



WHY WE ARE AT WAR WITH GERMANY
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"The object of this war is to deliver the free peoples of the world from the menace 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's. 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 handling."
 —President Wilson, August 27, 1917.

THE GERMANS AS A CHOSEN PEOPLE.

The foundation cause of this war is Germany's firm belief that she alone has the right to direct the progress of the world and to exploit its resources. For the last thirty years the military autocracy of Germany has seen to it that this belief was taught in the schools, and today that autocracy is reaping the benefits of a blind obedience to its will. German political writing of recent years is full of the idea that the German people is "God's chosen people, destined to impose its Kultur upon all other peoples."

"The German soul is the world's soul, God and Germany belong to one another." "Germany is the center of God's plans for the world." "We hope that a great mission will be allotted to us Germans . . . and this German mission is: to look after the world." "Germany is chosen, for her own good and that of other nations, guidance. Providence appointed people, . . . ready for . . ."

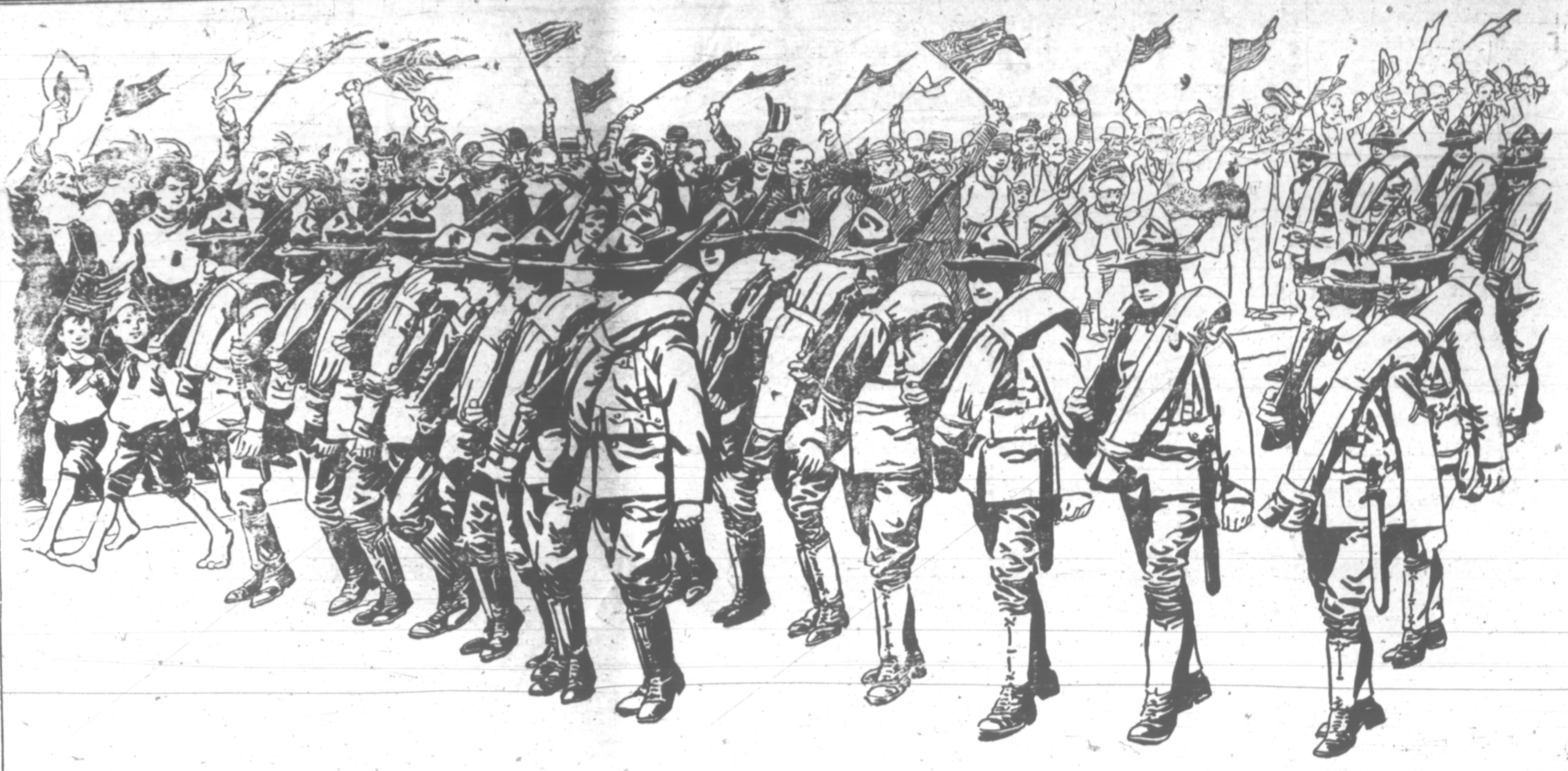
is always right, because it is the German people, and numbers 87,000,000 souls." "Kultur is best promoted when the strongest individual Kultur, that of a given nation, enlarges its field of activity at the expense of the other national Kulturs." "The attempt of Napoleon to graft the Kultur of Western Europe upon the empire of the Muscovites ended in failure. Today history has made us Germans the inheritors of the Napoleonic idea." "The further we carry our Kultur into the East, the more and the more profitable outlets shall we find for our wares. Economic profit is of course not the main motive of our Kultur-activity, but it is no unwelcome by-product." "Our belief is that the salvation of the whole Kultur of Europe depends upon the victory which German Militarism is about to achieve."

