

ON FLAG DAY WILSON TELLS WHY WE FIGHT

Extraordinary Insults and Aggressions of Imperial German Government Left Us No Self-Respecting Choice But to Take Up Arms in Defense of Our Rights

Military Masters of Germany Denied Us Right to be Neutral

Filled Our Unsuspecting Communities With Vicious Spies and Conspirators—They Are Themselves in the Grip of the Same Sinister Power That Has Stretched Its Ugly Talons Out and Drawn Blood From Us—When by Our Arms Kaiserism Is Crushed Our Flag Shall Wear a New Lustre.

Washington, June 14.—President Wilson delivered a notable speech here in commemoration of Flag Day in which he again outlined the position of the United States in regard to the world war. The address is in full as follows:

My Fellow Citizens: We meet to celebrate Flag Day because this flag which we honor and under which we serve is the emblem of our unity, our power, our thought and purpose as a nation. It has no other character than that which we give it from generation to generation. The choices are ours. It floats in majestic silence above the hosts that execute those choices, whether in peace or in war. And yet, though silent, it speaks to us,—speaks to us of the past, of the men and women who went before us and of the records they wrote upon it. We celebrate the day of its birth; and from its birth until now it has witnessed a great history, has floated on high the symbol of great events, of a great plan of life worked out by a great people. We are about to carry it into battle to lift it where it will draw the fire of our enemies. We are about to bid thousands, hundreds of thousands, it may be millions, of our men, the young, the strong, the capable men of the nation, to go forth and die beneath it on fields of blood far away,—for what? For some unaccustomed thing? For something for which it has never sought the fire before? American armies were never before sent across the seas. Why are they sent now? For some new purpose, for which this great flag has never been carried before, or for some old, familiar, heroic purpose for which it has seen men, its own men, die on every battlefield upon which Americans have borne arms since the Revolution?

These are questions which must be answered. We are Americans. We in our turn serve America, and can serve her with no private purpose. We must use her flag as she has always used it. We are accountable at the bar of history and must plead in utter frankness what purpose it is we seek to serve.

It is plain enough how we were forced into the war. The extraordinary insults and aggressions of the Imperial German Government left us no self-respecting choice but to take up arms in defense of our rights as a free people and of our honor as a sovereign government. The military masters of Germany denied us the right to be neutral. They filled our unsuspecting communities with vicious spies and conspirators and sought to corrupt the opinion of our people in their own behalf. When they found that they could not do that, their agents diligently spread sedition amongst us and sought to draw our own citizens from their allegiance,—and some of those agents were men connected with the official Embassy of the German Government itself here in our own capital. They sought by violence to destroy our industries and arrest our commerce. They tried to incite Mexico to take up arms against us and to draw Japan into a hostile alliance with her,—and that, not by indirection but by direct suggestion from the Foreign Office in Berlin. They impudently denied us the use of the high seas and repeatedly executed their threat that they would send to their death any of our people who ventured to approach the coasts of Europe. And many of our own people were corrupted. Men began to look upon their own neighbors with suspicion and to wonder in their hot resentment and surprise whether there was any community in which hostile intrigue did not lurk. What great nation in such circumstances would not have taken up arms? Much as we had desired peace, it was denied us, and not of our own choice. This flag under which we serve would have been dishonored had we withheld our hand.

But that is only part of the story. We know now as clearly as we knew

before we were ourselves engaged that they are not our enemies. They did not originate or desire his hideous war or wish that we should be drawn into it; and we are vaguely conscious that we are fighting their cause, as they will some day see it as well as our own. They are themselves in the grip of the same sinister power that has now at last stretched its ugly talons out and drawn blood from us. The whole world is at war because the whole world is in the grip of that power and is trying out the great battle which shall determine whether it is to be brought under its mastery or fling itself free.

