

The Road to Intervention



By: Holly Smyth

World War I

Background:

- European nations went to war in 1914, with America isolating itself once again.
- Having Britain and France as allies the American Economy flourished with bankers, businessmen, and farmers heavily trading with them.
- President Wilson saw Britain's cause for War just, yet he won reelection in 1916 under the slogan "He kept us out of war."

Foreign Policy

- Spanish-American War led to a U.S. presence in the Caribbean and Philippines.
- Controversy at home was caused by differing opinions in the Philippines Campaign. (1899-1902)
- America showed its power in the North & South America's by the Panama Canal Project.



Spanish-American War 1898 was entered as a result of a terrorist attack.

Foreign Policy

- In 1914 America showed its presence in the Mexican Revolutionary Wars by killing 200 Mexicans at Vera Cruz.



A naval landing party from USS Utah (BB 31) returns to their ship at Vera

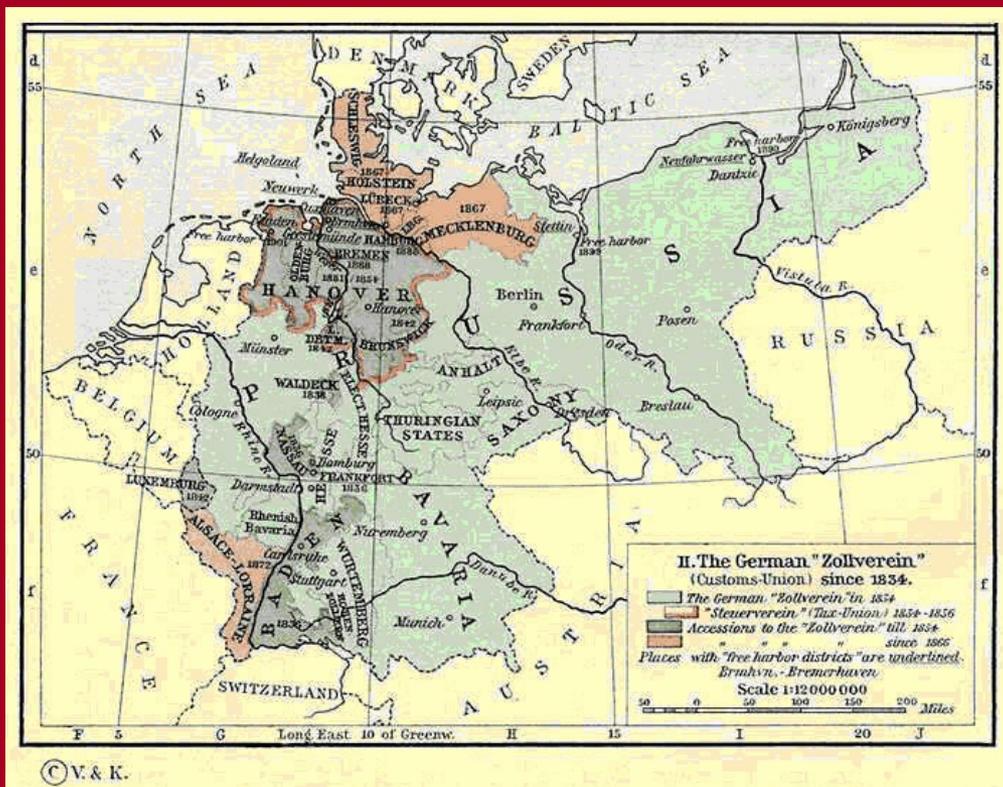
Leading up to 1917

- Britain, France, Italy, and Russia fought against an alliance of Germany, the Austro-Hungarian Empire, Bulgaria, and Turkey.



**Showing
Europe in
Warfare, and
the allies and
axis.**

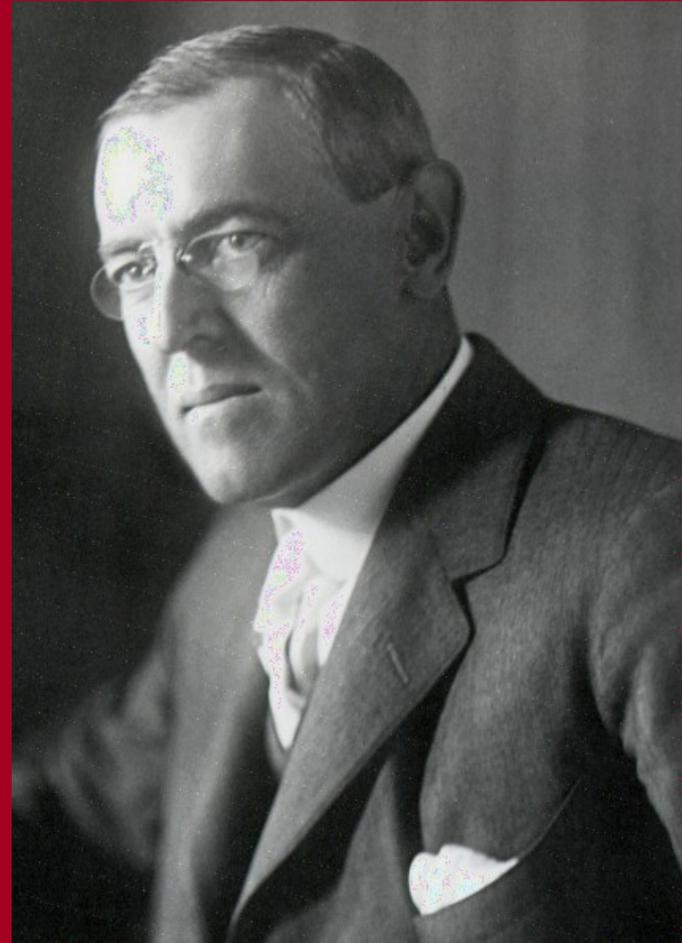
Leading up to 1917



- Germany, dominant partner of the Central Powers, faced the disadvantage of a two-front War.

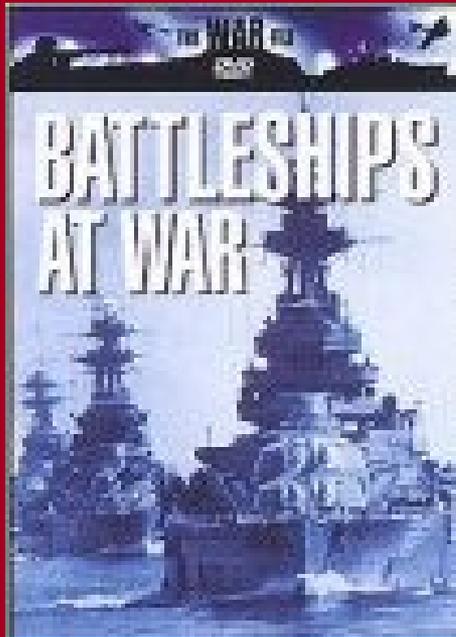
Leading up to 1917

- Americans were urged by President Wilson to keep neutral in their thoughts and deeds.



