

representative of a business tradition which has endured for nearly three-quarters of a century.

## GERMANY CALLED THE DANCE SHALL FRANCE PAY THE PIPER?

**D**ESOLATION in France is not the result of war.

When the Germans began to overrun the northern part of France, which is the richest part agriculturally and industrially, they had, it is true, a military purpose, but it was incidental to a purpose that was not in any sense military. They desired and expected a victory, but they determined to secure something for themselves—something which, whether they had victory or not, would remain. So far they have succeeded in getting and retaining it. They set out to put their next-door neighbors out of business. If a victory at arms could be won, so much the better; but a victory at arms would have been only one of the means, and not necessarily an essential means, to the greater and more sinister end. Germany invaded France, not to defeat an enemy, but to destroy a neighbor.

For most people in America it is almost impossible to conceive the truth of this. It is not rhetoric. It is not a figurative way of describing the horrors of war. The cold, businesslike, calculating deliberation with which the Germans planned to destroy the vitality of a people whom they could not conquer is obvious to the most casual observer who has been in Douai, or Cambrai, or St. Quentin, who has seen the acres of murdered fruit trees, or the mining town of Lens. The interior of houses wrecked, though the exterior remained untouched by shell-fire; tombs and graves outside the zone of military operations foully desecrated; tools and machinery capable of use in hastening convalescence from war destroyed or rendered useless; and the very fuel resources of the nation deep in the ground scientifically rendered inaccessible for years to come—these were but some of the means which the Germans used, not to win a decision in a dispute with France, but to enfeeble France and as far as possible destroy her.

Since Americans cannot themselves all be eye-witnesses of the results of German villainy, they are under some moral obligation to heed the testimony of witnesses. Some of this evidence is presented in this issue of *The Outlook*. In his article Stéphane Lauzanne presents some testimony as to what the Germans did to the coal mines at Lens. The

utter desolation of that city, which once harbored over thirty thousand people, is but the superficial sign of the destruction of the coal mines upon which that city depended. So throughout the whole devastated region of France there is to be found this kind of destruction.

It is for this that Germany is called upon to pay by the Treaty of Versailles. It is for this that the Germans have pledged themselves to pay. It is for this that the Germans are morally bound to pay.

Of course the Germans say they cannot pay. That was to have been expected. What was not to have been expected is that they have been believed. Why can they not pay? It is not as if they were asked to do something that nobody had ever done before. In the eyes of the whole world, somebody has already paid. That somebody is France. It seems preposterous for Germany to say that she cannot do what France has already done. She can pay because France has paid. It is not a new burden which France is asking Germany to bear; it is simply the burden that France herself is already bearing. It is simply a question of transferring the German-made burden from the shoulders of France to the shoulders of Germany.

If Germany is allowed to escape the bearing of that burden and to leave it for France to bear, she will have succeeded in one of the main objects in starting what we euphemistically call her war. Of course Germany does not want to bear the burden, but of course she can.

In the light of what France is doing under German compulsion, it would not seem to be necessary to cite figures in order to prove that Germany, under compulsion, can be made to pay for her villainy. But there are figures to support the obvious, if figures are needed. In the "North American Review" for April Stéphane Lauzanne cites some of those figures. He points out that the German Budget for 1920-1 provides for military expenditures a total of four billion three hundred twenty-four million marks and he remarks:

Four billion three hundred twenty-four million marks is a heavy sum. And since Germany is spending it, she must certainly possess it. Could we not, then, say to her: "Please, spend a little less and think a little more of your creditors. Instead of devoting four billions and a half in preparing another war, devote to it only one billion, and pay the other three billions and a half to the victims of the last war you made."

