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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 October 1, 1919.
State of Nebraska)
County of Lancaster)ss.

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, Nebr.
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 the total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: None.

CHAS. W. BRYAN, Publisher.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 1st day of October, 1919.

J. R. FARRIS, Notary Public.
(My commission expires July 19, 1924.)

President Wilson has given congress two months in which to devise legislation for the railroads before he hands them back to private control. But imagine the senate finishing any job inside of so short a time!

The importation of reindeer meat from northern Canada is being urged by a Norwegian explorer as a means of giving the packers a few nervous hours. What it will probably do is to cause them to wish for somebody to kick them for having overlooked something.

General Pershing told the congressional committee that he was in favor of a modified universal military training that began with the educational institutions and which did not take up very much time. In other words, the general would like to have the university military training camel get his nose under the flap of the tent, and then hope for the rest.

Premier Clemenceau declares that the cure for many of the problems from which the world is suffering because unsolved is for everybody to get to work. There may be something to that; although a goodly number of those problems are due to the fact that the people have been "worked" by the profiteers and monopolists.

Considerable interest has been aroused by the publication of newspaper stories to the effect that the doctors have discovered a method of transplanting glands to elderly persons with the result that they become as young as ever. Just about the time hope shone brightest the doctors stepped forward to explain that the only effect was to make the old feel younger for a few months. Well, a few months is a long time.

Views of a Noted Economist

A New York dispatch to the Chicago Tribune, under date of September 29, follows:

Moreton Frewen, British economist, globe trotter, and international authority on bimetalism, came to town today and uttered a few thoughts for American public consumption in an interview on present exchange conditions in the world. Mr. Frewen said:

"Bryan was absolutely right in 1896, and if America had taken his advice then, she would have been spared the agony of a financial readjustment inevitable, sooner or later.

"Silver is coming back into its own—and the gold standard is passing away.

"Unless America relinquishes her gold standard she is going to experience increasing difficulty in maintaining her favorable rates of exchange.

"The British sovereign (gold), before the war was quoted at 4.87 and now quoted around 4.20, will eventually drop as low as 4, where it will remain indefinitely.

"England will never go back to gold standard."

Silver, according to Frewen, now quoted at 114, as against 56 in 1915, will never return to its former level.

"For more than 2,000 years silver was the standard of exchange," he said. "Then, back in 1897, the people lost their temper. They used some horrible language—and the silver standard was discarded. But now silver has taken the bit in its teeth and is back to its former standard, never to return again to its prewar level.

"As a result, America is threatened with losing the biggest part of her European trade."

U. S. TRADE IN ORIENT TO BOOM

"But the sudden rise in value of silver exchange, however, will be a great blessing for your country. For the last thirty years the United States has limited its trading with 800,000,000 orientals simply because of the cheapness of silver exchange. Tales, the Chinese unit, rose from three to eight for \$5, gold, when silver was cheap. Now they are back to three again, encouraging American export trade. So, while exports to Europe may tumble precipitously, American trade with the orient and Africa should increase five times or more. Exports to China in the years to come from America will be enormous. Your Pacific ports are scheduled for their greatest boom in history."

England, Mr. Frewen said, has forever lost the gold standard. During the past decade India has drawn more than 250,000,000 gold sovereigns from England. The extra drain from Britain the last twenty-five years, Mr. Frewen characterized as "spectacular."

"And as a result she is absolutely and utterly off the gold standard," he added.

ENGLAND'S ONLY HOPE

With this country the sole remaining large nation to maintain a gold standard, more and more difficulty will be experienced in maintaining a favorable rate of exchange. Mr. Frewen said. American bankers, he added, already are beginning to feel the effects of the situation.

Restoration of free coinage of silver in Europe and America is England's only hope for an early restoration of specie payments, Frewen added.

The unprecedented rise in silver also saved the steel and other industries of America from a total eclipse, Mr. Frewen believed. Steel and iron industries, especially iron, he said, would have appeared in China, where, with the vast supply of raw material and cheap labor, the American producers would have been undercut and forced out of existence.