President Woodrow
Wilson

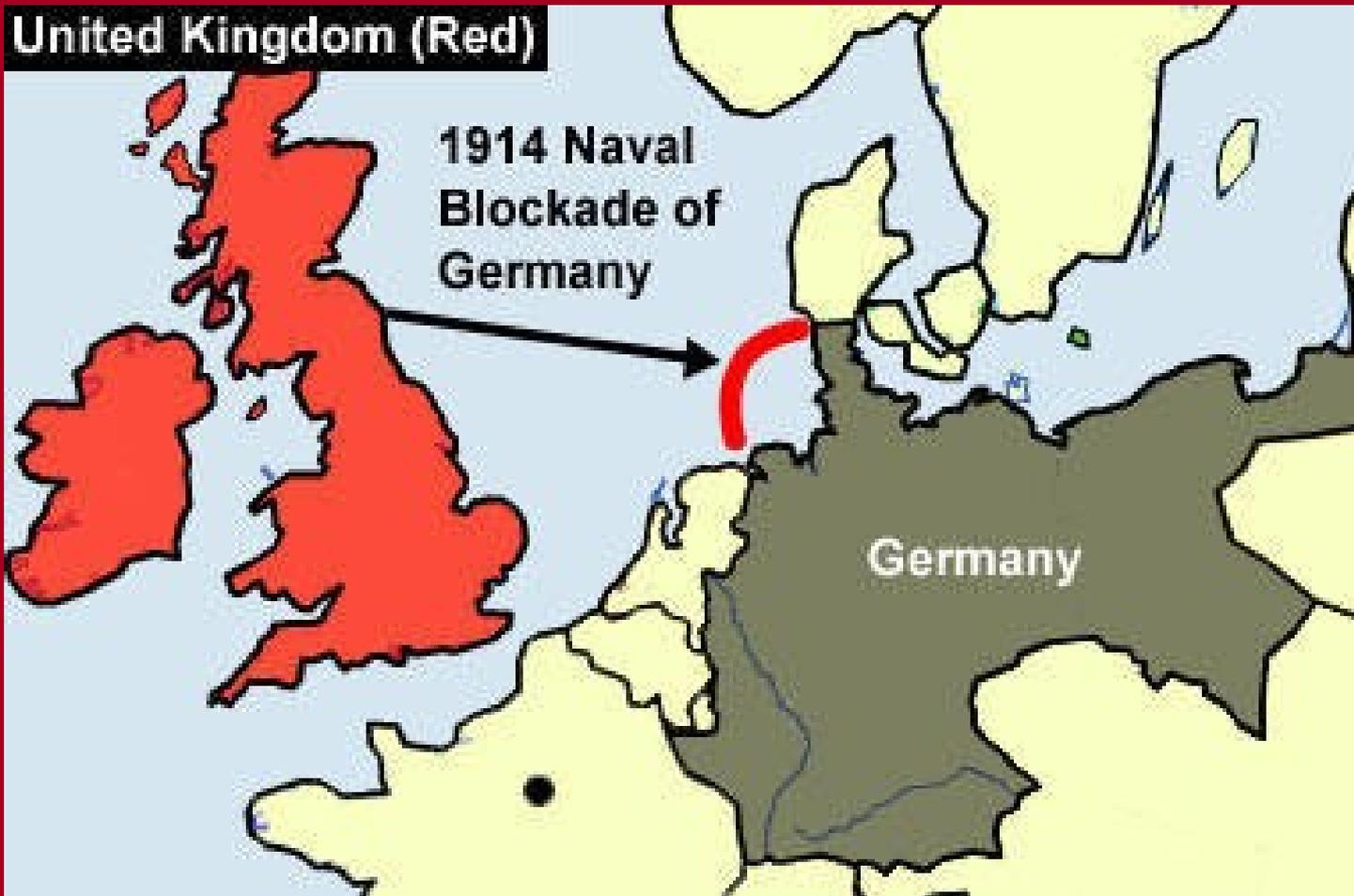
Leading up to 1917



- American ships were able to be diverted from Germany by France and Britain's naval supremacy. France and Britain paid for their trade goods.

United Kingdom (Red)

**1914 Naval
Blockade of
Germany**



THE GERMAN WARNING.

[On Saturday, May 1, the day that the Lusitania left New York on her last voyage, the following advertisement bearing the authentication of the German Embassy at Washington appeared in the chief newspapers of the United States, placed next the advertisement of the Cunard Line:

NOTICE!

TRAVELLERS intending to embark on the Atlantic voyage are reminded that a state of war exists between Germany and her allies and Great Britain and her allies; that the zone of war includes the waters adjacent to the British Isles; that, in accordance with formal notice given by the Imperial German Government vessels flying the flag of Great Britain, or of any of her allies, are liable to destruction in those waters and that travellers sailing in the war zone on ships of Great Britain or her allies do so at their own risk.

IMPERIAL GERMAN EMBASSY

WASHINGTON, D.C., APRIL 22 1915.

Leading up to 1917

- **The *Lusitania* Incident-1915**
- A German Submarine sank a luxury liner off the coast of Ireland and killed 1,200 men and 124 were Americans.

"All the News That's Fit to Print." **The New York Times.** EXTRA 8:30 A. M.

VOL. LXXV., NO. 3496. NEW YORK, SATURDAY, MAY 8, 1915.—TWENTY-FOUR PAGES. ONE CENT.

LUSITANIA SUNK BY A SUBMARINE, PROBABLY 1,260 DEAD; TWICE TORPEDOED OFF IRISH COAST; SINKS IN 15 MINUTES; CAPT. TURNER SAVED, FROHMAN AND VANDERBILT MISSING; WASHINGTON BELIEVES THAT A GRAVE CRISIS IS AT HAND

SHOCKS THE PRESIDENT
Washington Deeply Stirred by the Loss of American Lives.

BULLETINS AT WHITE HOUSE
White House—Then Gladly, but is Silent on the Nation's Course.

WANTS OF CONGRESS CALL
Loss of Lusitania Revive Firm Tone of Our First Warning to Germany.

CAPITAL FULL OF NUMBERS
Reports From Liver Was to Be Taken With Great Care Before Being Made Safe.

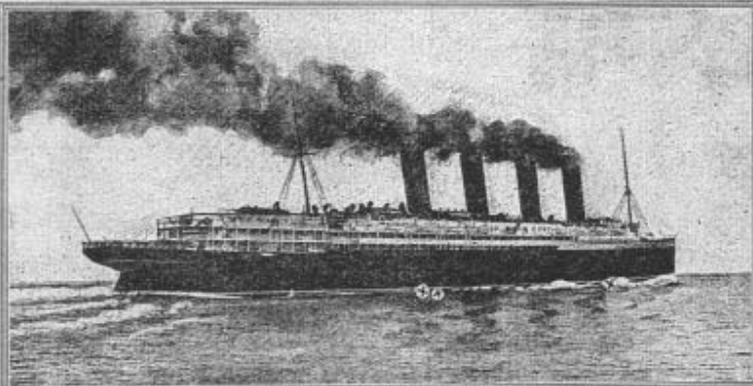
Only 650 Were Saved, Few Cable Passengers

ATTACKED IN BROAD BAY

STEWART TELLERS OF DEATH
One Torpedo Crashes Into the Disputed Liner's Bow, Another Into the Empty Room.

