

## Public Opinion

### WIN WITH WATER.

(Southern Lumberman.)

Three-fourths of the earth consists of water. All the oceans are under the control of the Allies.

### THE SPIRIT GIVETH LIFE.

(New York Commercial.)

Canada is treated as a part of the United States in the distribution of coal, another step in the consolidation of the English speaking countries of the world to secure peace and freedom for all. Closer political union is not necessary when the same motives inspire all, for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life.

### AMERICA'S BACKWARDNESS.

(New York Times.)

If the prime minister's utterance has accomplished its essential purpose in British politics, that will make up for some of its shortcomings from the point of view of Britain's allies. We in the United States are in no position to complain or insist upon a firmer tone and a stouter front, for we are too painfully aware of our own shortcomings. Nine months after entering the war not only are we giving our allies no effective military aid, but all our bustle and stir does not hide the fact that through incompetence and lack of organization and system we are far behind in our preparations to supply rifles, ammunition, machine guns, sir- ships, uniforms, clothing for the troops we shall some time have at the front. Our backwardness is naturally disquieting to our allies.

### STOP TIPPING DURING THE WAR.

(New York Herald.)

Now that the Japanese government railways have abolished tipping to the employees on their lines, and everybody in the United States is cutting down all kinds of expenses in order to live and help win the war, why is not this the ideal time to stop the ever growing evil in hotels, restaurants, Pullman cars, steamships, barber shops and many other places.

If the employees of these places are objects of charity, why cannot a law be passed and enforced compelling the proprietors to place conveniently for the public charity money boxes with appropriate signs calling attention to the fact that their employees are objects of charity and asking contributions for them? Open these charity boxes once a month and divide the contents equally among the employees.

### CAMELS IN WAR.

Far the most interesting and curious use to which an animal in war is subjected is the use of camels, chosen and trained because of their strange coloring and height, says the Baltimore American.

Small groups of them have been stationed among clumps of acacia trees, with a spy mounted on a camel's neck. This is the safest place a person could be, for the camel standing with only his head above the trees, looks precisely like a bit of the foliage in the distance.

Camels are especially good for desert warfare, because they can go without water so long and can easily carry loads weighing from 100 to 500 pounds. In the last Arabian campaign the British lost over 50,000 camels and to-day in Egypt there are 60,000 in army service. They are especially used for transportation purposes.

### SPECIALIZE.

(Wall Street Journal.)

During the Olympic games in London in 1908, A. C. Gilbert of Yale, medical student, won the pole vault for a world's championship. Previous to that he had twice smashed the world's record for this event. He had been an all round athlete, but gained his athletic record by specializing along one line of sport. He pursued his medical studies with the same zeal and unity of purpose and then specialized in post graduate work for a further degree in 1910.

The tale, of course, should continue that he then went on and on to success in his chosen specialty. Not so. He saw something else for which he had no preparation at all—except \$1,200 saved while working his way through college.

What he saw was that war had cut off America's supply of toys. So with the \$1,200 he began to make toys. Last year he sold around \$1,500,000 worth of toys and by-products.

### 261 HOLIDAYS.

What is believed to be the first attempt to compile a complete list of the holidays of all nations has been made by the Guaranty Trust Co., of New York. The result is a booklet of 145 pages through which the reader may determine in a moment whether any particular day of the year is a holiday anywhere in the world or, if the question is approached from the opposite side, what days in the year are celebrated as holidays by any particular country. According to this catalogue, 261 holidays will be observed this year by one or more of the 97 nations or dependencies listed.

### "GOD'S SERVICE FLAG."

(Chicago Post.)

The Rev. T. Craig Stewart, rector of St. Luke's Church, Evanston, tells a beautiful little story. A small boy and his father were out together after nightfall. On the western horizon the evening star shone with brilliancy that dimmed the lesser lights. "Look, daddy," said the boy; "God has hung out His service flag. He must have a Son in the war." And since that Son gained His victory over the Allied powers of darkness on the battle field of Calvary, no war has been waged for righteousness and freedom in which He has not been the comrade of all heroic souls.

### NO PLACE FOR HEARST PUBLICATIONS.

(Commerce and Finance.)

By almost unanimous vote the Pacific Union Club, the leading social organization of the far west, has excluded the Hearst publications from its quarters. Once before the club put the ban on Hearst literature. That was after the murder of President McKinley. Feeling was so intense at that time that Hearst and various of his men, including the cartoonist Oppen, who drew the shocking pictures in which McKinley was portrayed as the leader of what was termed the Plunderbund, went into hiding.

It is not stated officially what led to the present action of the club but it is understood that the unpatriotic and pronouncedly pro-German attitude of the Hearst sheets has been too much for the Unionites.

