

and stoops to the barbarous position of a belligerent she is leaving nothing undone in the way of preparation for military efficiency. It is very inspiring to hear the Yankees talk of how they are "wielding the sword of liberty and democracy to annihilate a war-mad tyrant whose atrocious deeds of barbarism have shocked their refined natures and provoked their holy wrath. It is a little hard for me to understand just why the sword of liberty and democracy was allowed to hang resting over Uncle Sam's chimney corner for two years and a half before his refined nature was shocked or his holy wrath provoked, because to the rest of the world the atrocities committed by the war-mad tyrant early in the war, such as the violation of Belgium's neutrality, and the wholesale murder of non-combatants, American women and children included, were just as atrocious as the destruction of U. S. shipping, however. Uncle Sam is into the scrap now and every one is glad of it because if he never fires a shot off he can be very useful to the Allies in other ways, not the least of which will be the rounding up of the hordes of German spies with in his borders. It is rather out of place for me to be looking critically at the motives for other countries actions when our own government in

all its branches seems to be so rotten with party politics. An election is in sight and both parties seem far more interested in it now than the outcome of the war. The Grits spend all their time hunting up mud to throw at the Government and the Tories are exerting all their energies making plots by which they can remain in power. Parliament has prorogued and Borden has gone fishing but they did pass the Military Service Act by which it looks as if conscription would soon be enforced. That to my mind was the proper thing to do, for the voluntary system is certainly dead even if the Government did bill it and it was inefficient any way. It was based too much on sentiment and not reason. I have found out from my own experience that in a case like this sentiment is no use. Before a year ago last spring I was so tossed by the crossing winds of sentiment on the sea of indecision as to my course of action that I came nearly being wrecked on the rocks of lunacy. The light ship of duty was only a spot light which added confusion to the scene for it would first throw its lustre on the military track ship with the recruiting officers calling for more soldiers and then on the Harbor of Home with Dad's pleadings and the authorities calling for greater production.