

ENTERED THE WAR

eventually enter the war. When the time came to realise and announce that necessity publicly, the country was ready for the great crisis-moment, and accepted it not merely with equanimity but with positive relief and enthusiasm.

It is obvious that none of President Wilson's State papers touching the war can be properly or even intelligently interpreted hereafter save in the light of the gravely considered and gravely delivered address made before the assembled Congress on the night of April 2nd, 1917, and of the mental processes and changes which led to the framing of that address. It is an eloquent and effective summary of the American position in the world and in the war, and a complete vindication, not, perhaps, necessarily of America's long forbearance and delay, but of the virile, unselfish, and idéalistic qualities of the American character.