

THE
UNITED
STATES

The numbering of the people has been accomplished in the neighbouring Republic with truly wonderful results. His re-election is a great personal triumph for President Wilson, but it was a near thing. If in addition to his high character, great intellectual ability, and sober views of things, he had shown himself capable of a certain degree of "moral indignation" over some aspects of the war, it might never have been in doubt. We had convincing proof of the President's moral courage in the matter of the Panama Canal, but his recent utterances on the war have been simply deplorable. There was a gleam of hope when in his speech of acceptance he said that "no nation can any longer remain neutral as against any wilful disturbance of the peace of the world." But within a fortnight of the great day he was heard to declare that no one could say what started the war: so far as he could gather "nothing in particular started it, but everything in general." In the same way, the German Chancellor, who used to speak quite definitely of the war as having been "forced" on Germany, referred to it recently as something that had "broken out,"—like a boil, we take it! Of course he knows better, but he will not tell us all he knows. If President Wilson had not been re-elected, we might have presumed to advise him to go into retirement and read the documents with an open mind. Now he may have no time for reading, or he may lack—in Washington—the open mind. In any case, Canada should support the mother country in speaking to Washington with no uncertain voice. Mr. Wilson may have won many votes for having kept his country out of the war, on the representation that he wanted her to conserve her strength for some issue where she need not be "too proud to fight." But our conviction is that the verdict of history will be far more favourable to Britain for getting into the war than it will be to America for staying out. And when it comes to any talk of peace propaganda, we say "Hands off". We have not yet made up our minds whether we shall need help from Washington over the negotiations for peace. If when these