

merce and labor the bureaus of immigration, naturalization, labor statistics, and the children's bureau. The purpose of the department, as set forth in the act creating it, is to foster, promote and develop the welfare of the wage earners of the United States; to improve their working conditions, and advance their opportunities for profitable employment. Due to the failure of congress to provide the department at the time of its organization with funds to carry on the work, its activities have been limited and its progress somewhat impeded. Under section eight of the organic law creating the department the secretary of labor "shall have power to act as mediator and to appoint commissioners of conciliation in labor disputes whenever, in his judgment, the interests of industrial peace may require it to be done . . ." Under this authority Secretary Wilson, without funds to carry on the work, has by detaching men from other branches of the service, been successful in satisfactorily adjusting several trade disputes, among which were the strike of the clerks on the New York, New Haven and Hartford railroad system and the strike of the forgers in the works of the Erie, Pa., Forge company.

At the present time the department has men detailed and at work endeavoring to adjust several other trade disputes. In the event that congress provides the funds asked for in the urgent deficiency bill for the carrying on of this work of mediation and conciliation under section eight the department will be able to accomplish much in this work.

The department of labor has a great work ahead of it in the promotion of industrial peace in connection with its activities along these lines. In a recent statement Secretary Wilson stated concisely his views relative to a closer relationship between employers and employes, as follows:

"I look forward over the future of the department of labor as a means of helping to bring nearer year by year the goal of complete social justice. This must surely be the ideal of those who regard humanity as something too sacred for selfish exploitation. Every man is entitled to the full social equivalent of what he produces. The problem is to arrive at that figure. Capital and labor are partners. The department of labor is to prove a promoter of industrial peace. Capital without labor is ineffective. Labor without capital is idle. Capital is an inanimate thing. It represents the accumulation of the unconsumed product of previous labor. On the other hand capital is the means by which labor can live until the products of its efforts can be realized on. Capital, the inanimate thing, can produce nothing except by providing opportunity for labor. Therefore, capital and labor, to be effective, must serve each other. It is only when it comes to a division of what has been produced that their interests diverge. Here is where the opportunity exists in this country for these two mutual interests to sit down in the council chamber of judgment and work out a division that has regard for the proper rights of each. Consequently, I look forward with great assurance to the future of this department. It must tend toward industrial peace."

The foregoing is a summary of the new duties which have been imposed upon the department of labor. In addition to these, of course, it takes over the numerous duties incident to the execution of the various statutes by the bureaus which are transferred to its jurisdiction from the former department of commerce and labor. Closely allied with the new duties which devolve upon this department are the questions of immigration, the prevention of infant mortality which falls to the lot of the children's bureau, and the many diversified duties of the bureau of labor statistics.

**THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

The state department has had a large amount of important work before it since the fourth of March. It inherited from the Taft administration the Mexican problem—the revolution having occurred just prior to the inauguration. This problem still continues to engage attention, but the country seems to be satisfied with the president's efforts toward the restoration of permanent peace and orderly government in that country. The California alien land laws involved this country in diplomatic correspondence with Japan and the incident is not yet closed. The Chinese loan has demanded attention, then came the recognition of the Chinese republic, and now there is a disturbance in China, caused by the

uprising in the southern provinces. More recently there has been internal trouble in Venezuela and Peru, not to speak of the Balkan war, with its questions relating to religious persecution. The department has had to deal with the continuing subject of dollar diplomacy, the eradication of which has been commenced. All these have demanded consideration in addition to the changes incident to a new administration and the routine work that runs along all the time.

The country seems to be pleased with the policies which the president has put forth through the state department, as well as in the other departments of the government.

In the matter of peace, the state department has been making progress. The readers of The Commoner have been informed of the peace plan presented to all the nations last April. Acceptances of the principle involved have been received from the following nations, twenty-five in number: Italy, Great Britain, France, Brazil, Sweden, Norway, Russia, Peru, Austria, Netherlands, Bolivia, Germany, Argentina, China, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Haiti, Spain, Portugal, Belgium, Denmark, Chili, Cuba, Costa Rica and Salvador. The last on the list, Salvador, announced her acceptance, not only of the principle, but of the details suggested by this government, and a treaty embodying the provisions agreed upon, has been signed by the official representatives of the United States and Salvador. The details of the signing of this document, together with a full text of the treaty, will be found on another page. Little Salvador thus has the honor of being the first country to join the United States in a treaty embodying a plan, which promises to become world wide in its scope and lasting in its influence. No nation, so far, has objected to any part of the plan or any of the details, but, with the exception of Salvador, they have the details under consideration, action being largely suspended during the summer months when the foreign representatives are taking their vacations.