M. Lauzanne gathers from the German Budget some further figures. In 1914 there were 5,500 employees in the Imperial administrations, while to-day there are 80,000. In addition, the employees of the post and telegraph ser-

vices have increased from 168,000 to 420,000. And M. Lauzanne remarks:

Well, for a ruined country, supposed to be up against bankruptcy, this seems to be a great excess of officials and expenditures. Could one not ask Germany: "Why, since you are so poor, do you maintain so many officials? Why, since you complain of having so few railroad cars, have you so many railroad men? Why, since you speak of bankruptcy, do you not try to economize?"

M. Lauzanne also notes that Germany is expending three billion nine hundred forty million marks on the construction of living houses for Germans. And M. Lauzanne remarks:

Now, note that the war has not destroyed one single German village, did not demolish a single German house, nor damage a single German house-roof. Therefore, we do not understand very well the haste that the Reich, who has fewer inhabitants than in 1914, can have to construct more houses. And it seems that one might say: "Pardon, but since you are so anxious to construct houses, then reconstruct those which you destroyed in France!"

M. Lauzanne quotes some other figures—the debt that the German Government is preparing to pay to Germans, but not to their innocent victims, the big dividends which the German industrial and commercial companies are paying to their shareholders, in particular the fine balance of that concern that provided the Germans with means of destruction—the Krupp Company. He also notices, in passing, a little item of a billion marks for champagne and nearly half a billion for horse-racing. M. Lauzanne suggests that Germany can pay for her villainy if she spends less on her army and navy, on her officials, on new constructions at home, on excessive dividends, on champagne and horse-races—that is, she can pay if she be made to pay.

If it proves inconvenient to make Germany pay either in kind for what she has destroyed—to hand over coal for the coal of which she has deprived France, to send back cattle for the cattle she drove off, and so on down the list—or in money, she can be made to pay in labor. Wealth is a combination of natural resources and the labor of men. Germany conscripted her youth for the purpose of destruction. It is not contrary to reason that her youth should now be conscripted for reconstruction. This is not a new idea; but when first suggested it was dismissed as impracticable. There has, however, not been much evidence of the practicability of any substitute. It is about time that this idea were reconsidered. It is reported that organized labor in France, which formerly opposed this on the ground that it would be taking work away from French wage-earners, have seen the fallacy in their opposition and

now consent to the plan. It is also reported that some Germans themselves are seeing that it is practicable. Mathias Erzberger, former German Minister of Finance, has even put forth the idea of labor conscription for raising reparation as an idea of his own. It is true that he would use these men in Germany and let the product of their work be disposed of in the way of reparation. But the idea of using conscript labor for repairing the damage that the conscript soldier has done is the essential thing. And Erzberger believes that the life of the conscript laborer will be much more attractive than the life of the conscript soldier, and could be accompanied with a large measure of freedom, education, and self-government.

In some way, whether in kind, in money, or in labor, Germany can be and should be made to pay.

## ON THE WISDOM OF FOOLS

**S**AID the Young-Old Philosopher: "The world, I think, is divided into two classes of people: those who want to have a good time, and those who are afraid to have a good time.

"The self-consciousness of so many of us is one of the characteristics of an Anglo-Saxon people. We fear ridicule more than the guns of war almost, forgetting Stevenson's clever phrase about Shelley, 'God give me the young man with brains enough to make a fool of

himself.' That should be a justification, if one is needed, for the right kind of mirth, the right kind of periodical escape from the deep, underlying seriousness of life.

"I speak of this because only the other day a friend of mine was arranging a charming little evening at his home, wherein tableaux were to be presented, and several men and women were asked to do harmless 'stunts.' Was it easy to find them? It was not, indeed! They wanted a happy time—there was no doubt of that; but they were fearful of putting themselves on exhibition, as they phrased it. It was undignified for the Vice-President of the So-and-So Bank, for instance, to be a droll, even for ten seconds. And surely Mrs. F. could not think of lending herself to a satire on grand opera! What would her children think of her?"

