EUROPE'S MAP CHANGED IN MANY ANTE-BELLUM PROPHECIES

Both German and French Writers Have Been Busy "Selling the Skin of the Bear" Before It Was Caught.

By MOREBY ACKLOM.

FEW Americans who do not read French and German and who have not access to the less distinguished and more ephemeral literature of the two countries can have any idea of the extent to which during the past few years the people of both France and Germany have been indulging in the well known and popular pastime selling the skin of the bear before the bear is killed.

As a matter of fact to any one who has been following the trend of the popular feeling in the two countries this war cannot have come with any sense of surprise. As far back as 1907 Prof. Rudolph Martin announced what Germany would insist on as the price of peace in the coming war with France. Germany was to take all the northern provinces of that country as well as Belgium and Luxemburg, so as to secure outlets to the sea at Calais, Boulogne and Antwerp; for even then the Pan-Germans were beginning to regard the crushing of France as a mere preliminary to the attack on England. It was in 1908 that the agitation against the French Foreign Legion which had been fomented by the various pan-German societies came to a head with the Casablanca incident, which resulted in yet another pan-German society being formed for the express purpose of irritating the French, the "Deutscher Schutzverband gegen die Fremdenlegion."

The French meanwhile, not feeling strong enough to make the really appropriate response to these neighborly proceedings, took out a good deal of the bitterness engendered in writing romances of the coming war, in which naturally the German army did not show up to advantage, and also took great comfort in remembering and enlarging upon the various remarkable prophecies in circulation which all seemed to point to the triumph of France over Germany during the second decade of the twentieth century.

Perhaps the most detailed and extraordinary of these prophecies is that of Strasburg, or, as it is sometimes called, the prophecy of Mainz, which predicted the formation of the German Empire and its destruction one generation and a half after its inception.

Commandant de Civrieux, a well known French officer, was moved by this prophecy to write a book called "La Bataille du Champ des Bouleaux," in which he gives the history of the war that was to come and the final destruction of the main German army on a battlefield near Hamm in Westphalia, concluded by the blowing up of the German Emperor and his entire staff by a bomb dropped from an aeroplane. One is bound to admit that M. de Civrieux did not foresee the alignment of the various nations with any very remarkable exactitude. He makes England quarrel with Germany over Belgian Congo, and after three hours notice attack the German fleet and destroy ten ships. Germany then gives France twenty-four hours in which to join her against England. France refuses, and the same night Germany attacks French territory from Metz.

Russia, being already, according to the author, engaged in a struggle with China and Persia, is unable to come to France's assistance, while Italy and Austria both declare their neutrality. England of course accounts very easily for the entire Germany navy, while France with the assistance of a small English contingent wipes up the Germany army, and the empire is obliterated as a political entity, the kingdoms of Poland, Hanover and Saxony being all that is left of it.

This vivid but filmsy war story was published in 1911, and was received with a good deal of anger and derision in Germany. It was shortly followed by a more serious and much more bitter German work entitled "Frankreichs Ende," by Adolf Sommerfeld, in which not the defeat only but the absolute wiping out of France as a country is described.

The conditions which the author presupposes for this war are very interesting, as they show with great exactness what the majority of the Germans really supposed would be the state of affairs. According to Herr Sommerfeld England remains neutral not from choice but because she knows the foundations of her empire are crumbling all over the world and she is faced with movements for independence in Australia and in South Africa and a revolt in India, while the United States—which is friendly to Germany—threatens Canada by massing troops on the international boundary line.

Russia meanwhile has made a secret reinsurance treaty with the Triple Alliance by which she is not to come to the assistance of France if France is the attacking Power, and in return for this Russia is to be given a free hand in India, Persia and Afghanistan. Montenegro also has been attached to the Triple Alliance by the promise of Albania and Epirus.

The war begins by a quarrel between France and Spain over Moroccan railways. Spain appeals to Berlin as one of the guarantors of the Moroccan convention, and Berlin sends a cruiser to Agadir. This boat is blown up one dark night (like the Maine) and there is an explosion of indignation in Germany, which immediately declares war and invades France along the Alsace-Lorraine frontier, surprising and capturing Verdun and Belfort, while Italy invades also with three army corps via Mont Cenis and Monte Viso, capturing Chambrey, Briancon and Grenoble and all the cities of the Rhone district, at the same time sending a large army into Tunis and Algeria.

