WAR SECRECY KEEPS NAVIES' RANK IN DOUBT

Available Data Indicate British, German and American Rating Unchanged.

ENGLAND'S FORCE ABOUT DOUBLE THE KAISER'S

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.—Naval experts in Washington have thrown up their hands in despair over the task of calculating officially the present relative strength of the British, German and United States navies, but approximate figures indicate that in total warship tonnage the British, notwithstanding their losses, are more than twice as strong as the Germans, while in battleship tonnage the Germans have a trifle more than half as much as the British navy.

The relative strength of the United States has hardly been affected one way or the other by the war developments. This country ranked as the third naval Power before the war and is still in third place.

Though the naval losses on each side are believed to be fully known there are practically no data obtainable as to what additions Great Britain and Germany have made to their navies since the outbreak of the war five months ago.

In the opinion of the officers here Great Britain in spite of her losses is now a good deal stronger on the sea than she was on August 1, when the war began. This is due to the rapid completion of vessels under construction and the taking over of vessels building in England for foreign navies.

Germany is also known to have rapidly completed construction of vessels, but definite information of the extent of the additions to either navy is unobtainable.

As the result the Navy Department has abandoned all attempt to issue the customary official tables comparing the navies of the world until the war is over.

The Basis for Comparison.

The figures for construction, built and building a year ago seem to afford the best obtainable basis for a comparison of the German and British strength. According to these figures, and not considering any losses, Germany would now have a total warship tonnage of 1,228,208, while that of Great Britain would be 2,591,291, or slightly more than twice that of Germany.

The losses on each side, however, have been considerable. Without including small vessels belonging to Germany which have been interned or the German battle cruisers Goeben and Breslau, which are in the war, but confined to action with the Turkish fleet, Germany has lost a total of 103,840 tons, according to the best obtainable information.

England, on the other hand, has lost 173,145 tons, or 70 per cent. more than have the Germans. Deducting these losses, the present tonnage of both sides would appear to be about 2,481,156 for Great Britain and 1,124,368 for Germany.

Naval strength to-day, however, is largely measured in battleship strength. Assuming that battleships under construction a year ago have been completed, the probable British battleship strength, irrespective of losses, would be now 1,310,235 tons. On the same basis, the German battleship strength would be 690,100 tons, or a trifle more than half that of the British.

Great Britain, however, has lost three battleships—one dreadnought, the Audacious, of 24,000 tons, and two pre-dreadnought battleships, the Formidable and Bulwark, of 15,000 tons each, making a total loss in battleships of 54,000 tons.

Proportion in Battleships.

Germany has lost no battleships, so that the proportion between the two on this basis is more nearly represented now by 1,256,235 for Great Britain and 690,100 for Germany.

A year ago Great Britain had 72 battleships built and building, while Germany had 39 built and building. Great Britain, however, is believed to have added to her list more first class ships than has Germany. Of these first class ships 32 on the British side were dreadnoughts, while Germany had 19 dreadnoughts built and building.

Only one of the British ships lost, the Audacious, was of the dreadnought type, so that as far as superior fighting battleships is concerned Great Britain has lost but one unit since the outbreak of the war. The loss of trained officers and men, who have gone down with the British warships is considered by both American and British authorities to be a far more serious matter than the losses of the vessels themselves. The same is true with the respect to the German naval losses.

According to unofficial lists the British have lost thus far one dreadnought, two battleships, fifteen cruisers, seven armored, seven protected and one light cruiser, five destroyers, two submarines and a schoolship.

The Germans, according to unofficial reports, have lost thirteen cruisers, ten destroyers, one gunboat, two auxiliaries and one submarine, though some reports give the Germans a loss of five additional submarines, another gunboat and four auxiliaries.

It is doubted if the exact data will be obtainable before the end of the war as to all naval losses, but the obscurity relates largely to minor ships which hardly count so far as changing the present situation between the two navies is concerned.

The American Navy.

The superiority of the British navy over that of the United States, so far as tonnage strength is concerned, is so great that the proportion between the two has hardly been affected by the British losses. The total tonnage of the British navy, allowing for losses, is now estimated at 2,420,156 tons, while that of the United States, calculated on the same basis, is only 921,844.

The relative battleship strength of Germany and the United States has not been changed a particle by the war except as the conflict has caused Germany to hasten construction in progress and probably to begin entirely new construction.

