

WHY THE UNITED STATES

the German Government to Mexico, suggesting that in the event of war breaking out between Germany and the United States Mexico should receive financial aid from the German Government, and should undertake the invasion of the United States, with the understanding also that Japan should be invited to break her faith with the Entente Allies and to declare war against the United States.

Eighth, the wicked and wholesale attempt by the Turkish authorities to exterminate the Armenian people, Germany being a consenting partner.

Ninth, the redemption of Russia from her deadening autocratic régime and her hopeful entrance upon her great experiment in democracy, which came at precisely the moment when the United States Government was making up its mind to participate in the war. It is important to note that the existence of the old governmental conditions in Russia had been a serious obstacle to American popular acceptance of the cause of the Allies. As James D. Whelpley has pointed out in *The Fortnightly Review* for May, 1917, much of the German propaganda in the United States took the form of anti-Russianism. "Tales of the vast resources of Russia and predictions as to the future economic greatness of that country fell upon deaf or prejudiced ears in America until the revolution swept away the autocratic form of government. Too much importance can hardly be given to this Russian factor in determining the degree of support now given by America to the Allied cause, for recent events in Petrograd have made a tremendous appeal to cherished traditions and principles, and in a day