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Alexander Berkman  
War Dictionary  
1917

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# War Dictionary

Alexander Berkman

1917

## Allies

The fairies of Democracy.

## Barbarians

The other fellows.

## Congress

The valet of Woodrow the First.

## Censorship

The rape of Free Speech.

## Conscription

Free men fighting against their will.

## Civilization

In God We Trust.

**Democracy**

The voice of the Gallery Gods.

**Free Speech**

Say what you please, but keep your mouth shut.

**Huns**

Loyal patriots from Central Europe.

**Humanity**

Treason to government.

**Justice**

Successful target shooting.

**Kaiser**

A President's ambition.

**Liberty Bond**

A bone from a bonehead.

**Liberty Loan**

The bread line of the Unborn.

**Loyal Citizen**

Deaf, dumb, and blind.

**Militarism**

Christianity in action.

**Patriotism**

Hating your neighbor.

**Registration**

Funeral march of Liberty.

**Sedition**

The proof of Tyranny.

**Slacker**

Jesus Christ.

**Trenches**

Digging your own grave.

**Un-American**

Independent opinion.

**Un-Democratic**

Ideals.

**Uniform**

Government strait-jacket.

## **Victory**

Ten million dead.

## **War**

The propaganda of Democracy.

\* \* \*

Which is the braver? The man who falls in line with the great majority or he that faces the wrath of millions for conscience sake?

Do not confound us with the pacifists. We believe in fighting. Aye, we have been fighting all our lives — fighting injustice, oppression, and tyranny. Almost single handed at that.

We are not pacifists. But we want to know what we are fighting for, and we refuse to fight for the enemies and the exploiters of humanity.