

A SIMILAR REPORT FROM ALL ALONG THE LINE

crats' attention to their duty as democrats and citizens of this government at this particular time. Keep up your good work.

Henry McGlumphy, Nineveh, Pa.—Put my name down on the primary pledge list. I have been a democrat all my life. Have been voting that ticket ever since I got my first vote and I am now in my eightieth year. I am very well pleased with the plan you have taken, and I hope that you will be successful.

H. B. Jones, Foss, Okla.—Find primary pledge signed by some of my neighbors. I am so rushed with my farm work that I couldn't get out and get signers, but think I could have gotten a great many if I had time to canvass. Our precinct is mostly all Bryan democrats. I would like to have you send me fifty sample copies of The Commoner to distribute in the country. I have found several democrats lately that didn't know of The Commoner being printed. That is one thing that is the matter with our party, the rank and file take no interest in their party. They seem to think if they vote for the one their bosses nominate, their duty is done and they go off to sleep until next election.

J. H. Berson, Aspen, Colo.—Enclosed find pledge. I believe it will do much good if all signers live up to the pledge.

G. W. Crawford, Laurelhill, Fla.—Enclosed find primary pledge. I think the plan is a good one.

Mr. J. S. Davison, Gilliam, Mo.—I think the primary pledge a good plan to get up an interest among the voters. I herewith send in my own and will try and induce others to do the same. I also send a list of names to whom you could send sample copies of The Commoner.

Edwin Elmore, La Mar, Mo.—I take pleasure in sending you my primary pledge. Direct from the people comes the purest and most honest grant of power ever given a government. And unless the people attend to the governing business themselves, they may rest assured the trustites and plutocrats will look after it for them, but in their own peculiar way. I have always been proud to follow Bryan and men of his stamp, and to defend their good old-fashioned democratic platforms with voice and pen. Yours for the good of the grandest political cause ever espoused.

James C. Wolfe, Audubon, Iowa.—Enclosed you will find my primary pledge duly signed. The pledge signers don't want to wait until primaries come to talk democratic principles and clean politics. They want to give their would be party bosses to understand that they will not have any made up slates, nor any already cut and dried doings, and in view of the appalling amount of corruption in office, they should have for their motto, "Turn the rascals out, and see that none but honest and competent men are put in office."

J. M. Fassett, Flat Creek, Ky.—You will find with this the primary pledge signed. I am 75 years of age, always a democrat, have twice voted for Bryan and will vote for no man who does not endorse his principles.

A. R. Saylor, Rogersford, Pa.—Enclosed find list as per request. The prospects for democratic gains in our locality are very bright. The shake up of the thugs and boodlers in Philadelphia will help us much. I am inclined to believe that the spirits of those who fought on the hills of Valley Forge are knocking at the conscience of many at present. I am pleased to

say also that I am a democrat. I was the pharmacist to the democratic national convention at Kansas City, having been the first ever appointed to that position. The papers with badges, etc., are all framed in a silver frame. Best wishes for your health, so you may continue to do the good work in the future as in the past.

Jesse H. Barnett, Point Peter, Ark.—Find enclosed primary pledge with a number of signers, and a request for a number of sample copies of The Commoner, to be sent to the signers, that is a copy to each one. I also ask that you send some of the pledges to the following signers, to-wit: M. F. Franklin, Bruce V. Robertson and Albert Wasson. All of Point Peter postoffice and state of Arkansas.

Edwin O. Presby, New York.—I herewith enclose my signed pledge, simply as a matter of record in furtherance of the cause you so faithfully represent, and in which I enlisted in 1896. I most positively assure you that I have ever since been a true and loyal volunteer in the ranks of the Bryan democrats, fully resolved to remain so, and from which resolution, no argument, circumstance, or discussion can swerve me in the least. Best wishes for all our friends.

L. W. Deaman, Sterling, Kas.—Find fifteen names duly signed to primary pledge. I hail with joy this glad day, in which my fondest hopes are growing brighter for the cause of democracy. The spirit of Washington, of Jefferson, of Jackson urges us to action. Send me ten copies of The Commoner. I will place them. Will send more names. I am a busy man, earn my bread by the sweat of my face, hit the breezes early and late, and find a genuine pleasure in my occupation. Yours for honest and true democracy.

