

for which please renew my subscription. I had thought of doing without the paper for awhile, but since Mr. Bryan has resigned from the cabinet, I want to give him my support. He is right. His ideals are high. He would settle all differences of mankind in a manly way. Reason is better than rage. An open discussion is better than an ultimatum. Love and sympathy and understanding are better than strife and conflict and murder. Mr. Bryan stands in spirit away above the great majority of his fellow men. I wish all high-minded men would stand behind him.

J. S. Battaile, Lexington, Ky.: Enclosed find one dollar for the Commoner for another year. I stand by you in resigning from the cabinet, for I know you are right. I have always been with you and always will be.

John W. Kinse, Cleveland, Ohio: Am sorry Mr. Bryan left the cabinet. Think his advice at this time is needed above any other man. I sincerely hope we will not get into war with any foreign power. I do not want to miss the Commoner at this time. Have taken it for fourteen years.

Mary Frances Mallory, Chicago, Ill.: Enclosed please find check for \$1.00 to pay in advance for the Commoner. I am heart-broken if the president is being led into military tactics. I appreciate your position fully and respect you accordingly, notwithstanding the nasty little stings of the toadying newspapers. I wonder we read them. They will die out when readers learn, as I have, that they are bought up by big advertisers. May God give you strength to continue to be true to yourself and your convictions, as I know you have been since I have known of you all your political life.

N. F. Burge, Martinsville, Va.: Please find enclosed check for \$1.00 for your paper, the Commoner. I am anxious to see all Mr. Bryan says regarding his resignation as secretary. I think he did the right thing.

Chas. Klingel, Mascoutah, Ill.: Enclosed find one dollar for one year's subscription to the Commoner. I wish to announce my approval of the stand Mr. Bryan has taken in regard to this trouble with Germany. In my opinion it's the most courageous and most important act of his public career, and that is saying much. While the stand he has taken will undoubtedly make him many bitter enemies, by it also he has again endeared himself to thousands just in this vicinity. God speed his cause: Peace, love, goodwill to men.

Allen H. Ainscow, Wilmington, Del.: I see by the headlines of the paper this morning that you have resigned as secretary of state. That starts my pulse to jumping as I was in hopes you would stay there. But I am sure whatever the cause of your leaving is, you are right, and mean to stay right. It takes principle to make that kind of a man. And everybody knows William J. Bryan has principle enough and to spare. May your days be long and happy.

I. L. Hite, Salem, Ill.: I admire the stand Mr. Bryan has taken. He is certainly a fine type of manhood.

L. N. Peter, Quincy, Cal.: I have not been receiving my Commoner lately, and I am wondering if my subscription has expired without the usual notice. I am enclosing here, with one dollar to be applied on my account and am particularly anxious that if the subscription has expired that I may receive copies of all issues since Mr. Bryan's resignation from the cabinet. While I feel certain

that Mr. Bryan's course must be right, I can not help thinking there must have been something more than he has told us which caused him to take this course, and I wish to follow closely his discussion of the situation in the Commoner. Since Mr. Bryan went into the cabinet, it has seemed to me that he has been handicapped in dealing with public questions in his usual independent and courageous manner and for my part, I am glad he has freed himself from any official position which might interfere with his life's work, the accomplishment of which is of far greater importance to this country than all he or anyone else could do in the president's cabinet.

E. G. Smith, Blakesburg, Ia.: This part of Iowa stands for W. J. Bryan and his stand for peace. It is estimated by a poll of this township that every vote would be for Mr. Bryan and his fight to promote peace but perhaps two votes. One of our most rock-ribbed republicans hurrahed for Mr. Bryan out of the fullness of his heart.

F. K. Klein, Beatrice, Neb.: Enclosed please find one dollar to renew my subscription to the Commoner for another year. Mr. Bryan has done wonderful work in laying the foundation for world-wide peace, and I hope the day will come when war will be no more. I approve of Mr. Bryan's action in resigning as secretary of state and hope he will continue to spread the gospel of peace.

M. B. Newhouse, M. D., Marion, Ohio: I lived in Hickman, Nebraska, along with other democrats that worked side by side with Mr. Bryan from 1888 on, for nearly ten years, and since I have been in Ohio I have felt that old tie of friendship, given until love has been the dominant factor in my heart for Mr. Bryan and his family. And when he tendered his resignation from the cabinet I was in sore dismay. The problem was too deep for me to fathom, and I groped in the dark for several days waiting with the eye of faith that a ray of light would break through and relieve me of my oppressed feeling. And thank God it has, and I see that old reliable friend with his wise old head towering high above all criticism, jeers and insults. Showing that his great mind soars off into the deep problems of mankind far beyond the penetration of the average mind, that I am constrained to trust the whole problem of my political welfare to his leadership. May God bless he and Mrs. Bryan in their every interest.

J. W. Walton, Fairbury, Ill.: Please send me the Commoner commencing with the first number issued after Mr. Bryan left the Wilson cabinet, which I think he was wise to do.

J. J. Lee, Houston, Texas: A paper edited by the greatest man of America should be in every American home; therefore enclosed my check for \$4.00, for which please send your paper one year to the following. (Four addresses given.)

