

Meinungsäußerungen englischer Politiker aus dem Jahre 1921

Aus einem Brief von E. D. Morel, geschrieben kurz nach seiner ersten schweren Erkrankung.

Cherry Croft, Dec. 3. 1921.

... All that I can say is, that in my opinion an unequivocal declaration on the part of Germany in regard to Belgium would have been decisive. I am awfully sorry I can't go into further details now, it is physically impossible and this is the last letter I shall write for the next three months...

I am very sorry I cannot develop my own views at greater length — because interesting and valuable as the memoranda of my colleagues are, they do not, in my opinion, cover the whole ground — and I don't wholly agree with them...

Finally in my opinion Germany held all the cards — when she sat at the conference table at Brest-Litowsk. A generous Peace of conciliation and understanding with Russia then, coupled with a positive statement with regard to Belgium, the whole flung in the face of the world with a great gesture, would have reestablished her moral position in the world, and exploded a mine under British public opinion (Labour especially) already badly shaken.

Memorandum by Charles Trevelyan [M. P.]

The object which I pursued during the war was the formation of public opinion. Consequently I did not follow or care to try to influence privately the views of the governmental people. I felt sure that they would respond to any formidable growth of a feeling of the necessity and possibility of a "peace by negotiation". Neither we nor Prince Max were working *either* "on illusions or facts". We were working to create a new situation which, as facts went, never came into existence. But that did not make us wrong in our estimate of what might have been. It makes it however in my opinion impossible of *proof* that our policy was ever near success. The secret of how near or how