The Commoner

The Alabama Primary

Alabama will hold her primaries in August and the question is whether she will follow the example of her sister states of the south and elect a dry legislature or allow her wet newspapers and a few saloon politicians to deprive the state of its share in the glory of winning the greatest moral victory of the generation. Look at your neighbors, Alabama. Here are the southern states that have ratified: Mississippl, Virginia, Kentucky, South Carolina, Georgia and Texas-6. Tennessee, Arkansas, Florida and North Carolina are sure to ratify as soon as their legislatures meet. That will make 11. Oklahoma is certain and Louisiana is almost as sure. Are you going to be the only black spot in the south, Alabama? No. Your voters will elect a legislature that will ratify and thus help to rid politics of its most corrupting influence. W. J. BRYAN.

NORTH DAKOTA BANK GUARANTY

"ALL DEPOSITS GUARANTEED

"700 North Dakota Banks Qualify Under New State Law

"BISMARCK, N. D., June 29.—State Examiner Waters today mailed to 700 North Dakota banks certificates showing that they have qualified to have their deposits guaranteed under the North Dakota state bank deposits guaranty act, which becomes effective July 1. North Dakota state bank deposits, as shown by a report issued by the state examiner today, are \$95,596,469,54, an increase of \$4,385,872.62 over May 1, 1917, and an increase of \$45,000,-000 over 1912."

The above shows that North Dakota has adopted the bank guaranty system. Good for North Dakota. As South Dakota has also adopted the system, one can now deposit in safety from the Canadian line to the Rio Grande—a white strip of guaranteed banks extending through North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas. May the strip widen until it reaches the Atlantic and Pacific.

A CHRISTLESS CREED

The kaiser does not mention Christ or quote from the New Testament. His code of morals is a Christless creed. A triumph for his scheme of government by force would be a return to the dark ages. Such a thing is inconceivable! It has taken centuries to overthrow the feudal barons and predatory families—the world will not pass under the yoke again. This is the dying gasp of autocracy—the bloody end of a gory system that has given all history a sanguine hue. Under a people's government the humblest child can aspire to the highest prizes in business and in state. It is the task of democracy to keep the way open between the child and the stars---autocracy would close it.

SEND IT TO GERMANY

The Norris amendment providing for war prohibition does not prevent the EXPORT of intoxicants. If we can credit the stories that come from Europe we could afford to export all the whiskey in this country and GIVE it to the German soldiers. It is said on seemingly good authority that the first drive on Paris failed because the kaiser's soldiers discovered the wine cellars of France and stopped to sample the champagne.

A Washington news item says that an official dispatch from Paris has the following:

"Washington D. C., June 25. - Plunder of Paris and loot from the rich countryside were some of the promises made to the German soldiers by the high command before the offensive of June 9, according to an official dispatch today from France. A German deserter related how the officers during the rest which preceded the attack painted in glowing colors the advantage of an advance in a rich country, where the men could live in abundance and recompense themselves for their hardships. He said that measures were taken to guarantee and apportion the plunder, but soldiers were warned that 'there was not to be a renewal among the guards of the regrettable incidents of Villers-Brettoneaux, where the valiant guards of this division, breaking into the cellars, became so intoxicated that they refused to follow their officers.""

Intoxicating liquor is good for the army that does NOT use it. The more alcohol the enemy uses the sooner will they be vanquished. W. J. BRYAN. Suffrage in South Dakota

Amendment E contains two propositions, one limiting the franchise to full-fiedged citizens and the other extending franchise to women on equal terms with men. There is no conflict between the two. Both should be adopted.

The war has taught us the value and responsibilities of citizenship, and we are now ready to confine suffrage to those who are in position to live up to all the duties of citizenship in peace and in war.

While the amendment excludes those who have only partially complied with the conditions necessary to naturalization it properly extends suffrage to woman who not only shares with man the burdens of war but has demonstrated her ability to give material aid in the prosecution of the war.

The wife, the partner of the husband in the finances of the family, should be his partner at the polls; the mother, to whom the husband confidently entrusts the care of the children, should be entrusted with the ballot also; women, who, in the schools, teach men the science of government, are certainly competent to vote themselves.

The world needs woman's vote even more than women need the ballot; her conscience, added to man's judgment, will hasten the triumph of every righteous cause.

W. J. BRYAN.

VOTE YES ON AMENDMENT E.

