

that is very relevant to the United States and to France today. It was destroyed by a beast with two heads: anti-Semitism and Zionism, produced on a mass scale during the years in which Hanotaux was active. The two-headed monster was created to counter the work of Leo XIII, to extend the fight against religion, and to destroy the nation as a secular earthly base for a true conception of religion.

Instead of the republican idea as it once had been, there emerged, during the infamous Dreyfus Affair, the "religion of the country," which led toward the exaltation of an ethnically or racially homogeneous state, basing itself on its armed forces—to the detriment of the universal respect for life and the rights of man.

The nation abandoned republican principles. The new "nationalism," a more or less synthetic pastiche which united the left, the old Communards, and the right, royalists or Bonapartists, posed as the defender of the national army, an instrument of unity, and an opponent of foreigners in general and of Judaism in particular, which was branded "treason by nature."

It was in 1890 that Edouard Drumont founded the Anti-Semitic League. In May 1892, *La Libre Parole*, ("Free Speech"), Drumont's newspaper, began its provocations by publishing an investigation titled "The Jews in the Army," and demanding, of course, their elimination. Such developments prepared the soil in which the Dreyfus Affair grew, and the first information published in the press on the Affair appeared in *La Libre Parole*. On Nov. 1, 1894, the newspaper ran a banner headline: "High Treason! Arrest of the Jewish Officer Alfred Dreyfus."

The Dreyfus Affair formed the backdrop for the entire period, from the end of 1894 to Sept. 19, 1899, when the President of the Republic finally signed Dreyfus's pardon. The Affair inflamed passions, and helped to pervert the idea of the nation. Anti-Dreyfusism was a sort of ersatz republican idea, based on the "cult of terror," the "mystique of the race," and the power of "sacrifices for the military." It was in this synthetic "national" context—manufactured both in France and Germany—that Alsace-Lorraine, for some a part of the soil of France, for others the legitimate extension of the German Empire, became an insoluble question which could not be disentangled except by war.

Remember that Dreyfus was accused of espionage for Germany, by means of a crudely forged letter between the Italian military attaché, Pannizardi, and the German military attaché, von Schwartzkoppen. The Affair maintained an anti-German climate, split France in two at a time when a grand continental policy would have been possible, and threw most of the Catholics into the same political camp as the anti-Semites.

Beyond the terrible injustice done to one man, it was an immense political and moral disaster.

As another indication of the spirit of the times, take the case of Vacher de Lapouge, who wrote at the end of the

century a book called *The Aryan*, which inspired Hitler. In it he says that the most beautiful conquest of man is not the horse; it is the slave. He divides the world between Semites and Aryans. So this is only an example of how man is divided into categories. This is a typical Aristotelian view. You divide, you cut, you cut, you cut, like a salami.

In this climate of irrationalism and godlessness, faith and reason were separated. You have the intellectual on the one side, who thinks very deeply. But he ratiocinates; he's indecisive. It's impotent reason. On the other side, you have the soldier. He doesn't think at all, but he obeys the nation without hesitation. It's irrational faith. The intellectual is left-wing, and the soldier is right-wing—it was at this time that such insanity was promoted.

The nation becomes blood and soil—with animal symbols. The French hawk against the German eagle—two Sun cult symbols. The question of Alsace-Lorraine, trapped into that, becomes insoluble. It is an issue of blood and soil, caught in a universe defined by blood and soil.

Our challenge today

Let me return to today's challenge, to try to locate what is demanded from us, as a lesson of what happened before World War I.

Today, the increase of mankind's physical power over nature, is, to say the least, not secure. Much worse, mankind's physical power over nature *has been systematically*

Nehru: The 'Great War' cost humanity greatly

One of the most biting critiques of the so-called Great War came from Jawaharlal Nehru, in his letters from prison to his daughter Indira, which she later published in a volume as Glimpses of World History (Oxford University Press, New Delhi). His book was reprinted by her son Rajiv Gandhi to commemorate the centenary of Nehru's birth in 1989. On April 1, 1933, Nehru wrote of the war's devastation:

The war was over. But the blockade of Germany by England's fleet continued and food was not allowed to reach the starving German women and children. This amazing exhibition of hatred and desire to punish even the little children was supported by reputable British statesmen and public men, by great newspapers, even by so-called liberal journals. Indeed, the Prime Minister of England then was a Liberal, Lloyd George. The record of the four

reduced. This means chaos, anarchy, wars, a Hundred Years' War of continuous self-attrition, decreasing the potential population density.