SHEP LISTS GIVEN TO FBI
Making It Impossible to Leave Many Ships, He Warns Must Have Gotten Down.

Passenger at Londonderry
Had Been Saved by German Boat and Was Lost Near New York.



The Lost Lusitania Steamship
X Shows the First Torpedo Struck. XX Shows the Second Torpedo Struck.

Leading up to 1917

- **The Lusitania Incident-1915**

- Germany claimed that they were carrying munitions, which has been proven to be true.



Leading up to 1917

The Lusitania Incident-1915

President Wilson responded with a note to Germany that was so sharp that Secretary of State William Jennings Bryan resigned in protest.



The *Lusitania* Incident-1915



- Would start to turn the tide of public opinion against Germany

Extending Loans or Credits to Britain

- **Why would American bankers want this to happen?**
 - Farmers and Factories would profit from this.
 - There would have been an economic recession without extending loans or credits to Britain.
 - Many people including, President Wilson and his cabinet, were Pro-British and believed that the United States and Britain shared a common destiny.

So Let's Review

Why did the U.S. enter WWI?

1. Because the U.S. was under attack despite its neutrality. (see previous)

The present German submarine warfare against commerce is a warfare against all mankind....Our motive will not be revenge or the victorious assertion of the physical might of the nation, but only the vindication of right, of human right, of which we are only a single champion....Armed neutrality, it now appears, is impracticable.

-- President Woodrow Wilson's War Message (April 1917)

It would be the resumption of unrestricted submarine warfare that would ultimately bring the United States into the war.

-- The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History

So Let's Review

Why did the U.S. enter WWI?

2. To make the world “safe for democracy”

Our object...is to vindicate the principles of peace and justice in the life of the world as against selfish and autocratic power.... We are glad...to fight...for the ultimate peace of the world and for the liberation of its peoples, the German peoples included: for the right of nations great and small and the privilege of men everywhere to choose their way of life and of obedience. The world must be made safe for democracy....

-- President Woodrow Wilson's War Message (April 1917)

So Let's Review

Why did the U.S. enter WWI?

3. Because we would have faced economic collapse if the Allies could not pay back all the loans made to them by American bankers.

...We have loaned many hundreds of millions of dollars to the Allies in this controversy. While such action was legal and countenanced by international law, there is no doubt in my mind but the enormous amount of money loaned to the Allies in this country has been instrumental in bringing about a public sentiment in favor of our country taking a course that would make every bond worth a hundred cents on the dollar and making the payment of every debt certain and sure.

-- Senator George W. Norris in Opposition to President Woodrow Wilson's War Message (April 4, 1917)

By 1917, American loans to the Allies had soared to \$2.25 billion; loans to Germany stood at a paltry \$27 million.

-- The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History

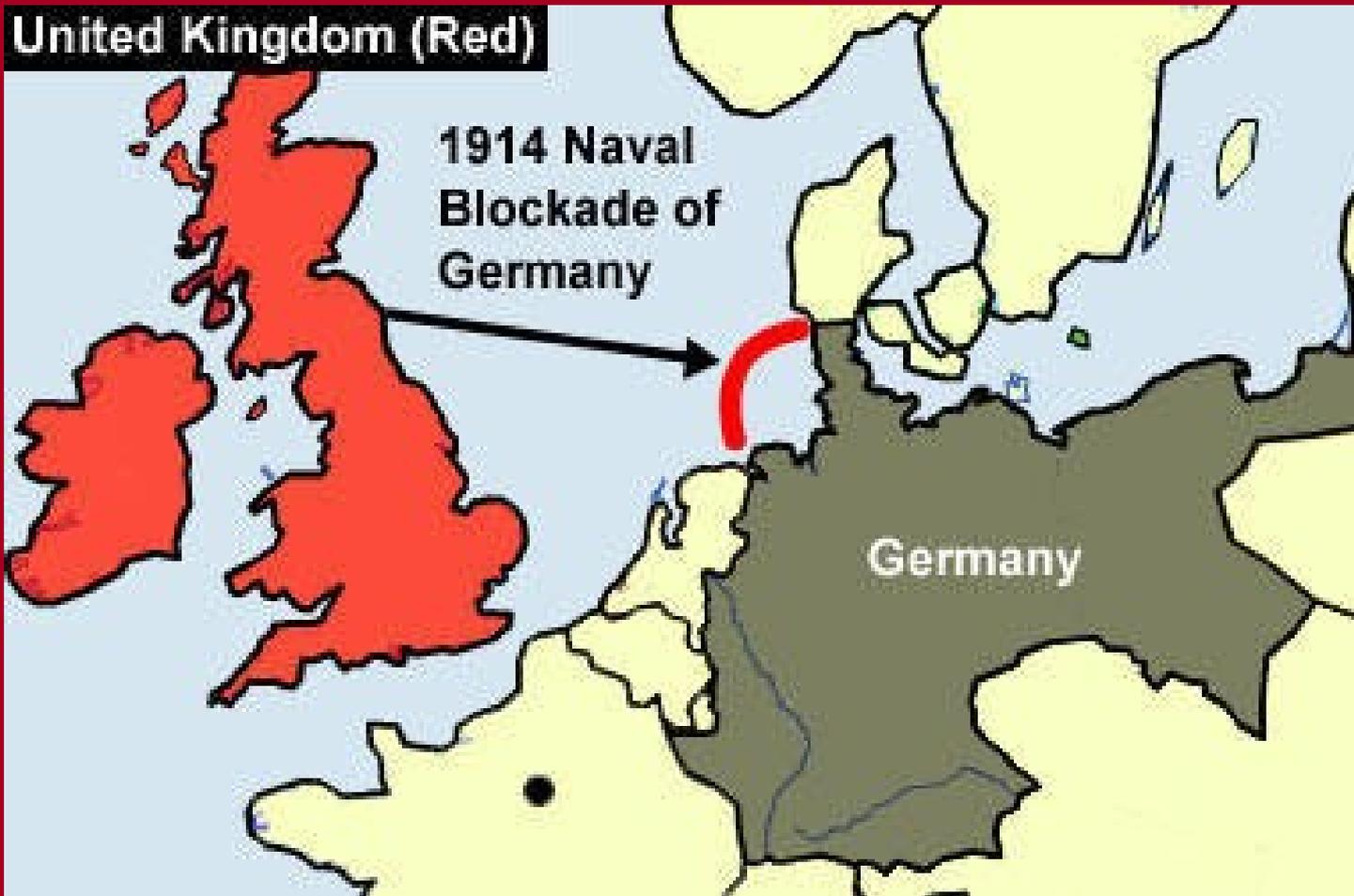
We didn't win a thing we set out for in the last war. We merely succeeded, with tremendous loss of life, to make secure the loans of private bankers to the Allies.

-- Senator Gerald Nye of North Dakota, Chairman of the Senate Munitions Committee (circa 1936)

United Kingdom (Red)

**1914 Naval
Blockade of
Germany**

Germany



So Let's Review

Why did the U.S. enter WWI?

4. Because it was good for business

...through the instrumentality of others who have not only made millions out of the war in the manufacture of munitions, etc., and who would expect to make millions more if our country can be drawn into the catastrophe...

