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Peace Talk and the Objects Which Peace Should Accomplish.

The United States government is bound by the relations which it has assumed to the warring powers in Europe—being the representative of each group at the capitals of the other group—to do whatever it can to promote exchanges of views which may lead to the discussion of peace terms.

The suggestion made to Herr von Bethmann-Hollweg through Ambassador Gerard that Germany indicate the terms of peace acceptable to the Dual Alliance may not produce results at once.

At the present stage of the fighting neither side is ready to admit defeat. Conceding a deadlock and grounding arms without prejudice to either combination would be about the only logical peace settlement now in sight.

The world needs more than anything else a relief from the present excesses of militarism. The European war will have done civilization some service if it puts an end to the idea that a great nation must go armed to the teeth and depend on the arts of war for its existence and progress.

Prussia has been the chief exponent in modern Europe of the militaristic theory, and after 1870 Prussia's "blood and iron" policy was unfortunately imposed on the German Empire.

Germany should also be made to pay for her brutal disregard of international treaties. She lacked Austria-Hungary in violating the Treaty of Berlin by annexing Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The contrast between London and Paris in wartime is astonishingly great. How Paris goes to bed at 9, with no theatres open and the whole gay life of the boulevards replaced by silent, empty spaces Mr. Davis has told us.

Because (as we believe) a nation needs a temper and support in times of strain, Beauty for solace when the spirit bleeds.

Of course, the chief explanation lies in the fact that France is invaded and Paris threatened, while England sits at ease behind her fleet.

nies, secure the neutralization of the Kiel Canal, possibly compelling the recession of Schleswig-Holstein to Denmark, and limit the size of the German navy.

Austria-Hungary, which precipitated the war by her foolhardy attack on Serbia, will also suffer. But the Dual Monarchy is used to territorial losses and will not greatly mind them.

The surest guarantee of peace and of the cessation of Prussian militarism that could be given would be a shifting of power within the German Empire from Prussia to the Southern German States.

Mr. Griscom, formerly president of the New York County Republican Committee, says he expects to vote for Harvey D. Hinman because of "his admirable record as a wise and fearless legislator."

Housecleaning was never worse needed in New York State. Murphyism has run riot in all the state bureaus since the Republicans were defeated because their party bosses had incurred the enmity of the state by fighting Hughes.

It is an impressive list of names to American eyes which is signed to the declaration of British authors upon the war.

Yet, art being one, there is another side to the story. If German literature of the day means next to nothing here, how about music? French, Italian, above them all, perhaps, Russian, music speaks to us.

Doan's has begun to serve clam chowder, where never a dish but "beef and" was served before. This, he it known, is equivalent to "Bill" Barnes' advocating government ownership and the recall of the judiciary.

The contrast between London and Paris in wartime is astonishingly great. How Paris goes to bed at 9, with no theatres open and the whole gay life of the boulevards replaced by silent, empty spaces Mr. Davis has told us.

The managers seem to feel that some defence of these open houses is due. For one theatre, a repertory house in Bristol, lines were written by John Masfield expounding the English situation and explaining why:

Because (as we believe) a nation needs a temper and support in times of strain, Beauty for solace when the spirit bleeds.

Do the Pirates, we wonder, who play the Braves today, know that their doughty though nervous opponents are supposed to Crack under the Strain?

ANOTHER POUGHKEEPSIE POET. [Ad in the Poughkeepsie News-Press.] The Busy Bee the best in town, When in the city call around.

The Conning Tower

Advising Chloë. Horace: Book I, Ode 23. "Vixas Menalce me similes, Chloë." Why shun me, my Chloë? Nor pistol nor bowie is mine with intention to kill.

Still, the pool and billiard "parlors" are pretty crowded, and that, we imagine, is an index of tough business conditions. A banker, we would guess, who had a billiard-room proprietor among his depositors, could tell a lot about business conditions from the account of that man.

THE DIARY OF OUR OWN SAMUEL PEPPY. September 17.—To my dentist's again, who this time did inflict some pain on me, but I did bear with great fortitude.

