best of the issues since it was first published. I have read every issue since Mr. Bryan first began publishing the paper. I admire Bryan more and more as the years go by. I admire him for the noble stand he is taking on the liquor question, the woman suffrage question, and also the "preparedness" question. I hope those who believe in Mr. Bryan and the principles for which he stands, will never cease till they have run the subscription list of The Commoner up to one million. If we all put our shoulders to the wheel and make a united effort we can reach the million in six months. It was never easier to get subscribers for The Commoner than now, and the very modest sum of 60 cents per year puts it within the reach of every lover of truth and justice. This will extend and increase Bryan's influence many fold. * * * Who said we could not have prosperity during a democratic administration? Old Pennsylvania was never more prosperous. Her mills are running day and night and orders booked for months in advance. Laborers are now hard to secure at any price.

John Aubrey Jones, San Francisco, Cal.: God bless and give you added strength and power in your noble fight against the insidious attempt being made to militarize, thereby to undermine and destroy, this democratic republic. The perniciousness of this preparedness propaganda inheres in its deception. It is a most soulless subterfuge, cloaked as patriotic policy. It emanates from a spirit of greed on the part of private interests that would be pecuniarily profited to the tune of hundreds of millions. In a sentence: theirs is a patriotism for profit, and they are willing to coin the blood of their brothers—their betters—into dollars as they have been and are now doing by supplying the war mad governments of Europe the means of carrying on their saturnalia of blood and fire, which is bringing civilization and Christianity to the very verge of the abyss of medieval barbarism. The horror of it! These patriots—for revenue only--who call themselves Americans, with all that that honorable designation implies, would have our beloved land prepare to go over the abyss, instead of using all in its power to hold back the old world countries from taking the plunge. National bankruptcy, and its co-comitant chaos and anarchy, would constitute this final plunge. For then would come such a time of savagery as humanity has never known. And nature's climateric law—survival of the fittest, the physically fittest—would be asserted. God defend us against such an awful doom! The noble work you are doing, as the valiant leader of the great common people, is part of God's plan to rescue humanity from the clutch of barbarism.

J. W. Fowkes, El Centro, Cal.: Please allow me to suggest an idea on the manner in which the funds to prepare can be raised—if our people back up our President and congress in preparedness, or returning to barbarism—that I think is logical. As the present European conflict proves conclusively that they with all their professed civilization and Christianity were following in the way that led to death; so let us know we are wrong, and then go ahead. The means can be raised by discontinuing all churches. If this is not sufficient, then all charitable efforts can be discontinued. This may seem hard, but if we set up the other ideal, we don't need those influences, they retard the warrior's influence.

Wm. Russel Smith, York, Pa.: The people are beginning to suspicion the eastern press, and read between the lines of obvious prejudice if not wholly false slush about you, until some of the real truth is dawning upon them. The New York Herald, for instance, has excited me to action in your behalf, until I am most anxious to show my appreciation of the noble stand you have so courageously taken, and will do all I can to help.

Rachel A. Bailey, Paw Paw, Mich.: I wish to congratulate you on your courage in proclaiming the Christ message of "Peace on earth and good will to Men." Enclosed please find a copy of a letter that I had the temerity or perhaps the audacity to send to President Wilson some days since; therefore I was pleased to see announced in the papers that there is being an effort for the organized motherhood of this nation to send in a protest against the contemplated militarism that would mean the slaughtering of their children. The question of peace has ever been dear to my heart—possibly in consequence of my Quaker ancestry. I have been able to distribute many thousand pages of peace literature, where I thought it might do the most good, and introduced many peace programs in the public schools in commemoration of the peace efforts inaugurated at The Hague. It was my privilege to present a resolution at a convention of the National Fraternal congress held in St. Louis some years since, of greeting to the International Peace convention that was being held in Switzerland at that time; said resolution was to this effect: "That inasmuch as this Fraternal congress representing a constituency of nine-million people, is for the protection of homes, the widow and the orphans, we are pleased to send greeting to the International Peace congress now in session in Switzerland, realizing that their avowed purpose is to prevent the making of thousands of widows and orphans by the barbaric agency of war." This was immediately cabled to said Peace congress, and in their appreciation of the same they cabled back asking that a delegate be sent to a Peace conference to be held in London a few months later, and I understand that President Talbot was able to secure therefor the truest and bravest representative of the peace question that this nation owns, viz.: William J. Bryan. I so rejoice that in face of the fire of criticism by steel or steal magnates you remain undaunted and continue to hold the banner aloft of Christ's message, knowing, as you evidently do, that "Even one with God can constitute a majority which shall eventually usher in a glorious victory. That God will continue to bless and strengthen you is the prayer of your long time admirer.

