

Critique on Character of The German People

(This Critique was written by my father in an analysis of Jonathan French Scott's text "Patriots in the Making," in 1916, before America's entrance into the First World War, at the instance of D. Appleton and Company, Publishers, New York City—R.A.H.)

THE GERMANS are characterized by:

- (1) Race-Consciousness Exaggerated.
- (2) A National Glorification.
- (3) A National Egotism.
- (4) An excessive pride in what they refer to as Kultur, and the rest of the world as a cold, unreasoning, national brutality, if the end desired can only be attained by brutality.

THE GERMANS believe that:

- (1) Germany is THE CIVILIZED NATION of Europe.
- (2) All civilization SOMEWHERE ELSE is due to the presence of German blood in those peoples.
- (3) That all German conquests are justifiable.

THE GERMANS inevitably manage to invoke upon other nations the guilt for the wars she has waged.

Such exaggerated race-consciousness leads to an unwarranted suspicion of other countries. It is an obsession.

The German "kaiser-idea" suggests a Germanic Unity of all peoples.

GERMANS emphasize:

- (1) "The supreme duty of sacrificing all individualism to the state."
- (2) Loyalty to the Ruling House and Devotion to the Fatherland are synonyms.
- (3) Little tots are taught in their *hesebucher* to revere the Ruling House.
- (4) The Ruling House is canonized as a race of heroes. Their sins are condoned.
- (5) The German schools place the Kaiser, or whatever Ruling House may exist, upon a pedestal, crowning his brow with wreaths of loyalty and love.

CONCLUSIONS: Education in Germany develops a national egoism, with all due failure to make allowances for shortcomings, disparaging and ignoring all other nations and toying with a vision of a greater national destiny.