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EDITORIALS OF THE PEOPLE

(The Statesman is pleased to print communications upon topics of general interest at any time. There is scarcely any limit to the topics of general interest.)

Americanism vs. Imperialism Editor Statesman: Americanism must be understood in a limited sense, not as indicating any particular nationality or local government.

As to imperialism, that implies kingly craft and autocracy, with menial service to a "mailed fist."

The pages of history reveal the fact that force has been the autocrat of national life, in all ages, with few exceptions, of short duration.

Assuming that human activities have

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been much the same in all generations, modified only by enlightened moral forces, and admitting that personal characteristics in different races may have dominated to some extent in governmental activities, yet it must be admitted that if experience teaches anything that Americanism as herein defined can only be maintained by an enlightened patriotic citizenship.

Without delving into historic records is may be safe to assume that a government "of the people, by the people, for the people" cannot be maintained indefinitely unless founded upon the basic foundation of enlightened patriotic citizenship.

Citizenship must therefore, be limited in point to suffrage and voice in governmental affairs to individual enlightenment and patriotic devotion.

Hypnotized adhesion, class hatred and sectional animosities should be a bar to full citizenship as herein understood. It must be borne in mind, however, that such restricted citizenship does not deprive the law abiding individual of the "right to life, liberty and pursuit of happiness" under the administration of governmental Americanism.

Suffrage is not an inherent right but simply a granted privilege. In the human family, instinct is

not the governing force as in the animal kingdom. A restrictive educational force is imperative in all the lines of human activities from the family home through all the grades of organized communities and up to national in form.

In the family, that force is fixed by divine right in the parents, and the commandment to the children is to "Honor thy father and thy mother that thy days may be long in the land the Lord thy God giveth thee," but in national government that force must be designated and assigned by organic ordinance, granting delegated power, strictly segregated and properly interlocked.

Experience has established the fact that the constitution of the United States of America embodies the fundamental principles of good government as set out in the Declaration of Independence, and stated by President Lincoln as "A government of the people, by the people, for the people."

Imperialism as herein defined is not limited to the rulings of kings and emperors, but may be by mobs Bolshevism, union organizations, capitalistic combinations, criminal-socialism, as represented by the I. W. W.'s and bomb throwers, the ignorant criminally inclined and by hyphenated citizenship under our naturalization laws.

The governing force under our form of government is in the voter, qualified under the laws granting suffrage. Suffrage is not an inherent right but a fundamental trust based upon proper qualifications of citizenship, or member of the governing force (100 per cent loyal), on lines of intelligent understandings, with loyal and patriotic devotion to Americanism.

Justice and equity demands protection to all law-abiding inhabitants against crimes and misdemeanors and it goes without saying that all so classed would be unsafe members of the governing force.

With the close of this greatest war of the world's history, the American government has come to be known as God's country by all the inhabitants of all the civil and half civilized countries of the world.

The chronicles of time in mythical lore give only conflicts of heroes and heroines, with mythical gods and history since the days of Moses and Joshua, is blotted with the rulings of autocratic forces in the governments of the world, all more or less savage in mode and manner, with few exceptions far between and of short duration.

In view of all these alarming possibilities, it becomes an imperative necessity to purge the governing force of our country from all adverse and disrupting influences, by restrictive legislation touching the right of suffrage, basing the right upon qualification, with native as well as foreign born.

No foreign language should be taught in school below collegiate grade and no newspaper be allowed to print views on themes political or national except in the English language. The language of the nation should emphatically be English.

In the contemplation of the future of Americanism, there comes with overpowering force, the hope and prayer that such restrictive suffrage laws shall be passed and strictly

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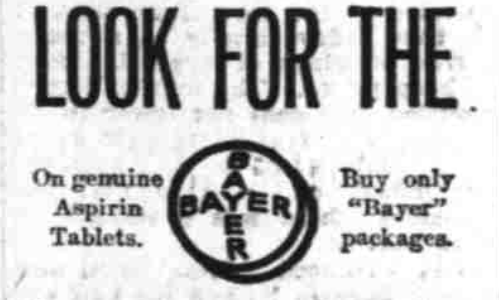
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ment guarantees civil liberty and equal rights but no moral or legal obligation to grant full citizenship on demand.

