

Slosson Sees Era of Peace Through Commercialism

Professor Preston Slosson, of the University of Michigan, is confident of an era of world peace, he told his audience in the senior session room of the Baldwin High School last Thursday evening. He came here under the auspices of the Michigan branch of the non-partisan League of Nations association.

He sketched history from ancient times to modern, showing that from the commerce of one age grew a spirit of internationalism. He sees a new birth of internationalism, coming from this age of industry, an internationalism which will insure world peace. This will not prevent civil wars, however, he said.

In his address, Prof. Slosson traced ancient, middle, medieval and modern times, stressing the social order of the feudal ages. He defined the medieval period of space of time between the fall of Rome and the rise of modern era.

"In about the year 1500 many changes were seen," he said. "Columbus, in his quest for spices in the far east, met an obstacle in his path which was water to become a world power. The Turks had conquered Constantinople, the last trace of the ancient Roman empire. A printing press had been discovered in England, and in Germany, a monk, Martin Luther, had posted bills which were to revolutionize the religion of the day."

Gothic Art Rise

Among the characteristics of this period, Prof. Slosson saw an appreciation of beauty in the art of the ancient world, and a new art characteristic of the age, the Gothic art, so called because it was believed that only the Goths in their lamentable barbarism could create it. It is now appreciated and treated as a rediscovery of the Middle Ages.

There was a likeness in the Roman world to the world of today, Prof. Slosson pointed out. Then, there were large cities as now, with a Rome practically the size of Detroit. There was the same incessant commerce joining the factions of a world. There were excellent roads, probably the best until modern times. Everywhere could be seen the magnificent stadiums with their athletic contests, gladiators alone making them more colorful than these of modern times.

Finally, he said, there was a sophisticated culture such as is found in the world of today. It was a day when every street corner had its philosopher and the social order was delving into the mysteries of strange religions.

Medieval Period

Contrasted with the ancient world came the medieval period. It was an age without large cities, London being the largest of the time with a population approximately the size of Ann Arbor. It was a Europe comprised of tiny walled towns, armed for defense. And these same towns were connected by mud tracks that replaced the Roman roads, tracks that served as barriers. And paramount there was an absence of state in this feudal period.

In his definition of the feudal period, the era of a land owner as ruler, he described it as a state of society in which the lower classes owe political duty to the landlord and a state where the landlord in turn exacts duty from his tenant. It was a time when the county replaced the state.

The primary need of mankind, as Prof. Slosson sees it, is protection. In turn for this security from his lord the vassal of feudal



WHO'S WHO AND TIMELY VIEWS

ALARM EXPRESSED OVER ANGLO-AMERICAN RELATIONS

By DAVID LLOYD GEORGE
Former Prime Minister of Great Britain

(David Lloyd George was born at Manchester, England, Jan. 17, 1863. He was educated at Llanystwynd Church school, and privately, and has received honorary degrees from several English universities. He was solicitor in England in 1884. From 1905 to 1908 he was president of the board of trade, and during the following seven years was chancellor of the exchequer. He was then made minister of munitions for a year and secretary of state for war. Lloyd George was chosen premier and first lord of the treasury in 1916 and served until 1922. Since that time he has been a political observer and writer. His home is in Surrey, England.)

I am frankly alarmed about Great Britain's relations with America. Our relations with European countries are better today than ever, and I wish I could say the same about the United States.

But as our relations get better our armaments get bigger. As our friendship improves, so do our weapons. The mailed fist may be useful, but it is no good for a handshaker. The guns that went into action in 1914 were mere toys compared to those of Europe at the present moment.

It is no use outwarring war when we are building cruisers, heavy guns, bombing machines, and turning out the most poisonous gases. All Europe is engaged in it, and even President Coolidge is joining in.

The naval accord has well been called a compromise. It compromises our honor and the peace of the world. I hope it has gone forever.

So long as we go on with huge armaments in the face of our pledged word, the covenant of the League of Nations, the Locarno Treaty and the Kellogg Pact are mockeries and sham.

I shall wait and see what Locarno means, and until Germany claims arbitration in the Rhineland that will be the real test.

I am told that our relations with France and Germany are better than they have ever been. But I am most concerned about the situation as regards America. The nations are sharpening their knives on the very stone of the temple of peace.

The middle ages saw many new institutions: the guilds, the representative government and the universities. There was also present an idea of closer world unity. Dante suggests this.

Transition

Then came the transition of modern times, with the king gradually disappearing and the power slipping away from the nobility. The plain soldier came to replace the noble and monarchy triumphed. A religious reformation was taking place and the church lost power.

Close on the heels of the 30 years war, came the first book on an international world state and down through history there is mention of the same theory. Sully under Henry IV, William Penn, Emancipation and the scheme in mind. A new internationalism was growing up on the basis of the old nationalism.

Prof. Slosson sees an inevitable abandonment of public war in the dream of a new world state. And in the problems of this world state, there would be the same surrendering of the control of violence as was seen in the surrender of the feudal lords to the rulers of the state. There will come a synthesis, in all likelihood, as the synthesis of a nation from the 300 German states in Napoleon's time. And this same commercialism, this incessant trade will build up a world unity on an economic basis.

The speaker was introduced by Lee A. White, chairman of the program. Mrs. H. H. Wellman and Mrs. George K. Averill comprised a committee who are bringing these lectures to Birmingham and Royal Oak.

Following the lecture a round table discussion was held.

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power to their governing order. The church collected taxes, levied its Canon laws, had its own courts and was the educational center of the times. The Latin language in its universality alone bound the church together. At that time, Prof. Slosson said, the world was more united in many respects than Christendom has ever since been.

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NOTICE

TAXES FOR TROY TOWNSHIP

Taxes payable at Troy Township office, Troy, December 3rd, 1928, to February 1st, 1929, after that time 4 per cent will be added. Make checks payable to Glenn W. Ladd, Treasurer.

(Signed) **GLENN W. LADD,**
Troy Township Treasurer.

Another year, another starting time, is before us. A new race is beginning. If we are to make the year count in our lives, if we are going to win to the goal of our ambitions for the year, we must start at once. The sprinter who does not get away to the crack of the gun never breathes the tape a winner.

Start on New Year's Day to make your dream for the year come true. It's amazing what an early start and a little perseverance will do!

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