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PREMIER CLEMENCEAU AND GENERAL PERSHING

(This snapshot photograph of the veteran French statesman and the Commander of the American Expeditionary Force suggests the cordial relations existing between France and the United States on the eve of the Peace Congress at Versailles. A character sketch of M. Clemenceau appears on page 51, and this is followed by excerpts from Major Palmer's book "America in France" and General Pershing's own account of the operations of the American Army, as contained in his report to the Secretary of War)

THE AMERICAN REVIEW OF REVIEWS

VOL. LVIX

NEW YORK, JANUARY, 1919

No. 1

THE PROGRESS OF THE WORLD

*The Ordeal
and the
Prospect*

For many years past we have been accustomed in each successive January number of this REVIEW to make a survey from the standpoint of the world's progress towards peace and international harmony. One of the chief objects of this periodical, from the time of its beginning, has been to advocate all measures that could be taken to lessen the evils of war and to promote the cause of freedom everywhere. Moreover, a cardinal tenet upon which the REVIEW was established, under the present editorship twenty-eight years ago, was the unity of the English-speaking peoples. This was the great dream of the late William T. Stead, founder and editor of the *English Review of Reviews*; and our American periodical, though distinct in its editorship and control, was in hearty coöperation with Mr. Stead in his unceasing labors for a better world organization against war and for especially close relations among all the English-speaking communities. As most of our readers will remember, Mr. Stead was one of those who perished in the sinking of the *Titanic*, April 15, 1912, when on his way to this country to aid in promoting the objects to which he was most devoted. Since his death the world has been through a more terrible experience of warfare than the most pessimistic had believed to be possible. Yet it has come out of that frightful ordeal with better prospects for permanent peace and for an orderly control of its affairs than at any other time in these later centuries.

*The Strong
Arm for
Justice*

Those who did not believe in force as the dominating principle among men have had to prove their faith in peaceful methods by fighting for them; and they have fought successfully. Thus, if Mr. Stead had lived until this time, no one would have been more happy than he in the outcome; and surely no one would

have been better qualified to survey the results, to interpret the signs of the times, and to exhort all right-thinking men to help in making the permanent results commensurate with the great effort. Mr. Stead was sometimes called a pacifist, and for a time he carried on a special magazine entitled "*War Against War*"; but he was at the very opposite pole from the other type for whom that word pacifist is now more usually reserved—the type opposed to military and naval preparedness, and opposed to the use of force for the maintenance of justice. From an early period in his career as a London editor, Mr. Stead had been the foremost champion of the doctrine of the large British Navy. When in the early '80's the efficiency of that navy had somewhat sagged, he had written a series of brilliant articles which appeared in a volume called "*The Truth About the Navy*." He was in close touch with the ablest of the British Admirals; and the agitation which he led had the result of bringing about a greatly expanded naval program, this work in which he was so active being also enormously stimulated by the writings on "sea power" of our own Mahan.

*English-Speak-
ing People in
Accord*

There has long been a school of English publicists and statesmen who have refused to think of the progress of the United States as other than beneficial to the well-being of Great Britain, Canada, Australia, and all parts of the political combination known as the British Empire. In Mr. Stead's doctrine of the "union of English-speaking peoples" there was no tinge of unfriendliness towards the civilized nations of Europe, Asia, or Latin America who speak and read other languages. Nor by the word "union" did he mean necessarily to imply any arrangements of a formal kind. He was, of course, in favor of unlimited arbitration treaties. But especially he de-

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ALBERT SHAW, Pres. CHAS. D. LANIER, Sec. and Treas.

parts of Latin America. Just as in the United States, where for fifty years and more people were accustomed to use Java and Mocha coffee under the impression that what they were drinking was produced in the Dutch East Indies and Arabia, when in reality nearly all of the Java and Mocha came from Brazil or other American countries, so in Argentina and Chile, United States manufactures have been consumed in large quantities under the impression that they were European. The condition was not exactly parallel to the coffee case in that there was no intention

to deceive. Misapprehension arose from the fact that United States goods were brought in in English or German ships and sold in English, German, French, and Italian shops. Neither the United States flag on the ship nor the United States name over the shop door existed to correct the natural inference on the part of the buyer that United States goods were not procurable. A few knew better, just as in the United States a few knew that "Mocha" coffee was in reality Rio "pea berry."

