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WHY WE ARE AT WAR WITH GERMANY

By EPHRAIM DOUGLASS ADAMS
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"The object of this war is to deliver the free peoples of the world from the yoke and the actual power of a vast military establishment controlled by an irresponsible government, which, having secretly planned to dominate the world, proceeded to carry out the plan without regard either to the sacred obligations of treaty or the long-established practices and long-cherished principles of international action and honor. . . . This power is not the German people; it is the ruthless master of the German people. . . . It is our business to see to it that the history of the rest of the world is no longer left to its handings." —President Wilson, August 27, 1917.

THE MATERIAL AIMS OF GERMANY.

Germany believes that she has the right to dominate the world. Her militaristic autocracy believes that this war is a step toward such world domination, but that German demands for the present may rest satisfied with substantial gains in Europe. For years German political writing has been full of the "terms of peace" after a war, and today those terms remain unaltered. The Russian negotiations have served to prove that what has for a long time been public opinion, is now official opinion. The quotations will show this.

First, the more general purposes: "If we come victorious out of this war, we shall be the first people on the earth, a rich stream of gold will pour over the land." "Expansion of our power both East and West, if possible also over seas; political and military domination combined, indissolubly connected with economical expansion, this is our war aim." "The territory open to future German expansion must extend from the North Sea and the Baltic to the Persian Gulf, absorbing the Netherlands and Luxembourg, Switzerland, the whole basin of the Danube, the Balkan Peninsula and Asia Minor."

Second, the immediate aims: "Our relations with Turkey have drawn us into this war. . . . the Bagdad Railway must be extended by us to the open sea, even to India itself." "Belgium must remain under German domination. . . . there exists no better line of attack for the German army in a future war with France," whom it is necessary "to weaken to such a degree that she can never again be dangerous to us." "Will anybody believe that we will hand over the lands which we have occupied in the West, on which the blood of our people has flowed?" "We are not an institute for lengthening the life of dying states."

But it is on Poland and Western Russia that Germany has all along fixed her eyes. "We ought not to let fall the sword from our hand before we have assured our future. Our eastern boundaries must not remain where they are." "Livonia, Kurland, Esthonia, have been for more than seven centuries sister-countries united through German traditions. It is true Germans do not yet represent 10 per cent of the inhabitants; but their character filters through the whole." "Let us bravely organize great forced migrations of the inferior peoples. Posterity will be grateful to us. We must coerce them! This is one of the tasks of war. Such forced migrations may appear hard, but it is the only solution. . . . The inefficient peoples, discouraged and rendered indifferent to the future by the spectacle of the superior energy of their conquerors, may then crawl slowly towards the peaceful death of weary and hopeless senility." The writer of this was here viewing especially the non-German populations of South America.

How is America interested in the European political and territorial results of this war? Well, first, we are at war. Germany believes that peace now, on the terms she outlines, means a Germany victorious. That means a continuance of military autocracy in Germany—a continuance of an aggressive policy—a continuance of German faith in its special destiny to rule the world.

Against that German ideal we are fighting. But we are also fighting to save the Americas from the "next step" in German imperialism. In the first year of the war, the one great fear expressed by German officers was that a long war in Europe would "cause America to wake up." Wake up to what? Not to the need of American participation in the war. The German officers thought America negligible for this war. But they did, and do, fear that America would awake to the danger to herself, her ideals, her institutions, her interests, and that being awakened, Germany's next step in world domination would be harder than the present one.

There is no hope of a changed Germany—of establishing those peaceful and friendly relations which should determine international conduct—if Germany gains her objects, or any part of them, in this war. She has set her heart upon certain material objects. We must see to it that she does not gain them. Then her first step blocked, we may hope that her people may awaken from their dream of empire. We fight for a world peace, yes; but we also fight for self-preservation, and our best chance to save ourselves is this present moment—now.

This is the second of a series of two articles by Professor Adams. Calling Cards, 100 for \$1.00.

East Fork Items.

Last Friday C. C. Carter, of Myrtle Point, was gathering up cattle that he bought on a former trip.

Archie Shepherd, one of Uncle Sam's soldiers, who is in the timber, as head faller at Aberdeen, was home on a furlough for a few days visiting his brother, Gordon, and sister, Mrs. Hanson, of McKinley, and his brother, Charles, of the East Fork.

Mr. Hart agent for Rawleigh extracts, soap, etc., was working in this part of the county last week.

L. J. Cary, deputy assessor, of Coquille, was up this way assessing personal property. He also had a petition sent out by the Commercial Club of Coquille asking to have our mail route from Marshfield to Sitkum changed so the mail route would be from Coquille to Sitkum. What in the name of common sense has the Commercial Club of Coquille got to do with our mail route? Suppose the cow milkers club would get out a petition to change the mail route of the mail for the people of Coquille, would not the Commercial Club think that the cow milkers club was butting in where it had no business? Who is peaking through the rails of the fence anyway?

A card from Theodore received the same day as his letter says he has received mail that he thought might be lost.

Billie 2 does not have a chance to eat a warmed over dinner in Paris.

