

The Race for Military Supremacy --- Anti-Suffragettes Prepare for Campaign --- British and Foreign News

MILITARY MADNESS A NEW MENACE

Germany and France Are Spending an Additional \$375,000,000 Armaments—Why Are the Powers Drifting Further Towards the Precipice of War?

(By W. B. Thompson.)
LONDON, March 29.—Once more the madness of militarism is bringing Europe face to face with the unspeakable horrors of war.

It is announced that Germany and France, between them, are spending this year an additional sum of \$375,000,000, apart from the ordinary estimates. This is probably the worst menace to the peace of Europe that has been recorded for many, many years.

How has it happened? What has brought it about? The great mass of German and French citizens have not demanded it. They have had no more to do with this decision than the inhabitants of the moon. It is they who will suffer if it breaks out; it is they who will pay. Yet, in these days of socialism and representative government, they stand as helpless as a flock of lambs which are being driven into a slaughter house.

The picture which Europe presents today is horrifying—the fruits of the arts of industry and peace being piled up year by year into a golden heap, which melts away in the purchase of guns and machines, designed by Christians for the destruction of their fellow men. To say certain causes which have operated to bring about this collective madness, one must look at the sub-plot, not from a radical standpoint, but from the spectacles of a cosmopolitan. It is as idle to blame the Germans as it is to blame the French.

The difficulty is to find out the real influences that so mould the minds of the rulers of Germany and France, as to incline them to the idea that all these millions must be spent if they are to preserve their national independence. The history of the international relations of the chief powers in Europe during the last few years, and the some light on the appalling problem which it is the duty of every democrat in this country to face—why are the powers drifting further and further towards the precipice of war?

Two factors have contributed mainly to the present situation. The first and main factor was the rise, some years ago, of the school of pan-German jingoism, who, flushed with racial egotism, boasted that Germany was bound in time to grow as supreme on sea as she is in military power on land. Such a Germany as they contemplated would be a menace to the world's peace, and must imperil the liberties of other races.

The second factor is the existence in England of a school of pan-Britannic jingoism, who are never happy unless some other power is encompassing the destruction of England. One day it is Russia, the next day it is France, and now it is Germany. The jingoism on the other side of the North Sea provoked, not unnaturally, a responsive agitation on this side. Forthwith, the obsession of the British jingo was Germany's might; and the moment the idea of Anglo-German rivalry for world power took root in the minds of European statesmen, there came a change in the distribution of political power among the European nations. The Franco-German quarrel over Alsace and Lorraine became merged in the growing Anglo-German rivalry, and the triple alliance produced inevitably the triple entente. Forthwith the competition in Germany became more and more a competition in armaments, and the English fleet, gathered in strength in the Channel and in the North Sea.

Germany's isolation. Looked at in this way, it is not



COUNTESS HELWIG VON KELLETT, PRIMA DONNA, WITH THE GAY MASQUERADERS, AT THE GAYETY THEATRE THIS WEEK.



(The ugly temper aroused by suffragette militancy is beginning to show itself in outbreaks of counter-violence.—Daily Paper.)

Mrs. McKenna: "You threaten to die if I keep you shut up, Polly, so I'll have to let you out. But mind the cat! You've made him very wild."

—London Opinion.

SUFFRAGETTES ARE "SOLDIERS OF WAR"

Striking Interview With Christabel Pankhurst

Who is in Exile in Paris.

(By Henri Ferrier.)

PARIS, March 29.—Interviewed at her flat, Miss Christabel Pankhurst discussed with me the recent developments in the suffrage campaign. The rumor that the government proposed to confiscate the funds of the Women's Social and Political Union did not intimidate Miss Pankhurst.

"How do they know where the money is, and how can they get it? That money has been collected and subscribed to help the cause, and not to be put into the pockets of the government."

