

## OFFICIAL GERMANY KNOWS THEIR GAME IS LOSING ONE

**Lord Northcliffe Says That Their Attitude of Alternate Whining and Threatening Proves This—Looks For a Longer War Than Most People Expect and Says British Conscriptio Will Be Necessary**

London, Jan. 2.—(By mail)—The increasing loquacity of the highly-placed Germans, the Crown Prince, Admiral von Tirpitz, Derburg and Company, I regard as a sign of weakness. This is not among the German people, from whom the facts are even yet hidden, but among the ruling class of Germany who, of course are well aware that Germany is fighting a losing war.

You will notice that all of these Teutonic spokesmen—as is wont with beaten men—alternately whine and threaten. We are content to let von Tirpitz and the Crown Prince do the talking while Lord Fisher and Gen. Joffre do the shooting.

Pray do not think that we underestimate the Germans. Many of us are of the opinion that this colossal war will go several years. None the less, Germany is beaten, and was beaten the day she retreated from Paris. Her battle for Calais is now in its eightieth day, and it is another impossible effort on her part. Her mercantile marine has been wiped off the seas. New York harbor is indicative of what has happened in the rest of the world.

Belgium is last effort. The whole original object of Germany has been defeated. She is now everywhere on the defensive except in Belgium, where the last army of occupation is still engaged in its horrible task of bullying and plundering the wretched victims. The story of Germany's treatment of Belgium and that part of France she is now occupying has not yet been told. I learn from friends who have just returned from Belgium that when the world hears the full horrors of what happened in Belgium, it will put the horrors of Cawnpore in the background.

But for the fine diplomacy of the American representative in Brussels, Brand Whitlock, and the supreme generosity of the American people, the Germans would have succeeded in starving the little nation which

they have not been ashamed to despoil. It seems almost incredible, but it is true, and the wealthy German Empire is not ashamed to levy mediaeval tolls in the form of demands for huge sums of money, supplies and the like. If it be that there is one peace-at-any-price advocate left in Britain, there is certainly none bold enough to come out in public and say that he is on the side of this German blackmail.

I can't understand how any German-American can support outrages of this kind. The American public have not realized that no revolution, no war, not the whole story of Napoleon's campaign are as anything compared with this Armageddon.

**War Will Be Long.**  
Even in Britain, within sound of the German guns, there are people who imagine that this struggle may terminate in 1915. I don't understand the basis of their calculation.

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The Kaiser, or to use his official military title, All-Highest War Lord, now says that Britain provoked and prepared for this war, yet in August he referred to our army as "Gen. French's contemptible little army."

Had we prepared for war, we shouldn't have started with a little army. We weren't much more prepared for a land war with Germany than the United States is. Had we been ready, the campaign might have been short. As it is, although we have over two million men in training, we have as yet comparatively few in the field. Our part in the war cannot begin until we get our men at the front. The first of our new armies cannot enter the fighting until spring, and the task of driving the entrenched Germans out of France and Belgium will be slow. The invasion of Germany itself must of necessity be a task of vast dimensions.

You ask me if I believe the necessary army can be raised by voluntary service. Personally I don't. My personal belief is that we shall be obliged to adopt conscription.

**Will Fight To End.**  
We are fighting as we did one hundred years ago against Napoleon against the domination of Europe by a military oligarchy. We shall fight with all the resources of our manhood, our shipyards, our wealth, our British tenacity. We will go under rather than give in.

You ask me, do I think Germany can be strangled, and the war ended by starvation and attrition? I believe it can, but the process will be one of years rather than of months. Germany is a self-supporting country in almost every article necessary for war, and for the support of her unfortunate people.

Some American friends have urged that we establish in Washington some rival organization similar to that of Ambassador Bernstorff, Dr. Derburg, and the German-American brewers and other moulders of public opinion, for the purpose of informing the American public regarding the British attitude. But our case, in my opinion, needs no such effort.

The bullying of Belgium, the huge sums demanded from French towns in blackmail, the killing of women and children at Scarborough—not, as the Germans pretend, in a fortress, but in a seaside resort—the dropping of bombs on Paris from aeroplanes—which has been stopped owing to American intervention—not to mention Louvain, Malines, etc., all provide us with all of the answers we require to German militarism.

**France is Unmoved.**  
My French friends tell me that they have no intention whatever of replying to Germany's accusations in

the United States. They will rely entirely on American fair play and American friendship for the nation that came to their help in the war of the revolution. Russia regards with disdain the German attacks in the United States and, so far as the Japanese are concerned, Americans must admit they have kept strictly to the letter of their agreement with the Allies.

As seen from this side of the Atlantic, the German efforts to frighten Americans seem crude. I don't remember any time in American history when your people have been frightened. You are told to beware of British naval domination. You are to be careful lest the tiny Japanese nation may attack you in the Pacific. Americans are well aware of the size of the British Navy, and they know for one hundred years it has been friendly to them.

Any Japanese that I have been acquainted were cognizant of the latest power of the United States. They know that Americans, like the British, are generally unprepared for war but that, being once aroused, they will carry their wars to the finish.

