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BURPHAM.

A crowded audience gathered in the new Schoolroom at Burpham last week to hear the Rev. Professor Tyrrell Green lecture on "Why we are at war." As a preliminary to the lecture, the Vicar (Rev. Clifford Toogood) read a letter from Mr. J. C. Powys, who is now on his way to America, where his main object will be to put Great Britain's case in the present crisis clearly before the American people. Mr. Powys took the view that this was a war of ideas, of high spiritual ideals against the baser, material conception of international relationship; and Professor Green, in the lecture that followed, spoke from much the same standpoint. He said that the war had its origin in the aggressive imperialism of the German military autocracy, but that it was not right to lay the whole responsibility on the ruling caste in Germany whose profession was war, and whose object was the expansion of the German Empire, together with the imposition of German ideas on the whole civilised world by force. The blame for the present gargantuan struggle, and all the horror and misery it involved, must be equally laid to the door of the German peoples themselves. It was impossible, the lecturer maintained, that the Kaiser's Government could have committed Germany to this enterprise unless the people of Germany had themselves favoured it. The lecture was illustrated by a series of diagrams and coloured drawings, many of them of considerable artistic merit.