

The Commoner

ISSUED MONTHLY

Entered at the Postoffice at Lincoln, Nebraska, as second-class matter.

WILLIAM J. BRYAN, CHARLES W. BRYAN,
Editor and Proprietor Associate Ed. and Publisher
Edit. Rms. and Business Office, Suite 207 Press Bldg.

One Year.....\$1.00 Three Months..... .25
Six Months..... .50 Single Copy..... .10
In Clubs of Five or more per year... .75 Sample Copies Free.
Foreign Post, 25c Extra.

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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, 1919.

State of Nebraska)
County of Lancaster)ss.

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, Nebr.
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 the total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: None.

CHAS. W. BRYAN, Publisher.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 27th day of March, 1919.

J. R. FARRIS, Notary Public.
(My commission expires July 19, 1924.)

NOW FOR WOMAN SUFFRAGE

So many states have granted presidential suffrage to women that all doubt of ratification is removed. The new congress will submit suffrage as soon as it convenes, and the governors should call special sessions at once so as to make sure of ratification before the national conventions are held in 1920.

TO THE GOVERNORS:

If our state legislatures adjourned without providing for road building or other public work for the unemployed during the period of readjustment, would it not be well to call special sessions and have this matter attended to. The number of the unemployed increases and many of them are returning soldiers.

President Wilson is threatening to use the power of publicity upon congress in order to prevent the partisan opposition in the senate destroying the effort to band the nations of the world into a league to prevent future wars. There is this to be said that there isn't a better press agent in the country than the chief executive, and the republicans who are maneuvering for partisan advantage can ill afford to have the spotlight linger too long in their vicinity.

SOMEbody'S BIRTH DAY

"Somebody has a kindly heart,
And a disposition sunny;
Somebody has a cheery smile,
That is worth a mint of money;
Somebody has a birthday,
So this little rhyme I'm sending,
To wish somebody some of the joy
That somebody's always lending."

(One of the birthday cards received by Mr. Bryan on March 19.)

A Good Suggestion

Mayor Hylan makes a good suggestion, which is contained in the following press dispatch from New York, under date of April 2:

"Mayor Hylan, in a letter to the president of the board of aldermen today, requested preparation and passage of an ordinance prohibiting the holding of meetings in New York City whose proceedings are conducted in a foreign language for the abuse of our government, or by, or under the auspices of any person or persons who are not citizens of the United States."

"In the event that state legislation is found necessary to accomplish this purpose, the mayor suggested that the legislature be petitioned for it.

"We must not tolerate those who have not been in this country long enough to learn our language or who are not citizens abusing our hospitality by endeavoring to incite anarchy," he said.

Why not? If an American wants to abuse his government, is it asking too much of him to require that he employ the language of the country?

And what right has an alien—one who is here by courtesy—to abuse this government? If he does not like the government let him go where he pleases, but he should not be allowed to incite revolution against the government while claiming the protection of the flag. Mayor Hylan is right.

W. J. BRYAN.

FIFTY-NINE TODAY

Mr. Bryan is fifty-nine years old today. He is celebrating the anniversary in Baltimore. The country will hear with pleasure of his recovery from his recent illness. When he was taken down, many heard the news with great surprise. Like the late Mr. Roosevelt, he had figured so long in the public eye as the incarnation of industry and restlessness, it was difficult to conceive him horse de combat, in bed, with the cover tucked close under his chin.

At fifty-nine a politician carries no weight for age. He is still eligible for office—even the highest. So that on the score of the years, Mr. Bryan cannot be assigned to the shelf.

Does he still aspire to office? The question is often asked. Many of his admirers hope he does, and that they may have the pleasure of voting for him again next year. He himself says nothing on the subject.

Another inquiry of interest is, What part will Mr. Bryan take in the new movement against prohibition? The drink traffic does not consider itself down and out. It is organizing to come back if possible. It is well supplied with funds; and those in charge of its campaign include lawyers of eminence and managers of experience.

Mr. Bryan led in the movement which resulted in the ratification of the prohibition amendment to the constitution. For months before the necessary votes were obtained, he toured the country in its behalf, discussing only that subject, and was accorded much praise for his activities.