The war was begun by the military masters of Germany, who proved to be also the masters of Austria-Hungary. These men have never regarded nations as peoples, men, women, and children of like blood and frame as themselves, for whom governments existed and in whom governments had their life. They have regarded them merely as serviceable organizations which they could by force or intrigue bend or corrupt to their own purpose. They have regarded the smaller states, in particular, and the peoples who could be overwhelmed by force, as their natural tools and instruments of domination. Their purpose has long been avowed. The statesmen of other nations, to whom that purpose was incredible, paid little attention; regarded what German professors expounded in their classrooms and German writers set forth to the world as the goal of German policy as rather the dream of minds detached from practical affairs, as preposterous private conceptions of German destiny, than as the actual plans of responsible rulers; but the rulers of Germany themselves knew all the while what concrete plans, what well advanced intrigues lay back of what the professors and the writers were saying, and were glad to go forward unmolested, filling the thrones of Balkan states with German princes, putting German officers at the service of Turkey to drill her armies and make interest with her government, developing plans of sedition and rebellion in India and Egypt, settling their fires in Persia. The demands made by Austria upon Serbia were a mere single step in a plan which merged Europe and Asia, from Berlin to Bagdad. They hoped those demands might not arouse Europe, but they meant to press them whether they did or not, for they thought themselves ready for the final issue of arms.

Their plan was to throw a broad belt of German military power and political control across the very centre of Europe and beyond the Mediterranean into the heart of Asia; and Austria-Hungary was to be as much their tool and pawn as Serbia or Bulgaria or Turkey or the ponderous states of the East. Austria-Hungary, indeed, was to become part of the central German Empire, absorbed and dominated by the same forces and influences that had originally cemented the German states themselves. The dream had its heart at Berlin. It could have had a heart nowhere else! It rejected the idea of solidarity of race entirely. The choice of peoples played no part in it at all. It contemplated binding together racial and political units which could be kept together only by force.—Czechs, Magyars, Croats, Serbs, Roumanians, Turks, Armenians,—the proud states of Bohemia and Hungary, the stout little commonwealths of the Balkans, the indomitable Turks, the subtle peoples of the East. These peoples did no wish to be united. They ardently desired to direct their own affairs would be satisfied only by undisputed independence. They could be kept quiet only by the presence or the constant threat of armed men. They would live under a common power only by sheer compulsion and await the day of revolution. But the German military statesmen had reckoned with all that and were ready to deal with it in their own way.

And they have actually carried the greater part of that amazing plan into execution! Look how things stand. Austria is at their mercy. It has acted not upon its own initiative or upon the choice of its own people but at Berlin's dictation ever since the war began. Its people now desire peace, but cannot have it until leave is granted from Berlin. The so-called Central Powers are in fact but a single power. Serbia is at its mercy should its hands be but for a moment freed. Bulgaria has consented to its will and Roumania is overrun. The Turkish armies, which Germans trained, are serving Germany, certainly not themselves, and the guns of German warships lying in the harbor at Constantinople remind Turkish statesmen every day that they have no choice but to take their orders from Berlin. From Hamburg to the Persian Gulf the net is spread.

Is it not easy to understand the eagerness for peace that has been manifested from Berlin ever since the war was set and sprung? Peace, peace, peace has been the talk of her Foreign Office for now a year or more; but peace upon her own initiative, but upon the initiative of the nations over which she now deems herself to hold the advantage. A little of the talk has been made public, but most of it has been private. Through all sorts of channels it has come to me, and in all sorts of guises, but never with the terms disclosed which the German Government would be willing to accept. That government has other valuable pawns in its hands besides these I have mentioned. It still holds a valuable part of France, though with a lowly relaxing grasp, and practically

the whole of Belgium. Its armies press close upon Russia and overrun Poland at their will. It cannot go further; it dare not go back. It wishes to close its bargain before it is too late and it has little to offer for the pound of flesh it will demand.