**HEARING FROM HOME**

The following resolutions adopted by the democratic county central committee of Sarpy county, Nebraska, indicate the sentiment among democrats relative to the tariff and currency bills now before congress:

Whereas, President Wilson has wisely recommended to congress the immediate passage of a currency measure, carefully designed to protect the people and honest business of the country against the possibility of the money stringency now and always threatened by the powerful capitalistic combinations whenever just remedial legislation seems probable or possible, and,

Whereas, It is imperative that the administration at this time receive the loyal support of all democratic members of the house and senate in its great battle against greed and privilege, and for the common people. Therefore, be it

Resolved, By the democratic county central committee of Sarpy County, Nebraska, that all democratic representatives in congress be and hereby are called upon and earnestly requested to loyally and patriotically give unqualified support to the great administration measures now pending before congress relative to tariff and currency, and to defer until some future session of congress the offering of amendments or criticism likely to delay, obstruct or defeat the passage of either measure. Be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be immediately transmitted to our representatives in congress.

Adopted July 19, 1913.

P. J. MELIA,  
Chairman.  
W. D. SCHAAL,  
Secretary.

Attest:

**NEW YORK POLITICS**

Governor Sulzer's break with Tammany was the very best thing for popular government that could have happened. To be sure, it has brought upon him the enmity of powerful politicians and assaults of all kinds have been made upon his character. But all Governor Sulzer needs to do to be triumphant is to stand faithful and true to the public welfare. If he has made mistakes—as all men have—in the past, they will not be held against him, provided he avoid the mistake of yielding one inch of the ground he has taken in opposition to the forces that traffic in the honor of New York state and in the honor of the democratic party.

HELP

The administration has given its unqualified endorsement to the tariff and currency bills now before congress. These bills are a fulfillment of the democratic national platform on these issues. We have every reason to believe that the enactment of these measures into law will bring a much needed relief from the currency and tariff bills that have been put on our statute books by means so illuminatingly described by Colonel Mulhall. It is the duty of every one who desires to see these measures passed with the least possible delay to write their senators and congressman at once and urge them to stand shoulder to shoulder with President Wilson and not permit the bills to be emasculated or their passage delayed by special interests.

**SYMPATHY TO CUBA**

Secretary of State Bryan sent a message of sympathy to President Menocal on the murder of General Riva, chief of the Cuban national police. He said: "The government of the United States has heard with deep sorrow and regret of the tragic occurrences at Havana on the afternoon of July 7 and desires to offer your excellency and the government of Cuba sincere sympathy on the loss of a valued public servant killed in the discharge of his duty. The government of the United States notes with gratification that your excellency's government has evidenced its determination to mete out justice to the perpetrators of this crime, for it feels that only thus can respect for the law and the tranquility of the country be maintained. The government of the United States has no doubt of your excellency's desire and ability to maintain order and enforce the laws of Cuba, and desires, in conclusion, to assure you of its hearty sympathy and support in all proper endeavors to this end."

**THE COMMONER'S NEW FORM**

Columbia (S. C.) State: Even once a month is too often for The Commoner to appear—for the standpatters.

Washington (D. C.) Post: Hereafter The Commoner will be issued monthly instead of weekly; and yet some folks will persist in saying that Mr. Bryan isn't a sincere reformer.

Omaha World-Herald: Since The Commoner is to be published monthly instead of weekly we may presume Mr. Bryan thinks that the country now does not need watching so closely as heretofore.

Sioux City (Iowa) Journal: If Dr. Bryan will mix the medicine himself, Commoner readers probably will be willing to wait a month between doses.

**LESSONS OF THE LOBBY**

The American people are at last getting some definite information concerning their government. The lobby investigation, together with the Mulhall revelations, is showing why representative government does not represent. The fact is also made plain that without the safeguards of initiative, referendum and recall, it can not represent.—The Public (Chicago.)

**A GOOD WORD FROM ALABAMA**

Editor The Commoner: I expect to continue my subscription to your paper, let it come weekly or monthly or annually, so long as it lives. I am happy to know that Bryanism (and Christianity) with Wilson are in the lead in our government. May God smile upon our nation.—J. R. Crumpton, Berlin, Alabama.

Watch the judicial appointments and you will see that the president and attorney general are trying to secure men whose sympathies are with the people rather than with the special interests.

Commencing with this issue The Commoner will reproduce each month some of the best cartoons from the daily press and other publications.