

WHY WE FIGHT GERMANY --IN PLAIN WORDS!

Dean Shailer Mathews of Chicago University shows how the Kaiser and his militarist gang pounced on democratic world like a wolf pack

Besides being an author, editor, clergyman, and educator, Dr. Mathews is a member of the National Security League's committee organized to keep America out of the United States' intervention in the war of our war with Germany. The committee was formed because of a prevalent belief that many Americans were unfamiliar with the extent of our grievances and the reasons why war could not be avoided. Doctor Mathews is known as a student of international politics. In 1915 he and Dr. S. L. Gulick went to Japan as representatives of the churches of the United States.

(From New York Times Magazine.)

If AMERICA needs to be told why it is at war, its ignorance is to its credit. A nation that has tried to live like a gentleman among nations has naturally found it difficult to believe that all nations are not moved by respect for the customs and the laws which codify gentlemanly relations between nations.

We have at times overpraised our virtues and purposes, and in consequence for the last generation we have listened with a rather amused tolerance to successive proclamations of the kaiser and the laudation of Germany by subsidized mouthpieces. After war broke out in 1914 for two years we struggled to treat Germany and its agents as we expected other nations to treat ourselves.

Our attitude might have characterized the Good Samaritan if he had come upon the robbers holding up the traveler, and schooled himself to believe that the whole affair was exaggerated. We simply could not realize the German attitude of mind. Accustomed as many of us had been to interpret the finer ideal life of Germany, we could not believe that men like Eucken, Harnack, Herrmann, and Diessmann could freely and without reserve lend themselves to the defense of that which was unworthy of their words as we had understood them.

Against our will we have been disillusioned. We have not gone into war, we have had war thrust upon us. A chain of circumstances over which we have had no control has brought home to the Americans, anxious to maintain their faith in Germany, the conviction that America's sovereignty was being outraged, its people killed, its inner peace deliberately attacked, and its institutions, founded in sacrifice and offered to the world, not only despised but in danger of destruction.

Germany has forced America, as it has forced almost the entire world, to defend itself by arms. Nobody but those suffering from myopic idealism sympathies can see anything else. Some of us have suffered when the scales have fallen—cut away by facts. At last we see clearly. We have not been drawn into the war by capitalism, or by commercialism, or by national policy. For months we have been living in a state of war, deliberately planned by a nation whose leaders for ten years have been preparing some day to fight America and who have counted our good nature as cowardice, our unpreparedness as a lack of national self-respect.

Here are the facts:

We are fighting this war, in the first place, because Germany made war upon us.

For years she has sought to build up in America a community more loyal to herself than to the United States. Money has been lavishly spent in Germanistic societies, alliances, and associations to win the admiration and loyalty of American citizens. Our universities have been flattered, our professors have been honored for this reason. Praise of the kaiser has been inserted even in the spelling books of our public school system. Spies have been everywhere.

When the war came in 1914 German officials, many of them in high diplomatic positions, treated the United States, a neutral nation, as if it were an enemy. Pro-German publications were founded and subsidized, strikes were organized, manufacturing plants were blown up, plots against nations with whom we had treaty relations were formed within our borders, bombs were placed on ships in our ports. Hatred of America was systematically disseminated through Germany and efforts were made to involve us in trouble with Japan and Mexico.

In reply to our repeated protests against these and other acts of Germany, to be mentioned presently, we have received promises and explanations which were little less than insults. The treaty that had existed almost the entire life of the American republic was set at naught and efforts were made to coerce us into favorable modifications of its terms.

The right of trade with belligerents, which Germany had always claimed, even to the benefit of our enemy in the war with Spain, and which at Germany's own insistence is universally recognized in international law, was treated as the violation of our neutrality and alliance with her enemies. And, finally, the proclamation of unrestricted destruction of neutral ships upon the high seas was a notification to the United States that it was no longer a sovereign people, but that if it would sail the seas in safety it must conform to conditions set by a power that defied international law, humanity, and elemental morality.

In the second place we are defending ourselves against Germany because the German state has entered upon a program which means the destruction of democratic institutions.

The Prussianization of Germany means that the policy of Prussia to carry on economic and political expansion by war is to be extended throughout the entire world.

