



A Guide to the World War One
Poster Collection
at the Dixon Public Library

ABOUT THE POSTER COLLECTION

When it became inevitable that America would enter World War I, it became necessary to turn public opinion around and create a positive climate toward the action. To do this, the Wilson Administration enlisted the talents of an unbelievable group of artists to create "pictorial publicity" (posters) for all aspects of the war effort – from military recruiting to European war relief to fuel and food conservation. From these fine illustrators that included Harrison Fisher, Charles Dana Gibson, Howard Chandler Christy and N.C. Wyeth, an impressive body of art was created.

The Dixon Public Library is most fortunate to have a collection of these historical art works, framed and on exhibit throughout the library. In the 1970s, more than twenty original posters were discovered in near mint condition in the library attic. The Friends of the Library accepted the preservation and framing of the collection as a major project. With the help and donations of many people and organizations, the task was completed. This brochure is a new version of the one produced during this project.

This exhibit offers a permanent historical and artistic commemoration of an important but sometimes forgotten period in the life of the country and the world.

During the summer of 2017, the main floor of the library was repainted, and the posters were temporarily taken down and put into storage. They are being redisplayed in 2018; a fitting commemoration of the centenary of America's participation into the First World War. Visitors are encouraged to browse and enjoy the collection both for its artistic merit as well as for the history it represents.

On the front cover:

KNOWLEDGE WINS - PUBLIC LIBRARY BOOKS ARE FREE

Artist: Daniel Smith

Given in Memory of Grace Winger



FIGHT OR BUY BONDS – THIRD LIBERTY LOAN

Artist: Howard Chandler Christy

Framed by Nachusa Chapter No. 277, *Questers* – Dixon

Another Slightly Smaller Edition

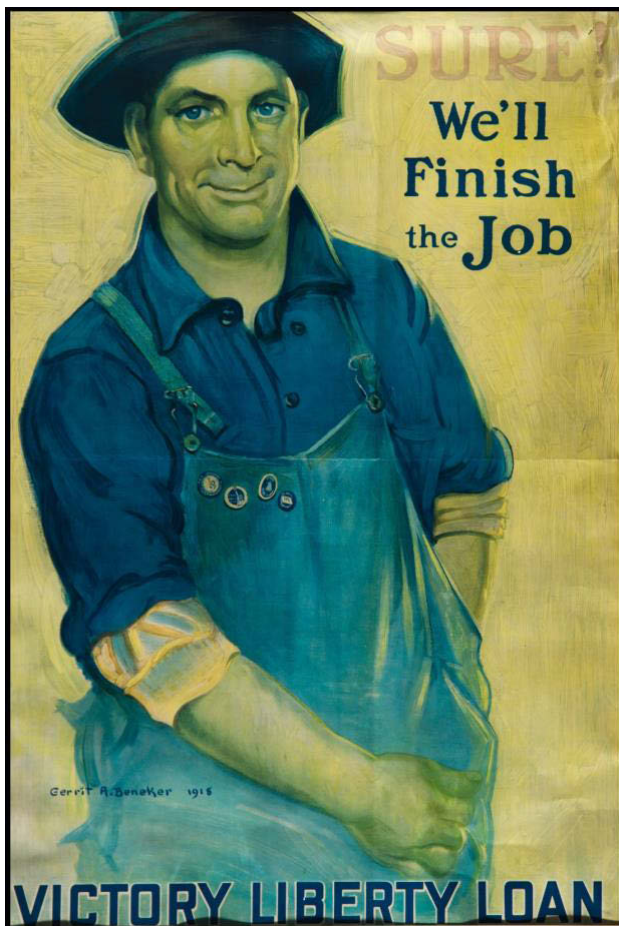
Framed by the Friends of the Dixon Public Library

HAVE YOU ANSWERED THE RED CROSS CHRISTMAS ROLL CALL?

Artist: Harrison Fisher

Framed in Dedication to 1st Lt. Catherine Fenton Reilly of Amboy,
World War II Army Nurse.