-- Senator George W. Norris in Opposition to President Woodrow Wilson's War Message (April 4, 1917)

To what extent was America's war a war for business? Did Woodrow Wilson lead America into war in order to serve the selfish interests of the few? The answer is determined by looking into the essential facts. In the first place, Wall Street wanted war.

American participation in the war against Germany would constitute the most tremendous and profitable coup in the history of American finance... **The war created 21,000 new American millionaires** and during the war period, 69,000 men made more than three billion dollars over and above their normal income... It would have been quite impossible for President Wilson to have begun a war really intended to 'make the world safe for democracy' without facing the united opposition of Wall Street.

-- John Kenneth Turner, *Shall It Be Again?* 1922

So Let's Review

Why did the U.S. enter WWI?

5. Because of cultural, historical, and economic ties to Great Britain

The failure to treat the belligerent nations of Europe alike, the failure to reject the unlawful "war zones" of both Germany and Great Britain is wholly accountable for our present dilemma.

-- Senator Robert M. LaFollette in Opposition to President Woodrow Wilson's War Message (April 4, 1917)

So Let's Review

Why did the U.S. enter WWI?

- 6. Because of anti-German sentiment influenced by historic ties to England, German policies, and American and British propaganda** ...a large number of the great newspapers and news agencies of the country have been controlled and enlisted in the greatest propaganda that the world has ever known to manufacture sentiment in favor of war. -- Senator George W. Norris in Opposition to President Woodrow Wilson's War Message (April 4, 1917)
- 7. The result of the expansion of the U.S.'s armed forces and weaponry** That which has driven the masses of Europe into the trenches and to the battlefields is not their inner longing for war; it must be traced to the cutthroat competition for military equipment, for more efficient armies, for larger warships, for more powerful cannon. You cannot build up a standing army and then throw it back into a box like tin soldiers. -- Emma Goldman, from "Preparedness: The Road to Universal Slaughter"

American Entrance becomes Inevitable in 1917

- **Germany decided on unrestricted submarine warfare against America, whose aid to Britain and France was already immense.**
- **Why** would German leaders want to do that?
 - They believed that it would help their cause because it might cause the U.S. to buy military goods for itself.
- **What** was the American response to this act?
 - America declared War on April 1, 1917.
- **How** did the Germans get that reaction?
 - The submarines early success seemed to justify their governments policy. They increased their sinking to 250K tons, British and U.S. ships combined, in 10 days in April

American Entrance becomes Inevitable in 1917

Germany decided on unrestricted submarine warfare against America, whose aid to Britain and France was already immense.

This caused the Zimmerman telegram to be sent to Mexico from Germany stating that it would gain its lost territories from the United States if it helped Germany out. This was intercepted and it intensified U.S. support

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED

Fast Day Message

Day Letter

Night Message

Night Letter

Patrons should mark on it when on the class if service desired OTHERWISE THE TELEGRAM WILL BE TRANSMITTED AS A FAST DAY MESSAGE.

WESTERN UNION

TELEGRAM

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

ICR

330

Time First

Wood
via Galveston

JAN 29 1917

Send the following telegram, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to:

GERMAN LEGATION

MEXICO CITY

130	13042	13401	8501	115	3528	416	17214	6491	11310
18147	18222	21500	10247	11518	23677	13805	3494	14936	
98092	5905	11311	10392	10371	0302	21290	5161	39695	
13571	17504	11209	18276	18101	0317	0228	17694	4473	
22284	22200	19452	21589	67893	5569	13918	8958	12137	
1333	4725	4458	5905	17166	13851	4458	17149	14471	6706
13850	12224	6929	14991	7382	15857	67893	14218	56477	

1970	17553	67003	5870	5454	16102	15217	22801	17138	
21001	17388	7116	23638	18222	6719	14331	15021	23845	
3100	23552	22096	21604	4797	9497	22464	20855	4377	
23010	18140	22200	5905	13347	20420	39689	13732	20667	
6929	5275	18507	52262	1340	22049	13339	11265	22295	
10439	14814	4178	6992	8784	7632	7357	6926	52262	11267
21100	21272	9346	9559	22404	15874	18502	18500	15857	
2186	5376	7381	98092	16127	13486	9350	9220	76036	14219
5144	2831	17920	11347	17142	11264	7667	7762	15099	9110
10482	97556	3569	3670						

BEPNSTOPFF.

Charge German Embassy.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED.

RECEIVED
 Director 1-8-58
 Morrison, State Dept.

By Mark A. Eckhoff Assistant

Date Oct. 27, 1958

FROM 2nd from London # 5747.

"We intend to begin on the first of February unrestricted submarine warfare. We shall endeavor in spite of this to keep the United States of America neutral. In the event of this not succeeding, we make Mexico a proposal of alliance on the following basis: make war together, make peace together, generous financial support and an understanding on our part that Mexico is to reconquer the lost territory in Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona. The settlement in detail is left to you. You will inform the President of the above most secretly as soon as the outbreak of war with the United States of America is certain and add the suggestion that he should, on his own initiative, ~~invite~~ ^{invite} Japan to immediate adherence and at the same time mediate between Japan and ourselves. Please call the President's attention to the fact that the ruthless employment of our submarines now offers the prospect of compelling England in a few months to make peace." Signed, ZIMMERMANN.

- 19 January, 1917:
The Zimmerman Note
to the German Minister to Mexico

Berlin, January 19, 1917

On the first of February we intend to begin submarine warfare unrestricted. In spite of this, it is our intention to endeavor to keep neutral the United States of America.

If this attempt is not successful, we propose an alliance on the following basis with Mexico: That we shall make war together and together make peace. We shall give general financial support, and it is understood that Mexico is to reconquer the lost territory in New Mexico, Texas, and Arizona. The details are left to you for settlement....

You are instructed to inform the President of Mexico of the above in the greatest confidence as soon as it is certain that there will be an outbreak of war with the United States and suggest that the President of Mexico, on his own initiative, should communicate with Japan suggesting adherence at once to this plan; at the same time, offer to mediate between Germany and Japan.

Please call to the attention of the President of Mexico that the employment of ruthless submarine warfare now promises to compel England to make peace in a few months.

Zimmerman

(Secretary of State)

American Entrance becomes Inevitable in 1917

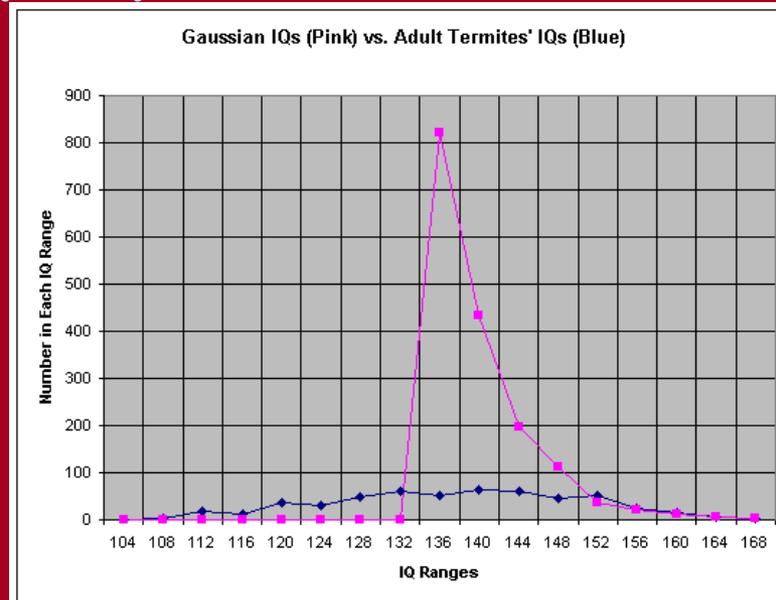
The Expanding American Army

- As a result of the Progressives, IQ tests were invented and soldiers were required to take them.