We recognize that there were once, and we dare believe even now that there are, two Germanys, one liberal and the other an autocracy based on militarism. The struggle between these two forces since 1815 has been a steady subjugation of liberalism in Prussia and the other German states to the will of a Prussian feudal nobility. Representative and responsible government in any true sense of the word has been fought by Prussian leaders relentlessly. Education has been made a creature of autocracy and a source of international hatred.

The same fate has met every land Prussianism has touched. Austria was beaten into submission in 1866, and all the other German states were made practically subject to the will of the Hohenzollerns between that date and 1870. France was robbed and humiliated. The Balkan states were kept in perennial war in the interests of German expansion. Bohemia and Poland have been treated with the same disregard of popular rights as has been Alsace-Lorraine. Turkey became a vassal of the kaiser. A great militaristic, anti-democratic state like southern Germany, subservient to Prussia, has been started and all but



IN THE LIMELIGHT

BENEFITED BY AMERICAN TRAINING

Sir Eric Campbell Geddes, who has been appointed new first lord of the British admiralty, succeeding Sir Edward Carson, is one of the handful of great Britons who emerged out of comparative obscurity with the advent of the war. Until hostilities began he was scarcely known outside of railroad circles, and American railroad men knew him best, for it was in the United States that he got his training.

The new first lord is a Scot, born in India, but owes his ability in a large degree to his American training. He is only forty-one years old.

He spent a year in the Homestead mills in Pittsburgh, and backed that experience with three years in the employ of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad.

When Lloyd George took the post of minister of munitions in 1915 he made Sir Eric his principal lieutenant, or director general. In that post he controlled the supply of heavy guns, small arms, munitions, etc.

Sir Douglas Haig had him transferred to France as director general of transportation. He was knighted only last year.



POWERFUL RECRUIT FOR RED CROSS.



Another addition to the business executives enlisted in the service of the Red Cross during the war was made when John D. Ryan, president of the Anaconda Copper company, was appointed as director general of military relief.

Mr. Ryan will have supervision of the bureau of medical service, the bureau of nursing service and the bureau of supplies. The maintenance of 50 or more base hospitals will be one of the large tasks which will be laid immediately before him.

He has the position of director general of military relief and will be in charge of all relief work for the fighting forces.

Mr. Ryan succeeds Col. Jefferson R. Kean, who has been ordered to take command of the 160 United States army ambulance sections in the war theater.

The military relief department was organized by Colonel Kean in 1916 and in the past few months he has built up, through it, a great machine for relief work at the front. It was because of his intimate knowledge of this work that the war department made him commander of the army ambulance sections, which were first to carry the American flag to the fighting lines.

DIRECTED TO BUILD MERCHANT MARINE

The biggest constructive job since the building of the Panama canal, the task of fitting together a fleet of merchantmen that is to save Europe from hunger, and possibly starvation, has been turned over to a Chicago man—Edward N. Hurley.

Edward N. Hurley was picked, probably, because of his record of achievement. He is not a politician. He is a business man. It is not so many years ago that he was sitting on the throttle side of an engine cab for the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy railroad. From this position he stepped into a salesman's job for the United States Meatline Packing company, of which concern he soon became manager.

For this enterprise he originated and developed the pneumatic tool industry of the United States and Europe.

He is the executive head and principal stockholder of several manufacturing and industrial concerns that have sprung from the development of this industry. His interests, however, are so diversified that they include banking and railroading as well, and have so broadened his outlook that his reports on his different studies of trade conditions and credits are regarded as some of the most authoritative contributions to the literature of American commerce.

Mr. Hurley has long been an advocate of an enormous merchant marine for the United States to open up neglected trade channels. And now he has been assigned to build it.



NAVAL CONSTRUCTOR PRACTICAL MAN



When Secretary Daniels informed Rear Admiral Washington Lee Capps that the president had selected him to build the merchant fleets that we must have if the U-boats are to be conquered, a shipbuilder had succeeded an engineer in a job upon which the destiny of democracy depends.