"My own point of view is that her children would have been delighted, and could say that mother had not lost a particle of her youth; that she possessed the inward vision, if not the outward seeming, of Peter Pan, and that life was all the richer not only for herself but for her friends, when she came down from her exalted and lonely pinnacle for a little time, and romped and played. 'A little nonsense,' you know. If the great minds of the world could occasionally indulge in whimsical limericks—I recently dipped into a Nonsense Anthology, and was amazed to find how many brilliant men and women had written jingles that seemingly meant

nothing at all, but which meant everything—why should not we lesser folk permit ourselves the glorious luxury of being utterly silly now and then? Lewis Carroll found higher mathematics a bore, no doubt, at certain times; and he fled to an imaginary world far from practical figures that he might relieve the tension of his solemn days. Think what the world would have lost had he failed to give in to that divine impulse! Serious-minded judges, I am told, frequently read, in secret, the most trivial books, that their brains may be diverted from the melancholy business of meting out justice. This is an indulgence to that playboy spirit dormant in all right-thinking, healthy people. To kick up our heels just once in so often is only downright sense. No normal man or woman should be ashamed of cavorting now and then; for we can lend a curious dignity to that which is honest, and behind every real clown's simulated gladness lies the mysterious pathos of the grown-up who craves some remnant of his lost youth, and is determined to get it at any cost. I am not alarmed for the adult who has the wisdom to be foolish once in a while; I am far more concerned over the tragedy of the too-serious person who refuses even for a second to jump down from his high horse and become a philosopher with the crowd, no matter how important, seemingly, his station may be.

"For it is good and wise and beautiful to laugh. It is even better and wiser and more wonderful to make others laugh."

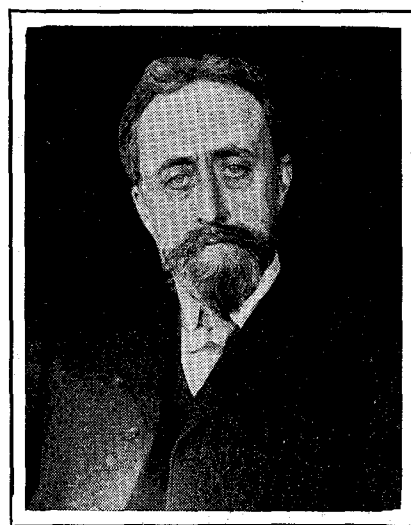
## ANONYMOUS CREATORS

### I—A STAR OF THE FIRST MAGNITUDE

*Full many a gem of purest ray serene  
The dark unfathomed caves of ocean  
bear.*

**I**T is sometimes cynically said that this is the age of self-advertisers, of pushers, climbers, and publicity seekers, that no man can achieve success unless he constantly thrusts himself into the spot-light.

Unfortunately, American life furnishes too much evidence in support of these allegations of the cynics. Nevertheless there occasionally come to light singular instances of men of great public worth and great public service who have neither sought nor received public recognition. They are content to do their far-reaching humanitarian work and pass away unwept, unhonored, and unsung save by their intimate associates who have leaned upon their stability, have been guided by their wisdom, and have been strengthened by their courage. They are not like comets dashing madly with a rush and glare from nowhere into the unknown, the momentary wonder



(C) Bain

STARR MURPHY

and admiration of the gaping crowd, but like fixed and distant stars unseen and unnamed by the world at large yet

depended upon by scientists and navigators as the very bases of their investigations, discoveries, and inventions for the good of mankind.

Such a man was Starr Jocelyn Murphy, a New York lawyer, who recently died at the age of sixty. I dare say that not one in a hundred of those who read these lines ever heard his name before. And yet every one of the hundred has either directly or indirectly benefited by the work he accomplished in behalf of scientific and medical education. His influence reached every State in the Union and as far around the world as China. How did this happen?

Starr Murphy was the son of a clergyman, was born in Connecticut, was graduated from Amherst College in 1881 and from the Columbia Law School in 1883, and had been for some years a successful and respected but unheralded member of the New York bar when, in 1904, he was selected by John D. Rockefeller as his personal counsel and representative in the great and systematic plan of benev-