Perhaps if we assure whatever new readers the esteemed war may have brought us that Hatch & Fish are poultry dealers in Central City, Ia., they will cease bombarding.

A Child's Garden of War Verses. Last winter Europe's heart was light, Her people, then, forebore to fight.

A Kaiser with a reddish bill Hopped upon a Belgian sill, Cocked his shining eye and cried, "Ain't you sorry you defied?"

For one thing, the new Sherlock Holmes serial begins in the Sunday Tribune. How did we know? Elementary, Watson, elementary. We saw 'em setting the ads in the comp-room.

A Receipt for that Popular Mystery. Sir: If you'd let me run the column for a day I could tell you all the things my chum carries in her petty case.

Sir: I've never seen a party box that holds as much as mine. I've a silk purse, hand mirror, powder box, powder puff, hairpin box, comb, nail file, button hook, stamps, handkerchiefs, memorandum book and pencil, cards, a stray letter, besides fifty cents, which is all I have left.

"Rothler, Huberdeau, Crabbe and Charlier Fall in Fighting for Allies—Kahn Says Metropolitan Season Is Assured."—Tribune headline. Operatic candor.

RHYME AND REASON. My verses may not be correct, In meter, feet or style, My versions may be wrongly decked, In words that won't beguile.

According to the loftily esteemed Globe, the pronunciation of Rheims is "Rahms." This is at variance with "The Ingoldstey Legends," wherein appears:

Never, I ween, Was a prouder seen, Read of in books, or dreamt of in dreams, Than the Cardinal Lord Archbishop of Rheims.

Do the Pirates, we wonder, who play the Braves today, know that their doughty though nervous opponents are supposed to Crack under the Strain?

ANOTHER POUGHKEEPSIE POET. [Ad in the Poughkeepsie News-Press.] The Busy Bee the best in town, When in the city call around.

NEVERTHELESS. Bad as it may be for biz, What lovely weather this is!



THE PEOPLE'S COLUMN An Open Forum for Public Debate.

KILL PRUSSIAN MILITARISM

Theodore Marburg on German Mis-treatment of Belgium. This statement was issued by Theodore Marburg, former United States Minister to Belgium, who arrived yesterday on the Lusitania.

The cruel war in which devoted little Belgium is being trampled to death simply because it lay in the path of a war mad government makes one's blood boil.

The Germans, dominated by a heartless military class, are moving back the practices of the world. Their acts are characterized by utter disregard of the international code so laboriously built up and of the common dictates of humanity.

The violation of Belgium's neutrality, involving a breach both of international law and of Prussia's own solemn pledge of the dropping of bombs on Antwerp, the devastation of Louvain and the heartless treatment of non-combatants, substantiated independently by Belgian, Dutch, French and English witnesses, constitutes a fearful indictment.

I am not in favor of the United States embroiling itself unnecessarily in European controversies, but a state of affairs exists in Europe, which, if the love of decency in international conduct and of fair play and of common justice is in our hearts, must lead us openly to espouse the cause of England and her allies.

True, we were not parties to the guarantee of Belgium's neutrality, though perhaps we ought to have been, and if we had been that neutrality, with all its possibilities of future influence on a valuable principle, would have had more chance of being respected.

Only force will avail. She must be helped to her knees to stem this flow of barbarism, to free the German masses from the grip of the bureaucracy and ruthless military class, and to arrest militarism itself.

Any one who has occupied himself with the question of institutions calculated to prevent war knows how at every turn Germany blocks the way to progress in that direction. Positive agreements which would obligate Germany to arbitrate instead of fighting are out of harmony with her dreams of conquest.

I myself am of German extraction, but I find that national sympathies are

RUSSIA BEGAN IT

The Responsibility for the War as the German Defence Committee Sees It. To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: Ever since the outbreak of the European war, I have read articles and editorials in your and other American newspapers placing the blame of the horrible disaster on Germany, and especially the German Kaiser.