- 30% soldiers in the army were physically unfit

- 31% were illiterate

**TEST
YOUR
IQ**



American Entrance becomes Inevitable in 1917



- YMCA purity crusaders were shocked at the immorality of the army camps.
- 2.4 million resisted
- 2.4 million were drafted

SELECT SERVICE BLANKS ARE SENT OUT

Form 1 **REGISTRATION CARD** No.

1	Name in full <small>(Given name) (Family name)</small>	Age in yrs.
2	Home address <small>(No.) (Street) (City) (State)</small>	
3	Date of birth <small>(Month) (Day) (Year)</small>	
4	Are you (1) a natural-born citizen, (2) a naturalized citizen, (3) an alien, (4) or have you declared your intention (specify which)?	
5	Where were you born? <small>(Town) (State) (Nation)</small>	
6	If not a citizen, of what country are you a citizen or subject?	
7	What is your present trade, occupation, or office?	
8	By whom employed?	
9	Where employed?	
10	Have you a father, mother, wife, child under 12, or a sister or brother under 12, solely dependent on you for support (specify which)?	
11	Married or single (which)? Race (specify which)?	
12	What military service have you had? Rank: _____ Branch: _____ years: _____ Nation or State: _____	
12	Do you claim exemption from draft (specify grounds)?	

I affirm that I have verified above answers and that they are true.

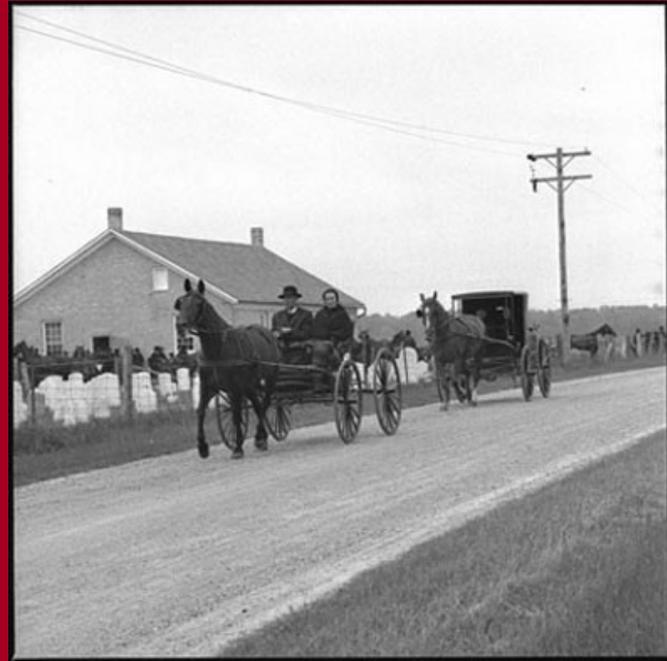
Signature or mark: _____

If person is or was of this corner.

The War Department is sending out cards like this to every city as the first step toward selecting men for the Army. The cards will be used to register all men eligible for service, from whom some will be selected.

American Entrance becomes Inevitable in 1917

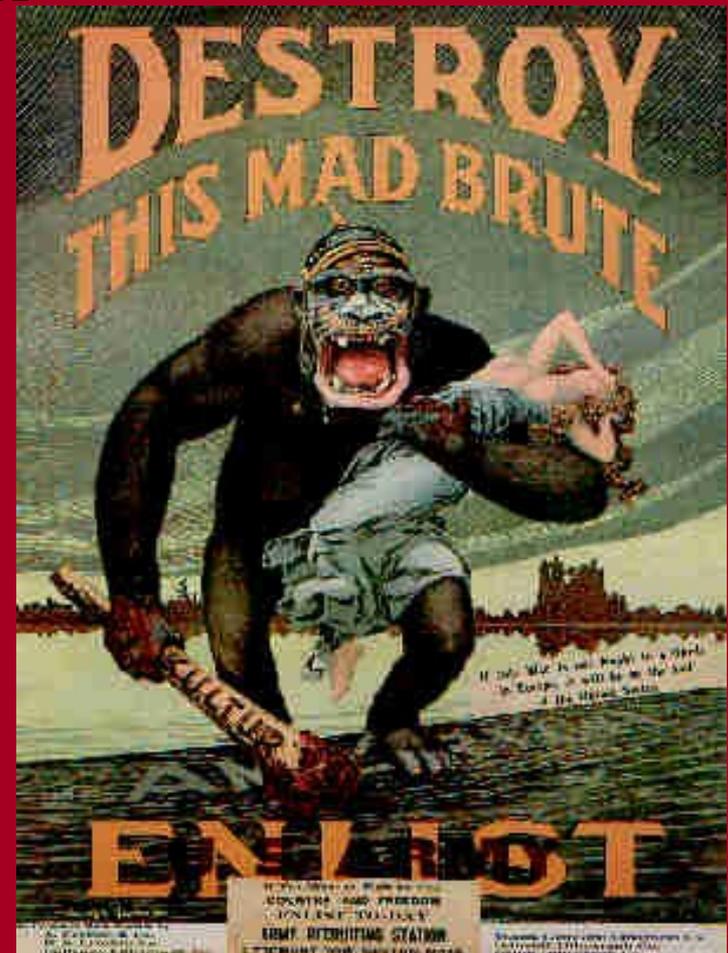
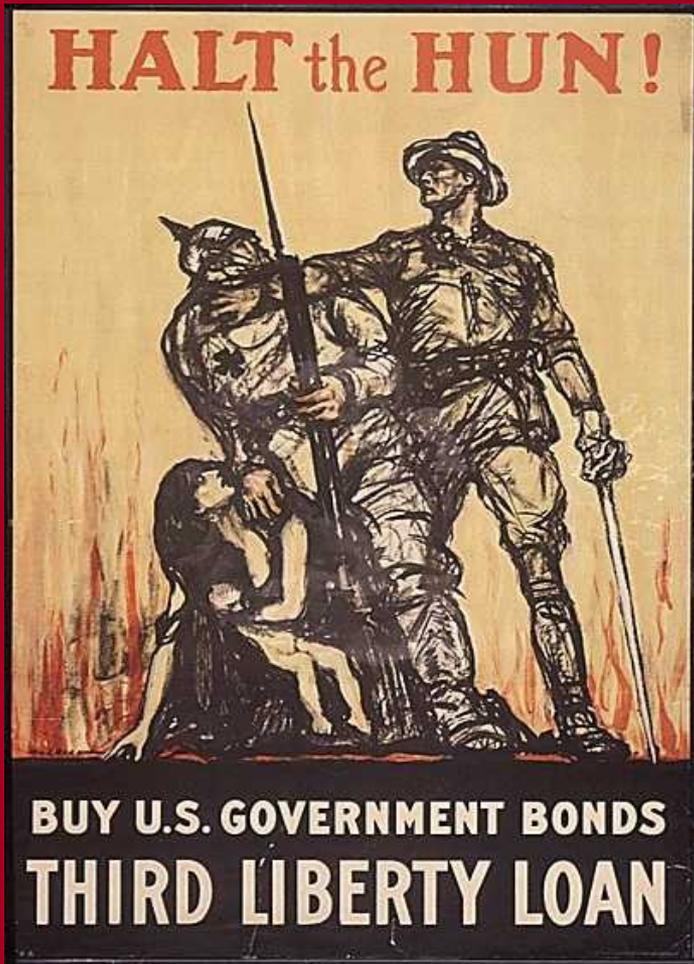
•Mennonites and Quakers were not allowed to claim conscientious objector status. Many were sent to prison were they were mistreated and accused of cowardice.