THEY KEPT THE SEA
LANES OPEN – INVEST IN
THE VICTORY LIBERTY
LOAN

Artist: L.A. Shafer
Framed in Memory of
Edna N. Nattress
by Ruby R. Nattress

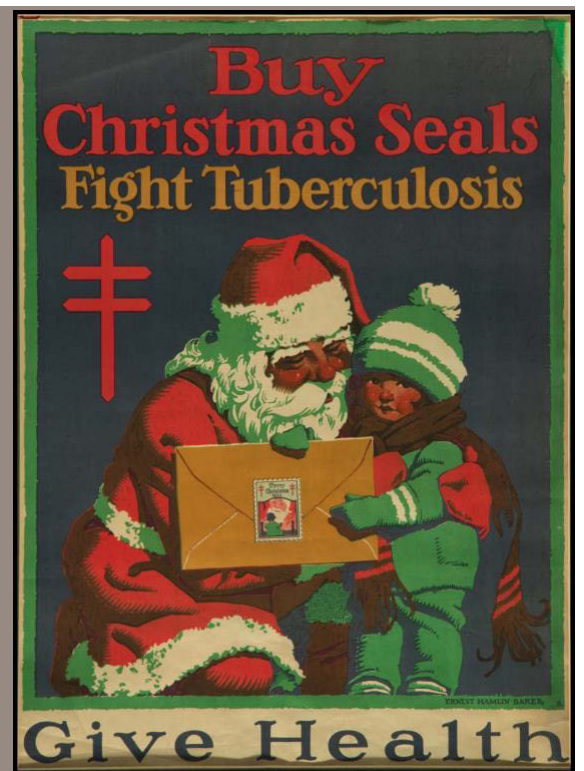
SURE WE'LL FINISH THE
JOB – VICTORY LIBERTY
LOAN

Artist: Gerrit A. Beneker
Framed in Recognition of
Al Tieken, Advisor,
Dixon Future Farmers of America



OVER THE TOP
FOR YOU
Artist: Sidney H.
Riesenberg
Framed by Tom
Zinnen and Hal
Weaver

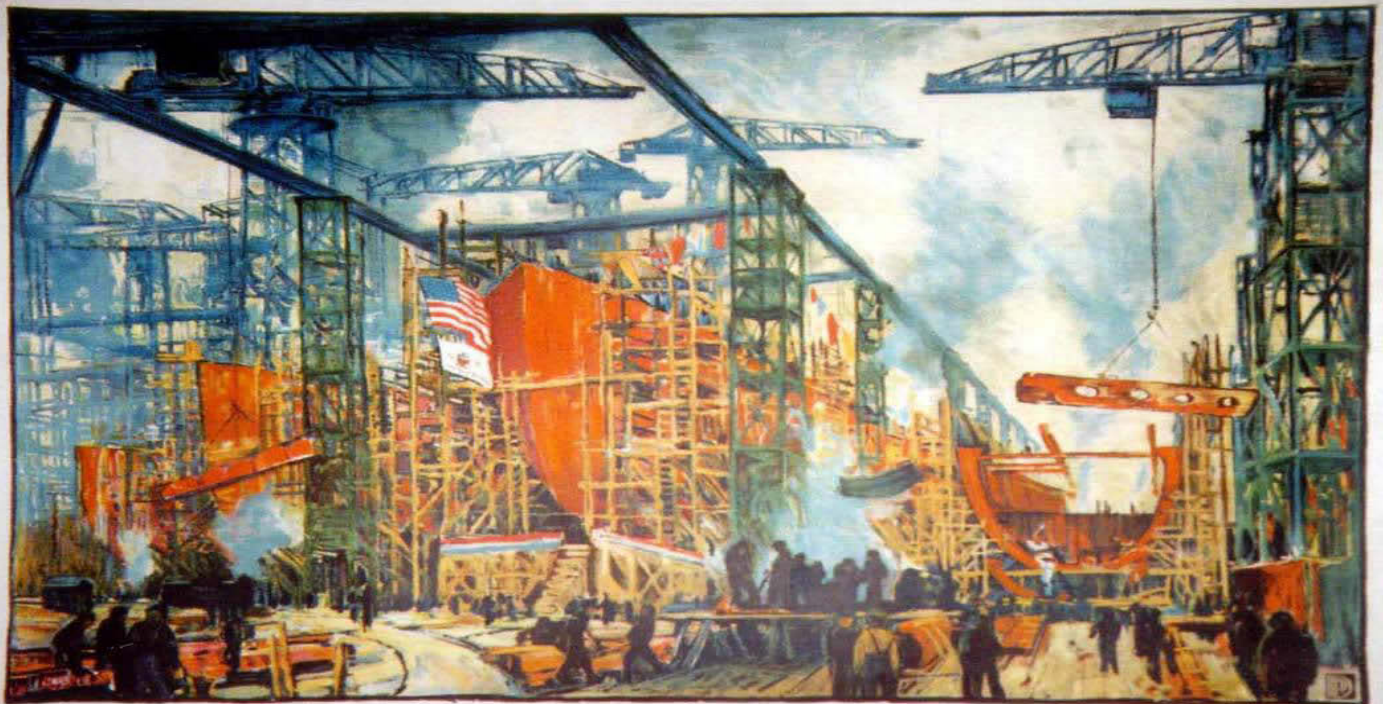
GIVE HEALTH
BUY CHRISTMAS
SEALS - FIGHT
TUBERCULOSIS
Artist: Hamlin Baker
Framed by Wa-Tan-
Ye-Club



