

The Commoner

ISSUED MONTHLY

Entered at the Postoffice at Lincoln, Nebraska, as second-class matter.

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Edit. Rms. and Business Office, Suite 207 Press Bldg.

One Year	\$1.00	Three Months25
Six Months50	Single Copy10
In Clubs of Five or more, per year.75	Sample Copies Free.	
		Foreign Post, 25c Extra	

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THE COMMONER, LINCOLN, NEB.

"To sin by silence when we should protest
Makes cowards out of men. The human race
Has climbed on protest. Had no voice been
raised

Against injustice, ignorance and lust,
The inquisition yet would serve the law,
And guillotines decide our least disputes.
The few who dare not speak and speak again,
To right the wrongs of many."

When the price control board cut the price of many kinds of steel in two, the head of the steel corporation was quoted as saying that the new prices were satisfactory to the directors. Wonder what word he used to describe the prices he was getting before the slice occurred?

Those who are inclined to criticize the government for alleged slowness in getting the troops equipped and started seem to overlook the fact that fitting out an army is not one of those propositions that can be taken care of by merely putting in the order over the long distance phone and expecting delivery the next day.

There is reason to believe that Mr. Nicholas Romanoff is entering no criticisms of the wisdom of the man who decreed that his permanent residence should be so many hundreds of leagues from Petrograd. Neither does he entertain any doubts as to his being a real friend, in view of what is happening at the old home place.

The fact that the newspapers gave more space and attention to the accounts of the battles at Chicago and New York between the American league and national league champion ball teams than to those "somewhere in France," is insufficient foundation for a belief that a postponement of the war was ordered until after the championship was settled.

The government has just launched its second issue of liberty bonds. These will bear 4 per cent interest, which is the average paid by the banks upon savings and time deposit accounts. The citizen who puts his money in these bonds is making a safe investment for himself and aiding the government in the great task in hand, that of bringing a permanent peace, and the more quickly the funds needed are placed in its hands the earlier that peace may be expected.

The delusion that the multi-millionaires so long sought to embrace that they were benefactors of the public because they invested their money so that other men were kept employed is now being refurbished for use as an argument against the new income tax. They are now saying that big income taxes will send money into hiding and remove from the industrial world the supply of ready cash it needs to expand and continue in business. Imagine a man withdrawing from an extremely profitable business because the government takes a part of his excessive income, due to the existence of war, his entire investment, and you can imagine money going into hiding and refusing to seek returns.

Mr. Bryan at Home

[From the Nebraska State Journal, Lincoln, Oct. 6.]

William Jennings Bryan, now in Lincoln for a stay of five days, Friday afternoon denied the statement purported to have been made by Senator LaFollette in one of the senator's speeches to the effect that Mr. Bryan had several times urged President Wilson to prevent the sailing of the Lusitania because it was alleged to have an ammunition cargo aboard.

Mr. Bryan's attention was called to a press dispatch to the effect that he would be questioned as to Mr. LaFollette's statement that he had several times urged President Wilson to prevent the sailing of the Lusitania because it was alleged ammunition cargo was aboard, and he replied: "I read a statement which purported to have been made by Senator LaFollette in a speech in Minnesota to the effect that four days before the sinking of the Lusitania I had notified the President that there was ammunition on board the vessel. When I passed through Washington last Wednesday I notified the state department and also Senator LaFollette that the senator had been misinformed and that I had not known until after the sinking of the Lusitania that it carried ammunition in its cargo."

Mr. Bryan arrived in Lincoln Friday morning and expects to be in the city until Tuesday evening. Saturday noon is to be a busy time for the Nebraskan. He is to address at the Lincoln hotel the Laneaster draft contingent which is to leave Saturday noon. Before addressing the Lancaster boys he will talk to the Polk and Douglas county men taking luncheon at the Lindell on their way to Camp Funston.

Shortly after the noon hour he will fire the opening gun in the campaign for the second liberty loan at the Lincoln Commercial club. Mr. Bryan has been campaigning for the first liberty loan and will probably continue to work in raising the second loan. Mr. Bryan is enthusiastic over the liberty loan movement and declares that the liberty loan is a thing that every American citizen should buy. He commented favorably on the attitude of the Lincoln boys at Camp Funston in purchasing liberty bonds.

The present October visit of Mr. Bryan to his home at Lincoln recalls to the mind of the Nebraskan that it is the thirtieth anniversary of his location in Nebraska. October is the popular time at which he visits the state. He still declares his loyalty to the state and her interests and wants to be known simply as "Mr. Bryan of Nebraska."

