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## BIBLE STORY TEXT MOST UNAMERICAN

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WASHINGTON, March 18.—Because "The Finished Mystery," a Bible study text book, described patriotism as "a certain delusion" and "a narrow-minded hatred of other peoples," and war as "a work of satan," distribution of the book was forbidden today by the department of justice, acting under the espionage act.

Thousand of copies of the book have been seized in many states, but it was not until today that the department decided to prohibit its distribution. District attorneys were notified to prosecute any dealers or other persons selling or offering the book for sale or for distribution.

The book purports to be the posthumous work of the late Pastor Charles Taze Russell, and was published in Brooklyn by the Peoples' Pulpit association and the Watch Tower Tract and Bible association. It was compiled by Clayton J. Woodworth of Scranton, Pa., who has been arrested on a charge of seditious writings. He is alleged to have prepared the book

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since the war started and to have inserted derogatory references to America's cause in the war.

The department of justice explained that it would not have taken action against the book if it had been written before the war, or if all the material had really been that of Pastor Russell, who died in 1916. It is understood the publishers have agreed after consultation with postoffice department officials to eliminate the objectionable passages. Some time ago the book was barred from the mails by Canadian authorities.

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