

THE PUBLIC FORUM

DRY CHICAGO DAY.—Seven hundred churches of Chicago have been asked to co-operate in Dry Chicago day, Sunday, March 18. It is expected that most of the churches will respond to the invitation, although there are some Chicago churches which absolutely refuse to have anything to do with the dry movement.

Workers' cards for enlistment will be circulated in all of the churches participating in Dry Chicago day. Opportunity will be given for workers to become captains of precincts, overseers of blocks, to give addresses, furnish automobiles, contribute musical talent or volunteer for office work. It is expected that at least 10,000 workers will enlist on Dry Chicago day.

The liquor forces are alive to their danger; they are trying in every way possible to offset the work of the Dry Chicago Federation.

A bill has been voted out of the judiciary committee of the city council which will commit, if passed, the city council to an endorsement of a proposed state law, giving the city power to license, regulate, control and prohibit on all days of the week, including Sunday, the manufacture and sale of all liquors. This bill, if passed, would take the saloon out of the control of the state legislature and put it entirely in the hands of a city, village or incorporated town. The evident purpose is to open up the saloons of Chicago on Sunday. The Dry Chicago Federation will oppose the passage of this bill because of its iniquitous provisions.

The question is often asked, "What will become of the Dry Chicago Federation if the state referendum bill is passed?" The referendum bill will provide for a state-wide vote on the saloon question in the fall of 1918. If the bill passes the Dry Chicago Federation will use all of its influence and organization in the state-wide fight. Local organizations will be

necessary in every village, town and city of the state and the Dry Chicago Federation, with its unusually strong backing of all the various forces working for a clean Chicago, will be in a position to exert a tremendous power for a state victory.—Philip Yarrow, Sup't Dry Chicago Federation.

WHAT'S THE USE?—Our friend, Alfred Belrly, says we should petition Wilson to stop the commission men from holding up foodstuffs; also railroads for keeping them in their box cars too long. I think we should petition the supreme judges; then we would get to the right power.

It seems to me that when congress puts a bill through, the high money powers will find a loophole, whereupon they will take it before the supreme court and wait 12 months before action is taken. Then it is 10 to 1 the decision will be against the workers.

Look at the railway workers' 8-hour bill. It has been pending since last summer and nobody knows when they will give a decision. As the railroad brotherhood executives say, they are waiting for a panic or war. I say, come out all in a bunch, like they did in England, war or no war, and let's have the thing settled one way or the other. I hope they will be victorious.—J. Thompson.

THANKS, DR. A. A. GOUR.—I want to express my appreciation of Dr. A. A. Gour's article in answer to "Health Department." Would that we had more doctors like him!

This profession should be the noblest and most humanitarian, but, alas, money is often its only object. Dr. Gour will do untold good to a great number of people if he will write a few more such articles on prevention of disease.

Dr. G. Swarz' suggestion that we need "real doctors" and "real service" for school children should be endorsed by all parents. I have two