The Pathfinder says Bolshevik means "some." No mistake about that meaning, "some" thief and liar seem to be the cardinal virtues of the some.

R. A. Easton.

Here is a letter from Theodore Easton dated just "France," Feb. 14, 1918:

I have changed my home since last Sunday. We are now camping in a part of the country that is abundantly supplied with young pine forests and has better soil than the region we left. We are close to a narrow river where we wash, and not far from a small town that has two or three stores and shops in it.

I like our location better than the one we left, although we are not so well quartered. Our barracks have no floors in them and our only light is that afforded by candles.

At present the ground is still wet and when it rained a couple of days ago we had quite a lot of mud.

I felt quite at home when I found a few little alders, growing by the river. The willows and alders are both getting large buds. The climate is very similar to that at home. We had some of the coldest, frosty nights last week that we have had but since the rain the air has warmed and it is very comfortable. When the spring advances and the evenings lengthen I think it will be fine. Our life at present reminds me of my two months at Crater Lake in 1914.

It is not far to a fair sized town and we here more vehicles passing other than carts than we have seen before. There seems to be quite a number of four-wheeled vehicles in this part of the country. The roads are fine. It seems a pity to cut them to pieces with army trucks. Where the trucks have not run the roads are like city drives and lined with large trees.

A couple of small boys came down to the river to fish a few evenings ago, so I judge there must be fish in France or the boys would not have thought so.

I have not received any mail for the last two weeks, so I judge I must have had some sunk near the first of the month.

Some men from another squadron ate dinner with us a week or so ago, and a chance conversation with one of them revealed the fact that he was from northern California and a nephew of Mr. McVay. I had a chance to talk with him only a few minutes.

I have seen young Stock a time or two since coming to France. He came a short while before I did and for a while we were in the same vicinity.

After dinner today I walked to town. It is about an hour's walk. There are some nice stores and the whole town looks more prosperous than several I have seen. After walking through the main part of town I looked through a cemetery which proved to be an interesting sight. There was not much shrubbery and there were few flowers. The graves are close together and a large amount of decorative metal work covers the most of them, some of the decorations closely resembling flower festoons. A number of tombs and vaults were scattered through the cemetery, some of them having fancy glass doors and peep holes through which we could see the interior. Among the recent graves are several of soldiers killed in the present war.

The dress of the average French woman is black. It seems almost that black is the national color. A great many women wear mourning veils. Nearly all the men who are

not in uniform are sickly or old. I have seen very few large men even in uniform.

I saw a couple of Belgian soldiers today. They are the first I have seen.

Death of A. J. Wimer.

Adam J. Wimer, of Grants Pass, Oregon, a brother of Mrs. J. H. Radabaugh, of near Arago, and cousin of E. Wimer, of Coquille, died at his home in Grants Pass March 26, after a lingering illness, covering a period of several years. The last few months he was confined to his bed a greater part of the time, and his death was therefore not unexpected.

The cause of his death was cancer of the stomach, together with a complication of other diseases, from which he suffered intensely.

He was well known in Coquille and vicinity, having conducted a grocery store here for several years early in the 90's. He also lived near Arago a year before that time. For a number of years he has been in business in Grants Pass, first in the grocery and confectionery line, but about one and a half years ago he erected a fine concrete building and since then has been conducting a novelty store. Being a cripple from birth, he has always won the sympathy and esteem of all with whom he came in contact, and had many friends.

In the year 1895 he was married to Miss Sarah Halter, who survives him and who has always been a most loving, faithful and helpful companion to her afflicted husband. The deceased was born at Phoenix, Jackson county, Oregon, July 30, 1868, and departed this life at Grants Pass, March 26, 1918. The funeral service was held at the Christian church at Grants Pass and interment took place in the Granite Hill cemetery at Ashland, Oregon, the remains being laid beside those of his brother, Jourdan, who died a number of years ago. Another brother, also a sister, is interred in the same cemetery. The deceased is survived by his wife, father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. W. Wimer, four sister and two brothers, beside many relatives, and will be greatly missed.

McKinley Red Cross.

The list of workers at our Red Cross Thursday was as follows: Mesdames L. A. Lawhorn, Lee Mast, G. Glenn, W. H. Bunch, C. O. King, Oscar Bunch, Otto Prey, Walter Lawhorn, E. Marcor, Bud Ingram, Ratloff Lawhorn and Misses Mildred Mast and May King. Five pajama suits were finished besides a number of bed socks.

Mrs. Walter Lawhorn was able to be with us, but our secretary, Mrs. Wm. Forbes, was sick and unable to attend.

Mrs. Lark Mast is quite sick at the present writing.

Mack Baker moved from Aasen's camp to his home at Lee. Mrs. Baker will certainly be missed at our Red Cross.

Walter and Erma Bunch are home from school at Gravel Ford.

Our secretary was instructed to pay to the Coquille Branch \$50 on our indebtedness. We have used nearly all our material and will soon need another order sent in.

A number of our workers would like very much to take up knitting too.

Archie Shepherd left on Saturday morning's train for Camp Lewis after a week's visit home.

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