

IN TIME TO COME

studio duplicating service, inc.

434 west 43rd street, new york

LO 3-1225

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Principal Roles:

WOODROW WILSON

EDITH BOLLING WILSON

COLONEL HOUSE

JOSEPH TUMULTY

DR. CARY GRAYSON

SENATOR LODGE

Secondary and Minor Roles:

HENRY WHITE

ELTING

CAPT. STANLEY

JUDGE BRANDEIS

PROF. SEYMOUR

ORLANDO

MARTINO

CARPENTER

MRS. TREADWELL

PICHON

CLEMENCEAU

LLOYD GEORGE

SONINO

SIX NEWSPAPER CORRESPONDENTS

PROLOGUE

SCENE: Rostrum of the United States
Senate, April, 1917.

AT RISE: The stage and house are in complete
darkness. Then gradually WILSON
is seen, his head and shoulders
caught by the light. HE reads from
a paper which is on a stand dimly
outlined before him.

WILSON

With a profound sense of the solemn and even tragic
character of the step I am taking and of the grave respon-
sibilities which it involves, I advise that Congress declare
the recent course of the Imperial German Government to be
in fact nothing less than war against the Government and
people of the United States; that it formally accept the
status of belligerency which has thus been thrust upon it;
and that it take immediate steps to exert all its power
and employ all its resources to bring the Government of
the German Empire to terms and end the war.

Let us make clear to all the world what our motives and
objectives are. We have no selfish ends to serve. We
desire no conquest, no dominion. We seek no indemnities
for ourselves, no material compensation for the sacrifices
we shall freely make. We are but one of the champions
of the rights of mankind. We shall be satisfied when those
rights have been made as secure as the faith and the freedom
of nations can make them.

It is a fearful thing to lead this great, peaceful people
into war. But the right is more precious than peace, and
we shall fight for the things which we have always carried
nearest our hearts -- for Democracy, for the right of those
who submit to authority to have a voice in their own govern-
ments, for the rights and liberties of small nations, for
a universal dominion of right by such a concert of free
peoples as shall bring peace and safety to all nations and
make the world itself at last free.

To such a task we can dedicate our lives and our fortunes,
everything that we are and everything that we have, with
the pride of those who know that the day has come when
America is privileged to spend her blood and her might for
the principles that gave her birth and happiness, and the
peace which she has treasured.

God helping her, she can do no other.

BLACKOUT

CURTAIN

(For ten seconds there is no sound in the darkened house. Then, from a distance, come the martial strains of a band playing "Over There." The music gradually increases in volume as if the band were approaching)

The room is furnished simply and with dignity. There are comfortable chairs and a small mahogany desk. Bookshelves take up the entire rear wall, except for two tall windows. Along the desk is a revolving globe, mounted on a steel rod. On the E. wall is a large map of the United States, and on the N. is a wall calendar. A door E. leads to a private room, and one W. to the reception hall.

WILSON is seated at his desk, composing on a small, old-fashioned typewriter. He types very slowly, often stopping to freeze a sentence in his mind before committing it to paper. In a chair near his desk sits EDITH COLLIER WILSON; his wife - a woman about thirty-five years old, of charming appearance and gracious manner. SHE is knitting on one of the colorful articles of apparel for Overseas Red Cross.

From behind comes the thumping music of the band, now evidently passing in front of the White House on Pennsylvania Avenue. WILSON appears disturbed at his work, glances in the direction of the music. Noticing this distraction, EDITH rises and walks toward a window that is open a crack.

WILSON

What is it - is it that the window, Edith?

WILSON

What is it?

(SHE glances to window and the music becomes more muffled as SHE closes it.)