

**AN UNCENSORED  
DIARY FROM THE  
CENTRAL EMPIRES**

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An uncensored diary from the central empires by Ernesta Drinker Bullitt

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BY  
ERNESTA DRINKER BULLITT

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## FOREWORD

The portion of my diary, which is published in this book, was written without thought of publication. Remembering how greatly the diary, which my great-great-grandmother Elizabeth Drinker kept during the Revolution, had interested her descendants, I recorded for my great-grandchildren my experiences last summer in Germany, Austria, Hungary, and Belgium.

When publishers asked for the diary a century before I had expected, I did not attempt to polish loose-jointed English or to suppress any but personal incidents. The pages of the book stand as written within the lines of the Central Powers.

The character referred to as "Billy," throughout the diary, is my husband, William C. Bullitt.

ERNESTA DRINKER BULLITT.

Philadelphia, January 17, 1917.



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**CHAPTER I**  
**GERMANY**

## I

### GERMANY

*Copenhagen, May 14, 1916.*

ONCE upon a time, a thousand years ago, before the war, one went abroad with no more preparation than a steamer ticket and an American Express check or two. Two days ago, we undertook to go from Holland to Denmark, via Germany. Before daring to approach Bentheim, the German frontier, we were equipped with passports, thrice viséd; a special letter of identification from the Department of State, birth certificates, letters to the frontier authorities from Count Bernstorff and the German Minister at The Hague, eighty-seven other letters of introduction, two letters of credit, and a Philadelphia police card.

We entered Germany at six in the afternoon laden with the milk of human kindness. We were broad-minded before we touched Germany. We—particularly Billy—were ready to understand Germany. Billy said he could see their point of view perfectly.