

The Commoner

ISSUED MONTHLY

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THE COMMONER, LINCOLN, NEB.

The third Liberty bond issue is to be floated in the near future. Polish up your bank account and be ready for it.

So long as there is so much nonsensical buying on the part of the persons temporarily entrusted with money it will be impossible to stop non-essential selling.

Sir Edward Carson resigned from the English cabinet six weeks ago for the avowed purpose of bringing harmony to Ireland. Sir Edward has not yet resumed his place in the cabinet.

The curious things that people do are a constant source of perplexity. There was a man in the office the other day who claimed he actually knew where a livery barn could be found in Nebraska.

We read in the newspapers that the Russian peasant is called a moujik. Of course, it is difficult to control one's temper so as to make a nice choice of language as things now are in Russia, but it scarcely seems right to go that far.

The production of pork at the Chicago packing houses, says a recent news report, fell off during the past week. Which would seem to indicate that all of the available sources of supply around the packing houses offices at least were not exhausted.

One reason why the great German offensive had not been started—at least at the time that this paragraph was being written—was the opposition of a number of German general staff officers. That will be nothing to the opposition it will find if it ever does get started.

Senator Gallinger is said to carry about with him a very sad and perplexed countenance ever since the day when the price of wool started going upward regardless of the fact that the republican party had not had an opportunity to fix up Schedule K to his liking.

Back in 1896 the newspapers had a lot of fun with the fan who insisted the thing to do was to repeal the Gresham law of economics, but that doesn't sound at all funny now when we see how easy it is for so many not highly esteemed citizens to repeal the law of supply and demand whenever it interferes with their profiteering.

Surgeon General Gorgas has given his certificate to the fact that Camp Cody is an excellent and healthful place to train soldiers. He has been challenged by several congressmen, who have had letters from men whose relatives had word from boys who were at Funston and who heard from men sent to Cody that things were not as they should be. The fact that the surgeon general made an examination of the camp is not, in the eyes of congress, in these days of investigations, to be taken as bearing on the matter.

MEMORIAL

Of the National Legislative Conference of the United States to the Canadian Temperance Alliance to be presented by the Honorable William Jennings Bryan.

The National Legislative Conference of the United States of America composed of the following organized bodies, to-wit:

- Anti-Saloon League of America.
- American Temperance Board of the Disciples of Christ.
- Board of Temperance of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.
- Board of Temperance, Prohibition and Public Morals of the Methodist Episcopal Church.
- Catholic Prohibition League.
- Committee on Promotion of Temperance Legislation in Congress.
- Committee of Sixty on National Prohibition.
- Committee on Temperance and Social Service of the Northern Baptist Convention.
- Committee on Temperance and Social Service of the Southern Baptist Convention.
- Department of Temperance and Good Citizenship of the United Society of Christian Endeavor.
- Flying Squadron Foundation.
- Intercollegiate Prohibition Association.
- International Order of Good Templars.
- International Reform Bureau.
- National Division of the Sons of Temperance.
- National Prohibition Party.
- National Women's Christian Temperance Union.
- Permanent Committee on Temperance of the Evangelical Lutheran Church General Synod.
- Scientific Temperance Federation.
- Temperance Commission of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America.
- Temperance Commission of the National Congregational Council.
- Temperance Committee of the Universalist Church.

To the Canadian Temperance Alliance and to all friends of prohibition in the Dominion of Canada, Greetings:

1. This National Conference representing constituencies aggregating more than twenty-five millions of people desires gratefully to unite with our comrades in Canada in heartfelt thanksgiving to Almighty God for the blessing which has come to both nations in the great progress recently made in the suppression of the beverage liquor traffic.

2. We wish especially to congratulate you upon the sweeping success which has been brought to pass on behalf of this cause in your Dominion and in its Provinces.

3. It is our cordial desire to co-operate with you in extending the influence of the temperance sentiment of your country and ours to the end that the traffic in intoxicating drinks may be abolished as speedily as possible throughout the whole world.

4. This Conference requests and hereby commissions the Honorable William Jennings Bryan, who is actively engaged with his great influence and eloquence in furthering the cause of prohibition, to present this memorial of our comradeship and to represent the united temperance forces of the United States at the forthcoming convention of your Canadian Temperance Alliance at the City of Toronto.

