

U. S. Closely Bound By Kinship to Europe

Greatest Danger to America's Future Seen in Attitude of Self-Complacency Toward Founders of Civilization, From Which Newer Sprung.

(The following is another of Mr. Mowrer's articles on the relations of the United States to the other nations of the world, particularly those of western Europe.)

BY PAUL SCOTT MOWRER.
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PARIS, France, May 16.—If open-mindedness is a virtue then prejudice, which means the passing of judgment before the weighing of evidence, is a vice. There are just now two prejudices intervening between the people of the United States and an open-minded estimate of the requirements of our new position in the world. One is the belief that we are blessed with an inherent moral superiority over the other denizens of the globe. The second is the suspicious fear that, by coming into touch with foreign nations, we lay ourselves open to being harmed, or tricked, or even enslaved.

These two prejudices there is little hope that we shall be able to take other than a distorted view of our foreign affairs. In the preface to "America's Foreign Relations," Prof. William E. Johnson makes of our notable deficiency in this respect the following lively indictment: "The British mind, from which we are chiefly sprung, is often spoken of as 'insular,' but its insularity is vastly and generously cut to the contrary. In contrast to the bigoted, parochial egotism of its gigantic offspring, from this excess of adulatory respect, this sometimes smug and sometimes bifalutin self-complacency and this lack of appreciative perspective and proportion in viewing other nations and their affairs have arisen many of our domestic and most of our external ills."

No Need to Stress Point.
There is no need to stress the point. Every American knows that we consider our customs, our institutions, our motives and our state of progress to be far in advance of those of any other national group. We have done our full duty to the rest of the world, we think, by setting it a splendid example. The world will follow the fault is not ours. Let us, at least, preserve our own health and integrity by keeping out of bad company.

Within certain limits, it is right, and even vital, that we should be vainly in ourselves. Our customs and our institutions are, indeed, good; they fit us. Our motives, generally speaking, are really high-minded. Our state of progress, if not actually superlative, does, at least, compare favorably with any elsewhere.

Moreover, self-confidence is a leavening force of such power that, to a nation of heterogeneous composition, like our own, it is really indispensable. This is the thought underlying the present "Americanization" campaign among our foreign-born residents, and it is sound.

When self-confidence, however, becomes self-complacency, that is another matter. We live in a changing world, and progress is a constant; he who no longer is assiduous in his courting, given that we are living the war, we cannot hope long to continue to do so if we sit down to doze comfortably under our laurels.

It behooves us to be restless to ascertain unceasingly what others are planning and doing, and, without going counter to our own proper character and our own more salutary traditions, to adapt to our own uses whatever good, wherever we find it.

Must Watch Future.
Again, are we inherently superior to other peoples, or only temporarily and accidentally so? Or conversely, are other peoples necessarily, by a kind of geographical and ethical predestination, our inferiors, or have they outdistanced merely through the fortuity of circumstance? If the former, then, of course, we have no need to worry; the best of our self-satisfaction will continue cloudless, whatever our acts or our omissions.

On the other hand, the outlandish inferiority is found to be rather the result of changing circumstance than of an irrevocable decree of fate. Vigilance is to be recommended, for the old breeds are by no means reconciled to falling obsequiously into second or third place, and the race will be not to the runner who stultifies himself with overconfidence or the bumping sense of moral superiority but to the swiftest, strongest and most actively intelligent.

One may well be perplexed whether to marvel more at the differences which separate and diversify the various individuals and races, or at the profound identity by which black, brown, yellow and white we are all united. The differences are undoubtedly the more striking; yet the identity, human and inerasable, lies buried the other toward appearance, ever ready to echo to the throbb of a kindred emotion.

Despite this fundamental identity it would be fatuous not to take full account of our human divergences. People vary, both in kind and in the degree of their development. Most of Africa, parts of Central and South America, parts of Asia are too primitive to have much meaning for us. Other parts of Asia and of Africa have civilizations so far removed from our own in kind that we are scarcely able even to raise the question of degree.

