

tion of their loyalty and sacrifice in every possible way, but it will, at the same time, do its utmost to prevent wars for the future. It will discourage the military spirit and to this end will substitute for the proposed universal military training an inexpensive system of national games with scientific physical training for both boys and girls. It will still further safeguard peace by favoring a referendum on war, except in case of actual attack, so that the final decision between peace and war shall rest with those who, in case of war, will have to furnish the blood and money to carry it on.

The democratic party is especially needed just now to reduce war revenues to a peace basis in such a way that the transition will be made with justice to the common people.

The democratic party believes that the people are the source of power and that their will should be the law. That will should be expressed through constitutional methods and the time has come when, by direct legislation secured through the initiative and referendum, they should safeguard themselves against misrepresentation by their legislative agents. To this end provision should be made for the initiative and the referendum in the states that have not already provided for it and in the nation at large.

As our government becomes more popular in character it becomes more necessary that the people should be fully informed as to the issues to be decided and thoroughly acquainted with the reasons for and against the propositions submitted. Today the avenues of information are entirely in private hands and political bias, not to speak of the polluting influence of predatory wealth, prevents a fair and impartial presentation. This condition demands correction. The government should issue, not a newspaper but an official bulletin containing a statement of all the issues before the people with editorial space containing each party's interpretation of the issues and the reasons in support of both sides. This bulletin, published under bipartisan management, should be issued at nominal cost and at intervals as frequent as may be necessary to fully inform the voting public and thus hasten the settlement of public questions.

Prohibition is now the permanent policy of the country and must be rigidly enforced. Equal suffrage is near and woman's entrance into the arena of politics, just when the corrupting influence of the saloon is banished, gives a double assurance that the triumph of every righteous cause will be hastened.

The democratic party has faith in the capacity of the people for self government and makes its appeal to those who believe that it is the business of the government to bring the rewards of toil into harmony with the Divine law which proportions returns to intelligence and industry, and it believes that the nearest approach to exact justice can be made by applying in all the departments of government the Jeffersonian maxim "Equal rights to all and special privileges to none."

W. J. BRYAN.

#### NO MORE MILITARISM

On another page will be found a Washington dispatch reporting the growing opposition to universal military training. Of course it grows—militarism will be in full retreat by next summer. The war is over and the American people will not revive the war spirit by providing for universal military training.

#### ON THE DOWN GRADE

A London dispatch reports that the British government is considering a "bond lottery." Let us hope the scheme will be rejected. It is enough to have her people maimed physically and crippled financially without inviting wholesale moral degeneracy.

#### WHY NOT KENYON?

If the republicans want a presidential candidate with patriotism, sense, experience in public life, and sympathy with the common people, why don't they nominate Senator Kenyon of Iowa?

#### A HARMLESS MISTAKE

The president erred gravely when he vetoed the bill enforcing war prohibition, but congress immediately corrected the mistake by passing the bill over the veto by a 3 to 1 majority.

President Taft made a similar mistake when he vetoed the Webb-Kenyon bill, but congress made the bill a law in spite of his veto. It is a great thing to have a good congress when presidents go wrong.

W. J. BRYAN.

## Labor's Bad Advisors

Labor has been badly advised recently with the result that her enemies are happy, and her friends distressed. The policeman's strike in Boston turned the public's attention to the fact that the local police organizations in thirty cities had joined the Federation of Labor. It was a mistake to join—a grave mistake, but the danger involved did not become apparent until the Boston police struck and turned the city over to rioters. Then the people realized that a policeman can not have a divided allegiance—his whole duty is to his government.

The coal strike is even worse. The attempt to use the winter's cold to coerce the public into supporting the strike was a gross miscalculation—it alienated sympathy. The public can not be expected to reason calmly while a mob is in control of the city or where there is no fuel for the fire. The policemen and miners may have grievances—there should be investigation, but these two strikes have made it impossible for genuine friends of the wage-earners to defend the methods employed. The crying need of the hour is machinery that will bring about a settlement of industrial disputes before they reach the strike or lockout stage.

W. J. BRYAN.

#### VOTERS WERE ALERT

By the decisive vote of 3,027 to 682 the voters of the city of Lincoln, on November 4th, defeated a proposition to enter into negotiation for the purchase of the street car system that gridirons the city and connects it with various suburbs. This will doubtless be heralded by private monopoly organs as a defeat for public ownership, but it is not. The principle of public ownership was not involved. Mr. Charles W. Bryan, chairman of the Municipal Ownership campaign committee, led the fight against the proposition, and he based his opposition upon the fact that the law under which the proceedings were initiated did not provide any method by which the people themselves might pass upon whether they should pay the price the appraisers might fix.