The military matters under whom Germany is bleeding see very clearly to what point fate has brought them. If they fall back or are forced back an inch, their power both abroad and at home will fall to pieces like a house of cards. It is their power at home they are thinking about now more than their power abroad. It is that power which is trembling under their very feet; and deep fear has entered their hearts. They have but one chance to perpetuate their military power or even their controlling political influence. If they can secure peace now with the immense advantages still in their hands which they have up to this point apparently gained, they will have justified themselves before the German people; they will have gained by force what they promised to gain by it: an immense expansion of German power, an immense enlargement of German industrial and commercial opportunities. Their prestige will be secure, and with their prestige their political power. If they fall, their people themselves will thrust them aside; a government accountable to the people themselves will be set up in Germany as it has been in England, in the United States, in France, and in all the great countries of the modern time except Germany. If they succeed they are safe and Germany and the world are undone; if they fail Germany is saved and the world will be at peace. If they succeed, America will fall within the menace. We and all the rest of the world must remain armed, as they will remain, and must make ready for the next step in their aggression; if they fail, the world may unite for peace and Germany may be of the union.

Do you not now understand the new intrigue, the intrigue for peace, and why the masters of Germany do not hesitate to use any agency that promises to effect their purpose, the deceit of the nations? Their present particular aim is to deceive all those who throughout the world stand for the rights of peoples and the self government of nations; for they see what immense strength the forces of justice and of liberalism are gathering out of this war. They are employing liberals in their enterprise. They are using men, in Germany and without, as their spokesmen whom they have hitherto despised and oppressed, using them for their own destruction.—socialists, the leaders of labor, the thinkers they have hitherto sought to silence. Let them once succeed and these men, now their tools, will be ground to powder beneath the weight of the great military empire they will have set up; the revolutionists in Russia will be cut off from all succor or co-operation in western Europe and a counter revolution fostered and supported; Germany herself will lose her chance of freedom; and all Europe will arm for the next, the final struggle.

The sinister intrigue is being no less actively conducted in this country than in Russia and in every country in Europe to which the agents and dupes of the Imperial German Government can get access. That government has many spokesmen here, in places high and low. They have learned discretion. They keep within the law. It is opinion they utter now, not sedition. They proclaim the liberal purposes of their masters; declare this a foreign war which can touch America with no longer to either her lands or her institutions; set England at the centre of the stage and talk of her ambition to assert economic dominion throughout the world; appeal to our ancient tradition of isolation in the politics of the nations; and seek to undermine the government with false professions of loyalty to its principles.

But they will make no headway. The false betray themselves always in every accent. It is only friends and partisans of the German Government whom we have already identified who utter these thinly disguised disloyalties. The facts are patent to all the world, and nowhere are they more plainly seen than in the United States, where we are accustomed to deal with facts and not with sophistries; and the great fact that stands out above all the rest is that this is a Peoples' War, a war for freedom and justice and self-government amongst all the nations of the world, a war to make the world safe for the peoples who live upon it and have made it their own, the German people themselves included; and that with us rests the choice to break through all these hypocrisies and patent cheats and masks of brute force and help set the world free, or else stand aside and let it be dominated a long age through by sheer weight of arms and the arbitrary choices of self-constituted masters, by the nation which can maintain the biggest armies and the most irresistible armaments,—a power to which the world has afforded no parallel and in the face of which political freedom must wither and perish.

For us there is but one choice. We have made it. We owe it to the man or group of men that seeks to stand in our way in this day of high resolution when every principle we hold dearest is to be vindicated and made secure for the salvation of the nations. We are ready to plead at the bar of history, and our flag shall wear a new lustre. Once more we shall make good our lives and fortunes the great faith to which we were born, and a new glory shall shine in the face of our people.

AMERICA'S MESSAGE DELIVERED TO NEW RUSSIA BY MR. ROOT

RUSSIAN PEOPLE WILL FIGHT WITH ALLIES FOR LIBERTY, FREEDOM AND HAPPINESS OF WORLD.