Following is the letter written to President Wilson:

Paw Paw, Mich., Nov. 11, 1915.—Hon. Woodrow Wilson, Washington, D. C., Dear President: I, who am a mother and a grandmother, have been watching with prayerful interest your admirable administration during these crucial times and until quite recently I had strong faith that the Christian gentleman—Woodrow Wilson—had come "into the kingdom for such a time as this" to demonstrate that the Christ who two thousand years ago brought the new dispensation for "Peace on earth, good will to men" was and is now no myth. Yes, and I prayerfully hoped that you would be able to demonstrate that it is only "the golden rule of Christ that can usher in the golden age of man," and that Divine aid is stronger than military aid, which is being so strongly and persistently urged upon you to adopt, and which, if adopted, will surely trample the golden rule and love of God and neighbor in the dust, and be such a set-back to civilization that the prophetic vision of the vineyard, as portrayed in Isaiah V., may be realized for our beloved United States, and the fruit of wild grapes with all the attending blight supplant the grand fruitage that this nation is so providentially situated to develop and maintain. Pardon my temerity in addressing my beloved President, but my excuse must be that I am anxious that he shall constitute God's agent to demonstrate that love never faileth. (I. Corinthians, XIII chap.) Most loyally yours, Rachel A. Bailey.

R. L. Gordon, Jr., Louisa, Va.: I have never had occasion to feel so profoundly grateful to you as I have since your stand for the preservation of the peace of the world, and I believe the American people will endorse this position, even against the views of the most democratic president we have ever had.

Elizabeth Sheets, Alcony, Ohio: I want to thank you for the stand you take for peace. I have always believed that preparedness only invited war and I am so anxious to live to see the time the world will learn this.

J. Thad Ray, Hannibal, Mo.: Enclosed find post office money order for $4.80 to pay for the enclosed list of eight yearly subscriptions at your special club rate. Will try to send another list soon. Will do anything for peace. When Europe gets through with this scrap there will be nothing left even for the winner to war with.

Olaf Forsse, Falun, Kans.: Herewith find check for $3.00 to pay for the enclosed club of five yearly subscriptions. We, in this part of the country, are for Bryan against anybody. We are against preparedness for war. We favor reducing the army we already have, it is not needed. We are sorry to see that President Wilson has taken a stand on the wrong side of this great question.

E. W. Hughes, Louisville, Ky.: I am enclosing a check to pay for the enclosed club of subscribers. It seems strange to me why the President, who was elected by the masses of the people, or progressive element, would advocate immense appropriations, when the taxpayers would have the burden to bear, and the "interests" would get the gain. It seems to me that he has made a serious mistake. I have heard expressions of disapproval of his stand by a great many in this community.

J. A. Froelich, Oshkosh, Wis.: Enclosed please find list of six subscribers, and money order for $3.60 to pay for the same. I saw your response to the President's Manhattan speech in the daily papers; it is not only good, sound doctrine for democrats, but for all good and unselfish citizens.

A. G. McConaghy, New Castle, Pa.: Enclosed find $3.00 to pay for five yearly subscriptions to The Commoner. I wish to commend you on your stand for peace, prohibition and preparedness, and hope you will succeed in your course.

J. E. Ryan, Blue Rapids, Kansas: I am enclosing check for past due subscription for Commoner. I read it with a great deal of pleasure, and especially at this particular time I do not want to miss an issue. I am very glad for the stand you have taken in regard to this preparedness, against an imaginary foe. I am sure the common people are with you. I am sorry that the President has been influenced by those who are interested in themselves, more than in the country in which they live. I have been a great admirer of President Wilson, but can not support him in this. Hope you can turn the great wave.

DESCRIBED

"Father," said a small boy, "what is a demagogue?"

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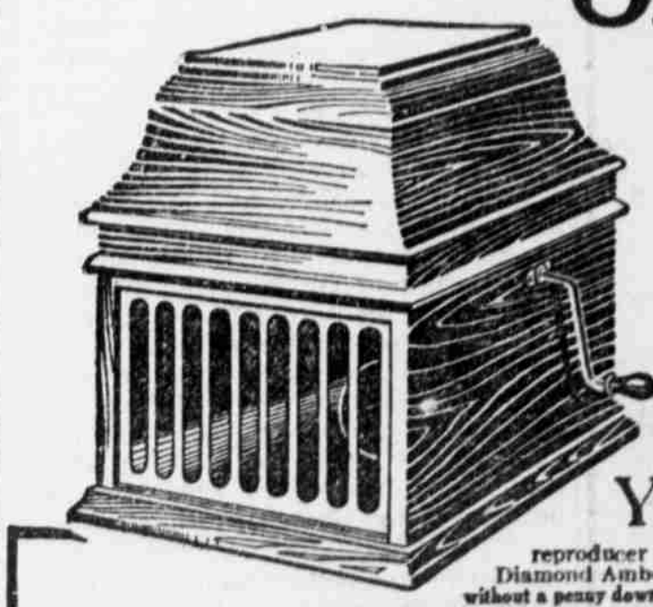

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