ON THE JOB FOR VICTORY

Artist: Jonas Lie Frame

Presented by Hi-You-He-He Chapter #520, The Questers



ON THE JOB FOR VICTORY

UNITED STATES SHIPPING BOARD

EMERGENCY FLEET CORPORATION

Alsace-Lorraine

PRESIDENT WILSON'S ADDRESS TO CONGRESS, JAN. 8, 1918

. . . The wrong done to France by Prussia in 1871 in the matter of Alsace-Lorraine, which has unsettled the peace of the world for nearly fifty years should be righted, in order that peace may once more be made secure in the interest of all.

Citizens possessed of souls and of intelligence are not merchandise to be traded and therefore it is not lawful to make them the subject of a contract.

Protest of the Representatives of Alsace-Lorraine, delivered in the Reichstag in Berlin, February 18, 1874.



. . . Peoples and provinces are not to be bartered about from sovereignty to sovereignty as if they were mere chattels and pawns in a game.

PRESIDENT WILSON
Address to Congress,
February 11, 1918.

STATEMENT

of the Representatives of Alsace-Lorraine read before the National Assembly in Bordeaux, March 1, 1871

Handed over, in contempt of all justice, and by an odious abuse of force, to the domination of foreigners, we have now a final duty to perform.
We declare once more null and void a compact which disposes of us without our consent.
Henceforth and forever, we shall one and all be justified in claiming our rights, in whatever manner and measure our conscience may dictate.
At the moment of leaving this assembly, in which our dignity no longer permits us to sit, and in spite of the bitterness of our grief, the supreme thought which we find at the bottom of our hearts is a thought of gratitude to those who, for six months, have incessantly fought in our defense, and our unalterable attachment to the country from which we are torn by violence.
We shall follow you with our wishes, and we shall wait, with full confidence in the future, until regenerated France resumes the course of her great destiny.
Your brothers of Alsace and of Lorraine, now separated from the common family, will cherish for France, absent from their hearths, a filial affection, preserved until the day when she shall recover her rightful place there once more.

LIBERATED BY THE ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC
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These two posters have not been reframed and remain in storage, along with the "Hip-Hip! Another Ship - Another Victory" at the back of the brochure.

