

## THE POLITICAL TRUCE \*

I REGRET that of recent years the policies which I and those like me believed to be essential for the welfare, the honor, and the greatness of the American people have not been more faithfully carried out. But all that is past now and is neither here nor there in this crisis. At the moment, the United States, as one of the great nations of the world, faces a crisis which has already involved in war almost all the other great nations of the world. Friends, we have our troubles here, but let us be thankful beyond measure that we are citizens of this Republic and that our burdens, though they may be heavy, are far lighter than those that must be borne by the men and women who live in other and less fortunate countries.

I for one will act, and I am sure I am stating your feelings when I say that the men and women of the Progressive party will act, throughout this crisis primarily as American citizens and will work hand in hand with any public man, with any public servant, and with any and all private citizens who in good faith and disinterestedly do all that is possible to see that the United States comes through this crisis unharmed, and so conducts herself as to conserve the honor and the interests of her own citizens and, as far as may be, to help in securing peace and justice for all the nations of mankind.

\* From speech at the conference of the Progressive party, Hotel Astor, New York City, August 5, 1914.