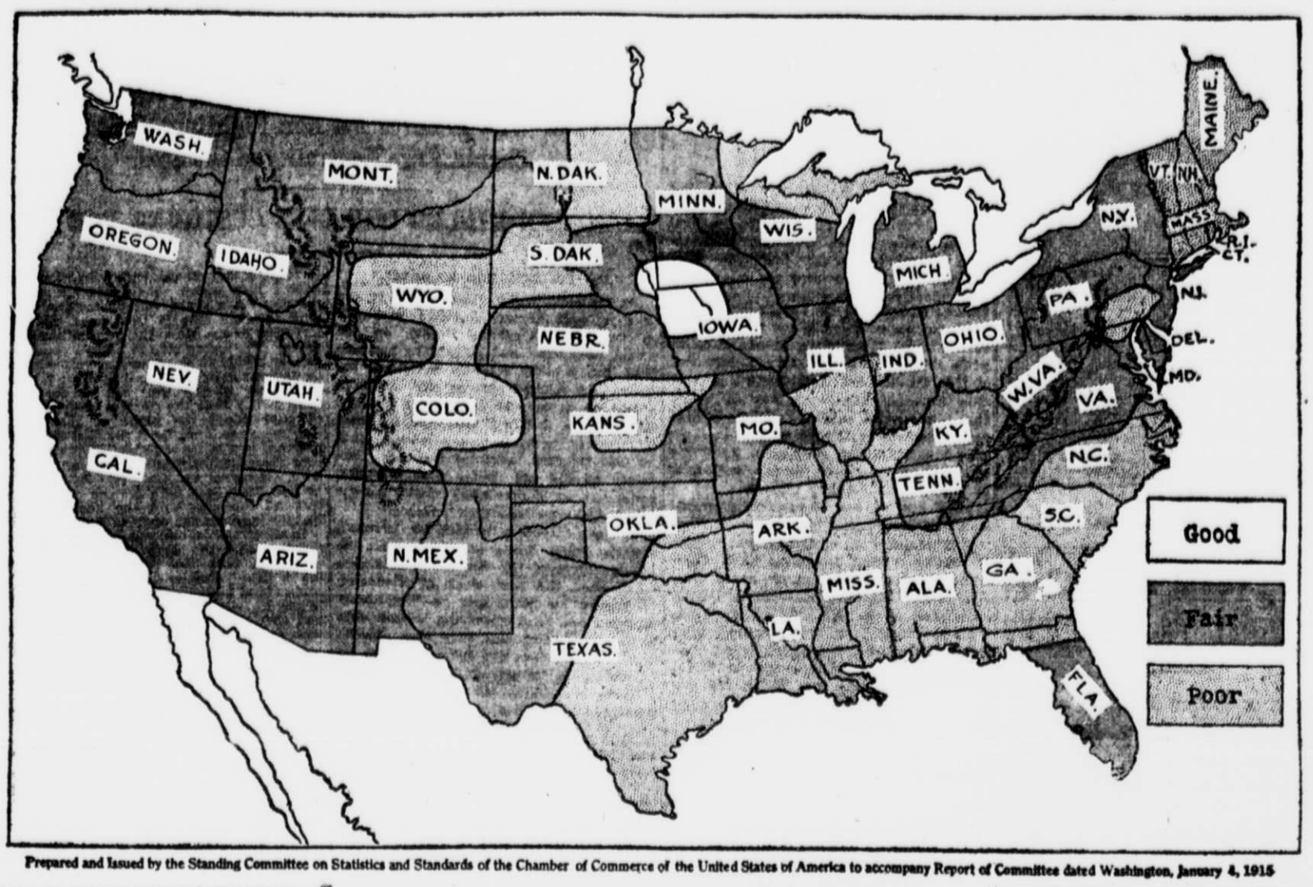
As far as dreadnoughts are concerned she probably has gained somewhat over this country since the war began. On total tonnage, however, the German navy probably has suffered somewhat as compared with that of the United States, still making comparisons on the assumption that construction under way a year ago has been completed. This gives Germany, allowing for losses, an estimated actual tonnage of 1,124,368, as compared with 921,844 for the United States.

As a matter of fact, this calculation probably gives a little the better of it to the United States, as the construction under way for the United States has followed its normal course, while that for Germany has been greatly expedited.

