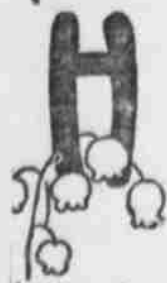


# Sowing Horror in God's Name.

The leading clergy of Germany preach that the world must suffer until it accepts Teutonic rule administered by the Kaiser.



"URRAH and Hallelujah" is the rather startling title of a new book published, dealing with Germany's war spirit. It is written by a citizen of a neutral nation, and a theologian, J. P. Bang, D. D., professor of theology at the University of Copenhagen, and he justifies its title by the statement that "the new German spirit has found one of its most classical expressions in a collection of poems published by a German pastor, Konsistorialrat Dietrich Vorwerk, under the significant title, 'Hurrah and Hallelujah,' and I find in this combination something so absolutely characteristic of the German spirit that I have adopted it as the title for this book."

This book, in the opinion of Ralph Connor, who has written the preface to it, "constitutes the most terrific arraignment of Germany through her intellectual and religious leaders which has yet been put forth. Out of her own mouth it is that she stands before the world condemned. And the tragedy of it all is in this, that these men (whom Doctor Bang quotes) are sincere, deeply, passionately sincere. And herein consists the awful nemesis that has after 50 years' pursuit at length overtaken the German soul. For the crime of Germany today of which these sermons and lectures convict her is not hypocrisy; but the long practice of hypocrisy has induced in her a spiritual blindness which has become at once her calamity and her curse."

"The allies," says Doctor Bang, "have denounced the Germans as barbarians. If this were meant to imply that Germany was not a civilized nation (Kulturnation) such an accusation would, of course, be absurd. Germany is unquestionably a civilized nation and none of the spokesmen of the allied powers would think of saying that she has produced rich treasures of 'Kultur.' Wherever the German mind has labored, wonderful riches have been the outcome. In the most diverse domains, but especially in those of music, of literature, of science and religion, it would be easy to mention names that shine with the luster of renown throughout the whole world. But the charge of barbarism points in an entirely different direction. It points to a development within Germany which has been going on with headlong rapidity, especially during the last 50 years. Even the highest Kultur can turn to barbarism when it becomes subservient to utterly false and immoral ideas. In Germany such a craving for power, such a worship for mere strength, has taken root and grown, that the claim of right to be a determining factor in international relations has been entirely pushed aside. A colossal and ever increasing self-admiration, a belief in the glory of all things German, the surpassing merits of the German nature (Wesen), which alone has the right to rule the world, a cynical, brutal assertion that in relation to this claim all existing treaties, all appeals to international law, all consideration for weaker peoples, are of no significance whatever—all this we have witnessed with shuddering astonishment."

### Foretold Belgium's Fate.

"The first place is due to Ernst Moritz Arndt, the great German patriot of the time of the War of Liberation. As early as 1834 he declared in one of his writings that the neutrality of Belgium could not possibly be maintained in a future war. He wrote:

"Belgium, the granary and armory, is predestined to be the battlefield in the struggle for the Meuse and the Rhine. I ask any general or statesman who has seriously considered the problems of war and politics whether Belgium can remain neutral in a European war—that is to say, can be respected as neutral any longer than may appear expedient to the power which feels itself possessed of the best advantages for attack."

"The German writer, G. Traub, makes the following inimitable comment on the above:

"Thus an Arndt has, as far back as 80 years ago, given us absolution for this so-called breach of neutrality, having foreseen that it is here a question of higher necessities, and that Belgium herself, that 'half French country,' cannot possibly remain neutral."

"The second German prophet is the well-known philologist and theologian, P. de Lagarde. Already in 1874 he expressed the view that Bismarck's creation of the German empire was only an episode on the way to the formation of the Great Middle European state. He calls the German empire 'Little Germany.' Even at that time Lagarde, as a German has lately put it, formulated the national demands which the Germans, 'not with unblinking arrogance, but realizing the inherent necessity of the case,' must consider as the indispensable foundation for the German people's co-operation in the history of mankind. These demands are extensions of frontier both towards the East and the West."

