











American Isolation: Avoiding European Conflicts, 1914-1916

William Allen Rogers
Here lie 'the facts', published May 29, 1915
New York Herald (1835-1924)
Reproduction, Library of Congress Prints
and Photographs

William Allen Rogers

Well, what are you going to do about it?, published November 28, 1915 New York Herald (1835-1924) Reproduction, Library of Congress Prints and Photographs

William Allen Rogers

Decoration Day in Washington,
published January 6, 1916

New York Herald (1835-1924)

Reproduction, Library of Congress Prints
and Photographs

Fred Morgan

Germany under All, circa 1915

Philadelphia Inquirer (founded 1829)

Reproduction

William Allen Rogers
Those Cannon on the Forward Deck,
published June 5, 1915
New York Herald (1835-1924)
Reproduction, Library of Congress Prints
and Photographs

Oscar Cesare
The American War-Dog
(The American-German crisis,
January-March, 1916),
Published circa 1916
Reproduction



Bringing It Home, published October 8, 1916 Punch Magazine (1841-1992; 1996-2002) Reproduction

Intervention: America Enters World War I, 1917-1919

Zimmermann Telegram, 1917 Coded Zimmermann Telegram, 1917 Reproduction, Collection National Archives

Clifford Kennedy Berryman

Hand Carving up a Map of the Southwestern
United States, published March, 1917
Periodical publication unknown
Reproduction, Library of Congress Prints
and Photographs

Artist unknown

The Temptation, published March 2, 1917 *Dallas Morning News* (founded 1885) Reproduction

Artist unknown
Some Promise!, published April 1917
Periodical publication unknown
Reproduction

Rollin Kirby **Exploding In His Hands**, published 1917 *New York World* (1860-1931)
Reproduction

Carroll Kelly
Forward America, 1917
Reproduction, Library of Congress Prints
and Photographs

James Montgomery Flagg

Wake Up America Day,
published April 19, 1917

Periodical publication unknown

Periodical publication unknown
Reproduction, Library of Congress Prints
and Photographs

Artist unknown

140th Flag Day, 1777-1917; The Birthday of the Stars and Stripes June 14, 1917 Reproduction, Library of Congress Prints and Photographs

Artist unknown

Uncle Sam's Birthday July 4th, 1918; 142 Years Young and Going Strong, 1918 Printed by United Cigars Reproduction, Library of Congress Prints and Photographs

Eugene Courboin

Uncle Sam Shaking Hands with Marquis de Lafayette (1757-1834) Printed by Cornille & Serre, 1917 Reproduction, Library of Congress Prints and Photographs

Artist Unknown

World Peace with Liberty and Prosperity, 1919, Happy New Year Printed by United Cigars, 1918 Reproduction, Library of Congress Prints and Photographs

Rejecting the League of Nations: America's Return to Isolation, 1919

Clifford Berryman

At Last, July 10, 1919

Periodical publication unknown

Reproduction, Library of Congress Prints
and Photographs

Leonard Raven-Hill **The Gap in the Bridge**,
published December 10, 1919 *Punch Magazine* (1841-1992; 1996-2002)

Reproduction

Artist unknown **League of Nations**, 1919

Periodical publication unknown

Reproduction

Gustavo A. Bronstrup

They Won't Dovetail, published April 1919

San Francisco Chronicle (founded 1865)

Reproduction, Ohio State University,

Billy Ireland Cartoon Library & Museum

John T. McCutcheon
Interrupting the Ceremony,
published December 27, 1918
Chicago Daily Tribune (founded 1847)
Reproduction, Ohio State University,
Billy Ireland Cartoon Library & Museum

Everett Gale

He Did It, published 1919

Los Angeles Times (founded 1881)

Reproduction, Ohio State University,

Billy Ireland Cartoon Library & Museum

America First, 1924
From a Sermon by Bishop G. Ashton Oldham in Washington, D.C., September 7, 1924
Published by National Council for
Prevention of War
Reproduction, Library of Congress,
Printed Ephemera Collection

American Isolation: World War II, 1939-1941

Vaughn Shoemaker
Only a Generation Apart,
published 1939
Publication unknown
Reproduction, Library of Congress Prints
and Photographs

Jerry Costello

The Restraining Hand Needed, published July 7, 1939 The Knickerbocker News (1843-1988) Reproduction, Library of Congress Prints and Photographs

Artist unknown
War's First Casualty, 1940
Published by America First Committee
Reproduction

Clifford Berryman

Lafayette, we are HERE!,
published May 22, 1940

Washington Evening Star (1852-1981)
Reproduction, National Archives,
Archives Record Group

Dr. Seuss (Theodor Seuss Geisel)

Ho Hum! No Chance of Contagion,
published May 15, 1941

PM Magazine (1940-1948)

Reproduction, UC San Diego,
Special Collections & Archives

Dr. Seuss (Theodor Seuss Geisel)
It's all yours, dear lads! (If you can dope
out a way to get it.), published May 13, 1941
PM Magazine (1940-1948)
Reproduction, UC San Diego,
Special Collections & Archives

Dr. Seuss (Theodor Seuss Geisel)
Relax Sam, I assure you the express
turns off right here!,
published May 13, 1941
PM Magazine (1940-1948)
Reproduction, UC San Diego,
Special Collections & Archives

Dr. Seuss (Theodor Seuss Geisel)
The Old Man of the Sea,
published September 28, 1941
PM Magazine (1940-1948)
Reproduction, UC San Diego,
Special Collections & Archives

Dr. Seuss (Theodor Seuss Geisel) **Guts**, published October 5, 1941 *PM Magazine* (1940-1948) Reproduction, UC San Diego, Special Collections & Archives

Dr. Seuss (Theodor Seuss Geisel)
Peace Apartments, published
December 8, 1941
PM Magazine (1940-1948)
Reproduction, UC San Diego,
Special Collections & Archives

Dr. Matthew Warshauer Guest Curator

Dr. Matthew Warshauer is Professor of History at Central Connecticut State University. Dr. Warshauer has written books on Andrew Jackson and Connecticut in the Civil War, and served as an editor of the journal, *Connecticut History*.

Dr. Seuss, Political Cartoons & the **Battle over Isolationism vs Intervention**

A World War I Anniversary Exhibition

This exhibit explores the world of political cartooning and how artists engaged controversial issues about America's involvement in the world. The focus of the thirty-two cartoons and posters is about American isolation and intervention during and after World War I and in the lead-up to World War II.

We invite you to explore the images and make some determinations regarding the artists' intent. Jot down your ideas or share them with a friend, then turn over the exhibition labels and read about the cartoons. How accurate was your assessment? Did you understand the cartoon's theme and message?

Here are some things to think about when exploring the images:

- > What do you see in the cartoon?
- > Think about the date and what was happening in the weeks and months before. How much do you know about the historical context of the cartoon? Can you describe the cartoon's timing?
- ➤ Look for symbols. What do they mean and how do they represent the cartoon's meaning?
- > Study the title and other text. How does it help to convey the artist's message? Why do some cartoons have text while others don't?
- > Explore the tone of the cartoon. Is it satirical, comic, tragic, ironic, critical, condemning, questioning, imploring, angry?
- > Put it all together. What is the cartoonist's point? What is the artist trying to convey?

Finally, consider this: In the aftermath of WWII the United States not only committed our nation to international involvement, but placed the United Nations in New York City, a distinct statement that the U.S. was now the leading sponsor of a renewed world dialogue. Recently, President Donald J. Trump announced in his Inaugural Address that the U.S. must return to an "America First" philosophy. Do you see comparisons to earlier isolationist views? Do you agree that the U.S. should return to America First?

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