

PRESS RELEASE

By United States Senator,
Ernest Lundeen. Banquet
given by the Board of Trade
for German-American Commerce, Inc.,
in honor of the President of the
German Red Cross, His Royal
Highness The Duke Karl Eduard of
Saxe Coburg and Gotha at the
Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, New York City
on March 20, 1940 at 7:45 p.m.

It is our duty to cultivate friendship and trade with all nations.

It is our duty to cultivate friendly, cordial relations with the great
German Reich and its people.

We are disciples of Washington, Jefferson, Jackson and Lincoln.

These great spirits and American leaders laid down the principles of
friendship and trade with all, entangling alliances with none, and
under their leadership America grew to glory and greatness.

Absolute neutrality in the affairs of Europe is the very first
principle of friendship and trade with all.

America welcomes a distinguished German citizen who comes here in
the spirit of fraternity and friendship to help build a better
understanding between two great nations.

The time is here now when the great flow of trade between Germany and America must flow unhindered into every channel. The records show that our exports to Germany heavily exceed our imports, giving our people a tremendous balance of trade in our favor.

I ask my fellow citizens to remember that the greater German Reich, with its population of 105 million people, is one of the greatest trade areas in all the world. There is every reason that there should be a free and unhindered flow of commerce without any penalties or discriminations on the part of either nation.

In these difficult days of world history we must heed the words of Washington who said, "Excessive partiality for one foreign nation and excessive dislike for another cause those whom they actuate to see danger only on one side, and serve to veil and even second the arts of influence on the other."

Absolute neutrality in the quarrels of Europe has proven a powerful stimulant to America's greatness. A policy of interference in Europe and a policy of favoritism ends in tragedy and disaster. This is as clear as crystal and is good American doctrine.

In America every fourth citizen is of German blood. Their mighty names have contributed to the shining events in American history. In culture, in science, in arts, in music, in medicine, in business, on the farm and in the factory we meet true, strong, stalwart Americans of German blood whose highest aim and whose great purpose is the building of a greater and better America.