

# GERMANY THE NEXT REPUBLIC?

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**As Time Passes and the Victory Which the German Government Promised Its People Becomes Still More Remote, the Citizens Will Force Through Reforms Which Have Been Promised, Not After the War, as the Kaiser Plans, but Now**

**That Mr. Ackerman's Appreciation of the Situation "East of the Rhine" Was Correct Is Proved by Events Now Taking Place Within the Borders of the Empire—The Revolt of the Navy and the Army Has Spread to the People, and a Rebellion Is Imminent**

BY APRIL 12, when reports began to reach Germany of America's determination to fight until there was a democracy in Germany, the democratic press began to give more serious consideration to America's alliance with the Allies. Dr. Ludwig Haas, one of the Socialist members of the Reichstag, in an article in the Berlin Tageblatt, made the following significant statements:

One man may be a hypocrite, but never a whole nation. If the American people accept this message (President Wilson's address before Congress) without a protest, then a tremendous abyss separates the logic of Germans from that of other nations. Woodrow Wilson is not so far wrong if he means the planning of war might be prevented if the people asserted the right to know everything about the foreign policies of their countries. But the President seems blind to the fact that a handful of men have made it their secret and uncontrolled business to direct the fate of the European democracies. With the press at one's command one can easily drive a poor people to a mania of enthusiasm, when they will carry on their shoulders the criminals who have led to the brink of disaster.

### The Awakening of the German People

Doctor Haas was beginning to understand that the anti-American campaign in Germany, which the navy started and the Foreign Office encouraged, had had some effect.

Everything the United States does from now on will have a decisive influence in the world war. The Allies realize it and Washington knows it. Mr. Lloyd George, the British Prime Minister, realized what a decisive effect American ships would have when he said at the banquet of the American Luncheon Club in London:

"The road to victory, the guaranty of victory, the absolute assurance of victory has to be found in one word, 'ships,' and a second word, 'ships,' and a third word, 'ships.'"

But our financial, economic and military aid to the Allies will not be our greatest contribution toward victory. The influence of President Wilson's utterances, of our determination and of our value as a friendly nation after the war will have a tremendous effect as time goes on upon the German people.

As days and weeks pass, as the victory which the German Government has promised the people becomes further and further away, the people, who are now doing more thinking than they ever before have done since the beginning of the war, will some day realize that in order to obtain peace, which they pray for and hope for, they will have to reform their Government during the war—not after the war, as the Kaiser plans.

Military pressure from the outside is going to help this democratic movement in Germany succeed in spite of itself. The New York World editorial on April 14, discussing Mr. Lloyd George's



"There is a tremendous difference between the situation in the United States and that of any European country. In Switzerland the economic worries and the sufferings of the neighboring belligerents have made the Swiss people feel that they are in the center of the war itself." The photograph shows children of Engelberg, Switzerland, in their usual ceremony of greeting with floral offerings invalid interned soldiers who have been exchanged on their way home from prison camps.

statement that "Prussia is not a democracy; Prussia is not a state; Prussia is an army," said:

"It was the army and the arrogance actuating it which ordered hostilities in the first place. Because there was no democracy in Prussia, the army had its way. The democracies of Great Britain and France, like the democracy of the United States, were reluctant to take arms, but were forced to it. Russian democracy found its own deliverance on the fighting line.

"In the fact that Prussia is not a democracy or a state but an army we may see a reason for many things usually regarded as inexplicable. It is Prussia the army which violates treaties. It is Prussia the army which disregards international law. It is Prussia the army, represented by the General Staff and the Admiralty, which sets at naught the engagements of the Foreign Office. It is Prussia the army which has filled neutral countries with spies and lawbreakers, which has placed frightfulness above humanity, and in a fury of egotism and savagery has challenged the world.

"Under such a terrorism, as infamous at home as it is abroad, civil government has perished. There is no civil government in a Germany dragooned by Prussia. There is no law in Germany but

military law. There is no obligation in Germany except to the army. It is not Germany the democracy or Germany the state, it is Germany the army that is to be crushed, for its own good no less than for that of civilization."

The United States entered the war at the psychological and critical moment. We enter it at the moment when our economic and financial resources, and our determination will have the decisive influence. We enter at the moment when every one of our future acts will assist and help the democratic movement in Germany succeed.