This law was passed at the last session of the legislature, and provided as the initial step in taking over a public utility that a popular vote should be taken. If the voters declared they desired to ascertain the purchase price, the next step was the appointment by the supreme court of a board of appraisal. The objectionable feature was that if the city council did not reject the appraisal price, the purchase would become binding on the city without any opportunity being given the voters to say whether they wished to pay the appraised sum for the property.

Omaha had been compelled, through a similar law, to pay twice what the water plant it now owns was worth, because the voters had nothing to say after the appraisal had been fixed. Mr. Bryan led a vigorous fight against the possibility of Lincoln being caught in a similar trap and the five to one vote in support of his position proved that he did not appeal in vain.

#### KENTUCKY GOES DRY

The dry amendment has been adopted in Kentucky by over 7,000 majority. This makes thirty-four states dry by their own act. Congratulations, Kentucky! You have done nobly. You are on the side of the conscience of the nation, and you are also in harmony with the democratic leaders in congress.

W. J. BRYAN.

A New Yorker has invented a device in the form of a gas mask which it is claimed will invariably detect from a man's breath the character and alcoholic content of what he has imbibed. There ought to be little sale for that out west where the atmosphere is not in such a condition that it enables a man to determine whether the other party to the conversation has been taking what no longer makes Milwaukee famous.

#### NECESSARY

Senator Kenyon's bill, providing for the teaching of the English language to foreign-born adults, meets a long-felt need. This is the land in which the people rule. How can they rule intelligently unless they understand the issues, and how can they understand the issues unless they understand the language of the country? Pass the Kenyon bill.

#### PRESIDENT'S THANKSGIVING PROCLAMATION.

A Washington dispatch, dated November 5, says: The people of the United States are called upon "to bulwark with loyalty and patriotism those principles for which the free people of the earth fought and died," in President Wilson's annual thanksgiving message issued today. The proclamation sets aside November 27 as thanksgiving day. The proclamation follows:

"The season of the year has again arrived when the people of the United States are accustomed to unite in giving thanks to Almighty God for the blessings which he has conferred upon our country during the twelve months that have passed. A year ago our people poured out their hearts in praise and thanksgiving that through divine aid the right was victorious and peace had come to the nations which had courageously struggled in defense of human liberty and justice. Now that the stern task is ended and the fruits of achievement are ours, we look forward with confidence to the dawn of an era where the sacrifices of the nations will find recompense in a world at peace.

"But to attain the consummation of the great work to which the American people devoted their manhood and the vast resources of their country they should, as they give thanks to God, re-consecrate themselves to those principles of right which triumphed through His merciful goodness. Our gratitude can find no more perfect expression than to bulwark with loyalty and patriotism those principles for which the free peoples of the earth fought and died.

"During the past year we have had much to make us grateful. In spite of the confusion in our economic life resulting from the war we have prospered. Our harvest has been plentiful and of our abundance we have been able to render succor to less favored nations. Our democracy remains unshaken in a world torn with political and social unrest. Our traditional ideals are still our guides in our paths of progress and civilization.

"These great blessings thus vouchsafed to us, for which we devoutly give thanks, should arouse us to a fuller sense of our duty to ourselves and to mankind to see to it that nothing we may do shall mar the completeness of the victory which we helped to win.

"No selfish purpose animated us in becoming participants in the world war, and with a like spirit of unselfishness we should strive to aid by our example and by our co-operation in realizing the enduring welfare of all peoples and in bringing into being a world ruled by friendship and good will.

"Wherefore, I, Woodrow Wilson, president of the United States of America, hereby designate Thursday, the 27th day of November next, for observance as a day of thanksgiving and prayer by my fellow countrymen, inviting them to cease on that day from the ordinary tasks and to unite in their homes and in their several places of worship in ascribing praise and thanksgiving to God, the author of all blessings, and the master of our destinies.

"In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be fixed.

"Done in the District of Columbia this fifth day of November in the year of our Lord, 1919, and of the independence of the United States the 144th.

"WOODROW WILSON."

Egyptian Mohammedans have solemnly proclaimed Woodrow Wilson to be a prophet. The attempt of the republicans in the senate to prove the contrary might courteously be excused on the ground that they don't like Egyptian Mohammedans.

#### NOBILITY

True worth is in being, not seeming.—  
In doing each day that goes by  
Some little good—not in dreaming  
Of great things to do by and by  
For whatever men say in blindness,  
And spite of the fancies of youth,  
There is nothing so kindly as kindness,  
And nothing so royal as truth.

We cannot make bargains for blisses,  
Nor catch them like fishes in nets;  
And sometimes the thing one life misses  
Helps more than the thing which it gets  
For good lieth not in pursuing,  
Nor gaining of great nor of small,  
But just in the doing, and doing,  
As we would be done by is all.

—Alice Cary.