These quotations are but a few of hundreds of like expression, and the last one cited is from a manifesto signed by thirty-five hundred German professors and lecturers. Reduced to simple terms, the German belief at the beginning of this war was: "God directs Germany. Civilization advances only by combats between Kulturs in which the stronger and God-directed one has the right to prevail and must prevail. The immediate and present object is to make our Kultur prevail in the East (in 'Muscovy'), and in accomplishing this we shall also gain economic advantages. This is the first step in our world domination." "Where does America stand in this theory of a 'chosen people'? America denies that theory; she denies that God has chosen any one people as His own; she asserts rather that there are many civilizations, each with its own merits and defects, and that to each must be left the working out of its own problems."

We Americans are unable to understand, or sympathize with, a people who conceive of themselves as a chosen people, chosen of God—a people to whom all things and actions, however inhuman or brutal, are regarded as permissible, even holy, because of a faith in their superior mission and civilization. To us such a belief is direct evidence, not of a leading, but of a lagging civilization."

This German ideal, when expressed merely in theory, even though taught in Germany for the last thirty years, stirred but indifferent interest in other European nations. In this war Germany has revealed in the application of her theory a lust for world power at the expense of other peoples, a lack of good faith, a brutality that have stamped her theory as involving a return to barbarism. By the application of German theory we were forced, unwillingly, to go to war. But today we know that there was no escape from a war between two contradictory ideals. Germany's economic objects are many and large (they will be pointed out), but the basic cause of this war was the German ideal of a dominant nation. That ideal, by Germany's own challenge, is on trial in arms. Against it we must prevail, or we shall perish."

This is the first of a series of ten articles by Professor Adams.



Will You HELP Bring Back The Boys of This Community?

Our boys, the boys from this town and this county and this state, are fighting the Huns. They are in the trenches in France, they are sailing the U-boat-infested seas, they are going "over the top" in the face of German cannon and machine gun fire.

Many, many more of our boys are now training and will soon be in France, and more are yet to be called.

And, remember, these are our boys; those who are near and dear to us. They are doing their ALL. They are giving their ALL. They are prepared to make the extreme sacrifice that our homes, our town, our nation, may escape the ravages of the Hun.

We want them—one and all—to come back to us—

Will You Help to Bring Them Back?

Will you help to provide them with the things they need, with clothes and food and munitions, that they may complete as quickly as possible the terrible task assigned to them?

Will you support our boys while they are fighting for us, fighting the German autocracy that seeks to destroy our ideals of liberty and justice?

Compared to their heroic sacrifice our part is but small—that of providing the funds to keep them equipped; to build and man the ships that will transport their food, their clothes, their guns and their ammunition, and to pay for these things.

Yes, we, the people of this community, will support our boys.

We will do it by buying bonds of the Third Liberty Loan; by buying all these bonds we can; by making such sacrifices as are necessary to do this. That will be our support for Our Boys.

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