

OBSERVATIONS

BY SARAH B. HARRIS

"Plutocracy in Instruction"

In "The Commoner" of April 11 the editor says in regard to the appointment of Mr. Alleyne Ireland by the authorities of the university of Chicago to study the problem of the United States in the Philippines:

"Attention is called to this matter because it is one of the many evidences of the studied and concerted efforts on the part of plutocracy to change public sentiment and substitute the doctrines of Europe for the doctrines of America. Here is a great university endowed by the chief stockholder in one of the greatest and most extortionate of trusts. The Standard Oil company is the most open and notorious law-breaker in the United States, beside which petty criminals who are in the penitentiary seem insignificant. It not only controls the oil business but is reaching out for the control of other branches of business, and already its New York bank exerts a potent influence on national finances. The institution endowed by this prince of trust magnates sends to England for a champion of the colonial idea, publishes the fact that he is to be sent to Asia to study the colonial problem and then is to occupy a chair and give to American students the advantages of his natural bias in favor of monarchical institutions.

"It is not necessary for us to wait until his return to know what his instruction will be. The whole tenor of it will be to cultivate a contempt for the doctrines set forth in the Declaration of Independence and to inculcate a love for the doctrines of conquest and spoliation. He is to write articles for American magazines and his views will be spread broadcast as the views of a 'learned' and 'unbiased' man.

"The readers of The Commoner are urged to bring these matters to the attention of their republican neighbors in order that the rank and file of the republican party may know of the insidious and persistent attacks which are being made upon American ideas and the fundamental principles of free government."

To the subscribers of The Commoner who have read Mr. Ireland's book, "Tropical Colonization," the absurdity of the foregoing warning is apparent without further comment. The foremost authority on this phase of national development says:

"The general sentiment in regard to colonies during the period of the old colonial system was that they existed merely for the benefit of the sovereign state; that they were a national asset which should be made to yield as much profit as possible to the mother country . . . but the revolt of the American colonies struck the death knell of the system and taught Englishmen a lesson which slowly but surely carried the nation into the second stage of the colonial idea."

The second stage the author names "laissez aller." The American victory made Englishmen doubt if any of the colonies could be retained and Englishmen questioned if the cost were repaid by the returns.

The third stage was reached in 1887 in the year of the queen's golden jubilee, when the fervent loyalty of the colonies was first largely expressed by representatives in London.

Since the first period a great change has taken place in the attitude of the mother country to her colonies. In pre-revolution days England administered the affairs of the colonies for the benefit of the inhabitants of the island of England. Ireland's trade was repressed and her industries extinguished for the benefit of Englishmen in England. Feudalism was dosed and kept alive when it was dying both in England and Ireland.

But Albion has come a long way since then. There is corruption and selfishness in the British foreign office still, but the avowed and working principle by which all the colonies are held and administered is the development of colonial interests first. If Australia and Canada were for only a few months administered solely in the interests of England, the island government would have a war to wage simultaneously in two quarters of the globe.

As a matter of fact these two countries manage their own affairs. An attempt on the part of England to interfere in any internal development of trade or with advantageous commercial relations with other countries would be immediately resented. The connection is somewhat formal and is as much a matter of pride and of historical habit to the Australians and Canadians as to Englishmen. This is the third stage which colonial development has reached. No country can hold another peaceably by operating any other system. To hold a country by force of arms for any length of time is no longer the answer to the question.

This is a day of combination. The United States has taken a new partner. Just as soon as the partner develops the power of initiative and of executive ability the Filipinos can run their own affairs. The connection with the United States will be for mutual profit and reputation. Otherwise the United States can not hold the islands. A business that does not pay has a short life.

All that the United States proposes to do with the Philippines is to hasten evolution, to force the islanders to skip or curtail some of its first stages. What man has done man can do. The children of Israel were successively brought into intimate relations with the civilizations of several nations. They extracted the best and most permanent parts of these civilizations and went their way. Their development from the nomadic stage was very rapid. And partly in consequence their legacy to humanity is the richest legacy of all.

As Dr. Lyman Abbott says in "The Rights of Man": "In the beginning of the Christian era two ideals of social organization confronted each other, the Roman and the Hebraic. In the Roman empire the entire organization, political, social, educational and religious, was framed and administered for the benefit of the few. . . . The political institutions of the Hebrew commonwealth were framed on the assumption that the world is made for all and the few are to be servants of the many, a doctrine which has never found a clearer definition than in the statement of the Great Prophet of the New Judaism, 'He that is greatest among you shall be your servant.' The history of Europe from the first to the nineteenth century may be regarded as the history of the conflict between these two conceptions of life and of the social order, in which in successive epochs the Hebrew conception, entertained originally by an insignificant and despised people, has triumphed over the Roman conception once entertained unquestioned throughout the then civilized world."

Not a part of the world, but all nations strong enough to colonize have adopted this view of government for the benefit of the governed rather than for the governor. England, Russia and the United States, either singly or in alliance, are not strong enough to force a return to an earlier stage.

The university of Chicago has assumed an expert's expenses and salary for three years, during which time Mr. Ireland will study the new subject of

the United States in the Philippines. Is it for this rational course that the university is accused of subservency to wealth?