In battleships the relative strength remains unchanged, with Germany having the lead by only 47,266 tons. This lead is greater than would appear on the face, for a greater proportion of the American strength is in dreadnoughts and less in dreadnoughts than is the case with Germany. Germany is credited with nineteen dreadnoughts built and building a year ago, while the United States had at that time only twelve built and building.

MAP SHOWING GENERAL CONDITIONS FOR BUSINESS IN THE UNITED STATES

This is a forecast for the first three months of 1915, based on the situation on December 12, 1914.



Prepared and Issued by the Standing Committee on Statistics and Standards of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States of America to accompany Report of Committee dated Washington, January 4, 1915

EXTRA SESSION NOT FAVORED BY WILSON

Although His Legislative Programme May Be Thwarted by Congress.

SHARP CLASHES PREDICTED

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.—The Congress will expire by limit of law eight weeks from next Thursday and the President still has a very elaborate legislative programme ahead.

Predictions are freely made on Capitol Hill that he will not be able to realize his recommendations, and the question is already being asked whether the President, failing to get what he so strongly recommends, will ask for an extra session. The best judgment is that he will not. There are many indications that the President is anxious to have a long vacation from legislative work following March 4.

He is now strongly urging several measures. The most pressing is the ship purchase bill. That will be fought stubbornly in the Senate. The House, it has been intimated, will wait on the Senate before seriously taking up the matter.

Many Democratic Senators are opposed to the ship purchase bill. The Republicans are prepared to make a determined fight against it. The best judgment of Senators outside the limited circle which works at all times to carry out the Administration's policies is that the bill will fail.

The Administration's conservation measure is even more hopeless, according to Senator Walsh, chairman of the committee that has been at work on the bill, who told his colleagues yesterday that he saw little or no hope ahead.

The Philippines bill, another Administration measure, was hard hit the past week by statements before the Senate Committee on Philippines by former President Taft and Dean C. Worcester. Secretary Garrison is to come later to voice the Administration's view and probably lay before the committee the latest information as to conditions in the islands.

He will be expected to enlighten the committee, especially as to the latest outbreak of the natives against the United States authorities and what the future promises are as to peace. Debate on the Philippines bill in the Senate will be protracted. The chances for passing it are admittedly poor.

President Wilson has further complicated the situation in the Senate by reviving the Colombian and Nicaraguan treaties and insisting on action at this session. This will entail long executive sessions that will interfere with the regular legislative programme.

The Senate has taken up none of the agricultural bills yet. Work on these will begin this week. It is significant that the only important bill the Senate has passed this session is the immigration bill, to which the President is opposed.

The river and harbor bill will take up considerable time, particularly if Senator Burton and his friends in the Senate decide to fight it. Proponents of the measure are determined that the bill shall pass this session and they say they have assurances from the President that if they keep the appropriations down to maintenance work they need not fear a veto.

The prospect is that a bill carrying $40,000,000 will come from the Senate Committee on Commerce, which is now at work on the subject.

There is therefore a tremendously big job cut out for Congress and especially the Senate, with only eight weeks to do the work. Much of it will not be done. The President's driving power in the Senate has been considerably diminished lately. His sharp conflicts with Democratic Senators over patronage have weakened his hold on his party in the Senate.

Some interesting debate will be heard in the next eight weeks and there will probably be clashes between the President and his party followers in the Senate. The Senate leaders are planning long hours and night sessions to meet the heavy drain put on them by the President's programme.

The importance of getting through these measures lies in the fact that unless passed now they will die with the Congress at noon March 4 and the legislative ground will have to be traversed again.

BIG SHRAPNEL SHELL ORDER.

Pittsburg to Make $750,000 Worth in a Hurry.

PITTSBURG, Jan. 3.—The Westinghouse Company has received a $750,000 order for 152,000 shrapnel shells, of which 100,000 are of the smaller variety, from the Washington Ordnance Company of Washington, D. C., with instructions to ship the order with all speed. The local manufacturing company states that it does not know the ultimate destination of the shells.

The various steel companies of the Pittsburg district were asked yesterday by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company for bids on 17,600 tons of structural steel and 1,270 tons of steel to be used in connection with reenforced concrete work. The order was intended only for renewals of bridges and repair work.