Admiral Capps will build ships in quantities desired, on order, for building ships, one way or another, has been his steady job for 30 years. He is a practical man, and as chief constructor of the navy has the innermost details of every yard in the country that bears the slightest resemblance to a shipbuilding plant in the grasp of his two hands.

The work upon which Admiral Capps has been employed since the new naval building program went into effect a year and a half ago is directly in line with that which he will have to do now in his new position. A man with an international reputation as a naval constructor and administrator, his failure in a post for which he has been trained by years of practical service, could come about only through politics and disagreements with associates, from which he has the instinct to steer clear. He will take orders and obey them, although he will not surrender a professional opinion.

His selection will have an excellent effect upon the country, which would have resented the virtual removal of the builder of the Panama canal if his successor had not been a man of high professional standing, fully acquainted with the construction of ships and ready to go ahead under full steam in the prosecution of an enterprise that had been standing still for so long a time that it was beginning to be possible to calculate delay in terms of human blood.

DRIED EGGS TO U. S. FROM CHINA

Imports of eggs products this year have amounted to about 10,000,000 pounds, valued on the average at about 15 cents a pound. These products are imported chiefly from Japan and China and include eggs that have been dried, frozen or powdered. They are used in this country principally by bakers in the manufacture of various kinds of pastry.

The consumption of Asiatic egg products in this country has greatly increased in recent years, and therefore the conditions under which they are prepared become of greater interest to the public. The operation of a model plant at Shanghai is described as follows:

"The eggs are received at the door of the factory in baskets containing approximately 1,000 eggs, and as the factory offers better prices for choice eggs it is securing the highest class of egg produced within a circle of probably a 100-mile radius. The eggs are brought into the examining room, where the contents of the baskets are gone over and all cracked or otherwise damaged eggs are separated. The eggs are then candled by Chinese, who pass them before the candling lamps at the rate of 500 an hour. The handling rooms are kept in a temperature not exceeding 50 degrees Fahrenheit, the range of temperature in the building, used both for freezing and for drying eggs, being from zero to upward of 100 degrees Fahrenheit in the freezing and drying rooms, respectively.

"From the candling rooms the fresh eggs with unbroken shells are taken to the breaking room, which in point of sanitary appliances and attention to details of personal hygiene scarcely surpasses by the operating room of a hospital. In fact, the general effect of the room, aside from its low temperature, is that of a well-ordered hospital, but with ten white-capped and aproned nurses where the ordinary hospital would have but one. The factory now employs 100 girls, each of whom is expected to break and separate from 1,500

to 2,000 eggs a day of 12 hours. Owing to the factory paying higher wages than other similar plants and working only six days a week instead of seven, which is the rule of the cotton mills and silk factories of Shanghai, it can pick and choose in its labor, so that the type of girl employed in the egg-breaking room is far above the standard of any other Chinese factory, and a composite picture of them all probably would come nearer the Chinese idea of feminine beauty than any other 100 girls that can be found in Shanghai.

As the workers enter in the morning they are dressed in freshly sterilized clothing furnished by the factory, and after their nails are manicured they are allowed to proceed to the workroom.

The breaking room is solid concrete and is sterilized each day as carefully as the operating room of a hospital. The girls are seated on metal stools at low zinc tables. Before each of them is a curious appliance which mechanically separates the white of the egg from the yolk. The girl takes an egg from the can, into which they have been counted by the candler, and with the right hand cracks it on the bar of the separating machine. The breaking is then finished by a dexterous movement of the fingers, which permits the egg to drop into a shallow cup, where the yolk is caught and the white allowed to drain off the sides.

The drying room is described as embodying all the latest features in the sanitary handling of this product. The air used in the drying process is thoroughly filtered, being forced through the drying apparatus under heavy steam pressure. The egg yolks or whites come out of the dryer in flakes, which are allowed to cool to a temperature slightly above the freezing point. Then the product goes to the packing room, where it is placed in boxes lined with waxed paper, which are stenciled and made ready for shipment.

For the freezing of eggs the separation and straining are carried out just as for the manufacture of dry yolks, only after the straining the large cans are taken to the freezing chambers. Here the temperature is kept close to zero, Fahrenheit, and the separate whites and yolks are poured into cans standing on racks that line the walls of the freezing chamber.