

GERMANY THE NEXT REPUBLIC?

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The United States and the Allies Must Not Be Fooled by Any Peace Offers or Promises of Internal Political Reforms Which the Kaiser May Make—The Only Peace Possible With International Security Must Come Only After the German Military Caste Is Crushed

A New Era in International Affairs Is in Sight Through the Action of President Wilson in Asking the People of America to Back the Foes of German Militarism and Bismarckian Diplomacy—The President Occupies the Most Important Position in the World Today

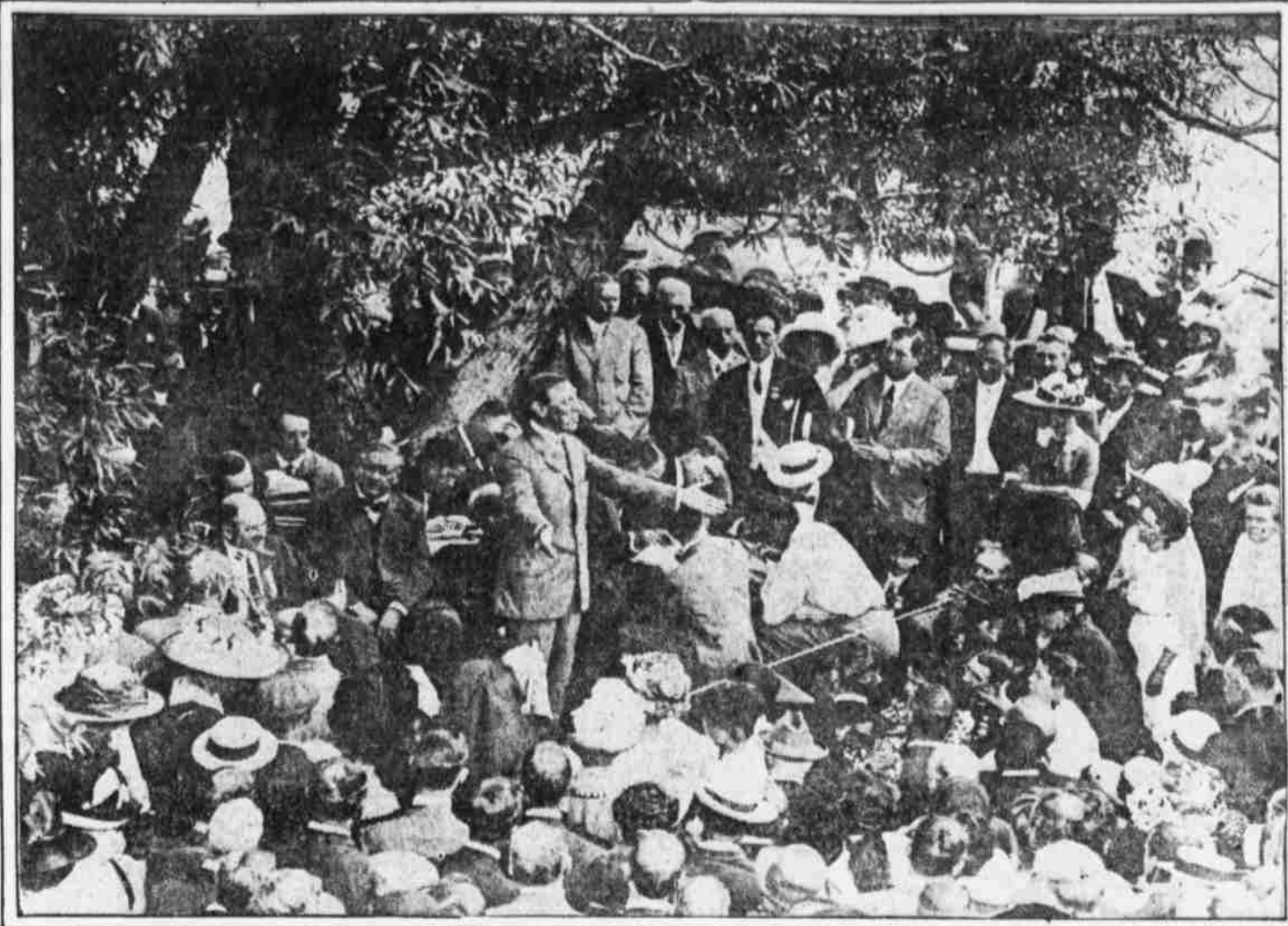
I HAVE pointed out in previous chapters some of the things which President Wilson's notes accomplished in Germany during the war. Suppose the Kaiser were to grant certain reforms, would this destroy the possibilities of a free Germany, a democratic nation—a German Republic?