Full citizenship is not a right but a solemn trust. A trust involving in its full sense the pledge and devotion to support and maintain Americanism (as herein defined) in its purity as pledged by the signers of the Declaration of Independence.

Hyphenated Americanism is intolerable, and while there are many greatly respected and trustworthy foreign born inhabitants among us, yet there is that instinctive sentiment all pervading in every soul living around the old hearthstone.

The poet has said: "Breathes there a man with soul so dead, who never unto himself hath said, 'this is my own, my native land.'" While this sentiment is not dishonest, yet it is too strong to be ignored in granting full citizenship.

It is not to be assumed that foreign born immigrants have the imperative qualification for full citizenship. Inability to understand our language and his home training with its environments all mitigate against the possibility of his understanding the principles of Americanism.

In the busy activities of earning a subsistence he has but little opportunity to gain an intelligent understanding of the duties and obligations of full citizenship. As a law-abiding inhabitant being granted the full right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, he has nothing to lose by being denied the right of suffrage.

Herein lies the safety of Americanism. With the close of this greatest war of the world's history, the American government has come to be known as God's country by all the inhabitants of all the civil and half civilized countries of the world.

Abundant in resources with a generous citizenship ready to supply the world with food and a helping hand; the Eden of the world. Without restrictive measures the flood gates of immigration open upon us, coming from every clime, with a diversity of crafts and creeds, with no purpose but that of gain, a mass of jabbering kinglys. These will drift to different sections of our territory and those not criminally disposed will engage in some lucrative employment, but it will take the melting pot of Time with proper enforcement of salutary laws to devoid them of hyphenated loyalty and inculcate comprehensive knowledge of government policies.

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In view of all these alarming possibilities, it becomes an imperative necessity to purge the governing force of our country from all adverse and disrupting influences, by restrictive legislation touching the right of suffrage, basing the right upon qualification, with native as well as foreign born. Intelligent knowledge and 100 per cent loyalty should be the test.

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enforced during the ages to come, that will insure an incorruptible governing force. Otherwise the governing force may in time be corrupted by the ever-increasing diversity of interest and a conglomerate jumble of fad and faddists in the making of the governing force, resulting finally into disrupting conditions which will place a fiddling Nero instead of a Washington in the presidential chair. Robespierres instead of Solons in the legislative halls, and Jeffries instead of Marshalls in our courts of justice, followed by our disrupting fomentation, riots, mobs, insurrections and general demoralization, until some Caesar shall come across the Rubicon and repeat the fall of Rome.

When Rome was in her power, a Roman senator in pleading the cause of the people, exclaimed, "Vox Populi Vox Dei." (The voice of the people is the voice of God.) But it is of the first importance to note there are two voices of the people—the voice of God and the voice of the devil. The devil is abroad in the land seeking whom he may devour.

His voice is heard in all lands, loud, persistent and insistent. It walls in our cities from soap box orators, it bubbles up from the secret dens of the criminal socialistic I. W. W.'s, it echoes through the land from the Mooney propaganda, it roars from walking delegates of unionists' selfishness, it moans from the chambers of capitalized greed, it skulks in war time from hyphenated loyalty, and

kicks at all restraints at evil doing. It is in the murmuring of the impecunious able-bodied idler against the annals of fate, wherein it is said, "In the sweat of thy face thou shalt eat bread." It whimpers at limitations of destructive forces by modern strikes. It is ever berating the loss of personal liberty in the denial of the freedom of speech in the propaganda of devilish devices and belish animosities.

Choose you this day which voice you will hear—whether that of the God of our fathers or of that of the limps of hell! —W. H. ODELL.

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