TRADE OUTLOOK BETTER, SAY BUSINESS EXPERTS

Record Acreage in Grains Predicted by U. S. Chamber of Commerce Committee—The South Still Remains a Puzzling Problem.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.—The committee on statistics and standards of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States of America has just issued a report on "general crop and business conditions as of December 12, 1914." The report is accompanied by a map illustrating conditions in the various industries and of the prospects for business during the first three months of 1915.

While acknowledging the widespread and depressing effects of the European war on industrial and commercial conditions the report is generally reassuring. Economy naturally prevails among all classes, though it has been noted that this does not extend to automobiles.

Purchases of goods for future delivery are far smaller than usual. Collections are uniformly reported as poor. Lately a marked change has been noted in a lessening of the earlier difficulty of obtaining loans from banks and in an easing of interest rates. It is stated that conditions in the South, while slowly improving, still present a serious problem. Elsewhere the feeling gathers strength that a steadily improving future is immediately ahead.

Crops in general have been good. The entire wheat crop shows an increase of 12½ per cent. more than that of last year, and in some Southern points the increase is more than 100 per cent. The report states that all indications are that the amount of wheat being held for higher prices is much less than is generally supposed.

Bigger Grain Acreage.

It is especially worthy of note that some sections are planting winter wheat for the first time in their history and it is predicted that if the war continues until spring the acreage planted in grains will exceed that of all former years.

The sugar cane crop promises to be a good one and to command remunerative prices. The report points out that while we ordinarily get most of our supply from Germany, there seems to be no difficulty in obtaining the necessary seed and a larger acreage of sugar beets is expected next spring than in 1914.

The fruit yield was unusually large, but a large portion is being held in many localities as prices have been low and in the main unsatisfactory. Apples in particular have been stored until prices are more favorable. This condition applies also to the potato crop.

The cattle business is confronted by a serious handicap in the fact that there is great difficulty in obtaining loans on cattle. The industry is further unfavorably affected in the central West owing to the quarantine resulting from the foot and mouth disease. In this section hog cholera is also prevalent, though not so destructive as last year.

The sheep and wool industry is reported as in excellent shape. Large purchases of horses at good prices have been made by European Governments, but the market for mules continues slow and dragging. The report says that the raising of poultry as a commercial proposition is assuming large proportions in all sections.

There is encouragement in the statement that many factories which have been idle are preparing to start up and that more men are being taken on by factories which have been running with decreased force. The report states that the flour mills have been fortunate in being affected only slightly by the general depression. Some cotton and textile mills are also favored to a lesser extent in this connection, although cotton mills while fairly busy are said to be accumulating goods.

Mining Conditions Poor.

Mining conditions are reported as generally poor. This is especially true of the phosphate mines of Florida, which formerly shipped most of their product to Europe. Many mines are closed down and the remainder running from one-quarter to one-half time.

An exception to this general depression, according to the report, is zinc, which is quoted as being in excellent condition. Lead is also reported as being in better condition than is true of the other lines. The oil business is stated as varying from poor to fair because of low prices and the falling off in demand.

The lack of building has caused many lumber mills to close down and others to run only two to four days a week, and has likewise closed many of the stone, slate and marble quarries. However, these conditions are now beginning to mend and orders are showing some increase.

The committee on statistics and standards of the National Chamber which prepared the report is composed of the following: A. W. Douglas, chairman, St. Louis; A. Ross Hill, Columbia, Mo.; Byron W. Holt, New York city; C. J. McPherson, Frankfort, Ind.; Dan Norman, Chicago; Lewis W. Parker, Greenville, S. C., and N. I. Stone, New York city.

SENATORS WANT HALL'S RECORD.

Hold Up Nomination of Commissioner Who Changed on Rate Case.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.—Considerable interest was aroused here to-day by the fact that the nomination of Henry Clay Hall to succeed himself as a member of the Interstate Commerce Commission was held up last Thursday when it was called up before the Interstate Commerce Committee of the Senate for action. In the commission report last July on the 5 per cent. rate case Commissioner Hall voted with the majority of the commission against the increase. He is one of the commissioners who changed their vote when the case was reargued and declared in favor of giving the railroads more substantial relief.

