

**NATIONAL POWER AND  
PROSPERITY: A STUDY OF  
THE ECONOMIC CAUSES  
OF MODERN WARFARE**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649163137

National power and prosperity: a study of the economic causes of modern warfare by Conrad Gill

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.  
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

[www.triestepublishing.com](http://www.triestepublishing.com)

**CONRAD GILL**

**NATIONAL POWER AND  
PROSPERITY: A STUDY OF  
THE ECONOMIC CAUSES  
OF MODERN WARFARE**



# NATIONAL POWER AND PROSPERITY

A STUDY OF THE ECONOMIC  
CAUSES OF MODERN WARFARE

BY

CONRAD GILL, M.A.,

Of King's College, Cambridge, and the University of Leeds;  
Lecturer in Economic History in the Queen's University, Belfast;  
formerly Assistant Lecturer in the Victoria University, Manchester

WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY

GEORGE UNWIN, M.A.,

Professor of Economic History in  
the Victoria University, Manchester

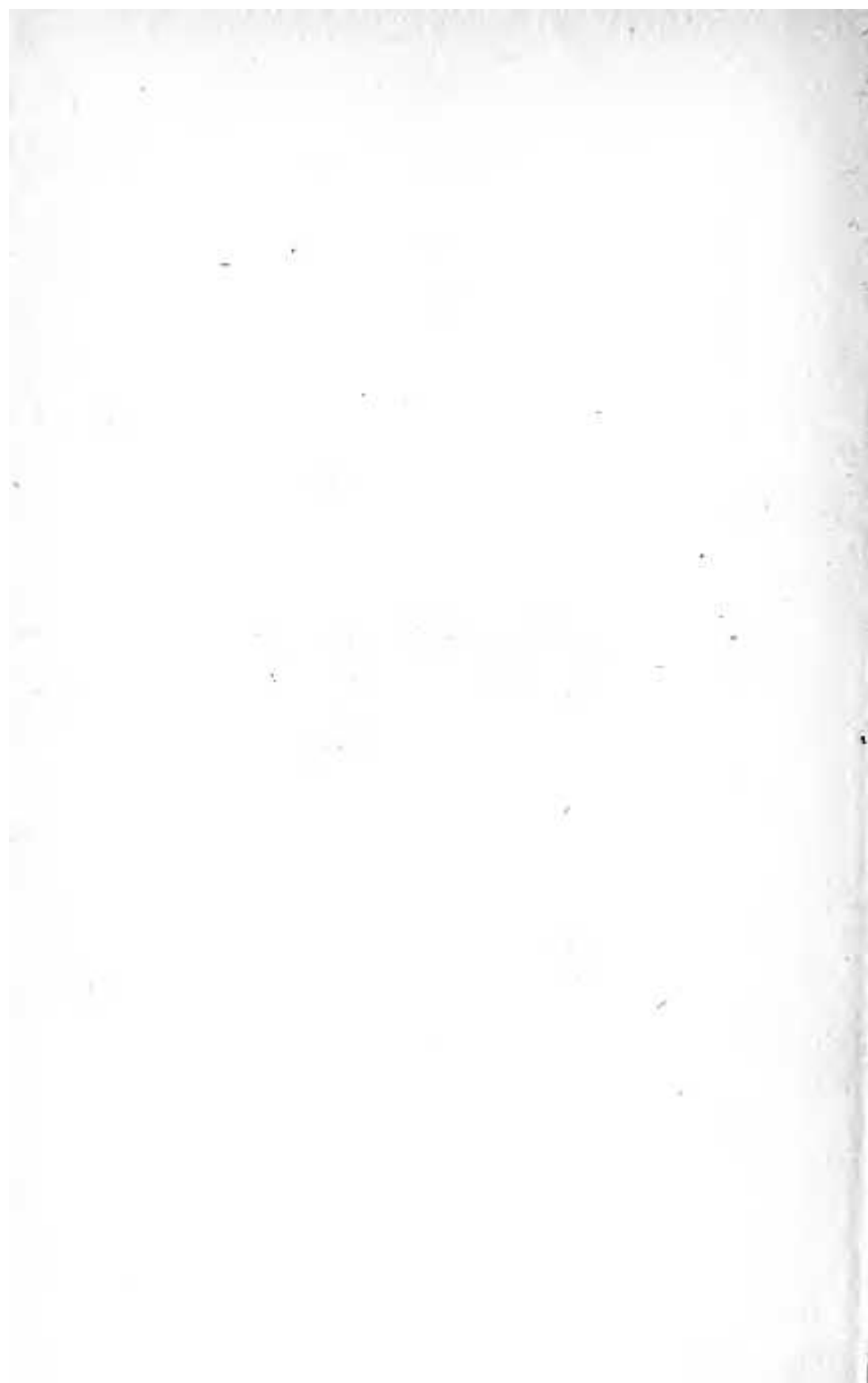
259175  
17.9.31

T. FISHER UNWIN, LTD.  
ADELPHI TERRACE, LONDON

*First Published in 1916*

*[All rights reserved]*

O gente umana, perchè poni il core  
Là 'v' è mestier di consorto divieto?





## CONTENTS

CHAPTER	PAGE
INTRODUCTION - - - -	xiii
I.—NATIONAL INTERESTS - - -	I
II.—SOME MODERN ILLUSTRATIONS :	
German Policy - - - -	II
Gneist - - - -	15
Treitschke - - - -	17
Marcks - - - -	25
Schmoller - - - -	27
III.—NATIONAL POLICY : MERCANTILISM IN PRACTICE :	
Growth of National Policy -	31
Methods of Mercantilism -	39
Results of Mercantilism - -	46
IV.—NATIONAL POLICY : MERCANTILISM IN THEORY :	
Power and Prosperity - -	53
Conflicting Interests - -	55
Sovereignty - - - -	59
The Abstract State - -	64
The State and Society - -	74
Some Forerunners of Adam Smith - - - -	86

CHAPTER	PAGE
V.—THE BRITISH EMPIRE AND THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION :	
Growth of the Empire - -	93
Rule of the Empire - -	98
The Industrial Revolution and the Empire - - -	101
The Industrial Revolution and Liberty - - - -	105
VI.—MERCANTILISM AT THE PRESENT DAY :	
Survivals of Mercantilism -	116
Non-economic Motives of Warfare :	
National Honour - -	122
Religion - - - -	123
National Feeling - -	124
Dynastic Ambition - -	132
Strategy - - - -	135
Importance of Economic Motives - - - -	136
VII.—FUTURE DEVELOPMENT :	
Progress by Experience - -	142
Progress by Faith - - -	153
Progress by Reason - -	156
The Basis of International Law	160
The Extension of Law and Association - - -	169
INDEX - - - - -	177

## PREFACE

THIS essay had its origin in discussions with members of the Workers' Educational Association, at a summer school held in Bangor. The substance of these discussions was expanded into a number of lectures which were given in various parts of England and Ireland, and the lectures have gradually formed themselves into a rather loosely constructed essay. In the present political storm many people are seeking an anchorage for their minds in the study of international relations. My hope in publishing these lectures is that they may help such students to gain clear ideas on a few matters of fundamental importance.

I have kept as far as possible to broad lines of thought, avoiding details and digressions which might tend at the same time to accuracy and to confusion. So, for example, in my brief survey of the Mercantile System no attempt is made to trace the gradual changes in mercantilist doctrines : the decline of the bullionist principle, and the consequent