

EUROPE LEARNS NOTHING FROM THE WORLD WAR

QUESTION NOW IS "WHEN WILL THE NEXT WAR BEGIN?"

Martial Drums Heard Above the Voices of Peace—Seeking Statesmen According to Report from London

LONDON, April 29—Europe is said to have learned nothing and forgotten everything about the world war.

The anvil on which war is forged is scarcely cooled, and the bellows are again being applied to the crackling embers.

While the statesmen of Europe, standing jauntily before the footlights, are tuning their harps to peaceful melodies, the muffled clanging of impatient armies is heard off-stage.

The question most frequently asked among the audience in this European arena is not, "Will there be another war?" but "When will it begin?" and "Where will it break out?"

While the statesmen's Jazz Band plays Those Peacetime Blues, the insistent martial drums will intrude with their disconcerting rattle.

Without the United States, Germany and Russia, the League of Nations finds its pacific influence turned into an object of unreserved cynicism throughout wide circles on the continent. Even if Germany is admitted to the League, it remains to be seen whether the politicians of the Reich will be able to surmount the disbelief of the German millions in the League's efficiency.

As for Russia—I remember a recent conference of foreign correspondents at the Moscow foreign office. A German correspondent had just asked the high Soviet official, who was presiding, whether the Soviet Union would join the League. There was a moment of tense silence. The mouth of the Soviet spokesman turned upward into a slow smile.

Another correspondent suddenly laughed outright and in a moment the whole conference was enjoying the joke. What? Somebody taking the League seriously? Loud guffaws from the assembled multitude. The German newspaper man, who had put the question, grinned sheepishly. No, if you mention the League in Moscow you must keep your tongue in the cheek—or take the consequences of ridicule.

Of course, there are other projects. We hear much nowadays of the outlawry of war and the Hague tribunal. But while these schemes remain what Senator Borah calls "Buildings without foundations"—buildings where enterprising lawyers may exercise their forensic skill—Europe, the real Europe, continues to be a cauldron of national and economic rivalries, simmering now but with a growing tendency to boil over, turbulently.

Britain warily watches France's huge air fleet assume greater dimensions, while France sees her naval power relegated to an uncertain fourth place. In the Saar and Rhineland, restless populations are alternately having their nationalist passions inflamed by France and Germany.

In Central Europe, German chauvinism is recovering momentum, Austria with four-fifths of her former industry delivered to Czechoslovakia, withers from economic impotence. Czechoslovakia, still nursing a grudge against Poland for the Teschen "plebiscite," is wondering when the Hungarian irredentists will strike out. And, meanwhile, the burly Slovaks cry "Autonomy!" and the German-Bohemian jingoes await the moment when Germany can support their demands against the Czechs. Hungary contemplates her despoiled empire and, giving vent to her humiliation, echoes her old warwhoop, "No, no, never!"

To the Southeast, in the Balkans, the familiar signs of unrest are not lacking. Belgrade, has resorted to dictatorship. Yugoslavia and Bulgaria watch one another across their frontier, wondering which will leave the first brick. The Macedonians continue their policy of provoking first the Serbs and then the Bulgarians in the hope that some day, while the two are quarreling, Macedonia may run off with the coveted bone of independence.

Rumania, with her swollen territories, keeps Transylvania "loyal" with troops and gendarmes and lives in perpetual dread of a Bessarabian uprising or Russian invasion. Turkey and Greece add to the joy of life in the Balkans by baring their teeth at one another and growling. Albania is being ogled by Yugoslavia and Italy, rivals for domination over the Adriatic.

In Eastern Europe, Poland and Germany maintain a half-armed truce, each biding his hour. In the Baltic

provinces, Lithuania seeks a new combination of powers against Poland, while others are trying to hammer the Baltic block into an anti-Soviet bulwark. Soviet Russia, convinced that her enemies are crouching for a spring, keeps her gunpowder dry.

From Hamburg to the Black Sea and from Moscow to the Adriatic, Europe affords a spectacle of nations which appear to be spoiling for a fight. Some have bitten off more than they can chew; others are in a backbiting mood.

Blindfold yourself and place a pencilpoint anywhere on the map of Europe and you are bound to strike some spot of strife. Through many months these raw trouble-makers of Europe are dormant. A political assassination (like that of Sophia) may set the tongues of flame leaping. Rivalry for a coal deposit or an oil well may set off the bomb. Even some petty dispute may be enough to stir the latent animosities of nations into heated controversies.

UTICA ITEMS.

Miss Oleira Hamilton spent last Thursday with her mother, Mrs. Allen Grey.

Don Miller, who is attending the Missouri Wesleyan College at Cameron, spent the week end with home folks and friends.

Mrs. V. B. Sherman, who underwent an operation at the New Hospital in Chillicothe returned home last Sunday. Her many friends are glad to know she is improving.

The annual Junior-Senior banquet which was held at the Utica high school last Saturday evening was a success and a good time was had by all. Quite a number of the alumni members were present.

Mr. and Mrs. L. M. Bonderer and son have returned to their home in Kansas City after a short visit with relatives here.

Mrs. Frank Bench attended the alumni banquet here Saturday night.

Mrs. Harry Myers, Herbert Walz and R. L. Turner visited relatives in Chillicothe last Thursday.

Mrs. C. C. Thompson and children spent Tuesday with her mother, Mrs. J. D. Dale.

A number from here attended the I. O. F. meeting and program in Chillicothe Monday evening.

Ray W. Myers spent the week end with his mother, Mrs. Lizzie Myers.

Mr. and Mrs. R. T. McCoy and son have returned from a short visit with her folks in Branson, Mo.

Floyd Bagley is the guest of the P. E. Bagley family.

R. W. Potts and son Ray of Nettleton were guests of relatives here Thursday evening.

The M. A. Potts family spent Sunday with W. B. Merriman and family.

Herbert Braden returned to Kansas City Tuesday after spending a few days with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Braden.

Mrs. Jewel Potts and Agnes and Paul Potts spent Sunday with relatives here.

Otis Smith visited his brother Harry Smith in Kearney Sunday.

The 4-H club will give a program and a supper in the Community hall Thursday night. Come everyone.

Rev. Hanes delivered a very interesting talk to members of the I. O. O. F. lodge and their friends Sunday afternoon in the M. E. church. The occasion for the program was the 106th anniversary of the founding of the lodge.

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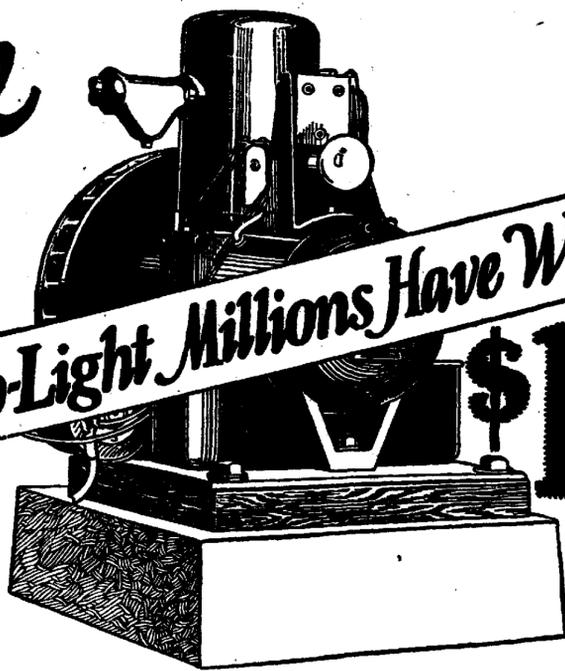
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