

The Commoner

ISSUED MONTHLY

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THE COMMONER, LINCOLN, NEB.

STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912

of The Commoner, published monthly at Lincoln, Nebraska, for April 1, 1918.

State of Nebraska )  
 ) ss.

County of Lancaster )

Before me, a notary public in and for the state and county aforesaid, personally appeared Chas. W. Bryan, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the publisher of The Commoner, and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management, etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, embodied in section 443, postal laws and regulations, to wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, associate editor, and business managers are:

Publisher: Charles W. Bryan, Lincoln, Nebraska  
Editor: William Jennings Bryan, Lincoln, Nebraska  
Associate Editor: Charles W. Bryan, Lincoln, Neb.  
Business Managers: None.

2. That the owner is: William Jennings Bryan, Lincoln, Nebraska.

3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: None.

CHAS. W. BRYAN, Publisher.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 18th day of March, 1918.

J. R. FARRIS, Notary Public.

(My commission expires July 19, 1918.)

The German people are rapidly approaching the point where they will understand what the poet meant when he said that those who stole his purse stole trash.

We have very little to thank the kaiser for, but it sure helped a lot to have him make that drive in Picardy just about the same time that the third Liberty loan canvass began.

If the German army is running short of officers, as reported in some of the dispatches, the general staff needn't think that it can depend for volunteers from any of the royal or reigning family.

If you think that half a billion dollars a month is a pretty steep price to pay for war purposes, recall that the real purpose is to put the kaiser out of business, and you will begin to wonder at its cheapness.

With over a hundred thousand men a month going from the United States to France it ought not to be difficult to make the kaiser understand that we have a very keen appreciation of what he really means when he talks of peace.

None of the profiteers who are inclined to make money off the necessities of the government in time of war should make the mistake of thinking that, in view of the constantly increasing number of soldiers being sent across the Atlantic, there will not always be enough left to constitute a firing squad for their cases.

A PARTISAN EFFORT

[From the Alabama Citizen, May 8.]

Editor F. P. Glass of The Birmingham News, and a few other pro-liquor journals in Alabama, are giving wide publicity to an attack by William H. Anderson, superintendent of the New York Anti-Saloon League, on the Hon. William Jennings Bryan, hoping that they may discredit him in his work for prohibition.

Mr. Anderson has shot two loads of poison gas at Mr. Bryan, but thus far Mr. Bryan has been too busy fighting the common enemy to notice Mr. Anderson's pop-gun effusions.

Like the lone pine on the mountain top is the subject of the freakish attacks of the lightning, so Mr. Bryan in the loftiness of his position has been, and will be so long as he lives, the subject of freakish attacks by men who can only hope to gain some unmerited publicity by attacking one so far above them.

Mr. Anderson is a northern republican. Mr. Bryan is a nation wide democrat. In these words are revealed the animus of Mr. Anderson's attacks.

Mr. Bryan's entrance into active co-operation with the temperance forces of America and his making prohibition an issue in the democratic party of the nation has given tremendous impetus to the cause of prohibition in America.

In this connection we might say that it looks very much as if Mr. Bryan's position as head of the Dry Federation reveals a great measure of shortsightedness on the part of Anti-Saloon League leadership that he was allowed to become identified with a new minor movement rather than to be given a prominent and leading position in the older and more major movement against the liquor traffic.

An Anti-Saloon League leader who tries to say that no other organization than the league shall be formed, makes himself ridiculous to all thoughtful people. It may not, I believe it is not expedient, but no man or set of men can take away the rights of another man or set of men to organize against an evil.

Mr. Anderson's attacks on Mr. Bryan display an unusual degree of ignorance as to the real meaning of team work. We have been fighting for twenty-five years, the writer for twenty years, Mr. Anderson for almost eighteen. In all these years with growing force we have been learning the value of team work and the absolute need of it. Mr. Anderson's attempt to array his associates in Anti-Saloon League work against Mr. Bryan will not bear much fruit where Mr. Anderson is known. His personal love of publicity will discount his verbiage, and it is to be hoped that the Christian spirit of Mr. Bryan will assert itself in this situation and that he will deny Mr. Anderson the reflected glory he would shed around this league superintendent running amuck, should he condescend to a controversy that will only divide our strength and lessen our power in fighting the common enemy.

Mr. Anderson's second fusillade carries an insulting and unforgivable assault on General Superintendent Baker of the Anti-Saloon League of America. Mr. Anderson refers to Dr. Baker as a "meat axe artist." If this is true it is to be hoped that Dr. Baker will use the axe on Mr. Anderson's official head.

