

# The Hohenzollern

WRITTEN FOR THE ONTARIO BY WILLIAM MACON COLEMAN, M.A., LL.D., WASHINGTON, D.C., FORMER AMERICAN CONSUL AT STETTIN, GERMANY.

William Macon Coleman, M.A., LL.D., distinguished barrister and publicist of Washington, D.C., and former American Consul at Stettin, Germany, has sent to his brother, Prof. D. R. Coleman, of the Ontario School for the Deaf, the following article for publication in "The Ontario". The paper contains one of the clearest analyses of the Hohenzollern character that we have anywhere seen. This succinct history serves to throw a flood of light upon the present amazing presumptions of the Hohenzollern dynasty.

The Kaiser is a Hohenzollern and it is both instructive and interesting to trace the history of this house just at this time. And this for two reasons: Because, first, the Kaiser is a true type and representative of its character and spirit; and second, because the conduct of this war on the part of the Kaiser exactly illustrates and exemplifies its policies and traditions.

### What "Hohenzollern" Means

The word "hohen", means high, and "zollern" a tax-gatherer, or a tribute-taker. This family belonged in medieval times to the class of "robber-barons" and received the name "Hohenzollern" or "high-tribute takers" from the unusual excess in robberies it committed when it swooped down from its perch in Wurtemberg on the unfortunate travellers, merchants and traders who happened to cross this narrow strip of territory. The name was given by the plundered victims of its rapacity, but was accepted and adopted by the family as a mark of its prowess.

Pointing in the same direction of brutality is the ancient myth that the Hohenzollern were originally derived from the marriage of a horse and a woman. The family must have been proud of this legendary descent; for Heinrich Heine tells that the event of this union was commemorated in stone and that the sculpture stood in the old castle at Berlin.

### Their First Appearance in Europe.

The family comes first into European history when Frederick of Nuremberg became Margrave of Brandenburg with the dignity of Elector in 1417. But he had to fight to hold his right and title. The nobles refused to recognize him; but Frederick made peace with the neighboring princes, isolated the nobles and subdued them—a subjection in which they have ever since continued.

### Frederick the First

Frederick II, who succeeded, earned the title of the "Iron Margrave" by reason of his severe despotic rule. The larger towns, especially Berlin and Köln, had enjoyed a degree of municipal independence. Frederick deprived the towns of this prerogative, deposed their magistrates, put in his own personal representatives, and laid the foundation of the castle at Berlin. In addition to the acquisition of some other territory, he purchased the new mark of Brandenburg from the Teutonic order, Albert, the Bear, who came next, added more territory and forced his recognition as Suzerain and its future ruler upon Pomerania. Not being granted a subsidy, he levied, and collected taxes at his own sweet will. Joachim I, added more territory. He is especially distinguished for his cruelty to the Jews whom he banished from his dominions as "dogs".

### Joachim II.

Joachim II, who followed, flourished in the time of the Reformation. He took the side of the reformers. By their assistance he set up a church with himself as the head of it, and confiscated the estates of the Roman hierarchy to the use of the crown, which was the end he had in view from the beginning. By this means the prince became immensely enriched and his successors were enabled to push on to further acquisitions of territory and aggrandisement. During the next election, the duchy of Cleves and the sees of Mark and Ravensburg were added to the Margrave's possessions. In 1440, George William died and with him ended the first period of the Hohenzollern in Brandenburg.

During this period the towns and cities lost all their independence and importance, the junkers sprouted, the burghers became "oxen", the peasants lapsed into servitude, the Roman law (corpus juris civilis) with all its emphasis on imperial government was introduced, the prince was the head of the church which he made his cre-

ature, and which added greatly to his power and authority. The government was a strong despotism.

