

SAYS KAISER A PARANOIAC

His Biggie Interview Declared Self-Revealing

A Psychologist's Views

Stripped of His Pretended Character When Deprived of Pomp and Glitter—He Told the Truth for Once in His Life

In an article captioned "Psychoanalysis and the Kaiser," the editor of American Medicine declares that the ex-German

Emperor was "always a garrulous old paranoiac, a boastful, swash-buckling, blood-and-thunder imperial hero, in no wise suited for the role destiny had imposed upon him." Following is the editor's striking picture of the Kaiser's mental and physical make-up: "For the simplest explanation of the Kaiser's grotesque personality one must go to the most complicated of sciences—psychoanalysis. His interview, given out to the world in a querulous moment and retracted in the panic that followed such an extraordinary self-revelation, must remain as a psychologic monument for all time. The Kaiser was always a querulous old paranoiac, and the generals who conducted his pathetic career knew what they were doing when they assigned Karl Rosner to him as a press agent and let him talk his heart out over tear-stirring violets and such like things for the benefit of a public to which Wilhelm had successfully played for thirty-odd years.

The Biggie Interview.
"His interview granted to Harold Biggie was very much in character, but for once the Kaiser spoke honestly, and immediately afterward he regretted it. His denial that he ever gave an interview to anyone is of no avail; any student of character knows that the strange things he uttered were so genuine a product that it could not have been manufactured. To those who knew the man only as a boastful, swash-buckling blood and thunder imperial hero, the whimpering, sniveling nature of his message to the world must have come as a surprise, but to the psychoanalyst the man who acknowledged a partnership only with Gott (and Gott the junior partner) was never a puzzle. Long before the interview was made public a well-known disciple of Freud set him down as suffering markedly from an inferiority complex which is at the basis of all the Kaiser ever said, thought or did. "It is common knowledge that Wilhelm Hoh-

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ensolers is a cripple. This action of great imperial hero, to become the ruler of an aggressive, masterful race of Nietzschean blond beasts, was in no wise suited for the role destiny had imposed on him.

How His Mind Worked.
His shrunken arm, his pathetically puny figure, his whole unheroic and unprepossessing make-up were a constant source of humiliation to him. Realizing this, the one aim of his life was to deceive the world, to draw attention away from these shortcomings, to impose himself on the public as a giant, physically and intellectually, as a colossus of courage and ability, as the perfect symbol of perfect kingship. And every utterance of his career, every act of his rule, was designed toward this end. Charity might betray weakness; he must not be charitable. Kindness might betray a desire for sympathy; he must not be kind. An inclination toward peace might indicate cowardice; he must become known as the greatest war-lord of all time. Hence his coalition with the heartless war party of Germany in the effort to build up the vast war machine which drained the resources of Germany; hence his famous Hun speech to the German troops who were dispatched to China during the Boxer rebellion; hence his periodical, blustering challenges to the world at every crisis in which his country was involved. And in time the world began to believe that the man was really modeled after heroic pattern. Many able observers were deceived.

Imposed on Roosevelt.
"Even such a shrewd judge of character as the late Col. Roosevelt was taken in. But the great test came when Germany lost the war and the Kaiser had to flee the country. His career had come to an end, he was a failure, he was found out. And what defence did he offer to an undecieved world? What justification did this fearless hero offer for the course he had pursued so confidently for three decades? His famous interview, the answer to this question, the glittering entourage of impressive uniforms, of the camouflage of royalty that always protected him, he stands revealed for what he is and always was—a man-iffin, quaking, whimpering weakling. And, cowering under the lash of the world's accusation, he tells more of himself than the public has ever suspected. "Don't blame me!" he cried. "It wasn't my fault. I didn't do it. My generals are responsible. I did want the war. I was a lover of peace. My generals and my diplomats wanted war, and I was thrust aside without any consideration. My generals did as they liked and they never told me anything. I was only a figure-head."

The Royal Figurehead.
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cause it is amazingly true. The Kaiser was nothing but a puppet in the hands of the German war-makers. He acknowledges it now. Trapped by defeat, he frankly admits the inferiority which it had been his life-work to conceal. Robbed of his pose, he cringes and squirms and begs for mercy. He didn't do it! Fearing punishment at the hands of the English, he goes to great lengths to assure his English interviewer that he has always loved the people when his Zeppelins murdered in cold blood. Fearing French retribution, he effusively insists that he has always been an admirer of French culture. Fearing the vengeance of the deceived German people, he swears that he has always tried to lead them into the ways of peace. Fear is the keynote of his whole confession. For the first time in his career, he utters the truth; and then, aware of how much he has revealed, he grows alarmed, and retracts the confession. He didn't do even that! There never was a clearer case of inferiority-complex.

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Does the Treaty Violate Wilson's Fourteen Points?

The latest and bitterest blow to German hopes, successively disappointed in the Zeppelins, the submarines, and the Kaiser, is the discovery that President Wilson and the American people have not secured for Germany a "soft peace." German leaders and German papers angrily protest that America has "betrayed" the German people. President Ebert declares that in the Peace Treaty President Wilson "has deserted his fourteen points" while Lunderdorff declares after reading the terms that "if this is peace, America can go to hell!"

In the leading article in THE LITERARY DIGEST this week, May 24th, German and American public opinion, as represented by the statements in the leading journals of both countries, is presented. Each of the fourteen points is carefully analyzed in its relation to the terms of the Peace Treaty so that the reader may readily understand just how much justification there is in Germany's protestations.

Other very interesting articles this week are:

What the Regulars Did in the War

With a Comparative Chart Record of Every Regular, National Guard, and National Army Division Engaged—the Major Casualties, Artillery Captured, Prisoners Taken, Kilometers Advanced

Germany's Economic Shackles
The End of Price-Fixing
Japan's Press Barrage on America
Turkish Women's Cry for Mercy
A River of Electric Power
Why Aviators Fall
D'Annunzio at His "Worst and Best"
Ninety-five Per Cent Efficiency in the Y. M. C. A.
News of Finance and Commerce.
Finns in the U. S.

Labor's Bill of Rights
Hopeful Signs in the Business Sky
Germany Starts a Commercial Offensive
British "Failure" in Egypt
For Better Control of Explosives
Flesh-eating and Ferocity
Shall Literature Go Dry Too?
Dropping the Old and New Testaments
The Best of the Current Poetry

The Literary Digest An Ideal Mental Bracer

Even the wisest of us are more or less prone to get into grooves as regards our thinking on the great questions of the day. We tend to read the same papers, to listen to the views of the same people, to cling to the same ideas. A novel thought or a fresh conception on any subject of real importance to us finds many barriers of habit and personal bias to break down ere it can find lodgment in our minds. All this makes for stagnation and shuts out progress. What we need is a mental flip, the stimulus of a quickening tonic that shall remake our conceptions of things, readjust our conclusions, put sanity and vigor into our whole outlook upon life. Such a stimulus is waiting for you at every corner news-stand in the shape of THE LITERARY DIGEST, America's foremost news-magazine. Every week it offers you the world's comments on the world's affairs and the world's thought, freshly culled from the periodicals of every land and language, without any admixture of personal editorial preferences or interested interpretations. Read THE DIGEST today and week by week and keep yourself informed, up-to-date, mentally in touch with the live currents of universal progress.

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The Literary Digest

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