Mr. Bryan was recently the honored and valued guest of the Anti-Saloon League of Alabama on the invitation of Dr. Baker and the writer. Mr. Anderson speaks for himself, not for the Anti-Saloon League, and so far as we know at this writing he does not speak officially for the New York Anti-Saloon League, but for himself. We know that he does not speak for the Anti-Saloon League of America.

The Anti-Saloon League of Alabama rejoices in the fellowship and co-operation of Mr. Bryan in the great closing period of this warfare for humanity's redemption from the curse of alcohol.

BROOKS LAWRENCE.

MAKING ATTACKS ON BRYAN

William H. Anderson, State Superintendent of the Anti-Saloon League of New York, has started a campaign — and the motive is hardly clear to the casual reader. Mr. Anderson is fighting any appointments in New York for speeches by William Jennings Bryan. Superintendent Anderson says that he does not believe that William Jennings Bryan is speaking for prohibition but is in reality campaigning.

Just how big a man William H. Anderson is

has not been told to the people down this way. In fact, to be perfectly frank about it, the superintendent of the New York Anti-Saloon League is not very well known, except in localities where he has scattered his printed attacks on the Nebraskan. In those attacks, Superintendent Anderson alleges that the proposed visit to New York state of Colonel Bryan is that Hearst may secure through Colonel Bryan political leadership.

One satisfying thought is that William H. Anderson is not the first republican who has made an effort to injure William Jennings Bryan, and for that matter bigger republicans than the New York superintendent have tried the trick and without much success. It is hardly likely that the New Yorker will succeed in injuring Colonel Bryan any more than the other republicans who have preceded him.

Another feature of the matter is that it hardly behooves William H. Anderson, a salaried officer of the Anti-Saloon League to attack William Jennings Bryan, when Colonel Bryan not only donates his services to the prohibition cause but in addition pays his own traveling expenses.—Asheville (N. C.) Times.

MR. BRYAN AT FIFTY-EIGHT

Mr. Bryan passed his fifty-eighth milestone yesterday. An interesting man, with a notable career.

He made his debut in national life as champion of tariff reform. As a member of the house he helped prepare, and voted for, the Wilson tariff bill of 1894. The bill, changed somewhat by the senate, became a law, failed disastrously in action, and the failure contributed materially to the return of the republican party to power.

Retiring from the house after two terms, Mr. Bryan took up the cause of free silver, canvassed the country in its favor, and in 1896 was nominated for President by the democracy on that issue. He made a brilliant campaign, but lost. He tried again four years later with the same result, and scored his third failure in 1908.

His democratic critics repeated to themselves, "Three times, and out." But they were mistaken. Mr. Bryan was not out. Four years later he appeared at Baltimore and became the Warwick of the convention. He switched from Mr. Clark to Mr. Wilson, and nominated the latter for president. The prize was beyond his own reach, but he directed its bestowal.

In selecting his official advisers Mr. Wilson remembered his creator, and placed him at the head of his cabinet. At that time there was no thought of a foreign war. Domestic issues were uppermost in America, and the triumphant democracy, in control again at both ends of the avenue, addressed itself to those issues.

But the war came; and the rest, in connection with Mr. Bryan, is recent history. It is fresh in detail in all memories.

Mr. Bryan's activities are searched for signs as to 1920. What interpretation may be put upon them? Is the presidential bee still in his bonnet? There are those who fancy they hear it buzzing. He has still, after all these years and the record—three unsuccessful campaigns for the presidency, and a brief stay in the state department—a large and devoted following. Under sixty, he is rated as in his prime—as still something of a young man in politics.

We shall know more about Mr. Bryan and the hopes and purposes of his followers as to this matter a little later. He will remain in the limelight—one can hardly think of him as in a shadow—and his friends and supporters, taking their cue from him, are never idle.—Washington Star, March 20.

President Wilson is on record as declaring his readiness to discuss a fair and just and honest peace, but only when it is sincerely proposed. The kaiser would save a lot of time and worry if he would look over his letters from Mr. Wilson before launching his fake proposals.

NOTHING NEW UNDER THE SUN

"Take thou also unto thee wheat and barley and beans and lentils and millet and fitches and put them in a vessel and make thee bread thereof."

"And they shall eat bread by weight and with care."

"They shall eat their bread with carefulness, because of the violence of those that dwell in the land."—From the Book of Ezekiel, Chapters 4-12.