

# The Commoner.

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## "Two Votes For Bryan And Kern" — That Is The Slogan.

The argument in this campaign is on our side. This argument may not have been presented to your neighbor, who intends to vote the republican ticket. Let everyone who advocates the election of Bryan and Kern make determined effort, between now and election day, to get one vote among his neighbors. From now on let the slogan be "Two votes for Bryan and Kern" — my own and another man's."

### NINE MONTHS OF FAILURES

The Lincoln (Neb.) Journal, a republican paper, prints in its issue of October 5 the following:

Commercial failures in the United States during the nine months ending September 30 were 11,943 in number and \$179,677,523 in amount of default indebtedness, according to statistics compiled by R. G. Dunn & Co. In the corresponding months of 1907 there were 8,090 failures, and the amount involved was \$116,036,348. Manufacturing failures were 2,862 in number and \$79,140,341 in amount, against 1,094 similar suspensions last year, with liabilities of \$62,783,957. There was 7,630 trading defaults for \$72,820,227, against 5,878 failures in this class last year for \$39,893,927. Other commercial failures numbered 454 and involved \$27,726,865, against 258 for \$13,358,464 in 1907. Banking and other fiduciary concerns suspended to the number of 147, with liabilities of \$116,208,661, against 29 bank failures for \$12,945,669 last year.

Failure statistics for nine months are compared below for a series of years:

Year.	No.	Assets.	Liabilities.
1908	11,946	\$123,237,797	\$179,677,523
1907	8,090	73,978,690	116,036,348
1906	7,912	45,787,940	84,660,237
1905	8,806	44,325,069	76,234,028
1904	9,183	67,328,110	111,659,205
1903	8,176	53,109,285	101,655,855
1902	8,676	43,265,389	85,407,490
1901	8,683	39,931,458	80,560,862
1900	7,851	58,390,002	101,867,448
1899	6,854	30,751,557	59,703,905
1898	9,258	59,968,124	92,549,417
1897	9,702	77,392,957	117,293,975
1896	10,783	120,401,309	171,155,031
1895	9,449	81,044,566	121,007,123
1894	9,907	90,266,802	181,144,502
1893	10,398	200,000,000	251,334,265

## AFRAID OF THE LIGHT!

Anticipating the publication by the democrats of their campaign fund, republican managers have sought to recover some lost ground. They print the names of two contributors, Andrew Carnegie and Mrs. Russel Sage and they announce that they will make other contributions public AFTER THE ELECTION.

An Associated Press dispatch tells the story in this way:

"New York, October 9.—The fact that Andrew Carnegie has contributed \$20,000 to the campaign fund of the republican cause was announced today by State Chairman Woodruff. Mr. Woodruff also announced that Mrs. Russell Sage has contributed \$1,000 to the same fund. There have been no other large contributions from individuals, Mr. Woodruff said, but small sums are coming in from various sources. George R. Sheldon, treasurer of the national committee, when asked about the contributions, declined to discuss them, saying that he would publish a LIST OF ALL THE CONTRIBUTIONS MADE TO THE REPUBLICAN COMMITTEE AFTER ELECTION."

If the republican managers are willing to make Carnegie's contribution public, why not give the names of other heavy contributors? The explanation is that Mr. Carnegie has given away so many libraries out of the money which he has obtained through "undue favoritism" at the hands of the government that the republican managers rely upon his "popularity" among the people to prevent the fact of his contribution doing injury.

But let it be remembered that Andrew Carnegie has good reason to contribute to republican campaign funds and we need go no farther than to a republican newspaper for proof.

Several years ago it was reported that Andrew Carnegie had offered to pay \$20,000,000 for the Philippine Islands, provided he was per-

mitted to assure the Filipinos that they would be given their independence.

Commenting upon this story, the Chicago Tribune said that the steel magnate "has tried the patience of his friends severely in some of his late bids for notoriety." It expressed the opinion that Mr. Carnegie is constantly posing, and said "he scattered libraries throughout the country, all of which are to be called for him, and every one of them is 'a contribution to the conscience fund.'"

Then the Tribune said: "Mr. Carnegie made his money in a magnificent way, but he should never forget that he made it through the undue favoritism of the government of the United States. Owing to the discrimination practiced in his favor by the tariff, he was enabled to amass a fortune of \$200,000,000, or more, most of which came out of the pockets of his countrymen through the operation of unequal laws. Much has been said of the benefit arising to the workmen from the establishment of the Carnegie works. The beneficent tariff system permitted the works to survive and flourish, but there are some people who have not forgotten the Homestead strike, nor the outrageous manner in which the workmen were treated at the time by employers whose brutality has seldom been exceeded in the history of labor agitations."

The republican party has, in every presidential campaign and congressional campaign, been financed by the men to whom they have granted what the Chicago Tribune calls "undue favoritism." Does any one imagine that the tariff barons and trust magnates will withhold contributions from the republican campaign fund this year? Does any one believe that the republican party will ever revise the tariff in the interest of the consumers so long as it obtains its campaign funds from the tariff barons?

Is anyone surprised that the republican managers are afraid of the light?

### WHAT OF IT? A REPUBLICAN CONFESSION AND A REPUBLICAN DEFI

The Chicago Inter Ocean, a republican paper, in its issue of October 7, printed an editorial from which the following is taken:

"Judge Parker let out a whoop at Baltimore on Monday over the \$100,000 that the republican national committee received from the Standard Oil company—and did not return—in the Roosevelt campaign of 1904.

"AS A MATTER OF FACT, THE REPUBLICAN CAMPAIGN FUND GOT \$100,000 FROM THE STANDARD OIL COMPANY, AS IN 1896 IT GOT \$50,000 FROM THE NEW YORK LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, AND IN 1904 \$260,000 FROM E. H. HARRIMAN. WHAT OF IT?"

"The only questionable feature of these transactions is that in 1904 the country was given Mr. Roosevelt's word of honor that his campaign fund had not received contributions from large corporations, when, in fact, it had. However, that is Mr. Roosevelt's affair, not the party's.

"Otherwise, what of it? What effect did these contributions have except to promote the political education of the public?"

## The First Voter

Young man, great responsibility attaches to your first vote. As you begin, so you are likely to continue. The momentum that carries you into a party at the beginning of your political life is apt to keep you in that party unless some convulsion shakes you out of it. Start right, and in order that you may start right, examine the principles of the parties and the policies which they advocate.

There are two great party organizations in the United States, one fifty years old, and the other more than a century old. The republican party has been in power almost uninterruptedly for more than half a century and under its reign abuses have grown up which threaten the perpetuity of the government and endanger our civilization. So great are these abuses that republican reformers are now pointing out that something must be done—and what can be done? The first thing is to undo the things that have been done, and the party to undo these abuses is not the party which has done

them, but the party which has protested against these abuses and pointed out remedies.

The republican party has turned the taxing power over to private individuals; it has allowed monopolies to grow up and assume control of the industries of the country by granting privileges by law and by giving immunity to the large violators of the law; the republican party has permitted the fortunes of the predatory rich to become so large that government is corrupted, politics debauched and business polluted.

The democratic party proposes to withdraw the taxing power from private hands, to so legislate as to make a private monopoly impossible, and to enforce the law without discrimination. It proposes to protect legitimate wealth and punish those who attempt to plunder the public for private gain. On which side do you stand, young man? Are you with the masses in their effort to restore the government to its old foundation and make it a government of the people, for the people and by the people, or are you with