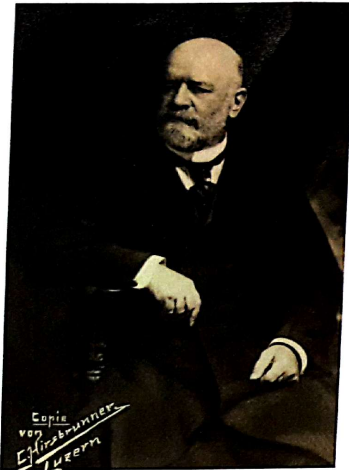


Lay Down Your Arms!

The Warnings of Jan Bloch in St. Petersburg (1898), The Hague (1899) and Lucerne (1902)

Peter van den Dungen (P.Vandendungen@bradford.ac.uk)



Jan Bloch (1836-1902)

1) One of the most noble personalities of the 19th century.

(Bertha von Suttner, *Johan von Bloch und sein Werk*. Lucerne, 1902, p. 17)

2) He was not only the greatest student of war in his time, but in all time.

(Edwin D. Mead, *Jean de Bloch and 'The Future of War'*. Boston, 1903, p. 5)

3) ... it is often the outsider that sees most ...

(I.S. Bloch, *The Future of War*. New York, 1899, p. XII)

4) Jean de Bloch was a seer, a seeing man in the midst of the blind.

(W.T. Stead, *Object Lessons in War and Peace: Opening of the Bloch Museum in Lucerne*, *Review of Reviews*, July 1902, p. 38)

5) The death of M. Bloch is little short of a European misfortune.

(W.T. Stead, *Character Sketch: The Late M. Jean Bloch*, *Review of Reviews*, Feb. 1902, p. 136)

6) (Bloch is) the prophet who emerges with the most honour from this war.

(H.G. Wells, *What is coming - The end of the war*, *Saturday Evening Post*, 15 Jan. 1916, p. 6)

Is War Now Impossible?

Being an Abridgment of "The War of the Future in its Technical, Economic and Political Relations"

By I. S. Bloch

With a Prefatory Conversation with the Author by

W. T. Stead

Translated from the Russian

With Maps and Illustrations

London
Grant Richards
1899

Modern Weapons and Modern War

Being an Abridgment of "The War of the Future in its Technical, Economic and Political Relations"

By I. S. Bloch

With a Prefatory Conversation with the Author by

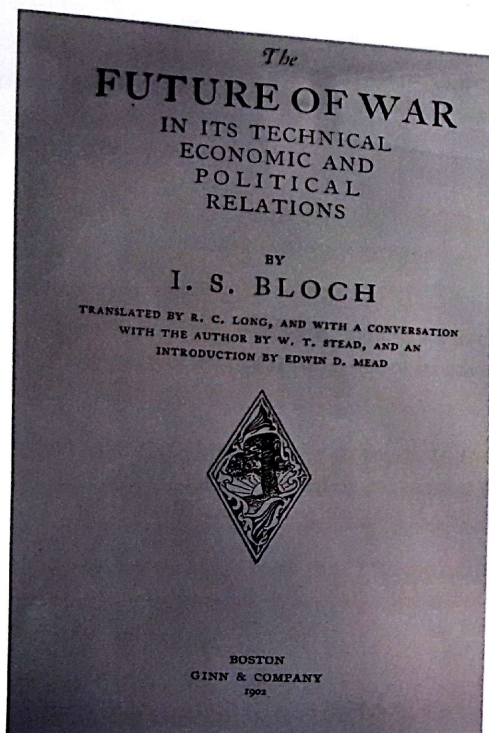
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The Future of War/War of the Future (1898)



In July the news came of the appearance of a great work, in six volumes and in Russian, against war. The author was said to be a Russian state councilor, named Johann von Bloch. The book was entitled "The Future of War in its Technical, Economic, and Political Relations." A German translation was shortly to appear. Permission to publish it had been granted only a short time before, after the author had had an audience with the Tsar.

Bertha von Suttner, Memoirs, vol. 2, 183.



The Future of War/War of the Future (1898)

1) His epoch-making book will do more, and has already done more, than any other book which was ever written, save Grotius's 'Rights of War and Peace' alone, to promote the tendencies which make for the world's peace and order and humaneness.

(Edwin D. Mead, *op. cit.*)

2) ... an immensely influential six-volume study ...

(Sandi E. Cooper, *Patriotic Pacifism: Waging War on War in Europe, 1815-1914*. New York, 1991, p. 63)

3) No previous single work provided such a thorough examination, such detailed prognostication and stunning proof of ideas that pacifists held to be self-evident.

