

weakest are crushed and the fittest survive. Those questions are for wiser men than I. Answered they may be—indeed, must be; but only after the world has recovered its balance and men are able to view the issues in the clear perspective that time can only grant.

Nor am I primarily concerned with the outcome of the war and the possibility of establishing a permanent peace. I know not whether, as some predict, this war is but the last great conflict, the horror of which will be such that mankind will take effectual steps to banish forever the institution of war. I cannot say that the universal peace that is today the one great yearning of mankind is to be gained by the fear inspired by great armaments, or by the world-wide agreement to disarm, or by the sanction of neutral power invested with authority and clothed with force to effectuate the decrees of a world tribunal. Of tremendous interest and import as are these questions, it is not to them that I look for my theme, but rather to two of the war's reactions that may seem to apply to your life and mine.

As I have said, there can be no question that so great an orgasm will exert a powerful influence on the institutions, the standards, the ideals of the world.

The first of the two considerations that I desire to present is that of efficiency—especially that of the German nation. Whatever we may think of the German cause, we cannot but render our fullest tribute of admiration to this paramount quality. For nearly a year now, Germany (and when I say Germany I include the Austria-Hungarian monarchy, because these allied nations represent the same character—so thoroughly has Germany dominated the sister nation)—for nearly a year has Germany held at bay all the great nations of the world, America alone excepted—and not only held them at bay, but so far, has won the balance of victory. These nations represent quadruple her resources both in men and in wealth. All that she has done is simply because of the greater efficiency of Germany as a people.

In this marvelous demonstration of efficiency, we find several salient features. One is preparedness—the ability to look ahead and provide against all possible contingencies. Another is knowledge. In her experiments, her research, her information, her mastery of facts, her scientific discoveries and inventions, German has set the pace for the world. And this great body of applied knowledge is giving Germany an incalculable advantage. Another factor is the willingness to take pains. Attention to detail is one of the marvels of the German system. Nothing is overlooked. Suppose, at the outbreak of the war, a German citizen who had been residing in America, desired to return to fight for the Fatherland. Upon arriving he goes to a building somewhat analogous to one of our armories. In a certain room he opens his individual