

trality of Belgium, which has been ruthlessly violated by our enemy, who also pledged herself to the same obligation. You are going forward to do battle, not against a great people or nation, but a diabolical system that has fixed its yoke on the necks of its own people, and now aspires to enslave the whole of Europe, and in time the whole world—a system that has at last revealed itself and is recognized as the cause of the inhuman competition in Dreadnoughts and armaments, which has been sapping the life-blood of European peoples— a system that has been threatening the world's peace and prosperity for many years, and which must be destroyed, root and branch, before peace, freedom and progress can be even a reasonable or possible hope.

You are going forward in God's name to fight for that which is the very foundation of society. Without mutual trust and confidence there can be no security in our social, business and industrial life, no security in private, public, national nor international affairs. If individuals and nations are no longer to recognize their obligations, plighted word and signature, then the whole fabric of private, public and national security is destroyed, and we are left at the mercy of anarchy and the worst form in which machiavellianism has yet appeared. Notwithstanding this age of enlightenment, Germany has already violated international law, deliberately repudiated her national obligations, contemptuously refused to respect her own national pledges. To Germany a treaty bearing her national seal and signature is nothing more than a scrap of paper. Already she has resorted to the use of the most barbaric