

What's What the World Over

New Phases of the World's Thinking Recorded in Current Periodicals

No Hope for Art

Germans Defy Defeat

Forty Cent Loaf

A Soul-Sick State

NO HOPE FOR ART

George Moore, at 63, is sure of it—unless civilization ends

AT sixty-three, George Moore, the Irish poet, novelist and literary monologist, declares art is dead. He blames internationalism, which is, he says, the result of too great facility in locomotion and communication. He laments the passing of parochialism and nationalism which, in his estimation, fostered true art. This is part of what he said on the subject to John Lloyd Balderston in an interview appearing in the Atlantic Monthly for August. He is speaking of the art in literature:

"If there be a future for the English language, which I doubt, it is in America. A great deal of your speech is Elizabethan, and what is not you have invented. You are still inventing a language, while we have stopped; we take what additions foreigners and our savage subjects supply us, but that is all. Perhaps in America another language will arise, adapted to literary usage, out of your patois. . . Ah, yes, I see you smiling. Out of your slang, your dialects; English words both, and just as good. You might have done better, when you went over the Atlantic, to adopt the Sioux language. Which possesses the more complex and subtle grammar, English or Sioux, I do not know. Probably the Sioux. Decidedly you had better have adopted the Sioux, particularly if the Sioux was not a written language, because uneducated people, especially when they cannot read at all, are always more literary than the educated. If I had the privilege to learn English again, I would learn it from the peasants and be a better writer. Peasants use in their speech images inspired by what they look at; they never use abstract terms, and I'm sure that the Sioux spoke far more beautifully than any Englishman. If I ask my parlourmaid to find something I have lost, she will say, 'I'll have a look around.' If I ask you, you will say, 'I'll try to find it.' Which phrase conveys the image?"

"Your reasoning," I said, "is intensely depressing. It seems we and our descendants to the last generation must live in a world without Art, for the conditions of segregation which you say are necessary for

about segregation again, as happened 1,500 years ago; modern transportation we shall have with us always."

"No," said Mr. Moore, "let us end on a note of hope. I believe Art will come again, after an interval perhaps of many centuries. The coal mines of the world will be worked out in a hundred years, more or less, and then locomotion will stop, all modern civilization come to an end, and, who knows, men go back to bows and arrows. I would like to live until that happened and see the beginning of Art, for there will be rude strivings in the right direction in the first generation after communication between communities ceases and segregation is restored."

"Do you think Science will remain dependent upon coal?" I objected. "By the time the mines are worked out they will have harnessed the power of the sun, these men who cannot use their hands."

"Ah, let us not think of that possibility," replied the novelist. "If that be true, this is indeed the Dusk of the Gods."

GERMANS DEFY DEFEAT

They Plan to Capture World Trade by Systematic "Dumping"

GERMANY will not be crushed by a military defeat. Her means of "conquering" the world will be unimpaired. She is now accumulating under "state" control colossal stocks of manufactured goods which she will send into all countries. She will "dump" these goods on our markets. She will gladly sell at a loss until she has thus put the native industries of the Allies out of business. Then she will raise her prices and exercise unlimited control of world commerce.

This is in effect the startling and important declaration made by Professor Henri Hauser of the University of Dijon, in an article in the Fortnightly Review. We quote as follows:

It would be of no avail to have worsted Germany in the land and naval conflict, if we were not to carry on the actual war by another war—the economic.

Germany has poisoned the springs of confidence. For the war has brought the secret to light that in the heart of peace Germany, for the preparation of war, was utilizing her peaceful commercial methods and relations. As Mr. Runciman said not long ago: "peaceful preparation as a means to a military end can never again be tolerated," the Allies are unanimously determined "to resist Germany wherever they find her trying to establish political predominance in foreign countries by commercial means."

Now there is not the least doubt that Germany dreams of resuming this policy of invasion on the very morrow of the signature of peace. The more possible or even probable she considers her military defeat the more keenly she prepares her revenge on the economic battlefield. Vanquished in arms, she will return to her labours with the old tenacity, the old perseverance, the old protean activity, the old lack of scruple. The forces will be augmented, not diminished, that she employs.

Leave the New Germany to her devices for ten years; leave the cuttle-fish to put out its tentacles again—and all our work will have to be begun afresh. Dominated, stifled, enringed, the industrial and commercial western nations will once more, as in July, 1914, be forced into war. And Germany will raise her helmet once more.

United we can offer a formidable opposition to Germanized Central Europe.

