

The Commoner

ISSUED MONTHLY

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

WILLIAM J. BRYAN, CHARLES W. BRYAN, Editor and Proprietor Associate Ed. and Publisher 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

SUBSCRIPTIONS can be sent direct to The Commoner. They can also be sent through newspapers which have advertised a clubbing rate, or through local agents, where such agents have been appointed. All remittances should be sent by post-office money order, express order, or by bank draft on New York or Chicago. Do not send individual checks, stamps, or currency.

RENEWALS—The date on your wrapper shows the time to which your subscription is paid. Thus January 13 means that payment has been received to and including the issue of January, 1918.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS—Subscribers requesting a change of address must give old as well as new address.

ADVERTISING—Rates will be furnished upon application.

Address all communications to—
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 October 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 27th day of September, 1918.

J. R. FARRIS, Notary Public.
(My commission expires July 19, 1918.)

Ex-Kaiser Wilhelm started out to find "a place in the sun" for Germany but landed himself in the midnight of oblivion.

The German shock troops seem to be better able to stand the impact of a peace treaty than they were the onslaughts of the Yankee soldiers.

The President's fourteen statements of principles underlying a treaty of peace do not seem to have pleased Mr. Roosevelt as thoroughly as he thought they would. He didn't think they would.

The senate finance committee is seeking to save the salaries of public officials from the operation of the income tax, the house having specifically designated them as included in the list of those who must hand over to the government a part of their intake. The senate finance committee is breeding a lot of trouble that it will be difficult to explain away when the voters want to know the reason why.

An Omaha editor who was among those who died in the ditch fighting prohibition declared during the epidemic that thousands of lives were being lost because the narrow-minded prohibitionists had made impossible the securing of an adequate supply of liquor to save lives. In view of the fact that very few doctors used whisky as a stimulant for influenza patients, it would be an illuminating event if it were possible to measure the width of that editor's mind, but then we doubt if there are any instruments delicate enough to perform such a task.

Ratification Assured

Ratification of the national prohibition amendment is now certain. The elections held on November 5th definitely settled the issue. Fourteen states having ratified, only twenty-two more are necessary. As there are nineteen dry states which have not yet acted on the question—all of which are sure to ratify—but three states now wet are needed to complete the number (thirty-six) necessary to ratification. Instead of three the returns show that we have TEN—Ohio, Florida, Wyoming, Nevada, and Minnesota (all of which adopted constitutional amendments also) and Vermont, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Missouri and California, in which dry legislatures have been elected.

There will be at least SEVEN more than the number actually required, and it is probable that the other states will make it unanimous when they find that opposition is futile. It is a wonderful and far-reaching victory, with glory enough for all who have contributed to it.

It is the greatest moral triumph of the generation: the two great parties laid aside, for the moment, their differences on other questions and united for the protection of the home against its greatest enemy—alcohol.

W. J. BRYAN.

DEMOCRACY'S TRIUMPH A BLESSING TO GERMANY.

(Extracts from an address by Mr. Bryan at St. Joseph, Mo., Sept. 18, 1918.)

When our nation entered this war the character of the conflict as a combat between two forms of government was greatly emphasized, for now, standing face to face upon the battlefield, are the greatest republic in all history and that government which in modern times best represents all that is antagonistic to our ideas of government. Ours is a people's government. Here the people rule. Those who temporarily exercise authority are chosen by the people, and while they act for the people they act within the limits of a written constitution. * * * *

Our soldiers fight with an inspiration. They are not fighting for land; they are not trying to grab indemnities. They are fighting for a cause and they believe that the triumph of that cause will be as much a blessing to the people whom they meet upon the battlefield as to themselves. And they are right. I believe that fifty years from now the masses in Germany will thank God that this nation helped to break the yoke of a ruling family and set a nation free to share in the world's greatest progress in government.

Several western states voted this fall on amending their constitutions so that none but citizens of the state could vote. When these states were young the competition between pioneer bosses for votes was so keen that they had their constitutions drawn so that anybody who had been six months or a year inside its borders could vote, whether he was a citizen or not. It will get so after a while that the alien who wants to take part in an election will have to vote in the country to which he belongs.

