

ROOSEVELT ASSAILS

DIVIDED ALLEGIANCE

Denounces Disloyal Citizens and "Roughneck" Pacifists Like Berkman in Patriotic Talk.

'ONE LANGUAGE FOR NATION'

Colonel Says He Would Have Used Many German-American Officers if He Had Led Troops in France.

Colonel Roosevelt, in a Fourth of July speech delivered at Forest Hills, L. I., yesterday, attacked "conscientious objectors," Alexander Berkman and other "roughneck pacifists," citizens with "fifty-fifty allegiance," German and other foreign language newspapers, and the Government for issuing an order to the Red Cross to exclude from units intended for service at base hospitals abroad all American citizens born in Germany and Austria-Hungary, as well as those whose fathers were born in those countries.

In introducing Colonel Roosevelt to the 2,000 persons in the plaza at Forest Hills Bishop Burgess of Long Island read part of Washington's farewell address, and the text of the address was taken up by the Colonel in his "first prologue" in an attack on the inaction of the United States in the early part of the war, "when insult was heaped upon insult." He quoted Washington's advice to the nation to keep peace with others, and he said that the founder of the nation desired only the "peace of righteousness."

"Let the conscientious objectors object all they please," said the Colonel, in urging that "universal suffrage should be based on universal service in peace and war" and in declaring that he was against any privilege, and particularly "against the privilege that would escape service in war." "The conscientious objector asserts that he has no lack of courage and that he loves his country. His only objection is that he's a little gun shy—he doesn't want to shoot at others, but he has no objection to being shot at. Therefore, we might put the conscientious objector in the front lines to dig trenches or kitchen sinks. There he could be shot at, and he could satisfy his conscience by not being compelled to shoot.

He urged that the whole nation throw its strength into the conflict so that we might win quickly "the peace of overwhelming victory for righteousness."

Favors Full Penalty for Treason.

There was much applause when the Colonel said that America was not a boarding house and counting house for foreigners who held allegiance to another nation. He said that any man who preached or worked against the cause of America's allies was guilty of moral treason, and that the penalty for treason in time of war ought to be inflicted—that of being shot. He said that English ought to be the sole language in this country, and he urged a law compelling all newspapers published in a foreign tongue to print an exact translation of the text in English side by side with the foreign text.

Colonel Roosevelt's address follows, in part:

"Any man who now announces that although he favors the United States against Germany, yet he favors Germany against England, is a traitor to America. There can be no half-and-half attitude in this war, and no honorable man can afford to take such an attitude. We are now bound by every consideration of loyalty and good faith to our allies, and any opposition to them or any aid given to their and our enemy is basely dishonorable as regards our allies and treasonable as regards our own country.

"The obligation of single-minded Americanism has two sides—one as important as the other. On the one hand, every man of foreign birth or parentage must in good faith become an American and nothing else; on the other hand, if he thus in good faith, in soul and in body, becomes an American, he stands on a full and entire equality with everybody else, and must be so treated, without any mental reservation, without any regard to his creed, or birthplace or descent. One obligation is just as binding as the other.

"Let us immediately and practically apply these principles in the present crisis. A former member of my Cabinet, Oscar S. Straus, who was born in Germany and who does not profess any religious creed, but who is in every way precisely as good an American as I am, has sent me cuttings from THE NEW YORK TIMES which contain extracts from statements issued by the United States Government to the Red Cross societies, in which the Red Cross units and hospital units intended for service at the base hospitals abroad are directed to exclude from service not merely American citizens born in Germany of Austria-Hungary, but even Americans whose fathers were born in those countries. I most emphatically protest against any such discrimination. It represents the kind of attack on loyalty which tends actually to encourage disloyalty.

"If I had been permitted to raise the four divisions of troops for service abroad, which Congress gave me permission to raise, among the regular officers whom I would have recommended for command of the divisions and brigades would have been General Kuhn, the present head of the War College, and Colonel Bandholtz, who, when I was President, served as Chief of Constabulary in the Philippines; and I would have counted myself happy to have served under either. Of the regular officers whom I had chosen to recommend as Colonels of various regiments in the division were four of German parentage or descent. Among the few men not in the regular army whom I would have recommended for Colonelcies, one, a National Guard Colonel from Chicago, is of German parentage, and he informed me that of the troops he would raise in Chicago probably 85 per cent. would be of foreign parentage. My Headquarters Chaplain would have been a retired army officer, who was born in Germany—a man not of my religious faith. He is as good a citizen and as thoroughly an American of the best type as is to be found anywhere in this land. My Brigade Quartermaster General would have been a man of German parentage.

Would Tolerate No Discrimination.

"Now, if I had been permitted to take these men abroad to fight I would have tolerated no discrimination from any source or of any kind between the Americans of Revolutionary stock and the Americans of foreign birth or parentage; and in turn I would have demanded of all of them, with absolute disregard of all considerations of national origin, an undivided and wholehearted allegiance to the one flag that floats over all of us.

The Colonel asserted that the history of the civil war disproved this when the burning of a deserted town was not tolerated, and he referred to the humanness shown by the commander of the Alabama fifty years ago. He continued:

"At present our prime duty is to fight effectively and to send constantly increasing masses of fighting men to the front at the earliest moment. Then we must care for these men; we must till our farms, make our factories more efficient, increase our taxes and subscribe to our loans, and back up the Red Cross and similar organizations. Our Governmental Representatives must show both disinterestedness and common sense in dealing with business."