

straining order should be issued without notice, except where irreparable injury would result from delay, in which case speedy hearing thereafter should be granted.

**THE AMERICAN FARMER**

"Among those whose welfare is as essential to the welfare of the whole country as that of the wage-earner is that of the American farmer. The prosperity of the country rests peculiarly on the prosperity of agriculture. The republican party during the last twelve years has accomplished extraordinary work in bringing the resources of the national government to the aid of the farmer, not only in advancing agriculture itself, but increasing the conveniences of rural life. Free rural mail delivery has been established; it now reaches millions of our citizens, and we favor its extension until every community in the land receives the full benefits of the postal service; we recognize the social and economical advantages of good country roads, maintained more and more largely at public expense and less and less at the expense of the abutting owner. In this work we commend the growing practice of state aid and we approve the efforts of the national agricultural department by experiments and otherwise to make clear to the public the best methods of road construction.

**RIGHTS OF THE NEGRO**

"The republican party has been for more than fifty years the constant and consistent friend of the American negro. It gave him freedom and citizenship; it wrote into the organic law the declaration that proclaims his civil and political rights, and it believes today that his noteworthy progress in intelligence, industry and good citizenship has earned the respect and encouragement of the nation. We demand equal justice for all men, without regard to race or color. We declare once more and without reservation for the enforcement of the letter and spirit of the thirteenth, fourteenth and fifteenth amendments to the constitution which are designed for the advancement and protection of the negro and we condemn all devices which have for their real aim his disfranchisement for reasons of color alone, as unfair, un-American and repugnant to the supreme law of the land.

**NATURAL RESOURCES**

"We endorse the movement inaugurated by the administration for the conservation of natural resources; we approve all measures to prevent the waste of timber; we commend the work now going on for the reclamation of arid lands and reaffirm the republican policy of the free distribution of the available areas of the public domain to the landless settler. This obligation of the future is more insistent and none will result in greater blessings to posterity. In line with this splendid undertaking is the further duty, equally imperative, to enter upon a systematic improvement upon a large and comprehensive plan, just to all portions of the country, of the waterways, harbors, and great lakes, whose natural adaptability to the increasing traffic of the land is one of the greatest gifts of a benign providence.

**THE ARMY AND THE NAVY**

"The congress passed many commendable acts increasing the efficiency of the army and navy; making the militia of the states an integral part of the national establishment; authorizing joint maneuvers of army and militia; fortifying new naval bases and completing the construction of coaling stations; instituting a female nurse corps for naval hospitals and ships, and adding two new battleships, ten torpedo boat destroyers, three steam colliers and eight submarines to the strength of the navy. Although at peace with all the world and secure in the consciousness that the American people do not desire and will not provoke a war with any other country, we nevertheless declare our unalterable devotion to a policy that will keep this republic ready at all times to defend her traditional doctrines, and assure her appropriate part in promoting permanent tranquility among the nations.

**PROTECTION OF CITIZENS**

"We commend the vigorous efforts made by the administration to protect American citizens in foreign lands, and pledge ourselves to insist upon the just and equal protection of all our citizens abroad. It is the unquestioned duty of the government to procure for all our citizens, without distinction, the rights of travel and sojourn in friendly countries and we declare ourselves in favor of all proper efforts tending to that end.

**EXTENSION OF COMMERCE**

"Under the administration of the republican party the foreign commerce of the United States has experienced a remarkable growth until it has a present valuation of approximately three

billions of dollars and gives employment to a vast amount of labor and capital which would otherwise be idle. It has inaugurated through the recent visit of the secretary of state to South America and Mexico a new era of Pan-American commerce and comity which is bringing us into closer touch with our twenty sister American republics, having a common historical heritage, a republican form of government and offering us a limitless field of legitimate commercial expansion.

**ARBITRATION AND THE HAGUE**

"The conspicuous contributions of the American statesmanship to the great cause of international peace, signally advanced in The Hague conferences, are an occasion for just pride and gratification. At the last session of the senate of the United States, eleven of The Hague treaties were ratified, establishing the rights of neutrals, laws of war on land, restriction of submarine mines, limiting the use of force for the collection of contractual debts, governing the opening of hostilities, extending the application of Geneva principles, and in many ways lessening the evils of war and promoting the peaceful settlement of international controversies. At the same session twelve arbitration conventions with great nations were confirmed and extradition, boundary and neutralization treaties of supreme importance were ratified. We endorse such achievements as the highest duty a people can perform and proclaim the obligation of further strengthening the bonds of friendship and good will with all the nations of the world.

**MERCHANT MARINE**

"We adhere to the republican doctrine of encouragement to American shipping and urge such legislation as will revive the merchant marine prestige of the country, so essential to national defense, the enlargement of the foreign trade and the industrial prosperity of our own people.

