

"I Have Done With Compromise,"

Says Frank P. Walsh of Missouri

Article IV. Membership. The membership shall consist of those who approve this constitution, and contribute at least twenty-five (25) cents per annum for use in the state and national campaigns within the party.

Article V. Officers. The officers of the club shall consist of a president, one or more vice presidents, a secretary and a treasurer.

Article VI. The executive council—quorum—recall. The work of the club shall be directed by an executive council, consisting of the president, the secretary, the treasurer, and two others to be chosen by the members. Three shall constitute a quorum. The executive council and officers may be recalled and their successors elected at any meeting by a majority vote of members present, after due notice of the business to come before the meeting.

Article VII. Annual meeting—special meetings—initiative in five members. The annual election of officers shall be held the first week in November of each year after 1911, at a time and place to be specified by the executive council. Notice of each meeting shall be transmitted or mailed to each member.

A special meeting may be called by the executive council, and one shall be called upon request of any five members addressed to the president, and should he default, then the five members may call a special meeting on seven days' notice to members: Provided, that not more than one special club meeting shall be called in any seven days, and no member shall be authorized to join in calling more than one special meeting in any thirty days.

Article VIII. Amendment. This constitution may be amended at any meeting, providing notice of the proposed change shall have been communicated to the members one week in advance.

Note. Each member of the club will become a member of the federations with which the club will affiliate, the state federation and the national federation, and each member can then actively participate in the proceedings of each federation by voting through the mails—using the postal vote. Thus distance and expense will be annihilated, and the federation's constitution places in the individual members the final power within the organization by means of the initiative, the referendum and the recall, operated through the postal vote.

You are cordially invited to join the club and the federation and thus help to defend yourself. At present you are being ruled by the special interests, who each day are picking your pockets and otherwise injuring you and yours. The only men and women who are deserving of self-government, freedom and citizenship are those who will help to defend themselves.

As there are vast differences in ability to contribute funds, and as the largest possible funds for the federation's work—national, state and local—are needed, the members who contribute:

Twenty-five cents to a dollar a year to the state and national treasuries are known as associate members;

A dollar or more a year up to eleven dollars, are contributing members;

Five dollars a year, are sustaining members;

One to four dollars a month, are fellows;

Five dollars a month, are distinguished members;

Ten dollars a month for ten months, or \$100 cash, are life members;

One thousand dollars, are founders.

Each member possesses equal voting power. (Names.) (Postoffice address.)

Fellow Democrat: Why not personally organize the several voting precincts in your district or state? The above program will be heartily approved by the people, for the plan is to increase their power and completely free them from their present-day political and commercial masters—the special interests and their secret army of big and little allies.

It follows that not alone the rank and file of the democratic party, but also hosts of men who have heretofore for various reasons affiliated with the republican and other parties, will be attracted to the liberty-giving clubs and federations.

Under this general program you and the other leaders who participate in the work can produce highly satisfactory results. Yours faithfully,

ROBERT L. OWEN.

Chairman Organization Committee,
Washington, D. C.

Three hundred officers and men of the French battleship *Libertie* lost their lives when the ship was destroyed by an explosion in the harbor at Toulon, France.

I greatly fear it would grieve some excellent gentlemen if I, as the candidate for governor, would scratch the candidate for president—as I certainly would do if he happened to be Mr. Oscar Underwood, let us say, or Mr. Judson Harmon, or any other worker for the special interests who wears the democratic button.

I am a democrat because I believe the people of that party have the best idea of what they want and how to get it, but if the democratic party gets betrayed into wrong hands, I'm going to be free to vote and work for the right hands wherever they show themselves.

The public service of this time calls for public servants in office, and it calls for more public servants out of office. What we need for this time more than lawmakers and law governors is agitators. An agitator is a man who won't stand for lies because they are old.

The question of government of this day, then, is the question of who controls the courts.

It is ridiculous to say that judges declare the law as they find it. They declare it the way they believe it to be, and they believe it to be the way they want it to be.

It is a shame to think that the men who make laws are running this country, or that any servants of the people are running it, much less the people themselves. They're not. This is a government of the people, by the federal judges, for the special interests.

We must have people's men inside the organization of government and we must have a larger body of field men. The people do undoubtedly want progressive, popular leadership. They're hungry for it.—Frank P. Walsh.

Following is an interview with Frank P. Walsh the famous Missouri democrat and lawyer, as the same is printed in the *Kansas City Star*:

Frank P. Walsh will not run for the democratic nomination for governor of Missouri. Mr. Walsh made that definite statement recently. The refusal to get into the race had been made before, many times, since the *Star* of a week ago told of the efforts to get Mr. Walsh to run. It had been made to friends and oftentimes to men he hardly knew who had called to say they were "for him."

