

The Commoner

ISSUED MONTHLY

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THE COMMONER, LINCOLN, NEB.

STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912

of The Commoner, published monthly at Lincoln, Nebraska, for April 1, 1916.

State of Nebraska)

County of Lancaster)

Before me, a notary public in and for the state and county aforesaid, personally appeared Chas. W. Bryan, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the publisher of The Commoner, and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management, etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, embodied in section 443, postal laws and regulations, to wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, associate editor, and business managers are:

Publisher: Charles W. Bryan, Lincoln, Nebraska
Editor: William Jennings Bryan, Lincoln, Nebraska
Associate Editor: Charles W. Bryan, Lincoln, Neb.
Business Managers: None.

2. That the owner is: William Jennings Bryan, Lincoln, Nebraska.

3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: None.

CHAS. W. BRYAN, Publisher.
Sworn to and subscribed before me this 31st day of March, 1916.

J. R. FARRIS, Notary Public.
(My commission expires July 19, 1918.)

It is reported that Mr. Roger Sullivan is for Mr. Wilson. That the value of this announcement may not be overestimated, it is well to remember that Mr. Sullivan was for Mr. Bryan when he wanted to be elected to the convention of 1908.

Colonel Roosevelt insists that the republicans must not think of nominating him unless they feel like doing something heroic. Wouldn't nominating a warlike gentleman like the colonel, in the face of the general desire of the people of the United States for peace, be sufficiently heroic to satisfy him?

As proof of the confidence with which the republicans will enter the contest for 1916, it may be pointed out that there is a general willingness to get behind Justice Hughes who hasn't publicly expressed an opinion on great national questions since he stepped upon the bench a half dozen years ago.

SENATOR HITCHCOCK'S FRIENDS

Senator Hitchcock's candidates for the honor of representing the democrats of Nebraska in the national convention posed as the only true and trustworthy friends of the President. It is interesting to learn that 9,417 of Mr. Hitchcock's supporters, instead of voting for Mr. Wilson, voted for a livery man named Ross, thus not only refusing to support the President, but expressing their hostility by voting for a man of whom they had never heard.

The votes cast for Mr. Ross for president were largely cast in the precincts in which Mr. Hitchcock was the favorite. There were eighty-six thousand democratic votes cast, Mr. Wilson received 69,506, Ross 9,417, and some 7,000 did not express presidential preference.

W. J. BRYAN.

Patriotic "Pork"

The papers that make it their business to plead the cause of munition manufacturers and who are beating the bushes for recruits in their fight for bigger appropriations for the army and navy, are becoming very much alarmed for fear the congressmen will be more interested in local improvements than in army contracts. Local improvements are now contemptuously dubbed "pork." If a congressman, following the rule that has been adopted in other places, wants a public building for a town in his district, he is at once accused of voting for "pork." If he wants to improve a river or harbor in order that boats may compete with the railroads, he is accused of voting for "pork." Thus is abuse being substituted for argument. The jingoes having taken possession of the flag, denounce everybody as unpatriotic who does not shout approval of every proposed increase in appropriations for wars that SHOULD never come — and which WILL NOT COME unless we permit the militarists to force us into the adoption of European standards.

These jingo papers, however, have no criticism of the "statesmen" who vote in the interest of manufacturers who live in their district. These papers never accuse a protectionist of being interested in "pork," when he allows his manufacturer constituents to write the tariff schedules. Senator Lodge is advocating a national policy which will bring great profit to the General Electric, which has a great plant in his state, but even the fact that he is a stockholder in the General Electric company passes unnoticed, while the papers that applaud him and the things he advocates derisively shout "pork" whenever a western or southern congressman votes for an appropriation that will be spent in his district. Any pork wanted by the jingoes is patriotic "pork."

W. J. BRYAN.

TO CORRECT MISREPRESENTATIONS

To correct the deliberate and malicious misrepresentations of the corporation controlled papers, the readers of The Commoner are informed that William J. Bryan has never had any thought of going to the democratic national convention as an alternate from Nebraska, or as a delegate from any other state, and that Chas. W. Bryan has had no thought of running for governor without the democratic nomination.

