

## THE MAP OF EUROPE AFTER THE WAR.

Sometime the world's war will come to an end and the map of Europe probably will be redrawn. Then the only arrangement which can insure lasting peace, will be to draw the boundary lines to conform, substantially, to the nationality of the people. Any arrangement which would place people of one nationality, under a different nationality, can not possibly be a satisfactory and lasting one. In territories of mixed nationality, somewhat greater weight would be given to the city population, than to the rural population, since experience has shown that the former has greater influence in shaping popular sentiment.

A good study of the nationalities of the territory involved in the war was published in the Bulletin of the American Geographical Society June 1915.

Such re-organization in accordance with nationality would mean:

The territory occupied by the Germans in France is returned to France. Alsace remains German, as its population is overwhelmingly German.

Belgium would be divided, the southern French part be joined to France, the northern Flemish part to Germany or Holland: it must be realized that Belgium ethnically never was a nation, but an accident, contains those parts of the Netherlands, which were conquered by Phillip II and partly "colonized". As far as this colonization extended, the nationality has become French, the rest has remained German.

Poland remains an independent nation. Very few of us Americans realize that there is the unbridgeable gulf of religious hatred between the Poles, Bohemians etc., as Roman Catholic Slavs, and the Russians, as Greek Catholics, and that the former look rather to "His Holiness Most Catholic Nation" Austria as their protector, than to the arch heretic Russia.

The old German colonies of the Baltic Provinces would return to Germany.

Germanic Finland and Celtic Ireland would become independent nations, the former allied with the Scandinavian countries, Sweden and Norway, the latter allied with England.

The Balkan Peninsula outside of the Turkish territory would be divided between Greece (Latin Slav), Bulgaria (Bulgar, ethnically related to the Magyar) and

Roumania (Latin), in accordance with the predominant nationality. The Aegean Islands and the coast cities of Asia Minor should come to Greece.

There would apparently be no physical difficulty in reconstructing the boundary lines as real national boundaries, except at one place: there is an enclave of Greek Catholic Slavs in Northern Serbia and Montenegro, who are by far too distant from the Greek Catholic empire of Russia to be joined to it, are separated from it by the barrier of Latins and Magyar, and constitute the only serious problem in a national re-organization of boundaries.

The question may arise, whether the smaller nations should remain entirely separate, or should be federated in groups, or join larger nations.

This question really has been answered before the war and the answer made conclusive by the war by the fate of Belgium, Greece, etc: the smaller nations can not exist independently, and the only way in which smaller nations can preserve their nationality is by permanent union with a large nation, such as that of the Hungarians and Bohemians with the Germans in Austria. It

was the failure of Russia, to protect the nationality of the smaller nations included in its empire, the attempt to destroy their nationality and Russify them, which has alienated the Poles, the Fins, the Roumanians, Bulgarians etc. from their former protectors.

Thus Poland and the Balkan nations probably will form a permanent union with the central powers, Finland with the Scandinavian nation; France, Italy and Spain form a Latin union, etc.

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