The German people were given an opportunity to debate and think about international issues while we maintained relations with Berlin, but, as I pointed out, the Kaiser and his associates are masters of German psychology and during the next few months they may temporarily undo what we accomplished during two years. Americans must remember that at the present time all the leading men of Germany are preaching to the people the gospel of submarine success, and the anti-American campaign there is being conducted unhindered and unchallenged. The United States and the Allies have pledged their national honor and existence to defeat and discredit the Imperial German Government, and nothing but unflinching determination, no matter what the Kaiser does, will bring success. Unless he is defeated, the Kaiser will not follow the Czar's example.

We Must Not Be Fooled by the Kaiser

In May of last year the German Government believed it was winning the war. Berlin believed it would decisively defeat our Allies before fall.

But even if the people of Germany again compel their Government to propose peace and the Kaiser announces that he is in favor of such drastic reforms as making his Ministry responsible to the Reichstag, this (though it might please the German people) cannot, must not, satisfy us. Only a firm refusal of the Allies will accomplish what we have set out to do—overthrow the present rulers and dictators of Germany. This must include not only the Kaiser, but Field Marshal von Hindenburg and the generals in control of the army, the Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg, who did not keep his promises to the United States, and the naval leaders who have been intriguing and fighting for war with America for over two years. Only a decisive defeat of Ger-



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many will make Germany a republic, and the task is stupendous enough to challenge the best combined efforts of the United States and all the Allies.

Prophecy is a dangerous pastime, but it would not be fair to conclude this book without pointing out some of the possibilities which can develop from the policy which President Wilson pursued in dealing with Germany before diplomatic relations were broken.

The chief effect of Mr. Wilson's policy is not going to be felt during this war, but in the future. At the beginning of his administration he emphasized the fact that in a democracy public opinion was a bigger factor than armies and navies. If all Europe emerges from this war as democratic as seems possible now one can see that Mr. Wilson has already laid the foundation for future international

relations between free peoples and republican forms of governments. This war has defeated itself. It is doubtful whether there ever will be another world war because the opinion of all civilized people is mobilized against war. After one has seen what war is like, one is against not only war itself but the things which bring about war. This great war was made possible because Europe has been expecting and preparing for it ever since 1870 and because the Governments of Europe did not take either the people or their neighbors into their confidence. President Wilson tried to show while he was President that the people should be fully informed regarding all steps taken by the Government. In England, where the press has had such a tussle to keep from being curbed by an autocratic censorship, the world has learned new lessons in publicity. The old policy of keep-

ing from the public unpleasant information has been thrown overboard in Great Britain because it was found that it harmed the very foundations of democracy.

International relations in the future will, to a great extent, be molded along the lines of Mr. Wilson's policies during this war. Diplomacy will be based upon a full discussion of all international issues. The object of diplomacy will be to reach an understanding to prevent wars, not to avoid them at the eleventh hour. Just as enlightened society tries to prevent murder, so will civilized nations in the future try to prevent wars.

Mr. Wilson expressed his faith in this new development in international affairs by saying that "the opinion of the world is the mistress of the world."

The important concern today is, How can this world opinion be molded into a world power?

A New Era in International Affairs

Opinion cannot be codified like law because it is often the vanguard of legislation. Public opinion is the action of a thousand and one incidents upon the public consciousness. In the world today the most important influence in the development of opinion is the daily press. By a judicious interpretation of affairs the President of the United States frequently may direct public opinion in certain channels while his representatives to foreign Governments, especially when there is opportunity, as there is today, may help spread our ideas abroad.

World political leaders, if one may judge from events so far, foresee a new era in international affairs. Instead of a nation's foreign policies being secret, instead of unpublished alliances and iron-bound treaties, there may be the proclaiming of a nation's international intentions, exactly as a political party in the United States pledges its intentions in a political campaign. Parties in Europe may demand a statement of the foreign intentions of their Governments. If there was this candor between the Governments and their citizens there would be more frankness between the nations and their neighbors. Public opinion would then be the decisive force. International steps of all nations would then be decided upon only after the public was thoroughly acquainted with their every phase. A fully informed nation would be considered safer and more peace-secure than a nation whose opinion was based upon colored official reports, "Ems" telegrams of 1870 and 1914 variety, and eleventh-hour appeals to passion, fear and God.