THE THREATENING "DOOM"

There is one portion of the German note that is sure to awaken a hearty response in American hearts. It reads:

"If the German government, nevertheless, is resolved to go to the utmost limit of concessions, it has been guided not alone by the friendship connecting the two great nations for over 100 years, but also by the thought of the great doom which threatens the entire civilized world should the cruel and sanguinary war be extended and prolonged.

"The German government, conscious of Germany's great strength, twice within the last few months announced before the world its readiness to make peace on a basis safeguarding Germany's vital interests, thus indicating that it is not Germany's fault if peace is still withheld from the nations of Europe. The German government feels all the more justified in declaring that responsibility could not be borne before the forum of mankind and in history if after twenty-one months of the war's duration the submarine question under discussion between the German government and the government of the United States were to take a turn seriously threatening maintenance of peace between the two nations."

If Germany shrinks with horror from the thought of extending or prolonging this sanguinary war, surely the peace loving masses of the United States are as unwilling to assume the responsibility of adding to either the length or the extent of the conflict.

Now is the time for this nation to tender its good offices to the belligerents with a view to aiding in the restoration of peace.

W. J. BRYAN.

BEFORE AND AFTER

The following clippings from an unfriendly Iowa paper may interest the readers of The Commoner:

BEFORE

"At last we are prepared to state the facts about the Bryan tour through Iowa—they have fessed up. Mr. Bryan is not to be paid. * * * The levies that have been made on communities are to pay the costs of the special train, with its outriders and intruders. That means nearly a couple of thousands. The towns and cities have been asked to pay this amount, according to their ability and also according to the time that Mr. Bryan will speak in each. * * * The peerless one will make 37 speeches and talks. In Cedar Rapids the Business Men's Temperance association, the W. C. T. U., the Civic league—the mysterious stranger who was present at the Roth-Rall primary — and the Linn County Suffrage association will participate as sponsors, promoters and contributors. And these are all the facts. Praise God, Billy is going to do something for the cause, and not merely for his purse."

AFTER

"That William Jennings Bryan has lost none of his popularity as a citizen and none of his power as a platform orator was demonstrated at the city auditorium last night, when a vast audience packed the building to the doors to hear him talk on woman's suffrage. That was the way he phrased it, 'woman's suffrage.'

"Probably never before, not even on the memorable occasion when A. B. Cummins was first nominated for governor, was there such a large audience in the auditorium. Every seat was occupied long before 8 o'clock, and at that hour every square foot of standing room was also taken. Probably a thousand persons stood throughout Mr. Bryan's speech, which lasted an hour and forty minutes. Probably more than half of those present were women, but all sorts and conditions of men were also in evidence, and it was to the men that Mr. Bryan devoted the greater part of his address.

"Bryan's appearance was greeted with a storm of applause and the demonstrations of approval were frequent throughout his address. Practically the whole of his speech was a plainly-worded and powerful argument for woman suffrage. There was little attempt at sustained flights of eloquence save at the close, when he urged as his final argument in favor of woman suffrage that man needs the co-operation of women to help the United States teach the world how to secure and to maintain peace through love and confidence rather than through force and fear."

BLAME BRYAN

Here is a democratic song—

Blame Bryan;
If anything on earth goes wrong,
Blame Bryan.
If Mexicans are on our track,
If hay is rotting in the stack,
If Porter will not put it back,
Blame Bryan.

If wheat needs rain which doesn't fall,
Blame Bryan;
If corn is short and weeds are tall,
Blame Bryan.
If Greasers cross the Rio Grande,
And kill our folks and spoil our land,
And scare us all to beat the band,
Blame Bryan.

If neutral ships sink out of sight,
Blame Bryan;
If we are not prepared to fight,
Blame Bryan.
This be the burden of our song:
If anything on earth goes wrong,
We need not seek the cause for long—
Blame Bryan.

When neighbors scrap like dogs and cats,
Blame Bryan;
Today all rough-neck democrats
Blame Bryan.
If in the glorious by and by
The people vote Nebraska dry,
If you can't see the reason why,
Blame Bryan.

—A. L. Bixby, in Nebraska State Journal.