CONSIDER WAR INEVITABLE AND WILL CONTINUE IT

Such is Foreign Minister Tereschenko's ringing response to America's message to Russia, delivered by Special Ambassador Root, Head of American Commission.

Petrograd, via London.—"The Russian people consider war inevitable and will continue it. The Russians have no imperialistic wishes. We know that you have none. We shall fight together to secure liberty, freedom and happiness for all the world. I am happy to say that I do not see any moral idea or factor between America and Russia to divide us. We two people, Russia fighting tyranny, and America standing as the oldest democracy, hand in hand, will show the way of happiness to nations great and small."

These ringing words, expressing the attitude of the Russian government toward America and the American mission headed by Elihu Root, were voiced by M. Tereschenko, minister of foreign affairs, responding for the council of ministers to Mr. Root's address of sympathy and good will on the part of the American government. The American ambassador, David Francis, presented the Root mission to the ministers in the Marinsky palace, explaining that the members of the mission had come to Russia to discover how America can best cooperate with its ally in forwarding the fight against the common enemy. The presentation was very formal, only a few Russian officials and the members of the American embassy attending. Mr. Tereschenko, the youthful minister of war, just back from the front, wore the khaki blouse of a common soldier.

The ministers listened with rapt attention to Mr. Root's address.

Mr. Tereschenko rose from a sick bed to attend the presentation and responded without notes, expressing great joy in welcoming the commission from America. He said that Russia's revolution was based on the wonderful words uttered by America in 1776. He read part of the Declaration of Independence and exclaimed: "Russia holds with the United States that all men are created free and equal!"

Mr. Tereschenko said Russia faces two problems, the necessity of creating a strong democratic force within its boundaries and the fighting of an external foe. Then he declared for war and expressed unbounded confidence in the power of Russia to meet the situation.

Mr. Root said: "Mr. President and members of the council of ministers: The mission for which I have the honor to speak is charged by the government and people of the United States of America with a message to the government and people of Russia. The mission comes from a democratic republic. Its members are commissioned and instructed by a president who holds his high office as chief executive of more than one hundred million free people by virtue of popular election.

Freedom Above Wealth.
"For one hundred and forty years our people have been struggling with the hard problems of self-government. With many shortcomings, many mistakes, many imperfections, we still have maintained order and respect for law, individual freedom and national independence. Under the security of our own laws, we have grown in strength and prosperity. But we value our freedom more than wealth. We love liberty and we cherish above all our possessions the ideals for which our fathers fought and suffered and sacrificed that America might be free.

"We believe in the competence of the power of democracy and in our heart of hearts abide faith in the coming of a better world in which the humble and oppressed of all lands may be lifted up by fashion. "The news of Russia's new-found freedom brought to America universal satisfaction and joy. From all the land sympathy and hope went out to the new sister in the circle of democracies. And the mission is sent to ex-

U-Boat Sinks Freighter.
New York.—News of the destruction of the big French freight steamship *Mississippi* by a German submarine, with a loss of one of the merchant-men's crew, was brought here by officers of a British freight vessel that arrived from a French port. The *Mississippi*, of 6,667 tons gross, was torpedoed and sunk about 145 miles out from the port of Brest, France, on June 2, according to the British ship, which rescued forty-seven officers and seamen from open

press that feeling.

"The American democracy sends to the democracy of Russia a greeting of sympathy, friendship, brotherhood, God-speed. Distant America knows little of the special conditions of Russian life which must give form to the government and laws which you are about to create. As we have developed our institutions to serve the needs of our national character and life, so we assume that you will develop your institutions to serve the needs of Russian character and life. "As we look across the sea, we distinguish no party, no class. We see great Russia as a whole, as one mighty, striving, aspiring democracy. We know the self-control, essential kindness, strong common sense, courage and noble idealism of the Russian character.

"We have faith in you all. We pray for God's blessing upon you all. We believe you will solve your problems, that you will maintain your liberty, and that our two great nations will march side by side in triumphant progress of democracy until the old order everywhere has passed away and the world is free.

