

## Nebraska on the Firing Line

Nebraska, a pioneer in all economic reforms, is again on the firing line.

By a decisive majority Nebraska has abolished the saloon and is ready to do her part in making the nation saloonless. On the greatest moral issue of the generation Nebraska stands with the home against the home's greatest enemy—the saloon.

Nebraska also stands for the extension of suffrage to woman on equal terms with man. She has conferred all that can be conferred by statute and will complete the enfranchisement as soon as a constitutional amendment can be adopted. Again Nebraska stands by the home, and recognizes the mother's right to a voice in shaping the environment that shall surround her child.

The liquor question caused the only division the Nebraska democracy has known for twenty years and now that that cause is removed the party is in position to make a united fight for the reforms necessary to complete the party program—a program that contemplates "a government of the people, by the people and for the people," administered according to the Jeffersonian maxim "equal rights to all and special privileges to none."

W. J. BRYAN.

### TWENTY-FIVE YEARS A FRIEND

Mr. Wm. H. Mullane, at present owner and editor of the Evening Current, at Carlsbad, New Mexico, claims to have been the first newspaper man in the United States to put Mr. Bryan in nomination for the presidency. As will be seen in an extract from The Current, reproduced on another page, he made the suggestion in 1892, three years before Mr. Bryan reached the age required by the constitution, and he has remained steadfast for a quarter of a century. Can anyone show a better record?

### PRESBYTERIANS ENDORSE SUFFRAGE

On another page will be found a report of the action of the Presbyterian General Assembly in endorsing woman suffrage. This brings the influence of one of the principal branches of the Christian church to the support of this great reform. It moves on—as sure of final triumph in state and nation as the rising of the morrow's sun.

### HELP TO SHORTEN THE WAR

Don't ask how long the war will last—nobody knows. Help to shorten it by standing behind the government, and furnishing everything needed from money to men.

Offering to pay 3½ per cent a year on their patriotism ought to be attractive to Wall street. Anything with a per cent attached ought, in fact, to cause its ears to prick up.

Judging from the amount of damage done by rain and windstorms in the last month the weather bureau isn't in very strong sympathy with the conservation policy.

### BRINGING GOOD OUT OF EVIL

A reader asks whether "bringing good out of evil" is akin to "doing evil that good may come." By no means. It is NEVER right or safe to do evil in the hope that good will come out of it. In doing so one becomes responsible for the evil and has no assurance that he can convert the evil into good. No matter how certain one may be that he can raise the dead, he should try the experiment on some one ALREADY DEAD and NOT KILL A PERSON in order to try his skill in raising the dead. So in public affairs, one should do his best to PREVENT evil; but if evil comes in spite of all he can do, it is his privilege, even his duty, to bring out of the evil as much good as possible. The war is here, let us bring all the good we can out of it.

W. J. BRYAN.

### NO ARMY CAMPS IN LOCALITIES WHERE TEMPTATIONS LURK

An Associated Press dispatch, dated Washington, May 25, says: Secretary Baker made public today a letter he has addressed to the governors of all states calling for co-operation in keeping the army mobilization camps free from improper surroundings and immoral influences.

"Our responsibility in this matter is not open to question," the secretary wrote. "We can not allow these young men, most of whom will have been drafted to service, to be surrounded by a vicious and demoralizing environment, nor can we leave anything undone which will protect them from unhealthy influences and crude forms of temptation.

"The greater proportion of this force will be made of young men who have not yet become accustomed to contact with either the saloon or the prostitute and who will be at that plastic and generous period of life when questionable modes of indulgence easily serve as outlets for exuberant physical vitality.

"Not only have we an inescapable responsibility in this matter to the families and communities from which these young men are selected but, from the standpoint of our duty and our determination to create an efficient army, we are bound as a military necessity to do everything in our power to promote the health and conserve the vitality of the men in the training camps.

"I am determined that our new training camps as well as the surrounding zones within an effective radius shall not be places of temptation and peril. We are not going to be able to obtain the conditions necessary without the full co-operation of the local authorities. Will you give your earnest consideration to this matter in your particular state? \* \* \* I would suggest that your council make itself responsible for seeing that the laws of your state and of congress in respect to these matters are strictly enforced. This relates not only to the camps and board under federal authority but to the more or less temporary mobilization points of the national guard units. It relates, too, to the large centers through which soldiers will constantly be passing.