WANTED 25000 STUDENT NURSES



U.S. STUDENT NURSE RESERVE

ENROLL AT THE NEAREST RECRUITING STATION OF THE
WOMANS COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL OF NATIONAL DEFENSE

JOHN W. WOODMAN, CHARTERED
ARTIST



I PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO MY FLAG

Artist: Anonymous

Framed by Adam & Betty Carter



FOR HOME AND COUNTRY VICTORY LIBERTY LOAN

Artist: Alfred Everitt Orr

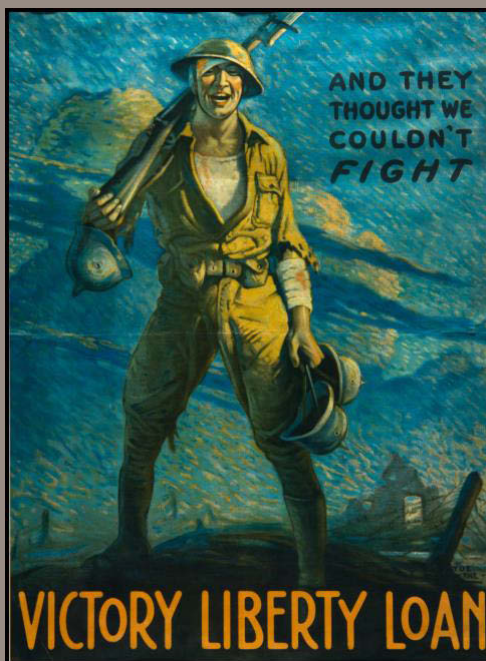
Framed in memory of Lucille M.
Warner by American Association of
University Women, Dixon Branch



FOOD IS AMMUNITION – DON'T WASTE IT

Artist: J.F. Sheridan

Framed by Imogene Ribordy, Art &
Jane Mills, John & Shirley Miller,
Gene Bell, Mr. & Mrs. Warren Miller



AND THEY THOUGHT WE COULDN'T FIGHT – VICTORY LIBERTY LOAN

Artist: Unknown

Framed in Dedication to Sgt.
Thomas D. Reilly of Amboy; World
War II Army Soldier



CHILDREN'S YEAR – THE HEALTH OF THE CHILDREN IS THE POWER OF THE NATION

Artist: F. Luis Mora

Framed in Appreciation of the Faculty Dixon High
School, 1971--1975



WEAPONS FOR LIBERTY – USA BONDS: THIRD LIBERTY LOAN CAMPAIGN, BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

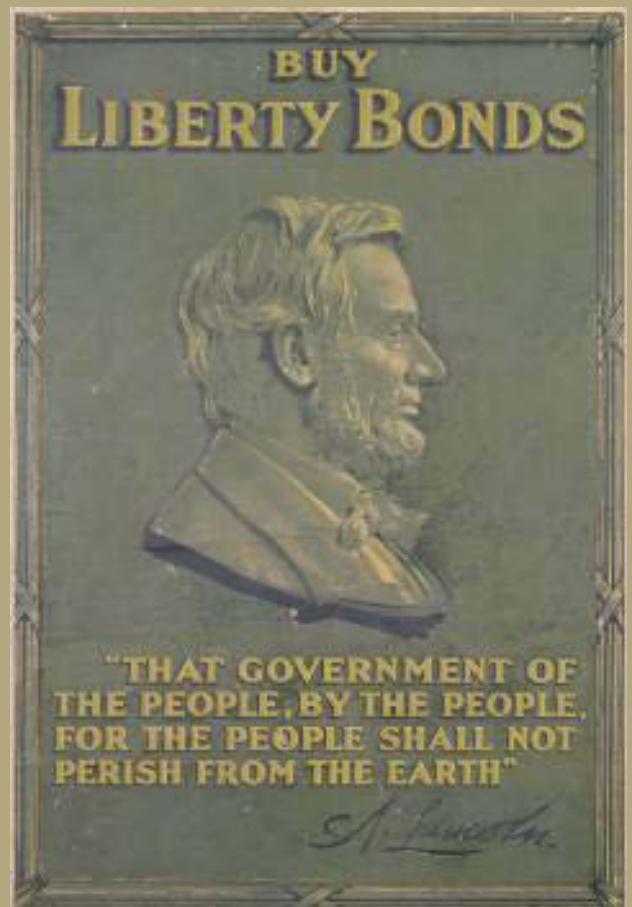
Artist: Joseph Christian Leyendecker
 Framed in honor of Silver Beaver Leslie R. Grigg and Grandson--Eagle Scout, Grant Leslie Brickley by Vernon Brickley Family