With sentiments of sincere regard, and looking forward with faith in Almighty God to sure victory for both democracy and sobriety throughout the world, we subscribe ourselves,

Fraternally and most cordially yours,
THE NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED STATES.
(Signed.)

Howard H. Russell, Chairman.
D. Leigh Colvin, Secretary.
New York City, New York, U. S. A., February 28, 1918.

Secretary Redfield is reported as being very enthusiastic over plans to stimulate the production of clams. Any newspaper paragrapher who overlooks this chance to remark that they must be figuring on increasing the force of war news censors is scarcely deserving of the title.

One of the South Dakota newspaper editors declares that the present governor "ought to be re-elected without one dissenting vote and by the unanimous vote of the people of the state." It would seem a lot like a cinch if a fellow could get all the votes and a unanimous vote at the same time.

Dry Mass Meeting on Bryan Birthday

[From The Evening Journal, Lincoln, Neb., March 7.]

A mass meeting of the "dry" organizations of the state will be held at Lincoln, March 19. It will be a non-partisan meeting. W. J. Bryan will make an address, the meeting being called on the anniversary of Mr. Bryan's birth, when he had planned to be at home.

The meeting is not to be in the form of a banquet or a dinner or a celebration of his birthday. Mr. Bryan is devoting considerable time in an effort to secure the adoption of the national prohibition constitutional amendment, and as his speaking engagements permitted him to be in Lincoln on March 19, the dry forces united in a call for a public meeting for him to address at that time.

CALL FOR THE MASS MEETING.

A mass meeting of all who favor the ratification of the national prohibition constitutional amendment is hereby called to meet at the auditorium at Lincoln on Tuesday, March 19, at 8 o'clock p. m.

The purpose of the meeting is to open the campaign for the nomination and election of members of both houses of the Nebraska legislature who are personally known to favor and who will publicly pledge themselves to vote for the ratification of the national prohibition constitutional amendment. If a special session of the Nebraska legislature is called for this spring or summer, the meeting will urge that the ratification of the national prohibition constitutional amendment be included in the call and be adopted by the legislature at the earliest possible moment.

William Jennings Bryan will be the speaker on this occasion. He is now representing all the temperance organizations of the United States in an effort to secure the ratification of the national prohibition amendment by the necessary number of states to make it a part of the federal constitution.

All of the temperance forces of Nebraska are uniting in this call. Let us make this meeting memorable by a big state-wide attendance and by our enthusiasm for this great undertaking.

Dated Lincoln, March 6, 1918.

NEBRASKA DRY FEDERATION.

(Signed) by W. T. Thompson, Chairman Campaign Committee; A. C. Epperson, H. A. Sackett, H. F. Carson, E. O. Kretsinger, E. I. Morrow, Mamie M. Claffin, C. C. Crowell, Executive Committee.

ANTI-SALOON LEAGUE OF NEBRASKA.

By S. K. Warrick, President, H. F. Carson, Superintendent.

WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNION.

By Mamie M. Claffin, President.

DOUGLAS COUNTY DRY COMMITTEE.

By J. Dean Ringer, President; Elmer E. Thomas, Campaign Manager.

SPEAKERS' CLUB.

By A. G. Wolfenbarger, President.

OMAHA COMMITTEE OF 500.

By W. T. Graham, President. L. J. Quinby, Secretary.

THE FIRST PUBLIC SCHOOL

In the suburbs of Boston stands a monument which marks the site of the first free public school ever established. The inscription, given below, shows how recent was the beginning of a system which has since spread throughout the world:

"Town meeting square. Near this site the first settlers of Dorchester, who came on the ship Maryland John in January, 1630, erected the first town meeting house. Here they held the first town meeting and established the first free school in America by a vote of the town in 1639. It became the first free public school, supported by a direct tax upon the citizens. Erected by the city of Boston, June 5, 1909."

Many of our leading profiteers grew very abusive over the order of the administration that forced them to stop a day until other people could get some coal. Thank fortune they are fairly certain to eventually land where there has never been any necessity for curtailing the use of fuel.