"If the desired end can not be otherwise achieved, I propose to move the camps from those neighborhoods in which clean conditions can not be secured."

### DENIAL OF AGREEMENT

A Washington dispatch, dated May 11, says: Mr. Lansing deemed it advisable to announce that no agreement had been entered into on the subject of separate peace because of a report published this morning that an agreement had been made with the Allies to fight with them to the end and to conclude peace in conjunction with them. This report was ascribed to the state department and while not authorized, was inspired by the views expressed by a high official. There is no doubt that Mr. Balfour and M. Viviani both understand that the United States will not leave them in the lurch and will use all its resources and all its power, to quote the President, until the imperial German government is brought to terms.

The President, however, did not care to give the impression to Germany that the United States would not receive a direct peace proposal. If the Berlin government cares to make a proposal it will be considered here and at the same time communicated to the allies for their decision. The action of the President and would be influenced by the opinions expressed in London, Paris, Rome and Petrograd. In other words, while no agreement, "written or unwritten," on the subject of a separate peace has been made, it is a fact that the President and the secretary of state have discussed the question of peace with Mr. Balfour and M. Viviani, and the three governments understand one another's purpose and aspirations and will act in harmony both with reference to the conduct of the war and the subject of peace when it shall arise.

At any rate the situation has not reached so desperate a stage that anyone steps forward to suggest that we should take to eating Ben Davis apples or carp.

## Unfair Tactics

The press dispatches announce that opponents of conscription are circulating speeches made by Speaker Clark and others BEFORE the law was passed. This is grossly unfair. While the matter was before congress the opponents of the proposed measure had a right to discuss it and their speeches were part of a legitimate effort to defeat it. But when it passed it became an expression of the people's will, and it is binding on all. Those who continue to fight conscription have no moral right to invoke the influence of those who spoke before congress acted. They should rely on the speeches made AFTER the law passed if they can find any such. It is unjust to those senators and members who fought when they had a right to fight to drag them into the controversy now. Such tactics would weaken the cause of the obstructionists if it had any strength.

W. J. BRYAN.

### RED CROSS WEEK PROCLAIMED BY THE PRESIDENT

A Washington dispatch, dated May 25, says: In a proclamation to the American people President Wilson today designated the week ending June 25 as Red Cross Week, and urged that during the period generous gifts be made to assist the organization in properly caring for the armed forces of the nation and the administration of relief.

The proclamation points out that every man, woman and child in the United States may do their respective "bits" by giving, in a spirit of patriotic sacrifice, for the maintenance of Red Cross work, while a small proportion of the population is serving the nation on the fields of battle. The text of the proclamation follows:

"Inasmuch as our thoughts as a nation are now turned in united purpose towards the performance to the utmost of our services and duties which we have assumed in the cause of justice and liberty;

"Inasmuch as but a small proportion of our people can have the opportunity to serve upon the actual field of battle, but all men, women and children alike may serve and serve effectively by making it possible to care properly for those who do serve under arms at home and abroad.

"And inasmuch as the American Red Cross is the official recognized agency for voluntary effort in behalf of the armed forces of the nation and for the administration of relief;

"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 ending June 25, 1917, as Red Cross Week, during which the people of the United States will be called upon to give generously and in a spirit of patriotic sacrifice for the support and maintenance of this work of national need.

(Signed) "WOODROW WILSON."

A poll taken by the National Institute of Social Sciences on the question of prohibiting the manufacture, importation and sale of intoxicating liquors during the period of the war resulted in 360 affirmative votes and 60 negative. The National Institute of Social Sciences apparently does not accurately represent the sentiment of the American senate, which is about the only deliberate body that has voted in the negative so far.

The railroads appear to be imbued with the idea that the good old times are about to return. They have announced the annulment of a large number of trains and the consequent letting out of a large number of men and at the same time are attempting to induce the interstate commerce commission to raise their rates 15 per cent.

### GOD IS BACK OF ALL

Back of the loaf is the snowy flour,  
And back of the flour the mill;  
And back of the mill is the wheat and the shower,  
And the sun and the Father's will.

—Babcock.