1. Read in the light of the events of September 11, Wilson’s war message bears a striking to the statements of President Bush calling Congress and the American people to support of “America’s New War” against the Taliban and those who aid or shield terrorists. Reflect on the similarities, but also point out any differences you see in the two situations and the justifications offered for war.

   a. Do you consider German submarine warfare a form of terrorism?
   b. What did Wilson mean when he called Germany’s declaration of an intention to sink both belligerent and neutral vessels an “unmanly business.”
   c. Why did Wilson style German actions as an attack on liberty? How does he link the war to Germany’s form of government? What was his message to the German people? Does Wilson’s pledge to make the world safe for democracy have an equivalent in President Bush’s purposes in the war underway now?

2. Next consider Senator LaFollette’s opposition to Wilson’s call for war. What contradictions did he see in U. S. actions? What arguments of his are now being echoed by opponents of war by the coalition against the Taliban and other terrorists?

3. One of the most serious concerns in the present situation, shared even by many who support the war, is the threat they see to civil liberties at how. Were there precedents in U. S. suppression of dissent during World War I that give some basis to these concerns? To what extent do you think the actions of the Creel committee were justified? Was the Espionage Act good policy? Was it justified wholly, partly, or not at all, in your view? Do you think it contributed to attacks on dissenters, such as the Wobblies described here, and on Americans of German descent? What can we learn from these precedents that should guide the actions of governments and citizens today?

4. Resolved: Eugene Debs was a traitor whose belonged in jail after the Canton, Ohio Speech,

   Affirmative ____________________  Negative ____________________
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