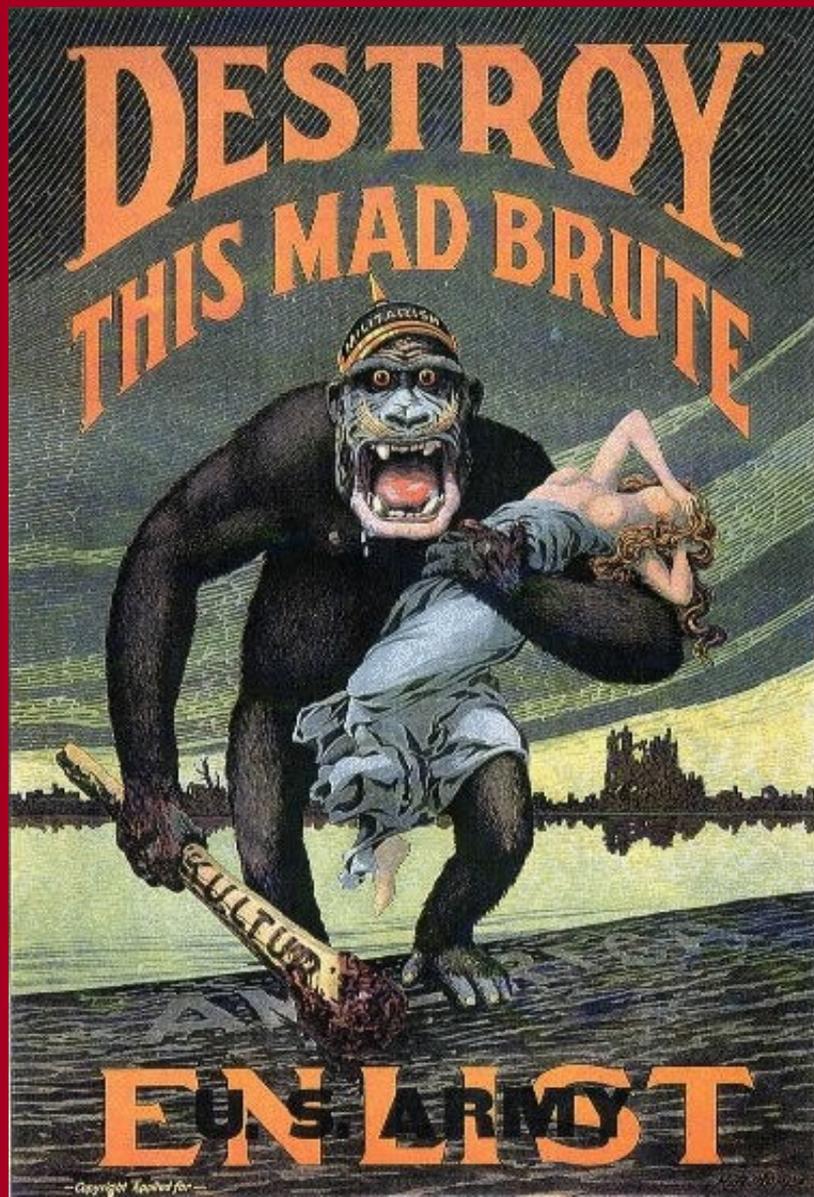
"We are one in Christ and can never be at war."

Enthusiasm for the War

PROPAGANDA



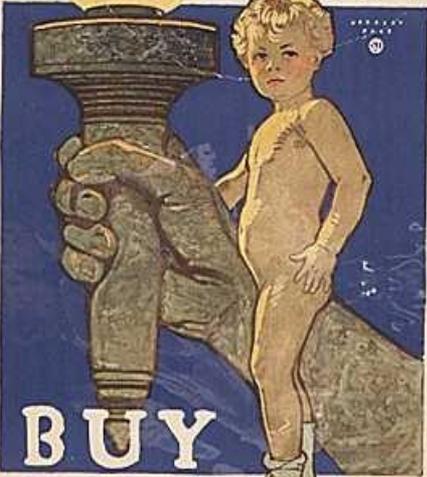
On a side note...



Enthusiasm for the War

PROPAGANDA

Save your Child
FROM AUTOCRACY
AND POVERTY



BUY

War Savings
Stamps

W.S.S.
WAR SAVINGS STAMPS
ISSUED BY THE
UNITED STATES
GOVERNMENT

UNITED STATES TREASURY DEPARTMENT



Little
AMERICANS
Do your bit

Eat Oatmeal-Corn meal mush-
Hominy - other corn cereals-
and Rice with milk.
Save the wheat for our soldiers.

Leave nothing on your plate



UNITED STATES FOOD ADMINISTRATION

**Sus Bonos de
la Libertad
ayudarán a dar
fin con esto**



Your ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
LIBERTY BOND
Will Help Stop This

R. Amberg

Enthusiasm for the War

PROPAGANDA

"I SOLOMONLY SWARE
THAT I WONT EAT NO
MORE ICE CREEM WHAT'S
MAID WITH SUGER NOR
NO MORE CANDY WHAT'S
MAID WITH SUGER.
HONEST AN TROO-
CROSS MY HART.
AMEN!"



AN HEROIC SACRIFICE.

