

PRESENT WAR INEVITABLE RESULT OF GERMANY'S LUST FOR EMPIRE

Dr. Eliot, Former President of Harvard, Says Barbarous State of Mind in Germany Caused War—Declares that Desire on the Part of the Teutons for World-Empire is Prime Source of Present Conflict.

In a letter to the New York Times, Charles W. Eliot says: Each one of the principal combatants in Europe seems to be anxious to prove that it is not responsible for this crisis, most extensive, and most destructive of the world's history. Government involved has published the correspondence between its chief executive and other chief executives, and between its chancellery and foreign offices and the equivalent bodies in the other nations that have gone to war, and has been at pains to give a wide circulation to these documents.

To be sure, none of these Government publications seems to be absolute complete. There seem to be in all of them suppressions or omissions which only the future historian will be able to report—perhaps after many years. They reveal, however, the dilapidated state of the concert of Europe in July, 1914, and the hurry in the European chancelleries which the ultimatum sent by Austria-Hungary to Servia produced. They also testify to the existence of a new and influential public opinion about war and peace, and that nations that go to war think it desirable to appeal for justification or moral support.

These publications have been read with intense interest by impartial observers in all parts of the world and have in many cases determined the direction of the reader's sympathy and good will; and yet none of them discloses or deals with the real sources of the unprecedented calamity. They relate chiefly to the question—Who struck the match and not the question—who provided the magazine that exploded, and why did he provide it. Grave responsibility, of course, attaches to the persons who give the order to mobilize a national army, or to invade a neighbor's territory; but the real force of the resulting horrors is not in such an order, but in the governmental institutions, political philosophy and long-nurtured passions and purposes of the nation or nations concerned.

Germany's Desire the Prime Cause

The prime source of the present immense disaster in Europe is the desire on the part of Germany to world-empire, a desire which once firmly established after another has made its supreme motive, and none that has since adopted has ever completely eradicated.

When this disease, which has attacked one nation after another through all historic times, struck Germany, it exhibited in her case a remarkable magnificence, moving her to expansion in Europe by force of arms and to the seizure of areas for colonization in many parts of the world. Prussia, indeed, had long believed in making her way in Europe by fighting, and had repeatedly acted on that belief. Shortly before the achievement of German unity by Bismarck, she had obtained by war in 1864 and 1866 important accessions of territory and leadership in all Germany.

Force of Arms Believed Necessary

With this desire for world-empire went the belief that it was only to be obtained by force of arms. Therefore united Germany has labored with the utmost intelligence and energy to prepare the most powerful army in the world and to equip it for instant action in the most powerful manner which science and eager invention could contrive.

Army Became the Nation

In order to assure the completeness of this military idea, the army became the nation and the nation became the army to a degree which had never before been realized in either the savage or the civilized world. This army could be summoned and put into play by the chief executive of the German nation with no preliminaries except the consent of the hereditary heads of the several States which united to form the empire in 1871 under the domination of the Prussian king, become German emperor, being

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PRINCIPALS IN MEXICO'S LATEST OUTBREAK.



General Eulalio Gutierrez, who was proclaimed Provisional President of Mexico by the Aguascalientes convention, has been imprisoned by General Carranza. Friends of General Gutierrez believe that General Villa will have him put to death.

Reports indicated that the imprisonment of General Gutierrez followed his refusal to accept the Provisional Presidency at the hands of General Villa and the Aguascalientes convention. His friends and those of General Carranza believe that he has been placed in prison because he refused to be loyal to General Carranza. Another report states that General Obregon, at the head of a detachment of troops, seized the citadel at Mexico City, which will prevent officers of Carranza's army from shipping munitions of war.

Desire for Colonies Built Navy

The intense desire for colonies and for the spread of German commerce throughout the world instigated the creation of a great German navy and started the race with England in navy building.

Thought England Unprepared

In respect to its navy, however, Germany was not ready for war at the opening of 1914, and, therefore, she did not mean to get into war with Great Britain in that year. Indeed, she believed on incorrect information—that England could not go to war in the summer of 1914.

Treaties Broken to Gain Advantage

To gain quickly a military advantage in attacking a neighbor came to be regarded as proper ground for violating any or all international treaties and agreements, no matter how solemn and comprehensive, how old or how new. The demonstration of the insignificance or worthlessness of international agreements in Germany thought and practice was given in the first days of the war by the invasion of Belgium, and has continued ever since by violation on the part of Germany of numerous agreements concerning the conduct of war into which Germany entered with many other nations at the second Hague conference.

Peace Rests on Sanctity of Treaties

This German view of the worthlessness of international agreements was not a cause of the present war, because it was not fully evident to Europe, although familiar and of long standing in Germany; but it is a potent reason for the continuance of the war by the Allies until Germany is defeated; because it is plain to all the nations of the world, except Germany, Austria-Hungary and Turkey at the moment, that the hopes of mankind for the gradual development of international order and peace rest on the sanctity of contracts between nations and on the development of adequate sanctions in the administration of international law. The new doctrine of military necessity affronts all law and is completely and hopelessly barbarous.

The Strongest Shall Be Ruler

The objects of Germany's adoration have become Strength, Courage and Ruthless Will Power; let the weak perish and help them to perish; let the gentle, meek and humble submit to the harsh and proud; let the shiftless and incapable perish; and the world, for the strong, and the strongest shall be ruler.

A Federated Europe

There should come out of this supreme convulsion a federated Europe or a free world, in which should secure the smaller States against attack, prevent the larger from attempting domination, make sure that treaties and other international contracts shall be public and be respected until modified by mutual consent, and provide a safe basis for the limitations and reduction of armament on land and sea, no basis to be considered safe which could fall to secure the liberties of each and all the federated States against the attacks

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War Sometimes Justified

Is it not that war is always a hideous and hateful evil, but that a nation may sometimes find it to be the lesser of two evils between which it has to choose? The justifiable and indeed necessary war is the war against the ravager and destroyer, the enemy of liberty, the calibrator of world empire. More and more the thinkers of the world see and the common people more and more believe instinctively, that the cause of religious liberty is the cause of civilization. In the conference which will one day meet to settle the terms of peace, and, therefore, the future conditions of life in Europe, the example of the American republic in regard to armaments and war, the publicity of treaties, and public liberty, security and prosperity may reasonably have some influence.

War's Harvest Festival.

Chocolate, canned goods, tobacco and cigarettes as substitute decorations for flowers and garlands in one of the English churches forms the topic of a paragraph in The Hospital, a medical paper published in London. In telling of the work done for the soldiers in the hospitals and at the front The Hospital says:

Previous to the date arranged for the harvest festival services at St. Luke's church, Lyncombe, Bath, the vicar, the Rev. C. E. Doudney, announced to the congregation that this year, in consequence of the war, the usual church decorations would be dispensed with and be superseded by gifts for the soldiers, with the result that the church on the day of the Harvest Thanksgiving presented a remarkable appearance, the east end being filled with piles of blankets, rugs, lined delicacies, chocolate, tobacco and cigarettes, which had been sent in by the prisoners and members of the congregation. These are to be distributed to the hospitals and soldiers.

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