One Fearful Danger.
"One fearful danger threatens the liberty of both nations. The armed forces of a military autocracy are at the gates of Russia and the allies. The triumph of German arms will mean the death of liberty in Russia. No enemy is at the gates of America, but America has come to realize that the triumph of German arms means the death of liberty in the world; that we who love liberty and would keep it must fight for it, and fight for it now when the free democracies of the world may be strong in union, and not delay until they may be beaten down separately in succession.

"See, America sends another message to Russia that we are going to fight, and have already begun to fight, for your freedom equally with our own, and we ask you to fight for our freedom equally with yours. We would make your cause ours and our cause yours, and with a common purpose and mutual helpfulness of a firm alliance make sure of victory over our common foe.

"You will recognize your own sentiments and purposes in the worlds of President Wilson to the American Congress, when on the second of April, last, he addressed a declaration of war against Germany. He said: "We are accepting this challenge of hostile purpose because we know that in such a government (the German government) following such methods, we can never have a friend; and that in the presence of its organized power, always lying in wait to accomplish we know not what purpose, there can be no assured security for the democratic governments of the world. We are now about to accept the gauge of battle with this natural foe to liberty, and shall, if necessary, spend the whole force of the nation to check and nullify its pretensions and its power.

"Safe For Democracy."
"The world must be made safe for democracy. Its peace must be planted upon the tested foundations of political liberty. We have no selfish ends to serve. We desire no conquest, no dominion. We seek no indemnities for ourselves, no material compensation for the sacrifices we shall freely make. We are but one of the champions of the rights of mankind. We shall be satisfied when those rights have been made as secure as the faith and the freedom of nations can make them."

"And you will see the feeling toward Russia with which America has entered the great war in another clause of the same address. President Wilson further declared:

"Does not every American feel that assurance has been added to our hope for the future peace of the world by the wonderful and heartening things that have been happening within the last few weeks in Russia? Russia was known by those who knew her best to have been always in fact democratic at heart in all the vital habits of her thought, in all the intimate relationships of her people that spoke their natural instinct, their habitual attitude toward life.

"The autocracy that crowned the summit of her political structure, long as it had stood and terrible as was the reality of its power, was not in fact Russian in origin, character or purpose, and now it has been shaken and the great generous Russian people have been added, in all their natural majesty and might, to the forces we are fighting for freedom in the world for justice and for peace. Here, fit partner for a league of honor."

Partnership of Honor.
"That partnership of honor in the great struggle for human freedom, the oldest and greatest of democratic aims, now seeks in fraternal union with the youngest. Practical and specific methods and the possibilities of our allied co-operation, the members of the mission would be glad to discuss with the members of the government of Russia."

Will Stimulate Business.
Washington.—Every means of stimulating business should be used now, says President Wilson in a letter to E. P. V. Ritter, of the Merchants' and Manufacturers' exchange of New York City, just made public. Mr. Ritter wrote the President concerning the advisability of holding commercial conventions during the war.

Food Legislation to Front.
Washington.—Food control legislation now has the right of way in Con-

BAPTIST SEASIDE ASSEMBLY

Program For Christian Workers' Training School at Wrightsville Beach June 27-July 4.

Raleigh.—General Secretary E. L. Middleton, of the Baptist Seaside Assembly, has brought out a handsomely illustrated program of the third session of the assembly which is to be held at Wrightsville Beach June 27 to July 4. The assembly is designated "A summer training school for Christian workers," and is held under the auspices of the Baptist State Convention.

