired ample and rich territory on other continents and then should resist or obstruct Germany when she aspired to make up for lost time was intensely exasperating. Hence chronic resentments and--when the day came--probably war.

In respect to its navy, however, Germany was not ready for war at the opening of 1914, and, therefore, she did not mean to get into war with Great Britain in that year. Indeed, she believed--on incorrect information--that England could not go to war in the summer of 1914.

TREATIES BROKEN TO GAIN ADVANTAGE

To gain quickly a military advantage in attacking a neighbor came to be regarded as proper ground for violating any or all international treaties and agreements, no matter how solemn and comprehensive, how old or how new. The demonstration of the insignificance or worthlessness of international agreements in German thought and practice was given in the first days of the war by the invasion of Belgium, and has continued ever since by violation on the part of Germany of numerous agreements concerning the conduct of war into which Germany entered with many other nations at the second Hague Conference.

PEACE RESTS ON SANCTITY OF TREATIES

This German view of the worthlessness

ness of international agreements was not a cause of the present war, because it was not fully evident to Europe, although familiar and of long standing in Germany; but it is a potent reason for the continuance of the war by the Allies until Germany is defeated, because it is plain to all the nations of the world, except Germany, Austria-Hungary and Turkey at the moment, that the hopes of mankind for the gradual development of international order and peace rests on the sanctity of contracts between nations and on the development of adequate sanctions in the administration of international law. The new doctrine of military necessity affronts all law and is completely and hopelessly barbarous.

THE STRONGEST SHALL BE RULER

The objects of Germany's adoration have become Strength, Courage and Ruthless Will Power; let the weak perish and help them to perish; let the gentle, meek and humble submit to the harsh and let them be merciless and incapable die; the world is for the strong and the strongest shall be ruler. This is the religion capable of inspiring its followers with an unquenchable enthusiasm in promoting the national welfare at whatever cost to the individual life, liberty or happiness, and also of lending a religious sanction to the extremes of cruelty, greed and hate.

It were incredible that educated people who have been brought up with in earshot of the Christian ethics and within sight of gentle men and women should all be content with the religion of valor plain. Accordingly, the finer German spirits have invented a supplement to that stone age religion. They have set up for worship a mystical conception of the State as a majestic and beneficent entity which embraces all the noble activities of the nation and guides it to its best achievements. To this ideal state every German owes duty, obedience and complete devotion.

GERMAN NOT A FREE MAN

The modern German is always a controlled, directed and drilled person, who assumes control and discipline his interiors; and in his view pretty much all mankind are his inferiors. He is not a free man in the French, English, or American sense; and he prefers not to be.

The present war is the inevitable result of lust of empire, autocratic Government, sudden wealth, and the religion of valor. What German domination would mean to any that should resist it the experience of Belgium and northern France during the past three months aptly demonstrates.

The civilized world can now see where the new German morality--efficient, the virile, the hard, the bloody, the rulers--would land it. To maintain that the Power which has adopted in practice that new morality, and in accordance with its precepts promised Austria its support against Serbia and invaded Belgium and France in her haste, is not the responsible author of the European war, is to refuse to recognize the blood, and common sense in judging the human agencies in current events.

BARBARIC STATE OF MIND THE CAUSE

The real cause of the war is this ingrained developed barbaric state of mind which has been the cause--such as the assassination of the heir of Austria-Hungary, the sympathy of Russia with the Balkan States, the French desire for the recovery of Alsace-Lorraine, and the certain jealousy of German aggression--contributory, indeed, but not primary and fundamental. If anyone asks who brings about the war, the answer must be Bismarck, Moltke, Treitschke, Nietzsche, Bernhardi, the German Emperor, their like their disciples, and their followers. Many German apologists for the war attribute it to German fear of Russia. They say that although Germany committed the first actual aggression by invading Belgium and Luxembourg on the way to attack France with the utmost speed and fierceness, the war is really a war of defence against Russia, which might have attacked Belgium and Luxembourg at any time.

GERMANY NEVER FEARED RUSSIA

The answer to this explanation is that, as a matter of fact, Germany has never dreaded or even respected the military strength of Russia, and that the recent wars and threatenings of war by Germany have not been directed against Russia. But against Denmark, Austria, France and England. In her colonization enterprises it is not Russia that Germany has encountered, but England, France and the United States.

The friendly advances made within the last twenty years by Germany to Turkey were not intended primarily to strengthen Germany against Russia but Germany against Great Britain, through access by land to British India. In short, Germany's policies, at home and abroad, during the last forty years have been inspired not by fear of Russia, or of any other invader, but by its own aggressive ambition for world empire. In the present war it thinks it has staked its all on "come down, Belgium and Luxembourg on the way to attack France with the utmost speed and fierceness, the war is really a war of defence against Russia, which might have attacked Belgium and Luxembourg at any time.