He had time for the work. Upon leaving the state department, he became a free man again, and could come and go and choose his topics at his pleasure.

He has time now. Holding no office, and free to steer his own course, he can give himself to whatever cause appeals the most strongly. The league of nations is at present holding the center of the stage; and later will come the tariff, the railroad question, foreign trade and other features of reconstruction. But prohibition—the holding of advantages gained—will not be lost in the press; and its friends may find it necessary to renew their labors with energy.—Washington Star.

Since Michigan increased her majority against the saloons—even beer saloons—the newspapers which have been misrepresenting the facts in order to make the Chicago election look like a victory for the liquor forces will now have to "go back and sit down."

Now that acting as a mandatory is made optional, the league confined to international matters and the Monroe Doctrine made secure, the objectors will find it difficult to object to the League of Nations.

SUGGESTING CANDIDATES

March 17, 1919.

Editor The Commoner: As a reader of The Commoner since the first issue, as well as a supporter of Mr. Bryan at all times, I think I am entitled to offer suggestions at least, as to our next candidate for the presidency. I agree with you as to his views on prohibition and woman suffrage; it would be useless to try to elect a man unless he stood four-square as to the above questions. We have a man from the great state of Texas who will fill the place admirably. He is young, honest, fearless and true to his convictions. The unborn generations will rise up to call him blessed for his winning fight on prohibition. With a man like Morris Shepperd to lead he hosts of democracy on a platform to suit the common people, autocracy would not have a look in is my humble opinion.

Readers of The Commoner, let us get in behind Morris Shepperd and elect him in 1920.

F. H. KIDD.

Mitchell, S. D., April 3, 1919.

Editor The Commoner: I propose the name of Attorney General A. Mitchell Palmer for the democratic nomination for the presidency. I feel that he is a man around whom true Americans could rally with enthusiasm.

H. A. RODEE.

Des Moines, Iowa, March 20, 1919.

Editor The Commoner: In reply to Mr. Bryan's appeal to the readers of The Commoner for suggestions and help to organize the democratic party for the year 1920 campaign, I make the following suggestions:

First, the raising of a campaign fund, said fund to be raised through the subscribers of The Commoner, each one sending in a dollar at once. Enclosed find my dollar.

Second, National mass meeting to be called as soon as possible for the purpose of organizing the democrat party throughout the nation.

If we are going to win, we must put up a candidate whom the people and the foes of the people know has neither spot nor blemish on his character.

William Jennings Bryan is a man of this type. Some people say the only proper system to raise an army is by conscription. This being true have the people not a right to call a national mass meeting and conscript their choice as candidate for president.

THOMAS McCARTY.

Los Angeles, Cal., March 23, 1919.

Mr. Bryan's constructive program, it seems, includes every phase of our national reconstruction and progress. It shows an intelligent comprehension of the needs of our country and in my opinion there is no one in a better position or more capable of grasping the situation than Mr. Bryan.

As the league of nations and the peace treaty, now being framed in Europe, are drawn, to a great extent, on the principles of the "Bryan Treaties," it places Mr. Bryan in the position of, not only being in accord with the proceedings, but of quickly and easily understanding our international relationships.

Considering these facts it makes Mr. Bryan a most logical man for our next president.

As the people at large understand this it is sure that our leaders of democracy do. Therefore I predict that Mr. Bryan will be our next democratic presidential nominee.

JOHN A. DAVIS.

THE YOUNG MAN'S CHANCE

This is the young man's day. The democratic party needs new men for governors, for senators and for congressmen to take the places of discarded champions of the liquor traffic. Come forth young men and lay claim to leadership—the old politicians have forfeited it.

LET THE FIGHT BEGIN

The sooner the special session opens the sooner the fight between progressive republicans and standpatters will begin. And the longer the session lasts the more bitter will the fight become. Now is the democratic opportunity to drive a wedge between the two factions.

A HARD BLOW

The adoption of an amendment to the league of nations constitution SPECIFICALLY PROTECTING THE MONROE DOCTRINE is "the blow that almost killed" the senators who signed the the "Round Robin."