Selling the War to the American Public

See a lesson plan related to this material on the Wisconsin Historical Society website.

Image "Ein Offener Brief (An Open Letter)"
An Open Letter
to all citizens of
Sheboygan County

Office of County Chairman - Sheboygan
Treasure Department - Liberty Loan Organization

October 5, 1918

Dear Sirs:

Saturday, October 12, 1918, the anniversary of the discovery of
America, has been designated by President Wilson as Liberty Day. On this
data, those residents of this county, who have not subscribed to their
just quotas of the Fourth Liberty Loan, will have an opportunity to do so
in the loan campaign headquarters, whose locations are described in the
accompanying form. Your local committee will be available from 9 a.m. to
3 p.m. in the campaign headquarters arranging the day’s activities.
Someone will be available there to provide full information regarding the
bonds.

NOTHING LESS THAN THE AMOUNT DETERMINED FOR EACH INDIVIDUAL BY THE
NON-PARTISAN LOCAL COMMITTEE WILL BE ACCEPTED, AND IT FOLLOWS, THAT THE
COMMITTEE WILL HAVE TO BE SHOWN THAT THE DESIGNATED AMOUNT IS NOT CORRECT
AND THAT AN ADJUSTMENT SHOULD BE MADE.

After you have subscribed your just quota, it will be your duty as a
good citizen, to assist the committee by prevailing upon any of your
neighbors who has not subscribed, to promise to make good on their just
quota on that day; if you have not subscribed your quota, you should do so
on that day.

During the first Liberty Loan campaign many residents of Sheboygan
County did not subscribe.

During the second Liberty Loan campaign many people subscribed for an
insignificant amount of bonds.

During the third Liberty Loan campaign numerous residents subscribed
for their just amount.

In the current fourth campaign there are still many who have not
subscribed, and it is now necessary that everyone perform their duty.
At the conclusion of Liberty Day, October 12th, the anniversary of the
discovery of America, the country where everyone has identical
opportunities and privileges, all subscriptions should be in hand.
At the conclusion of the campaign a list will be prepared of those
who could have subscribed their just quota, but did not want to. This
list will be published in the county newspapers, and a copy will be mailed
to every soldier who is currently in the service of the United States, so
that everyone will be able to draw a clear line between those citizens of
this county who support our government by the purchase of bonds and are a
support for our men at the front and those who have failed to do so.

Yours truly
On behalf of
SHEBOYGAN COUNTY LIBERTY LOAN COMMITTEE
Walter J. Kohler, Chairman

At the end of the campaign a list will be prepared of those who could have subscribed their
correct amount but did not want to.

This list will be published in county newspapers.

It will also be sent to each and every soldier from this country who is currently in the service
of the United States.
Notice paid by the Sheboygan County Liberty Loan Committee

See more classroom materials and lesson plans on the Wisconsin Historical Society website.

wisconsinhistory.org