The course of the campaign as further outlined by the author is fairly reasonable, except that he makes the French troops hopelessly inefficient and utterly unable to stand up before either the Italians or the Germans, while Zeppelins perform miracles of destruction and panic creating, which their actual services in the present war have failed to substantiate.

The French fleet is caught off Corsica, between the Italian and Austrian, and utterly destroyed, whereupon Toulon surrenders after a short bombardment and Marseilles gives up without resistance. The supreme battle takes place about Orleans, where the French army is surrounded and defeated in a snow storm—which, incidentally, takes all the fight out of the French African troops—and surrenders.

Paris is then invested and endeavors as a final resort to destroy the besieging army by means of a vast fleet of thousands of aeroplanes, dropping explosives, but the Germans resort to a counter move by the use of bombs, filled with asphyxiating gas, which instantaneously kill the aerial combatants. Paris is stunned by this failure and surrenders in one day.

The French President makes for London in an aeroplane, but falls into the Channel, is picked up by a German boat and taken to Bremen. As a happy touch it may be mentioned that his final fate is permanent imprisonment in the castle of Wilhelmshohe near Cassel, in the very rooms occupied by Napoleon III. after Sedan.

France on her knees offers terms of peace, including twenty billions war indemnity, all colonies, and permanent reduction of her army and navy. The reply of Germany is worth quoting. "After the breach of the world's peace caused by France in such a brutal manner and after the treacherous attacks on German troops in violation of all laws of international warfare, and also on account of the cowardly attempts at assassination by the civilian population against isolated German soldiers, the German Government has no intention of allowing itself to be moved by mercy toward France. * * *

"To-day Germany has placed her iron heel on the neck of fallen France and offers her only the fate which she cannot avoid—that of surrendering herself entirely to Germany. Mercy is impossible, not only for the sake of Germany, but because it is essential to render impotent forever the disturber of European peace. * * *"

In despair there are spasmodic revolts against German dominion all over France, but the "iron hand of Germany" reestablishes order and there is a congress of the Powers at Zurich to settle the terms of partition, for Germany has decided that France must disappear from the map of Europe.

The details of this partition are not without interest. Italy takes not only Tunis and Algeria, but the entire southern part of France, including Gascony, Guienne, Dauphine, Languedoc and Provence. Spain takes Morocco, with the reservation, of course, that German trade is to have no restrictions there; Austria takes Madagascar and other French islands; Greece takes Crete and Montenegro (as agreed), Albania and Epirus.

"To England, with the idea (one may suppose) of insuring her approbation of this arrangement, are handed Artois and Picardy in France, as well as what remains of French possessions in India. All the rest, both of Continental France and of French colonies, is incorporated in the German Empire. England formally announces her adherence to the Triple Alliance, and thus, according to the author, the peace of Europe is assured forever.

A very dismal picture of the French people after this drastic surgery is given us. They are not allowed to serve in the German army; so they degenerate physically, become the prey of alcohol and tubercular complaints and gradually vanish from the scene.

It was not to be supposed that a book of such a challenging nature as this—which, by the way, was very quickly translated into French and had almost as large a circulation in France as it had in Germany—would be allowed to pass without an answer, and in 1913 there appeared what is probably the most capable and reasonable of all these ante-bellum romances from the pen of a French Colonel (who preferred to remain anonymous) under the title of "Le Partage de l'Allemagne."

This author makes the German Emperor, his hand forced by pan-Germanist agitation after the Casablanca incident, demand the suppression of the French Foreign Legion. This being naturally, and with considerable abruptness, refused by France, Germany without warning or declaration of war invades France with two army corps from Metz and Saarbruck in an attempt to surprise Verdun and Nancy and at the same time sends an army through Belgium with Stenay and Mezieres as its objective. The Powers line up as follows: On the one side the Triple Alliance, on the other side the Triple Entente, Denmark, Spain, Belgium (of course) and the Balkan Confederation (Greece, by the way, having disposed of her Germanophile king, Constantine, by a revolution).

