

1, Porchester Terrace,
Hyde Park, W.

American
Notes

10. 6. 17

My dear Oscar

I should be delighted.

Can you & will you drive
with tomorrow at 4. 45.
we can then talk quietly
without interruption. I need
not warn you that the
drives will be the plainest
& you need not know of any
details of it.

I have been trying to edit your
series in at a public meeting
in London. I enclose a thing
it is a very bad report.

I tried also to serve a cause
out look on German soldiers
and of old, many of their
acts of kindness to our people
but though the people thank me
gladly, the papers obviously did
not like mentioning it.

My observations may not go
as far as you would like but
it is better to get a little
taken than a lot rejected.

A telegraph message is a
sufficient answer to this

Yours
Dunbar



HOUSE OF LORDS,
S.W.

29. 7. 15

My dear Mr. Fox

Thank you for your
note. The real difficulty lies
in this if we, 'undertake',
'guarantee', or 'pledge' any
territories to Bulgaria
~~will we to fight the~~
~~people who refuse to~~
~~relinquish them?~~

Yours
J. Buckmaster

g. Stiff. Hollowy afraid to encourage also!

"Inconceivable"
you didn't before. chose judge.
Dropping price doesn't do so.

Encourage + right party in p.
yes let alone if port wise.
only yields to public -
if for mod. is used by long words.

24/5/17

Conspiracy of Jingo. + air raids.
Buy dear Bull box

1, Porchester Terrace,
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I am much obliged for your letter and am writing back in confidence, the reply being dictated to my daughter who knows and respects the importance of secrecy in these matters.

I am very greatly concerned and distressed at the position affairs appear to be taking. My efforts to establish an understanding with the Government met with non success, and the reason I believe, is this. *That anyone seems confident that no proposals can be extracted from Germany at the present time* The Germans are, ~~at the present moment~~, more confident of victory than they have been for many months past - probably more so than at any time during the last two years. Their relief on the Eastern front, their confidence as to the future effect of submarine warfare upon our supplies, their ~~suspicion~~ *conjecture* as to the ^{true} position of France and Italy, their knowledge as to the hindrance of our efforts in Mesopotamia and Palestine, their safe passage through the difficult days of May and the knowledge that their economic difficulties may soon be lightened, are no doubt all contributing ~~evidence~~ to this opinion, even if we may think they afford no solid justification for it. The ~~strong~~ tone

I, Porchester Terrace,
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of their speeches in the Reichstag, the marked change in the demands that are now being formulated through the Press, the different quality of von Bethmann Hollweg's speech, all afford evidence of this view and make me feel that it is difficult to combat.

[The result is serious. It means that no longer is it possible for us to obtain by voluntary offer on the part of Germany terms that would even involve the restoration of Belgium and the evacuation of France. Their temper is hardened and our chance of negotiation not only seems more remote, but the prospect of opening it up appears even more difficult of attainment.]

Yes we ought to have spoken.

What is the right course for us to follow in these circumstances I find it hard to decide. I have often looked with suspicion upon the view that silence should be observed for fear that speech should encourage the enemy, but I am not satisfied that at this moment that is not the true view to take, and it may be right even though it leave before us nothing but the bleak prospect of the long drawn bitterness of this grievous war.

One thing at least is certain, however many people may share

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my view, no concerted action is at the moment possible. My hope

at the beginning was that we might have been able to get an
authoritative basis of discussion - a proposal emanating from
Germany conceding the demands as to Belgium and France. This
hope has gone by. I particularly enquired as to whether there
was information in support of the news that I had heard from
an apparently authoritative source that von Bethmann Hollweg
was sending an emissary to the Hague and Austria one to Paris.

I was told that there was nothing in confirmation of this.

A further request that the Government should be made aware of
our anxiety to know of any proposal, in order that our action as
well as the Government action might be regulated accordingly.

I was told that the Government would certainly give such informa-
tion but that there was nothing to have.

I should be glad indeed if you would give me your views on
these observations, and you can be assured that I will treat
your communication as I know you will regard mine.

*Yours
Ruskin*

CKM

1, Porchester Terrace,
Hyde Park, W.