**VETERANS OF THE WARS**

"Another republican policy which must be ever maintained is that of generous provision for those who have fought the country's battle and for the widows and orphans of those who have fallen. We commend the increased widows' pensions made by the present congress and declare for a liberal administration of all pension laws, to the end that the people's gratitude may grow deeper as the memories of heroic sacrifice grow more sacred with the passing years.

**CIVIL SERVICE**

"We reaffirm our former declarations that the civil service laws enacted, extended and enforced by the republican party, shall continue to be maintained and obeyed.

**PUBLIC HEALTH**

"We commend the efforts designed to secure greater efficiency in national public health agencies and favor such legislation as will effect this purpose.

**BUREAU OF MINES AND MINING**

"As showing interest in the great mining resources of our country we especially favor the establishment of a bureau of mines and mining.

**CUBA, PORTO RICO, PHILIPPINES**

"The American government in republican hands has freed Cuba, given peace and protection to Porto Rico and the Philippines under our flag and begun construction of the Panama canal. The present conditions in Cuba vindicate the wisdom of maintaining, between that republic and this imperishable bonds of mutual interest, and the hope is now expressed that the Cuban people will soon again be ready to assume complete sovereignty over their land.

"In Porto Rico the government of the United States is making loyal and patriotic support; order and prosperity prevail and the well-being of the people is in every respect promoted and conserved.

"We believe that the native inhabitants of Porto Rico should be at once collectively made citizens of the United States and that all others properly qualified under existing laws residing in said country should have the privilege of becoming naturalized.

"In the Philippines insurrection has been suppressed, law established and life and property made secure. Education and practical experience are there advancing the capacity of the people for government and the policies of McKinley and Roosevelt are leading the inhabitants step by step to ever increasing measure of home rule.

"Time has justified the selection of the Panama route for the isthmian canal, and events have shown the wisdom of securing authority over the zone through which it is to be

built. The work is now progressing with a rapidity far beyond expectation, and already the realization of the hopes of centuries has come within the vision of the near future.

**NEW MEXICO AND ARIZONA**

"We favor the immediate admission of the territories of New Mexico and Arizona as separate states in the union.

**CENTENARY OF LINCOLN**

February 12, 1909, will be the one hundredth anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln, an immortal spirit whose fame has brightened with the receding years, and whose name stands among the first of those given to the world by the great republic; we recommend that this centennial anniversary be celebrated throughout the confines of the nation, by all the people thereof and, especially by the public schools, and an exercise to stir the patriotism of the youth of the land.

**DEMOCRATS DENOUNCED**

"We call the attention of the American people to the fact that none of the great measures here advocated by the republican party could be enacted and none of the steps forward here proposed could be taken under a democratic administration or under one in which party responsibility is divided. The continuance of present policies therefore absolutely requires the continuance in power of that party which believes in them and which possesses the capacity to put them into operation.

**CONCLUSION**

"Beyond all platform declarations there are fundamental differences between the republican party and its chief opponent which make the one worthy and the other unworthy of public trust. In history the difference between democracy and republicanism is that the one stood for debased currency, the other for honest currency; the one for free silver, the other for sound money; the one for free trade, the other for protection; the one for the contraction of American influence, the other for its expansion; the one has been forced to abandon every position taken on the great issues before the people, the other has held and vindicated all.

"In experience the difference between democracy and republicanism is that one means adversity, while the other means prosperity; one means low wages while the other means high; one means doubt and debt, the other means confidence and thrift.

"In principles, the difference between democracy and republicanism is that one stands for vacillation and timidity in government, the other for strength and purpose; one stands for obstruction the other for construction; the one promises, the other performs; one finds fault, the other finds work.

"The present tendencies of the two parties are even more marked by inherent differences. The trend of democracy is toward socialism, while the republican party stands for a wise and regulated individualism. Socialism would destroy wealth; republicanism would prevent its abuse. Socialism would give to each an equal right to take; republicanism would give to each an equal right to earn. Socialism would offer an equality of possession which would soon leave no one anything to possess; republicanism would give equality of opportunity which would assure to each his share of a constantly increasing sum of possessions. In line with this tendency, the democratic party of today believes in government ownership, while the republican party believes in government regulation. Ultimately, democracy would have the nation own the people, while republicanism would have the people own the nation.

"Upon this platform of principles and purposes, reaffirming our adherence to every republican doctrine proclaimed since the birth of the party, we go before the country, asking the support not only of those who have acted with us heretofore, but of all our fellow citizens, who, regardless of past political differences, unite in the desire to maintain the policies, perpetuate the blessings and make secure the achievements of a greater America."

**IN WYOMING**

W. H. Holliday, Laramie, Wyo.—I enclose herewith a list of fifty names to each of whom kindly send The Commoner until the close of the Presidential campaign. I enclose check in payment of said subscriptions.