The nomination was held up, it is understood, at the instance of Senators Cummins, Clapp and La Follette. Stories were afloat to-night that they intended to question Commissioner Hall as to his record, but these were denied. It was said that the Senators merely wished to inquire into Commissioner Hall's general record and not particularly his action on the advance rate case.

TO FEED STARVING ALBANIANS.

Prominent Men Organize Relief Fund and Will Charter Ship.

The Albanian Relief Fund, a committee headed by Charles R. Crane of Chicago, Norman Hapgood, Hamilton Holt and others, has started a campaign to get contributions with which to send a relief ship to 300,000 homeless Albanians. Negotiations are under way for the chartering of a sailing vessel to start with a $100,000 cargo of foodstuffs not later than March.

Ambassador Morgenthau's cablegram telling of conditions in Albania, where 30,000 persons have already died of hunger and cold, is quoted by the committee. The war has aggravated conditions which were almost unbearable before.

The ship will be called the Christian Work Relief Ship, as the editor of the *Christian Work*, the Rev. Frederick Lynch, planned the expedition and his publication has contributed largely to it. Dr. Lynch is treasurer, with offices at 70 Fifth avenue.

AUSTRIAN WAR CHIEFS RESIGN.

Gen. von Frank and Marshal Pretorki Blamed for Defeats.

AMSTERDAM, Jan. 3.—A despatch from Vienna says Emperor Francis Joseph has accepted the resignation of Gen. Liborius von Frank, who commanded the Austrian forces at the capture of Belgrade and congratulated the Emperor on this achievement on the occasion of his birthday. Gen. von Frank's army was afterward badly defeated.

The Emperor has also accepted the resignation of Field Marshal Pretorki, who is held responsible for the disastrous Servian campaign.

RUSSIA BUYS MOTOR TRUCKS.

STAMFORD, Conn., Jan. 3.—Joseph Tebesco of 216 State street, chauffeur for Secretary of State Albert Phillips, said to-day that he has been engaged by the Locomobile Company of Bridgeport, Conn., to go to Russia to operate one of a large number of motor trucks which the concern, he declares, contracted to sell to the Russian Government for military purposes. He said he is to receive $75 per week and that three months wages will be advanced him when he arrives in Russia.

Tebesco said there is a big demand for American chauffeurs to operate automobiles and trucks purchased here for use by the warring nations.

BOOM 'MADE IN U.S.A.' SAYS SPEAKER CLARK

Patriotic Movement, He Asserts, May Solve Problem of Country's Unemployed.

WARNS ON SHODDY GOODS

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.—Speaker Champ Clark declared to-night his enthusiastic support of the "Made in the U. S. A." movement and his belief that the campaign for better times as outlined by its promoters should be backed up by some national body so as to make it truly representative of the entire country.

"Among the multitude of subjects," said Speaker Clark, "indicating the determination of Americans to improve their condition and augment prosperity throughout the land, not only for the present but permanently, is the 'made in the U. S. A.' movement, destined if properly, carefully and patriotically handled, to be of vast benefit to the American people through all the centuries yet to be. As a matter of plain common sense we should make in the U. S. A. practically everything we use or consume.

"There is no reason on earth why American manufacturers cannot make products of as fine quality as manufacturers of other nations—that is, as a rule. Of course there are a few exceptions to that rule, as to all others, but these exceptions can by patience, ingenuity and experimentation be reduced to the vanishing point.

"It seems to me a wise, patriotic performance for an American to use an article 'made in the United States of America' where the quality and price of the domestic article are approximately the same as of the foreign made article, for it must never be forgotten that the consumption of products 'made in the U. S. A.' gives employment to men and women who live in America, and to give employment to all men and women in America who want employment at a fair wage is becoming a more pressing problem every day.

"It goes without saying that through false pride some people in this country prefer to use articles not made in this country, even though the domestic articles are just as good or even better, but they are scarce as hens' teeth, like angels' visits, few and far between.

"If every American that goes into a store to purchase an article could be induced to demand the 'made in the U. S. A.' brand it is safe to say that it would increase the output of American labor at least 10 per cent. in a year and give employment to thousands who are searching for work and would feed and clothe an army of our people who are now hungry and in rags.