"The greatest and most popular of all the new German prophets is, however, the poet Emanuel Geibel, whose centenary has recently been celebrated (born 1815, died 1884). It is he who has given the classic expression to the new German hope of Germany's victorious march through the world. This has been achieved in the lines to which I have already referred, and which are quoted times without number in the newest German war literature:

"Und es mag am deutschen Wesen  
Einmal noch die Welt genesen!"

"The world may yet again be healed by Germanism? The hope here expressed has become a certainty for modern Germany, and the Germans see in this the moral basis for all their demands. He says:

"Germany had set her mind upon building her house in peace, but then came her hereditary foe, puffed up with venom and envy. The blood so criminally shed shall be upon him and his brood. We do not dream of an easy victory; this war is a world judgment, and strong is the spirit of lies; but he who was once the stronghold of our fathers will again see us safely through it, be assured of that!

"God, who went before us in the flame of fire, now grant our people strength for the last victory, strength to root out the dark seed of lies, the foreign alloy, from our hearts, in faith, word and deed. Enter at every portal, thou strong



(Oscar Cesare in New York Evening Post.)

German spirit, which, born of light, dost show us the way to light, and establish in our midst, at once weapon-strong and pious, in freedom, discipline and morality, thy millennium!"

### The German Lord's Prayer.

"The new German spirit has found one of its most classical expressions in a collection of poems published by a German pastor, Konsistorialrat Dietrich Vorwerk, under the significant title, 'Hurrah and Hallelujah.' In the first edition of Pastor Vorwerk's poems there occurred a paraphrase of the Lord's Prayer, of which I will cite the last three petitions and the close:

"Though the warrior's bread be scanty, do thou work daily death and tenfold woes unto the enemy. Forgive in merciful long suffering each bullet and each blow which misses its mark! Lead us not into temptation of letting our wrath be too tame in carrying out thy divine judgment! Deliver us and our ally from the infernal enemy and his servants on earth. Thine is the kingdom, the German land; may we, by aid of thy steel-clad hand, achieve the power and the glory!"

He thus invokes God in a battle prayer:

"Thou who dwellest high above cherubim, seraphim and Zepplins in thy heaven; thou who art enthroned as a God of thunder in the midst of lightning from the clouds, and lightning from sword and cannon, send thunder, lightning, hail and tempest hurting upon our enemy, bestow upon us his banners, hurl him down into the dark burial pits."

Another poet, Fritz Philipp, has written the following poem, entitled "World-Germany":

"In the midst of the world war Germany lies like a peaceful garden of God behind the wall of her armies. Then the poet hears the giant strides of the new armor-clad Germany; the earth trembles, the nations shriek, the old era sinks into ruin. Formerly German thought was shut up in her corner, but now the world shall have its coat cut according to German measure ('Zeit wird der Welt gemessen Der Rock nach deutschem Maass'), and as far as our swords flash and German blood flows, the circle of the earth shall come under the tutelage of German activity."

"We have become a nation of wrath; we think only of the war. We execute God's almighty will and the edicts of his justice we will fulfill, imbued with holy rage."

Other German poets revel in radiant visions of the blessings which victorious Germany is to show upon the poor, thirsty, ailing world.

### German Virtue "Gushes."

One F. Lienhardt writes:

"When these storms have done their work, Germany's purest mission begins: to become a place of refuge, a holy grove for all the seekers of the earth, a central land, a land of wisdom, a land of morals. Then will it be the flower-wreathed hospitable gateway, facing towards the glittering East."

Another, K. Hildebrand:

"Blessings stream and flow down upon those who have given themselves up to thee; there German virtues gush limpid forth, there German power wells up. What a draught from this spring! Strong and deep and of high courage, the German spirit flows along, the German nature (Wesen) flows far over the life of all nations."