The responses to the suggestion of his candidacy were more than a tribute to Mr. Walsh's popularity. The people of Missouri evidently want something different from the old cut and dried "issues" and the leadership which leads nowhere. There weren't many politicians who welcomed the Walsh boom. But there were many business men and lawyers and there were representatives of labor unions and there were more of the men whose names are not very familiar to the public—just the plain people, the kind that Walsh believes in.

"Thank you, but I can't run," said Mr. Walsh when J. M. Lowe came over to his table in a restaurant one day last week. "You must get in the race, Frank," Judge Lowe had said. "Thank you, but I can't run," replied Walsh. "You see," he added jocularly, "I might get the nomination."

In reality there was nothing jocular about the remark. Frank Walsh does not think he could get the nomination; but he knows he does not want it. If he got it he would not know what to do with it. If he was elected he would be still more at sea.

No, it is not that he can not afford the financial sacrifice. Maybe he could not afford it. But that is not the determining factor with him.

See, from what follows, if you can get the Walsh philosophy. If you do get it you will see why Frank Walsh believes he ought not to run for governor. Also you will see why so many people think he would set Missouri afire if he did run.

Mr. Walsh's talk was to a representative of the *Star* following the brief exchange with Mr. Lowe. Its publication has been withheld until now because of the death of Mr. Walsh's mother.

"The public service of this time calls for public servants in office, and it calls for more public servants out of office. What we need for this time more than lawmakers and law governors is agitators. An agitator is a man who won't stand for lies because they are old. The danger to an agitator is that he may get an office. Office holding and the itch for office have spoiled more good men than all other things combined."

Mr. Walsh had been urged to say why he would not run when his party evidently de-

manded that its progressives take the front. His words came in explosive reply. He took a toe hold of the interviewer before his opponent on the nomination mat had set himself. His ideas had had years of training and growth, as it developed.

"Office seeking and office holding," Mr. Walsh went on, "spoil many men; and yet we must have officers. We must develop the right kind. We must have people's men inside the organization of government and we must have a larger body of field men. The people do undoubtedly want progressive, popular leadership. They're hungry for it. Why, it's pathetic. Look at the way the people grabbed at Hughes of New York because he did one piece of good public service. They thought he was the right stuff. It was simply another disappointment.

"The best work doing for the people today is by the field men. Put a man in office as things are now, and the interests know how to get him, or tie his hands or muffle his voice, or undo his work. But they can't get the field men, the agitators.

"Think of me—"

Have you ever been on one side of a door when Frank Walsh breezed in from the other side? Have you had that experience? If you have and have been a friend of Walsh you remember how you immediately felt cheerful. Some fresh air came in with him. You rubbed your hands and expected something interesting.

That contagious good humor lightened Mr. Walsh's face, the agitator's face with which he had begun his interview.

"Think of me," he said, "with other party candidates writing the party pledges. And think of them—the other candidates!" he added with a chuckle.

"Why," said this man who would not be governor, "I believe it is party etiquette for a candidate to support the party ticket from top to bottom, especially the top. And I greatly fear it would grieve some excellent gentlemen if I, as the candidate for governor, would scratch the candidate for president—as I certainly would do if he happened to be Mr. Oscar Underwood, let us say, or Mr. Judson Harmon, or any other worker for the special interests who wears the democratic button."

To get a better grip of comprehension on the idealism and passionate fervor that Frank Walsh carries along with his good cheer, consider briefly here his record.

You probably think that the first man to break the wall of machine politics in Missouri was Joseph W. Folk. But it wasn't. Folk did fine service there. But he did not do it first. Frank P. Walsh did.

In the democratic convention of 1902 at St. Joseph, Walsh forced through a denunciation of corporation contributions to campaign funds. He had just gotten through with the Cardwell case as attorney for Cardwell. He had proved in court the corruption of his own party machine by corruption contributions. He went to the convention with his resolution of protest. "Aim it at the republicans and we will put it in," begged the old guard. "No," said Walsh. "I'm more interested in purifying my party than the other fellow's party. The trust in democracy has been betrayed." Men who know will tell you that the machine leaders would have made Walsh chairman of the convention if he had held back his resolution. He wouldn't, and they said they would run over him. Walsh hired a hall and made a red hot speech for the people against the machine bosses. The leaders did run over Walsh and his following in the convention; but they put his resolution into the platform. They denounced their own record!

That was the first declaration of the kind in Missouri politics. If anywhere in American politics there was an earlier platform condemnation of corporation contributions to party campaigns it is not now recalled.

Walsh's fight broke up machine politics in Missouri. It paved the way for Folk's nomination and election in 1904. Since that fight not a straight party ticket has been elected in Missouri. Before that there had been no other than straight tickets elected for thirty years, and all except one of them were democratic.

That is one fact in the record. Always active in politics, Mr. Walsh never held an office except