

Such societies still exist, not only in Eastern, but even in Western Europe. Thus it is that, beside the excess of superior members in a Jewish community, there is also an excess of paupers and defectives, with a large number of borderland cases fairly healthy but with sub-normal energy, so that they are periodically out of employment; as they do not become drunkards, and are consequently considered by the charitable as "deserving," they are encouraged to go on increasing their numbers.

These conditions are changing. The Jews are adopting the customs of their non-Jewish neighbours. The number of defectives will thus be diminished. The proportion of intellectually superior Jews will also be diminished. "Whether the loss thus sustained in the number of capable Jews is compensated by the decrease in the number of defectives," Fishberg concludes, "depends on the point of view."

HAVELOCK ELLIS.

*The Madness of an Emperor, or the Aberration of a Nation? [Pazzia d'Imperatore o Aberrazione Nazionale?]* (*Rivista di Patologia Nervosa e Mentale, Anno xx, fasc. 7, 1915.*) Prof. Ernesto Lugaro.

Among the many books and pamphlets which have been published on the psychology of the authors of the present war, that is to say, not only on the psychology of the two Emperors and that of the chief members of their governments, but also on that of the German peoples, Prof. Lugaro's article takes a high rank. It is one of the most powerful indictments of the German race which has appeared, but the facts by which the arguments are supported, are proved facts, and the conclusion is arrived at logically, step by step.

The writer examines briefly the case of Francis Joseph, "a man of intellectual mediocrity, and moral insensibility," to whom no one has ever attributed a generous act, a happy phrase, or a far-seeing thought. Possibly during the last few years he was sinking into senile dementia.

William's case is considered more in detail. But after making due allowance for his atrophied limb, his epileptiform seizures, his vanity—oscillating between sheer childishness and the delusions of a paranoiac—his brutal, blasphemous speeches, his duplicity, the writer only sees in the German Emperor "a docile, though sometimes maladroit, instrument in the hands of the German Government."

The Professor pushes aside the two Emperors almost contemptuously. He proceeds to study the German race, politically, morally, socially.

He recites the history of the double-dealing policy of Germany from the days of Frederick II to those of Bismarck and Bethmann-Hollweg. "It was not only in August, 1914, but for two centuries that Germany has sustained the theory that treaties are only to be respected while it is convenient to do so."

The various systems of German espionage are described in detail. Foreign espionage is considered under the heads of military and economic, the latter being the more perfidious and unscrupulous. As to the domestic espionage, it is so terrible that one cannot believe that any but a race of slaves would submit to it.

The moral and social conditions of the German people as revealed among the officers of the army, the rich industrials, the socialists, and the intellectuals, and the parts played by these classes in preparing for the present war, are studied with care. In the analysis of the famous "Appeal to Civilised Nations" every shred of hypocritical respectability is torn away, and German intellectuality, such as it is, stands naked before the world.

The history of the growth of the theory of Germany's hideous system of war is traced from the time of Von Clausewitz to the present day. The doctrine of this system being admitted, one understands how the Germans deny their misdeeds, and assert that no act of *useless cruelty* has been committed by the Kaiser's troops. Then in a paragraph, every sentence of which rises above the last in burning eloquence, Lugaro relates the horrible story of the German atrocities during the present war—atrocities which are utterly unequalled for devilish cruelty in the history of the most barbarian nations.

In England a great deal has been made of the point that the commanders and crews of German submarines who sink unarmed merchant ships and leave the sailors and passengers to perish miserably, and the German officers and soldiers who murder the wounded, massacre the civil population, violate women, and burn down private houses unnecessarily, commit these crimes because they are ordered to do so, and that consequently they are free from responsibility. Hear what Lugaro says:

"With all that, although obedience may be in the blood, although it may be reinforced by habits acquired in the family, in the school, and in life, there are acts of obedience which would not be committed if the moral stamp of the man who obeys were not adapted to the order which he receives. There are armies—not German—which would not obey certain revolting orders. There are soldiers—not German—who would allow themselves to be shot rather than murder the wounded, rip up women, or mutilate infants. There are officers—not German—who would feel themselves dishonoured by transmitting certain orders. It is all very well for theorists sitting at a table to declare that terrorism is a military necessity, but terrorism could not be put into practice if the troops were not adapted to the inhuman work."

The Professor's conclusions are obvious:

"Even if one cannot recognise perfect normality of mind in the two Emperors," he says, "one must admit that their abnormalities have a negligible value in the face of the great psychological and social movements which prepared the present war. The mind of Francis Joseph and the arm of William are not worth even as much as the nose of Cleopatra."

Prof. Lugaro writes me that his article has been translated into English by Dr. W. N. Robinson, and published by Routledge & Sons. If any one meets with the pamphlet it is worth reading, and will open some people's eyes.

J. BARFIELD ADAMS.