Here is an extract from a German theological professor, the burden of whose thesis was that room must be found in the world-history for that great event, the healing of the sick world by Germanism:

"There are also signs that the German people may be singled out by God to be the means of 'once again' defeating the destructive anti-Christian tendencies of the age, and, in virtue of his having intrusted them above others with his pure gospel, carrying on the course of the mission to its consummation. So much is certain, that God is planning to do something with us. Our people are inspired by the thought that they are called upon to play a special part in the decisive battle between light and darkness, and by the hope of them standing on the side of light."

In the report of an address by another German theological professor, in the Berliner Lokalan-

zeiger for November 13, 1914, we read as follows:

"But the deepest and most thought-inspiring result of the war is 'the German God.' Not the national God, such as the lower nations worship, but 'our God' who is not ashamed of belonging to us, the peculiar acquirement of our heart. Max Lenz has already testified to the revelation of the 'German God,' and Luther's hymn, 'Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott,' merely expresses the same idea in other words."

Doctor Bang then proceeds to substantiate his statements in detail by quotations from German war sermons, of which we have only space for one or two samples. H. Francke is the author of a popular book of "war-sermons," which was ornamented with the iron cross and published at the request of numerous members of his flock. Here is a typical utterance of the many quoted by Doctor Bang:

### A Promise of the Lord.

"They envy us our freedom, our power to do our work in peace, to excel in virtue of ability, to fulfill our appointed task for the good of the world and humanity, to heal the world by the German nature, to become a blessing to the people of the earth. Wherever the German spirit obtains supremacy, there freedom also prevails. And have not our enemies to fall back upon lies and venomous calumnies in the endeavor to justify their assault in the world's eyes and their own? Does this not prove that the truth, too, is with us? Truth and freedom, those two great blessings, are in our gospel promised by the Lord himself."

"Germany is precisely—who would venture to deny it?—the representative of the highest morality, of the purest humanity, of the most chastened Christianity. He, therefore, who fights for its maintenance, its victory, fights for the highest blessings of humanity itself and for human progress. Its defeat, its decline, would mean a falling back to the worst barbarism."

Walter Lehmann is the pastor of Hamberge in Holstein. He has preached a series of sermons which he has published under the title: "About the German God." The book is ornamented with the iron cross.

In a sermon of August 23 the question is put: "Who is responsible: the crazy murderer in Sarajevo, the weakling in character and will on the Russian imperial throne, the criminal grand dukes, our neighbors on both sides, or the deceitful islands? In any case it is not we." He then lauds the Fatherland, the mother tongue—it is for these we are fighting, and "Germany is the future of humanity."

"He who in these days sets forth to defend the German hearth, sets forth in a holy fight; he sets forth to a great, incomparable divine service, in which, indeed, one neither prays nor sings, but in which one stakes life itself, this single sweet, beloved life, for the life of a whole nation, a nation which is God's seed-corn for the future."

In a discourse on Sedan day, September 2, he rises to loftier heights. "Once again German soldiers are treading the soil of places rendered famous by the war of 1870-71. Once again German soldiers lie at St. Quentin, preparing, quietly and confidently, for the march on Paris. God writes, indeed, a wonderful history."

"Yes, but so it is, my friends: that glorious feat of arms 44 years ago gives us courage to believe that the German soul is the world's soul, that God and Germany belong to one another."

Here is one from Karl Koenig, the author of "Six War Sermons":

### It Is God's Will.

"God does not will the war, but he wills that we, as Germans, shall will freedom, because otherwise we cannot fulfill our great tasks in the service of mankind, and be enabled to become a source of love and light, of truth, virtue and religion. We Germans did not will the war, but we did will and are bound to will freedom. And because they will not let us have it, it was God's will that we should will the war. And thus we carry on the war in God's cause, in the cause of mankind, in the cause of liberty, in the cause of our dear, great Fatherland."—Kansas City Star.

