

## Red Cross Drive

A Washington dispatch, dated May 7, says: President Wilson today issued a proclamation designating the week beginning May 20 as "Red Cross week," and calling upon the American people to contribute generously to the second \$100,000,000 war fund of the American Red Cross for the alleviation of suffering among the American troops in France and their dependents at home, and among the fighting forces and civilian populations of the allied countries.

The proclamation follows:

### "PROCLAMATION.

"Inasmuch as the war fund of 1917, so generously contributed by the American people to the American Red Cross for the administration of relief at home and abroad, has been practically exhausted by appropriations for the welfare of the men in our military and naval forces, and for those dependent upon them, and for the yet more urgent necessities of our allies, military and civilian, who have long borne the brunt of the war;

"And, inasmuch as the American Red Cross has been recognized by law and international convention as the public instrumentality for war relief;

### RED CROSS OFFICIAL RELIEF WORKER.

"And, inasmuch as the year of our own participation in the war has brought unprecedented demands upon the patriotism and liberality of our people, and made evident the necessity of concentrating the work in one main organization which can respond effectively and universally to the needs of humanity under the stress of war;

"And, inasmuch as the duration of the war and the closer co-operation of the American Red Cross with our own army and navy, with the governments of our allies, and with foreign relief organizations, have resulted in the discovery of new opportunities of helpfulness and conditions which translate opportunity into duty;

### FAITHFUL TO PEOPLE'S TRUST.

"And, inasmuch as the American Red Cross war council and its commissioners in Europe have faithfully and economically administered the people's trust;

"Now, therefore, by virtue of my authority as president of the United States and president of the American Red Cross, I, Woodrow Wilson, do hereby proclaim the week beginning May 20, 1918, as 'Red Cross week,' during which the people of the United States will be called upon again to give generously to the continuation of the important work of relieving distress, restoring the waste of war, and assisting in maintaining the morale of our own troops and the troops of the peoples of our allies by this manifestation of effort and sacrifice on the part of those who, though not privileged to bear arms, are of one spirit, purpose and determination with our warriors.

"In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

"Done in the District of Columbia, this 4th day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and eighteen and of the independence of the United States the one hundred and forty-second.

"By the president:

(Signed): "WOODROW WILSON.

"ROBERT LANSING,  
"Secretary of State."

### AN EMBARRASSING QUESTION

"Where wuz you last December when we needed you?" asked the old colored man of the sun as it poured its heat down upon him in July.

Help your country NOW, so you will not be embarrassed by a similar question when peace comes and you want to have a part in the important work that will confront the patriot then.

Colonel Roosevelt isn't writing as many letters to the papers as he was earlier in the war. This should not be taken offhand as indicating that the administration has done something to his entire satisfaction. He may have run out of adjectives or ink or his fingers may be sore from too much hammering of the typewriter.

## PRESIDENT DECLARES OPPOSITION TO COURT MARTIAL BILL

A Washington dispatch, dated April 22, says: What promised to be a sensational fight in congress over the proposal to turn disloyalty and espionage cases over to military court-martial was nipped in the bud today by President Wilson. Champions of the plan abandoned it for the present at least, when Senator Overman, of North Carolina, chairman of the judiciary committee, made public a letter from the President declaring unalterable opposition to the Chamberlain court-martial bill as both unnecessary and unconstitutional.

Senator Chamberlain, of Oregon, author of the measure, announced later that in view of the President's attitude he would not press the bill and that further hearings on it by the military committee would be postponed indefinitely.

Witnesses before the senate military committee, including representatives of the various branches of the government, have urged transfer of trials of spies and disloyalists from the civil to the military courts as the only effective means of dealing with the menace and preventing a wave of mob violence.

President Wilson's letter was written in response to one from Senator Overman asking his opinion of the Chamberlain bill.

The President's letter follows:

"My dear Senator: Thank you for your letter of yesterday. I am heartily obliged to you for consulting me about the court-martial bill, as perhaps I may call it for short. I am wholly and unalterably opposed to such legislation and very much value the opportunity you give me to say so. I think it is not only unconstitutional, but that in character it would put us nearly upon the level of the very people we are fighting and affecting to despise. It would be altogether inconsistent with the spirit of America and in view of the recent legislation, the espionage bill, the sabotage bill, and the woman spy bill, I think, it is unnecessary and uncalled for.

"I take the liberty, my dear senator, of expressing myself in this emphatic way because my feeling is very deep about the matter, as I gather your own is.

"It is admirable the way you have been handling these important bills, and I thank you with all my heart for standing by the bill which bears your name without any compromise of any kind.