Charles A. McIlmoy, Yellow Creek, Pa.—Find enclosed my pledge for that adds one more to the list. It does not mean much now, but the primary pledge means victory in 1908. We want a leader that is true to the principles and the policy of the democratic party, not a gold telegram on the ticket again. Please send me twenty blank pledges for I want to get to work and help redeem this United States from machine and boss rule.

Aaron F. Parker, Grangeville, Idaho.—Count me in on the primary pledge. I am with you, heart, body and soul.

Have been a so-called "Bryan democrat" almost before Bryan was ever heard of, and am still fighting the battles of democracy along the same old lines of the platforms of 1896-1900-1904. I was at the head of the ticket in Idaho last fall as a Parker elector, but had no illusions on the subject. Parker himself was all right, but the "push" behind him was too rank for the rank and file. Parker's suggestion that the common law affords plenty of opportunity for the suppression of the trusts without additional legislation is quite true, and I am surprised that the democratic press have not given this important suggestion more publicity. I have often thought that the true solution of the railroad question lies in public ownership of the railway rights-of-way and tracks, leaving the public to put on its own equipment of competing trains under government supervision. The public owns its county roads, where everybody has the privilege of walking, or riding a horse, or driving a buggy, or freight wagon. Consequently, on these highways there is always all kinds of competition. With public ownership and supervision of the tracks, private competition would soon abolish rebates and kindred and allied evils.

W. T. Moore, McKinney, Texas.—Please to find enclosed my primary pledge. I hardly thought it necessary for me to send it, but as you request it, I cheerfully do so. I have supported all of its nominees from Seymour to Parker. Never scratched a ticket yet since I began to vote. I am strictly a party man, and believe in democratic principles as enunciated by Col. W. J. Bryan. I am a reader of The Commoner.

J. D. Lawson, Meadows, N. C.—I am forwarding the primary pledge and one for my neighbor, H. M. Southern. We appreciate your efforts in behalf of Jeffersonian democracy, and we think your suggestion that the voters pledge themselves to work in the primaries is a good one, provided we are given the primaries. Now in our section it has been the practice of late to call the party together in mass meeting to select candidates and delegates, and we think it would be much more conducive to harmony and would express the will of the party more fully to hold township or district primaries, and let them select delegates to represent them in the conventions. We desire your influence to the effect that

we be permitted to hold township primaries in every state.

R. T. Brumback, Rileyville, Va.—You must know that I thoroughly endorse and appreciate your plan of organization. I received blank primary pledge on Friday 2, and on Saturday 3, inst., I got 30 signatures, good reliable men. But three men to whom I presented the article refused to sign it; two claimed to be republicans; the other prohibitionist. Today having filled the sheet I return it to The Commoner. I have another blank which I shall endeavor to use in promulgation of the good cause in which so many seem interested and to which I wish full and crowning success.

James Pace, Talala, I. T.—Enclosed find blank signed with 21 names for democratic club at Talala, I. T. Send me a few sample copies of The Commoner.

J. D. McKee, Neasho, Mo.—Please find primary pledge of a liberal democrat. I endorse the reforms suggested by The Commoner and believe the policy ought to be a common one in which there are no big I's and little U's, and that democratic principles will never die.

Charles P. Twiss, Knox, Washington.—I endorse your plan and sign the pledge. I am 76 years of age, was born in the old Whig party at Worcester, Mass., in 1854, helped organize the republican party. The resolutions then adopted declared for free soil, free speech, free press and free trade. They announced themselves Jefferson democrats without any mental reservations. Jackson was as fully endorsed where slavery was not in issue. Copies of reports of that convention and the speeches then made as appeared in the Boston Transcript, Worcester Spy and Springfield Republican would make good democratic literature. That fall the republicans and Know Nothings fused, giving the Know Nothings the state officers, the republicans six M. C. and United States senators. Not a whig was elected in 1856. The whigs tumbled out of their wagon and voted for Fremont and this demoralized the party. In 1869 I joined the democrats and have remained with the party and hope to do good work in 1908. All parties triumph only when they endorse and proclaim Jeffersonian doctrines. I have little doubt history will repeat itself in 1908.

THE PRIMARY PLEDGE

I promise to attend all the primaries of my party to be held between now and the next democratic national convention, unless unavoidably prevented, and to use my influence to secure a clear, honest and straightforward declaration of the party's position on every question upon which the voters of the party desire to speak.

Signed.....

Street..... Postoffice..... State.....

County..... Voting precinct or ward.....

Fill out blanks and mail to Commoner Office, Lincoln, Neb.