The threat of the recently-condemned suffragettes to carry the strike to extremes was discussed. As to what would happen if the suffragette prisoners died from hunger striking, Miss Pankhurst said:

"If a woman dies in prison, it will be a disgrace to the country; and men who have elected the present government may themselves be responsible. The view of the union is that women are soldiers in their lives, and, therefore, prepared to sacrifice their lives, if necessary. It is as much a war as the Balkan war, and the ideals are the same—freedom from slavery and oppression."

With regard to the report that the suffragettes were contemplating kidnapping cabinet ministers, Miss Pankhurst said: "How was it to be done, with six detectives appointed to guard each minister? The transportation of suffragettes found guilty of misdemeanors in their crime of kidnapping has been suggested in England."

Miss Pankhurst said, "I will be found to be no use. For every suffragette transported one hundred will spring up to take her place. The idea of transportation is a confessed device of the government. It will be a tribute to suffragettes if such means have to be adopted against them. French and Americans and others I have met here in Paris have agreed with me that the new method of movement is an excellent method of attack. Mr. Asquith's breach of faith is the best service the cause has had."

Mr. Lloyd George and his pretended support was bitterly criticized by Miss Pankhurst. Mrs. Pankhurst's criticism likening the militants to "white savages" evoked a characteristic reply from Miss Pankhurst. "We disapprove of Mrs. Pankhurst's methods as strongly as she disapproves of ours. Gambaldi has been Mrs. Pankhurst's hero. She looks up to him, and his colors have been adopted as her colors. She is the friend of revolution in every land except her own."

German Business Men's Trip. Court Councillor Horst Weber of Leipzig, Germany, is making arrangements for the visit of a large number of German business men to Canada next summer. The trip will include a tour of the St. Lawrence valley, and a journey covering many important points in Canada. The party will include the silver mines at Cobalt, the party will proceed to Winnipeg, Calgary, Banff, Vancouver, Victoria, and Kamloops, returning by way of Edmonton, Saskatoon, Regina, Brandon, and St. Paul. The party will arrive in Toronto on August 9. The program in Toronto will include a reception by the Ontario government, Toronto City Council, Board of Trade, Canada Manufacturers' Association, and a social meeting at the German Club, a steamer excursion to Niagara Falls, a day in Watkins County, and a further day in Hamilton. The party will leave here on August 13 by steamer to Montreal and will sail from Rimouski on August 23.

Emperor Wilhelm To Visit England

Kaiser Expected to Open Anglo-German Exhibition at Crystal Palace.

BERLIN, March 29.—It is by no means improbable that the Kaiser will visit England in May in order that he may open the Anglo-German Exhibition at the Crystal Palace. Nor is it improbable that a Zeppelin airship will be flying over London at the same time. The German Emperor has been invited to attend and the Zeppelin Company have been asked to send over one of their latest dirigibles to fly over the grounds.

The London Chamber of Commerce, acting "in the interest of international relations," is giving every support to the exhibition, which will include representatives of every branch of British and German activities—from inventions to sports. Sir Albert Rollet is to preside over the jury appointed to award the prizes.

"God Save the King" In French Theatre

French Audience Cheer British Victory Over Napoleon in Paris Playhouse.

PARIS, March 29.—There was a curious scene in a little Paris theatre recently during the first performance of "An Adventure of Captain Lebrun," a five-act melodrama written by Mrs. Irene Osmond. The news of the British victory and Napoleon's defeat at Waterloo reached the British Ambassador at Algiers. The Union Jack was run up, the emblems of the British Empire were hoisted, and the French audience in the galleries cheered heartily, to the astonishment of a large number of English people in the stalls, guests of the author, who felt very uncomfortable.

"Oh, my dear, the master's lying! unbecomingly in the 'all' with a large box beside 'in' and a paper wot looks like a bill crumpled up in 'is' and 'and.' Ah! my new seven guinea hat has come. Bring it up at once, Mary!"—London Mail.

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WHAT WILL BRITAIN DO IN THIS CRISIS?

Opinion Prevails That England Will Not Encourage France to Rely on Her Aid in German War.