"The articles bearing the brand 'Made in the U. S. A.' should be of first rate quality. Otherwise the movement will prove to be a boomerang. The movement should therefore be systematized and some central body of men and women of high character such as the Chamber of Commerce of the United States should have a general supervision of it. I would like to see it so guarded that the words 'Made in the U. S. A.' on any given article would be proof to all that it is an honest article, the best of its kind."

The "Made in the U. S. A." movement as interpreted by its leading supporters has more to do with the domestic trade than with foreign commerce. It is chiefly a campaign of education.

It is the purpose to educate the public to ask for American made goods at the stores. The storekeepers are to be taught to push American goods in preference to foreign wares. Quality and price of course must be equal, for this is no charitable movement.

Manufacturers are to be educated that they can make in America many articles for which foreigners have the exclusive market here. They are to be urged to improve the quality of their products so that it will be good business for Americans to demand home made goods. Manufacturers must help teach the public that a thing is not superior because it is made abroad.

The war has so interrupted lines of commerce that the markets of the world lie open to American manufacturers as never before, and it is the intention to teach American exporters how to get that trade.

1% Per MONTH UPON PLEDGE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

THE PROVIDENT LOAN SOCIETY OF NEW YORK

MANHATTAN
Fourth Avenue, cor. 25th Street
Eldridge Street, cor. Rivington Street
Seventh Ave., bet. 48th and 49th Sts.
Lexington Ave., cor. 124th Street
Grand Street, cor. Clinton Street
East 72d St., bet. Lexington & 3d Avs.
East Houston St., cor. Essex St.

BRONX
Courtlandt Ave., cor. 148th Street

BROOKLYN
Graham Avenue, cor. Debevoise St.
Pitkin Avenue, cor. Rockaway Ave.

½ PER CENT. CHARGED UPON LOANS REPAID WITHIN TWO WEEKS FROM DATE

* Pastor Russell's Syndicated Sermons appear weekly in approximately fifteen hundred newspapers in the United States, Canada, Great Britain, South Africa, Australia and Scandinavia, in four languages. Metropolitan cities are not controlled by the Syndicate, hence we are permitted to publish these instructive sermons in the leading newspapers, paying therefor at advertising rates.
INTERNATIONAL BIBLE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION.

World-wide Autocracy Is Coming and Near

IT WILL BE AN EXCLUSIVE AND ARISTOCRATIC MONARCHY

Pastor Russell Describes the Fifth Universal Empire of Earth—The Reign of Sin and Death Shall Be Overthrown—Humanity Will Be Uplifted From Ignorance and Superstition—Calling the Elect the Work of the Gospel Age—The Future Royal Family—Instructed and Polished for Their Future Exaltation—Messiah's Kingdom a Theocracy.

PASTOR RUSSELL

Pastor Russell addressed a large audience last evening at the New York City Temple, West 63d St., near Broadway. His text was, "For He must reign, till He hath put all enemies under His feet." (1 Corinthians 15:25.) He said in part:

Many of us have learned to appreciate a republican form of government as the very highest type of civil administration. I trust that I am not one whit behind the most patriotic of you in my appreciation of the great Government of these United States, which many of us believe is the noblest that has yet risen amongst men. Nevertheless, the Bible teaches that Messiah's Reign will be that of a monarchy, and that it will be very exclusive and aristocratic. Additionally, it will be most autocratic—theocratic; for the will of its subjects will not be consulted in the slightest particular.

At first, in alarm, we are ready to say, Would not that be a most dangerous condition of things? Could any royal family, however noble and generous, be entrusted with such autocratic power without fear of its being misused for the enslavement of the people, for the aggrandizement of the rulers? Have we not learned this in the history of the past six thousand years? Do we not see the necessity for curtailing and controlling the powers of kings and governors? Are we not more and more brought to realize the necessity that the people shall rule whether in Congress or in Parliament, in Doumas or in Chambers of Deputies?

Yes, my dear friends, I heartily accede to all this; but when I describe the nature of the Kingdom and its personnel, all fears will assuredly flee, and you will rejoice exceedingly that the Divine arrangement is what it is in respect to the theocratic Kingdom shortly to be established and to take over the government of the world.