Governor Bickett is on the program, together with some of the leading figures of the Baptist denomination, as follows:

Dr. A. T. Robertson, professor of New Testament, S. B. T. Seminary, Louisville, Ky.; Dr. Weston Bruner, pastor of Tabernacle church, Raleigh; Dr. R. D. Gray, corresponding secretary of Home Mission Board, Atlanta, Ga.; Dr. R. F. Y. Pierce, pastor North Baptist church, New York City; Dr. H. M. Wharton, preacher, author, lecturer, Baltimore, Md.; Dr. John Roach Straton, pastor First Baptist church, Norfolk, Va.; Dr. W. L. Poteat, president Wake Forest College, Wake Forest; Dr. W. M. Vines, pastor First Baptist church, Charlotte; Dr. R. T. Vann, secretary of Board of Education, Raleigh; Dr. W. C. Barrett, pastor Baptist church, Gastonia; Dr. C. D. Graves, pastor Baptist church, Wake Forest; Dr. Fred D. Hale, pastor Baptist church, Lexington; Dr. C. L. Greaves, pastor Baptist church, Lumberton; Mr. E. L. Wolslagel, singer with Home Board evangelist, Asheville; Hon. John A. Oates, president Baptist State Convention, Fayetteville; Miss Annie L. Williams, field worker of Sunday School Board, Birmingham, Ala.; Miss Bertha Carroll, corresponding secretary W. M. U. Convention, Raleigh; Mrs. W. N. Jones, president State W. M. U. Convention, Raleigh; Mrs. H. T. Pope, Lumberton; Mrs. H. C. Moore, Raleigh; Mrs. W. J. Jones, Salemburg; Miss Ruth Caldwell, Lumberton; Mrs. W. B. Muse, Wilmington; Acme Quartet, Wilmington.

Rocky Mount Too Far North.

Rocky Mount.—Major-General Wood has written the secretary of the local chamber of commerce to the effect that the 1,500 acre tract offered by Rocky Mount for a cantonment camp for the training of units of the selective draft army, that this tract is outside of the prescribed area laid off for the training camp to be established somewhere in North Carolina. The general said that Rocky Mount was too far north for the camp and was outside of the territory which the camp will cover and will come under the territory allotted to the Petersburg, Va., camp.

Tar Heels Appointed.

Washington.—The following young men in North Carolina have accepted appointments to the officers' reserve corps: Maj. Charles O. Laughinghouse, Greenville, medical corps; Capt. William Pinkney Herbert, Asheville, medical corps; First Lieut. Benjamin F. Cliff, East Flat Rock, medical corps; First Lieut. Glenn Long, Newton, medical corps; First Lieut. Russell S. Beum, Lumberton, medical corps; Second Lieut. Rosser Lane, Wilson, veterinary service; Second Lieut. A. Alexander, Raleigh, veterinary service.

Directors State Home Meet.

Fayetteville.—The directors of the state home for widows of Confederate veterans, held their annual meeting here and re-elected Col. Jas. A. Bryan, New Bern, chairman; George M. Rose, Fayetteville, vice chairman; J. A. Turner, Louisburg, secretary, and adopted plans for improvements which will increase the equipment of the home and add to the comfort and convenience of the inmates. Mrs. Hunter G. Smith, Fayetteville, was re-elected chairman of the woman's advisory board.

Tobacco in Wayne.

Goldboro.—According to reports brought to this city from farmers all over the county the tobacco crop in Wayne is looking most promising and is considerably increased over last year's yield. The farmers are expecting to receive high prices for their crop, and if the estimate of buyers is correct, they will not be disappointed.

CAROLINA BRIEFS.

Points are locating a number of points throughout the state. One Weaver said last week he had over a million bushels of wheat in his field. The government is now seeking to encourage the raising of a food crop. The state has received a grant from the federal government to sever all connections with the University of North Carolina college on a desecration episode by the 1917 class. North Carolina Movie Men will hold their annual season at Wilmington re-elected officers and selected Raleigh as next meeting place. W. J. Bryan who is now at his summer home in Asheville is delivering a number of addresses there. J. T. Edwards, a lawyer of Rutherfordton, submitted to the charge of criminal assault with intent to commit rape and was sentenced by Judge Lane to serve 6 years in the state penitentiary, pay all costs and forfeit his license. A branch of the Red Cross society was organized at Belmont last week.