The course of the war operations as here described is much less in the nature of a pipe dream than in the previously mentioned books and is in fact in two or three instances almost prophetic of what has actually occurred. Zeppelins, for instance, are found to be unmanageable and entirely ineffective as aids to military operations. The Allies establish a definite superiority in their air service and the French aviators discharge steel arrows on the German troops, as has actually occurred.

The only incident that is specifically of the fairy tale order is the fall of Metz, which succumbs owing to a subterranean passage between two of the forts becoming known to the French and reached by them by a long sap which enables them to enter the passage and place in it tons of explosives and so destroy the forts. The German right is cut off by a French-Belgian dash to the Rhine.

On the sea the French and Spanish combined fleets meet the Austro-Italian off Sicily, with the result of the entire destruction of the latter with trifling loss to the victors. The Italian-African army is thus cut off and Spezzia is destroyed. The British fleet, of course, destroys the entire German armada (which obligingly comes out to be sunk) off Helgoland. The British fleet then enters the Baltic, attacks Kiel and the German Baltic coast.

On the thirtieth day of the war the French troops reach the Rhine and attack Coblentz, while the whole population of Alsace-Lorraine arises en masse and destroys the German troops in both provinces. After the fall of Coblentz the Germans withdraw all their troops to the right bank of the Rhine.

Meanwhile the Balkan Powers have invaded Austria, and after a four day battle the Austrian retreat to Budapest commences. Italy has invaded France on the east and suffered a terrible disaster in the passes of the Alps, largely owing to a blizzard which ties up their transport and puts several thousand of their troops out of action. However, the Italian army finally manages to penetrate into France and lays siege to Nice.

Russia has also been pouring her vast hosts over the German frontier and has occupied a large part of East Prussia.

Frightened by the unfavorable conditions east and west, Germany now sues for peace, offering France Alsace-Lorraine, Togo Land and the Cameroons in Africa, and a war indemnity of ten billions, all of which is refused. Thereupon the entire German forces are ordered to cover Berlin, which is in serious danger from Danish invasion. The Bavarian army refuses to obey and draws back on Ulm to save Bavaria, while the Wurttembergers, who have all along been unwilling combatants, withdraw and make a separate peace with the French.

After this of course, according to the French author, all is easy going for the Allies, who press on toward Berlin from both sides. The German army, driven back on the Thuringerwald, suddenly resumes the offensive and a vast battle occurs on the Cassel-Coburg line, lasting four days, at the end of which, the German Emperor, seeing defeat inevitable, surrounds himself with the members of his General Staff and dashes into the French ranks to fall fighting; he himself, by a touch of poetic justice, falling a victim to the bayonet of an Alsatian sergeant of the Foreign Legion.

Then the French and Russian troops shake hands in Berlin, while Italy withdraws, makes a separate peace and snatches the Trentino from Austria, who is engaged with the Balkan Powers.

The terms of peace are somewhat similar in tenor to those exacted by Germany in "Frankreichs Ende," with the parts reversed. France takes nearly all of Germany up to the Rhine, and Baden, Wurttemberg and Hesse-Darmstadt on the other side of it as a "defensive frontier." The Franco-Italian frontier is pushed back to the summit of the Maritime Alps, while Togo Land and the Cameroons round out French possessions in equatorial Africa.

To Russia falls all German territory up to the middle Elbe, Berlin thus becoming merely the capital of a Russian province, while Denmark resumes Schleswig-Holstein, adding to it the greater part of Hanover, and Holland gets a little section on the southeast to rectify its frontier. Belgium adds to its territory a slice running east to the Rhine at Cologne, while England takes over the Grand Duchy of Oldenburg, the western part of Hanover, and part of Westphalia, as well as German East Africa. German West Africa falls to Spain.

The remaining territory in the centre of Germany is remodelled into a medium sized kingdom named Thuringia, the throne of which is given to a former king of Wurttemberg. Hungary becomes independent as a republic, and Austria receives Bavaria and Silesia, while Bosnia, Herzegovina, Slavonia, Croatia and Dalmatia are divided between Montenegro and Servia. Bulgaria receives the remains of Turkey in Europe and Greece gets Albania and the Turkish islands in the Ægean.

