

I believe, and every person here believes with me, I am sure, that to permit American ideals of Government to be laid aside would be an everlasting blot upon the conscience of every American. The American system with its recognition of the individual as the sole cause of Government is the truest realization of an ideal of Government that exists in the world today. It is little wonder our forefathers found it such an inspiration, it is little wonder that throughout all the years Americans were ever ready to give their all to defend it. Surely today with conditions as they are throughout the world we should be poor Americans indeed, if we did not measure up to the high standards of National conduct set by those who preceded us.

Ours is a peace-loving Nation; the citizens of America did not desire war. They crave to live in peace and concord with their fellow-men and women throughout the world, and are not jealously seeking any possessions of her sister nations. Inter-national peace and good will are intensely desired by our people. America had enough of war twenty years ago and the loss, both in men and property, is still being suffered.

Above all such considerations, however, the people of America realize that there are things infinitely worse than war. In fact, nearly all of Europe today furnishes striking example of this fact. What it will cost us to win this war, only the future will say, but whatever comes I have faith that the people of America will shoulder their responsibilities, and put their heart and soul into whatever efforts are demanded of them. America values its freedom, its unique place among the nations of the world too thoroughly ever to permit them to be taken from her.

The future is uncertain, indeed, but if we face it with a keen sense of our responsibilities, new citizens as well as old, we can find a solution to our problems. We can retain for ourselves and for those to come after us, all that has made America the great Nation that it is, all that makes life in America worthwhile.