

**THE CHAOS IN EUROPE: A
CONSIDERATION OF THE POLITICAL
DESTRUCTION THAT HAS TAKEN PLACE
IN RUSSIA AND ELSEWHERE AND OF THE
INTERNATIONAL POLICIES OF AMERICA**

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The Chaos in Europe

**A Consideration of the Political Destruction that
has Taken Place in Russia and Elsewhere and
of the International Policies of America**

By

Frederick Moore

Author of

"The Balkan Trail" and "The Passing of Morocco"

With an Introduction by

Charles W. Eliot, LL.D.

President Emeritus, Harvard University

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INTRODUCTION

THIS small book, entitled *The Chaos in Europe*,—the title by no means represents the scope of the treatise,—is good reading for every American who desires to understand the complicated political and commercial situation in Russia, the Balkan States, and the Near and Far East which four years and a quarter of giant war have created, and the objects to which the efforts of the free nations that have overcome Germany should be steadily directed. The book appears in the nick of time—when the Peace Conference is about to enter on its long debates.

Mr. Moore has had a rare experience as an active newspaper correspondent and studious traveller, which, added to his natural gift for accurate observation and statement, has qualified him to a remarkable degree to

describe to his countrymen the present political and social conditions in both Europe and Asia. He has had excellent opportunities to observe many national armies, and has accompanied several on campaigns prior to the present war; he has paid repeated visits to Russia, including Siberia; he has lived for several years in China as an agent of the Associated Press; and he has spent much time in the Balkan countries and Turkey, both while war was going on and while the incessant strife was merely political and diplomatic.

Mr. Moore describes vividly what he believes to be the actual moral, political, and commercial situation in Russia, the Balkans, and Turkey, and sets forth the urgent need of complete co-operation among the victors in the War in order to secure the fruits of victory. He is not as sanguine by temperament as most Americans are; and his years of observation and experience in the Near East and the Far East have shown him how very formidable is the task to which the

American people under the lead of the present Administration have set their hands.

Mr. Moore's three main propositions are as follows: (1) America and the *Entente* Allies should immediately give effective military and industrial aid to Russia. To bring this aid is, of course, a comparatively easy thing since the surrender of Bulgaria and Turkey, as the Black Sea is now open to the Allies and South Russia is accessible. (2) The United States should forthwith enter without reserve, by treaty published to all the world, into an offensive and defensive alliance with the other nations that have been at war with Germany, in order that perfect co-operation may take place among the whole group for the preservation of peace through control of the seas and oceans by this alliance and the maintenance of an overwhelming land force, and through common action for any necessary number of years concerning the production and distribution of foods, fuels, and raw materials, and the use in their common interest of

the commercial marine of the allied nations.

(3) The resulting limited League of Nations should agree on the policy to be followed towards backward peoples, and towards the new nationalities which have been set free by the War, and are now being encouraged to establish governments of their own. It would prove to be the nucleus of a comprehensive and durable League to prevent war. These propositions merit the careful attention of American leaders of opinion, and of the mass of the people without distinction of race, religion, or party.

Not the least interesting chapter in the book is the chapter on the Backward State, and the proper treatment of such peoples by more advanced peoples who desire to trade with them. It describes in a clear and striking way what have been the common modes of dealing with China on the part of Occidental Powers, and maintains that there should hereafter be international control of contracts made by Occidental governments with China, or any similar backward states.

This policy will obviously require a full and public agreement among all the Occidental Powers concerned. Mr. Moore's long residence at Peking, and his acquaintance with many Chinese and Japanese persons of influence, make his advice on this subject of peculiar value. He speaks on behalf of the Chinese people; but also in the interest of peace. His last word on this subject is that America should come at once to the aid of Russia; else we shall have on our hands another huge backward state like China that will furnish causes for other wars.

In a few passages the author gives expression to frank criticism of the American Congress and the Administration; but he expects great good at home and abroad to come out of the losses and sacrifices of the War. His last words are—"May the nation fulfil its splendid mission."

CHARLES W. ELIOT.

CAMBRIDGE, MASS.
December 10, 1918.