[The following list of questions and answers relative to Amendment'E is issued by the Universal Suffrage League, Huron, S. D.-Ed.]

What Is Amendment E? — It is a patriotic amendment which gives the ballot to South Dakota women, but denies it to the alien who will not become a citizen of the United States. South Dakota would give the ballot to its women, but it would take it away from the alien who does not propose to become an American citizen.

Why is Amendment E to be Voted on in November?—(1) Because the war has shown us that women are a necessary arm of the government and at a time like this, the government must be at full power, not crippled.

(2). Because the enemy aliens who are not trusted to fight for us, must not be trusted to vote for us.

Who Will be Affected by Amendment E?-The women who are sacrificing so deeply for the world struggle will be made to feel that the government for which their husbands and sons are fighting does not ignore their sacrifice. The immigrant will be made to feel how precious American citizenship is. The friendly alien will be glad to wait for the ballot until he has established his credentials of citizenship. The alien enemy will be taught that . America has no place for the man who would make financial profit of the country of freedom and still cherish ideals of military domination. When Will People Realize the Importance of Amendment E?-Only when they realize the importance of guarding their own hearth-stones by putting the ballot into the hands of the women, the keepers of the home, and by taking political privilege from men who still hold the kaiser their liege lord. Where Will Men Have an Opportunity to Endorse Amendment E?-At the polls in November. Every patriotic American should make it his business to get to the polls to vote "Yes" on Amendment E. . We can not fail to endorse this patriotic amendment, while our boys are fighting for the liberty we all love.

INDIANA DRY

The Indiana supreme court has declared the prohibition law constitutional. That makes the state dry. It is too bad that the democratic state convention did not commit the party to the ratification of the amendment. But never mind, the hand that has corrupted and coerced will soon be cold in death, and all parties will be free to take the side of the home against the saloon.

FIFTY YEARS HENCE

Fifty years hence the masses in Germany will be grateful that a force from without broke the shackles and set their nation free. Defeat to their ruling family means victory for the people.

It is estimated that at least a fourth of the men that Nebraska has sent into the army came from families where the parents were born in Germany or are of German descent. This ought to be fairly good evidence as to the loyalty of the Germans of the state and to be considered as evidence in the case sought to be made out against them by the militant patriots.

DUTY

So close is glory to our dust, So near is God to man, When duty whispers low "Thou must," The youth replies, "I can."

GOVERNMENT CONTROL OF WIRE SERVICE

Congress has authorized the President to take over the telegraph and telephone systems of the country and operate them under government direction. The successful operation of the railroads is so dependent upon the telegraph and telephone systems that congress is to be commended upon its promptness in giving the President the necessary authority. The operation of the railroads, the telegraph and telephone systems by the government will be a great object lesson to the public, and the many ways of economizing by the government in the management of these great public utilities and the impartial service that the government can render will no doubt greatly increase the sentiment of the people in favor of the government permanently retaining these properties and operating them with the sole object of giving the best service possible at the least possible expense.

۲ ۲ DEMOCRACY'S HOPE ۲ \bigcirc ۲ THE STUDENTS OF HISTORY SHALL ۲ NOT READ, A CENTURY HENCE, ۲ THAT THE OPPRESSED SUBJECTS OF 0 AN AMBITIOUS KAISER WERE MORE . LOYAL TO THEIR GOVERNMENT ۲ THAN WERE THE FREE CITIZENS 0 ۲ OF THIS REPUBLIC TO THE PUBLIC ۲ 0 0 0 SERVANTS WHOM THEY SELVES HAD CHOSEN, AND TO A THEM-۲ ۲ GOVERNMENT WHICH HAD GIVEN ۲ ۲ THEM MORE OF FREEDOM AND OF ۲ ۲ HOPE THAN ANY OTHER PEOPLE ۲ ۲ HAD EVER ENJOYED. 0 0 0

Secretary Daniels had all the better of the argument with Edwin Hurley and Bainbridge Colby. The latter gentlemen told the senate committee that enforcing pro' 'bition around the shipyards would 'result in a greatly lessened efficiency because of the ill feeling it would rouse in the breasts of the men. They admitted that this was merely an opinion. Mr. Daniels said that he had enforced prohibition in the navy and at some of the shipyards in dry states, and it had increased the efficiency of the men. Mr. Hurley and Mr. Colby und ibtedly meant well, but they have been confining their reading on prohibition to material printed by the brewers.

Duty and today are ours; results and the future belong to God.—Horace Greeley.