



WHIP BEHIND, MISTER!

—Ding, in Des Moines Register.

wise French philosopher, Joubert, said: "The governors of the world are Force and Right . . . Force until Right is ready." It was because Prussia, in the course of her savage and criminal rage, injured the United States, and added insult to injury by telling American citizens that, if they did not want to be injured, they must keep out of the way, and only move about, by kind permission of the Kaiser, where Germany was pleased to let them go . . . It was because of this that the United States declared war upon the Central Empires. If this country had meant to take up arms in defence of British or French interests, or in the interest

of Belgium, or in order to spread democracy, it would not have waited until April, 1917. If its aims had been commercial, it would have been in the war long ago. The motive which brought the United States in was not sympathy with any other nation, was not desire for gain, was not an abstract fondness for democracy as opposed to autocratic government: it was self-interest, self-preservation, self-respect. The American people are not fighting to make the world safe for democracy, but to make the world safe for themselves.

The only way to do this is to make Prussia admit that her theory of a State which has no conscience, a

State which can do no wrong, is out of date. It used to be said "the king can do no wrong." We fought that and beat it. Up it bobbed again in a slightly altered form, "The State can do no wrong," just as dangerous, just as much a lie. Treitschke taught that one nation might deceive another, might behave as an individual would be ashamed and afraid to behave, should always be ready to draw the sword and enforce its desires. He taught that "war is just and moral, while the ideal of eternal peace is unjust, immoral and impossible." He said that nations ought to prepare in secret to overthrow those who stood in their way. "War brings to light all that a nation has been doing secretly." How the present war has illustrated that!

Germany Ridicules a League of Nations.

German science took the wrong direction when it went after what the biologists call Neo-Darwinism. Darwin did not teach that "Nature red in teeth and claw" is the ideal for humanity to follow. The German professors transformed his teaching into this. They said that life for nations, as for individuals of all species, must be a violent competitive struggle. A distinguished American biologist, Dr. Vernon Kellogg, spent some time at the German headquarters on the western front. He met there a German Biologist, and from him as well as from others he learned the German theory of international relations so thoroughly that he came to the conclusion that "war to a decision is the only argument understandable of the men at headquarters into whose hands the German people have put their destiny." The view of these men is based upon the belief that the Germans are supermen, a chosen race, and that it is necessary for world-progress that they should forcibly impose their will upon the world. All their intelligence must be devoted to this, no scruple about honor or pity must be allowed to stand in the way. Every means to victory must be used without caring how brutal, how devilish, it may be. "We are the most advanced, the most effective nation, therefore we are meant to crush out the less advanced. That is our idea of progress."

Naturally the deaf professor ridiculed the idea of a League of Nations. He would have poured contempt upon Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler's definition of the "international mind" as "that habit of thinking of foreign relations and that habit of dealing with them which regard the several nations of the civilized world as friendly and co-operating equals in aiding the progress of civilization, in developing commerce and industry, and in spreading enlightenment and culture throughout the world." Treitschke would have defined the international mind as one which considered nations as natural enemies and would look out for every possible opportunity to inflict upon neighbors who did not show themselves sufficiently humble, humiliation and injury.

This is a doctrine which the United States can not accept or tolerate. "The nations of the world," said Secretary Lane in a noble address not long ago, "the nations of the world must keep the faith. There can be no living for us in a world where the state has no conscience, no reverence for the things of the spirit, no respect for international law." The United States refuse to accept Kaiser Wilhelm's insolent boast to Ambassador Gerard in Berlin: "There is no international law now." He meant that Germany had

done away with it. She claimed to put her will in place of law.

If a ruffian stood in the street and declared "There is no law now. I have abolished it. I will kill any one who comes this way without groveling to me for my permission," would American citizens say, "Oh, very well, sir, I suppose you must do as you think fit"? No, American citizens would very quickly have that ruffian out of the way, either locked up or buried with holes through him. That, I think, would be the attitude of Americans as individuals, and the attitude of the nation is the same towards the ruffianly attempt of the Hohenzollern war party to substitute their will for the law of nations and to "bulldoze" the United States.

Either America or Germany Must Conquer

For this cause American armies are being sent to France. That is where the enemy of the world's peace must be brought to book. Mayor Thompson of Chicago is reported as having said, "I do not believe in sending our youths to the trenches of Europe instead of providing an adequate army to prevent home invasion." The war can be ended, the world can be made safe for us all to live in, only by fighting the Germans where they are. History shows that all nations which have waited to be attacked have suffered in consequence. Ask any Frenchman whether he thinks it an advantage to France that the war is raging on French soil. There could only be one answer to such a foolish question. The American army must fight the Germans in Europe in order to prevent them from bringing the war to the United States.

The task which the United States has taken up in consequence of the Prussian attack upon its sovereign rights is the task of throwing into the scale the last weight which will turn it against Germany. That task may be summed up in three F's—Feed, Finance, Finish. When there are two million American troops facing the common foe of all nations which put Right before Might, the Finish of the war will be at hand. The world looks to American initiative, enterprise and innate love of freedom to put an end, let us hope for all time, to an attempt to tyrannize, unprecedented in history.

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