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Why We Are At War

ALTHOUGH the war has hardly begun, we can't remind ourselves too often or too soon why it began, and why it goes on. The facts seem clear enough now, but they will not remain clear if we do not keep them continuously before our eyes. It was one of the tragedies of the last war that it began with so little preparation of the average man's mind and ended with so feeble a check on his emotions.

This time we have not lacked preparation, but the situation has changed so rapidly in a month that it is necessary to look again at our goal. We are not fighting for territory. We are not fighting for power. We are not seeking to dominate any nation or race. We are not fighting because we have been caught up in a brawl and don't know how to disentangle ourselves.

We entered the war deliberately. We entered it sadly. We entered with a full knowledge of the risks, the cost, the suffering, the injury it will do to the whole world.

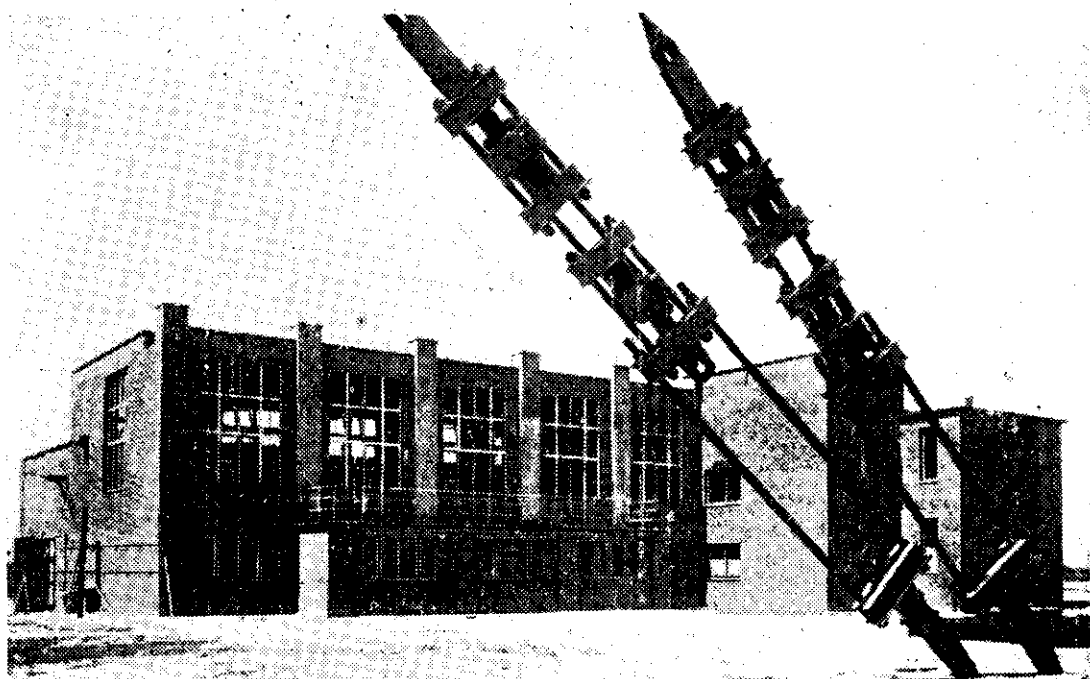
We had to choose between sorrow and shame, and chose sorrow; between suffering and disgrace, and chose suffering; between sacrifice now and an enduring and already intolerable burden of world anxiety and fear.

To lose sight of those facts is to lose hold of reality. To become opportunists. To slip into hate. To forget that the enemy is not a people but a policy. To waste energy on individuals that we must reserve for the movement they have started. To become the thing we despise and fear.

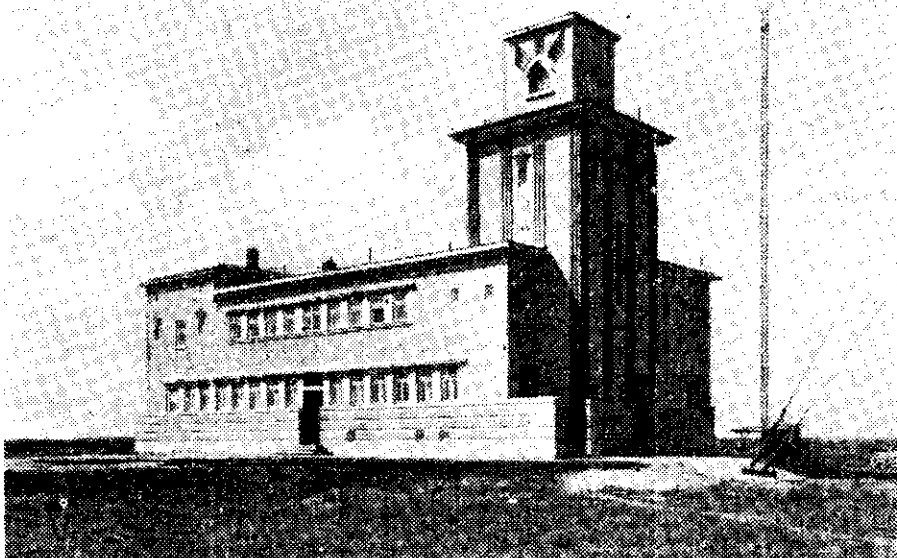
But we can slip lower than that. We can forget that charity begins at home. We can magnify the blunders and faults of our own people till they overshadow the crimes of our enemies. We can fail liberty in its own house.

Let us face the fact frankly that we have some responsibility for this war, and for every war in which we have ever been engaged. But let us not be defeatists or perverts, too proud or too squeamish to fight for principles that we have sometimes ourselves betrayed, but without which the whole world reverts to darkness and violence.

RADIO STATIONS IN THE NEWS



A view of the 120 k.w. station at Raszyn, west of Warsaw, which played such a dramatic and important part in the war in Poland. Since this station was silenced the voice of heroic Warsaw has been broadcast by an improvised transmitter inside the city itself



The news of the assassination of the Rumanian Premier, M. Calinescu, was announced over the Bucharest radio after members of the Iron Guard had burst into the studio and seized the microphone. A view of the Bucharest transmitter.

The war of the ether on the German side has been directed from a Berlin suburb. Here on the right is Berlin's Broadcasting House, in the suburb of Charlottenburg

