

**LESSONS OF THE
WAR AND THE
PEACE CONFERENCE**

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Lessons of the War and the Peace Conference by Oreste Ferrara

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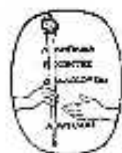
ORESTE FERRARA

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AND
THE PEACE CONFERENCE

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"CAUSES AND PRETEXTS OF THE WORLD WAR"

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PREFACE

THE year 1918 marks a millennial era unparalleled in the long course of history and differs from all other dates which definitely seal the greatest events in human life, by reason of the unexpectedness of the occurrences it records. The fall of Rome was foreseen and of no world importance. The discovery of America was great, not because of the intrinsic significance of having found a new land peopled by inferior races, but rather as the result of the vast developments that followed. The capture of the Bastille, which gave humanity a new conception of right, was of relative importance, although Louis XVI did not mention it in his diary, the word "nothing" being the only entry on that day; and on the same night Parisians found their usual amusement in the theaters, while Waterloo, with all its traditional glamour, was little more than a sequel to the first abdication of Napoleon.

The year 1918 entirely alters the course of history. It has brought a tremendous crisis in our social