

Four Lights

"Then he showed four lights when he wished them to set full sail and follow in his wake."

From "First Voyage 'Round the World by Magellan."



FEB. 24, 1917

AN ADVENTURE IN INTERNATIONALISM

ISSUE III.

The idealist said in his heart: "The God of Force is dead, or dying." He has been proven the fool that the man of affairs and the militarist always said he was. But the fools of this world—generally after they are gone—have a way of moving men which the wise and practical believers in force have not. . . . The battle between the God of Love and the God of Force endures forever. Fools of the former camp, drowned out and beaten to their knees, in due time will get up again and plant their poor little flag a little farther on. "All men shall be brothers," said the German fool Schiller: so shall the fools say again when the time comes; and again, and again, after every beating!

First Thoughts on the War, JOHN GALSWORTHY.

VOTES FOR WOMEN

The voice of the plebiscite upon conscription in Australia resulting in its defeat is attributed to the votes of women. Those who favor conscription agree with the Premier that democracy fails when great national issues are at stake; but those who believe the people who bear the consequences and whose lives are sacrificed by war are the best judges as to whether they desire war and are willing to sacrifice everything for the purposes for which war is waged, believe that, in the long run, democracy will win both in peace and war.

The refusal to fight is by no means a sign of a weak or decaying patriotism. On the contrary, it may be and generally is, an evidence of intelligent human desire to adjust differences by reason rather than by rage, and as diplomacy and concession must always play a large part in adjusting terms of peace after the war is ended and the power to fight longer is exhausted, wisdom says it is better to make the concessions and discuss the differences sanely before rather than after the war.

My opinion is that when the war is proposed and a mother is called upon to cast a vote which decides the fate of her own child, she will, before casting it, inquire carefully whether the difference cannot be better adjusted by peaceful rather than by warlike methods. The votes of women will tend toward a higher patriotism which considers not one's country first, but justice first, and before the right of any nation, the right of humanity.

ANNA HOWARD SHAW.

LET'S BE HONEST!

"If we must fight Mexico [or Germany], let us pray as we bare the sword."—Religious Periodical.

Let's be honest, anyway,
If we march away to war.
Down the column's glint and sway
We know what we're going for.
Cut the preaching, church and civil,
And the praying and the drivel;
Sing "My country, right or wrong!"
That's the only soldier song.

Blessings now are foolery;
Only beef and bullets count.
Who can run a killing bee
By the Sermon on the Mount?
Underneath the war flag's rustle
You we trust, O steel and muscle!
In this game of heathen Rome
Leave our cumbrous God at home.

Could a theologic quirk
Make us better shots, or worse?
Let us do our soldier work
With a candid soldier curse.
Lock your Jesus in the chapel;
Leave us free to gouge and grapple
In the grand beast game we play!
Let's be honest, anyway.

BADGER CLARK.

WHO WANTS WAR?

Breaking off diplomatic relations with Germany should have a steadying effect on the market. . . . It is the consensus of opinion of strong financial and business interests that, even if the United States becomes involved in the great war, there is little likelihood that this will turn the tide of our prosperity. If anything, it should result in further expansion of business both domestic and foreign.

Weekly News Letter,

Jones & Baker, Brokers, 50 Broad Street.

The possibilities of this situation is a thing to which we have been looking forward.

FRANK A. VANDERLIP,

President National City Bank.

War with Germany will result in a great activity in this country. . . .

JAMES S. ALEXANDER,

President National Bank of Commerce.

WHO WANTS PEACE?

IN THE FRENCH CHAMBER.

The conception of peace founded upon the free will of peoples, and not upon the force of arms should become the charter of the civilized universe. And it is the more necessary at this time that democrats of all nations, wherever they may be, should rise against imperialistic ambitions and against their bloody and ruinous consequences. . . . To prepare and hasten an early and just ending of the present war and to assure a future of peaceful civilization, the Socialist group asks the representatives of all the belligerent nations to press upon their leaders a trial in good faith of the noble experiment offered to humanity by the head of the great American republic.

