

# WWH Project Update

by Jess Nather

### Step 1: Initial Research

#### Notes from The Moralist:

- Very inspired by anything English, particularly politics
- As a young man, supported English practice of combining legislative + executive- less power for executive
- Liked executive branch more after Spanish-American War
- Governor of NJ
- Democratic sweep of 1910
- Wilson wins presidency in 1912 thanks to new Democratic voters
- Wilson: Dem + rad
- William Jennings Bryan: Dem + more radical
- Teddy Roosevelt: Rep + rad
- WHT: Rep + conser
- Most Black Americans supported Wilson in 1912- he promised he would do his best to "advanc[e] the interests of their race in the United States"
- Wilson was seen as stiff + reserved

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Una

#### THE MORALIST

their patriotism published reams of it verbatim. From grumbling about Creek their patrious provide the was monopolizing the censorship, the press moved on to grumbling that he was monopolizing the censorship, the press that and the studies, collaborated with movie studies, and news. The CPI also produced movies, collaborated with movie studies, and distributed American films abroad. Creel and his movie brigade dramatized American ideals, captured everyday life in the United States, showed off the army and navy, and assured families that their boys were well cared for. Me inclusive than McAdoo, Creel authorized the making of one film about black soldiers and another featuring the contributions of blacks on the home from

A The bulk of the CPI's publicity was propaganda of the cheerleading varith ety: salutes to America's wartime achievements and celebrations of American ideals. But the president's second Flag Day address, on June 14, 1917. brought a sharp increase in propaganda calculated to spread fear and outrage While American liberals worried about the consequences of unthinking patriotism, Wilson and his cabinet sensed that the public was still unenthusiastic about the war and unconvinced of the dangers they faced. There had been no attack on American soil, and once it became clear that Mexico and Japan would not accept the German government's invitation to invade the United States, many Americans doubted that Germany posed an imminent threat. Fear, hatred of the enemy, war-will-all had to be manufactured.

Speaking in a downpour at the Washington Monument, the president noted that the United States was about to carry the Stars and Stripes into battle and call untold numbers of men to "die beneath it on fields of blood far away." And for what? he asked. His answer took the form of an unsparing indictment of Germany-for its acts of aggression against the United States its militarism, and its quest for world domination. The Imperial German Government was now the only villain on Wilson's horizon, and its villain had left the United States to choose sides. It had done so and, he said. "We

be to the man or group of men that seeks to stand in our way." Germany's defeat would enable George Creel to boast that the CPI had been instrumental in winning the war, and boast he did, in an official report to the president port to the president and a long book How We Advertised America: The

# Step 2: Choosing the Project

- Political inconsistencies
- Which situations were luck? True talent? Ill will? Or incompetence?
- Possible TEDTalk format for final presentation

# Step 3: Categories

### Political Theory

African-American Rights

WWI

Interventionism

### Successes and Dead Ends

- Public speeches— found texts online
- Rediscovery– contained mostly physical objects rather than documents
- Chronicling America– super helpful (thanks, Ms.

Stacey!). German espionage research

#### GERMAN LIES, AND GERMAN SPIES.

German lies and German spies, A sorry combination: German spies and German lies. A curse to any nation; The penalty should be so great, For every violation, Yes, we should hang these rogues in state, And help to free our nation! German lies and German spies, Yet justice now is gaining; German spies and German lies. Their propaganda's waning; A little shot, and shell, and rope, A few quick shots at sunrise, Will give our nation added hope, And squelch these German spies! German lies and German spies, The clouded skies are clearing; German lies and German spies, Your end is surely nearing; A few swift shots at some stone wall. Right early in the morning. Farewell, friend spy, and that is all. Unless you heed the warning!

-WILLIAM HENRY DIXON.

# **Arthur Link Papers**

#### Stone 2/24/16

- Wilson is confident about his struggle to keep the U.S. out of war
- And believes he will continue to succeed
- Believes European powers will respect U.S. neutrality
- Only wants to maintain U.S. honor and principles like liberty
- Demonstrates a strong unwillingness to compromise on that front

#### A News Release 7/28/16

- President has established preparedness measures related to industry and that kinda stuff, not the army
- Wants to focus on science + research

#### Brisbane 4/25/17

- Wilson doesn't want Espionage Act to apply to criticism of him and his own actions because he believes that would go against American principles

#### Helvering 4/19/17

- Defends the Selective Service Act



### What's Next?

- Analyzing Link resources
  – war
- Organize thoughts into specific observations + examples
- Move on to next category: interventionism

Thanks for listening!