## MINOR NOTES FROM ALL PARTS OF NEBRASKA

### DATES FOR COMING EVENTS.

- May 22-25—Nebraska Sportsmen's Association Annual Tournament at Fremont.
- May 24-25—State Association of Commercial Clubs' Meeting at Alliance.
- June 4 to 7—Nebraska State Dental Society Meeting at Omaha.
- June 5 to 7—Nebraska-Iowa Funeral Directors Joint Meeting at Omaha.
- June 5-6-7—State Association of Postmasters' Meeting at Lincoln.
- June 15 to 24—Nebraska State Holiness Association camp meeting at Lincoln.
- June 18-20—Nebraska Press Association Annual Convention at Omaha.
- June 19-20—Nebraska State Sunday School Convention at Omaha.
- June 25 to 27—International Ass'n. of Railway Special Agents and Police Meeting at Omaha.
- June 25 to 30—State Golf Tournament at Lincoln.

The position of supervisor of German in the Omaha public schools, which has been held by Ferdinand Stedinger has been abolished and it is the belief of school board members that German will not be taught in Omaha schools next year.

Bread in Omaha is selling for ten cents per pound. The manager of one baking concern states he aims to make his loaves from sixteen to seventeen ounces, but one pound for ten cents is the prevailing price.

The Dodge county Sunday school association is planning to run an "automobile special" to Omaha for the purpose of attending the state Sunday school convention June 18 to 21.

Scottsbluff will entertain the Grand Lodge of the Nebraska Knights of Pythias in annual session next year. This was decided at the recent meeting of the order at Lincoln.

The Geneva board of education has decided to graduate all seniors immediately who will work on farms. Several have signified their intention of taking advantage of the offer.

The Nebraska League of Savings and Loan Associations meeting, which was to be held at Hastings this month, has been postponed until the fall months on account of the war.

Hotel men in Lincoln say that it costs from 30 to 75 per cent more to run a hotel now than it did eighteen months ago. They contemplate a sharp advance in rates.

Harold Desmond, dope fiend and burglar, confessed to police that he had robbed thirty-seven stores in Omaha within the last month and stolen \$5,000 worth of loot.

Stanton has opened modern rest rooms for women. Farmers' wives find them a great convenience on shopping days and their town sisters serve tea gratis.

Five hundred boy scouts, armed with shovels, rakes, hoes and other farm implements, paraded through the downtown streets of Omaha in a "farm preparedness" parade.

Dr. Bailey, druggist of Bushnell, Kimball county, was arrested recently on the charge of keeping intoxicants for sale and paid a fine of \$100 and costs in the county court.

Building operations at Omaha during the month of April were 13 per cent larger than for the corresponding month of last year.

More than 235 head of cattle were auctioned off at Fremont. The cattle were sold in carload lots and brought \$120,000.

Sixty Aurora school children have enrolled in the school garden project launched by four of the leading women's clubs of the town.

Aurora is to hold a special election May 29 to vote on a \$40,000 school bond proposition.

A branch of the Red Cross society has been organized at Elgin.

A movement is to be inaugurated to put a silo on every farm in Gage county this summer to aid the farmer in raising stock and conserving the food supply. A Beatrice bank offers farmers of the county loans at 2 per cent per annum to further the movement.

The executive committee of the State Press association held a meeting at Omaha the other day at which time a tentative program was arranged for the annual meeting to be held in the Nebraska metropolis on June 18, 19 and 20.

Lincoln's street car strike, which has been seriously interfering with traffic and business for two weeks, is at an end, according to President W. E. Sharp of the Lincoln Traction Co. He declared that nine of the strikers had gone back to work and complete service has now been restored.

Work on the new Hanover German Lutheran church at Beatrice is nearing completion, and it is believed will be ready for dedication in July. The church will cost over \$40,000 when completed.

Three thousand five hundred dollars of the \$6,000 bonus asked by the Westover Foundry of Lincoln, which plans on putting in a foundry at Norfolk, has been subscribed by Norfolk citizens.

The question of constructing a sewerage system is being discussed at Randolph, and an election will be held May 29 to vote \$8,000 bonds for the purpose.

The Omaha city council has passed an ordinance making it a fine of \$5 to \$100 for trespassing or molesting garden plots in any way.

