

Peace Resolutions

The following memorial was presented to Senator Stone by Mr. George Wheat, of Harvard University:

"To the Committee on Foreign Relations, Senator William J. Stone, Chairman, the Capitol, Washington, D. C.

"Washington's Birthday, Nineteen Seventeen.

"We, the undersigned college men and women, representing forty-nine institutions of learning in America, feel that we should state at this critical time, what the possibility of war means to us. It is we who, in the event of war, will be asked to abandon those high ideals of constructive service to our country for which we are now preparing, and divert strength to channels of destruction.

"We feel that a declaration of war, merely to satisfy national 'honor,' would be treason to the spirit of civilization which has made obsolete the settlement of personal quarrels by the duel and vendetta. Loss of national 'honor' and 'prestige' has ever been the ready excuse for senseless wars prompted in reality by sinister motives of conquest and profit. We propose to deal with the facts as they are; we do not propose to be deceived by those forces urging war for profit, while the young people of the nation pay the price in blood, and in shattered hopes and ideals.

"The President's noble efforts to restore peace to the warring nations of Europe will be construed as mere rhetoric if America now resorts to the sword to settle a question of less vital import than those issues which

plunged Europe into unspeakable horror.

"Cherishing as we do the democratic ideals of America, we dread the restriction of individual liberties, and the autocratic control of military forces which inevitably accompany war; the conscription of life—with no corresponding conscription of wealth; the suppression of free speech, trials by court-martials and arbitrary tribunals, and all the pernicious evils which find birth in the passions of hate and fear and suspicion generated by war. We view with alarm the possibility that our beloved America, whose high ideals of liberty and justice we are all pledged to serve, may sacrifice her supreme principles for the outworn theory that bloodshed offers any reparation for national wrongs.

"We are gratefully conscious of the efforts President Wilson has made to keep us out of war. We have viewed with approval the support accorded those efforts by cabinet and congress. As college men and women we ourselves have endeavored to lend aid by arousing and making articulate the peace sentiment among our colleagues.

"We realize that it is not difficult to maintain peaceful relations when every neighboring country is at peace, but that the supreme test of a nation's moral courage comes when it suffers constant provocation. We are convinced that the honor of our nation can best be preserved by the exercise of calm self restraint during this critical period, and by dignified refusal to use their own disastrous methods in dealing with injuries inflicted upon us by our war-

wrecked neighbors. We are convinced that no injury is wilfully intended for us, and that all we have suffered in the past, and are likely yet to suffer is only the inevitable backwash of war from which no neutral nation can ever be free so long as wars persist. We feel that all such injuries should be dealt with sanely, and deliberately, after the present war is past.

"We believe that war should not be declared until the people have had an opportunity to express themselves on the issue by advisory referendum. We view with concern the possibility that America may be drawn into virtual belligerency without actual declaration of war, and we urge our government studiously to avoid any hasty action, or plan of action such as arming merchantmen, which might tend to bring about a state of conflict, and thus deprive citizens of the United States of their right of democratic control over an issue which so profoundly affects the life of every individual.

"It is our loyal purpose to support President Wilson and those working with him, in every constructive effort looking toward the preservation and restoration of peace.

"Signed by eighty college men and women representing fifty educational institutions."

—College Section, Emergency Peace Federation, 70 Fifth Avenue, New York.

MR. BRYAN'S PATRIOTISM

In an interview in the Miami Herald, given out on his return to his winter home, Mr. Bryan said:

"I shall live up to a patriot's duty if war comes—until that time I shall do what I can to save my country from its horrors."

In 1898, when President McKinley called for volunteers to fight the war with Spain, among the first to offer his services was his opponent in the recent presidential campaign of 1896. Mr. Bryan was appointed colonel of a Nebraska regiment and remained in service until after the protocol with Spain had been signed.

Mr. Bryan is now a much older man and probably could be of little aid to the government in the field. But his voice and pen will be at the service of his country if the worst comes. They will be of assistance, too. This country is not military. It knows not how to fight unless tremendously stirred by some great issue of self-defense or humanity. "Thrice armed is he whose cause is just," Mr. Bryan has sought to restrain the impetuous arm and cool the ardor of our people for war, so that we shall not enter it, unless it seems absolutely forced upon us.—Chattanooga News.

TOOK IT BACK

The city council of Danville is intensely patriotic. When the news came that W. J. Bryan was in Washington endeavoring to arrange a "peace at any price policy," the city fathers went mad with overheated patriotism and blew off their safety valves.

