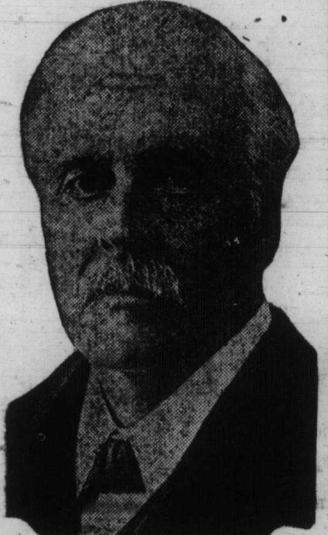


Arthur Balfour's Charm And Powerful Intellect Defined by an American

WRITING in The Dial, Norman Hapgood strongly recommends "The Mind of Arthur James Balfour."

It is, he says, "a challenge to consider Mr. Balfour apart from his political record; as a thinker, a spirit, a personality." And Mr. Hapgood goes on to say:

"He is a fascinating creature, of a fascinating entourage, but his individual importance for history lies in his policy of force and the British style of reform in Ireland—in those long years when he led either the Government or the Opposition—and in his success as a diplomat in the greatest of wars. As his uncle believed in him, he was put in Parliament at twenty-six; five years later he made himself famous by applying to Ireland coercion plus sensible concrete proposals as seen by a mind bred across the Channel; and at forty-four he was Prime Minister. Nobody claims for him a constructive legislative record—in his three most conspicuous subjects, Ireland, education and tariff, he solved nothing—but the House of Commons, which knows so much about Britain's progress, through many years loved and followed him. Britain always has her men of action—her Rhodes, Gladstones, Chamberlains; she has a quiet and prevailing instinct for getting things done; but her governing class also love a measured manner and calm indifference to political prizes. Sir Edward Grey's known preference for fishing over public life, the Duke of Devonshire's devotion to country



ARTHUR JAMES BALFOUR.

occupations, Lord Salisbury's indifference, fitted the taste of an assembly of gentlemen long accustomed to rule. Mr. Balfour's manner, his love of philosophy, his rapier-like debating, his personal charm and his courage reached the House of Commons, as they will reach some who merely read his written words. A Briton will pass final judgment on some one by saying he is the sort of man with whom one would like to go tiger hunting.

"His firmness is not to be exploited. Even tragedy is questionable. A perfect type of the British aristocrat has a kind of unobtrusive preference for the agreeable. 'I personally like the spring day,' Mr. Balfour says, in responding to a toast to literature, 'and bright sun and the birds singing, and if there be a shower or a storm, it should be merely a passing episode in the landscape, to be followed immediately by a return of brilliant sunshine.' It is not the Lear or Oedipus type. I know not how true it is, but there used to be a statement current about the time Mr. Balfour was coming into prominence, that the most quoted book in the House of Commons was 'Alice in Wonderland,' and surely there is no book that appeals more unquestionably to a high and rather late culture. The fact that the House of Commons liked it so much is not unrelated to their love of Mr. Balfour, to whom human reasoning appears much as a grotesque.

"This type of mind has made him more formidable in destructive criticism than in positive propaganda or enactment, and it is fit that his most notable piece of writing should be entitled 'A Defence of Philosophic Doubt.' It is an entirely successful defence of philosophic doubt. The misty notions of evidence harbored by the unskilled have small chance against the writer; and his favorite target is the cruder skepticism.

"In insisting on Mr. Balfour's essential Toryism we must emphasize also the superiority of his individual intelligence. Why did he cease to be the leader of his party? Why were the letters B.M.G.—'Balfour Must Go'—posted over London? Who succeeded him? He lost his leadership, in the fight of a decade ago, over the House of Lords because he was not sufficiently rigid and narrow-minded to meet the spirit of the unbending Tories. It was the Bitter-Enders, in the House of Lords contest, who threw Mr. Balfour out. Since those days the leader of the Unionists has been an industrious and mediocre business man, with no troublesome individuality, and apparently Mr. Andrew Bonar Law managed his task, before the world war and since, to the satisfaction of those immediately concerned. Mr. Balfour's reputation seemed to have started on the decline until in the war he emerged as the man most trusted in foreign diplomacy, not for imagination, for conceiving or embracing a startling future, but for tact, negotiating ability, forensic shrewdness and judgment."