Tread on Marshy Ground.
Culturally, we are born of the religious inspiration of Palestine, and the historic and philosophical influences of Greece and Rome. We belong to the great white race of Europe, which in the last four centuries in a magnificent burst of intelligent power has established its dominion over most of the globe, exploiting, ordering, colonizing. Within this race our least affinities are with the peoples of eastern and southern Europe; our greatest with the peoples of the self-governing British dominions. But both we and these self-governing dominions—and, indeed, we to a greater extent than the dominions—are vitally bound, racially, culturally, intellectually, to the diverse peoples of western Europe, forming with them, as it were, a single great dominant group, representing what is perhaps the highest material civilization the world has ever seen. Scotland, England, Ireland, Scandinavia, Holland, Germany, Belgium, Switzerland, France, Italy, even Spain and Portugal—these nations, for all their differences from us and from one another, are our intimate kinsfolk, over whom to pretend to an intrinsic moral superiority is to tread on marshy ground.

I know western Europe pretty well. I know, or think I know, the distinctions of character, thought and circumstance which separate these great and highly civilized races of people. Much as I love and respect my own country, great as is my faith therein, I cannot see that all things considered, I esteem one of these nations to be intrinsically superior, morally, to others, or ourselves to any one of them.

England, Germany—all have had their aberrations, all have at times been inhumanly cruel. At times great and glorious. Perhaps, we think we have never had aberrations. Perhaps we think we never shall have. That is another matter. The fact remains that it will always be difficult for us to deny our nearest kin, even morally. Whether we like it or not, we are part and parcel of the great western European civilization—a part, moreover, continually more important in and to the whole.

Part of European Civilization.
In its higher spheres, in science, in art, in philosophy, the thought of western Europe and of America is one, pursuing a common ideal of progress. The best brains are trained back and forth, as they appear, acting and reacting upon the various national groups. Sculpture, painting,

music here speak not only in a common language, but in a common language. And if we cannot claim a moral superiority for our artistic, literary and scientific culture, neither can we make this claim for our commerce and industry. The business aims and industrial methods of the two continents, although not identical, are similar and are constantly interacting.

There remains the possibility of our moral superiority in politics. Our theory of democracy we owe, of course, to certain European philosophers. We were the first to put this theory into practice and to make it work. Here, however, Europe has not been slow to learn from us. Western Europe, which at the time of our national inception was still largely a theocracy, now has democratic institutions, some of which are more advanced than our own, while as European political theory it has developed so radically as to leave us—fortunately—far behind, and to make us appear, to the more liberal Europeans, as, on the whole, a conservative people—"one of the pillars of the reaction," in the hostile phrase. Our political institutions were epoch-making and have had a vast influence. But even this "splendid example" does not prove our moral superiority.

Lead in External Politics.
In our internal politics, it is too bad to have to say, as it is often said, that we are at least as open to criticism as the leading European nations are to the criticism of us. In our external politics we have taken the lead—and I hope we have not lessened in certain international reforms. Our ethical standards are probably higher than those of other nations. However, we have to remember that our situation has favored us. Our foreign problems have been less vital than those of the European powers and our temptations, consequently, less great.

In short, except in a purely material sense, all that we in America have and are—our people, our principles, our culture—came out of, or were inspired by, Europe, subject merely to the adaptation and development of our national genius. To Europe we belong, and Europe to us. And although the peoples of Europe still drag the chain of centuries of history, while we have cut the chain away and have carried out almost unfeathered our vast successful democratic experiments, still the ideals of the parent races and of the offspring remain essentially the same, and in matters of the mind and spirit cooperation is so natural as to be inevitable.

To establish and maintain this national character against all congenial influences should be the first care of every nation worthy of the name. It is, if possible, however, to guard intact one's individuality, one's convictions and principles, while at the same time appreciating the individuality and respecting the convictions and convictions of others. A wise people will give its critical scrutiny to its own institutions as to those of its contemporaries, and will be intent rather upon continual self-improvement than upon crusades of world reform or upon the nirvanic bliss of self-complacent moral isolation.

U. S. MURDERS BEAT RECORD OF CANADA

Lawyers at New York Meeting Told They Are Eight Times More Frequent.

NEW YORK, June 3.—Murders are proportionately eight times more frequent in the United States than in Canada, Judge Marcus Kavanaugh of Chicago declared at the close of the New York hearings of the law-enforcement committee of the American Bar Association.

