Republican Rally at Union League
The Independent ... Devoted to the Consideration of Politics, Social and Economic Tendencies, His...Oct 16, 1916; 88, 354
American Periodicals
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Republican Rally at Union League The meeting of prominent Republicans at the

Union League Club in New York City on October 3 was ostensibly for the purpose of giving a cordial welcome to the candidate for President, but what attracted the attention of the press and the public was the presence at the meeting of the only two living expresidents. Mr. Taft and Colonel Roosevelt both made brief speeches commending the position taken by Mr.

Hughes on the issues of the day and emphasizing the importance of the forthcoming election to good Americans. Mr. Roosevelt said in part:

Fifty-odd years ago there were men in this country who were too proud to fight. but they were not found in this club and they did not vote for Abraham Lincoln. Fifty-odd years ago there were men in the nation that were too proud to fight—that is, to fight a foreign foe. I won't say a "foreign foe." That was a wrong statement of what occurred. "Too proud to fight" the foe of the nation, but they were perfectly willing to fight the police and the draft riots.

And now in the greatest crisis for the world as a whole that the world has seen since the Napoleonic wars, it is our duty and privilege to stand once more for the principles for which the men of the early sixties who founded this club stood, to stand for peace honestly and sincerely by every honorable expedient, but to stand for it in that effective way which means that the man standing for it asks it as a right, in the spirit of justice, and does not cringe for it as a favor to be granted contemptuously by a wrongdoer.

At this moment we are informed that in the German Reichstag there is a debate going forward as to whether or not they will resume what they call the U-bout warfare—what I call the murder on the high seas of men, women and children. And you can guarantee that there would be no debate on that subject if they knew that we had as President of the United States a man who would not tolerate any kind of action of that sort,