

The New York *Tribune* draws the following lesson from "British Failure":

"The tragedy that is contemporary Great Britain has a meaning for Americans that should not, cannot be mistaken. Our leaders have lied to us as the British have lied to them. They have hidden the truth, they have fled the facts and suppressed the truth. They have made us feel safe when we were in peril, they have taught us to be selfish and to forget what our fathers and our grandfathers died to make enduring. When our crisis comes, and that day is not distant, we shall have the same defeats in the field, the same revolts at home, the same wanton waste of all that is best. It, too, will be thrown in the ditch and wasted in the swamp by leaders who cannot lead, and a people which cannot foresee will not then be able to rescue itself from the body of its own death.

"Democracy has failed in England as it is failing in the United States. It has failed because it has not bred up men who can lead, who have courage, faith or vision. It has not failed in France because the nation has taken over its own leadership and the men who are in office (weak men for the most, too) march to the command of a people who are facing the facts without illusion and without dismay. Such hope as there is for democracy must be found in France, not in England or America; it must be found in the fact that the people have proven themselves to be brave and sound. In the ultimate analysis the same will probably be true in Great Britain and America; but how much of terrible sacrifice there is to come before the people are at last able to understand and to act, the British history of recent months is a plain evidence."

There is only one mistake in this view. It is the use of the word democracy. Germany is certainly more democratic than England or France. All we can say in favor of France is that the French army is undoubtedly superior to the armies of the other Allies.

DISPOSING OF THE HYPHENATES.

BY MEDICUS.

It seems to me that in America our patience must by this time have nearly reached the breaking point. Is it not quite time that we follow the examples of France and England, and separate the loyal from the disloyal? Every American should be made to swear allegiance to France and England, and to declare himself in favor of the Allies first, America second. As is our way always in such matters we have been too lenient and procrastinating with those who insist on the United States first. All such should be rigorously interned in barbed wire enclosures. For this purpose I suggest the use of military barbed wire; first because the barbs are heavier and much longer than those of ordinary barbed wire, and second, because our factories are making it on a large scale at present, and it is, therefore, to be had more readily in quantity on short notice. It is the ideal barbed wire for internment camps. The wires should be placed not more than 2 inches apart, and the fences should be 27 feet high. This may seem like a waste of wire; but frankly I think not. Wires strung 2 inches apart will effectually prevent the small children from escaping, and a height of 27 feet will reduce all escapes to a minimum. This, in turn, will operate to reduce materially the number of guards necessary, and at the same time reduce the public expense incident to chasing and tracking down escaped Hyphenates. Another advantage that can hardly be ignored in

a country like ours, ruled by Public Opinion, would be the additional sense of security, especially in isolated rural communities, from the nocturnal practice of the Hyphenates in building concealed concrete gun emplacements. By Hyphenates I understand not only the German-Americans and Austrians living in this country but also the Swedes and the German-Swiss.

Some will object to this plan on the score of expense, and of space required; since probably upward of 50,000,000 inhabitants of this country will have to be so interned. But such objections are more apparent than real. America is large, and the detention space, I calculate, can be reduced to 25 square feet per interne; and in camps where the percentage of infants and children under 5 years of age runs high, this space can doubtless be reduced to 18 square feet per capita. The problem of clothing for the interned is one of comparative simplicity. Each person interned should be required to provide himself before internment with sufficient clothing for the period of his detention. The question of food, however, is one of far greater magnitude; and, indeed, at first glance looms up formidable enough to any Patriot; for the dictates of our humanity will require that these unfortunates be sufficiently supplied with an abundance of nourishing food. On the small allowance of 15 cents a day per capita, the cost to the country seems appalling, not less than \$2,700,000,000 per annum. Every Patriot will agree with me, I believe, that 15 cents a day is all and even more than any Hyphenate deserves; but, unfortunately, as we serve humanity first of all, we must consider 15 cents as a minimum allowance. My suggestion of 15 cents a day as a food allowance is made with hesitation. I am inclined to believe that the cost will be somewhat greater. However, this important question will undoubtedly be equitably adjusted by competent investigators and boards, who will fix upon a sum reasonably satisfactory to both the interned and the nation. Happily there is no reason to fear that our people will be in any degree niggardly. We may even confidently expect that a beautiful charity will grow up in connection with this phase of our public duty, appreciated equally by the world at large and the Hyphenates.