(Sandi E. Cooper, *op. cit.*, p. 149)

4) No book could contribute so much to the success of the [1899] conference or to the information of those who were to take part in its deliberations.

(Report about Bloch's book for Tsar Nicholas II, quoted by Bloch, *The Future of War*, *op. cit.*, p. XIII)

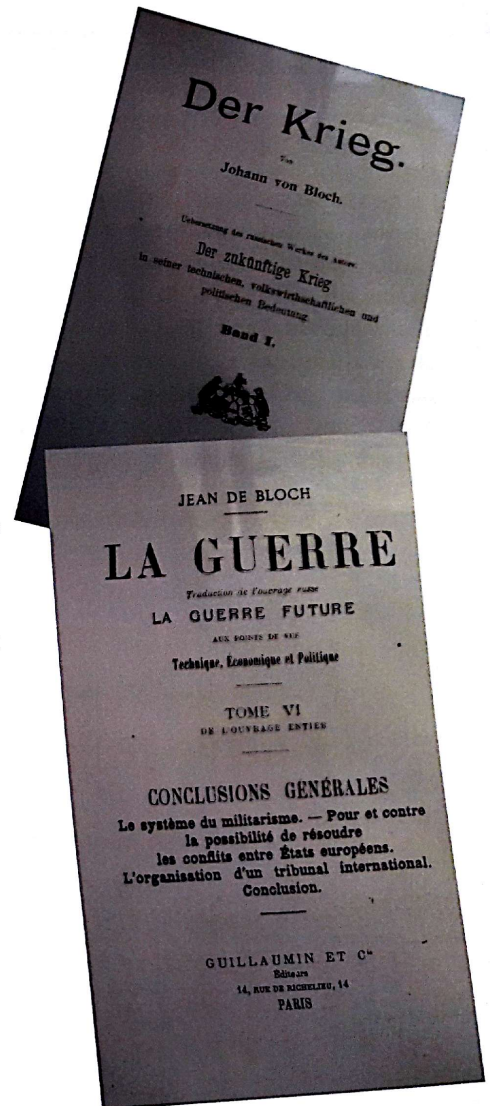
5) I admitted to Mr. Bloch that I know many who own a copy of the work, but not one who has fully read it, and this includes me.

(Bertha von Suttner, *Erinnerungen an Johann von Bloch*, in *Stimmen und Gestalten*. Leipzig, 1907, p. 126).

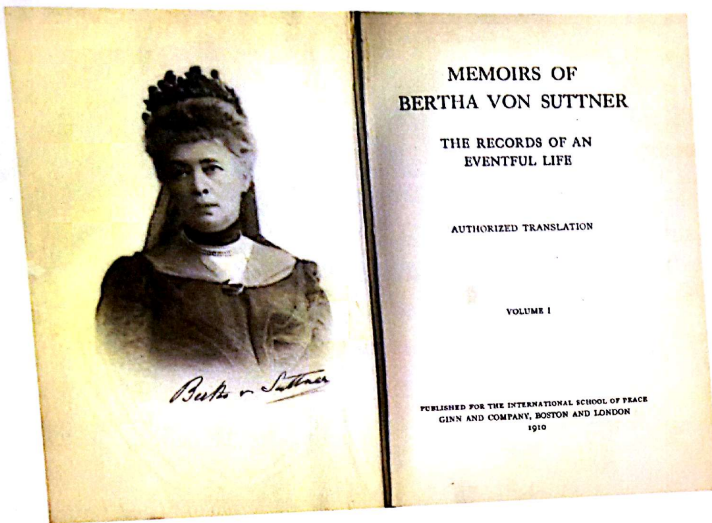
6) The future war will in no way be like its predecessors ... a future war will last many years.

7) War has become impossible, except at the price of suicide.

(I.S. Bloch, *The Future of War*, *op. cit.*, pp. LXXIII and XXXI, respectively)



First Hague Peace Conference (1899)



May 26. Bloch has conceived the idea of having a series of lectures to which the public shall be invited. No other place, no other opportunity, is so well suited for representing the "Utopia of War." The documentary and statistic-bolstered facts and conclusions which these lectures will contain must be of especial interest, he says, to the military delegates. My Own and I are assisting him in his arrangements, going round with him in search of halls, giving orders, and the like.

