

# The Commoner

WILLIAM J. BRYAN, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR

VOL. 21, NO. 8

Lincoln, Nebraska, August, 1921

Whole Number 748

## Wanted!

Wanted in every state that elects a United States senator next year, and in every congressional district, a clean and courageous progressive Democrat who is willing to become a candidate. Most of the Democrats now serving in the Senate and House are doing well and should be re-elected, but the records of all should be examined and unfaithful ones retired.

Next year's campaign is the beginning of the presidential campaign of 1924 and everything depends upon the character of the candidates.

The paramount issue is likely to be taxation, but there should be no retreat on other issues. Big Business is trying to shift its share of the taxes to the masses—the profiteer is trying to unload on his victims. If the Democrats put up candidates whom the people can trust, it is possible to carry congress and lay the foundation for success in 1924. Now is the time for Democrats to get busy. The Commoner will help in every possible way.

No representative of Wall street need apply—the candidate must be free to protect the public from exploitation. No wet will be available—the country must not return to the saloon.

The candidate must be able to appeal to the conscience of women as well as to the judgment of men—woman's vote will hasten the triumph of every righteous cause.

The Democratic party has nothing to hope for from the predatory interests, from the liquor interests or from the underworld. Expediency as well as principle compels it to stand for progress, peace, prohibition and purity in politics.

Select good men and draft them into the service of the party for the country's good.

W. J. BRYAN.

## SHIFTING THE BURDEN

An effort is being made by those who represent "Big Business" to shift the burden of taxes from the profiteers to the masses. First, they demand the repeal of the excess profits tax and the substitution of other taxes that burden all. The excess profits tax is the most just tax there is—it is collected from those who collect EXCESS profits—that is, larger profits than they should. It is the only tax that a taxpayer can avoid by his own act—let him stop stealing and he will not have to divide with the government. And yet this is the one tax that the reactionaries want repealed. The next demand is for the lowering of taxes on big income, and an increase in the rate on smaller incomes—as bold a piece of piracy as was ever proposed. The Democrats in Senate and House should oppose both of these attempts.

W. J. BRYAN.

Senator Capper is to be congratulated on the passage of the bill to protect the farmers from the gamblers in farm products. It has taken the farmers (one-third of the population) thirty years to overcome the influence of a handful of speculators.

## "OTHERS"

"Lord help me live from day to day  
In such a self-forgetful way  
That, even when I kneel to pray,  
My prayer shall be for—'OTHERS.'"

Help me in all the work I do  
To ever be sincere and true,  
And know that all I'd do for you  
Must needs be done for—OTHERS.

Let 'Self' be crucified and slain  
And buried deep; and all in vain  
May efforts be to rise again  
Unless to live for—OTHERS.

And when my work on earth is done  
And my new work in heaven's begun,  
May I forget the crown I've won  
While thinking still of—OTHERS.

Others, Lord, yes, others;  
Let this my motto be:  
Help me to live for others,  
That I may live like thee."  
—Author Unknown.

## THREE IN A DAY

The Commoner is not often able to rejoice three times in one day over the triumph of measures which it supports, but August 9th was a "red letter day."

1st. The Senate and House came to an agreement over the bill to regulate the packers—a very important measure, although the bill has been to some extent "dehorned."

2nd. The Senate passed the House bill prohibiting gambling in farm products. It is not as strong as it should be, but it is a beginning.

3rd. The Senate, by a vote of 39 to 20, passed the anti-beer bill, already passed by the House.

A great day's work—and a Republican congress! The first and second measures were forced through by pressure from the farmers whose condition is so distressing as to be pathetic.

## ANOTHER LEAK

Now that the leak made by the Palmer interposition has been stopped by the anti-beer law, Attorney General Daugherty can address himself to the leak caused by the appointment of wet officials to enforce the dry law. Such appointments would seem to be a violation of the constitutional provision providing cruel and unusual punishments. What could be more cruel than to compel a wet to enforce a law that shuts off his supply of liquor?

## THE COAL MEN

What about the coal men, who according to Senator Calder mulct the country to the extent of a billion and a half in a year, is nothing to be done with them? Is it possible that they can defy the government?

## IT NEEDS R. R. GINGER

If the Bonus Bill could get some railroad ginger it might travel as fast as the R. R. Bill.

## Disarmament

The peace sentiment grows. Note the following facts:

1st. Congress reduced the army to 150,000 in spite of the protests of the secretary of war.

2nd. Congress cut down the navy appropriations in spite of the protest of the secretary of the navy.

3rd. Congress has buried the universal compulsory military bill which would have required an appropriation of \$700,000,000 a year.

4th. Congress passed the Borah resolution by 74 to 0 in the Senate and by 303 to 4 in the House.

5th. President Harding, already committed by his speeches to disarmament, has secured the consent of the nations to the conference and fixed Armistice day, November 11, for the assembling of the conference.

6th. The President has vetoed the proposed preliminary conference of premiers—he wants no cut and dried program.

The movement grows; the Disarmament conference may become the most important gathering held in centuries. IT MAY END WAR by putting an end to the rivalry in armaments that causes war and threatens universal bankruptcy.

All who believe in prayer should assemble in their places of worship on November 11 and supplicate the Heavenly Father to bless with complete success this effort to hasten the day when swords can be beaten into plowshares—when nations shall learn war no more.

W. J. BRYAN.

## THE RESERVE BOARD

The directors of the Federal Reserve Bank are under fire. Ex-Comptroller Williams has presented charges that they will find it difficult to meet. Their explanations give forth more thunder than lightning. What the board needs is a membership that represents the interests of the country at large—a farmer who farms, a laborer who labors and a business man who is not a banker. These three groups constitute three-fourths of the population, and yet they have no voice in the decisions of a board that vitally affects farm prices, wages and business conditions.

W. J. BRYAN.

## A CORRECTION

If any reader of The Commoner has noticed a dispatch going the rounds of the press purporting to report Mr. Bryan's arrest for speeding he may be interested in knowing that Mr. Bryan was not arrested at all. The driver of his car was halted ONCE—not twice—and Mr. Bryan had no conversation with the officer.

Nearly two-thirds of the proposed reductions in taxes will come from excess profits and big incomes, which means that the percentage paid by the masses is increased. How long will they stand it?