Scripturally it is described as the Fifth Universal Empire of earth. I remind you of King Nebuchadnezzar's Divinely inspired dream, as interpreted by the Prophet Daniel. It was of an image majestic, grand. The head of the image was Nebuchadnezzar's own Kingdom of Babylon, the first to rule the earth. Next, represented in the breast and the arms of silver, came Medo-Persia, the second Universal Empire of earth, conqueror of Babylon. Next, represented in the belly and thighs of the image, came Grecia, the third Universal Empire of earth, which conquered Medo-Persia. Next, represented in the legs of iron, came Rome, the fourth Universal Empire, conqueror of Greece. There are to be no more until Messiah's Kingdom; it will be the fifth.

Meantime, we have had two attempts at a fifth monarchy, both unsuccessful. One was by the Papacy; the other was that of Napoleon I. During this time the present divisions, which resulted from the breaking up of the Roman Empire, are represented by the feet of the image, with their ten toes.

Smiting the Image's Feet.

The prophecy declares (Daniel 2:44) that in the days of these kings, represented by the toes of the image, the God of Heaven will set up a Kingdom, which shall subdue all kingdoms and which shall never be overthrown. It shall "be given to the people, saints, of the Most High God, and they shall take the Kingdom and possess it forever." (Daniel 7:18,27.) In the picture God's Kingdom is symbolically represented as a great stone, hewn from the mountain without hands—supernaturally. It shall smite the image in its feet; and forthwith "the iron, the brass, the silver and the gold shall become like the chaff of a summer threshing floor, and the wind shall carry it away," but the mountain shall increase until "it shall fill the whole earth."

Thus God pictures things now shortly to come to pass. This crushing of the feet of the image was to come in the end of the Age preparatory to the establishment of Messiah's Kingdom. So long as these governments would be here, they and Messiah's Kingdom could not co-operate. The Gentile governments are based on selfishness and coercion; Christ's Kingdom will be based on justice, love, mercy, under the Prince of Peace. The two could not rule at the same time.

Rome and Constantinople represent the two legs of the image which King Nebuchadnezzar saw; for each in turn was the Roman Capital and representative of the image. We are certainly justified in watching with considerable interest the present war and what it may lead to in the way of involving all of the ten kingdoms represented in this prophecy. Our thought is that this great war will weaken the nations, cripple the world financially and discredit the rulers in the eyes of their peoples. Thus it will open the way for Socialism, which will eventually lead on to anarchy.

The present terrible war is not the foretold destruction in the fullest sense of the word, but merely its forerunner. The Scriptures foretell a great Time of Trouble to be brought on by anarchy—the general uprising of the people: "Every man's hand against his neighbor, no peace to him that goeth out or to him that cometh in." Zechariah 8:10; 14:13.) But that is not the special point of interest in my subject; rather, I am discussing the character of Messiah's Kingdom, which is to rule the world, overthrow Sin and Death, and uplift humanity from ignorance, superstition, sin, weakness and death. The declaration is that Messiah shall reign until He shall have put down all insubordination, and that the last enemy to be destroyed will be death. (1 Corinthians 15:25, 26.)

This is the Kingdom for which the Master Himself taught His followers to pray. Nothing insignificant will be the outcome of that glorious Reign of a thousand years. At its very beginning Satan will be bound, with all that this signifies—the repression of evil and darkness. For a thousand years the Sun of Righteousness shall pour forth the light of truth and grace upon our poor, fallen race until the knowledge of God's glory shall fill the whole earth as the waters cover the great deep. (Habakkuk 2:14.)

Eventually all wilful opponents of that Kingdom will die the Second Death from which there will be no redemption no recovery. Meantime, all the willing and obedient will be rising, not only from the tomb, but also out of all the weaknesses and frailties of the present time to perfection of life, although they will not live again in this perfect sense until the thousand years shall be finished. After that Reign of Righteousness shall have accomplished its work of delivering the groaning creation from the bondage of corruption, sin and death, Messiah will abdicate the Throne. As it is written, "He will deliver up the Kingdom to God, even the Father, that He may be all in all."—1 Corinthians 15:24-28.

No More Sighing, Crying, Dying.

What a glorious condition will then obtain when there shall be no more crying, no more dying, for all the former things of sin and death shall have passed away! Glad are we that our great Messiah is about to overthrow sin and evil, about to establish righteousness on a permanent and everlasting foundation, which will insure that to all eternity God's will shall be done as perfectly in this earth as it is now done in Heaven.

