

question, said the secretary, it was impossible to foretell the position in which the world would find itself when these problems came to be decided, and it would be doing a very ill service to the country were he to attempt to define the position now.

The government believed that the nationalities composing that heterogeneous state should be allowed to develop along their own lines and to carry on their civilization in their own way, he said.

"As everybody knows," continued Mr. Balfour, "we first entered the war to defend Belgium and prevent France from being crushed before our eyes. Nobody with the smallest knowledge of the facts supposed that Sir Edward Grey (formerly foreign secretary) and the government, of which he was a member when he made the fateful declaration on August 3, 1914, made it with the smallest thought of the great problems which the course of the war has opened up.

NO SELFISH MOTIVES

"We did not enter the war for any selfish purposes, certainly not for imperialist aim, or to get indemnities. Our purposes were completely unselfish; therefore we stood in a different position from any of our allies. We hoped to see Europe freer and more stable."

If France asked it, he failed to see how Great Britain could refrain from going to assist her until she got back to the position which existed before the attack engineered against her by Bismarck in 1871, namely that "she obtain restoration of that of which she was robbed more than forty years ago."

Mr. Balfour expressed an opinion which was simply his own when he said that if France asked for Alsace-Lorraine, Great Britain should support her, but he declared that France was not fighting for Alsace-Lorraine alone; she was fighting for her very existence. The questions the house had discussed were occupying the attention of the whole civilized world almost to the exclusion of every other subject.

As to the democratization of Germany, said the secretary, it had been hoped that autocracy would give place to parliamentary institutions as they are understood, but nobody was foolish enough to suppose that it would be possible to impose on Germany a constitution made outside of Germany. Until Germany was either made powerless or free, he did not think the peace of Europe could be secured. The fight must go on for if this war ended with a German peace, that would only be a prelude to a new European war.

"The peace was to be one that England and America could approve, then it would lead to a permanent settlement which would in turn conduce to that great understanding of the nations which would give Europe a security it had never known before," said the secretary.

"Germany must work out her own salvation," continued Mr. Balfour. "Nations must make their scheme of liberty for themselves, according to their own ideas based on their history, character and hopes."

"But if it be true that the great power of German imperialism is still depending upon the belief—the belief driven into the German nation by the wars of 1866 and 1870—that only under the imperial system can Germany be great, powerful and rich, then if experience shows that the imperialistic system can produce not merely a triumph one time, but inevitably lead to corresponding disaster at another, it may well be that the views, which found such powerful expression in Germany in 1848, and which animated all German teachers for more than a generation before the Bismarckian domination, will revive with new lustre and new strength and that Germany, with all her powers of organization and all her inherited cultivation, will be added to those nations which, before the war, could hardly conceive how a universal war of this sort could be deliberately provoked in order to further the commercial or political interests of any single community.

"When Germany has come to the level of the United States and Great Britain in that respect, we may hope that one of the great disturbers of the peace will forever be eliminated. I do not know who will venture to say for a moment that, looking at the internal condition of Germany, as far as we are allowed to see it at the present time, the ideas of which I have been speaking will really grow in such fashion as to raise legitimate hopes that in our lifetimes we shall see that established. But I am sure that if it is not established, the security of Europe will not be established either."

Secretary Lansing's Speech

Following is an Associated Press dispatch from Madison Barracks, N. Y., under date of July 29: In a speech here tonight before 1,700 members of the officers reserve corps, Secretary Lansing in emphasizing the perils of war to the United States men, declared his belief that the German people will not cast off the yoke of autocracy "until the physical might of united democracies of the world has destroyed forever the evil ambition of the military rulers of Germany." "That," he added, "is the only way to restore the peace of the world."

"Were every people on earth able to express their will, there would be no wars of aggression," he said, "and, if there were no wars of aggression, there would be no wars, and lasting peace would come to this earth. The only way that a people can express their will is through democratic institutions. Therefore, when the world is made safe for democracy, when that great principle prevails, universal peace will be an accomplished fact."

"No nation of people will be fit more than the United States when that time comes. But it has yet to come. A great people, ruled in thought and word as well as in deed by the most sinister government of modern times, is straining every nerve to supplant democracy by the autocracy which they have been taught to worship. When will the German people awaken to the truth? When will they arise in their might and cast off the yoke and become their own masters? I fear that it will not be until the physical might of the united democracies of the world have destroyed forever the evil ambitions of the military rulers of Germany, and liberty triumphs over its arch-enemy."