The war has brought a fuller knowledge.

A POET-PAINTER OF LEBANON

SYRIA, at last, is to have self-determination together with the other subject countries of the world. Conquered and oppressed by one nation after another throughout the centuries, and last by the impossible Turk, Syria, because of the rebellious spirit of the Arabs in the nomadic provinces, has always been imperfectly subjugated. The Arabs never lost the traditions of their ancient culture and held stubbornly to the hope of ultimate liberation. Now that Damascus, Beirut, and Lebanon are in the hands of the British, all the blended races of Greek, Roman, and European Crusader grafted upon Semitic stock from the Mediterranean to the Persian Gulf have hope of nationality. From the basis of nationality the old culture will arise poured in new molds.

From Lebanon, near the Lebanon mountains, "the one green spot in Turkey," comes the Syrian poet-painter, Kahlil Gibran. He is a scion of an ancient Lebanon family living only three-fourths of a mile from the famous groves of cedars whence came the trees that were builded into King Solomon's Temple and floated in rafts to Egypt to build temples to the Gods of Egypt in the Nile cities. Mr. Gibran is the author of eight books in Arabic—poetry, poetic prose, parables, and plays that circulate among the 200,000,000 peoples of the Arabic-speaking world.

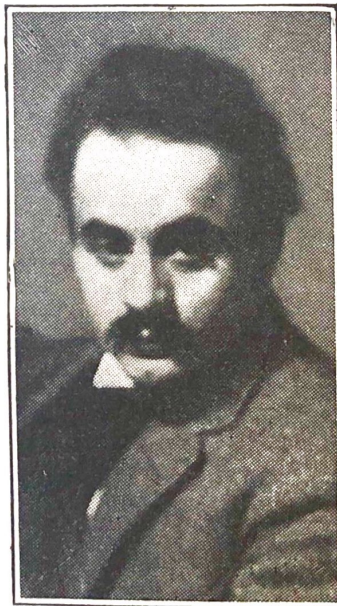
"The Madman,"¹ a collection of parables and poems with four drawings, published last month, is his first volume in English. It contains thirty parables and a few poems,

which are like most of the ancient Arabic literature—condensed, satirical, with their gold beaten thin, so that no superfluous word mars their rhythms or obstructs their sense. The poetry depends largely upon assonance for its lyrical beauty.

"The Madman" is a solitary personage called "madman" because he unmasks himself in the market place of human knowledge, strives to behold the depth of man's soul through the thin veils of man's wisdom and man's moral ethics. He loves life, and he hates life's shams. He would shake the giant tree not only to eliminate its dead branches but also to send its roots deeper into earth.

An early book by Mr. Gibran, "A Rebellious Spirit," exerted great influence in the younger Arabic circles. This work demanded the rescue of the spirit of religion from dogma, the reality of life from its shams, the being from the seeming of existence. A forthcoming volume in English is called: "The Prophet." This book will contain twenty-one prophecies facing twenty-one full-page drawings. As an artist, Mr. Gibran is a follower of Blake and Rodin. With Rodin he joins his definite patterns in art to the infinite by direct symbolism; with Blake, he is a lover of the free bounding line. The human form is to him the one eternal perfect symbol.

Mr. Gibran has great hopes for the future of Syrian and Arabic culture. He thinks that the Near East has a very great deal to give now that for the first time it is open to the Occidental world. With self-government and reconstruction, education will flourish, and literature and art be reborn in Syria.



KAHLIL GIBRAN

¹ The Madman. By Kahlil Gibran. Knopf. 71 pp. Ill. \$1.25.