LONDON, March 29.—What will England do? That is the question which is uppermost in every mind, and it can hardly be said to be on everybody's lips.

What will England do in the present crisis which has forced continental powers to demand hundreds of millions for bigger armies, stronger fortresses and heavier or more modern guns at the very moment when the people had begun to hope that the end of this ruinous race was in sight? Some there were who had hoped that the King's speech would contain some hint as to what the government intended to do, but when the speech was silent on this, the question came back again. Is this country to remain a passive spectator, or has it a certain task to perform, and if so what is then this task? It is a painful doubt which keeps the country in breathless suspense.

At the very first moment The Times, which, in spite of all is still considered by some people the official voice of the country, weighed in against thinking of a war of revenge in which it could count on no assistance from England. The Liberal government endorsed this warning, but after all this is the more negative side of the question. In regard to the positive it seems impossible to reach an agreement, and opinions differ very greatly.

No Love for Militarism.

We have among us a certain clique, who would like to see England enter great races for strength in armaments, with only one condition, and that is, that anyone who keeps his eyes open may see that this clique has scant prospects of success. England is ready to make financial sacrifices for the army, but it has no military traditions, and no love of militarism. Since the days of the reformation England has carried on no great war on land, and even if we count it the civil wars, England has since the days of Louis XIV. been left out of the evolution of land fortresses and artillery, that is to say it has no practical experience with modern arms. Given at the great naval bases real military fortifications, and every day in Portsmouth, the only basis where such were formerly found, they have been given up. For their defence England relies on the navy.

The whole English mind is permeated by the idea that this country would have to accept an enemy's peace conditions if she lost the war. We are a slowly moving people, and at present we have got no farther than to ask ourselves the reason of the present crisis. It is realized that larger armies and the sudden rage for military fortifications are not the answer to realize that it is a result of the Balkan crisis, and the policy which we have adopted to weaken Turkey, drive the Turks out of Europe, and create a new powerful political factor in the Balkan allies to strengthen the Triple entente.

German Diplomacy Outwitted. At first there was a general rejoicing among the powers of the Triple entente that German diplomacy had once more been outwitted, but there is considerably less rejoicing now that Germany is endeavoring to solve with rattling of swords the problem which the diplomat failed to solve at an earlier stage of the game.

But even this conviction is gaining ground here that Russia and France have been deceived by their own purposes to undermine Germany's prestige, nobody dares yet say what is to be done by England now to avert this present crisis. It is realized that France will have half a million soldiers less than Germany, and that Italy in case of a war will force France to keep an army of at least 200,000 men near the Italian frontier, while Austria will keep Russia in check in spite of anything which the English might do in the Mediterranean. It may drive the French to the English army of 160,000 men to support France against Prussia, but the question is, would England dare send her army to France?

In English liberal circles in London as well as in the provinces, the opinion prevails that the balance of the continental powers is being upset, and that does not interest or concern this country, and that in no case dare England enter upon a policy apt to encourage France to rely on active English assistance in a war with Germany. Influential and widely read Conservative papers also are inclined to oppose active participation by England.

Altogether the outlines of the old English policy of isolation are seen more and more plainly which gave England great influence on the continent, because she let the continental states settle their own quarrels without taking him with anybody. On the Liberal side, however, the efforts continue to bring about a reconciliation between Germany and France.

The Long Bed at Marlborough House. The approaching visit of the King of Denmark to his aunt, Queen Alexandra, will call for some unusual preparations at Marlborough House. His Majesty is the tallest monarch in Europe, and no ordinary bed is long enough to allow him to repose in comfort. But there is a bed at Marlborough House which will meet his requirements. It was specially made for the late King Leopold of Belgium, on one of his recognized visits to London many years ago. He was not infrequently in the metropolis, but in most of that monarch's visits was one that could not be officially recognized. This bed is of quite exceptional length, for King Leopold was well over six feet in height. King George is nearly as tall, but is of slighter build. His uncle, the recently assassinated King of Greece, and the Emperor of Austria are the only other European monarchs conspicuous for tallness at the present time. Several of the others being like King George, of somewhat slight build.

