

HOW THE WAR REVENUE TAX HITS THE ORDINARY CONSUMER

Washington, May 16.—Every time mildly touches her dainty nose with a powder puff, every time she brings a blush to her cheek with rouge, she will help pay the gigantic cost of war. Likewise Mr. Mere Man will contribute to the billions that are to be spent in battle every time he touches a match to a stogie or the wrapper off a stick of chewing gum.

Don't imagine, Mr. and Mrs. Ultimate Consumer, that because you do not own an electric runabout Uncle Sam will not ask you to "shell out." Quite the contrary. Every man and woman in the United States and every child must pay a part of the mighty conflict. Not only are war taxes to be placed on all new motor cars, but even bicycle tires are to be assessed. A tax of one cent a head is to be placed on every child under 13 years old who goes to see a movie. The proprietor of the movie must pay a tax of one cent a foot on every film he shows.

Every time you turn on an electric light, every time you take the telephone receiver off the hook, every time you buy an ice cream soda, you will be helping to pay the costs of war, because all these things are to be taxed under the new war-revenue bill as finally agreed upon by its framers—the members of the House ways and means committee.

Many persons have believed that because the committee planned to raise \$600,000,000 more annually by income and excess profits taxes than are raised at the present time, the war would not hit the pocketbook of the "little fellow." But the bill as formally reported by the ways and means committee shows that no one will escape.

Take Mr. Average Citizen, for example. If he is a single man with an income of \$1,000 a year he must pay a direct tax on that of \$20 a year. If he gets \$3,000 he pays \$60 a year; but if more than that the rate increases by leaps and bounds.

When he hops into the tub for his invigorating morning "bawth" he must pay a tax on the soap he uses, if any. His bald head is taxed if he puts a little hair restorer on it. If he dyes his mustache that costs him an additional amount.

If he is a married man earning between \$2,000 and \$4,000 a year he will pay a tax of 2 per cent. From \$4,000 to \$5,000 the tax will be 4 per cent, and when his income exceeds \$5,000 he will not only pay the normal tax of 4 per cent, but a surtax as well, the amounts increasing in proportion to increase in income. An additional normal tax of 2 per cent would be added in the case of larger incomes. At \$5,000 an additional surtax, graduated until at \$500,000 and over it reaches 33 per cent would be imposed.

A married man with a \$7,500 income, for example, would pay a tax of \$205. It would be assessed in this manner: An exemption of \$2,000; a tax of 2 per cent, or \$10 on the next \$2,000 up to \$4,000; a tax of 4 per cent on the difference between \$4,000 and \$7,500 or \$140 a surtax of 4 per cent on all over \$5,000 or \$25.

A single man with a \$7,500 income would pay \$245. He would pay \$10 at 2 per cent on income between \$1,000 and \$3,000; \$180 at 4 per cent between \$3,000 and \$7,500.

Mrs. Average Citizen must pay a 5 per cent tax on her curlers, hair dressings, toilet waters, powders and rouge. She cannot even put on a corn plaster without helping to pay the costs of war. When Mr. and Mrs. Average Citizen go out to the table for breakfast they will help again with costs of war. If he drinks coffee, he will pay a cent a pound war tax. If she drinks tea, she will pay two cents a pound tax. Sugar will cost more because of an increased duty.

And after breakfast it doesn't make any difference whether he takes a cigar from the humidor or "robs a pill" from the makin', he will pay a war tax just the same. Cigarette papers are to be taxed one cent a hundred and cigars as high as a cent apiece. The day of the nickel cigar is doomed.

When Mrs. Housewife takes down the receiver to order the groceries, she will be taxed 5 per cent additional on all calls at the end of the month. Her electric light bill will be 5 per cent higher. If she calls up a friend out of town, she must pay five cents additional on every toll call in excess of fifteen cents.

There will be no more two for a quarter ginger ale highballs at the club, either. They will be fifteen cents straight. If you ask a friend to join you in a "cold one" before lunch, it doesn't make any difference whether he whispers "just a glass of sud" to the gentlemanly barkeep or says "a Manhattan," it'll cost you more. Even a half pint on the hip will cost fifteen cents more, because the ways and means committee has voted an additional \$1.10 a gallon on whiskey and \$1.25 a barrel on beer.