(From a resolution passed by the eighty-nine Socialist Deputies, Jan. 26.)

BRITISH LABOR.

" . . . A lasting peace cannot be secured by a policy of conquest followed by a commercial war, but only by a policy that lays the foundation of a real international partnership."

(From a resolution recently passed by the Bradford Trades and Labor Council.)

AMERICAN STUDENTS.

Those college presidents who have exceeded the speed limit in the offer of university halls for barracks and student bodies for immediate service, must feel somewhat dashed by the result of the post-card vote just taken by Raymond Bristol, graduate student of Teachers' College. The advisability of a popular referendum on peace or war, submitted to the students of Barnard, School of Journalism, Union Theological, Graduate Department of Teachers' College, and Columbia, brought in an affirmative response of sixty-four per cent. It is to be noted that no campaign on the referendum preceded the vote; also, that the later votes were more favorable than those taken earlier.

A further evidence of the non-militarist mind of American collegians is to be found in the spirited student delegation which, under the direction of the Emergency Peace Federation, stormed the Capitol on Washington's Birthday.

F. M. W.

WHEN WE THINK

Every intelligent man in this nation knows that to kill his neighbor, whether German or fellow American, is a crime. Moreover, he will ask himself:

"What shall we get out of it? Shall I not have lost my earning-power, my home, family, friends, everything that makes life worth living? And for what? Merely that American ships may demonstrate their right to enter with safety the thick of European warfare. Is this worth while?"

My father, Mark Twain, has always been dear to the American people. Would that they might, at this time, take to heart his "War Prayer," given to the public only since his death, in which he pictures the devout chaplain who prays with one breath for the cruel torture of his country's enemies and with the next addresses himself "humble and contrite" to the Spirit of Love!

No, war is the last stage of savagery. The people of this nation, sweeping aside, if need be, the little company of men in Washington, must speak out their will and say: "We will have none of it."

CLARA CLEMENS.

CONSCRIPTION

Compulsory military service is a violation in the name of the republic of that individual liberty which the republic is first supposed to defend.

Compulsory military training is the method by which kingships and oligarchies have always perpetuated their power.

Military training is training in automatic animal obedience. It is a cunning destroyer of personal independence and free judgment. The trained soldier combines emotions of self-importance with the character and habits of a slave.

To make trained soldiers of all the citizens is to sacrifice on the altar of the nation that vigilant assertion of liberty which alone justifies a nation's being.

MAX EASTMAN.



UNCLE SAM: "No, Mr. Wall Street, we won't sign your Bill!"

OUT OF THE DEEP

Extracts from letters of a French artist who has been in the first-line trenches since the outbreak of the War. He has received the Croix de Guerre, and has several times been cited in the orders of the day.

"Every day I hear of new deaths—or worse still, of sinister and unhealable wounds. Added to that, a disgusting state of mind is more and more contaminating everybody—all that is low, stupid and shameful, all that you hide in time of peace is now spread out with extraordinary cynicism and a growing strength, and so much cowardice everywhere! . . .

"Though I have only friends here among my officers and my men I am, like everyone else at the front, more than disgusted with this abominable life in which we have to pay for all the sins of all the men who have lived on the earth since its beginning. Unfortunately it is not the guilty who pay—on the contrary, it is they who profit. . . .

"We all consider ourselves here as men condemned to be executed. A few may perhaps be reprieved, after prolonged torture. Of course, we are not astonished when people do not write to men condemned to death. . . ."

'ACQUIRING PROSPERITY

The Man From Mars came to a vast harbor where hundreds of workmen were busily loading and unloading ocean ships.

"What is going on here, my good friend?" inquired the Man From Mars detaining an intelligent-looking young man who was rushing by. "You seem to be acquiring prosperity. Could you explain the process to me?"

