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## Show Ex-Kaiser Weak and Vain.

**Admiral Foss, in a New Book  
on the German Collapse,  
Tells of Wilhelm's Freaks.**

(By Julian Grande in N. Y. Times.)

Admiral Foss, in his book "Revelations Concerning Our Collapse," devotes a long chapter to the fallen German Emperor. He is very anxious to explain that he is not kicking a man who is down, because in 1902 he held and has since expressed, both verbally and in writing, views about the ex-Kaiser precisely similar to those which he now sets forth. In many respects Admiral Foss merely confirms the opinion already formed by most impartial persons about William II—that he is an abnormal and very mixed character, quick in the uptake, and fascinating when he chooses so to be, but morbidly vain, very superficial and very ungrateful, with an inordinate idea of his own importance, and convinced that he is capable of a great deal of which he is wholly and constitutionally incapable. Always highly nervous, not to say neurotic, so much so, indeed, that more and more persons competent to judge consider him as having long been not quite in his right mind, he has suffered greatly during the latter part of the war from convulsive attacks.

After reading Admiral Foss's chapter on William II—a chapter which it must be admitted is not unimpeachable—it is impossible not to reflect that pomp, publicity and ceremony were as his very life blood to the ex-Kaiser, and that no one could less easily endure the quiet life of a private person, whether at Amerongen or elsewhere. He has not, according to the Admiral, perseverance and diligence enough to master any study, not to speak of so delicate a matter as statecraft. He has always been profoundly interested in something for a time, but only for a short time; then he must needs fly off to something else. Such a man could hardly console himself by absorption in any subject.

### Failed at Critical Moments.

As Admiral Foss reminds us, the ex-Kaiser went through life thumping his fist, often metaphorically but sometimes literally, on the table, and saying, "I will have this" or "I must have that," or "This, that or the other must be done." Yet when the time came for taking prompt, firm decisions, he was invariably found wanting—a deficiency which the ex-Admiral

primarily attributes to William II's lack of nerves. Moreover he could not bear the thought of others doing things and getting the credit therefor, and could not believe that any technician or expert might know more about something than he did himself.

For instance, Admiral Foss relates that when the German Admiralty Office asked for plans to be submitted for the construction of a battleship, the ex-Emperor immediately wanted to send in his design. A technical expert was deputed to help him, who very unfortunately had not been engaged in practical work for some time past, and consequently was "rusty." Thus when the ex-Kaiser's plan for the battleship was examined, it was found that, had the vessel ever been constructed and launched, she would immediately have toppled over. Again, two learned experts were one day summoned to the ex-Emperor to advise him about some important work in progress. He received them charmingly, but what was their astonishment when he delivered them a lecture lasting two hours, and then they had to leave without being able to get a word in edgewise. In the afternoon, as they were leaving, one looked at the other and said aghast: "We might have saved ourselves this expedition."

Admiral Foss, however, is far too much distressed by the traits to which Germany has been reduced, largely (as he thinks) owing to the obstinacy and self-sufficiency of her ruler, to have any inclination to laugh or to see the humorous as well as the serious side of William II's escapades and idle speeches. The old Admiral quotes a long series of his former imperial master's sayings, beginning with 1899 and continuing until far on into the war, and it is only when these speeches and sayings are read thus, one after the other, year after year, steadily progressing in foolishness, that their arrogance, provocation, we might almost say, craziness, is fully brought to light. They were, of course, largely destined to irritate Britannia, who, however, sat quietly by, looking on smiling, and only once made a remark. This was when Wilhelm II sent a telegram to the Czar of Russia, in which "the Admiral of the Atlantic" sent his best

wishes to "the Admiral of the Pacific." Britain, then, gently but officially reminded the ex-Kaiser that not he but Lord Fisher was Admiral of the Atlantic.

Admiral Foss says he remembers that, after a long series of these fulminating discourses, a French-Swiss observed: "Your Emperor is threatening the whole world." I believe this French-Swiss was none other than a well known and charming old Genevese professor, still alive, and much absorbed since the war in Red Cross work.

### Attitude Toward Americans.

The ex-Kaiser is also accused by Admiral Foss of having run after American and other money kings, and of having shown scant courtesy to a certain American Ambassador to Berlin, who, not being very well off, had to live simply, and could not make a great display.

Again, the Admiral tells us that when Prince Henry visited the United States and was received very courteously, not, however, as the brother of the German Emperor, but as the grandson of Queen Victoria, the ex-Kaiser did not perceive this distinction with a difference, and took all the attentions for himself. Similarly, when the late Colonel Roosevelt visited Germany the ex-Kaiser was very anxious to do him reverence, and even named a battleship after his daughter; but he did not see that Colonel Roosevelt took his measure, as was proved by his anti-German attitude during the war.

Admiral Foss does not hesitate to accuse the ex-Kaiser of continually interfering with the plans of the German General Staff, at any rate during the first year or two of the war, and this because he feared that a victory might be won with which he could not and would not be credited. The German people and their representatives, he admits, however, were mainly responsible for the ex-Kaiser and his follies, much more than the German Constitution with its insufficient restrictions on the power of the monarch. The German people and their representatives, until almost the very last, applauded their Kaiser's actions, and made him constantly mistake his folly for wisdom. After a time, therefore, he could never be brought to believe that he was not infallible or that he was often very unwise.

