

The King's Appeal

“To my people :

“At this grave moment in the struggle between my people and a highly organized enemy who has transgressed the laws of nations and changed the ordinance that binds civilized Europe together, I appeal to you.

“I rejoice in my Empire's effort, and I feel pride in the voluntary response from my subjects all over the world who have sacrificed home and fortune and life itself in order that another may not inherit the free Empire which their ancestors and mine have built. I ask you to make good these sacrifices.

“The end is not in sight. More men, and yet more, are wanted to keep my armies in the field and through them to secure victory and an enduring peace. In ancient days the darkest moment has ever produced in men of our race the sternest resolve. I ask you, men of all classes, to come forward voluntarily, and take your share in these fights.

“In freely responding to my appeal you will be giving your support to your brothers who for long months have nobly upheld Great Britain's past traditions and the glory of her arms.”

GEORGE V.