April 12th 1918.

Dear Buxton,

You ask me something that is singularly hard for me to answer.

I feel quite satisfied that the fate of Keighley will resolve itself into a fight between Labour and Liberalism, in which Labour may ~~attach~~ attract some of the more *detaahed* ~~careless~~ Liberals owing to its policy on the War. But to turn my back on all the friends, who with a loyalty and a fidelity I shall never forget sttod by me and by the Government at one of the most critical moments in the whole of our political struggle, is to ask me something rather more than I can undertake.

I have not yet seen the programme of either of the Parties and I do not know how widely they differ. It might have been possible for me to have done this anywhere-else, but I really cannot possibly do it at Keighley.

Yours sincerely

Osborne



3, Airlie Gardens,
W.8.

Oct. 10th, 1918.

Dear Lord Buckmaster,

I have received the following request from the Committee of the Union of Democratic Control :-

"The Executive Committee of the U.D.C. have ~~commissioned me to ask you to approach Lord Parmoor and Lord Beauchamp, and any other leading men in sympathy with Lord Lansdowne's policy,~~ in connection with certain proposed public meetings. The meetings are to be held at Glasgow, Bradford and Leicester to advocate negotiation on the basis of the German acceptance of Wilson's 14 points.

What is suggested is that those just mentioned should appear on the platform, and speak, with leading members of the U.D.C. We are anxious to know, before finally arranging the meetings, whether they will be willing to do so. The meetings would not be announced as under the auspices of the U.D.C.

We can undertake to provide in each case a very large and sympathetic audience. No disturbance of any kind has taken place at our meetings for a long time past."

The meetings would apparently be on the same lines as the Central Hall Meeting in the spring of 1917 at which the connection with the U.D.C. workers did not transpire but at which the audience was virtually collected by them.

Two or three Liberal Members of Parliament besides myself, who are not connected with the U.D.C., are willing to speak at such meetings as are suggested. In the present urgent crisis I hope you may think the proposal a good one.

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103. 31

My dear Buxton

Of course you may
use it, if I should not
hesitate to say it in
1917 I am not likely
to object to its publication
now. What I was
then trying to get
realized was that
the inclusion of Germany
on equal terms with
all other nations in a
League of Nations ought
to be one of the first conditions

of peace.

The world's distress &
day is in my opinion
directly traceable to
the Treaty of Versailles

I wish we could get plans
for a complete
cancellation of all
international debts

John

Quaker

Kindly check.
Please your
underlining

70
24 8

32

BUCKINGHAM
4. TRICEP. 152 3.

yet there were when War broke out two distinct parties having authority among the German people - the one, which succeeded, expressed the military power - the other, which failed, desired peaceful and civil development. It ought to be our object to make the latter party all powerful and to win to it those members of the other party, who, when the blindness caused by international quarrels has passed away, would be able to see the ruin which has been brought to their Country and to the world by the policy they were led to support. My view is that, however difficult and however far-distant the realisation of such a hope and object may be, it is nonetheless only by its realisation that peace can ever be made lasting and secure. [It must never be forgotten that we are dealing with a people who, ~~when the ravages of war have passed by, will still be a nation of about 65 millions, of whom perhaps 2 millions may be injured men. The 3 or 4 millions who will be killed or permanently crippled I have disregarded in forming my estimate of 65.~~] This people, whatever distress and suffering they may have undergone, will retain - nay, may even have strengthened - their natural characteristics of patience, industry, thrift and determination to acquire and use all knowledge for the purpose of personal and national development. Let such a nation be governed by the class of people who have failed to prevent this War, and the future of Europe may be both safe and happy. Let it be a Nation infected and infiltrated through and through with a desire to redeem by force of arms a great national humiliation, and Europe will continue to be one vast armed camp.

It may be said in answer to my comment that there is little in

TC. 22
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it that suggests practical remedy and much that is hypothetical and
vain. I do not think that I could fairly quarrel with such a critic-
ism. I can only say that, if the small gleam of hope which I think
exists is extinguished, I see nothing but the blackness of unending
night before Europe and the World. "