To console Italy, Istria and Carnoola are given her in addition to the Trentino, but she is at the same time bound for the future to restrict her war fleet to ten armored vessels.

It is interesting to compare this partition of Europe with that in the German book. Each of them is represented to be the best possible arrangement for the production of a permanent peace. American readers will no doubt find the divergence of opinion as to the conditions necessary to such a peace rather amusing.

It is to be noted that neither author thought of Italy's remaining neutral and both agreed in giving England a considerable slice of continental territory, while it is perfectly clear that to neither the French nor the German minds had the vastness and difficulty of modern military operations become obvious. In all three of the books which we have considered battles take place in the old simple way and are definitely won or lost in a few hours or a few days. The spade of the trench digger plays practically no part in any of them.

It is easy to be wise after the event of course, but it is quite clear that even the military men had not up to the beginning of the war realized the seriousness of the pressure of a whole people against a whole people. These books would not have formed such entertaining reading if they had been nearer the reality. Meanwhile they certainly bear a lesson for all of us who are given to what Kipling has called "a-killin' Kruger with yer mouth."

Germany gone from the map of Europe, according to the author of "Le Partage de l'Allemagne."

France gone from the map of Europe, according to the author of "Frankreichs Ende."

Memorial tablet to the defunct German Empire, from "La Bataille du Champ des Bouleaux."

Translation—Thus in the year 191—, according to the prediction of the celebrated prophecy of Strasburg, on the Birch field in Westphalia, a generation and a half after its foundation, perished, with the third and last Emperor, the German Empire of the Hohenzollerns.

Real Lineup of Powers When the Actual Break Came Not Guessed by Imaginative Ones of Either Nation.

Why Men Only Are Color Blind

By DR. L. K. HIRSHBERG.

JUST think of it! Scarcely more than a hundred years ago it was not known that there was any human being who saw green when red was shown to him. In a word, color blindness was unknown. The bare fact that some eyes are born not to possess normal vision for colors was wholly unknown.

Then a non-medical man, the distinguished chemist Dalton, who discovered that he himself was color blind to red, startled as usual the sceptical medical world with the announcement that there were many persons thus affected.

Indeed, physicians who did not scoff at Dalton called the trouble Daltonism, and the subject of color blindness was not given practical importance until the present generation, when the Swedish physiologist—also not a doctor of medicine—emphasized its relationship to railroad wrecks, wrecks on lighthouse reefs and similar emergencies.

Only in the past dozen years or so has it become imperative in all civilized countries, in recognition of the immense numbers of persons who are color blind without knowing it, to demand that all applicants for railroad, art, steamship and engineering positions shall submit to color tests. One man almost in every twenty is color blind.

The new discoveries about color blindness are many and increase almost every day. It has just been found that women are never color blind. Yet color blindness is a characteristic that is inherited and passes on from generation to generation.

This seems odd at first thought. Nevertheless color blindness is inherited, according to the laws of Mendelian heredity. If all are born girls, it remains dormant and reappears in one of every four male children of the next generation. In consequence of this, it is called a sex linked characteristic, just as whiskers, flat bosoms and other sex linked characteristics are transmitted across a female generation.

One investigator, Dr. W. H. Howell, professor of physiology at Johns Hopkins University, reported that color blindness is more common among imperfectly educated persons than among college and university graduates. This is not true. It has nothing to do with education, although there is a form of defective vision which prevents the eye from seeing colors perfectly. This is due to tobacco and is not true color blindness.

Another statement made in Prof. Howell's great volume on physiology is that one one-hundredth of 1 per cent.—one in ten thousand—of women are color blind. Women are never color blind. That is an error. Even the most masculine of the sex have not yet been shown to be color blind.

There are two types of complete color blindness, each of which has to do with the two groups of color—red to blue and white and black. When the color blind man has two important colors such as red and green and their combinations affected he is said to be "dichromatic." When he is totally color blind and sees merely white, gray and black he is "monochromatic."

The color blind who come into the double color errors are, in turn, subdivided into three groups. They are red blind, green blind and violet blind. Red blindness is the one most frequently encountered. These men are really blind to both green and red and they distinguish only yellows and blues.