"It gives me the greatest satisfaction to tell how much I have appreciated what you have been doing.

"Cordially and sincerely yours,  
"WOODROW WILSON."

### STATEMENT FROM SUPERINTENDENT BAKER

Benton, Ala., April 9, 1918.

Editor American Issue,  
Westerville, Ohio.

Dear Sir:

I have just today read the attack of Superintendent William H. Anderson, of New York, upon the newly organized Dry Federation and William Jennings Bryan, its president.

I can not express how deeply I regret so unjust and uncalled for attack was made by one of our league men upon Mr. Bryan, and I feel that the public should know that this was done without the knowledge or approval of the Anti-Saloon League of America, and is contrary to the policies and principles practiced by the Anti-Saloon League during its entire history.

Mr. Bryan's devotion to the cause of prohibition can not be questioned. The effectiveness of his great influence in bringing about the ratification in the different states can not be measured.

Mr. Bryan has a perfect right to accept any official position in any organization through which he may choose to work. His spirit and conduct in this reform indicates that he is bigger than any organization, and that he is seeking only the welfare of mankind.

P. A. BAKER,  
General Supt., Anti-Saloon League of America.

Nebraska farmers, in convention assembled, declared their belief that the town pool halls should be closed, at least during the harvest season. It is getting so now that a fellow doesn't have the personal liberty to do whatever he pleases when that interferes with the big job the country has on hand.

## A Year of Prohibition

On another page will be found a review of Nebraska's first year under prohibition. It is a recital of a year of remarkable achievements in a state that has heretofore been a stronghold of the liquor interests. Nebraska's record will furnish a splendid argument for the adoption of prohibition in other states that have not yet fallen in line. The Nebraska State Journal (Lincoln), in commenting on the success of the first year of prohibition, said:

"There would be no profit in repeating here what observers everywhere know and have said and written concerning the effects of prohibition in Nebraska. 'Bone dry' prohibition went into effect a year ago today. A majority of 30,000 voters favored the measure, but more than that many refrained from voting on the question. Only about half of the voters, accordingly, were positively in favor of prohibition. Now we encounter the astonishing fact that after a year of the new policy hardly a voice can be heard in opposition to prohibition. In other times, the adoption of prohibition in a state has been merely the beginning of a mighty struggle to repeal prohibition. The fight for a return to saloons has been hot and persistent. In Nebraska there is no fight. The obvious benefits have been so great that repeal is not openly advocated at all. To judge from surface indications, the liquor question is settled so far as Nebraska is concerned.

"Therein lies a danger which it is the greatest need of Nebraska to recognize on this first anniversary of a saloonless state. There is danger of over-confidence. While opponents of prohibition have seemed to acquiesce in prohibition, a sincere acquiescence in most cases, there still remains in the breasts of the liquor interests and their political attorneys a hope and a plan for regaining the lost ground. Nebraska is too rich a source of liquor profits to be abandoned without further struggle. There is no hope of carrying the state by direct attack but surprise attacks have been planned and will be made. Nebraska will have to fight to hold the ground gained.

"The late legislative special session furnished proof of this. The question of national prohibition discovered the existence of a powerful and tenacious liquor organization, led by the governor and controlling the state senate. As long as the 'Hindenburg line' remains in existence, prohibition in Nebraska will no more be safe than democracy can be safe with Prussian militarism in the saddle. The plan of campaign is obvious. If the liquor men can beat national prohibition, they believe they can in time break down prohibition in Nebraska. By holding the Hindenburg line in the senate, they can defeat ratification of the national amendment, relax state law enforcement, and perhaps finally repeal the prohibition amendment.

"The first anniversary of prohibition is more than an occasion, therefore, for easy rejoicing over a good gained. It finds us faced with a hard political task. The gains remain to be 'consolidated' as the generals in France would say. The Hindenburg line must be destroyed lest in time it carry out a surprise attack and destroy the good work of the past year. It must be wiped out at the coming primaries, in whatever party it shows itself; and such of its creatures as survive the primaries must be beaten at the election. A legislature and a governor favorable to prohibition—sincerely favorable, not camouflaging for prohibition votes while plotting against prohibition as the Hindenburg line, from governor down, did in 1916 and ever since, must be elected this year if the prohibition policy which the people have found so beneficial is to be safely maintained."

### A LITTLE GIRL'S TRIBUTE TO HER MOTHER

There is just one,  
And only one,  
Whose love shall fail me never,  
Just one who lives from sun to sun.  
With constant fond endeavor.  
There is just one,  
And only one,  
On earth there is no other.  
In heaven a noble work was done  
When God gave me—my mother.

—Lucia Moran.