Ex-Crown Prince and the War

WHAT responsibility must be borne by the ex-Crown Prince for beginning the war? There is more difference of opinion as regards William the younger compared with William the elder. Everybody knows that if the Kaiser did not plot the war he had it in his power to keep out of it, and that if he had stood aside there would have been no war. The case for hanging William Hohenzollern senior is conclusive. But about the former Crown Prince there is more doubt. Is he a fire-eater, a man delighting in slaughter, a sinister figure who aimed to make himself popular in Germany by great military triumphs, and who drove his father into war by trying to outbid him for the regard of the German army and the German aristocracy? Or is he a rather empty-minded young man, more interested in sports and dissipation than in conquest, who knew little that was happening at the German Foreign Office, who cared less, who has no military ability, and is good-natured and weak rather than powerful and malevolent?

It is the latter picture that is drawn for us by Karl Wiegand, an American correspondent who was in Germany in the early years of the war, and who is probably the only journalist who had an interview with the former Crown Prince while the war was raging. Mr. Wiegand had the interview, which was extended over several days, at the headquarters of the Fifth German Army at Stenay, France, in the winter of 1914. He had to exercise considerable ingenuity to meet the Crown Prince, for when he made known his desire through the usual channels he was told that the Crown Prince was wanted to fight and not to talk, and it was plain enough that the Foreign Office dreaded what William might say to an American journalist. Whether the interview was reported by Mr. Wiegand at the time we do not know, but it is recalled by him now in the New York Sun in order to prove that the former Crown Prince is rather an object of ridicule or of sympathy than of detestation.

He spoke excellent English, with what appeared to the fascinated correspondent to be an English accent, and expressed the greatest admiration for the English people and their institutions, openly confessing the doubt that German diplomats and statesmen would ever approach the British standard. At the same time he admitted that for initiative the French soldier was much superior to the individual German. Hanging from the chandelier in the dining-room at the Crown Prince's headquarters was a number of little effigies or mannikins representing soldiers of the nations then at war with Germany, and once in the course of conversation somebody expressed curiosity as to the nationality of the nearest soldier that would have to be thus suspended. A general answered that certainly it would not be American. The Crown Prince was dubious, much to the astonishment of the other diners, for at that time the idea of the United States entering the war was certainly not entertained by a handful of Germans. But the Crown Prince insisted that it was more than a possibility, owing to the stupidity of the German diplomats.

He also declared that his father was surrounded by men who permitted him to know only what would serve their own interests, that he was never favored with an honest opinion that might conflict with his own views or desires. He admitted that the Kaiser was partly to blame for this, since he did not always want to hear the truth, especially if it happened to be unpleasant. "If I say anything I am represented as trying to interfere and told to keep my mouth shut," he said. Speaking of the origin of the war he insisted that Germany was obliged to fight in her own defence, but he confessed that the blunders of German diplomacy had made this inevitable. He spoke up of blunders, never of a deep-laid plot. His detestation of the Foreign Office was heartily reciprocated. There he was suspected of a desire to "butt in," and it was well recognized that as soon as he succeeded his father he would make a clean sweep of the statesmen then in control, with the single exception of Zimmermann.

Mr. Wiegand says that the idea that the Crown Prince directed the Fifth German Army, that of Verdun fame, is an illusion. He commanded the army in the same sense that King George rules the British Empire. Nor is it reasonable to suppose that such a tremendous task as the proposed capture of Verdun would have been entrusted to the least experienced of the German field leaders and by many years the youngest of them. The Verdun plan was worked out by von Falkenhayn, and the general who was supposed to realize it was Gen. Knobelsdorff, attached to the Crown Prince as chief of staff. Of course the idea was that the Crown Prince should reap the glory of the achievement, and it may be that the attempt on Verdun was prompted by dynastic as well as by military considerations. Some great military victory was necessary for the Crown Prince's prestige, for according to the correspondent he wholly lacks the strong personality of his father, and has not the ex-Kaiser's gift of making an imposing figure in the limelight. On the contrary there is something sheepish and even slinking about him. It remains for the League of Nations to consider his case and pass judgment upon him.

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Bela Kun's Soviet Government at Budapest has been overthrown, according to an official wireless received in Paris.

Whether a conversation overheard by listening in on a party line can be used to prove libel, is the point at issue in an interesting test case at Quebec.

The allied force on the Archangel front inflicted a serious defeat on the Soviet troops on April 13.

Reports from Saloniki state that the naval port of Sebastopol in the Crimea has not been occupied by Bolshevik troops.

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ALL the world now knows that the Red Triangle of the Y.M.C.A. was the "Sign of Friendship" to thousands of your brothers, sons, nephews, cousins and neighbours' boys in the last four and a half years. Wherever the Canadian Soldiers went, the "Good old 'Y'" went too. And now it is coming back home with them!

