

**STUDIES OF THE GREAT
WAR; WHAT EACH
NATION HAS AT STAKE**

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Studies of the great war; what each nation has at stake by Newell Dwight Hillis

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NEWELL DWIGHT HILLIS

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What Each Nation has at Stake

By
NEWELL DWIGHT HILLIS



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Foreword

NOT since 1861, when the Union was threatened, has our country witnessed days so dark. War vultures, with black wings, brood the earth as couriers of poverty, sorrow and death. During many months, multitudes have known but one colour—black, have had but one song—a funeral dirge.

More men were killed on the field of battle during the first twenty weeks of war than there were people in the whole world in the time of the Flood. History holds the story of many wars, but history tells us that this is the first one that has involved all of the five continents of our earth. Already fifteen million men are in battle, or preparing for conflict. The results of the war are manifest through the crippling of international trade and banking, and the practical destruction of Twentieth Century commerce. The time has not yet come for entire moral appraisements, with distribution of praise and blame. The ideal is neutrality, and the postponement of judgment until all the facts are in.

Foreword

It is easy to preserve that attitude of mind so long as one nation charges crime and another denies the charge; but the moment one nation, through its Prime Minister, "confesses" guilt, saying, "We have done a wrong in breaking our treaty, but later on we will repair it,"—then it becomes logically necessary to bring the verdict up to date.

In general terms, war is the negation of the Ten Commandments. Alchemy, witchcraft, astrology, duels and war belong alike to the cave-man, and the era of savages. God made Europe as an Eden garden, where the tree of life ripens purple clusters for hungry pilgrims, but to-day men have split the boughs of the life-giving tree into spears, and fed its blossoms to their war horses. Rulers have despised peace, and refused good will to their brother men. When hate and war are rampant, the one duty of the hour is to teach love, peace and justice. When the furrow is open, even though by the hot ploughshares of war, that is the time to sow the seed.

When Jesus was in Jerusalem, He did not talk about the events that once happened to Moses in Egypt,—He studied the signs of the times, and interpreted the way of God to men in Jerusalem. In the interests of

Foreword

busy men whose life is crowded, during ten successive Sunday nights, from October 4 to December 27, 1914, I roughly sketched the stories of the nations now engaged in the greatest battle that ever shook our earth. Reports of the addresses were published in the Brooklyn *Daily Eagle*. The fact that one of them called forth over five hundred letters, and hundreds of clippings and editorials, from practically every State in the Union, indicates that American people are deeply interested in the moral interpretation of the events of this great war.

I have somewhat revised the published reports, confessedly hasty and incomplete, but have not attempted to chronicle the rapid changes of events to the present time, since the object was rather to picture certain large features of history, to gain general views of the characteristics of the warring nations, and to set forth some moralities of the crisis.

NEWELL DWIGHT HILLIS.

April, 1915.

NOTE.—Of course, the Army estimates, in lists of "Resources" closing each chapter, are far below the actual numbers gathered under war pressure.