The fair debutante who takes a seat at the soda fountain and orders "a chocolate soda, please," will help

to buy shells for the United States that cost \$5,000 each. Syrups and other ingredients of soft drinks are to be taxed 10 per cent. Either the sodas will be smaller or they will cost eleven cents in the future. It is estimated that \$20,000,000 annually will be derived by the Federal government from this tax on soft drinks.

Games of all sorts are to be taxed. It doesn't make any difference whether you get your pleasure out of chasing the elusive golf ball over the links or derive it from shouting "little Joe" when you roll the bones—you are going to pay something. Everything from tennis rackets to dice are to be taxed 5 per cent on their cost.

MEXICANS FLEE U. S. FEARING CONSCRIPTION

Brownsville, Tex., May 15.—Conscription has terror for the Mexicans. When word came to the border that the great American Congress had adopted conscription the Mexicans who had fled to this side of the border during the troubled days of Madero, Huerta, Villa and Carranza believed the American brand of conscription would be similar to the Mexican brand. So hundreds of them fled back to Mexico.

At El Carmen one Mexican mother gathered up her two sons and set out to cross the river to Mexico on a raft. The raft broke and the three floundered in the water a considerable time until dragged to safety by spectators. She explained she had tried to reach Mexico to save her sons from the horrors of the American war.

SALOONS NOW DRUG ON SAN FRANCISCO MARKET

San Francisco, May 16.—The saloon, once the club house, the meeting place, the center of business in San Francisco, has come to be a poor investment.

This was emphasized when Thomas W. Hickey, attorney for the public administrator, harangued a crowd in the Superior Court for an hour in an effort to sell two saloons and received but one bid. And that one was intended as a joke.

The crowd began to leave the courtroom as Hickey rose to heights of eloquence trying to sell the saloons. A practical joker bid \$200 and Hickey shouted "Sold" so quick that the joke was on the bidder. Judge Graham confirmed the sale, and now the joker has a saloon that he doesn't want.

The other saloon brought no bid. In other days saloons always caused spirited bidding in Probate Court here.

N. Y. BUREAU HELP IN ENLISTMENTS

New York, May 15.—In a report telling how it is co-operating with the army and navy in enlisting all sorts of skilled and unskilled men, the New York City Public Employment Bureau to-day says:

"During the month of April the license department, which is in the same building, received the annual renewals of push cart licenses for the year. During the early days of the week and the early hours of the day these people came in hordes to the building and stood in line in their gabardines and flowing beards beneath the windows displaying enlistment posters. Anxious citizens inquired whether this was the best material which could be obtained for the army by the volunteer system.

"Attention is called to the serious shortage of officers for cargo ships. Six thousand will be required for decks and engine rooms within six months. Candidates for licenses must have had three years' sea duty. It is immediately important that every one who could qualify should take up the study of marine engineering or navigation in one of the established schools and qualify him that it will be necessary to have additional schools established for this marine service similar to those for the army at Plattsburg.

"The first evidences of the substitution of women for men in industry for the period of the war have come to hand. Applications have been received for several women, physically and temperamentally competent to operate elevators. They will be given special training. Other employers, such as the railroads, have indicated their willingness to receive applications from women for machine shop work which would be within their strength.

"Even before this the bureau had received applications from some Scotch women for an opportunity to learn trades. A great hotel system has notified its bellboys to bring their sisters and sweethearts in to take their places.

FINGER OF PROMISE

By SUSAN E. CLAGETT.

Tired in body and soul, Louise Tomlinson dropped into a chair and stared blankly out of the Washington hotel window. She was conscious of nothing outside of the immediate problems threatening the life she had carefully regulated for twelve years or more.

Judge Tomlinson had been dead five years the autumn Louise had come to Washington, and as she sat, with her unseeing eyes centered upon that finger of light far off in the heavens, her mind was slowly going over the few words that had passed between herself and the man who still had the power to arouse emotions she had thought were past, but that now held her in a grip the intensity of which she resented.

They had met that evening at dinner. She was late. Moving swiftly across the reception hall to greet her boss, the lace of her gown caught in the signet ring of a man who moved aside for her to pass. Impatient at the detention, she spoke quickly as he endeavored to untwist the delicate threads.

"It does not matter. Break them, please."

"I would rather you would unfasten it at your leisure," he said, and, slipping the ring from his finger, he offered it to her.