We must reverse the prevailing economic orientation. This means to reestablish the American System of Political Economy, in all its facets opposed to the political economy of America today.

What you have today, especially in America, but also elsewhere as a prevailing tendency, is the reverse of the American System of Political Economy. It is the acceptance of the British System of Political Economy, the acceptance of that malthusian liberalism against which the American Revolution was fought. Tell the American population, "Be Americans! Drop the British policies of your oppressors!"

A proper science of physical economy based on the Christian principles as laid out, for example, in *Rerum Novarum*, implies a knowledge of the increasing power of scientific progress. Physical economy does not only measure man's per capita power over nature; but studies those changes as a material effect of a *mental cause*. This is what Lyndon LaRouche has laid out, again and again, over the last 20 years—of a *mental cause*.

This is the question that I am trying to bring before you today: mass intervention to transform human history, the question that LaRouche defines as consciousness of revolutionary change as approximate cause of increase of potential population density: the precondition for humanity's fitness

to survive the crisis before it.

Our task in history, is to reestablish the hopeful direction of development, and therefore to break the logic of war which led to World War I; to make human beings and nations sovereign, to reestablish their capacity of self-government.

Then we should know what is needed to make a nation and a person sovereign. To make a person sovereign, is to develop his creative processes; his generation, its assimilation, communication, of scientific and technological progress, for the whole society. To make a nation sovereign, is to create a process of self-government based on individuals freely exerting those capacities to generate, communicate, and assimilate, scientific and technological progress; a process of self-government in that sense, requires all nations' agreement upon a conception of a development policy through a deliberation in a literate form of common language, for which geometry, music, spoken language, are elementary and inseparable.

Today, we face a world much worse than in 1914. The level of prevailing thinking, is much lower. People are not organizing themselves to revolt against these conditions. The deadly potential of AIDS is infinitely greater than that of the Spanish flu in 1918. America is no longer a reservoir of economic productivity. If we are serious, if we really see before us the sufferings once again to come, let's learn the lessons of history, and let's do individually, personally, a bit more—each of us.

and quarter years of war is full of mad brutalities and atrocities. And yet perhaps nothing exceeds in sheer cold-blooded brutality this continuation of the blockade of Germany after the armistice. The war was over, and still a whole nation was starving and its little children were suffering terribly from hunger, and food was deliberately and forcibly kept away. How war distorts our minds and fills them with mad hatred! Bethmann Hollweg, the old Chancellor of Germany, said: "Our children, and our children's children, will bear traces of the blockade that England enforced against us, a refinement of cruelty nothing less than diabolic." . . .

The long years of war had brutalized the warring nations. They destroyed the moral sense of large numbers of people, and made many normal persons into half-criminals. People got used to violence and to deliberate distortion of facts, and were filled with hatred and the spirit of revenge.

What was the balance-sheet of the war? No one knows yet; they are still making it up! I shall give you some figures to impress on you what modern war means.

The total casualties of the war have been calculated as follows:

Known dead soldiers	10,000,000
Presumed dead soldiers	3,000,000
Dead civilians	13,000,000
Wounded	20,000,000
Prisoners	3,000,000
War orphans	9,000,000
War widows	5,000,000
Refugees	10,000,000

Look at these tremendous figures and try to imagine the human suffering that underlies them. Add them up: the total dead and wounded alone comes to 46,000,000.

And the cost in hard cash? They are still counting it! An American estimate gives the total expenditure on the Allied side as £40,999,600,000—nearly 41,000 million pounds; and on the German side as £15,122,300,000—over 15,000 million pounds! These figures cannot be fully understood by us, as they are so utterly out of proportion to our daily life. They seem to remind us of astronomical figures like the distance to the sun or the stars. It is not surprising that the old warring nations, victors and vanquished alike, are still hopelessly involved in the after-effects of war finance.