

## Chapter 12 — Nordic Egotism Joined to Alpine Stupidity

from *Long Heads and Round Heads: Or, What's the Matter with Germany* (1918)

by William S. Sadler, M.D.

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### Sources for Chapter 12, in the order in which they appear

- (1) Munroe Smith, LL.D., Editor, *Out of Their Own Mouths: Utterances of German Rulers, Statesmen, Savants, Publicists, Journalists, Poets, Business Men, Party Leaders and Soldiers* (New York: D. Appleton and Company, 1917)
- (2) William Archer, Compiler, *Gems (?) of German Thought* (Garden City, New York: Doubleday, Page & Company, 1917)

### Key

- (a) **Green** indicates where a source first appears, or where it reappears.
- (b) **Yellow** highlights most parallelisms.
- (c) **Tan** highlights parallelisms not occurring on the same row, or parallelisms separated by yellowed parallelisms.
- (d) An underlined word or words indicates where the source and Sadler pointedly differ from one another.
- (e) **Pink** indicates passages where Sadler specifically shares his own experiences, opinions, advice, etc.
- (f) **Red** indicates an obvious mistake, in most cases brought about by Sadler's miscopying or misunderstanding his source, or an otherwise questionable statement.

## XII: NORDIC EGOTISM JOINED TO ALPINE STUPIDITY

12:0.1 THE German people are keen to recognize and not slow to boast about their Nordic or Teutonic racial superiority, but they seem very slow to recognize and exceedingly loath to reckon with the overwhelmingly preponderant Alpine stock which, as we have shown, constitutes the bulk of the German peoples of today. According to their own standards, they are weighed in the balance and found wanting, as shown by the following statement by **Woltmann**:

IV: UTTERANCES OF PUBLICISTS,  
 MEN OF LETTERS AND JOURNAL-  
 ISTS (*Out of their Own Mouths* 69)

**Superiority and mission of the Teutons** (*Out of Their Own Mouths* 69)

**... Whosoever has the characteristics of the Teutonic race is superior. . . . All the dark people are mentally inferior, because they belong to the passive races. . . . The cultural value of a nation is measured by the quantity of Teutonism it contains.**

Ludwig **Woltmann**, "Politische Anthropologie," cited in "Jugés par eux-mêmes," pp. 35-36 (71).

"Whosoever has the characteristics of the Teutonic race is superior. . . . All the dark people are mentally inferior, because they belong to the passive races. . . . The cultural value of a nation is measured by the quantity of Teutonism it contains."

12:0.2 A most extraordinary thing developed in Germany in the last hundred years. This subtle subjugation of the Teutonic intellect by the racial Alpine invasion, while it has worked to produce a great military organization, has resulted in a great intellectual and moral decadence; but the Germanic leaders do not seem to recognize this fact.

## SOURCE

## 12: LONG HEADS AND ROUND HEADS

The spectacle of the German people today is all summed up in this formula: *Nordic egotism plus Alpine stupidity*.

## OUT OF THEIR OWN MOUTHS

12:1.1 And that the reader may clearly discern that this is not an unwarranted—an unjustified—indictment, let us hear the story of Germanic self-praise out of the mouths of Germanic writers and authorities themselves. No more telling presentation of Teutonic egotism and self-confidence wedded to Alpine bad taste and stupidity could possibly be imagined than the following quotations, taken, in every instance, from the writings of some recognized German authority, and which are given here with without comment:

I: “DEUTSCHLAND ÜBER ALLES”  
(*Gems (?) of German Thought* 31)

**German Humility.** (*Gems (?) of German Thought* 31)

2a. The German people is always right, because it is the German people, and numbers 87 million souls.—O. R. TANNENBERG, G. D., p. 231 (31-32).

21b. We must vanquish, because the downfall of Germanism would mean the downfall of humanity.—“Six War Sermons,” by PASTOR K. KÖNIG, quoted in H.A.H., p. 99 (39)

12:1.2 “The German people is always right, because it is the German people.”—Tannenberg.