What a queer person William Randolph Hearst must be. He has a craze for public applause and public recognition yet he conducts himself in such a way as to shock decent people. There never was a more merciless exposure of a person's character than he was subjected to in Congress by one of the members from California. The Elbert Hubbard articles on Hearst were terrible. And yet Hearst courted the favor of the Congressman who lashed him so horribly and went to Hubbard and hired him to work on the Hearst sheets.

For year the Hearst publications were banned not only in all respectable clubs in New York, but in all decent homes. The greatest banking house in America provides to all its employees without charge all the papers, magazines and other reading matter they desire but excludes anything and everything of the Hearst brand.

Mr. Hearst poses as the friend of the common people, yet perhaps no man in America does greater harm or does more to prostitute the minds of men and women than William Randolph Hearst. "Sports for the men; sex stuff for the women," is his journalistic motto. The nearer an editor or an artist can get to the line of prurience without crossing it the higher he is regarded by Mr. Hearst; the more sugar-coating he can put about plain filth the more of an artist he is considered.

Some of the cleverest and most successful of journalists work for Mr. Hearst. He pays extremely high salaries. He has to, for the invisible sign above the Hearst establishments is, "He who enters here leaves good name behind."

Why does a man of Mr. Hearst's wealth and opportunities choose to be a pariah among decent people? That is one of the mysteries. He knows the newspaper game. He can read the pulse of the mob better almost than any other newspaper proprietor in America. He is more successful than many of his critics. He would be one of the greatest forces for good in America if he cared to use his abilities, his vehicles and his money in right lines. But he prefers to use them ignobly.

He has the services but not the respect of those he employs. He has been cursed and reviled from one end of the land to the other. He has been held morally responsible for the assassination of a President. Time does not improve him. A queer person is Hearst. He might be termed a human riddle.

### RELIEVE AGRICULTURE FROM TAXATION.

(Forest, Ore., Free Press.)

The removal of all taxation on agricultural machinery, implements, building and fencing material, and all other articles necessary to keep up food production, is the next move that should be made by the new government. The Grain Growers' Guide, Winnipeg, which strongly supported Union Government, asks for free tractors. What the Guide says in reference to tractors applies with equal force to all other farm requirements. If there is to be an increase in food production taxation on production must be removed.

### A RESOLUTION FOR 1918.

(The Chicago Tribune.)

Whether in undeterred pursuit and exposure of enemies within;

In devoted watchfulness over the welfare of our fighting forces;

In determined insistence upon efficiency instead of bureaucracy and upon vigorous progress as opposed to unnecessary delay;

In ready praise or fearless criticism of those in authority deserving of either.

Let us test each thought, each word, each act for its sincerity and helpfulness toward.

The Will To Win This War.

### "FREEDOM OF THE SEAS."

(New York Commercial.)

What is meant by the "freedom of the seas"? The seas have been free in time of peace ever since steam vessels of war put an end to piracy and the slave trade. Germany enjoyed the freedom of the seas and of all British ports before she started the war. Since then she complains of lack of freedom. The United States, during the Civil War, extended the law of blockade beyond anything previously recognized as such, and must undo its own work and the judgment of its own Supreme Court. When this international subject comes up for discussion and settlement America must set an example by foregoing the right of blockade that the Union Government set up when fighting the Confederate States.

### GOOD IN EVIL.

A very interesting sidelight upon the question of war and crime is contained in a contribution to the London Daily Mail by Mr. Edwin Pugh, in which he refers to a recent official announcement that 7,000 out of 15,000 convicts and misdemeanants in the British Isles had been allowed to volunteer for military service. Out of the number 530 had been killed in action, 49 had died of wounds, 13 had died of sickness and 1,530 had been wounded. But the point of greatest significance is this. Three had received the V.C., 25 had been recommended for the D.C.M., 20 had been mentioned in dispatches, and eight had been given commissions. To so great an extent, therefore, the war may be regarded as a redemptive factor in the realm of criminology.

### FARMERS IN PARLIAMENT.

(Grain Growers' Guide.)

Western Canada has now a larger representation in the House of Commons than ever before, there being 43 members from the prairie provinces against 27 in the last parliament. More significant than that, however, is that the organized farmers are for the first time represented in parliament. Hon. T. A. Crenar, president of the United Grain Growers Limited and minister of agriculture, received in the constituency of Marquette a majority of 6,500 votes which is the largest majority given to any candidate in Western Canada in a rural constituency. R. C. Henders, president of the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association, was elected in the constituency of Macdonald with a majority of nearly 3,000 votes, in a rural constituency with a very large proportion of French electors. J. A. Maharg, president of the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association, was elected without opposition in the constituency of Maple Creek. John F. Reid, for many years a director and executive member of the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association was elected in the constituency of Mackenzie in spite of the fact that his opponent had the endorsement both of the Unionist party and of the opposition party. Mr. Reid is an out and out supporter of the Union Government. Andrew Knox, director of the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association, was elected in Prince Albert. Robert Cruise, nominated by the Grain Growers in 1911, was this time elected by acclamation in Dauphin.