For the support which has made possible the war work of the Y.M.C.A. we thank you. Your money has been well expended. We have rendered full account.

We ask now your continued sympathy and support for Red Triangle Service for our Soldiers during demobilization, and for Y.M.C.A. work for Canada generally during the Reconstruction period. The Annual Red Triangle campaign will be held throughout Canada May 5th to 9th, 1919. The objective is \$1,100,000.



The Y.M.C.A. will keep its chain of Service unbroken till the end.

For Our Men Returning

For the soldiers and their dependents, returning from Overseas, we have provided as follows:—

1. A Red Triangle man on board every ship when it leaves Great Britain with a full equipment of games, gramophones and records, magic lantern, literature and writing materials. Where possible, also a piano or an organ. Lectures, concerts, sing songs, instruction re Government repatriation plans, and Sunday Services.
2. Red Triangle comforts and facilities for the men on arrival at Halifax, St. John, Quebec and Montreal, including coffee stalls, with free drinks, free eatables, cigarettes, candies, etc.
3. Red Triangle men on every troop train to provide regularly free drinks, eatables and cigarettes, organize games and sing songs, and furnish information.
4. Red Triangle free canteen service, information bureau, etc., at each of the 22 Dispersal centres in Canada.
5. Red Triangle Clubs in the principal cities of Canada in the shape of large Y.M.C.A. hostels to furnish bed and board at low rates and to be a rendezvous for soldiers.
6. Seventy-five Secretaries to superintend Red Triangle service in Military Hospitals, Camps and Barracks throughout Canada.
7. Tickets entitling soldiers to full Y.M.C.A. privileges for six months at any local Y.M.C.A. furnished.

In addition to our work for the returning soldiers, we have to maintain the Red Triangle service to the full for the soldiers in Siberia, as well as the work of special secretaries in Northern Russia, Palestine and Poland.

For Canada's Manhood

The Reconstruction program of the Y. M. C. A. includes the following vitally important developments:—

1. An increased service to 300,000 teen-age boys in the Dominion—the development of Canadian Standard Efficiency training; Bible Study groups; summer camps; conferences; service for High School boys, for working boys, in the towns and cities; for boys on the farm and for boys everywhere, who have lacked opportunity for mental, moral, physical or social development.
2. Inauguration of Y.M.C.A. work in the country, and the smaller towns and villages lacking Association buildings and equipment, on a plan of county organizations. This will include the establishment of Red Triangle centres for social, recreational and educational work among boys and men, in co-operation with the churches.
3. The promotion of Y.M.C.A. work among Canada's army of workers in industrial plants, both in Y.M.C.A. buildings and in the factory buildings, organizing the industrial workers of our cities by meetings, entertainments, games and sports.
4. The establishment of the Red Triangle in isolated districts where lumbermen, miners and other workers hold the front trenches of industry.
5. Besides these main fields of increased activity for 1919, we have to provide for enlarged work among railway men, college students and for our campaign to encourage physical and sex education. Under all our work we place the fundamental foundation of manly Christianity.

Y.W.C.A.

For the wives and children Overseas, dependent upon Canadian soldiers, and for Y.W.C.A. work in Canada generally, a sum of \$175,000 from the Red Triangle Fund will be set aside for the Dominion Council of the Y.W.C.A., which is caring for the soldiers' women folk, and their little ones on the long journey, from Liverpool to Canada, and is also extending its work for Canadian girls.

For their sake also be generous when you make your contribution.

FOR the sake of our victorious soldiers and their dependents, and the happiness of their home-coming; for the sake of our future citizens, our teen-age boys; for the sake of rural life in Canada; for the sake of the social betterment of the toilers in factory and workshop; for the sake of lonely men and boys in our mines and forests; for the sake of Christian Society and Canadian manhood—we appeal to you. Give us your contribution, little or big. Be as generous as you can.

Hand your contribution to the canvasser when he calls, or if you live where it is difficult for him to call, send it by check, money order or registered letter to the National Treasurer, Red Triangle Campaign, 120 Bay Street, Toronto.

Please Note:

We are not asking for money to carry on our work Overseas, with the Army in Great Britain, France or Belgium. That work will continue at its maximum for some months, financially provided for by the liquidation of our assets Overseas, and will not terminate till the last man has sailed for home.

National Council, Young Men's Christian Associations of Canada

The Red Triangle Campaign is being conducted under the distinguished patronage of His Excellency, the Duke of Devonshire, K.G., G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., P.C.

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