

Single World Government Held Peace Need By Dr. Adler, Culture Lecturer

By Helen Mocchi

"Each one of us must become a citizen of the world in mind, spirit and imagination," declared Professor Mortimer J. Adler in the second Christian Culture Series Lecture at Aquinas Institute Auditorium, Rochester, on Sunday evening, October 28.

The address was entitled "Geopolitics and the Science Behind This War" but Professor Adler said he was deviating somewhat from the title announced.

Geopolitics explained Dr. Adler in political geography, it is the politics which involves the whole globe. The world is an image that means the whole globe. In this connection he pointed out how the world today because of increasing air travel has but "one air ocean" which will soon be circumnavigated in one day.

Wars To Follow
The speaker said that he did not wish to speak specifically about this war but of the wars which may follow and of the peace which must be established after them.

"To the Germans, peace is just a brief interlude between this and another war. When we think of peace, we refer to that peace which will be a durable and a just one."

To these statements the speaker gave the following explanation. War is a defect which can be cured. Peace is the normal state of war which has not been achieved. A peace can be just and not durable, while a lasting peace must contain the qualities of a just peace.

Divides Argument
To prove his statement, Dr. Adler stated the two divisions of his argument:
1. To show from principle, that the statement must be true without any qualifications; and
2. To argue from the array of historical facts.

A just and lasting peace is possible, he said, on one condition only, on the surface of the globe, there must be one political unity, one government, one sovereignty and one Constitution.

In considering this thesis, the speaker pointed out that we should consider it not in the light of how the ideal is to be realized, but in the terms that nothing short of one political community will bring about true peace. This political union should not lead to a League of Nations, treaties, nor an alignment of nations exercising police power even for a short while.

"A treaty is just a gentlemen's agreement and goes no farther than that," Dr. Adler said.

Bad Nationalism
Single sovereignty and a single autonomy would mean the end of nationalism, imperialism and capitalism. "Now man, because of his rationality and animality, requires a peculiar government, a compelling-moving one," the speaker said.

Peace is the product of justice, of order and of man's reason. War comes as a result of man's animality. "When conversation ends war begins," the speaker said.

There must be one government with the power to enforce its laws, he stated. As the world is now constituted, anarchy dominates the world. Each nation is individualistic, having its own sovereign who answers to no other sovereign. In such a state of affairs, war is inevitable.

War Would Have Come
Doctor Adler explained that if Hitler had not started this present conflict, the war probably would not have started in the exact year that it did, but it was bound to break out. Peace breaks down when conflicting powers cannot come together to settle their differences in a systematic way at a common court. Anarchy can be destroyed by an amalgamation of people under one government.

Turning to history, the speaker said in Greece was found the first constitutional republic. Greek Imperialism came to an end with the advent of an outsider, the first world conqueror, Alexander the Great. He cited aims of the Romans for world domination of their known world. The Pax Romana, Roman peace, preserved peace for a while because there was law. Down through history, European policy has been one of imperialism, the slow extension of domain, men amalgamating into larger and greater communities.


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