Demobilization of the army of the various industries and enterprises drafted for war work are some of the immediate problems that will engage attention after the peace treaty is signed, but a more popular movement than any of these would be the demobilization of what the profiteers have got together.

Scarcely two million American soldiers were in Europe and only half of them in action when the central powers threw up their hands. This affords ground for lively speculation as to what would have happened when five million of them had landed and started for Berlin.

If some of our war-made millionaires ever begin boasting in the future that they are the architects of their own fortunes, we will feel sorry we didn't have a building inspector or two on the job during the last several years.

Meanwhile it is still a fine and patriotic thing to do to keep on buying war thrift stamps and liberty bonds whenever the opportunity offers.

Kaiser Wilhelm must feel very unkindly towards the man who first urged him to read the life of Napoleon.

NOW FOR INTERNATIONAL PROHIBITION STATEMENT

Now that the election returns show that the fight against the saloon has been won and that the prohibition amendment is sure of ratification, the United States is in position to lead the civilized nations in the banishing of intoxicants from the globe. The moral sentiment of the world should be mobilized at once: the spread of democracy and the abolition of the liquor traffic should go hand in hand.

W. J. BRYAN.

IMPERIALISM

In view of the overthrow of the imperialistic government of Germany and of the militarism of autocracy, the readers of The Commoner may find interesting Mr. Bryan's speech on "Imperialism", delivered by him in 1900 following the Spanish American war. Mr. Bryan's speech against imperialism is reproduced on another page of this issue.

THE KAISER ABDICATES.

Abdication by the Kaiser and renunciation by the crown prince bring Prussian autocracy to an end. In Germany, its stronghold, Nietzsche's superman is dead. The masses are demanding the throne. The might of arbitrary power is gone. The day of republics is at hand. Democracy is King. Long live the king!

FOCH A NEW MILITARY HERO

Marshal Foch has written his name high on the scroll of fame. Liberator Foch he should be called, for he was not fighting for dominion, but to save his country from the heel of the conqueror, and Haig and Pershing and Diaz were worthy to be his companions in arms.

FATHER OF THE REPUBLICS

President Wilson's pen has been potent in overthrowing so many monarchs and in establishing popular government in so many countries that he will be known in history as the Father of Republics.

W. J. BRYAN.

FOURTH LIBERTY LOAN

The fourth Liberty loan was overwhelmingly successful. The total subscription was in excess of \$6,850,000,000, an oversubscription of \$850,000,000. The estimated number of subscribers is in excess of 21,000,000.

The next day after the national food administration announced that the monthly sugar ration would be increased fifty per cent would have been exactly the day for Herbert Hoover to say if he intends running for president in 1920.

IMMEDIATE STEPS TO CURTAIL WAR EXPENSE

A Washington dispatch, dated November 7, says: "Senator Martin, of Virginia, democratic leader in the senate, said today that congress will call on the executive departments of the government to curtail war expenses immediately upon the signing of an armistice by Germany. He also said that the war department will be asked to stop calling men into the military service as soon as the war ends."

"Senator Martin declared that appropriations for war purposes in the last two years have aggregated \$57,000,000,000 and that he is deeply concerned over the effect the expenditures are having upon the country. Leaders of both parties share his views, he said, and added that he soon would have something to say in the senate on the necessity of curtailing government expenses after the armistice is signed."

"Extravagance in war expenditures is admitted by democratic leaders, the senator asserted, but it has been justified on the ground that it has been necessary in order to guard against having troops in the field inadequately equipped with ammunition, food and clothing."

"The democratic leader declared his opposition to universal military training, saying it would lead to continued heavy expenses for cantonments and other war necessities in peace times."

"One method of curtailment of war costs suggested by the Virginia senator was reduction in the number of clerks employed in Washington and abandonment of the constructions of housing for purely war activities. Senator Martin said he recently had been informed by Housing Commissioner Eidlitz that it is his intention to curtail this construction."