Annoyed by the incident, but unable to wait longer, she pushed the ring within her glove and moved away. He was seated next to her at the table, by one of those fateful happenings that come about in the most natural way. It was then that she looked at him, and from him to the ring she held in her hand, a sapphire set in diamonds with a crest and motto familiar to her.

"Am I so changed that you do not recognize me, Louise?" he asked, but before she answered his dinner partner claimed his attention. It was some time before he again turned to her, then only for a moment.

"Will you drive with me tomorrow? Keep the ring until then. You cannot give it to me now without attracting attention."

"At three," she said. She did not again have opportunity to speak to him.

The following afternoon there was little talk between them until they reached the open country. Then he turned to her.

"It is twelve years since I received that letter, Louise," he said, going back to their talk of the evening before. "I had not heard from you for weeks and I was homesick for a line. We moved at daybreak and the chances were against any of us returning for every kopek held a sharpshooter. I could not read it at once, but the very feel of it in my pocket gave me comfort. Then when I was at last alone I could not sense the contents. I had been so sure of you, and there in black and white were words that at last burned into my consciousness. Your reason was inadequate. Your father needed you. Sometime you would give me a full explanation. I do not like to think of that time; but afterward, as I lay in that Johannesburg hospital, I tried to reason it out, but could not. All through those endless days your eyes looked at me steadfastly, giving the lie to that letter. They seemed to say, 'Wait, only wait.' I wrote to you, but my letters were returned from your dead-letter office."

"One day I met an old friend who had known you, Colonel Arthur. From him I learned of your father's trouble, and for the first time I understood the reason of your break with me. Through Arthur I also heard of his death. I sailed on the next steamer for New York. Arthur was with me. He went on to Seattle and I came to Washington, hoping to find some trace of you here. I could not believe my luck when you brushed against me last evening." He leaned forward and touched his ring shining upon her ungloved hand. "It seems natural to see it again in place."

Then it was that she became conscious of something that had been haunting her memory since the night before. Rising from out of the clouds into the clear atmosphere was the tip of Washington's monument, an ethereal thing pointing like a finger of light into the beyond; a finger of promise.

"I heard your name when I changed cars in St. Paul," she said at last. "Two gentlemen were speaking of you. They stood with faces from me and I did not recognize either, but their chance remark changed my plans. Some time I will explain to you fully why I sent that letter, but just now I only want happiness."

"And you find it with me?"

"For the first time in twelve years I am content, Lawrence."

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Keeping Track of Sun.
In addition to telling you the time of day, your watch may be used for keeping track of the sun. When the orb of day finishes its day's journey and disappears in the west, note the time by your watch. Then draw a horizontal line (imaginary, of course) from the point of the hour hand to the opposite side of the dial. The time indicated by the line on this side will be the time at which the sun rises in the morning. Thus if the sun sets at eight at night, the line shows that it will rise at four in the morning; if it sets at seven it will rise at five; if at five it will rise at seven, and so on.

UNIFORM IS A PASS

Beloit, Wis., May 15.—Uncle Sam's khaki is as good as a season pass at Beloit's baseball park. All troops in uniform are admitted free.

SAYS AMERICA SITS IN TOO LATE

By International News Service.

Barcelona, Spain, May 15.—In a recent interview with the correspondent of the Barcelona newspaper Vanguardia, Field Marshal von Hindenburg said that Germany has a greater strategic reserve at her disposal than ever.

He declared the United States' new army would get into the war too late to be of any use, and that America as an enemy could not give appreciably more aid to the Entente part, were as follows:

"The German leader's remarks, in part, were as follows: "In deciding on unrestricted U-boat warfare, notwithstanding the possibility of America coming to the assistance of the Entente powers, we deemed such assistance was of no weight. I certainly admit that the financial assistance of the United States should be looked as an additional asset for our enemies, but in this war, contrary to what has been the case in other wars, money has proved not to be the most important matter for the conduct of military operations."

"The American supply of war material to the Entente has already reached such a magnitude that any further increase appears to be hardly possible, and now it is proposed to raise an army of half a million to two millions of men. To equip such an army and at the same time to supply the Entente on the present scale appears to be impossible. The material assistance given to the Entente cannot be very great within any measurable time, and it is the task of our U-boats continually to diminish it."