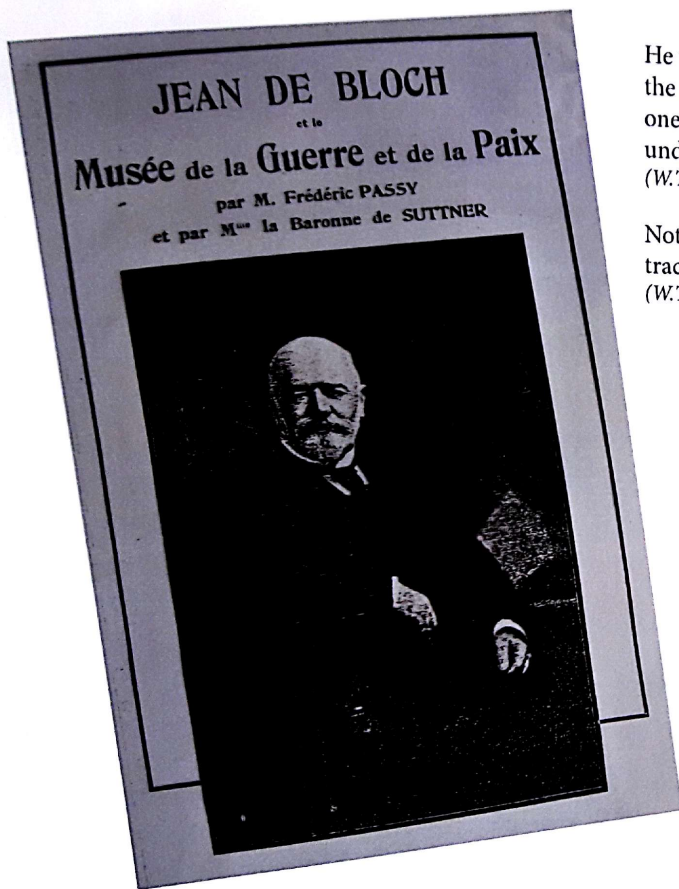
Bertha von Suttner, Memoirs, vol. 2, 266

I next met him at The Hague, where he was, in many respects, much the most remarkable figure.

... no one among all of the representatives of the foreign nations who were present at the Dutch capital was more interesting or more worthy of attention ...

M. Bloch's lectures were among the chief social events at The Hague during the Conference.
(W.T. Stead, Character Sketch, op. cit., pp. 137, 137, 139, respectively)

Lucerne Museum of War and Peace (1902)



He was ... full of the idea of founding a great museum, to illustrate the revolution in the art of war, in Switzerland and in London. His one idea was to make people see things. He said: 'They never will understand unless they see things with their own eyes'.
 (W.T. Stead, *Character Sketch*, op. cit., p. 140)

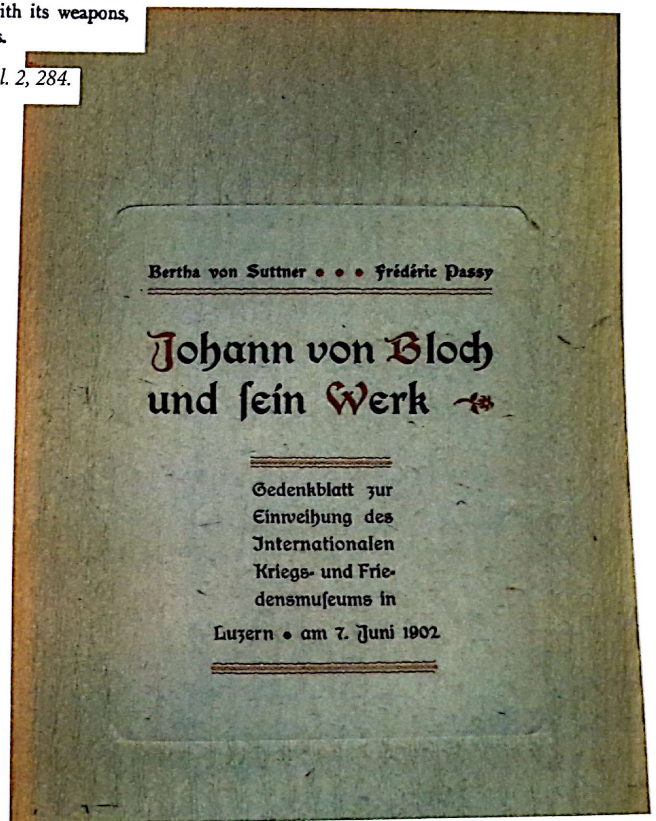
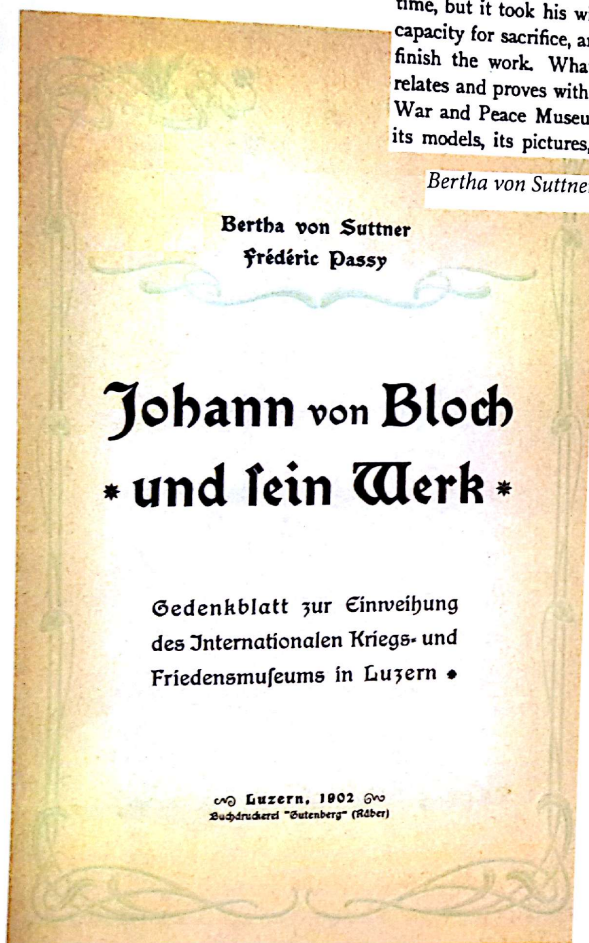
Nothing has been left undone to make the whole institution as attractive as it is instructive.
 (W.T. Stead, *Object Lessons*, op. cit., p. 40)