The United States entered the war at a time when many Americans believed the Allies were about to win it. By May 1, 1917, the situation so changed in Europe that it was apparent to observers that only by the most stupendous efforts of all the Allies could the German Government be defeated.

At the very beginning of the war, when Teutonic militarism spread over Europe, it was like a forest fire. But two years of fighting have checked it—as woodsmen check forest fires—by digging ditches and preventing the flames from spreading. Unlimited submarine warfare, however, is something new. It is militarism

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spreading to the high seas and to the shores of neutrals. It is ruthlessness—the new German menace, which is as real and dangerous for us and for South America as for England and the Allies. If we hold out until ruthlessness spends its fury, we will win. But we must fight and fight desperately to hold out.

Dr. Kaempf, president of the Reichstag, declared that President Wilson would "bite marble" before the war was over. And the success of submarine warfare during April and the first part of May was such as to arouse the whole world to the almost indefinite possibilities of this means of fighting.

The real crisis of the war has not been reached. We are approaching it. The Allies have attempted for two years without much success to curb the U-boat danger. They have attempted to build steel ships, also without success, so that the real burden of winning the war in Europe falls upon American shoulders.

### The United States and the War

Fortunately for the United States we are not making the blunders at the beginning of our intervention which some of the European nations have been making since August, 1914. America is awakened to the needs of modern war as no other nation was, thanks to the splendid work which the American newspapers and magazines have done during the war to present clearly, fairly and accurately not only the great issues, but the problems of organization and military tactics. The people of the United States are better informed about the war as a whole than are the people in any European country. American newspapers have not made the mistakes which English and French journals made—of hating the enemy so furiously as to think that nothing more than criticism and hate were necessary to defeat him. Not until this year could one of Great Britain's statesmen declare: "You can damn the Germans until you are blue in the face, but that will not beat them."

The United States enters the greatest war in history at the psychological moment with a capable and determined President, a united nation and almost unlimited resources in men, money and munitions.

There is a tremendous difference between the situation in the United States and that in any European country. During the two years I was in Europe I visited every nation at war except Serbia, Bulgaria and Turkey. I saw conditions in the neutral countries of Holland, Denmark, Switzerland and Spain. The one big thing which impressed me upon my arrival in New York was that the United States, in contrast to all these countries, has as yet not been touched by the war. Americans are not living under the strain and worry which hang like dreadful dull clouds over every European power. In Switzerland the economic worries and the sufferings of the neighboring belligerents have made the Swiss people feel that they are in the center of the war itself. In France, although Paris is gay, although people smile (they have almost forgotten how to smile in Germany), although streets are crowded and stores busy, the atmosphere is earnest and serious. Spain is torn by internal troubles. There is a great army of unemployed. The submarine war has destroyed many Spanish ships and interrupted Spanish trade with belligerents. Business houses are unable to obtain credit. German propaganda is sowing sedition and the King himself is uncertain about the future. But in the United States there is a gigantic display of energy and potential power which makes this country appear to possess sufficient force in itself to defeat Germany. Berlin is drained and dead in comparison. Paris, while busy, is war-busy and every one and everything seems to move and live because of the war. In New York and throughout the country there are young men by the hundreds of thousands. Germany and France have no young men outside the armies. Here there are millions of automobiles and millions of people hurrying, happy and contented, to and from their work. In Germany there are no automobiles which are not in the service of the Government and rubber tires are so nearly exhausted that practically all automobiles have iron wheels.

(CONTINUED TOMORROW)

## PHILADELPHIA AND ITS SUBURBS FURNISH MATERIAL FOR UP-TO-DATE ILLUSTRATION



MEMBERS OF THE WOMEN'S MOTOR MESSENGER CORPS  
This organization is proving its efficiency at large public assemblies, the song festival held recently on Belmont plateau serving especially to demonstrate its value.



AN INTERSCHOLASTIC LINE PLUNGER  
Eddowes, at fullback, is one of the bulwarks of strength in offensive as well as defensive play for the Central High School eleven.



A PROMISING YOUNG WOMAN GOLFER  
Miss Mildred Gates, only twenty years old and with only three years' playing experience, holds the North Hills Country Club championship.



NARBERTH'S NEW-TYPE SCHOOL DESK



SWARTHMORE'S HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS DEVOTE MUCH OF THEIR OUTDOOR RECREATION PERIODS TO ACQUIRING PROFICIENCY IN VOLLEY BALL