When matters in Germany were becoming very serious, we are told, and becoming so largely owing to William II's ill-judged interference, the then King of Bavaria took upon himself to make representations to his fellow-sovereign of Prussia, and an extremely lively conversation resulted, apparently in the presence of a considerable number of courtiers and other witnesses. It ended by the Bavarian monarch exclaiming: "You'll have to answer to history for that," leaving the room and banging the door behind him. As matters did not improve, a number of anxious, patriotic Germans waited upon the ex-King of Bavaria in Munich, and their spokesman told him plainly that no improvement could be expected unless his Bavarian Majesty would thump on the table with his fist and shout: "This damned dirty business must stop!" to which the old King answered, smiling: "But, I've done that already." At present ex-King Ludwig is ending his days in German Switzerland, his mind quite unimpaired owing to all that he has gone through.

Admiral Foss assures us that the ex-German Emperor was the incarnation of most of the chief faults of the German nation. He was a weak man, indeed; the only strong thing about him was his language. It would have gone better with him had he remembered the famous saying: "It is not the anointing oil which makes Kings. Kings make themselves, or else they remain scoundrels, the most evil of all brewers of strife."

### Record Novels.

Nowadays the short novel is in vogue as well as the short story. Occasionally a novel runs to 100,000 words, and sometimes a little over, but 80,000 is about the limit as a rule.

Martin Chuzzlewit and Dombey and Son probably run to 400,000 words.

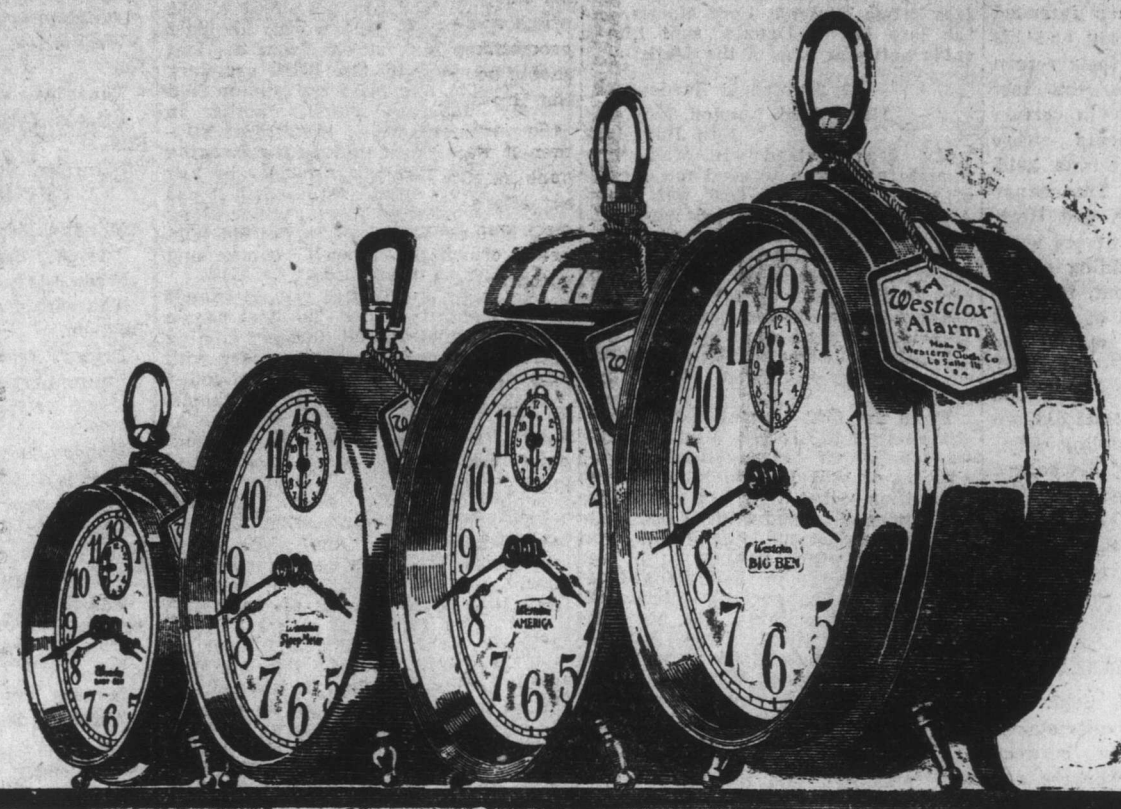
The longest novel in the English language is Richardson's Clarissa Harlowe, published in 1749. It was originally issued in eight volumes. It runs to over 800,000 words!

But even this is far surpassed by Mlle. de Scudery's famous novel of the seventeenth century, La Grand Cyrus. This ran to ten volumes, and was translated into English and appeared in five folios of 500 pages each. Yet it was read widely.

