Reflections on the Great 1914-1918 War
Fromm Institute, Spring 1915
22 April: The Paris Treaties and the Post War World, 1919-1930

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   A. Why Did the United States Enter the Great War, and Should It Have Done So?
      1. Secretary of State William Jennings Bryan; of War, Lindley M. Garrison; of the Navy, Josephus Daniels
         a. Mexico: Revolution, Victoriano Huerta, Ambassador Henry Lane Wilson; John Lind; Vera Cruz; Venustiano Carranza; Pancho Villa, Columbus NM, May 1916; J. J. Pershing; Imperial German involvement?
         b. War in Europe: Belgium (Herbert Hoover); Lusitania, May 1915 (Bryan resigned; replaced by Robert Lansing)
         c. Public Opinion, Preparedness; Theodore Roosevelt; William Randolph Hearst; Naval expansion
      2. Election of 1916: Wilson vs Charles Evans Hughes (California and Hiram Johnson)
      3. February 1917: Unrestricted Submarine Warfare resumed; Zimmermann telegram)
   B. Politics, the Home Front and the Red Scare

II. The “Spanish Flu” Pandemic, 1918-19, World Wide estimates, 50 to 100 million.

III. Peace Treaties and the Breakup of Empires, 1919-23
   A. Woodrow Wilson, the Versailles Treaty, the United States Senate and Henry Cabot Lodge
   B. The Versailles Treaty and Article 231, War Guilt: Germany and Its Allies
   C. Treaties, Conflicts and Settlements, 1920-23 (League of Nations Mandates)
      1. Russian Empire to USSR. Treaty of Brest Litovsk, March 1918; Independence of Finland, Lithuania, Latvia & Estonia
      2. Germany: Armistice, Nov. 11 (Treaty of Versailles); Alsace-Lorraine to France; Sudeten to Czechoslovakia; territory to Poland; Saar; Rhineland
         a. Revolution: Spartacists, Karl Liebknecht, Rosa Luxemburg; Freikorps
      3. Austria-Hungary: Armistice, Nov. 4. Austria (St Germain en-Laye); Hungary (Trianon), Transylvania to Romania; Banat, Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia to Yugoslavia (Serbia); Istria, Trentino to Italy: Bohemia, Moravia, Slovakia to Czechoslovakia
         a. Hungary, Béla Kun, Soviet Republic; Admiral Miklós Horthy, 1919; “Regency”
         b. Austria: Social Democratic Party
         c. Bulgaria (Treaty of Neuilly)
      4. Creation of Poland, from German Silesia, Posen, East Pomerania, Polish Corridor (Free State Danzig); Austrian Galicia; Warsaw & Russian Poland; War with USSR, 1920
      5. Ottoman Empire (Sykes-Picot Agreement, 1916); Treaty of Sèvres 1920; Turkey (British occupy Constantinople to 1923); Kurdish question: Armenia to USSR
         a. Greco-Turkish War 1919-22: Battle of Ankara; Smyrna/Izmir; Treaty of Lausanne, 1923 and modern Republic of Turkey; Mustafa Kemal Atatürk
   E. League of Nations Mandates
      1. Lebanon, Syria to France (Sykes-Picot Agreement, 1916)
      2. Britain, Palestine and the Balfour Declaration of 1917
         a. Zionism (Theodore Herzl 1860-1904), Zionist Organization
      3. Britain and Iraq (Mesopotamia)
      4. The Arabian Peninsula, Saudi Arabia and Hijaz (Mecca & Medina); Faisal to Iraq
      5. Africa: German Southwest Africa to Union of South Africa; German East Africa (Tanganyika) to British; Cameroon between British and French
      6. Pacific: German New Guinea, Bismarck Archipelago, Solomons to Australia; German Samoa to New Zealand; Carolines, Marshals, Marianas and Tsingtao to Japan
IV. The Soviet Union and Third International (Comintern, 1920-22; Communist-Socialist division)
   A. Revolution and Civil War
      1. Red Army (Leon Trotsky) vs Whites
         a. Allied Intervention, 1918-20
         b. Red Terror
      2. Lenin, New Economic Policy (state capitalism); died 1924
      3. Stalin vs. Trotsky & Kamenev; Stalin’s triumph, 1928
         a. Socialism in One Country; Five Year Plan 1928-32: Industrialization, Collectivization

V. The Rise of Fascism in Italy
   A. Fiume (Rijeka): Gabriele D’Annunzio and treaties of Rapallo (1920) and Rome (1924)
   B. Benito Mussolini (1883-1945)
      1. Fascist Party and March on Rome (October 1922)
      2. Prime Minister to One Party Rule, 1922-25: Il Duce
   C. Weimar Germany
      1. Weimar Constitution, 1919: President, Bundestag, Judiciary, limited army, navy
      2. Occupation of Rhineland 1919; French in Saar till 1930
         a. Blockade and Reparations
      3. Presidents: Social Democrat Friedrich Ebert (1919-25); Paul von Hindenburg (1925-34)
         Foreign Ministers Walter Rathenau (1919-22); Gustav Stresemann, (1923-29)
         a. Treaty of Rapallo, 1922, with USSR; military training
      4. Hyper-inflation, Occupation of Ruhr, and Dawes Plan, 1923-24
      5. Adolf Hitler, (Nazi: NSDAP, Nationalsozialistche Deutsche Arbeiter Partei); Führer; Beer Hall Putsch, 1923; Prison 1923-25; Mein Kampf (1925-26).

VI. Peace and Pacifism
   A. Navies: Washington Naval Treaty, 1922; First London Treaty 1930
   B. Locarno Treaties, 1925; Kellogg-Briand Pact, 1928

VII. The Cultural Response: Thought and Literature
   A. Albert Einstein & Relativity; Sigmund Freud: Psychoanalysis; Civilization and Its Discontents
   B. Oswald Spengler, The Decline of the West (Der Untergang des Abendlandes), 1918, 1922-23
   C. Romain Rolland, Stefan Zweig; Franz Kafka
   D. German: Erich Maria Remarque, All Quiet on the Western Front (Im Westen nichts Neues), 1918-22; Ernst Jünger, Storm of Steel (In Stahlgewittern), 1920; Czech: Jaroslav Hašek, Good Soldier Švejk, 1921-23
   E. France: Henri Barbusse, Under Fire (Le Feu), 1916
   F. British: Ford Maddox Ford, tetralogy, Parade’s End (1924-28); Siegfried Sassoon, Memoirs of an Infantry Officer, 1930; T. E. Lawrence, Seven Pillars of Wisdom, 1922; Robert Graves, Goodbye to All That, 1929, Vera Brittain, Testament of Youth, 1934; Poets: Laurence Binyon, Rupert Brooke, Sassoon, Dr. John Macrae, Wilfred Owen, Isaac Rosenberg, Robert W. Service
   G. Ernest Hemingway, A Farewell to Arms, 1929; Willa Cather, One of Ours, 1922; Robert Fitzgerald, Tender Is the Night, 1934; Poet, Joyce Kilmer, “Rouge Bouquet,” 1918

VIII. Music: From War to Peace
   B. Popular: Jack Judge, “It’s a Long Way to Tipperary”