

WORLD GRIPPED BY WAR FEAR NEGLECTS BUSINESS; SUFFERING AND WANT ARE DUE TO TERROR

Civilization in Balance as
Nations Again Gird
for Conflict.

U. S. CAN AVERT CRASH

Editor Says Sincerity Can
Be Proved by Joining
International Court.

This is the fourth of a series on "The
Road to Better Times" by a noted
authority on international affairs.

BY WILLIAM PHILIP SIMMS
Script-Howard Foreign Editor

The rumble of another world
conflict is growing louder every day
and, if war comes, it will be good
by better times and good-by civiliza-
tion!

Conservative and responsible of-
ficials of the foremost governments
of Europe and America, in their
dismay, are putting resilience aside
to voice this plain-spoken warning.

British Foreign Minister Arthur
Henderson declares that unless the
leading powers act together to head
it off, "a cataclysm will come upon
the world which will engulf us all."

The danger is due to national-
racial and economic antagonisms
to fears, jealousies and hatreds
harking back a long time. It is
due to resentments growing out of
the World war settlements. It is
due to determination of Germany's
stubborn millions to free themselves
from what they regard as an allied
victory.

It is due to the boundless ambi-
tions of the most powerful figure
since Napoleon, the theatrical but
undoubtedly able and hypocrite
Mussolini, who believes himself a
reincarnated Caesar destined by the
gods to carve out a new Roman
empire.

Scared Stiff by Russia

It is due to a strongly nationalist
Poland, a dismembered Austria, a
mutilated Hungary, a menaced
Yugo-Slavia and a precariously
situated France.

It is due to a Europe scared stiff
by a titanic, new, and undecipher-
able Russia, headed toward nobody
knows what. It is due to an erupt-
ing Asia, where a billion people—
one-half of the inhabitants of the
globe—are clamoring for a place in
the sun.

It is due to vast armies of unem-
ployed and hordes of hungry people
who can't quite see daylight ahead.
It is due to science outstripping
statesmanship—to the rapid ad-
vance in methods of production
while the buying power of three-
quarters of the earth's population
stands still. It is due to a surplus
of goods and a dearth of foreign
markets due to arbitrary tariff walls
and other barriers to trade.

Dictators Cause Strike

It is due to the burden of excess
armaments and to back-breaking
taxes levied to pay for wars past or
to come. It is due to the age-old
habit of dictators, which, when
menaced at home, seek to divert at-
tention by adventures abroad.

FEAR says President Hoover is the
most dangerous of all international
emotions, and today thanks to
available follies the world unmis-
takably is in the grip of fear. Relief
from it is imperative if world
serenity, security, and general pros-
perity are to return.

This fear is not the result of any
sudden, unexpected world develop-
ment. On the contrary, it has been
coming on for years while a stricken
Europe begged a hale and mighty
United States to help organize to
ward it off—a piteous which, to date,
has fallen on indifferent ears.

Every American President since
Wilson has talked of taking effec-
tive part in some practicable plan
to maintain the peace of the
world, if only to insure our own
prosperity. But none has done very
much about it.

World Sees Bugaboos

So today an uneasy community of
nations, its nerves worn ragged by
the strain, is seeing bugaboos and
neglecting business in proportion as
it loses hope of staving off another
conflict.

A crisis is close at hand. Next
year may decide. A supreme at-

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