

Winnetka Weekly Talk

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Germany's Fleet.

A very great many plain people have wondered why the plan put forward by Rear Admiral Fiske to destroy the German fleet, penned up in the Kiel canal, by aerial attack, had not occurred to the United States or to England. Many have commented rather caustically upon the failure of the war departments of both countries to take this easy and effective step to strike Germany in a vulnerable and mortal spot.

It is not possible that this solution of the war has not occurred to the powers arrayed against Germany, possibly because there is realization of the fact that the German fleet remains intact in harbor for the same reason that England's fleet, bottled up in some foggy port of the North Sea, continues safe and whole. It isn't as easy as it appears to the novice, or, perhaps, there is less compactness in the arrangement of the ships of the two fleets than is generally supposed.

It is an assured fact that if it were a possible thing for a fleet, held as the navies of both the great naval powers of Europe are held, to be destroyed by aerial attack, there would have been repeated attempts on the part of the German Zeppelins to drop bombs upon the ships of Great Britain, just as there would have been a persistent air campaign against the ships at Wilhelmshaven and in the Kiel canal. Neither nation would keep all its naval eggs in one magnificent basket, if there were not entire assurance that that basket is safe from destruction.

Small Savings for Thrift Certificates.

The thrift stamp, more than any other form of financial aid to the government, typifies the spirit which will win or lose the war. It is to be by co-operative saving, by individual sacrifice in little things and in small amounts, which will bring about that spirit of national unity necessary to the successful issue of the war.

It seems a small thing to buy a twenty-five cent stamp to apply to a thrift certificate, but it is a contribution which can be made by practically everybody in the country, and hence is a means of patriotic grace which should not be neglected.

Every man, woman and child in the nations at war must be brought to the realization that this war is the war of the individual, that there is no hope for victory except through complete co-operation of all parts of the country, of all classes of society.

It is not a rich man's war, not a poor man's war, not the war of any group, but of the whole world which believes in the rights of men to govern themselves and to live their lives as they elect to live.

One's interest mounts in any movement in which one has a part. A part purchased with a thrift certificate will create that interest which will lead to other sacrifice, other economy, other endeavor to be of service to the nation. Not everybody has been able, in these days of high cost of everything which must be bought, to find the money for the purchase of a liberty bond, even upon the easy terms of payment which have been offered with each loan. The pride which is felt by those who by sacrifice have been able to apply their savings to the purchasing of a bond, may be had by those others, who have not been able to do so much, by the possession of a thrift certificate, and the continuous endeavor to fill the spaces with the necessary stamps.

The thrift certificate offers particularly an opportunity for children to save their little bits of money to lend to the government, an opportunity which promises rich reward in the spirit which its practice will produce. A child possessor of a filled thrift certificate may be as proud as the adult holder of the liberty bond, and may lay claim to as high a type of citizenship and patriotism. Parents should encourage their children to put their small savings to this use, both for the good which the aggregate of their savings will be to the government and for the benefit which the experience will be to the child's character.

Prohibition.

With the passage of the federal prohibition amendment recently the cause of prohibition has won its greatest victory. This legislation comes as the culmination of long years of earnest and continuous effort on the part of women, and a few men, who have given the service of their lives to producing that state of public opinion which should bring about this result.

Nothing shows more conclusively the cumulative nature of the prohibition movement than the history of the success of the efforts made in the individual states. The first prohibition victory was won in Maine in 1851, a success which was followed by twenty-nine years of unsuccessful effort before a second state, Kansas, adopted the reform. North Dakota came next, in 1889, and not another until, in 1907, Oklahoma set aside alcohol as a thing forbidden within the boundaries of the state. Georgia followed in 1908, North Carolina, Mississippi and Tennessee, in 1909, and West Virginia in 1914. In the last three years nineteen states have come under the prohibition banner, with Alaska and Porto Rico by way of good measure.

This rapid falling into line shows conclusively the effect of the long campaign of education, the growing sentiment in favor of the saloon free country, and promises for the future the early ratification of the new amendment by the necessary number of states to make the amendment permanent and prohibition general.

Potato Banquet.

Now that the Ministry of Food cooking expert has shown us how to prepare the potato in 34 different ways, somebody ought to give a public potato banquet. That was one of the methods pursued in the days of Louis XVI. by Auguste Parmentier, who was the first to popularize the tuber in France. At this fashionable

spread no dish was served that could not be accurately described as "potato." It was an excellent object lesson, more particularly when the diners were informed that even the drinks, which included liqueurs and "brandy," were derived from the same modest source.

TEUTONS TAKE BRONZE DOORS FROM BRUSSELS

The massive bronze doors of the Brussels Exchange are being taken down by the Germans and will be shipped to Germany, French dispatches state. The metal is extremely scarce in Germany, and all available is being requisitioned for munitions making.

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