"Yes, certainly. Do you see all those ships? Very well, those ships carry goods between this and foreign countries. If you will notice carefully, you will see that vastly more commodities are sent into the country. What we send away we call exports. What we bring in we call imports. When the exports exceed the imports, a country is said to be prosperous."

"How is that?" queried the Man From Mars with a puzzled look. "I should think it would be the other way. Do you mean to say that you send all these valuable products away and get nothing in exchange?"

"We get gold in exchange, of course, and credits, and things like that."

"But what do you want with so much gold? Where do these goods go?"

"They go chiefly to the nations of Europe."

"But why do not the nations of Europe produce these things for themselves?"

"Oh, they're too busy fighting!"

"I see," said the Man From Mars, reflectively. "But do you want them to keep on fighting?"

"No, certainly not! We think it is horrible."

"Then, perhaps, if you didn't send them so many commodities, they would have to stop fighting and go to work."

"That may be true from a dreamer's point of view," agreed the young fellow, "but if you are going to be around here long, you must learn to look at things from a sensible commercial standpoint."

ELLIS O. JONES.

THE ARTIST

War!
Let us stop it!
Let us begin with ourselves,
O women!
In the forest of the body,
And the ocean of the mind,
And the palace of the soul,
Bring the high loveliness of peace.
Three times in a century we hold in our hands
The plastic world.
Let us colour and model it so that it may love peace,
High, fair, noble peace!
But for that woman must be an artist.
And the artist must have her training.
Rich in knowledge must be the artist,
Wealthy in wisdom and the visions of love.
But in bonds the artist perishes!
O woman! why are you not the supremest artist?
Awake, Mother of the World!
Gain Wisdom!
Gain Freedom!

MARY JOHNSTON.

The People's Referendum

Read what W. G. Shepherd, war-correspondent of international reputation, has to say in a recent letter.

Note.—The following words appeared as postscript to the letter: "You may use this as you please, providing you do not make it anti-war. I am in favor of any war the people vote for. I think, however, the people of both sides ought to vote. W. G. S."

Mr. Amos Pinchot,

50 Broadway, New York City.

Dear Sir:—During an experience covering over two years as a war-reporter with seven different armies on every European point except the Dardanelles, I seized every opportunity to put the following question to army officers of various ranks:

"If all the people in Europe had been given an opportunity to vote as to whether or not there should be a war, would you have had war in Europe?"

I have had this question answered by German, British, Austrian, French, Italian, Servian and the Belgian officers. The response was always the same. I never received any other answer than this:

"Of course not."

Yours truly,

W. G. SHEPHERD.

**WRITE YOUR CONGRESSMAN
TO LET THE AMERICAN PEOPLE VOTE ON PEACE OR WAR**

N. Y. City.

66 W. 9th St.

Miss Rebecca Shelly,



In contrast with the past fortnight, the present may to some appear legitimate half-way house in which to pause, lance at rest. War has not come; Germany has not committed the "overt act"; and the notes pledging future firmness, backed by the knowledge of the mighty war-chest now preparing, give the nation a stout heart.

But to the internationalist, however deep her gratitude that we have thus far been spared to peace, there is humiliation in the fact that, to the minds of many persons, peace remains with us as it were from without, not from within; that on the contingent behavior of a bureaucrat, we dared to jeopardize our democracy; that when it came to a show-down, we held the Prussian conception of honor no lower than our own; that we were no longer, as our press gloated, "too proud to fight."

If our faith is gone, at least let our sense of humour—inalienable right—preserve us from the stupidity of mistaking the real for the masquerade, the victor for the vanquished. And in new crises, in the specious promises of beckoning war and "armed neutrality" alike, let us challenge the country to restate our internationalism in terms of our voluntary refusal either to make war or to accept it! — T. D. M.

TRACY DICKINSON MYGATT
MIRIAM TEICHNER
MARY JOHNSTON

Editors of this Issue.