At frequent intervals around each enclosure, towers should be erected on which machine guns are to be mounted for the purpose of maintaining order among the occupants. This machine-gun feature I regard as one of prime importance; for, doubtless, during the first few weeks much disaffection will prevail in the camps.

When I first broached this project to my influential friend, Aliadus, he objected to it on the score of the barbed wire. He maintained that we would be diverting unduly large quantities of wire from its legitimate uses in Europe, and that we can best help our friends there by shipping them our entire output. Fortunately I was soon able to convince him that we can best serve them by using a portion of it for the purpose I have outlined above, and that ways and means can be found to double our production for a short period at least.

My feelings, aroused by these more than 50,000,000 uncurbed Hyphenates in the United States, are so deep that it is difficult for me to restrain myself sufficiently to speak in measured terms. I can sympathize with a German child, war orphaned, and even with a war-widow of Germany, especially if they be hungry. But I cannot express in words my contempt for any sodden-brained American Hyphenate who does not, and apparently cannot, comprehend that the Western European Allies are consciously and wittingly fighting America's

battle for liberty and continued existence; for one who knows not that these same European Allies are battling even to death that the United States may become the first nation of the universe; for one who knows not that England and France love the United States far more than any sodden-brained Hyphenate ever has, or ever will love her. The administration of the adequate and proper words of scorn to the cringing Hyphenate, haled suddenly before James Beck's "Court of Universal Public Opinion," I leave to the able editor of the *New York Times* who has had vastly more practice in writing about Hyphenates than has this writer, and Patriot.

BOOK REVIEWS AND NOTES.

PROTEST AGAINST THE CRUEL WAR; OR, PROPAGANDA TO CREATE A STRONG PUBLIC OPINION AGAINST THE WAR. Published by the author, *Peter Filo Schulte*, Box 43, Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Pamphlet, 20 cents, postpaid.

This work treats the war and peace problems from the monistic view of life. The work is a poignant denunciation of the great war. The author states that the continuation of the war means only the continuation of the killing, suffering and destruction, and that no matter what the outcome of the war the result cannot be lasting. The author declares that permanent peace in the future is attainable only by the formation of a combination of the United States and the chief nations of Europe and the establishment of an international court. Significant are the articles, "Do the People Want War?," "Facts and Figures about World-Life," and "Monistic Ideals." If a person states conclusions that the people like he will receive support and a blind following; but if a person states the hard facts he is likely to receive abuse. The author emphasizes that it is necessary to face the facts and to work accordingly to avoid world-perils like the present great war. π

Our readers will understand that we are not responsible for opinions expressed in our advertisements; further, that it would be positively wrong to exclude advertisements because we do not agree with their statements. For instance in publishing the advertisement of the National Association of the Universal Religion we do not intend to defend the practice of bigamy, nor on the other hand do we wish to suppress the announcement of Mr. Kheiralla's book, especially as it offers "an effective reply to the attacks of Robert P. Richardson" which appeared in *The Open Court* of August 1915 and November 1916. At the time of their appearance we had asked the head of the Bahaists in this country, His Excellency Dr. Zia M. Bagdadi, to refute Mr. Richardson's criticism, and now see incidentally that such a reply is made public in Mr. Kheiralla's book. All direct replies which we received from Bahaists, including Mr. Kheiralla himself, have been given publicity in the columns of *The Open Court* from time to time.

Our frontispiece represents the wandership of Captain Dahul which is a type of Flying Dutchman. The gruesome story of this bloodthirsty pirate was told by Mr. Wilbur Bassett in the January number where it was accompanied by copious notes of the folklore of this tale, including also reference to the Wandering Jew legend.