### The Great Elector

The second period of the Hohenzollern as Margraves of Brandenburg begins with Frederick William, the "Great Elector". He was the first Hohenzollern to win international distinction. When he succeeded in 1640, he found an arbitrary government and all the apparatus needed to operate it ready at hand. But the machinery was rough and cumbersome. He proceeded to put in smooth working order. He devoted his first and special care to the reorganization of the army and to perfecting its discipline and efficiency. He was seconded by able assistants and, in proportion to numbers, he possessed the most powerful army in Europe. To support it he cowed the Landtag into granting a permanent budget instead of special allowances from time to time. By the treaty of Westphalia in 1648 he received large slices of territory, and by his victory over the Swedes in the historic battle of Fehrbellin in 1675 he swept the Swedes from Pomerania and took Stettin and Stralsund. He increased the area of his dominion to over 40,000 square miles; he augmented the revenue seven-fold and had an army unsurpassed in efficiency. Brandenburg was now a power to be reckoned with. But this greatness had been acquired at the expense of the liberties of the subject. The Landtag had been suppressed and its spirit quelled; the municipal corporations had ceased to exist; the substitution of the permanent excise for subsidies rendered the prince independent on the score of money. While the nobles had been losing power with respect to the ruler, they had been retrieving it at the cost of the burgher. The peasantry was reduced to the lowest point of vileness.

### Become Kings of Prussia

The successor of the Great Elector, Frederick I., was the first Hohenzollern to become a king. He was crowned King of Prussia at Königsberg in 1701, and from this time the history of the Hohenzollern of Brandenburg merges in that of the Hohenzollern of Prussia.

### William I., A True Hohenzollern

The second King of Prussia, William I., is best known as the father of Frederick the Great. He was coarse and dogged, domineering and brutal. But he was gifted with vigorous intellect, and practical sense and keen insight, all of which he employed in raising money and in increasing and improving his army. He piled up coin in his treasury and his troops were the best disciplined in Europe. By means of his military power he secured for himself an influence out of all proportion to the extent and population of his dominions. He made Prussia a model for the arbitrary type of state. The Landtag was a farce and his ministers were clerks to register his orders. During his reign the revenues were doubled and he left at his death the then large amount of 9,000,000 thalers and an army of 85,000 men. Though ranking as the twelfth of the European states in point of population, Prussia occupied the fourth place in respect to military power. The King introduced the military method into the civil and economic order of the kingdom—a method characteristic of Prussia and which has become so with Prussianized Germany. Everything was subservient and subservient to military efficiency. Science was valuable only in so far as it contributed to the physical support of the population and could devise something to add a new terror to military methods.

### Coming of Frederick the Great

Such was the condition of affairs when Frederick the Great ascended the throne. His wars belong to the larger range of European history and are not pertinent here. What is pertinent, and what interests us today is the legacy of principles and of policy which this bright particular star of the Hohenzollern family bequeathed to his successors and which have been treasured and practiced by them with religious devotion—notably by their present representatives.

This policy and these principles to be practiced in time of peace and in war were crystallized, formulated and codified by Frederick. They are to be found in a treatise written by the great King's royal hand,

and entitled, "Les Matinees du Roy de Prusse", and published in full in English by Longman Green & Co., London, 1901. It is from this edition that the quotations which follow are made. The work is a treatise on Kingcraft and is in the form of instructions in government addressed to his nephew and heir to the crown, Prince Frederick William. The style is familiar and informal, just what we would expect in confidential communications of this kind.

### Frederick's Philosophy

He begins with the origin of the House of Hohenzollern, which, he says, began like all other princely Houses in force and violence. Then he says: "Don't blush; don't be a child anymore. Know once for all in the matter of kingdoms each takes what he can and no one is ever wrong except when he has to give up what he has taken."

To breed soldiers he encouraged bastardy. He says: "I have taken care to give in my regiments the preference to the fruits of their (the officers) amours. I make him who owes his existence to an officer an ensign and often enough an officer in his turn."

### A King Should Have No Religion

"Religion," he says "is absolutely necessary to a state; but a King is not wise to have any himself. Nothing exercises a greater tyranny over the spirit and the heart than religion. Is it a question of a neighboring province, an army of devils presents itself to our eyes to defend it? for we are weak enough to believe we would be committing an injustice."

Again: "As for war, it is a profession in which the smallest scruple would spoil everything. As a matter of fact, who is the honest man who would make war if he had not the right to make ruses what permit pillage, fire and carnage?"

Lauding the false pretensions of the Hohenzollerns, he writes: "An important circumstance that I have to call your attention to is that our ancestors acted in the most sensible fashion in this matter. They made a reform which, while richly filling their purses, gave them an air of apostles. Our ancestors made themselves Christians in the ninth century to please the emperors; Lutherans in the fifteenth to possess themselves of the properties of the Church and reformed to please the Dutch, because of the succession of Cleves; we ourselves can afford to be indifferent to maintain tranquility in our States."