A set of resolutions was adopted calculated to start spontaneous combustion in the center of a filled ice house.

After a week or so the council met again and proceeded to take it all back. It had been discovered that some of the tough things said about William were not true and the whole business looked sort of silly like. The motion to expunge the record carried. Some one should

gently break the news to Bryan, otherwise he may never know how nearly he came to being blown out of the water.—Paris (Ill.) Gazette.

MR. BRYAN'S PROHIBITION PLEA

Mr. Bryan gives a good account of himself as a democrat leading the cause of prohibition. To the great audience that greeted him at Memorial hall, Wednesday night, he said his party had done so much for him that he felt constrained to serve it as he could in this particular. He came as a recruit to a cause long ago proclaimed by others, and found his right as a democrat to do so in the fact that a majority of both houses of a democratic congress now favors prohibition and that, of the twenty-three prohibition states, twelve are states that uniformly elect the democratic ticket.

The argument that Mr. Bryan makes against the saloon is all that the most uncompromising prohibitionist could ask. Such an auditor would probably hear little that was positively new to him, but he would find most of it looking new in Mr. Bryan's pleasing and forceful oratory. The Memorial hall meeting, like the convention of which it was a part, is a record-making demonstration of Ohio sentiment against the saloon.—Columbus (O.) Dispatch.

DEMOCRATIC FORWARD LEAGUE

Following is the form of pledge being used by the Democratic Forward league of Kentucky in furthering its statewide campaign for prohibition:

"I hereby enlist in the Democratic Forward League of Kentucky, and pledge my support and influence to the promotion of state-wide prohibition, and I will support in the democratic primaries only candidates for state senator and representatives who take that stand, and who, by precept and example uphold the moral side of all public questions.

This _____, 1917.
Name _____
Post Office _____ County _____
Voting Precinct _____

BOOKS RECEIVED

The Bible at a Glance. A beautifully colored chart, 15x22 inches. Designed and published by Rev. D. J. L. Estlin, Boothwyn, Pa. Price 25c per copy, postpaid.

The Basis of Durable Peace. Written at the invitation of the New York Times. By Cosmos. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York.

Cell Intelligence. The cause of growth, heredity and instructive actions, illustrating that the cell is a conscious, intelligent being, and, by reason thereof, plans and builds all plants and animals in the same manner that man constructs houses, railroads and other structures. By Nels Quevil, Reg. Phar. LL.B. The Colwell Press, Minneapolis, Minn.

East O' The Sun and West O' The Moon, and other Norse Fairy Tales. By G. W. Dasent, D. C. L. G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York and London. Price \$1.25.

Government Partnership in Railroads. By Mark Wymond, author of Railroad Valuation and Rates. Wymond & Clark, 911 Rand-McNally Bld., Chicago. Price \$1.80.

A Conclusive Peace. Presenting the historically logical, and feasible plan of action for the coming peace conference, which will co-ordinate and harmonize Europe and the world. By Charles Fremont Taylor, M. D., editor of Equity. Price 50c. Published by The John C. Winston Co., 1010 Arch St., Philadelphia, Pa.

Mr. Bryan's New Book---

"Heart to Heart Appeals"

Mr. Bryan has made a careful collection of the Heart to Heart Appeals, scattered through the speeches delivered by him during a quarter of a century (1890-1916) in the belief that they will be of permanent interest to the reading public, especially to students.

They cover all the issues before the country during the eventful period covered by his connection with American and world politics.

The twenty-two chapters deal with topics enumerated in the table of contents below:

CONTENTS

I.—Government	XI.—Equal Suffrage
II.—Tariff	XII.—The Liquor Question
III.—Income Tax	XIII.—Issues Past and Present
IV.—Money	XIV.—Chicago Convention
V.—Imperialism	XV.—St. Louis Convention
VI.—Trusts	XVI.—Baltimore Convention
VII.—Labor	XVII.—Pan America
VIII.—Popular Election of Senators	XVIII.—In Foreign Lands
IX.—Publicity Campaign Contributions	XIX.—Peace
X.—Initiative and Referendum	XX.—Religion
	XXI.—Ideals
	XXII.—Miscellaneous

Mr. Bryan is especially anxious to get the book into the hands of University, College and High School students. Any student desiring to act as agent can obtain terms by addressing the publishers, Fleming H. Revell Co., 158 5th Ave., N. Y. Readers of The Commoner can secure the book at one dollar per volume by addressing The Commoner or the publishers.

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