12:1.3 “We must vanquish, because the downfall of Germanism would mean the downfall of humanity.”—König.

## SOURCE

29. Germany is precisely—who would venture to deny it—the representative of the highest morality, of the purest humanity, of the most chastened Christianity....—“War Sermons,” by PASTOR H. FRANCKE, quoted in H.A.H., p. 68 (42).

**Kultur.** (*Gems (?) of German Thought 57*)

73. If Fate has selected us to assume the leadership in the Kultur-life of the peoples, we will not shrink from this great and lofty mission.”—G. E. PAZAUREK, P.K.U.K., p. 23 (60).

75. If we are beaten—which God and our strong arm forbid—all the higher Kultur of our hemisphere, which it was our mission to guard, sinks with us into the grave.—PROF. A. v. HARNACK, I.M., 1<sup>st</sup> October, 1914, p. 26 (60).

72. Our belief is that the salvation of the whole Kultur of Europe depends upon the victory which German “militarism” is about to achieve:—Manifesto signed by 3,500 “Hochschullehreren (professors and lecturers), quoted by PROF. U. v. WILAMOWITZ-MÖLLENDORF, R., pt. ii, p. 33 (59-60).

**German Humility.** (*Gems (?) of German Thought 31*)

27. We must win, because, if we were defeated, no one in the *whole world* could any longer cherish any remnant of belief in truth and right, in the Good, or, indeed, in any higher Power which wisely and justly guides the destinies of humanity.—W. HELM, W.W.S.M., p. 8 (41).

## 12: LONG HEADS AND ROUND HEADS

12:1.4 “Germany is precisely—who would venture to deny it—the representative of the highest morality, of the purest humanity, of the most chastened Christianity.”— Francke.

12:1.5 “If Fate has selected us to assume the leadership in the Kultur-life of the peoples, we will not shrink from this great and lofty mission.”— Pazaurek.

12:1.6 “If we are beaten—which God and our strong arm forbid—all the higher Kultur of our hemisphere, which it was our mission to guard, sinks with us into the grave.”— Harnack.

12:1.7 “Our belief is that the salvation of the whole Kultur of Europe depends upon the victory which German ‘Militarism’ is about to achieve.”— Manifesto signed by 352 *Hochschullehrer* (professors and lecturers).

12:1.8 “We must win, because if we were defeated no one in the *whole world* could any longer cherish any remnant of belief in truth and right, in the Good, or, indeed, in any higher Power which wisely and justly guides the destinies of humanity.”— Helm.

## SOURCE

**21.** Germany is the future of humanity.—“On the German God,” by PASTOR W. LEHMANN, quoted in H.A.H., p. 78 (38).

**Der deutsche Gott.** (*Gems (?) of German Thought* 69)

**95.** If God is for us, who can be against us? It is enough for us to be a part of God.—“On the German God,” by PASTOR W. LEHMANN, quoted in H.A.H., p. 77 (69).

**101.** The German soul is the world’s soul. God and Germany belong to one another.—“On the German God,” by PASTOR W. LEHMANN, quoted in H.A.H., p. 83 (71).

**The Chosen People and its Mission.** (*Gems (?) of German Thought* 78)

**135.** Germany is the centre of God’s plan for the world.—“On the German God,” by PASTOR W. LEHMANN, quoted in H.A.H., p. 78 (83).

**Kultur.** (*Gems (?) of German Thought* 57)

**85.** The whole of European Kultur . . . is brought to a focus on this German soil and in the hearts of the German people. It would be foolish to express oneself on this point with modesty and reserve. We Germans represent the latest and the highest achievement of European Kultur.—PROF. A. LASSON, D.R.S.Z., No. 4, p. 13 (64).

## 12: LONG HEADS AND ROUND HEADS

12:1.9 “Germany is the future of humanity.

If God is for us, who can be against us? It is enough for us to be a part of God.

The German soul is the world’s soul. God and Germany belong to one another.

Germany is the center of God’s plan for the world.”— Lehmann.

