

## The Commoner.

ISSUED WEEKLY

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government we have found the best means of insuring to us, what you have been enjoying through the same means for a hundred and forty years, the "inalienable rights of life, liberty and pursuit of happiness."

"It is equally gratifying and significant that the political ideas and ideals of two great people though separated by a broad ocean and living under different skies, are of one and the same kind. The declaration in our ancient classics and the words of one of your greatest presidents, both of which you have just recited, show that the Chinese and the Americans are always united in their love of a government based on the people's will. I am confident in the hope that this common faith in the soundness of republican government will serve to bring China and the United States into a yet closer contact than they are now and to further strengthen the friendly relations which have invariably existed between them."

Assistant Chinese Secretary Peck read the Chinese text of President Wilson's message and of the remarks of the charge d'affaires, while Mr. Wellington Ku, a graduate of Columbia university, read the English text of the president's reply. The members of the American legation were all introduced to the president who, after a brief conversation withdrew.

The party was then shown through the grounds and buildings of the west park, and on returning to the palace were met by President Yuan and invited to lunch with him. Music was supplied during the meal by a military band and at the conclusion of the luncheon several pictures were taken of the company. The charge d'affaires and party then took leave and were escorted back to the legation.

Resolutions thanking the American nation for its action were passed by both houses of the national assembly on Saturday, May 3rd. All the American consuls and the commander-in-chief of the Asiatic fleet were informed of the intention of Charge Williams to deliver the message of recognition and called upon the local authorities at the same hour.

Great enthusiasm was shown in Hankow and Wuchang where criers with gongs were sent about the streets announcing the recognition of the Chinese republic by the United States of America.

At Shanghai there was general rejoicing and a celebration of the occasion by appropriate decoration. The charge d'affaires also reported that an elaborate program for the celebration of the event on the 8th of May had been prepared and similar celebrations were to be held throughout the country. His report is dated May 6th, and closes with the statement that it would result in a good effect upon the relations between the two countries and it is hoped would do much to consolidate and strengthen the new republic of China.

### THE PEOPLE'S "LOBBYIST"

Referring to the charge that the president has been "lobbying" the Washington correspondent for the Chicago Record-Herald says: "What President Wilson has done has been to remind

democrats that it is their duty to vote to carry out the party platform pledges. He regards himself as the accredited representative of the voters who wanted certain things done. Complaint has been made that the 'people' have no representatives in the lobby that infests the national capital; that it is the 'interests' which selfishly are affected that maintain bureaus and such for the influencing of legislation. Perhaps President Wilson may regard himself as the 'people's lobbyist'—and when you come to think of it in the light suggested by the term last quoted, the people are not so all-fired badly off for a lobby agent after all. If the people, or a great part of the people, approve things the president is trying to accomplish they ought to understand by the signs to date that they have a very effective worker. For the signs point to the accomplishment of the executive program as far as it has been outlined."

### CHINDA'S MESSAGE TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

The speech of Viscount Chinda, at the dinner given recently in Pittsburgh, to George W. Guthrie, the new ambassador to Japan, will surely have a wide effect in allaying irritation and removing misapprehensions.

Thoroughly judicial in tone and temper, the address breathes a spirit of large-minded tolerance which constitutes a most effective rebuke to the coteries which discover a menace in everything Japan says and does. This Pittsburgh address of Ambassador Chinda, deserves to be taken, and undoubtedly will be received, for what it really is—an open message to the American people.

In his negotiations with Washington, the Japanese ambassador has in the very nature of things assumed the role of an advocate, and he has presented the Japanese case from Japan's standpoint. But it is clear that Chinda realizes that the relations between the two countries rest on a broader basis than that of the particular claims which Japan makes at the present time, and, coming as it does from the accredited representative of Japan in the United States, Chinda's statement can be accepted as embodying the real feeling of the Japanese government, and, we think, of the majority of the Japanese people.

There have been many speeches in Japan, along the lines marked out in Chinda's address at Pittsburgh, but that utterance derives an exceptional significance from the fact that it was delivered in the United States, and by the man, who, of all living Japanese statesmen, comes in closest personal contact with the American public.—Buffalo (N. Y.) Times.

### AMERICA'S MISSION

Much has been said of late about Anglo-Saxon civilization. Far be it from me to detract from the service rendered to the world by the sturdy race whose language we speak. The union of the Angle and the Saxon formed a new and valuable type, but the process of race evolution was not completed when the Angle and the Saxon met. A still later type has appeared which is superior to any which has existed heretofore; and with this new type will come a higher civilization than any which has preceded it. Great has been the Greek, the Latin, the Slav, the Celt, the Teuton and the Anglo-Saxon, but greater than any of these is the American, in whom are blended the virtues of them all.