Lucerne Museum of War and Peace (1902)

My husband had so far recovered that we were able to go to Switzerland together to attend the opening of the Bloch Museum. The preliminary arrangements had been well advanced during the founder's lifetime, but it took his widow's entire energy, her entire capacity for sacrifice, and her extraordinary activity to finish the work. What the six-volume work "War" relates and proves with the printed word, the Lucerne War and Peace Museum reiterates with its weapons, its models, its pictures, and its charts.

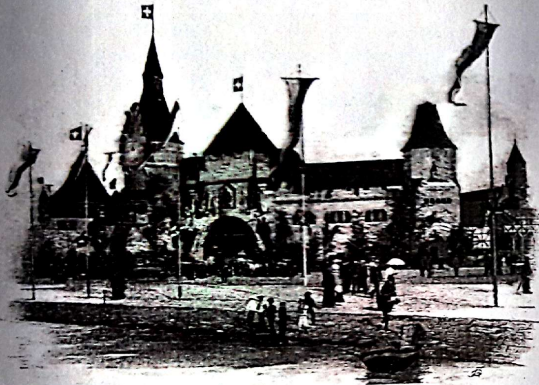
Bertha von Suttner, Memoirs, vol. 2, 284.



Lucerne Museum of War and Peace (1902)

A WALK THROUGH THE TOWN.

The traveller arriving at Lucerne by one of the five railway lines which enter the town from different directions is agreeably surprised at the sight of the new railway station. The front part, covered with a glass roof, is lofty, spacious, and well lighted. The principal platform is 310 feet in length, and that part of the building containing the booking offices and waiting-rooms is an imposing structure.



Museum of War and Peace

The noble vestibule is surmounted by a cupola rising to a height of 137 feet. The entire building rests upon a foundation of 3597 piles, having a total length of over 120,000 feet. The new station was more than two years in course of erection, and has been opened for traffic since November 1st, 1896.

On the right of the station is the **International Museum of War and Peace**. It was founded under the auspices of the late Counsellor of State Joh. von Bloch at Warsaw, and

Krieg und Frieden im Museum

AUSSTELLUNG

Jan Bloch und das
Internationale Kriegs- und Friedensmuseum in Luzern

7. Juni – 6. Oktober 2002

PANORAMA

Löwenplatz 11
6000 Luzern

21. Oktober – 21. Dezember 2002

AAL

Armee-Ausbildungszentrum Luzern
6000 Luzern 30

Bertha von Suttner

Rüstung und Überrüstung

Internationale Verständigung
HEFT 6

DIE BARBARISIERUNG DER LUFT

VON
BERTHA VON SUTTNER



VERLAG DER »FRIEDENS.WARTE«
BERLIN 1912 / W., BULOEWSTRASSE 66
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