U. S. Food Administration

BE A WAR DADDY—ADOPT A SOLDIER

Father the Movement under direction of the War and Navy Departments
to Surround the Training Camps with Wholesome Environment

DO YOUR BIT TO MAKE HIM FIT TO FIGHT

SUBSCRIBE TO THE

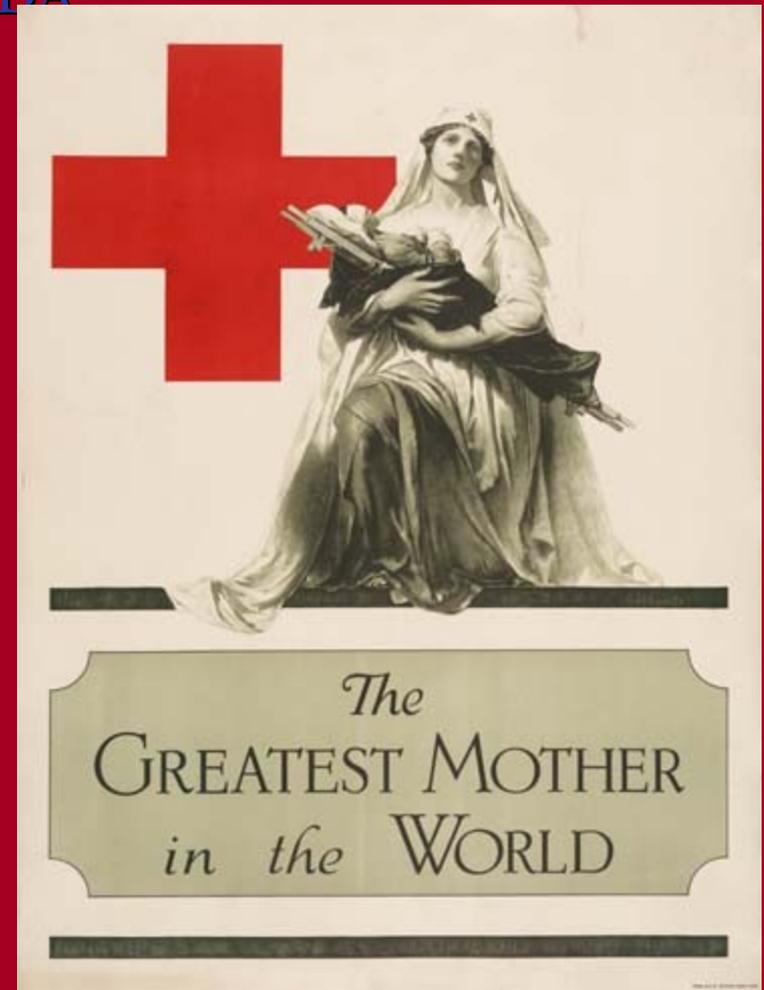
WAR CAMP COMMUNITY FUND

National Chairman, JOHN N. WILLYS
Toledo, Ohio

National Treasurer, CHARLES H. SABIN
President Guaranty Trust Co., New York City

Enthusiasm for the War

PROPAGANDA



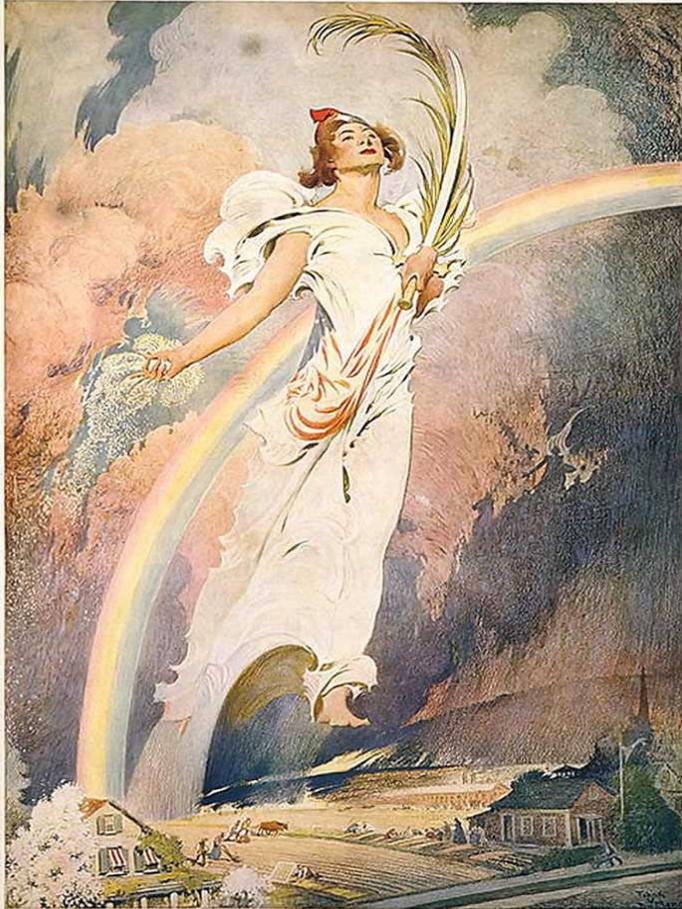
Enthusiasm for the War

PROPAGANDA



Enthusiasm for the War

LIBERTY SOWING the SEEDS of VICTORY



Write for Free Books to
NATIONAL WAR GARDEN COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Charles Lathrop Pack, President

P.S. Ridsdale, Secretary

PROPAGANDA

A recruitment poster for the United States Navy featuring a woman in a sailor's uniform holding a pen.

GEE !!
I WISH I WERE
A MAN

I'd JOIN
The **NAVY**

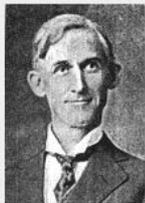
BE A MAN AND DO IT
UNITED STATES NAVY
RECRUITING STATION

Enthusiasm for the War

Four-Minute men,
organized by
George
Creel's
Committee of
Public
Information, gave
patriotic
fundraising
speeches and urged
young men to
enlist and give
their lives (just like
Jesus).



