

things than death fall to the lot of millions of human beings in war, including mental and moral decay.

Into the situation which would produce these terrible changes I have seen all the nations of Europe endeavor to drag the U. S.

From those capitals, at the other end of the line, I have watched Washington and the government there extricate the U. S. from one plot after another, from one diabolical machination after another.

Sometimes we in Europe, who were seeing the European side of the picture—the efforts of the allies to draw us into war with Germany; the efforts of Germany to draw us into war with the allies—held our breaths. There were times when it seemed that war would be the only way out.

I have seen Germans rejoicing at the prospect of having the U. S. quarrel with the allies; I have seen the allies wild with delight over the chance that the U. S. would go to war with Germany over the Lusitania or some other incident.

But always sane, sound, steady, the U. S. came through. It was a magnificent thing to see from our point of vantage in Europe. It made one thrill to realize that the U. S. was his own country.

Now, when I return home, I find an election campaign under way. I hear men say that we have peace without honor. We, in the European capitals, who saw our government escape the war traps, felt no loss of honor. We were always able to look the other fellow in the eye and be proud. No one over there ever seriously charged us with loss of honor, and men are highly sensitive to such things over there.

We were proud of American sanity and of American statesmanship and that cool, calm reckoning of the American people which prevented them from being stampeded.

It was a fine, thrilling thing to be

an American in European capitals and to know that in our own capital at Washington there were men as shrewd and as far sighted as any of the statesmen of Europe; to know, also, that the statesmen in Washington were steadier, saner, less influenced by hate and bitterness and better able to judge right and wrong than the wisest statesmen in Europe.

And to come home now to the U. S. and witness the attempt to thrust from the guidance of American affairs the government which had led the U. S. through this maze of diplomacy and machination is, to one who has witnessed affairs from the European end, little short of terrifying. It is like playing with dynamite.

There is no politics in European nations today. Governments are being held in their places by coalitions. Among the neutrals this also is true. Holland has no politics, and it is safe; Switzerland has no politics and it is safe. Greece DID have politics, and BEHOLD GREECE today.

To come home and to behold the working of politics in this world crisis, is, I repeat, little short of terrifying.

With all the European peoples doing all they can, even to abandoning elections, in order to keep their governments intact and unchanged, there are persons in the U. S., who, out of sheer politics, and by discussion of such petty matters as the removal of a minor government official, seek to overthrow the government. Certainly the steadiness of our government is as important to us as the steadiness of their government is to Germans or Britishers; our danger is as great, if not so imminent and apparent as theirs. The certain grasp of our present government on war affairs is as important to us as the grasp of Von Bethmann-Hollweg or Asquith is to Germany or England.

Do you know why Zeppelins fly over London? It is not to destroy arsenals or kill soldiers. It is to dis-