"If the British fleet, with the help of the French, Italian, Russian and Japanese navies, has hitherto been unable to overcome the U-boat danger, the American fleet will not succeed either. The Entente has no weapons against the U-boats. The sea barrier continues with growing effectiveness. The more ships there are on the ocean the greater will be the U-boats' booty."

"Even with the most intense work and with the greatest support from the Entente countries in the sending to America of officers to give instruction, no American expeditionary corps can be expected to be ready for dispatch to Europe for at least a year. On the other hand, this year is, according to the statement of the Entente leaders, to bring the final decision."

"Moreover, we, too, have taken our measures. Our eastern front has been so consolidated and is now garrisoned by such a mass of men that General Brusiloff, even with the most ruthless sacrifice of men, can achieve no success. Even the egotistical optimist in the Entente camp cannot to-day deny that the recent events in Russia will promote our plans."

"Last year we required our strategic army reserve to repulse Brusiloff's irruption, and the western front was thrown on its own limited resources. Nevertheless, the Anglo-French attack was repulsed. To-day things are fundamentally different.

"The western front has become so strong that we can withstand every attack. With absolute security on all our fronts, we have to-day at our free disposal an army reserve of a strength and preparedness which has not been equaled at any other time during the war, ready for defense or attack at any point we may choose."

"Nothing which happens on any front, in the sea or in the air, should be regarded as an isolated phenomenon. Everything is part of one great plan. In this sense our army and navy have become one."

"To-day, after only two months' U-boat warfare, I can already tell you that our calculation was correct. The course which we adopted, with full appreciation of all the dangers which it entailed, is leading us to the goal. We have considered all the possibilities, and, acting on the best of human knowledge and conscience, we have chosen those which will lead us to victory and peace."

FARMER PATRIOT OFFERS FREE SEED POTATOES

By International News Service.

Morrisstown, Tenn., May 15. D. C. Walters, a Cooke county farmer, is a patriot of the first order. He is a prosperous farmer and last fall he stored many bushels of Irish potatoes. Recently a buyer from the East offered Walters \$250 a bushel for them. He declined the offer. Then he notified the neighborhood he had plenty of Irish potatoes for seed and that if any of his neighbors did not have the money to buy seed this spring he would give them potatoes to plant without making any charge. Now "potato patches" are to be found everywhere in the community.

WHO SENT THE ORDER

By F. H. SWEET.

John thought of Dora and groaned, for John was \$10,000 poorer than zero. Worse than that, he was chained to the abysmal debt so he could not go off and make a start like other men.

He sat in his office chair in a vast silence—a silence that had lasted more than a year, a silence of a great building that had grown strange to the whirl of machinery and the voices of men.

Very often he sat in the office chair by himself, for he had nothing else to do—except write letters. He had written dozens of them.

Following a routine, he left the office chair and walked through the great building.

A postman's whistle sounded outside and John went to the door. Letters were not common occurrences in these days. Perhaps Dora had written. Possibly the creditors were planning another try at selling the building and its junk.

He sat down at the desk to read the letter. Two inclosures were found, one of them a slip that he stared at with bulging eyes. It was a check for \$25,000, duly made out to him.

Then he read the letter. It ran: "John Denham:

"Dear Sir—Inquiries prove you are a man we need. You understand the manufacture of munitions we want. You have the building, the motive power, the transportation facilities. But you are idle. This is not good for a man like you. We increase \$25,000. Fill your building at once with machines to manufacture the munitions listed below. A check for \$50,000 will follow in a few days if you cash this, which will show you are weary of being idle. The \$75,000 will fit your building to commence work. Then we will place with you an initial order of not less than a quarter of a million. As rapidly as goods are finished, ship them to Roger Stog, Norfolk."

"You have unused energy. Now is the time to force it. Work day and night."

Then followed the list of machines. John drew a long breath, his face glowing. Then he frowned. The letter was without signature. Whom was he to work for?

There was nothing to go by but the check. It was signed "Ellis Drew," on a bank in Lynchburg. John took the next train for Lynchburg.

The bank people directed him to an obscure business street, where he found Ellis Drew to be the proprietor of a small stationery shop. Drew was a little old man with an embarrassed, apologetic face. When John showed him the check and demanded further particulars the embarrassment became plain trepidation.

