

we will not be able to rid ourselves for a quarter of a century after it has been blotted from our civilization.

#### THE WAR AND THE PROHIBITION MOVEMENT

The world is yet to learn the part played by the prohibition movement in the United States in the winning of this war. The establishment of the traitorous German-American Alliance was one of Germany's well thought out methods for the Germanizing of America by the aid of the drink traffickers, especially the brewers. Nothing is more clearly and convincingly set forth in the congressional investigation by which their charter was revoked. The Alliance, in addition to being financed by the brewers, was intensely political and intensely disloyal. The president of this Alliance was even decorated by the kaiser himself because of his effective services in spreading the German propaganda. No sooner had the Anti-Saloon League begun to take part in the politics of the states for the election of clean, patriotic men to office, than it came face to face with the German-American Alliance in every city of importance. It was dictating city officials and state legislators; it was putting its nasty fingers into the public schools and dictating what should be taught and who should teach it; while certain professors in some of our state universities secured and held their positions by virtue of being German or by obeying the mandates of the German-American Alliance by finishing off their education in German universities. Does anyone doubt, in the light of the immediate past, that if there had not been a strong, virile, prohibition movement to combat the propaganda of this disloyal but well financed organization, that America would have been sufficiently Germanized to have kept her out of the war? The increasing power of the drink traffic, with the increasing debauchery of the citizenship in the cities of the country, fostered, handled and voted by the German-American Alliance, would ere this have driven us beyond the place where we could have been aroused to the point of taking up arms against this destroyer of the world's civilization, and the very currents of the world's history might have been forever turned. The hand of a good providence may be as distinctly seen in the origin of the Anti-Saloon League a quarter of a century ago, as it was in the delivery of the children of Israel from their forty years of wandering.

#### A SOBER DEMOCRACY

I do not know what can be accomplished at the peace table to aid this cause, but somehow we should have marshaled there, if possible, the united voice of the temperance hosts so it can speak with authority, and if nothing more can be done, we should secure the opportunity to prosecute our world work unhindered by needless restrictions. America has sent more than two millions of the flower of her young manhood across the seas to fight and die, not for annexation or indemnities, but that the world may be made safe for the kind of democracy that we enjoy in this "land of the free," and what we believe the whole world will agree to, "The home of the brave!" and that the integrity of the smaller nations may be preserved, and that all peoples shall have a fair chance to enjoy their peaceful pursuits in their own way. While we are ready to make this sacrifice that the world may be made safe for democracy, we are equally ready to make all needful sacrifice to make a democracy that is safe for the world; by making it intelligent, sober and patriotic. Such a Democracy can no more be made safe for the world with the rum traffic allowed to flourish in it, than the world can be made safe for democracy with Prussianism allowed to flourish in it.

Having put the traffic in intoxicating liquors in this republic in the way of ultimate extinction, though much remains yet to be done we are ready to lend a hand across the sea, and south of us, in whatever way you of these countries can point out that we can be helpful. Neither race, language, color nor creed is a bar to our desire to be of service. We only ask that the methods employed be practical and divorced from non-essentials and that our energy and means be used for specific temperance work and not involved and hampered by the doing of many things. Reforms fail, when so many things are undertaken that the opposition, thereby incorporated, stalls the effort. "This one thing I do," is a good motto for fighting the liquor traffic.

After much experimenting, we have found the method for the solution of the problem in this

country. If you doubt the efficacy of the omnipartisan and interdenominational method, I would refer you to our enemies, "themselves being the judges." Their literature speaks more eloquently than complimentary of the complete success of this method.

#### THE TIMES ARE RIPE

The time is opportune for a great, aggressive, world-wide movement against the alcoholic drink traffic. When this war is ended, we will be in a new world wherein righteousness will flourish less hindered than at any period in the past. If weaker nations are to be protected from the brutally strong, weak men and women should be protected from those who would coin their weakness and wickedness into cash. The heart of the race will be softened and chastened for half a century after we have taken stock of this conflict. Our old men will dream dreams, and our young men will see visions of a better world and we shall be prepared for the bigger program.

When the roar and smoke of this war of earth and air and sea has cleared away, and the calm judgment of history has rendered the verdict, it will be found that the junker, the kaiser, the murderer of Arch-Duke Ferdinand and his wife, in fact the very house of the Hohenzollern, are but the merest incidents in bringing on this world holocaust. The primary and secondary and all-compelling cause is that a race of people have arisen who eat like gluttons, and drink like swine — a race whose "God is their belly," and whose inevitable end is destruction. Their sodden habits of life have driven them constantly toward brutality and cruelty until they were prepared to strike for universal conquest, though millions of lives and oceans of blood was to be the price of reaching that unholy ambition. Beer will do for a nation exactly what it will for an individual. The use of it will destroy the finer sensibilities, develop egotism, which is always accompanied by cowardice, and foster the unspeakably hateful doctrine that might makes right.