**Attain Real Peace.**

It is, no doubt, disappointing to British and American business men to learn that there are people like myself who regard this gigantic struggle as a matter of years rather than months, but from the most sordid point of view it is better that the world should be rid of this menace to its peace once for all, rather than to have some sort of patched up peace by treaty or compromise which

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would merely allow the Germans to fall back for another spring.

We have been extraordinarily patient in Great Britain about war, so patient that numbers of our people had begun to think that the day of wars was over. The Kaiser and his travelling agent, Prince Henry duped the members of our Governments, diplomats, business men, university professors in both our country and yours while he perfected this machine of his. Some of his satellites really persuaded themselves that this military monster of a war engine was an engine of peace. Others on both sides of the Atlantic were highly placed toadies whose views were entirely twisted by favor or the Royal smile.

**Brainless Organization.**

It is fortunate that the German army and the present German Government have produced no Bismarck, no von Moltke, no von Roon. It is a superb organization with no brains at the top. A Bismarck would have known that Canada would have rushed to help the Mother Country with its wonderful supply of men, war material and money. A Bismarck would have at least one strong

friend among the neutral nations.

The German soldiers have proven themselves possessed of magnificent courage, and the story of the death of Admiral von Spee and his two sons in the battle off the Falkland Islands has aroused, I am sure, almost as much sympathy in Britain as in Germany.

The Allies have foes worthy of their steel and the fine flower of Britain will be sent forth against the War Lord in aid of France, Belgium, Russia, Serbia, Montenegro and Japan with affection and enthusiasm by the mothers and sisters of Britain, but with the same determination that won Trafalgar and Waterloo a century back.

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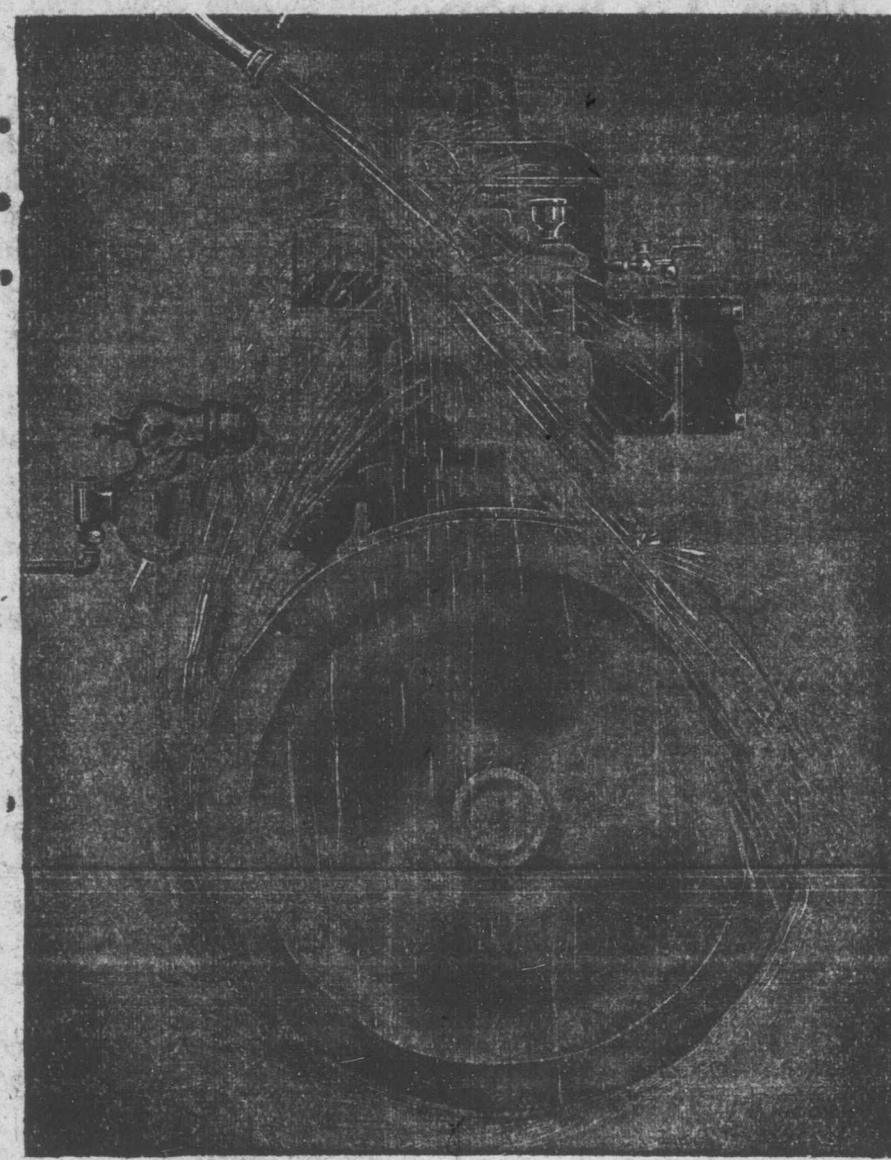
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