MILITANT "ANTIS" FIGHT TO BAR WOMEN'S VOTES

They Don't Want the Ballot and Just Dare Any One to Force it on 'Em.

NEW YORK, March 29.—The country is threatened with a new peril—the militant "anti" Mrs. John Martin said so herself at a lecture before the League for Political Education, at the Hudson Theatre.

"We anti-suffragists," she declared, "can sympathize with our sisters, the suffragists, in their dilemma concerning the English militants, for we find ourselves facing the same problem. Our young women are no longer content to accept passively what fate and the men force upon them. Only the other day I was terrified to hear of a young girl holding forth in this wise: 'Those miserable men of California! How dared they impose upon the women the intolerable nuisance of the franchise without even asking their consent?'"

"It is just a concerted scheme to put the burden of politics on women's shoulders, as they put everything else there. Men used to run the churches. Now they do pass the collection box, but they expect the women to fill it. It will be the same way in politics. Let the women do the work, and men grab the offices!"

"Just let them try it here in the East! If they attempt to force the ballot upon us, we are going to be the daughters of the heroes who fought and bled at Concord and Lexington—who starved at Valley Forge." "These militant anti-suffragettes," continued Mrs. Martin, "are of a milder flavor than their English cousins. They have not as yet made any attempt to burn the houses of members of the Men's League, nor have they threatened to go on hunger strike—no of this the reference to their ancestors who starved at Valley Forge is an ominous portent."

"We don't want the vote and we are not impressed by the list of places, mouthed with such pride by the suffragists, where women have to vote. In

New Rules For Simplified Spellers

The Simplified Spelling Board has issued just its fourth assault on English as it is being written, and makes suggestions and rules that will give the old-fashioned spelling book a severe shock.

The combination ck is the first to suffer, and the h is annihilated. Thus "chaos" is set down to be spelled "caos," "character" is "caracter," "chorus" is "corus," "eco" is not a foreign word, but is the familiar "echo," and the place where we learned the things we are now urged to forget is not a "school," but a "scool."

The ck is retained before e, y, and i. Words like "chemist," "architect," "orchestra" and "scheme" are retained, and they have been dropped by the silent final c. This makes strange, of such old friends as "have," which becomes "hav," and "live," "forgive," "misgive," and even "are," "gone," and "were."

Heart is Broken. When the two vowels ea come together, the rule is to drop the e. This rule literally breaks the "heart" and leaves it "hart." "Hearth" becomes "hart."

Final ew, which appears in many words like "blew," "grew," "chew," and "threw," is changed to u, so the simplified spellers would have "bluw," "gruw," "chuw," and "thruw." When it comes to conjugating verbs ending in ew, like "brew," they are undaunted and will say "I brud" and then "I brued," and "I have brued."

Another e is lost in words ending in ey as an unstressed syllable which sounds like y. "Attorney" becomes "attorny," and "donkey" "donky." This will affect "turkey" trot by making it the "turky" trot.

Then there are the no more it endings. One is considered enough. American "bluff" will be American "bluf," and the "gruff" man who gets in a "huff" must simply be "gruf" and have a "huf." The law suffers here decidedly with the "plaintiff" only "plintiff" and the "sheriff" falling to "sherif" without so much as asking the leave of Julius Harburg. Where gh is pronounced as f the board rules that it shall be written f, and where gh is silent both letters are dropped. "Laugh" becomes "laf" and the noun is "laffer." The "cough" is "cof" and "enough" is "enuf." Where gh is silent as in "tough" and "rough" the words become simple "cauf" and "auf."

When gn is pronounced like n, g is to be dropped, as in "gnaw" and "gnostic." Where gn is pronounced like in, as in "reign" and "design," the g is to be dropped. Thus an unhappy monarch might "fein" to "fein."

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Remedy," by number five, March number

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