The opinion of the world may then be a stronger international force than large individual armies and navies. The opinion of the world may be such a force that every nation will respect and fear it. The opinion of the world may be the mistress of the world and publicity will be the new driving force in diplomacy to give opinion world power.

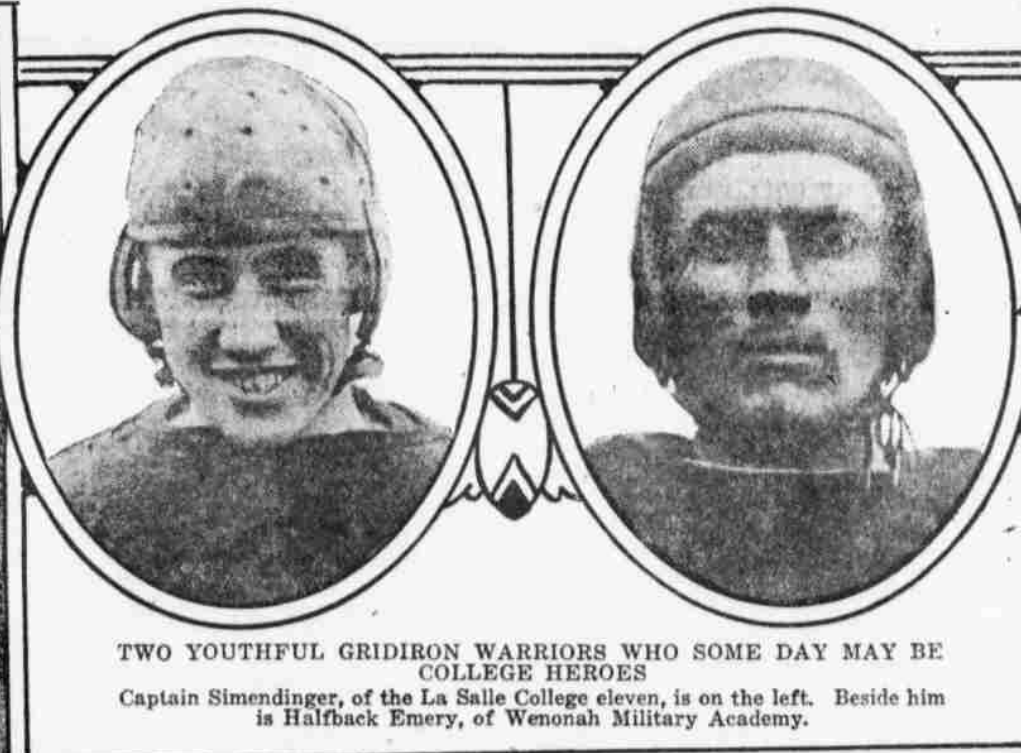
Germany's defeat will be the greatest event in history because it will establish world democracy upon a firm foundation and because Germany itself will emerge democratic. The Chancellor has frequently stated that the Germany which would come out of this war would be nothing like the Germany which went into the war and the Kaiser has already promised a "people's kingdom of Hohenzollern." The Kaiser's government will be reformed because world opinion insists upon it. If the German people do not yet see this, they will be outlawed until they are free. They will see it eventually, and when that day comes peace will dawn in Europe.

THE END.

AMATEUR FOOTBALL PLAYERS WHO ARE MAKING ENVIABLE RECORDS—OTHER NEWS PHOTOS



BABY DEAR GETS ITS BOTTLE
A juvenile inmate at the Zoo receiving particular attention from Keeper Manley.



TWO YOUTHFUL GRIDIRON WARRIORS WHO SOME DAY MAY BE COLLEGE HEROES
Captain Simendinger, of the La Salle College eleven, is on the left. Beside him is Halfback Emery, of Wenoah Military Academy.



A KING AND QUEEN/BELOVED BY YOUNG AND OLD
King Albert and Queen Elizabeth, of Belgium, among the little war orphans attending the school founded by the queen near the fighting line.



ELLA WHEELER WILCOX TO CONDUCT RELIEF FOR ANIMALS
The poetess, author and writer will go to France as representative of the National Red Star, an organization for the relief of animals in the war zone.



BOLGER, CENTER FOR LA SALLE COLLEGE, IS A TOWER OF STRENGTH ON THE LINE