

**GERMANY AND  
ENGLAND: THE WAR THAT  
WAS FORETOLD, PP. 1-119**

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Germany and England: The War That Was Foretold, pp. 1-119 by Robert Blatchford

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**ROBERT BLATCHFORD**

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# GERMANY AND ENGLAND

The War That Was Foretold

BY  
ROBERT BLATCHFORD

*New and Revised Edition*



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### FOREWORD

I do not reprint this pamphlet for the purpose of saying "I told you so." When I wrote the articles in *The Daily Mail*, I plainly disclaimed the pose of the prophet. On page 43 of the pamphlet, as it appeared four years ago, I said:—

The facts are not my facts. The ideas are not my ideas. The case is not my case. I have only repeated and restated a case which has been stated again and again during the last five years in all the Service papers in the kingdom. I have said in *The Daily Mail* what has before been said by naval and military officers, and by naval and military experts in this country, in Germany, in America, and in France. The case, as I have submitted

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it, is the case as it has been stated by hundreds of men of eminence and special knowledge.

Now that this war has come, I repeat and stress that statement. In this pamphlet I told the people nothing new; I offered them nothing on my own authority. But I told the people. I offered to the public a statement of a case which had not hitherto reached them because the public never read the books, the journals, or the reviews in which it had previously been stated by naval and military writers.

All I did was to take the facts and ideas so often given by naval and military men, and state them briefly and plainly in the columns of *The Daily Mail*. My object was to make the warnings of the Service papers known to the entire nation. In that object, thanks to *The Daily Mail*, I succeeded.



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If now I were to claim that the prophecy has been verified, I should have to say not, "I told you so," but "They told you so."

A reference to this new edition of the pamphlet will show that I asked four years ago that Lord Kitchener should be made War Lord, and that he should be commissioned to prepare an army of half a million men as an expeditionary force for the defence of Belgium.

When the war cloud burst, Lord Kitchener was made Secretary of State for War, and his first request was for 500,000 men.

But I did not discover Lord Kitchener. At the time when I wrote the pamphlet the demand that Lord Kitchener should be given *carte blanche* in the matter of Army organisation was an almost national chorus. Neither is the coincidence of Lord Kitchener's asking for half a million of men at all remarkable. That was the num-

ber of men most military writers thought necessary for the work.

I need not point out, in the face of recent events in Belgium, how great would have been the effect of the immediate landing of 500,000 British troops in Belgium.

The efficiency of the Liège forts and the gallantry of some thirty thousand Belgian soldiers have checked the German advance, have dislocated the German plans, and gained for the French an invaluable extension of time in which to complete their mobilisation and arrange their dispositions. Could we have put half a million troops behind the defences of Liège and Namur, the German flank movement would have been rendered impossible.

To-day we are at war. Mistakes have been made in the past; it is useless to recall them. We are at war, and shall be well advised to take example by Lord Kitchener, and make the best of the means

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at our disposal. Do not let us bicker about what might have been, let us show a solid front to that which is to come.

ROBERT BLATCHFORD.

LONDON,  
*August 20, 1914.*