12:1.10 “The whole of European Kultur . . . is brought to a focus on this German soil and in the hearts of the German people. It would be foolish to express oneself on this point with modesty and reserve. We Germans represent the latest and the highest achievement of European Kultur.”— Lasson.

## GERMAN HATE AND ALPINE CRUELTY

12:2.1 In order to understand the present performance of the German people and the cruel behavior of the German soldier, certain important and inherent characteristics of both the Teutonic and Alpine races should be borne in mind:

12:2.2 *1*—The inherent tendency of the strong-minded Nordic or Teutonic peoples to enter upon conquest, and the further fact that this strong-minded race is capable of indulging itself in a very persistent and determined form of hatred.

12:2.3 *2*—The natural and inherent tendency of the Alpine stock toward comparative stupidity and actual brutality.

12:2.4 Now, by putting these tendencies together, and considering them in connection with the modern system of teaching in the German schools—the teaching of war-worship—we have the stage all set, both from the racial and educational standpoints, for the superior Teutonic race to teach the beauty of war and the legitimacy of brutal torture to each succeeding generation of Alpine or Teutonized Alpine children; and then, as in the case of the present war, when the Prussian ruling classes become obsessed with an inhuman hatred, how beautifully the stage is set for them to turn loose the individual Alpine soldier to give free reign to his natural savage instincts and his inherent brutal tendencies.

## SOURCE

## 12: LONG HEADS AND ROUND HEADS

How marvelously wrought and how wonderfully organized is the whole scheme, educationally and racially, to bring about the terrible reign of Germanic frightfulness and Teutonic ruthlessness.

And, in my opinion, we Americans would be quite incapable of understanding the present Germanic attempted reign of terror without carefully analyzing in our own minds and quite fully comprehending these foregoing facts.

## SELF-CONDEMNATION

12:3.1 And now that the reader may see that the German people themselves, in some measure at least, understand this fact (at least that some of their more noble poets and more civilized philosophers understood it), I only need to cite the three following quotations from Goethe, Heine, and Vierordt. They tell this story more eloquently and convincingly than I possibly could:

### V: UTTERANCES OF POETS (*Out of their Own Mouths* 114)

#### **The Prussians** (*Out of Their Own Mouths* 114)

The Prussians are cruel by nature; civilization will make them ferocious.  
Goethe. (114)

The Prussians . . . nature has made them stupid, science has made them wicked.  
Heinrich Heine. (114)

12:3.2 “The Prussians are cruel by nature; civilization will make them ferocious.”— Goethe.

12:3.3 “The Prussians . . . nature has made them stupid, science has made them wicked.

## SOURCE

**The Germans** (*Out of Their Own Mouths* 114)

The Germans are much more revengeful than the Romance peoples; this is because they are idealists, even in hatred. We Germans hate long and hate deeply, to our last breath. . . .

Heine. (114)

**The poet's reply to a Swiss critic** (*Out of Their Own Mouths* 117)

... To those who think me too violent, I make this simple answer: **It is God who urged me, who enjoined me to write this work with words of power.**

**There is still a God of Force, of Pride, who takes a pleasure in seeing the German Michael at last aroused;** but, Michael, you still need spurring. . . .

This God has chosen his German people to be wrought into an engine of destruction, to be hurled against other people who are always on edge, who will not let us live and labor in peace,

and whose mad ambition proves its barbarism by leading barbarian peoples against us.

When it comes to fighting these enemies,

these Kabyles, these Moroccans, these Hindus, these Cossacks, then there are no longer any laws of war.

then there are no longer any laws of war.

There is but one way: Kill, kill, kill them all! (119)

[contd] Our great poet, Heinrich von Kleist, wrote long ago: "Kill them; the tribunal of the world will not question your motives" (119)

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Our great poet, Heinrich von Kleist, wrote long ago: 'Kill them; the tribunal of the world will not question your motives.'



**SOURCE**

[contd] Yes! There is a God who loves the savage onslaught, and who, as the creator of the universe, also loves words that hit hard. **To this God the shouts of the strong are sweeter than the moaning of old women. . . .**

Heinrich Vierordt. (119)

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