To such unhappy persons green, red, orange and yellow all appear as yellow of varying tints. Therefore if a man happens to see too much yellow and light browns around, he had best test his eyes for color blindness. He will run right past a red flag or a green light and think it yellow. He will also mistake greenish blues and bluish greens as gray and the blue violets and purples all strike his eye as blue. Moreover, if he looks at a rainbow or a spectrum of all the colors he will not see beyond the green, which will appear yellow. A neutral band of gray will also be seen sometimes in the rainbow or other spectrum between the blue and green.

In this common type of red blindness the peculiar defect is absence of any recognition of green. It is confused with dull reds and grays. Everybody knows that when any one stares fixedly at a color and closes his eyes an opposite color—called a colored after image—is to be seen.

In the other great division of color blindness there is an entire loss of vision for all colors. Everything appears in shades of gray. The eye is supersensitive to light.

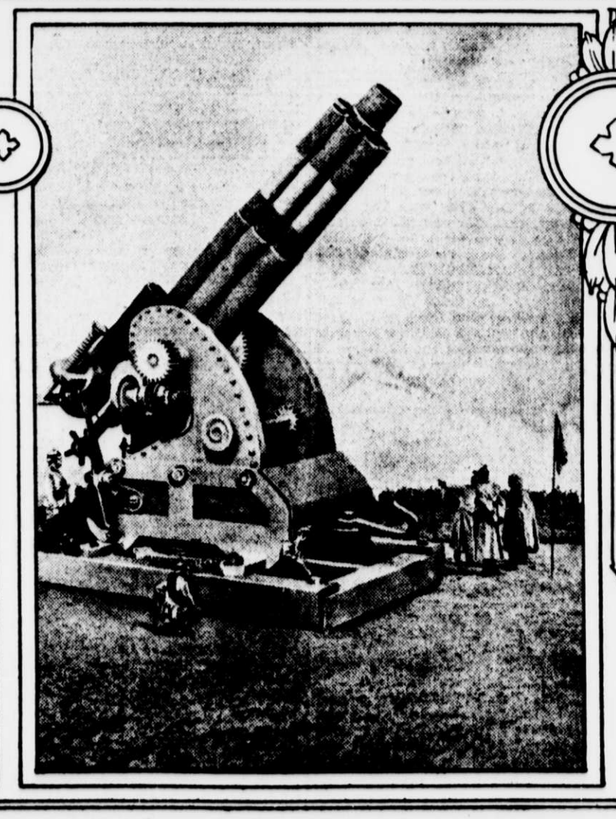
Thus, to say a person sees everything with a jaundiced eye may be more true than poetic.

The very central part of the inner back wall of the eyeball—the retina—contains the seat of color vision. Its innermost bullseye contains the visual points for green. The next outer ring of the bullseye is red, the third outer one blue, then white, and the outermost black. If you paint a target on the wall and make the rings from the bullseye to the circumference each green, red, blue, white and black, you will have the condition in a healthy, normal retina.

I am often asked, "I would like to become a sailor or an engineer. Can I be cured of color blindness? Can I train myself to an intellectual knowledge of the differences?" The answer at present is unfortunately no. The hereditary factor or "unit character," as it is called, which causes color blindness to pass on forever through the generations is contained in the mysterious Pandora's box of dark pigment present in the "nucleus" or yolk spot of the human egg. Until science unravels this, color blindness will continue to pass on from mother to son.

SOME GERMAN MENACES ABOUT WHICH ENGLAND IS NOT GREATLY ALARMED

A submarine harbor for submarines under the English coast.



The Kaiser inspecting Krupp's great secret, the new German eight barrelled siege howitzer.

The mammoth shellproof armored car on caterpillar wheels.

From the London Sketch.

New liquid pitch detachment throwing boiling pitch from the German trenches.

Above are some of the startling photographic warnings printed by the London *Sketch* showing the latest and most terrible devices produced by the ingenuity of Germany for the undoing of her enemies. The authenticity of the photographs may be judged when it is told that the date of publication was April 1, a day that is more generally observed in England than it is in America.