THIS IS WHAT GOD GIVES US

Artist: A. Hendee
 Framed in Memory of Ray Price Jr.

"THAT GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE, BY THE PEOPLE, FOR THE PEOPLE SHALL NOT PERISH FROM THE EARTH" – BUY LIBERTY BONDS

Artist: Anonymous
 Framed by Lee County Historical Society



THOUGHTS INSPIRED BY A WAR-TIME BILLBOARD

by Wallace Irwin

I stand by a fence on a peaceable street
And gaze on the posters in colors of flame,
Historical documents, sheet upon sheet,
Of our share in the war ere the armistice came.

And I think about Art as a Lady-at-Arms;
She's a studio character most people say,
With a feminine trick of displaying her charms
In a manner to puzzle the ignorant lay.

But now as I study that row upon row
Of wind-blown engravings I feel satisfaction
Deep down in my star-spangled heart, for I know
How Art put on khaki and went into action.

There are posters for drives--now triumphantly o'er—
I look with a smile reminiscently fond
As mobilized Fishers and Christys implore
In a feminine voice, "Win the War--Buy a Bond!"

There's a Jonas Lie shipbuilder, fit for a frame;
Wallie Morg's "Feed a Fighter" lurks deep in his trench;
There's Blashfield's Columbia setting her name
In classical draperies trimmed by the French.

Charles Livingston Bull in marine composition
Exhorts us to Hooverize (portrait of bass),
Jack Sheridan tells us that Food's Ammunition—
We've all tackled war biscuits under that class.

See the winged Polish Warrior that Benda has wrought!
Is he private or captain? I cannot tell which,
For printed below is the patriot thought
Which Poles pronounce "Śladami Ojcow Naszych."

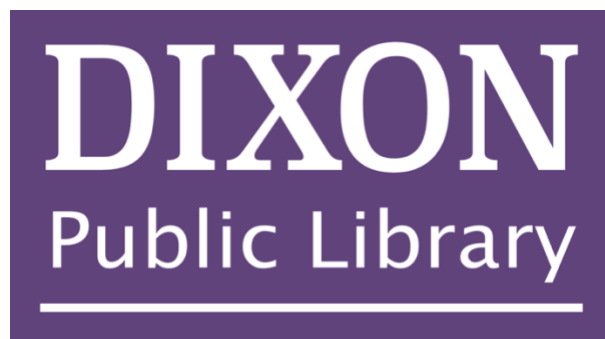
There's the Christy Girl wishing that she was a boy,
There's Leyendecker coaling for Garfield in jeans,
There's the Montie Flagg Guy with the air of fierce joy
Inviting the public to Tell the Marines.

Wallace Irwin (March 15, 1875 – February 14, 1959) was an American writer. Over the course of his long career, Irwin wrote humorous sketches, light verse, screenplays, short stories, novels, nautical lays, aphorisms, journalism, political satire, lyrics for Broadway musicals, and the libretto for an opera.

And the noble Six Thousand--they count up to that—
Are marshalled before me in battered review.
They have uttered a thought that is All in One Hat
In infinite shadings of red, white, and blue.

And if brave Uncle Sam--Dana Gibson, please bow—
Has called for our labors as never before,
Let him stand in salute in acknowledgment now
Of the fighters that trooped from the studio door.





221 S. Hennepin Ave., Dixon, IL, 61021

815-284-7261

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