Then there was La Capreneche, who wrote Cleopatra. This novel, which found hosts of readers, actually ran into twenty-three volumes.

### Benefits From Prohibition.

PROVIDENCE, Rhode Island—The city has become a much better and cleaner one since July 1, according to Maj. H. M. Taylor, head of the Salvation Army here. He declared that the city has enjoyed the most remarkable two months, since prohibition went into effect, since he has been in charge of the Providence work. One of the effects noticed, he said, is that men stick to their jobs longer than was the case before July 1.



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### The Great Powers Still Rapacious.

During the late war, and especially during the hardest and most doubtful phases of it, there was a great deal of talk about destroying militarism forever and banishing artillery and U-boats from off the face of the planet. This was to be the last war the world would ever see, and if Germany and German militarism were

only crushed, then the world would enter upon a new era; the sword would be hammered out into the plough-share and the cannon converted into a steam-thresher! The millennium of peace would be immediately ushered in, and all the nations would at once proceed to disarmament. But now that the war is over, what do we see? The Allied Powers are out to grab all they can for themselves. Each one has to have its slice of the enemy's colonies and they are ready, as in the case of Plume, to abuse and fight one another for its possession. There is absolutely no talk now of destroying militarism. Military power being now in the right hands, is regarded as a good thing, and nobody thinks of disarming. In fact huge armies must be maintained to keep the enemy down and to enforce the decrees of the League of Nations. Meanwhile men of vision are dismayed at the prospect of what a future lies before humanity. Dr. Charles Gore, Anglican Bishop of Oxford, writing in the Christian Commonwealth of London, says:

"Certainly the situation is one when all who really are for the maintenance of peace, for the principle of unification, have looked in vain for a better spirit than that of the old national individualism. A great many of us knew that it was idle to talk as men did talk in the war, as if the spirit of aggressiveness was limited to Germany. We had read the secret treaties, and we knew what they meant. The secret treaties have not been disclosed, but they are still effective. I ask you,

cast your eye over the nations, where do you see a spirit larger than the old selfish spirit claiming as much as you can get? Out of the spirit of claiming as much as you can get there can arise nothing except the universal scramble.

"Or, once again, it seemed to me when Germany had been thoroughly defeated, then was the moment to prove to Germany that it would be humanely treated; that it would be given a fair place for recovery. In the nature of things we did not ask for public repudiations; they would have been untrustworthy, indeed; what we trusted was that Germany would be forced by the logic of events to realize, as indeed she must realize now, that she had been grossly, utterly, lamentably misled.

"What was wanted was surely a witness that if she behaved herself she would be allowed to re-enter the comity of nations uncrushed. You

know what has happened. It is hard to resist the impression, however you distribute the blame, that the League of Nations is in the greatest peril of becoming an organization to keep Germany permanently crushed. That is what is felt, and the signs are at present not visible of a disarmament of any nation except Germany."

When the devil was sick the devil a saint would be. But when the devil got well, the devil a saint was he!

### Fads and Fashions.

Turkish trouser effects are promised for a few house and evening gowns.

Stockings are very sheer, and are usually not of black, but in some neutral shade.

The severe neckline of dark material against the neck is usually disappearing.

Narrow lingerie collars of batiste and lace outline the necks of many new frocks.

Very often a waist of taffeta accompanies a skirt of voile.

The tulle blouse is far more artistic than the ordinary waist, and velvet will be used for it.

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## The Brown

To the adventurous young w  
of the present day Miss Eliza  
Barrett must indeed appear a  
poor-spirited creature. Let us  
up their own case against her.

### Afraid of Men.

She was, at the time when she contemplated her great adventure, child, but a woman of forty— or thereabouts. She was a woman independent means—£400 or £500 a year—she was far too unwearying to know the exact figure of income. She was a learned woman, learned enough to translate phrases of the "Agamemnon" perceive, as clearly as Mr. G. Murray himself, the difference between Euripides and the other dramatists. She was clever as a learned—clever enough to be a valued contributor to the Athenaeum. And with all that, she was afraid of strange men of principle of omne ignotum pro-terro; afraid of papa, who wanted her like a canary in a cage, does, when one comes to think of it, seem rather absurd. And yet, the situation occurred, it was a normal, though it occurred only a little more than seventy years ago.

### Invalidism.

It occurred, that is to say, in early Victorian Age, which, seems almost as remote as the Age. 'Twas the age, among things, of the feminine malade; invalid; and Miss Elizabeth Barrett was a shining example of that. No doubt she was delicate; but certainly was nothing serious matter with her. The medical which she needed were fresh exercise, freedom, and congenial society. Instead of that, she was guarded by herself and her family a permanent invalid. When she went out of doors she wore the solute and insanitary appliances respirator; and she spent much of her time on the sofa, in a drawing room, complaining of headache, and herself with val volute, and her fevered brow with a kerchief soaked in eau-de-Cologne.

## Marine

Dory Anchors

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Luff Hooks

Sail Thimbles

Wire Rope Thimble

Sticking Tommies

Grommets

Caulk

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