The committee, which will report to the association at its annual meeting in San Francisco next August on the result of its nationwide crime symposium, sent Judge Kavanaugh to Montreal and Toronto to observe conditions across the border.

Judge Kavanaugh said that in Canada there are only thirteen murders a year for every million population in the United States, as against about a hundred.

By way of illustration, he recounted the story of a gambler's quarrel across the border.

"Just wait until I catch you in the United States and I'll shoot your head off," was the threat of one.

J. Noble Hayes, chairman of the law delays committee of the County Lawyers' Association, opposed a suggestion that the laws of evidence be revised to leave a citizen in the right of a citizen to carry arms," he asserted. "Let it be understood that a citizen has the right to protect himself by shooting down these hold-up men."

Blaming the movies for motivating much crime, he suggested exhibition of films showing only Sing Sing convicts doing hard work. This brought forth a comment from Gov. Whitcomb: "They don't do any hard work at Sing Sing."

Every day, it is stated, an average west-end district brings in about 3,000 marks. Certain favorite sections command premiums up to 500 marks per day.

These professional beggars are keen judges of human nature. Wealthy Russians are said to be their best patrons. Americans, on the other hand, are an everlasting puzzle to them. Sometimes they are generous and hand out five, ten or twenty mark bills with a nicely liberalized but others refuse to give anything.

Rugby football is a favorite sport with many women and girls in Paris.

MINNESOTA TOWN NOSES OUT RIVAL AS RICHEST COMMUNITY IN WORLD

Special Dispatch to The Star.
FRANKLIN, Minn., June 3.—Hibbing, located on the iron range, has lost its laurels as the richest village in the world. Today Franklin, with a population of 807 net, proudly claims that distinction. Its per capita taxable valuation in real and personal property totals \$29,247; rather good, its citizens insist, for a small town with no "Main street."

Hibbing's per capita is \$5,626. Until the Minnesota state tax commission got to figuring Hibbing had no opposition as the financial champion of this or any other state, speaking, of course, from the per capita viewpoint. But compared to Franklin, Hibbing now might be called a poor farm. It cost Franklin \$763.25 for each inhabitant for governmental purposes in 1921. This is twenty-five times the per capita cost of the government of St. Paul. For many years Hibbing held the distinction

of being the richest "village" of the world, although to call it a village was rather farfetched, inasmuch as its population was 15,989. But its complacency was reflected in wonderful school buildings, the finest city structures that money could buy and residences the equal of those of any city anywhere.

Now emerges Franklin with bulging pockets. It has the same sources of wealth. Its inhabitants are anxious to make theirs a model village. The result was that its expenditures for 1921 have been limited on public improvements to only by the work possible to be done. It is located near Virginia City, another rival of Hibbing, and the family cost of its government for the year was, in certain instances, more than the salaries of the head of such family. But the state tax commission declares that the village government has been efficiently administered. It can be anticipated that from now on there will be an endeavor on the part of Hibbing to regain

its former leadership. Incidentally, there is another Franklin in Minnesota, in Renville county, but it spent only one-third of what it cost its namesake in St. Louis county for its government in 1921. (Copyright, 1922.)

GERMAN JOBLESS DECREASE.

BERLIN, June 3.—Unemployment continues to decrease rapidly. Only 83,000 persons were entirely without work on May 1, as compared with 116,000 on April 1.

First Birthday Sale
Economy Corner
Sigmund's
736-738 Seventh Street

Just a year ago the Greater Sigmund Store was dedicated. This week we are going to celebrate its First Birthday with a special sale that will express appreciation for the success which has marked this first year—and at the same time give renewed assurance of a steadfast adherence to that declared policy of ours—never to be overvalued—and always to undersell.

The special offerings this week represent picked merchandise of established character—regular stock—assembled for selling at regular prices. **RADICALLY REDUCED** now for the anniversary.

Silk Umbrellas
Good, Heavy Quality Silk, Purple, Maroon, Green, Black, with Amber and Ivorylike handles. Regular price, \$5.98.
\$3.95

Kimonos
Jap Crepe—cut long and full; Orchid, Fish and Blue, embroidered. Slightly muscad. Values up to \$4.98.
\$1.98

Bungalow Aprons
Percale and Gingham. Choice of many desirable patterns. Regular \$1 value.
59c

Capes
Faille Silk and Crepe. Capes—heavily fringed; handsome models... **\$9.90**
Fine Velette and Fur-trimmed Capes—gracefully flowing designs; heavily fringed.... **\$18.75**

Silk Petticoats
Jersey Silk Petticoats, in many colors—deep ruffle.
\$1.49

Wash Waists
25 dozen. White and Colored. Waists; effectively modeled.
39c; 2 for 75c
Only 2 to a customer.