"We Must Always Seek to Make Dupes."

About politics, he writes: "I understand by the word, 'Politics,' that we must always seek to make dupes of others. Do not blush at making alliances with the object of reaping the sole advantage for yourself. Do not commit the vulgar fault of not abandoning them (your allies) when you believe it is your interest to do so; and above all, ever follow this maxim: that to despoil your neighbors takes away from them the means of doing harm."

Why Frederick encouraged literary and scientific men appears from the following: "You saw with what distinction I treated D'Alembert in his last voyage. I always made him take his meals with me and did nothing but praise him. You were surprised at the great attention I paid this author. You do not then know that this philosopher is listened to in Paris as an oracle, that he does nothing but speak of my talents, of my virtues, and everything he relates that I have all the characteristics of a true hero and a great king. Voltaire is not such a character, therefore I drove his away."

He imposed on his subject as follows: "In all I say I always have the air of thinking only of my subjects' happiness. I put questions to nobles, bourgeois, and citizens, and I enter with them into the smallest details. You remember him who pitted me with all his heart on seeing my poor overcoat. The poor fellow did not know that I had a good coat underneath."

### Frederick's "Love" for His Subjects

And again: "Up to the present time everybody believes that in frequently visiting my States I am solely actuated by love for my subjects. I allow people to hold this view; but in reality my motive is a different one. The real cause is that I am forced to do it. My kingdom is a despotism one and, consequently, he who possesses it must be the sole ruler over it. If I did not travel over my States a government might by degrees assume my functions, would divert himself of obedience to adopt only ideas of independence."

His true opinion of his subjects expressed somewhat at length, about corresponds with that of Napoleon's opinion of the German in general, or, perhaps, better than that of Heine, who said substantially that if you would grapple the typical

German to your soul with hooks of steel, you must first give him a good kicking and then give him something to eat and drink. Here is more of the great Hohenzollern's hypocrisy and that of a very pretty kind: "When I eat in public, my German cook prepares the dinner. I drink beer and two or three glasses of wine. When I am in my private apartments my French cook does all he can to satisfy me and I confess I am somewhat fastidious. I am near my bed and that is what removes any anxiety as to how much I drink."

### A Prince Should Aggrandise Himself To the Limit.

In this same set of instructions he writes to his nephew and heir: "Do you want to pass off as a hero? Approach boldly to crime. Do you want to pass off as a wise man? Make a counterfeit of yourself with art."

He lays down as a basic principle by which a prince should be governed and one which he must constantly keep in mind; it is to aggrandise himself to the limit that circumstances will admit. He illustrates by his own example as follows: "On ascending the throne I visited the coffers of my father. His great accumulations enabled me to conceive great projects. I decided to make use of the first opportunity which presented itself. Meanwhile I drilled my troops thoroughly. When my troops had thus got the advantage over others my sole occupation was to weigh the pretensions I could formulate on other provinces. Four points presented themselves to my eyes—Silesia, Prussian Poland, Guelphs and Swedish Pomerania. I fixed upon Silesia. I relegated the execution of my design on the other parts to the future."

Upon the subject of aggrandisement, he continues: "They are bad politicians who pretend that a State which has reached a certain point must no longer think of aggrandising itself. It results from all this that one must dare always and be convinced that everything can be made to suit his interests, but great care must be taken not to display pretensions with over-much vanity, and, above all, feed two or three eloquent men in your court and give them the charge of justifying you."

He describes his kingdom as follows: "My kingdom is military and strictly speaking, it is only by military assistance that you can hope to sustain and aggrandise yourself."

### An Instance of Frederick's Cruelty

An instance of his treachery and cruelty which he reveals with brutal frankness is the following: "You know how I punished Finck for surrendering at Maxin; Zartroit and Roule for having advocated the surrender of the fortress at Gatz. In reality the fault was not theirs but mine."

