

3-21-1918

Clubs and Organizations-War

Charles C. Chapman
Chapman University

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.chapman.edu/chapman_club_speeches



Part of the [Higher Education Commons](#), and the [Speech and Rhetorical Studies Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Chapman, Charles C., "Clubs and Organizations-War" (1918). *Charles C. Chapman Club Speeches*. Paper 10.
http://digitalcommons.chapman.edu/chapman_club_speeches/10

This Speech is brought to you for free and open access by the Charles C. Chapman Family Papers at Chapman University Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Charles C. Chapman Club Speeches by an authorized administrator of Chapman University Digital Commons. For more information, please contact laughtin@chapman.edu.

(6)

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

"WAR"

Anaheim Men's noon meeting at

Hotel Valencia

March 21, 1918

The preparation of Germany for wars of aggression is always going on. Frederick the Great laid the foundations, and Bismarck and

Wilhelm perfected the great machine of destruction. In their system of preparation, whose deadliest element was the government control of education, they instilled autocracy and idolatry of the material and the military and the mighty into the soul of the people, until Germany came to be a nation of bronze.

"Der Tag" was the dream of the empire by day and by night; and, while scientific preparation was being conducted within the empire for war, diabolical propaganda was being carried on outside the empire, beginning with the seemingly harmless "Made in Germany" hoax, the dictum of the gospel of German superiority. Her universities were advertised as super. Her hyphenated alliances were formed in other countries, and her German-language newspapers were established. Her treacherous diplomacy got into action.

With a careful and long-headed policy, she began to plant her teachers and text-books in the public schools of America. Hubbe-Schleiden said benevolently: "It is the duty of every one who loves languages to see that the future language of America shall be German."

All this has been supplemented by the trickery and treachery of the German system of espionage. And so, after preparing within and propaganda without, Bernhardt wrote: "What we now wish to attain must be fought for and won, to stamp humanity with the German spirit." "Der Tag" had come, and the conflagration broke upon the world.

When Germany went to war—a war of conquest, of terrorism, of ruthlessness—she gave to her minions an aluminum coin called the "soldier's token," on which is stamped a picture of the German god, with drawn

sword, and underneath is written: "Strike him dead; the judgment day will ask no questions."

The Kaiser's address to his armies enunciated the German war policy: "You will take no prisoners; you will give no quarter; you will make yourself as terrible as the Hun."

You ask, Have the actions of Germany's armies squared with her creed? A partial list of her crimes will suffice: Double dealing, trickery, treachery, poisoning French letters by pornographic publications fabricated in Germany, violating neutral territory, breaking treaties, torpedoing passenger ships without warning, hatching insurrection and sedition in neutral countries, despoiling homes and churches, slave raids, poisoned wells, poison gas, liquid fire, destroying universities and libraries and cathedrals, organizing massacres, starving prisoners, sinking hospital ships, bombing schoolhouses and Red Cross hospitals, turning the bodies of their own dead to lubricating oil, burning men alive, mutilating captives and French and Belgian boys, violating women and butchering children—in fine, devising methods of torture and destruction unequalled for sheer brutality in the annals of mankind.

Goethe says—and this war is the fulfillment of his ghastly prophecy: "The Prussian is naturally cruel, and civilization will intensify this cruelty and make him a savage."

War - chief topic

Anaheim mens men
meeting, abbahe
3/21. 1918
Valencia

Arm boys - in New York - Prov.

German mind -
My former high estimate -

Can we understand the German
mind of today - Not the splendid
efficiency, sturdiness, dependable Germans
of the past -

We must inquire something of
the kind of teaching they have had the
last 30 or 40 years. - This has
created the conviction that they have
become the chosen people of God. This
has rubbed the German people with
feeling of superiority over all other
nations - ^{God's favorites} - so profuse
^{books} - two volumes
Each I quote from a few professors -
journalists - ^{preachers} State men, Generals,
& the Kaiser.

17

2

Any one at all acquainted with the plans and purposes of the Prussian autocracy, or, as Dr. Van Dyke calls them, "The Potsdam Gang," knows that their aim is nothing less than the conquest of the world for their "Kultur." What does this "Kultur" mean? In a word, the subservience of the individual man and the aggrandizement of the state. According to this philosophy, man is only an unimportant cog in a vast machine, the whole purpose of organized society being the creation of a mighty state with far-reaching boundaries and an irresponsible government-such as "Kultur."

Note, for example, some of the teachings of Nietzsche, one of the most renowned of German philosophers, whose doctrines have become almost a religion with millions of people. In his "Will to Power" Nietzsche says that the "synthetic" man is "that man for whom the turning of mankind into a machine is a first condition of existence, and for whom the rest of mankind is but the soil on which he can devise his higher mode of existence. This higher form of aristocracy is the form of the future."

This sage of German thinkers says that "he who thinks over the question of how the type-man may be elevated

to his highest glory and power will realize from the start that he must place himself beyond morality," and that he quotes, with evident approval that statement that "all good people are weak; they are good because they are not strong enough to be evil," and advises that "a virtuous man is of a lower species, because, in the first place, he has no personality."

This philosopher informs his learners that they are "a higher species of men" who "will avail themselves of democratic Europe as the most suitable and supple instrument they can have for taking the fate of the earth into their own hands."

He says "To be obsessed by moral considerations presupposes a very low grade of intellect", that "pity is a waste of feelings" that "morality is a useful error" that "we must take our cause sufficiently serious not to spare men" and "allow ourselves violence & cunning in war" "Christianity is a degenerative movement" "Christianity the most fatal fatal & seductive lie that has ever yet existed"

autocracy & free institutions.
The fight between the divine right of
Kings & free institutions against the
liberties of the people.

At Konigsburg, in 1910, the Kaiser said:
"It was on this spot that my grandfather, in
his own right, placed the crown upon his
head, insisting once and again that it was
bestowed upon him by the grace of God alone,
and not by parliaments and meetings and
decisions of the people. He thus regarded
himself as the chosen instrument of Heaven,
and as such carried out his duties as a ruler
and a lord. I consider myself such an instru-
ment of Heaven, and shall go my way, with-
out regard to the views and opinions of the
day." He further said at Bremen: "We
consider that we have been appointed by God
to preserve and direct for their own welfare
the people over whom He has given us
power."

What has been done by the military
powers in downright lying now even
be imagined when in times of peace
we find this taught in standard German
text book in geography in general use
in Prussian schools.

"In No. & So. America including the U.S. & Can-
ada, there are said to be three classes
of inhabitants — negroes, Indians & Ger-
mans. In the U.S. there is a black belt for
negroes, a middle west section for Indians
but the rest is the German sphere of influence
Canada is occupied mainly by Indians"