

# **BRITAIN'S AWAKENING**

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Britain's awakening by A. O. Richardson

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BY  
A. O. RICHARDSON



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*DEDICATED*

*with love and reverence to  
the Empire's fighting sons,  
the super-men of our race,  
who are bearing the bigger  
share of the burden.*

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## PREFACE.

THIS book is in two parts. The first deals mainly with after-the-war trade problems, emphasises the urgent need for vigorous action to combat the German schemes to invade the world's commercial strongholds, to flood them with cheap products of their own manufacture and by a wide movement, to be pressed forward with energy and resolution, to capture the over-seas trade. It pleads for the immediate organisation of Britain's industrial power and the adoption of some definite plan that will prepare the way for a new order of things.

Anticipating an early victory, Germany made her first trade war preparations two years ago and to-day there is good and sufficient reason for the belief that she has all her plans ready and as complete as were her military arrangements in August, 1914. She is ready to strike, and when the appointed hour arrives she will strike hard and swiftly. Herr Ballin has warned us, and it is a warning that should be heeded, that he will teach the English how quickly Germany can demobilise for the trade war.

What is Britain's industrial position in the twenty-eighth month of the war? What have we done in the last two years to equip ourselves for the struggle that is coming, and what are we doing to-day? Germany is fighting for something more than territorial gains in France, Belgium, Poland and the Balkans. She is making war, as Mr. Hughes told us, for "the economic domination of the earth." When will Britain's defensive and offensive plans be ready?

The Government has appointed a Committee to consider the resolutions passed at the Paris Conference and has, so we have been told, come to the conclusion that the possibility of a German dumping scheme may have to be considered. That apparently represents the sum total of progress made in two and a quarter years.