"I don't know a thing," he began. "Yes you do. You signed the check. Do you remember what bank it was on?"

"Yes sir. It was signed 'A. Lawrence,' and was on the Second National Bank of Richmond."

The Second National directed him to East Franklin street, where he found A. Lawrence occupying a pretentious residence. A maid showed him to a drawing room. A stately young woman soon entered and advanced toward him inquiringly.

"I am A. Lawrence—what do you wish?"

"I suppose it's another case of Ellis Drew," he said. "You sent him a check, he sent me one. Might I inquire who sent one to you?"

"I am speaking to Mr. John Denham, I suppose?"

"Yes."

"Late idle against his will, with a great power at hand equally idle. Now there opens an opportunity for both to use their energy to the full. Is it not enough?"

"I don't like to work blindly."

"As to the check, I did send one to Ellis Drew, who continued the amount on to you. A lady does not like to make herself unnecessarily conspicuous."

"Who sent you the check?" asked John bluntly.

"If you show yourself a good business man," the woman went on, calmly, "another check will reach you in a few days through Lane's National bank."

"Why, that's my own home bank!" ejaculated John.

"And another check will follow in due course, I am informed. That is all, I think. Good day."

Three days later pretty Dora Opdale came hurrying into John's office with her brown eyes big with amazed delight.

"Oh, John!" she breathed. "Isn't it wonderful?"

"It is," he assured her; "wonderful in density."

ALLIES MAY PLACE BUYING IN U. S. IN THE HANDS OF ONE MAN

Washington, May 16.—An international agreement under which there will be placed in the hands of a small commission, possibly of one man, the purchasing power of virtually every dollar of the billions to be lent to the Allies by this government and the additional billions which they will spend in this country out of their own income, is at present in process of formulation.

A draft of the proposed agreement has been left to Secretary McAdoo, who already has held a number of conferences with foreign envoys on the subject. Great Britain, France and Italy are understood to have signified their desire to enter such an agreement and other Entente governments are likely to assume the same attitude.

Discussion of the proposed agreement has reached a stage where the chief beneficiaries of the huge American loan have agreed that it would be to the interest of all concerned to eliminate absolute competition among themselves for American products, and have signified their readiness to pledge themselves to do so. The agreement when drafted would have for its aim the attainment of maximum efficiency, both for the Allies and the American government, for every dollar spent in this country for war purposes.

The commission, when created, would have the widest purchasing powers ever entrusted to any one body of men in the history of the world. It virtually would be a purchasing agency for all Christendom, including neutrals and the Central powers, with the exception of the few resisters. It would eliminate entirely competitive bidding among the Allies and this government for American products and would seek to insure 100 cents' worth of value for every dollar spent.

By its creation domestic conditions prevalent in this country for the last two decades, under which the big producer gradually by combinations and normal growth, assumed the dominance in all markets, with thousands of customers abiding by the price he fixed, would be almost completely reversed. Not the producer but the buyer would be the dominant factor, for there would be but one buyer for the belligerent nations and through him all producers in all lines would have to sell their wares.

The plan involves no fixing of prices, however. First efforts will be confined to a program eliminating competitive bidding for the foodstuffs, steel, munitions, clothing and countless other articles that America alone can supply to the Allies.

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APPROVES WORK OF BILLY SUNDAY

By International News Service.

New York, May 15. The Rev. Dr. William Dager, a missionary in charge of the largest Presbyterian charge of the largest Presbyterian Africa, is in this city on furlough.

He was discussing the Billy Sunday campaign and its results, never having heard of Mr. Sunday until within the last few days.

"I am interested in any means which brings people to the church," said Mr. Dager, "and I am not at all amazed at the number of persons who daily 'hit the trail' in this city. What possible reason can there be for hesitating about heeding the word of God and profiting through it? Here those who hit the trail in most instances haven't a single sacrifice to make in doing so, but in West Africa a man who 'hits the trail' by joining the church must indeed be sincere."

"One of the first things required of the church membership candidate is that he give up all of his wives but one. Not only that, but he must see that every one of the other wives is provided for and that none of them marries a polygamist. Not until all of that has been accomplished can he even begin to make the routine sacrifices which adherence to church rules make necessary. Is it amazing, then, that I consider the 6,671 members of my church as staunch a type of Christians as I know? There is a steep incline for them at the beginning of their trail."