I ask you to consider candidly—you need not reply—Is there a kingdom in the world today that in your judgment represents a Divine government among men? Is there a perfect government where God's will is done as it is done in Heaven? You are conversant with history. You know the bloody record which marks its pages. You know that so-called Christian Europe has been drenched with blood more than any other part of the world. You know that the cause of wrong has triumphed oftener than the cause of right. You know that today these kingdoms of Europe, styled kingdoms of God, are destroying one another. You know that great guns, great battleships and monster torpedoes have been prepared by these various nations for use against one another, while they all claim to be Christ's kingdoms. Is this logical? Is this rational? Most assuredly not!

We must go to the Bible for true information on this subject. It tells us that these kingdoms are not the kingdoms of God, but "kingdoms of this world." It tells us that Satan is the Prince of this world (John 14:30; Ephesians 2:2), that he is "the god of this world," "that now worketh in the hearts of the children of disobedience"—so much more numerous than the children of obedience that he through them holds the world's control. But with equal clearness the Bible declares that he and his reign of Sin and Death are permitted of God for a limited time and a special purpose; and that when the due time comes Messiah will take His great power and reign—then Satan shall be bound, and all the forces of sin and darkness be restrained.

"The Election Hath Obtained It."

Come with me and take a cursory view of God's great work thus far accomplished. For more than two thousand years God gave no clear intimation of His purposes toward the fallen race. Then He made a statement to Abraham so explicit that St. Paul declares it a statement of the Gospel in advance. God said to Abraham, I shall bless the world. This could only mean, I shall relieve them of the curse of death which came upon them through Adam's sin. God added, This blessing I will bring to all mankind through your posterity—"In thy Seed shall all the families of the earth be blessed."—Genesis 12:3.

God's due time for bringing this blessing was not until Messiah should come. Meantime God gave Abraham's natural seed the Law Covenant, which offered them eternal life and an inheritance in the Kingdom if they could keep the Law. Of course, they could not do so; for the Law was the measure of a perfect man's ability, and like the remainder of mankind the Israelites were sinners. Nevertheless their attempt to keep the Law brought them great uplift of heart, so that when Jesus came a considerable number of them were ready to receive Him. They became sons of God, through the begetting of the Holy Spirit, at Pentecost and afterward. These were the Spiritual Seed of Abraham, Jesus being the Head, or first.

Israel had hoped for a share in Messiah's Kingdom. St. Paul explains, "Israel hath not obtained that which he seeketh, but the Election hath obtained it, and the rest were blinded." The blinded Israelites are still cast aside, but not forever. The Divine blessing shall come to Natural Israel just as soon as Spiritual Israel shall be completed. See Romans 11:25-34.

The Kingdom Suffereth Violence.

What did the "Election" obtain? We answer, They became identified with Messiah's Kingdom, and heirs of the Abrahamic Promise. Note that not a sufficient number of Jews were found worthy to complete the Kingdom class. God had foreseen this, and through the Prophet had promised that some would be gathered from the Gentiles to complete this class. The entire work of the Gospel Age has been the calling of this "elect" company. If we have rightly viewed the matter, the foreordained number will soon have been found, and Messiah's Reign begin.

Throughout the Gospel Age the Kingdom class have been suffering with Christ. Jesus explained this; they are indeed of the Royal Family, because begotten of the Holy Spirit; but they have not yet entered into their glory. They will do so only by the power of the First Resurrection. Thus it is written, "We must all be changed" because "flesh and blood cannot inherit the Kingdom of God."—1 Corinthians 15:50, 51.

Partly for their testing, their development takes place in a time when Satan is the Prince of this world, when his power is permitted to be exercised against them as it was against our Lord. The message to these is, "The Kingdom suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force." (Matthew 11:12.) As our Lord suffered violence from the Prince of this world, so will His followers; for "the disciple is not above his Lord." His promise to His followers is, "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life."—Revelation 2:10.

VALUABLE COUPON

During many centuries Christians have earnestly prayed for the Kingdom of God. Will these prayers ever be answered? A more detailed explanation of the manner in which the Reign of Righteousness will soon be established in the earth, on the ruins of the present governments, may be found in Pastor Russell's volume entitled, "THE KINGDOM COME." The book will be mailed to you upon receipt of 25c in stamps with this coupon. Address International Bible Students Association, 17 Hicks St., Brooklyn, N. Y.