

American Defense Society Letter, December 4, 1917

New York, December 4, 1917.

Dear Dick:

I have just got back from the South, and find your letter of November 28th, enclosing the list of current periodicals and newspapers in the New York Public Library. I will take the matter up with the people in Albany and Washington within the next few days and report to you.

As I look through the list, there are two or three matters that I think I can help you on at once. You have marked in this list as "seditious", "Everybody's Magazine", "McClure's Magazine", "The New Republic" and "The Nineteenth Century", among others. The editor of "Everybody's Magazine", Eli Wheeler, is doing the best he can to help on the war. He has been to Albany and asked the Governor to advise him as to what was the best material to put in the paper to help on the cause. He is on a committee to help sell the Liberty Loan through magazines at the present moment.

Charles Hanson Towne, editor of McClure's Magazine, is the Chairman of the Magazine Editors Liberty Loan Committee; is a member of THE WILLIAMS; constantly writing patriotic material for nothing, and as much of an enthusiast as you and I are in favor of the war. There is no question, whatever, as to the loyalty of these two magazines.

"The Nineteenth Century and After" is a British publication.

"The New Republic" has changed since last April. I feel that now it is, in its peculiar way, supporting the country.

The paper called "The Netherlands" has been suppressed once or twice, and I thought it had now changed its name or gone out of existence. I will, however, look this up. Regarding the others, I will write you later.

Yours very truly,

R. M. Ward, Secy.,
Chairman, Board of Trustees,
American Defense Society, Inc.,
44 East 23rd St., New York.

A letter from the American Defense Society, questioning the loyalties of certain printed publications, December, 1917.

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