"I don't mean what you told me about starting the business, but this morning. Did you get my letter?"

"Carrier hasn't got round yet."

"Well, he'll bring it," she said, her eyes dancing. "It came by special delivery this morning, a check all filled out for me to sign, for \$50,000—\$50,000 made out to you, John. But I didn't dare to sign till I went to the bank to see if 'twas true, and the cashier said 'twas. The money's there. And in my letter was a present of five hundred dollars for—for—" Her face flushed rosy as she added, "pin money."

"There's a fib somewhere. But I would like to know," he said, the frown returning to his face, "who ordered the munitions."

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REAL ESTATE LIVELY

Real estate sales set a new record for the last few weeks on the floor of the Real Estate Exchange Tuesday. During the day sales aggregating \$75,110 were made.

ports of the Allies to satisfy individual requirements in this country it is realized that their united demands would send prices soaring, decreasing the effectiveness of the money to be loaned them by the United States. Repetition of this process, officials believe, would minimize the effectiveness of American financial co-operation and seriously cripple the purchasing power of American money for military, naval and other needs of this government.

Upon ratification of the proposed agreement the personnel of the purchasing commission will be designated by this government. It probably will have no more than five members. The entire responsibility may be vested in one man.

It will be the duty of the commission to receive the requisitions of the foreign governments for supplies of all sorts and to execute them equitably. Under the present plan the commission will not necessarily attempt to purchase supplies for the United States. Whatever this government requires for its military and naval establishments probably will be purchased as in the past, through the war and navy departments.

The commission will co-operate with these and other departments in making its purchases for the Allies, to the end that there will be no competitive bidding between any foreign government and the United States. American needs, naturally, will come first. The needs of the Allies will take the next place, and after they are satisfied it is expected that a residue of production will be available for neutrals.

EVEN MILWAUKEE GIVES UP ITS FREE LUNCHEON

By International News Service.

Milwaukee, Wis., May 15. The free luncheon, a popular feature of Milwaukee saloons since their establishment, is doomed.

The death knell of the time-honored institution, so dear to all beer-drinking Milwaukeeans, has been sounded through the action taken by the Wisconsin Retail Liquor Dealers' Protective Association. High cost of foodstuffs and the curtailment of the grain supply is given as the reason for eliminating the lunch.

BRITISH CAPTURE NEW "ANTI-TANK GUNS"

By International News Service.

London, May 16.—German war inventors have devised a new form of weapon known as "anti-tank guns." These cannon are used against the huge armed and armored monsters which the British have been using with such excellent results on the western front. The "anti-tank" gun is a short-barreled seven-inch weapon, hurling a shell with tremendous power. A number of them have been captured by the British forces on the Arras front.

LEFT HALF MILLION TO WOMAN FRIEND

By International News Service.

Denver, Col., May 15.—Mrs. Mary E. Holland, wife of a Denver hotel man, will come into an estate valued at nearly a million dollars, under the will of Mrs. Mary Haskins Luthe, a Des Moines divorcee, who died in Denver two weeks ago. Mrs. Holland was an intimate friend of Mrs. Luthe, and had looked after her business interests while Mrs. Luthe was living here.

HOTELS GIVE POTATO EYES TO FARMERS

By International News Service.

Appleton, Wis., May 16.—Another step toward conservation of funds was projected here when E. W. Draper of the Sherman House, in conjunction with several other hotel men, entered into a contract to supply farmers of the county with the excess of potatoes cut from "spuds" used at the hotels. These eyes will be used for seeds.

GIRL CONDUCTOR HOLDS THIEF; GETS REWARD

By International News Service.

London, May 16. The local omnibus corporation has given a reward of a sovereign to a plucky young girl conductor, Miss Newark, who tackled a thief on the top of her omnibus in Liverpool street and held him until a policeman got there. The judge of the court where the thief was convicted praised her courage highly.

WYOMING GOVERNOR STARTS DRY CAMPAIGN

By International News Service.

Cheyenne, Wyo., May 15. Governor Frank L. Hoar, who succeeded to the governorship of Wyoming upon the resignation of John B. Kendrick, now United States Senator, has opened a campaign to make the state dry. The electors of the state, at the election in November, 1918, will vote on a constitutional amendment providing for absolute prohibition. It is this amendment for which the governor is campaigning.