

A CITIZENS' ARMY; THE SWISS SYSTEM

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649116447

A citizens' army; the Swiss system by Julian Grande

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.

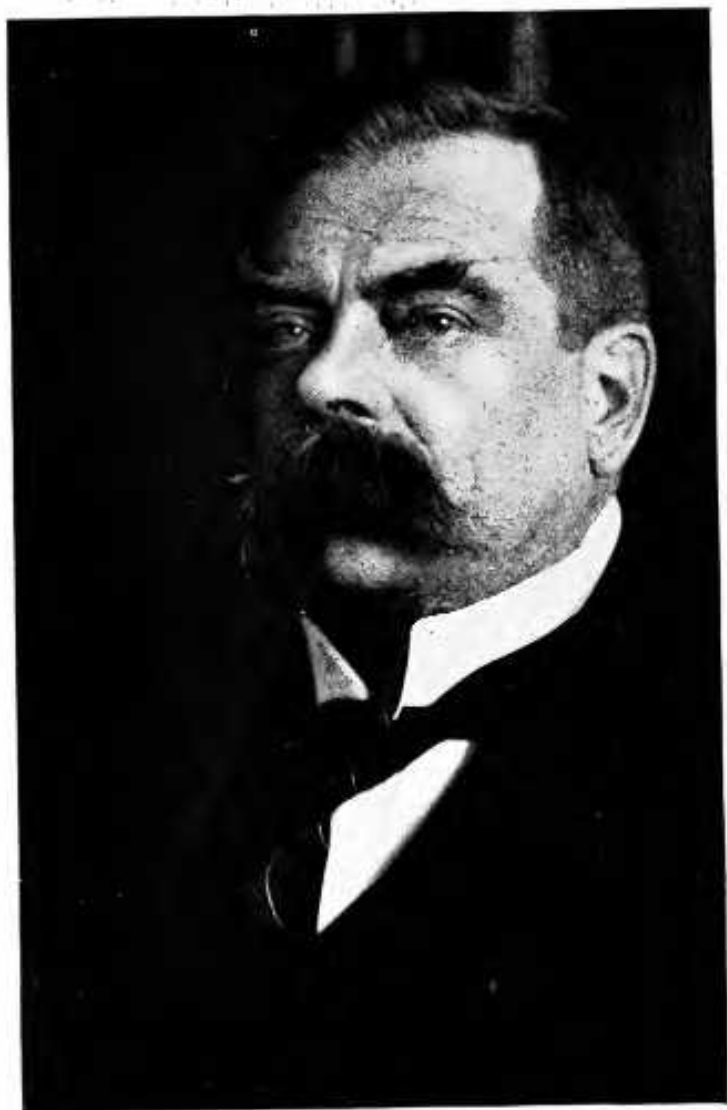
Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

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

JULIAN GRANDE

**A CITIZENS' ARMY;
THE SWISS SYSTEM**



COLONEL DECOPPET.

Swiss Minister of War; President of the Swiss Confederation for 1916.

A CITIZENS' ARMY

THE SWISS SYSTEM

BY

JULIAN GRANDE

WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY

COLONEL FEYLER

MILITARY CRITIC OF THE 'JOURNAL DE GENÈVE'

UNIVERSITY OF
CALIFORNIA

LONDON
CHATTO & WINDUS
1916

20

DEDICATIONS

342594

IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

THIS BOOK

IS RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED TO

THEODORE ROOSEVELT ESQ.

A WISE STATESMAN AND A FAR-SEEING PATRIOT

"WHAT lessons," asks Major-General Francis V. Greene, of the United States Volunteers, "are we in these United States to draw from this war? In what manner and to what extent do these recent changes in the art of war affect us? The answer is that if we are to avoid the risk of a financial panic of such magnitude as has never been imagined, of the payment of enormous indemnities, and the possible loss of our freedom, then we must have:—

"First, a navy somewhat larger than that of any other nation except one, and such a swarm of submarines as will enable us to make some sort of defence against the greatest navy.

"Second, a sufficient number of trained soldiers to prevent landing on our coasts in case the enemy should defeat or elude our navy; or, in case we do not succeed in preventing a landing, that we delay the advance until we can develop our immense latent resources in men and materials.

"Third, the co-ordination of our industrial development with our military requirements; so that in case of war we can utilize our vast economic strength.

"We have more accumulated wealth than any other two nations; we have a greater mileage of railways than all Europe; of motor cars and trucks we possess probably twice as many as all the nations of Europe combined; of iron and steel, we produce as much as the total of any other three nations, and of copper more than all the rest of the world; of telephones in use we have three times as many as the aggregate of all the nations now at war; and of telegraph lines as many miles as any other two nations. Here are elements of military strength which, properly utilized in connection with a sufficiency of trained soldiers, will protect us from defeat—possibly make us immune from attack. But our trained soldiers are barely 1 per 1,000 of population, while those of possible enemies are 60 per 1,000, and there is no correlation between our mines, our factories, our means of transportation and communication on the one hand, and our military establishment and plans of defence on the other. That we are quick and resourceful in an emergency is universally conceded, but to rely upon this in place of military training and proper co-ordination of our economic resources is to invite certain disaster."

*(From the New York "Outlook," January 26th, 1915.
Extracts from an Address delivered by Major-General
Greene, before the New York Historical Association.)*

DEDICATED
TO
THE HONOURED MEMORY OF THE LATE
FIELD-MARSHAL LORD ROBERTS

"THE essential idea of National Service is the participation, from motives of patriotism only, of the whole body of citizens in the defence of the State. It regards such service as the first right, as well as the first duty, which freedom confers. In a community such as our own, in which the democratic ideal of 'the Government for the people and by the people' has been practically realized, how can the taint, which justly attaches to conscription, have anything to do with an army raised by the free and uncontrolled act of the entire nation? The power which in such a State summons, by the exercise of its sovereign will, a nation to arms can, by the exercise of the same will, disband that army. Of what unjust power can such an army become the instrument? It is the army not of a despot but of the nation; and as a nation's army, or rather as a nation in arms, its very nature is a warranty of peace whenever peace is consistent with national honour, and the sacred duty of protecting the Fatherland."

(From the Introduction to "A Nation in Arms," by the late Lord Roberts.)

AUTHOR'S NOTE

THIS book, whose essential purpose is to show that it is possible to have an army without militarism, is a work intended to serve no political party, nor has it been inspired by any League or Society.

The opinions expressed by various Swiss, belonging to wholly different classes of the community, concerning the practical effects on everyday life of their system of universal military service, will prove, I hope, particularly valuable.

The Introduction by Colonel Feyler, military critic of the *Journal de Genève*, and the opinions of M. Horace Micheli, a member of the Swiss Parliament, and of my other Swiss friends and contributors, were originally written in German or French, and were translated into English by my wife, whose criticisms and suggestions have been of inestimable help to me.

For many of the facts regarding the Swiss army system of to-day I am indebted to what is the standard work upon it, *Schweizer Heereskunde*, by Colonel Karl Egli, 2nd edition, published by Schulthess & Co., Zürich, to whom I tender my thanks and acknowledgments.

The illustrations are from photographs supplied to me by Keller, the well-known military photographer in Berne, and by one or two private friends.

JULIAN GRANDE.

Berne, April, 1916.