Civil and religious liberty, universal education and the right to participate, directly or through representatives chosen by himself, in all the affairs of government—these give to the American citizen an opportunity and an inspiration which can be found nowhere else. Standing upon the vantage ground already gained, the American people can aspire to a grander destiny than has opened before any other race.

Anglo-Saxon civilization has taught the individual to protect his own rights; American civilization will teach him to respect the rights of others. Anglo-Saxon civilization has taught the individual to take care of himself; American civilization, proclaiming the equality of all before the law, will teach him that his own highest good requires the observance of the commandment: "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself."

Anglo-Saxon civilization has, by force of arms, applied the art of government to other races for the benefit of Anglo-Saxons; American civilization will, by the influence of example, excite in other races a desire for self-government and a determination to secure it.

Anglo-Saxon civilization has carried its flag

every clime and defended it with forts and garrisons; American civilization will imprint its flag upon the hearts of all who long for freedom.

To American civilization, all hail! "Time's noblest offspring is the last!"—Extract from speech delivered by Mr. Bryan at Washington Day banquet, given by the Virginia Democratic association, at Washington, D. C., February 22, 1899.

### THE NEW INDIAN COMMISSIONER

Referring to Cato Sells, recently chosen by President Wilson to be Indian commissioner, the Dubuque (Iowa) Telegraph Herald says: "The Iowa press, without regard to party, is generous in praise of the appointment of Hon. Cato Sells, of Texas, to be commissioner of Indian affairs. It is easy to understand why this is so. Mr. Sells is a former Iowan and made his residence laterally in Vinton, Benton county. He was federal attorney for the northern district of Iowa during the last Cleveland administration and established a great reputation for himself in the prosecution of the Van Lueven pension fraud cases, in which the eccentric but able "Pine Tree Bill" Irwin was chief of the opposing counsel. When other Cleveland appointees bolted the party in 1896, Mr. Sells, notwithstanding he was not a bimetalist of the 16 to 1 school, remained loyal. He was for years, until his removal from the state in 1906, a leader of the democracy of Iowa, and was repeatedly a delegate to national conventions. Upon his removal from Iowa several years ago, Mr. Sells plunged immediately into the politics of the Lone Star state. He took with him to his new field of labor a knowledge of methods of political organization that, if shared by other Texans, at least was not put frequently into practice by them. Moreover, he took with him his remarkable dynamic energy and the southern suns have not availed to minimize it in the least. To say that he is one of the biggest men in the party in a state priding itself upon big men, is to give him praise no higher than his deserving. President Wilson's success in winning the Texas delegation to the Baltimore convention is due principally to the organizing genius and the industry of Cato Sells. In honoring him with appointment, the president is standing by a friend. Moreover, he is putting into the public service a man to be depended upon for integrity in all his public, no less than his private relations. Considering the dignity and the responsibility of Mr. Sells' high office, which carries with it a salary of \$7,500 a year, the former Iowan has reason to feel highly complimented. His friends in Iowa tender him whole-hearted congratulations."

### A FALSE CHARGE

A Philadelphia dispatch, carried by the Associated Press will be interesting in many sections of the country. The dispatch follows: Charged with conspiracy to print and circulate what purported to be an oath taken by candidates for the fourth degree of the Knights of Columbus, Charles Megonigal, a printer, of 4201 Brown street, and Clarence H. Stage, of 4123 Lancaster avenue, have been indicted. Megonigal, who is a former policeman and coroner's deputy, was indicted on four counts and Stage on two. It is charged that the papers alleged to have been circulated by the defendants constitute "a malicious, false, blasphemous and indecent libel" on the Knights of Columbus as an organization and on James A. Flaherty, Philip A. Hart and Charles B. Dowds, as members of the fourth degree. Flaherty is supreme knight of the order, and Hart is master of the fourth degree. The language of the "oath" is of the most violent and fanatical character. From time to time it has made its appearance in different parts of the country. Megonigal and Stage were arrested last February. In his testimony at the magistrate's hearing Flaherty denied absolutely that the Knights of Columbus is an oath bound order. He said no oath is taken by any member or officer of the organization.

### DEMOCRATIC LITERATURE

W. N. Randolph, Ala.—In the flush and pride of victory, we must not forget who it was that has kept the altar fires of true democracy burning steadily for sixteen long years—The Commoner and Bryan with his lectures. The rank and file can best do their duty by supporting these old leaders. Enclosed find my check for \$4.50 for yearly subscriptions to the enclosed list of subscribers.