If the causes for the immense catastrophe have been correctly stated, the desirable outcomes of the war are--No world-wide empire for any race or nation; no "objects" no executives, either permanent or temporary, with power to throw their fellow-countrymen into war; no secret diplomacy justifying the use for profit of all the least concealments, deceptions and ambushes which are an inevitable part of war and assuming to commercial nations on international questions, and no conscription of armies that can be launched in war by executive without consulting independent representative assemblies.

There should come out from this supreme convulsion a federated Europe of international agreements was not a cause of the present war, because it was not fully evident to Europe, although familiar and of long standing in Germany; but it is a potent reason for the continuance of the war by the Allies until Germany is defeated, because it is plain to all the nations of the world, except Germany, Austria-Hungary and Turkey at the moment, that the hopes of mankind for the gradual development of international order and peace rests on the sanctity of contracts between nations and on the development of adequate sanctions in the administration of international law. The new doctrine of military necessity affronts all law and is completely and hopelessly barbarous.

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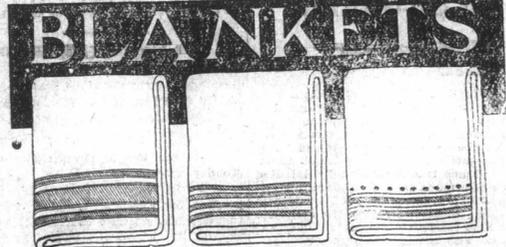
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A MESSAGE FROM CAPTAIN O'FLYNN

A cable was received from Captain O'Flynn, on Monday, from London where he was on a visit for the week end. The many friends and relations of the boys at the Front from Belleville will be pleased to know that the boys are well and busy at Bustard camp preparing for the front. The Captain sends greetings to his many friends.

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COMFORTS FOR THE SOLDIERS

Campbellford, Nov. 23--There is no relaxation on the part of the Daughters of the Empire of Campbellford in carrying out this charitable work for the Belgian and Red Cross Funds. They have also sent large shipments of clothing to Canadians at Salisbury Camp, including 75 dozen cholera belts, one parcel of soldiers' comforts and Christmas cheer, and 2 bags of socks, worsted mufflers and mitts.

ON GEN. FRENCH'S STAFF

Lieutenant Miller Has Been Twice Mentioned in Despatches. Lieut. Miles Miller, of Napanee, is on General French's staff, in charge of a Cyclist Intelligence Corps, and he has been twice mentioned in despatches for special services. Lieut. Miller is an honor graduate of the Royal Military College of Kingston. Miss Rosa Bailey of Harold spent a few days with her cousin, Miss Helena Gordanier, Moira street. Mr. Dan Wickert of Foxboro has been the guest of his daughter, Mrs. Geo. Wooton, Catharine St.

ENTHUSIASTIC RALLY AT TWEED

Reeve Collins presided over an audience on Friday night at the splendidly equipped new hall in Tweed of which any Chairman might be proud. Enthusiastic, responsive and generous people of Tweed and vicinity gathered to complete organization and to listen to patriotic music and loyal speeches for two hours and a half, which were crowded full of harmony, eloquence and enthusiasm. The songs of Mr. Tuttle and Mr. Arthur Chapman were most appropriate and were encored again and again. Speeches by Herold Mr. Coon, Dr. Bowly, Mr. Newton, Sandy Grant, M.P.P., and other local men supplemented the addresses of Mr. H. F. Ketcheson, president of the Board of Trade, Mr. John Elliott and Colonel W. N. Ponton, K.C., of Belleville, the earnest and convincing words of all speakers appearing to touch the right spot and vibrate the right chord. The note of all was contained in the lines from Kipling: "Though all we love depart The old commandments stand, In courage keep your heart, In strength lift up your hand."

The ladies of the Women's Institute should be congratulated upon the success of the gathering. Bountiful refreshments were served to all participating by the hospitable ladies of Tweed. These meetings which have been held in nearly every part of the county except Deseronto have done much to draw together the city of Belleville and the County of Hastings, and to establish the unity of the community.

Personal Mention

Mr. and Mrs. Hiram Barragar of Toronto have been spending a couple of weeks the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Barragar, Octavia St.

Mr. Vernon Tufts, of Napinka, Man. was in Belleville yesterday and favored The Ontario with a call. Mr. Tufts is a native of Hungford and came east at the present time owing to the serious illness of his sister, Mrs. Rutlan, who is in a critical condition in the city hospital.

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MARRIED

On Wednesday, Nov. 18th at the home of the bride's parents, George K. Clements to Miss Olive Grace Bell Rev. L. M. Sharpe was the officiating clergyman.

The Best Liver Pill--The action of the liver is easily disarranged. A sudden chill, undue exposure to the elements, over-indulgence in some favorite food, excess in drinking, are a few of the causes. But whatever may be the cause, Parmelee's Vegetable Pills can be relied upon. They are the leading liver pills and they have no superiors among such prepared her kidneys.

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An invitation is extended to every lady to call and inspect these goods.

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is an absolute necessity to every man who is bald. It will protect your health and make you appear years younger

Indetectable Featherweight Hygenic

Be sure and see them on day of visit. A demonstration places you under no obligation whatever.

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