### Hypocrisy and Skill in Deception

The sum and substance of the foregoing instructions reduced to naked propositions is the following: Hypocrisy and skill in deceiving his people are excellences in a prince of the Hohenzollern breed; might makes right; the only safe reliance is on the army and that care and attention; scruples of humanity in carrying on war are weaknesses to be overcome; the breeding of soldiers is a higher consideration than female virtue; a treaty is only a scrap of paper; religion is a good thing to use to impose deceptions upon the people, but a wise Hohenzollern will have no religion himself; the virtue of statesmanship consists in making dupes of those with whom you deal; literary men of ability must be "fed" to justify everything you do and to sound your praises. Above all things and to sum up the aim and scope of these maxims, the supreme object and end which a Hohenzollern must keep in view is his own aggrandisement without regard to the rights and claims of others.

### Hohenzollerns Have Adopted Frederick's Teaching.

Now, if these precepts were only the opinions of one man it would not so much matter, although that man was Frederick the Great. But such is not the case. These precepts are the sacred and infallible gospel of the House of Hohenzollern. Indeed, the counsels and advice here given is the one thing only which a Hohenzollern does regard as sacred, and they cherish these precepts as a pious bequest from the greatest of their race and have observed and practised them with religious devotion. When the King of Prussia, Frederick William III., was wounded to powder at Jena, he implored his people to save him, in return for which sacrifices on their part, he gave them the reaction and the Holy Alliance. It was in pursuance of the same policy and in obedience to the family rule of

action that the grandfather of the present Kaiser, in order to "aggrandise himself" played false with Denmark, betrayed Austria, and forced a war on France. If we look at the conduct of the present "war lord", the exactitude of his conformity to the precepts laid down by Frederick produces a startling effect—the past and the present being brought into such intimate and immediate cohesion. We have the same disregard for both the rights of humanity and of other States; the same imperialism; the same reliance on military power alone and contempt for the moral judgment of mankind; a treaty is a scrap of paper; foreign nations are to be "duped" and their own people deceived; human sympathy is a weakness; there must be no hesitation in drowning women and babies and in blowing them to atoms with Zeppelin bombs. The Kaiser allows no silly scruples to interfere with ruthless barbarity and devastation; he "feeds" his apologists, and finally we have the mockery of the Kaiser invoking God, in whose existence he does not believe, in order to exploit the religious emotions of his people for his own "aggrandisement" his one supreme object and aim.

### ANXIETY FOR LIEUT. HYMAN

Mrs. Eugene Hyman Received Cable From Front This Morning.

Mrs. Eugene Hyman this morning received the brief message by cable from Col. Clarke, "Sympathy." This is believed, although up to an early hour this afternoon no official word has been received from Ottawa, to signify that Lieut. Eugene Hyman has fallen on the field of battle in the British advance on the River Somme. An effort is being made by friends here to learn from Ottawa if any official word of Lieut. Hyman has come through from the front.

The deepest anxiety is felt by his relatives. Should it prove that he has been slain, the heartfelt sympathy of the public will go out to his wife, his mother, and his brothers, Sydney Hyman of Montreal and Capt. B. Levin Hyman of the 155th.

Lieut. Hyman is a Belleville boy, about thirty-two years of age. He was educated in the public and high schools of this city and early in life apprenticed as a drug clerk. Later he attended the College of Pharmacy, Toronto, and graduated as a druggist. He opened up a store in Toronto on Gerrard street and later removed to Strome, Alberta, where he entered the drug trade. About a year and a half ago he responded to the call of his country and sold out his business, coming to Belleville with his wife, who is a daughter of Mr. E. W. Vermilyea, 189 Charles street. He went to Kingston, qualified for a lieutenancy, and later was appointed to the 59th battalion. Last winter he lived in Brockville with that unit and early this spring went overseas.

From England he went with reinforcements to the front for the 14th batt. L. Hyman is a fine type of officer, well liked by the men and most efficient in the performance of his duties. His countless friends will hope there has been some mistake and that he has survived the advance.

### ERNEST DAWKINS IS WOUNDED

In the Canadian Hospital at Etaples, France—Went from Winnipeg.

Mrs. J. G. Galloway, John street, received the following telegram, Sunday, regarding her brother: "Sincerely regret inform you that 23279 Private Ernest Almer Dawkins, infantry, officially reported admitted to No. 1 Canadian General Hospital, Etaples, September 18th, wounded left thigh, will send further particulars when received."

