

because the world as a whole has advanced in knowledge and will not tolerate the ascendancy of a modern barbarism.

From the inception of this war right up to the present time nothing has been more pronounced than the hatred of Germany towards England. This feeling has been very forcibly expressed by the poet Ernest Lissaner in a screed, part of which runs as follows:

“France and Russia they matter not,  
A blow for a blow, a shot for a shot;  
When at war we fight them with bronze and steel,  
And the time that is coming peace will seal.  
But thee we hate with a lasting hate,  
We can never forego our hate;  
Hate by water and hate by land,  
Hate of the head, hate of the hand,  
Hate of the hammer, hate of the Crown,  
Hate of seventy millions choking down.  
We love as one, we hate as one;  
We have one foe and one alone,—  
England.”

It is difficult to decide whether this effusion can be described as more absurdly intense or intensely absurd; it certainly possesses attributes that will allow it to qualify in either class. But when we learn that as a recognition of its merits the writer was awarded an iron cross by the man who poses as the great war lord of Europe we can realize how closely at times the sublime borders on the ridiculous.

We are naturally led to enquire what inspires this almost devilish hatred by Germany, and the answer is not difficult to arrive at. It is simply because she recognizes in England the absolute antithesis of her own line of thought. These two countries hold entirely different ideals—Germany believes in the complete supremacy of the state over the individual. Personal liberty as we understand it is an unknown quantity; with her might is right, and officialism is looked upon as almost representing the Deity. She longs to acquire new territory with the object of governing it with an iron hand; and, claiming her civilization to be of a superior order to anything else of the kind, she has determined to force it upon all the nations of the earth. England on the other hand, whatever may have been her sins in the past, and they have been many and grievous, has always been in the forefront in the battles for human liberty in the world. Her people have always held within them the latent germ of freedom and all classes have bitterly opposed any attempts made to subordinate personal liberty to the interest of the official class. From time immemorial England has held almost as a fetish that the rights of the individual were sacred and must not be made subservient to any other power in the state. In short, therefore, Germany represents offi-