Fiber Silk Scarfs
Heavily fringed ends—Grays, Periwinkle, Tan, etc. Regular price, \$1.98.
98c

Vanity Boxes
Patent Leather and Gray and Brown Embossed Leather. The wanted shape.
98c

Silk Hose
Dropstitch; perfect quality. In White only. Regular \$1 value.
49c

400 Finest Imported Gingham Dresses . . . \$4.69

Every imaginable color combination that is desirable—in the high-class Scotch Ginghams—carefully cut; painstakingly made; smartly modeled and trimmed. Compare these with the very higher-priced grades—not the cheaper ones that are so numerous round about—for that's where their actual quality entitles them to be placed. They are \$4.69—because we have arbitrarily so marked them in defiance of their cost.

Wool Sweaters
Slip-on Sweaters—all wool; heavy weaves; in White and all colors. Regular \$2 value.
\$1.39

Silk Hose
Best makes of Full-fashioned Pure Silk Hose—perfect quality. Onyx, Wildcat, Alwin, White Black, Wade and Champagne.
\$1.69

Bathing Suits
One-piece Wool Bathing Suits, with belts in contrasting colors.
\$2.98

Corsets
Elastic-top, Waistline Corsets, made of strong Broche, in First color.
Regular price, \$1.50.
89c

Suit Cases
Made of heavy fiber; strong frames, and hinges; secure lock. Best size.
98c

Muslin Underwear
A big assortment of sheer quality—Gowns, Step-ins, Bloomers, Chemise, Muslin and Crepe.
39c each

Muslin Underwear
Another large assortment of even finer quality—including Gowns, Step-ins, Bloomers, Chemise, Petticoats—effectively trimmed.
79c each

Hand Bags
Leather Hand Bags, the popular shape; leather lined. Conventional size.
\$4.75

Wardrobe Trunks
Our leader—fitted with Clothes Hangers and Drawers and Hat Box—Heavy lining; protected corners; heavy locks.
\$14.75

Two Remarkable Groups of Silk Dresses
Canton Crepe, Crepe de Chine, Fashion Knit, Georgette, etc.—in most distinctive models—handsomely trimmed with beading, embroidery and ribbons—plain colors, fancy shades and striking new combinations—embracing values up to \$30—
\$7.98 and \$16.90

Two Special Lots of Coats
Choice of 50 Sport and Wrappy Coats, in Chinchilla, Herringbone, Velour and Tweeds **\$4.98**
High-grade Velour, Tricotine, Chinchilla, Tweed Sport and Wrappy Coats—silk lined **\$13.75**

Baronet Satin Skirts
White and Black. **\$4.98**

White Gabardine Skirts
Regular and Extra Sizes. **\$1.98**

Fur Chokers
Opusium Fur. **\$3.69**

Day Dresses
Made of Good Gingham. **\$2.98**

Stout Dresses
Dark Colors of Voile. **\$6.98**

Collegiate Dresses
Made of Jersey; Middle Collars and Cuffs. **\$2.98**

Trimmed Hats \$3.69
Being values up to \$7.50
New effects, in Georgette and Horsehair—
Poke and Mushroom shapes—White, Pink, Periwinkle, Sand, Jade, Copenhagen, etc.—effectively trimmed with flowers, feathers, ribbons and spangles.
A tableful of
New Garden Hats 98c
Sportive and practical for general wear; White, Navy, Copenhagen. For the Birthday Sale at

Ladies' New Sport Sandals
The latest in summer footwear. Most excellent values that we are offering at this exceptional price in honor of the occasion. All sizes from 2½ to 7.
\$2.89

White Strap Pumps and Oxfords
The most popular of all the White Footwear. Excellent quality of canvas; smart shapes; comfortable lasts; either rubber or plain walking heels. All sizes.
\$1.89