

that did not scruple to bring about a world-wide war in order to endeavor to carry out her own selfish ends was soon apparent. Too late the Kaiser and his criminally foolish advisers recognized the mistake they had made; the die had been cast, and they found themselves caught in a maelstrom of their own making which is rapidly whirling them to their doom. By this time they must begin to realize that "the day" has indeed arrived which has ushered in not the glory and power for which they so madly strove but the beginning of the downfall of their own empire.

You may search through the secret archives of all the Chancelleries of Europe to find reasons or excuses for the outbreak of this present world-wide struggle, but, important as many of these may seem to be they are all but accessories to the true causes of the war. These may briefly be summed up and traced back to the teachings of such men as Frederick the Great, Bismarck, Nietzsche, Bernhardt and others of that school of thought which for so many years have been feeding the minds of the people on the husks of a brutal materialism; to the rapid increase of Germany's trade and commerce and consequent sudden accumulation of wealth; to the desire engendered thereby to obtain an extension of territory; to the complete military preparedness that made her consider herself invincible; and to the lust for world-wide power and dominion, lurking in the brain of an unscrupulous ruler drunk with arrogance and vanity.

"You have wronged for the day,
You have longed for the day
That lit the awful flame;
What matters to you that hill and plain
Yield sheaves of dead men among the grain,
That widows mourn for their loved ones slain,
And mothers curse thy name.

Germany's Mighty War Machine.

For many years the world had heard rumors of the tremendous military machine which Germany was reported to be constructing at an enormous cost. Few men of any country would credit the stories of its marvellous efficiency nor think for one moment that any civilized nation in this age was deliberately training all its citizens in the art of war with the object of using them for the purpose of dominating the Continent of Europe when an opportune time came to strike. Events have unfortunately shown that the world overrated Germany's humanity and underrated her military preparations. At the very inception of the conflict this military machine, the wonderful creation of a quarter of a century's growth, proved its tremendous efficacy, for war had scarcely been declared ere it advanced in all its pomp and pride, and it certainly presented a magnificent appearance as it