Our force is irresistible. But how are we to organize and utilize it? How are we to prevent Germany from regaining in peace what we have taken from her in war?

The readiest answer to the question is: Let us boycott Germany. By prohibitions and by duties sufficiently heavy to be practically prohibitive, let us close to the Germans a market that supplies 700 millions of men. Let us kill German production and sale. In the heart of peace let us continue the blockade.

A simple plan, too simple. An idea that smacks

of the man in the street, the hasty journalist. An example of a badly formulated question.

It would be equally impossible and inhuman to cut off the subsistence of a group of more than a hundred million men in the same way as you cut off the subsistence of the population of a fortress. We know how difficult it is in time of war to make a blockade even half effective. How then in time of peace could we prevent neutrals from revictualing Germany and furnishing themselves with German products?

Would it be to our own interest to close completely



A New Recruit for the Egyptian Expedition.

"Then it is understood, Moses, that you undertake to throw back the waters of the Red Sea!"

—Le Rire, Paris.

against ourselves a market which in 1913 bought over 29 million sterling of French products, not far short of 44 million of English and more than 79 million of Russian products? Surely we do not intend light-heartedly to "bore a hole in the planet" at the very hour when our reviving industries will have need of markets! But if we desire to sell to Germany we must be prepared to buy from her. And where, even if we annexed new coalfields, could France procure the tons of coal that she must purchase with her iron? How could England replace German sugar? Are France and England to work to their own disadvantage and provoke unexampled rises of sugar and coal?

To ruin Germany would be a mistake from another point of view. One shudders in calculating the formidable total of indemnities that we shall have to exact from Germany. She would be incapable of paying them if we proposed to extort them from her in the same way as she extorted 5 milliards from France. Germany will be able to meet her liabilities only by annual payments, in the form of products of German labour: tons of coal to be delivered free of charge or at exceptionally low prices, machinery, goods, etc. For many years to come Germany will be in a state of industrial servitude to us. We must needs, therefore, economize her industrial powers, for they will be our gage.

We do not wish to ruin Germany. But we wish to put it out of Germany's power to work harm.

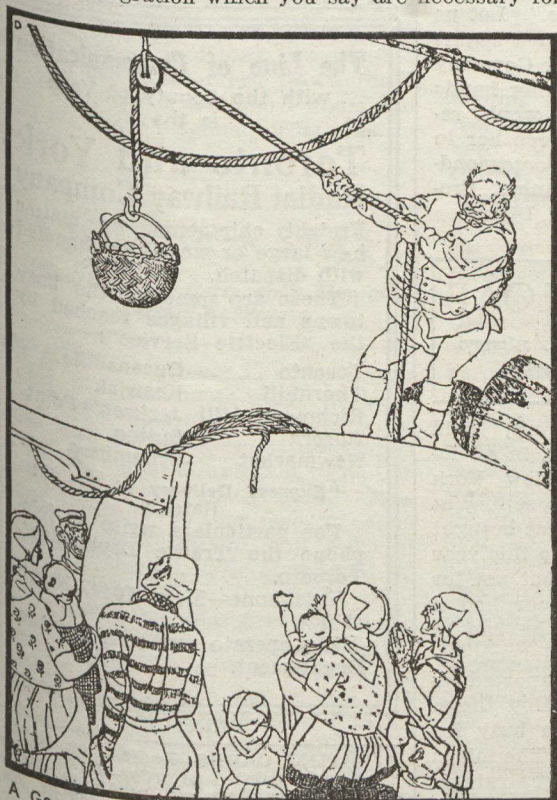
How has Germany become an economic danger?

Of her methods two have been applied with special adroitness and perfidy: industrial penetration and "dumping."

Industrial penetration, that is, the establishment in France and Italy of German factories masquerading under a disguise of French or Italian nationality, has profited chiefly by the wide margin between the duties levied on half-finished products and those levied on the finished article. The system is to prepare the article in Germany and effect abroad the finishing or adjusting operations. The abuses of this system may be met by intelligent measures of domestic legislation and intelligent customs regulations.

On the other hand, co-operation is necessary for an effective struggle against dumping. If we stand separately, we shall be disarmed separately. We can only triumph united.

We must thoroughly comprehend the real significance of German dumping. Out of this kind of expedient the German manufacturers' unions—"cartels"—had developed a marvellously coherent sys-



A German view of the British blockade. It is an interesting comment on the "official" denials of food shortage in the Teutonic Empire.

—The Berlin Tageblatt.

original vision can never return. There are no more barbarians to break up our civilization and bring