E. L. Montgomery, Grand Rapids, Mich.: Please send copy of the Commoner for one year to G. H. Elferdink, this city. Mr. Elferdink is a socialist, he thinks Mr. Bryan has taken the right stand to forward the cause of peace instead of war.

A. Allen, Winona, Minn.: I do not want to miss the Commoner, as it is the only paper I place confidence in. I think Mr. Bryan is right in the course he has taken and I honor him for standing by what he thinks is right and just, and he surely has got the right thinking American people

back of him. The people love a man that is for making peace and prosperity more than one for carnage and destruction.

Con. F. Drees, Covington, Ohio: I have just read in the morning paper that William J. Bryan has resigned from the cabinet. I was one of the presidential electors for Ohio, the 7th district, for Woodrow Wilson. I am and have always been a "Bryan democrat," and the papers have been saying that Mr. Bryan has been leaning toward the Allies, I am of German stock, and we German people wanted to see our U. S. A. a neutral country and we are not pleased that this country allows the shipment of war material shipped to any one of the warring nations, not even to Germany. Yes, it may be lawful but it is not moral. Is it just and consistent with our peace movement? We will all be sorry to hear that Mr. Bryan has severed his connection with the cabinet, but if he has resigned because Wilson's note to Germany was too strong, then it will bring him German friends by the million. We want peace for the U. S. A., and not war with any nation. Do we want to be classed with the Italians and get into this thing for mere profit? I only hope that Mr. Bryan will continue along the lines he has in the past, he is the greatest American, or the truth is he is the biggest man in the whole world today. I would like to vote for him for president in 1916. Enclosed is my check for which send me the Commoner.

W. H. Hoffman, Dunnellon, Fla.: Will thank you to send me your club rate on 5 or 10 subscribers. I wish you would send me the Commoner for one year commencing with the issue which has account of W. J. Bryan's resignation from the cabinet. If I can get up a club I will include my subscription with the club, if I can not I will remit for the year at regular rate. I have been an admirer of W. J. Bryan since 1896 and I want to get his side of the question before I change my mind if I have to do so, which I do not want to do. The press does not give him any consideration in this matter and I wish to get his views before I make up my mind.

J. W. Hall, Southwest City, Mo.: Find enclosed by check for \$1.00 for another year to the great Commoner (the best paper known to American readers) I am heart sick at the resignation of our beloved secretary of state at this most critical period. I have read Mr. Bryan's reasons for his act. The world knows that Mr. Bryan acted as he thought best for all the people of our great country. And may he live and prosper and remain the idol of the American people as he has been for 25 years; and may he live to dictate the nomination of presidents in future as he has done in the past.

Adam A. Krape, Lena, Ill.: There is universal regret in our community, regardless of party affiliation, of the resignation from the cabinet of President Wilson. With best wishes of the prosperity of "The Commoner," and the principles of sound and clean democracy advocated by it. I am, etc.

Allen W. Finch, Roanoke, Va.: Enclosed please find check for \$1.00 for which please send me the Commoner. Tell Mr. Bryan that his last act shows that he is truly a man among men, and has proven to the world he is what I have always thought of him, viz., that he would rather be right than to hold any office that can be bestowed on him; that I applaud him for his honesty and courage. It took a brave man to take the stand he has taken. A brave man will al-

ways stand by his convictions, and one who is honest enough to do so will always be beloved by the people.

J. E. Fultz, Ft. Pierce, Fla.: I enclose my check for renewal to Commoner one year. Had about decided to give it up, but W. J. Bryan's resignation, with reasons stated, I feel it to be my duty to stand by him in every way possible. He is, in my opinion, the greatest and safest statesman living today in all the world. Wilson is a close second.

H. C. Head, Santa Ana, Cal.: I very much regret the resignation of Mr. Bryan as secretary of state, but believe he did the right thing and that his position on the issue involved was the right one.

Thomas B. King, Stephenville, Texas: Mr. Bryan has taken the right road at the forks of many great issues, but I deem the fork that he now takes the highest highway that he has ever taken. The fork, or rather the highway, that he is trying to get our country to walk in is the one that leads heavenward—whilst the other leads hellward, for war is but hell.

Rev. Walter Howard Moore, Chicago, Ill.: Enclosed find \$1.00 for your excellent paper for one year. My regret is keen that Mr. Bryan has found it morally necessary to resign as secretary of state. I have faith in his greatness to believe the compulsion can be nothing but moral. This country owes him lasting gratitude for his services—lofty in patriotism—and sturdy in the interests of peace. For these many years he has "fought the good fight and has kept the faith," but please God he has not by decades "finished his course." His country needs him now as never before.

Rev. A. H. Doak, Wilmore, Ky.: Please assure Mr. Bryan that his stand on the Lusitania note has the hearty support of all his friends. The sacrifice he has made in doing it and the new tirade of abuse from his old

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THE MIDWEST LIFE is pleased to report that it now has over \$7,000,000 of insurance in force. June was by far the best month the company has had in three and one-half years, both in net gain of insurance in force and in the volume of insurance written.

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