He and his brother Sidney, who was wounded on the 18th of last month and is now in the hospital at Gifford, Surrey, Eng. went overseas the latter part of March this year, with the 61st battalion of Winnipeg. Shortly after they arrived in England they were drafted and sent to France and attached to the Royal Canadian Regiment. They are sons of Mr. John Dawkins.

### PETE COUSINS WOUNDED

Pte. E. N. Cousins, infantry, Belleville, has been wounded. The following casualties also appeared today: Killed in Action—Pte. B. W. Richards, Kingston, Lieut. H. W. Unwin, win. Bath. Died of wounds—Pte. G. Peever, Manooch and Pte. J. Sweetman, of Cobourg.

### PRICE OF MILK GOES UP

Owing to the high cost of producing milk and the price of both cheese and butter, together with the increase in wages for help, the dairy men of the city have been compelled to increase the price of milk to 3c per quart straight, commencing October 1st, 1916.

### HIGH PRICED MARKET.

Eggs and Butter Advanced—Tomatoes and Potatoes Firm. Belleville market on Saturday touched some high figures for this season of the year. Butter advanced to 42 and as high as 45c in some cases. The supply was fairly large. Eggs reached 34c and 37c. The market was well attended and prices generally were steady. Tomatoes are getting to the close of the season, last night's frost being rather severe and likely to end the crop. They sold today at \$1.00 per bushel. Green tomatoes brought 20c per peck. Potatoes maintained the figure of \$2.00 per bushel. Meats are easier. Hogs bring only \$10.50, a drop of one dollar or more in the week, while pork sells at \$14.50. Grapes were plentiful at 15c and 25c per basket. Apples, pears, cabbage and bunches of produce all sold at regular prices. Hay was scarce today at \$9 to \$10 per ton. Chickens were quoted at 75c per pair and upwards. Ducks brought 65c each. Wheat is firmer at \$1.30 to \$1.35 per bushel.

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### FARM FOR SALE.

100 acres of good land in a square block, well watered and fenced, five acres of orchard, good buildings, etc., in County of Prince Edward nine miles north-east of Picton in the village of Demorestville. Further reference apply to U. Nelson, Demorestville, Ontario. A31-wtf

### FARM FOR SALE.

Good 200 Acre Farm 1st Concession Sidney, 3 miles from Belleville. Reasonable terms. Apply to F. S. Wallbridge, Barrister, Belleville, or Miss Ida M. Jack, 148 Victoria avenue, Belleville. 826-6td. wtf

### 1 1/2-ACRE LOT, BEAUTIFUL

Building Site, on Purdy Street, Belleville. Enclosed and used now as garden. Retiring Farmers should investigate. A. Bargain, C. H. McMullen, 249 Colman Street. w-87-tf

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One 10 ft. Jones Bros. Silent Salesman Show Case for sale, in excellent condition.

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Just the thing for packing Pork in. CHAS. S. CLAPP

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\$2.00 and up. Waters' DRUG STORE.

### MUSIC & DRAMA

"TWIN BEDS" PLAYS BELLEVILLE TUESDAY.

A. S. Stern and Company announce the first presentation in Belleville of the international comedy success "Twin Beds" at Griffin's Opera House Belleville, next Tuesday night, October 10th, for one night only. This laugh festival distinguishes itself from the majority of comedies by the clean wholesomeness of its story, the rapidity of its action, the dramatic lift of its situations, the wit and breeziness of its lines and the deftness of its characterizations. It is an impossibility not to laugh at "Twin Beds"; there is no getting away from it, people simply roar and shout. Descriptions of the comedy convey but a feeble idea of the complicated actions which are unwound in the course of the three acts. Theatrical ring with hearty laughter and catch words from "Twin Beds" are heard in every quarter. Messrs. Stern and Company have provided a splendid and evenly balanced cast of players, among whom are such well known favorites as James Morrison, William Weston, Luis Alberti, Warren Hastings, Margarita Riser, Antoinette Roche, Elizabeth Stafford, Martha McGraw and others. The seat sale for "Twin Beds" opens at Doyle's Drug Store, Belleville, Friday morning at 9 a.m., telephone 325.

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