Nebraska's winter wheat crop for this year is placed at 11,500,000 bushels according to May 1 estimates of the United States bureau of crop statistics, a little more than one-sixth as large as last year's crop, which was close to 64,800,000 bushels. Much alfalfa in the state has been killed, but no estimate is made. Red clover is nearly a total loss, says the report, and the hay supply in Nebraska is the lowest in years.

Douglas county officials swooped down on Anton Larson, a dairyman west of Omaha, and seized the largest quantity of booze ever confiscated in this part of the country. The contraband contained 1,230 cases of beer and approximately 500 gallons of whiskies and wines, valued at \$5,000. Larson declares the liquor was for his own personal use. He was arrested and released on bond.

Chauncey Abbott, junior member of the firm of Wells, Abbott, Nieman company of Schuyler, operators of one of the largest flouring mills in the state, at a meeting of the National Federation of Millers at Kansas City was appointed a member of a committee of four to go to Washington to confer with the federal agricultural department relative to making war flour.

Exeter citizens gave John Barleycorn a public funeral the other day. A procession of automobiles, headed by a car containing the coffin in which lay the effigy of old Al K. Hall, brought the body to the center of town and a public cremation took place. A male quartette furnished the music.

Lincoln banks subscribed for \$200,000 of government war bonds. The largest subscription came from the National Bank of Commerce, which took \$100,000 of the bonds. Other banks are contemplating additional subscription and it is anticipated double this amount will be subscribed from the city.

Albin Vraspir, of Clarkson, 32 years old, former training partner of Joe Stecher, who admits he is worth more than \$200,000 in his own name, has joined the aviation branch of the army as a private. He has sold his \$50,000 automobile business in Clarkson and is now anxious to do "his bit."

A Cass county merchant proposes to let three of his clerks go to the farm for three days in the week, that they may help produce larger crops for the world's greatest emergency. He will pay them wages while they are thus working for somebody else.

Omaha is contemplating the establishing of a municipal canning factory. The idea would be to equip the plant so that vegetables raised by Omaha people could be brought there and canned, and turned back to the growers for only the actual cost of the canning.

Peru State Normal faculty, by a unanimous vote, decided to grant credits to students who enlist or who present evidence to show that their services in agriculture or elsewhere will help solve the present national problem.

Thirty Fremont school boys from 13 to 18 years of age have signed up for farm work. High school students who quit school to work on the farms will be given their credits for the remainder of the term.

Nebraska military men have figured out that there are approximately 125,000 men in this state who will have to register under the conscription law with the age limits fixed at 21 to 31 years.

On June 5 Omaha will annex two more suburbs—Benson and Florence, according to an ordinance passed by the city council.

Winter wheat is reported as in excellent condition in the western part of the state and a good crop is looked for.

The Waterloo Creamery company of Omaha has made Fairbury a big branch.

A coroner's jury found that Calvin Lambert, former Omaha street car conductor, fired the shot that killed William Miller during the street car strike in Lincoln. Lambert will have to face a charge of second degree murder. He was employed by the car company to aid in breaking the strike.

Hastings butchers have entered an agreement not to slaughter calves nor to sell veal until after November 1. It is hoped that other towns will do likewise and thus help to make more certain the supply of beef next fall and winter.

Tartus Sherman was killed at Red Cloud by the caving in of a sewer ditch. He was working in the trench back of a ditching machine when the side of the ditch gave way and allowed the dirt piled along the ditch to fall with little warning.

The laboring people of Beatrice have organized a club known as the laborers' liberty league of America. The purpose of the league is to "provide for members all the necessaries of life at the lowest possible cost." Louise Shear is president.

Casualties among the Canadian overseas forces as given out by the war records office at Ottawa, Can., show that J. A. Bouche of Greeley, Neb., was killed in action somewhere in Europe.

"Motor Highway," a semi-monthly publication devoted to auto owners and good roads in Nebraska is a new periodical to be launched in Lincoln June 1.

Over thirty Kearney State Normal school students have enlisted in either the army, the navy or tendered their services to farmers.