The last word as to method in temperance reform has not yet been spoken and no organization or society holds all the truth or all of the elements of success. We are to plan a movement for all the world — what is a success in one country may not be so great a success in another. Let us, therefore, divest ourselves of all pride of method. Let us hold to no method because it is old, nor yet adopt another because it is new; but let us try the methods that have been successful and hold fast to that which is good. Our business is to so marshal our energy and means as to bring about the "speediest repression and the ultimate suppression" of the beverage liquor traffic. We seek a saloonless and a drunkless world.

#### FREEDOM, OR SLAVERY, OF THE SEAS?

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and thus he sought to make perfectly palatable to British sentiment the old American doctrine of sea law. For in his 14 points the President included the following:

Absolute freedom of navigation upon the seas, outside territorial waters, alike in peace and war, except as the seas may be closed in whole or in part by international action for the enforcement of international covenants.

It would be a help to clear thinking if everyone would remember that the great war has toppled over the entire structure of international law in regard to maritime rights and duties in war time. Nothing is left today of the old system because of the wide range of new precedents made by both Germany and Great Britain in dealing with neutral commerce and private property on the seas. From the neutral viewpoint, both sides violated the law of nations; but Germany, it is needless to say, passed all bounds in her outrages on life and property and thus forced the United States to take up arms. Today, there is no such thing in practice as the freedom of the seas, even in the sense that the principle was understood before the great war began. The navies which yesterday received the surrender of the German battleships are virtually a law unto themselves, and in the last analysis that means the unlimited supremacy of the nation having the strongest battle fleet and the slavery of the seas for all other maritime states. This conditions of affairs will remain until a new structure of sea law can be reared on the ruins of what has fallen under the blows of the belligerent alliances.

The President has evidently approached the difficult problem of the reconstruction of sea law

in time of war in the only way that can afford hope of reconciling the conflicting interests of the nations, especially the interests of Great Britain and the United States, and avoiding in the future a race between them in naval armaments. The potential war-time rule of one navy will not long be endured on the high seas by proud and powerful nations and if the world is now to draw away from that condition, in which the great war has virtually left it, the way out through the league of nations seems the most promising of all.

Unless the United States can get a solution along these lines, it will probably get nothing, for it asks for neither territory nor indemnities. The British empire, it is evident, will be territorially enlarged by the war, for it is definitely announced that the claims of the British overseas dominions to the German colonies will be supported by the imperial government. Are we to spend 20 billions of dollars and thousands of lives — a modest expenditure perhaps — and come away from Versailles empty-handed?

Those Americans who are so busy raising obstacles in the path of the President by attacking his program for a league of nations and the freedom of the seas, which are in no respect selfishly nationalistic although they would safeguard America from future embroilment in European wars — those Americans offer nothing constructive as a substitute for the President's policy.

#### McADOO'S LETTER OF RESIGNATION AND WILSON'S ACCEPTANCE

A Washington, D. C., dispatch, dated Nov. 22, says: Secretary McAdoo's letter of resignation dated November 14 follows:

"Dear Mr. President: Now that an armistice has been signed and peace is assured, I feel at liberty to advise you of my desire to return as soon as possible to private life.

"I have been conscious for some time of the necessity for this step but, of course, I could not consider it while the country was at war.

"For almost six years I have worked incessantly under the pressure of great responsibilities. Their reactions have drawn heavily upon my strength. The inadequate compensation allowed by law to cabinet officers (as you know I receive no compensation as director general of railroads) and the very burdensome cost of living in Washington has so depleted my personal resources that I am obliged to reckon with the facts of the situation.

"I do not wish to convey the impression that there is any actual impairment of my health because such is not the case. As a result of long overwork I need a reasonable period of genuine rest to replenish my energy. But more than this, I must for the sake of my family get back to private life to retrieve my personal fortune.

"I cannot secure the required rest nor the opportunity to look after my long neglected private affairs unless I am relieved of my present responsibilities.

"I am anxious to have my retirement effected with the least possible inconvenience to yourself and to the public service, but it would, I think, be wise to accept my resignation now, as secretary of the treasury, to become effective upon the appointment and qualification of my successor so that he may have the opportunity and advantage of participating promptly in the formation of the policies that should govern the future work of the treasury. I would suggest that my resignation as director general of railroads become effective January 1, 1919, or upon the appointment of my successor.

"I hope you will understand, my dear Mr. President, that I will permit nothing but the most imperious demands to force my withdrawal from public life. Always I shall cherish as the greatest honor of my career the opportunities you have so generously given me to serve the country under your leadership during these epochal times.

"Affectionately yours,

"W. G. McADOO."

Washington, D. C., Nov. 22. The President's letter of acceptance, dated November 21, follows:

"My dear McAdoo: I was not unprepared for your letter of the 14th because you had more than once, of course, discussed with me the circumstances which have long made it a serious personal sacrifice for you to remain in office. I knew that only your high and exacting sense

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