In this connection I take the liberty to call your attention to an article that appeared in "The Outlook" on August 29, 1914, under the heading "The Story of the War." Permit me to quote from this article the following paragraph:

"Russia's dispatches indicate that Russia will be ready to strike sooner than expected. This can only mean that the Czar began mobilizing earlier than he admitted. If the Russian concentration in Vilna and Brest-Litovsk is completed before September 1, it will be evident that the Czar was planning for this war long before the first rumor of it reached us."

This was written by Arthur Bullard, and can be taken as a true account. The mere fact that during the last days of August important battles have already been fought on the eastern frontier is a further proof for the assertion by Mr. Bullard that Russia has been mobilizing long before the war started.

Paragraph 2 of the international law states that if one country is mobilizing her forces on the frontiers of another country, this must be considered a hostile act, and if the former does not render sufficient explanation the latter has a perfect right to protect herself, and in case of necessity to declare war.

It has been proven beyond doubt that Russia was mobilizing her vast armies long before the outbreak of the hostilities, and also that the Czar did not pay any heed to Emperor William's urgent request to stop mobilizing.

Even "The New York Herald" admitted that the Kaiser went on his knees before the Czar in his efforts to make him stop mobilizing, but without avail. What other alternative was left to Germany but to prepare herself and to declare war on Russia? Germany's slightest chance for victory would have been forfeited had she waited until the Russian horses were ready for battle.

In view of these facts, I venture to say that a fair-minded American will not doubt that a war could have been avoided had England even hinted a refusal of support to France and Russia, for these two powers would never have attempted to attack Germany and Austria without British aid.

F. J. FRANKENHOFF. Forwarded by the German-American Literary Defence Committee. New York, Sept. 16, 1914.

AN IMPATIENT AMERICAN

He Finds the Threats of German Tiring. To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: As an American citizen, who is trying to follow the advice of President Wilson in observing neutrality, I am becoming quite tired of the impudence of the Germans in threatening to retaliate upon Americans because they have not taken the side of the Kaiser.

The threats they are making, and have been making since the war began, that they will boycott all papers and business houses which do not come out strong against England, France and Russia, with the purpose of destroying their business, have to my mind already reached the limit.

If they do not like the attitude of the American press, which reflects the sentiment of the people of the United States, why do they not go back to their own country and fight for it, and when the contest is done, stay there? Are Americans going to submit to German domination here such as they threatened all Europe for the last few years? It is to destroy this impudent attitude of the Kaiser and his lack of German obstinacy and unwillingness to be dominated that the allied forces put out by the so-called Chamber of German-American Commerce, printed in The Tribune to-day, is a "fake."

W. P. HOWARD. New York, Sept. 17, 1914.

S. P. C. A. Against Muzzling

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: Will you kindly allow me space in your columns to correct an apparent misapprehension concerning the attitude of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals regarding the muzzling of dogs? Statements have been made that the order of the Board of Health requiring the muzzling of dogs is "unjustified" and that the order is "unconstitutional."

We do not approve of the regulation, and we regard it as an unnecessary interference with the rights of the citizen. We should cause voters to be informed of the true facts of the case, and to the extent of our power we will endeavor to have the order modified, or to the extent of our power we will endeavor to have the order rescinded.

ALFRED WAGSTAFF. President, the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. New York, Sept. 18, 1914.

The Crisis Calls for Himman

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: Lloyd C. Griscom is one of our countrymen who has shown himself to be a man of high character and noble spirit. He has been called upon to serve the state in a position of great responsibility, and he has discharged his duty with honor and integrity.

Triple Rates for a Tax

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: Can any one explain why I am charged \$1 for a taxicab from the Grand Central Station to Fifth Avenue, 60th St., less than one mile, on the times the legal rate? The taxicab from the Grand Central charged me 1.00.

Triple Rates for a Taxi. To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: Let me congratulate you upon your staff. His stories are the most realistic of any that I have seen. The perfect word pictures so clearly present the scenes that you think yourself on the spot watching the battles.

M. B. HOLMES. New York, Sept. 17, 1914.