Mr. Bryan expresses pleasure at his return to the state. "I am enjoying this October day, in fact October is the month which I expect to use most in Nebraska," said Mr. Bryan. "It is the month I have used for most of my stays in the state. It is one of the most enjoyable months here. The first day of the month is the anniversary of my location in Nebraska thirty years ago."

"While circumstances keep me away from the state most of the time they have not diminished my attachment to the state or my love for the people of Nebraska. I have made it clear to our winter neighbors in Miami, Fla., and to my summer neighbors in Asheville, N. C., that my citizenship is here. I shall vote in Nebraska. I shall be here as much as I can and I want to be known in the future as I have been for more than a quarter of a century, as Mr. Bryan of Nebraska."

Mr. Bryan believes that the people of Nebraska are with him. He points to the passage of two of his advocated reforms—woman suffrage and prohibition, as an indication of the turning tide in his favor. "Never since I have entered politics in Nebraska have I been in harmony with as large a percentage of the people in the state as I am now," was the statement of Mr. Bryan.

"Prohibition carried by 29,000 majority in the state, more than three times as large a majority as I ever received when running for president, and the state went for the democratic ticket in the last presidential election by more than 40,000."

"We now have woman suffrage in Nebraska so that my state is behind me in the fight that I am making for two great reforms—the greatest with which I have ever been identified."

Mr. Bryan still keeps up his interest in state

politics. "I am interested in the state and the democratic party of the state," said Mr. Bryan. "I shall do what I can to aid those who desire to make the democratic party an exponent of progressive democratic thought and keep Nebraska democracy on the firing line."

He believes that prohibition was a good thing for the democratic party. He predicts that the purging of the party of the "special interests" will increase its strength.

STATE ABSENT ONCE

He said:

"The last national convention was the only one in twenty years when Nebraska failed to play a conspicuous part and her failure then was due to the fact that a majority of the democrats were more interested in perpetuating the saloon than they were in democratic principles.

"The liquor interests combined with other special interests won a temporary victory but now the brewers, distilleries and saloons are closed and the reactionary element will have to make its fight in the open and without its powerful ally. Before, the special interests were able to find cover under the liquor fight they made up less than one-twentieth of the party strength of the state in votes.

"The democratic party ought to have no difficulty in ridding itself of the leadership of those representing the liquor interests and other special interests.

"The democratic party during the past few years has passed through a horrible nightmare, but it looks now as if the party would again become a vital moral force in the state and ready to do its part in making the democratic party the exponent of the national conscience."

SPEAKS FOR LIBERTY BONDS

[From the Lincoln (Neb.) Evening News, Oct. 6.]

William Jennings Bryan, introduced by President Frank H. Woods of the Commercial club as Lincoln's most distinguished and best beloved citizen, told an audience that packed every nook and cranny of the club dining room and galleries, that it was the patriotic duty of every citizen to buy liberty bonds. He also lauded them as a safe investment returning a rate of interest in excess of the average paid on savings accounts in the country. His remarks were frequently interrupted by cheers.

He said there were several ways in which to help. One was to contribute to agencies like the Red Cross, the Y. M. C. A. and the Knights of Columbus, who had undertaken to do those things which minister to the moral strength of the soldier, a necessary work. Another way was to loan money to the government to carry on the war. The money must be raised, either by loans or taxation, and he emphasized the right of the government to take every dollar as well as every man in order that the war might be won.

"If it is right for this government to take a young man," he said, "those who had devoted some years to preparation for active careers, and lay its hand upon him and command him to lay his life on the country's altar, then it is right that it shall take every dollar of any man's money or property. I would be the last to draw a line between life and property, to place the dollar above the man." Great applause followed.

"If the government has the right," he continued, "to take the full measure of a man's life, none of us have a right to complain if it takes any amount of our money. It is asking, at the most, only our income, and allows us to retain the principal. What it asks of the young man is that he surrender his principal, his life, that which makes an income possible to him. No matter how severe may be the taxation laid upon us, no amount that we may be called upon to give equals in taxation that placed upon the life of the young man."

Mr. Bryan said the liberty bond was the best bond on earth, and explained its security. He said that buying a liberty bond was the most profitable form of patriotism. If the government taxes us, it pays back nothing. When it borrows from us it not only pays back the principal, but the interest also.

"There is no more prosperous state in the union than Nebraska," he said. "I am told that we have more automobiles per capita than any other state. Shame on a state that leads in