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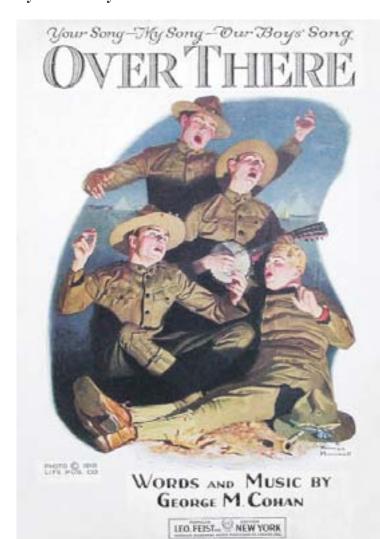
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## Pride, Propaganda and Redemption

Acclaimed Saint Mary's WW I Centenary Exhibition ends April 13 By Laurie Snyder



"Pack your little kit, show your grit, do your bit / Yankees to the ranks from the towns and the tanks/ Make your mother proud of you / And the old Red White and Blue." George M. Cohan was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor in 1936 for writing 1917's "Over There," the song that inspired a generation of young men to take up arms. Image provided by Hollingsworth Fine Art Collection, Florida.

warfare, and every country uses it Turkey announced its support for quite deliberately to deceive its own Germany, their sultan termed his empeople, to attract neutrals, and to mispire's enmeshment "a sacred struglead the enemy. The ignorant and in- gle." nocent masses in each country are unaware at the time that they are scale required the mass production of being misled, and when it is all over new weapons like poison gas, so this only here and there are the falsehoods discovered and exposed."

duplicity and gullibility was made by British Member of Parliament and first Baron Ponsonby of Shulbrede, Arthur Augustus William Harry Ponsonby, in "Falsehood in War-Time: Propaganda Lies of the First World War." Ponsonby also famously said that truth was the first casualty of war, a maxim already evident at World War I's outset as presidents and monarchs converted music and newspapers into propaganda engines powering the public's backing of bat-

In the 2011 book "To End All Wars," author Adam Hochschild explains, "Countries vied with each other to declare the war a crusade for the most noble goals. Le Matin, a big be allowed to become despondent."

alsehood is a recognized and called the conflict 'a holy war of civextremely useful weapon in ilization against barbarity.'" As

"Just as warfare on an industrial new kind of conflict required the mass production of public support," adds This 1928 indictment of human Hochschild, whose lecture opened the latest exhibition by Saint Mary's College Museum of Art to depict humanity at war – "Swords to Plowshares: Metal Trench Art from World War I" and "Songs of the Patriot: When American Music Went to War." Described as "a powerful mix of art and history," the exhibits end their run April 13.

> "The psychological factor in war is just as important as the military factor," said Ponsonby. "The morale of civilians, as well as of soldiers, must be kept up to the mark. The War Offices, Admiralties, and Air Ministries look after the military side. Departments have to be created to see to the psychological side. People must never



Infantrymen faced poison gas attacks like this one while attempting to hold German lines during World War I trench warfare. Note messenger dog running (right) as soldier readies second dog for release (center). Public domain, Deutsche Reichsarchiv via Australian War Memorial.



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