Mr. Lansing sought to drive home to the student officers the righteousness of the cause for which they had volunteered to go to France and fight, asserting that America would win "because our cause is the cause of justice and of right and humanity." The immediate cause of our war with Germany—the breaking off of her promise as to indiscriminate submarine warfare—has a far more deep meaning, he said, than has been thought. "The evil character of the German government is laid bare before the world. We know now that that government is inspired with ambitions which menace human liberty, and that to gain its end it does not hesitate to break faith, to violate the most sacred rights, or to perpetrate intolerable acts of inhumanity."

"It needed but the words reported to have been uttered by the German chancellor to complete the picture of the character of his government when he announced the only reason why the intensified submarine campaign was delayed until February last, was that sufficient submarines could not be built before that time to make the attacks on commerce efficient. Do you realize what this means? If it means anything it is that the promise to refrain from brutal submarine warfare which Germany made to the United States, were never intended to be kept, that they were only made to gain more submarines and that when the time came to act, the German promises were unhesitatingly torn to pieces like other 'scraps of paper.'"

"It is this disclosure of character of German government which is the underlying cause of our entry into the war. We had doubted, or at least many Americans had doubted, the evil purpose of the rulers of Germany. Doubt remains no longer. In the light of events we can read the past and see that for a quarter of a century the absorbing ambition of the military oligarchy which was the master of the German empire, was for world dominion."

Asserting that the future of the United States is at stake, Secretary Lansing said: "If any of you have the idea that we are fighting other's battles and not our own, the sooner you get away from that idea, the better it will be for all of us. Imagine Germany victor in Europe because the United States remained neutral. Who then, think you, would be the next victim of those who are seeking to be masters of the whole earth? Would not this country with its enormous wealth arouse the cupidity of an impoverished though triumphant Germany?"

"Wouldn't this democracy be the only obstacle between the autocratic rulers of Germany and



PEACE: "I CAN'T SEE ANY PLACE WHERE I CAN TAKE HOLD OF IT"

—From De Nieuwe Amsterdammer (Amsterdam)

her supreme ambition! Do you think that they would withhold their hand from so rich a prize? Every man who fights the armies of the German emperor goes forth to fight for his country and for the preservation of those things our forefathers were willing to die for. To those who thus offer themselves we owe the same debt that we owe to those men who in the past, fought on American soil in the cause of liberty."

Answering those whom he said might think it improbable that Germany would attack the United States if she won the war, Mr. Lansing cited things which Germany has been guilty of which were thought "improbable, yes, impossible," before the war—violation of the treaties, the crimes of murder, extortion and vandalism in Belgium and France, submarine brutality and bomb dropping on cities. "Yet, God help us, these things have come to pass," he exclaimed, "and iron crosses have been awarded the perpetrators!"

"But there is more," he continued, "which might be added to this record of unbelievable things which the German government has done. I only need to mention the attempt of foreign officers at Berlin to bribe Mexico to make war upon us by promising them American territory. Spies and conspirators were sent throughout the world. Civil discord was encouraged to weaken the potential strength of nations which might be merciless to the lust of Germany's ruler for world mastery. My friends, I am firmly convinced that the independence of not one nation is safe until the military despotism which holds the German people in the hollow of its hand, has been made impotent and harmless forever. There is but one way to restore peace to the world and that is by overcoming the physical might of German imperialism by force of arms."

"If enthusiasm and ardor can make success sure, then we Americans have no cause for anxiety, no reason to doubt the outcome of the conflict. But enthusiasm of righteousness of your cause, and on a profound conviction of the righteousness of your cause and an implicit faith that the god of battles will strengthen the arm of him who fights for the right."

Most of the boasting that is done about the number of automobiles in a city or state is by persons who do not own them. The average man talks harshly about the careless driving of motor cars and the danger that attends walking in a city, but he doesn't move out on that account.

The government has decided to fix the price of wheat at the primary market, which means where the man who has bought it from the producer sells it. Just what effect that will have upon the consumer is doubtful, unless they either fix the price or the size of the loaf of bread the baker sells.