ATTY. WIGGON,
Fast Chairman,
Lyons, Nebraska



REV. C. W. RAY,
Second Chairman,
Lyons, Nebraska



PROF. LINTON,
Lyons, Nebraska



DR. PACKARD,
County Chairman,
Oakland, Nebraska



C. O. STAUFFER,
Fast Chairman,
Oakland, Nebraska



PROF. EMBREE,
Lyons, Nebraska



ATTY. T. R. ASHLEY,
Chairman, Decatur,
Nebraska



RAY GROSVENOR,
Decatur, Nebraska



JUDGE ENJART,
Chairman, Tekamah,
Nebraska



SENATOR HOUSTON,
Tekamah, Nebraska



ATTY. HOPEWELL,
Tekamah, Nebraska



REV. HUEL,
Tekamah, Nebraska



W. L. POUCHER,
Tekamah, Nebraska



HERBERT RHOADES,
Tekamah, Nebraska

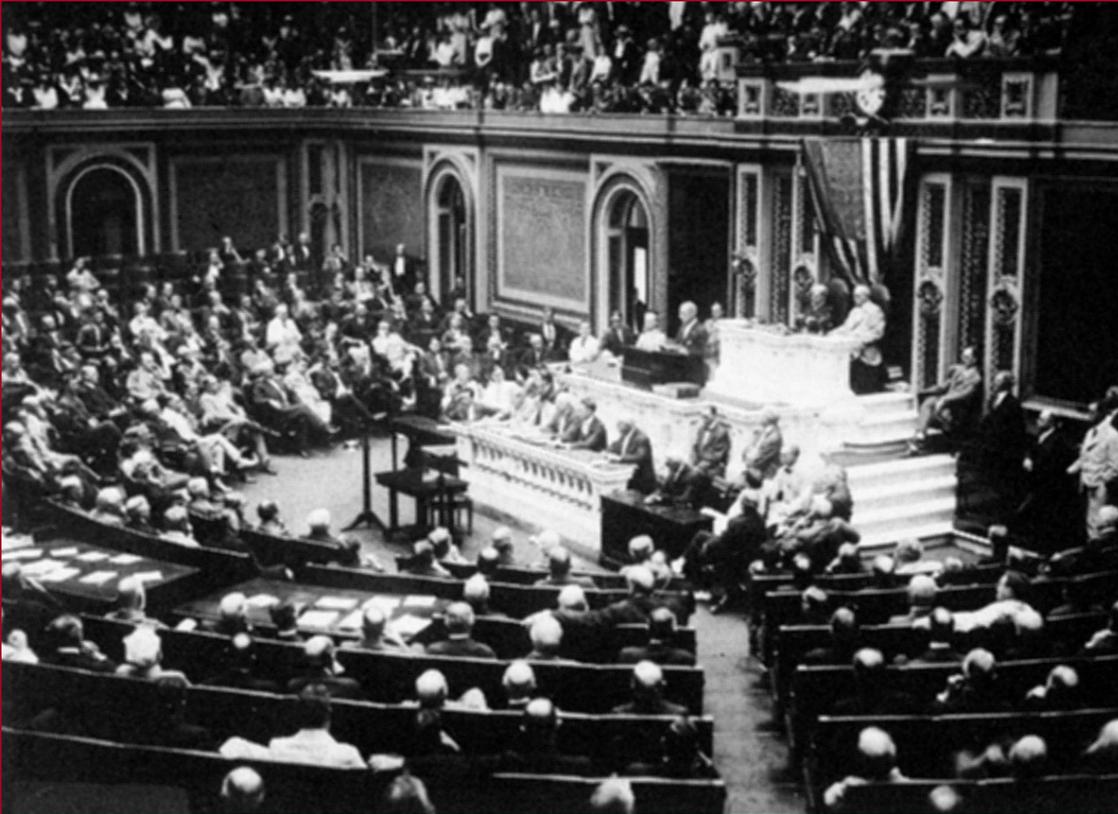


PROF. H. H. LINN,
Chairman, Craig,
Nebraska



REV. STONER,
Second Chairman,
Craig, Nebraska

Enthusiasm for the War



- Congress passed legislation to restrict opponents of the war.

What was the result of the Seditious and Espionage Acts during World War I?

1. Over 6,000 arrests.
2. Led to the Red Scare.
3. Walter Mathey, arrested and convicted, attended antiwar conference and contributed 25 cents.
4. Rev. Clarence Waldron, arrested and convicted for telling a bible study class the "Christians could take no part in the war." 15 year term.

What was the result of the Seditious and Espionage Acts during World War I?

5. Eugene V. Debs, arrested and convicted for opposing the war, 10 years. Gained over a million votes in a run for President while he was in prison.
6. Ricardo Flores Magon, a leading Mexican-American Labor organizer was sentenced to 20 years for opposing the administrations Mexcio policy.
7. Herbert S. Bigelow, a pacifist minister, was dragged from the stage where he about to give a speech, taken to a wooded area by a mob, bound and gagged and whipped.
8. Charles Schenck, member of the Socialist Party, sentenced to 15 years for publishing pamphlets urging citizens to refuse to participate in the draft. He called the draft slavery, among other things.

Enthusiasm for the War

- Clergy preached blood-curdling pro-war sermons.
- State governments and vigilante groups tried to destroy all German vestiges in America.



A U-boat crew enters a Georgia prison camp, 1918

Supplying our Soldiers

War Industries Board

Organized under Bernard Baruch

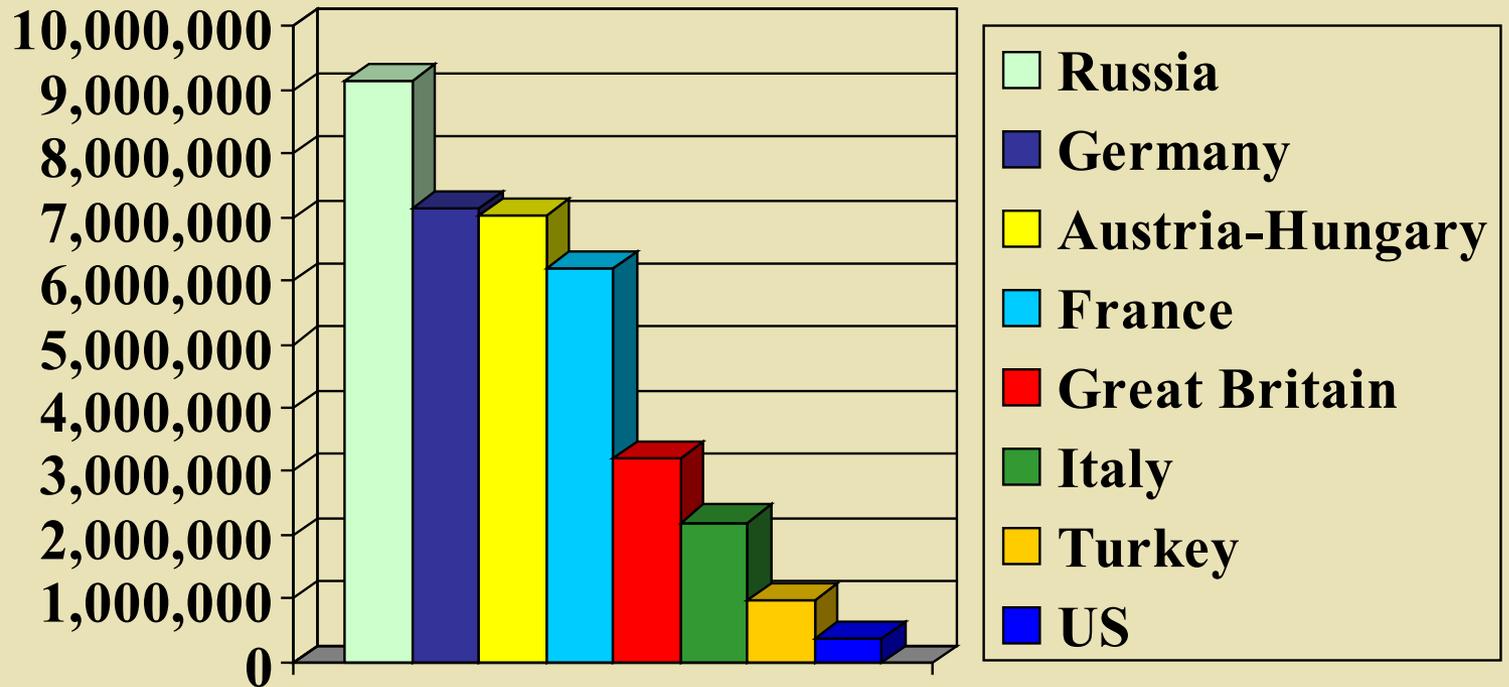
Had nearly dictatorial powers in controlling economic output

Used “Progressive Measures” to make economic output more efficient.

Intervention

America entered the war ending its long lasting separation from Europe. While this is happening the Bolsheviks are winning the Russian Revolution and Lenin is back in Russia (Thanks to the Germans) from his exile to Switzerland. This allowed Germany to launch a powerful offensive in the West, where the allies won and 100,000 Americans died but there were even more casualties in European nations. All of this sets the stage for the Treaty of Versailles, the League of Nations, the Red Scare, and many other events leading to World War II.

World War I Casualties



fin