BRYAN AT HIS BEST

(Knoxville Sentinel)

We have never seen or heard Mr. Bryan in better fettle and form than in his effort made here in advocacy of the league of nations. While in vigor and fire he appeared to be the Bryan of his pristine period, it was a Bryan mellowed by experience and philosophy and broadened by both. That the years have touched him lightly is most apparent. He has grown a little more bald and distinctly more rotund, but, as he confessed himself, while he knows that two decades and a half have elapsed since he first sprang into nationwide prominence by his "Crown of Thorns and Cross of Gold" speech that captured the presidential nomination of a great party, he

does not feel old and as has been said a man is only as old as he feels.

As for that matter and delivery of his speech on the league of nations Mr. Bryan in his best days never excelled it, and certainly on no other subject and with no other effort has he ever commanded a more universal and well-nigh unanimous supporting sentiment than was accorded him on his plea in this city for the ratification of the peace treaty and league covenant without amendments or reservations. We cannot go into the merits of his address but the best point made by him perhaps was that the same senate—composed of much the same senators—who unanimously voted to ratify his thirty arbitration treaties that pledged the nations to investigate the merits of quarrels for one year before going to war are now bucking against the league covenant to delay war for nine months because, they allege, it is a proposal to surrender the nation's sovereignty insulting and unheard of according to them.

Whatever doubt there may have been of the popular sentiment of Knoxville and vicinity on the league issue before Mr. Bryan wielded the cudgels in favor of it before our people the verdict of the multitude that heard Mr. Bryan dissipated the doubt decisively.

PLAN FIGHT ON ILLITERACY

A Washington dispatch, dated October 31, says: Eight million persons in the United States who neither read, write nor speak the English language, will be forced to learn English when Senator Kenyon's Americanization bill becomes a law.

The measure seeks to deal with what the senator considers one of the most serious questions in American life, illiteracy and foreign born aliens. The bill is an outgrowth of the recent investigations of the senate labor committee into conditions which caused the steel strike.

"Americanize America" is the slogan which Senator Kenyon and his associate champions of the bill have adopted.

Fifty-five per cent of the foreign-born inhabitants of the United States can neither read nor write. The Iowa senator says this is a conservative estimate.

If the illiterates and foreign-born who cannot speak our language, he told the senate, should be reviewed from a stand in front of the White House, marching two abreast, and twenty-five miles a day, it would take two months of solid marching for them to pass the reviewing stand.

"There are misguided men in America today—thousands and even millions of them," Kenyon said. "They are to be pitied. They do not know the purposes of America for they have had no opportunity to learn. They do not know that this is in fact the land of the poor boy; that men have given their lives that the doors of opportunity might be open to the children of tomorrow; that the opportunities for their children are the best on earth.

"Our country is to blame because the chance has not been presented for them to know. There would be no menace to the future of America from these men if they really knew what America meant.

"The melting pot cannot boil unless there is fuel under it, and that fuel is education. The purpose of this bill is to help furnish the fuel for the great American melting pot.

"America must awaken to its dangers and America must not falter or equivocate. An awakened nation of more than 100,000,000 people does not propose that a few hundred thousand anarchists and bolsheviks shall overthrow this nation of hope and this land of opportunity."

The purpose of the bill is to consider a program of Americanizing illiterates and those unable to speak, read or write the English language. The theory of the bill is the process of stimulating the states to adopt certain compulsory teaching of English to illiterates.

The money appropriated is apportioned among the several states in a provided ratio but is not turned over to any state unless the state provides for the teaching of English at least 200 hours a year to all residents who are citizens of the United States between 16 and 21 years of age and all residents of more than six months who are aliens between 16 and 45 years of age.

Because most persons who have studied economic conditions in conjunction with the spread of radicalism are convinced that there must be more Americanization in this country, it is regarded as certain that the Kenyon bill will become a law.