Mr. Bryan has been a lawyer and knows that one of the first things the young lawyer is taught is to investigate all the parts of a case in dispute. Second-hand information and surmises, taking what a man says for granted, et cetera, is not the way to win cases. Such a method is acceptable enough at a tea-table or on a campaign stump, but it is the last resort of the lawyer or scrupulous editorial writer. This careful, open-eyed, close study of the subject by an expert is scientific. It is in this way that truth is discovered. By these means Edison discovered the telephone; by these means Columbus discovered America. To learn all that other men have discovered and verified and to start where they stopped, verifying as you go on, is the scientific method. On account of the general adoption of this method we can telegraph, telephone, ride in a railroad train at a speed of sixty miles an hour, and finally communicate with a ship one thousand miles from our coast. Most of the wonderful inventions and discoveries have been made by pursuance of the scientific method. Occasionally a lucky hobbledehoy has stubbed his toe against a find, long hid on the highway, stared a moment, picked it up and made his fortune. But most of the great benefactors have started to look for a definite thing, aided thereto by the hints and experimental research of other men.

In regard to the university's employments of the scientific method, Mr. Bryan says: "The readers of The Commoner are urged to bring these matters to the attention of their republican neighbors in order that the rank and file of the republican party may know of the insidious and persistent attacks which are being made upon American ideas and fundamental principles of free government."

As to the form of the editorial in question, it is no better and no worse than the ones with which the readers of The Commoner are familiar.

Mr. Bryan is not in the habit of paying any attention to even the elementary rules of English composition when he writes an editorial. As to the rules of English adopted even by the least distinguished among editors, Mr. Bryan might be in a trance for all the attention he pays to them. I can not believe that even Mr. Bryan does not know that "it" can commit no crime; "it" can not do wrong; "it" is neutral, impersonal; "it" has not the dignity of a quadruped, and, of course, can not be considered in relation to the moral law. One might as well say: "Why is a brick house?" There is no sense in it. Yet the Peerless says: "The Standard Oil company is the most open and notorious lawbreaker in the United States, beside which petty criminals who are in the penitentiary seem insignificant. 'It' not only controls the oil business but 'it' is reaching out for the control of other branches of business."

* * *

Predatory Wealth

Predatory, according to Webster's dictionary, means characterized by plundering, practicing rapine, pillaging, hungry, ravenous. We should know the dictionary definition of this word in order to compare it with the meaning attached to it by Mr. Bryan in his personal organ, the Commoner. He cannot mean that all wealth is predatory, because by the judicious exploitation of two nominations for the presidency of this country he has made money enough to buy twenty-five or thirty acres in the suburbs of Lincoln and to erect there a large and plutocratic barn and dwelling house, an edifice which Mr. Morton of The Conservative refers to as "The House that Gab Built." But only a few have Mr. Bryan's gifts and he can not mean that the man who accepts his strictures must remain poor unless he can secure a nomination for the presidency and enter the bristling ranks of plutocracy by charging the party

LOUIS N. WENTE, D. D. S.,
OFFICE, ROOMS 26, 27, 1, BROWNELL
BLOCK,
187 South Eleventh street,
Telephone, Office, 530.

DR. BENJ. F. BAILEY,
Residence, Sanatorium. Tel. 617.
At office, 3 to 4, and Sundays, 12 to 1 p. m.
DR. MAY L. FLANAGAN,
Residence, 621 So. 11th. Tel. 660.
At office, 10 to 12 a. m.; 4 to 6 p. m.
Sundays, 4 to 4:30 p. m.
Office, Zehring Block, 141 So. 12th. Tel. 618.

J. R. HAGGARD, M. D.,
LINCOLN, NEB.
Office, 1100 O street—Rooms 212, 213, 214,
Richards Block; Telephone 535.
Residence, 1310 G street; Telephone K984

M. B. KETCHUM, M. D., Phar. D.
Practice limited to EYE, EAR, NOSE,
THROAT, CATARRH, AND FITTING
SPECTACLES. Phone 848.
Hours, 9 to 5; Sunday, 1 to 2:30.
Rooms 313-314 Third Floor Richards
Block, Lincoln, Neb.

Miss Lippincott (Studio, Room 66
Brownell Block)
Lessons in Drawing, Painting,
Pyrography, Wood Carving, Im-
proved China Kiln, China deco-
rated or fired.
Studio open Monday, Tuesday,
Thursday, and Friday afternoons
2 to 5 o'clock. Saturday mornings 9 to 12.

... THE ...
First National Bank
OF LINCOLN, NEBRASKA
Capital, \$200,000.00
Surplus and Profits, 71,304.00
Deposits, 2,624,328.00
S. H. BURNHAM, A. J. SAWYER,
President, Vice-President.
H. S. FREEMAN, Cashier.
H. B. EVANS, FRANK PARKS,
Asst. Cashier. Asst. Cashier.
United States Depository



The quality of the Piano you use
will have more to do with the
success of your career as a musician
than possibly you may think.
If you use a

Weber,
Bauer, or
Matthews

your success is assured, every-
thing else being equal.
You can buy any one of these
beautiful instruments on easy
terms at the lowest possible prices
consistent with quality, of the

**Matthews
Piano Co.**

Warehouses 1120 O Street, Lincoln