

tained today in a short time. I am going to suggest a plan by which to obtain a goodly number of signatures in this county, which is this: There are 26 voting precincts in the county, and if you will send me two dozen pledge blanks will agree to send them out to loyal and sincere democrats living in the several precincts, including the ones here, who will be glad to assist in this work. This method will serve a double purpose which is, first, to distribute the burden spoken of, and, second, it will be an encouragement to the men in that they will feel honored by the confidence that is placed in them and will take renewed interest in the Jeffersonian principles.

Wm. P. M. Scott, Falton City, Knox county, Tenn.—I was born in Virginia March 12, 1846, and have been a democrat from my boyhood, volunteered and was sworn into the confederate army February 12, 1864, so was an 18-year-old boy in the army of Northern Virginia in a battalion of Virginia artillery. Being in my sixtieth year I cheerfully fall into line, answering to democracy's roll call, signing the pledge and enclosing herewith. With pleasure I endorse and ratify your plan to begin the campaign of 1908 forthwith. My prayer to Our Father who art in Heaven shall be to overrule and direct that democracy pure shall be successful in the next election. I have five sons, one in business in Huntington, W. Va., three in business in Ashland, Ky., one at home, all democrats and will, if living, in 1908 assist in the election of the nominee of the democratic party.

R. C. Tucker, Parkersburg, W. Va.—Mr. Bryan strikes the key-note when he says get back to the people, and he appeals to what is noblest and best in man, when he says better be defeated in striving for the right than successful in wrong. I voted the full ticket last fall, but confess that I shed no tears over our defeat. I have voted twice for Mr. Bryan for president, and hope to have an opportunity to repeat it. I always read all there is in The Commoner, and then leave it on the train or in a hotel. May it grow and prosper.

Ezra B. Tabor, Editor and Publisher, Lincoln Monitor, Hamlin, W. Va.—I most heartily endorse your primary pledge plan of enlisting the true Jeffersonian democrats, into fighting ranks. In union there is strength, and to this end I sign the pledge. I have taken this plan up through the columns of my paper and I expect to be able to send you a large list of signers in a short time.

I. M. Garrett, Louisa, Lawrence County, Ky.—You will find enclosed my primary obligation. I approve of your plan of organization. I believe in the great common people and democracy. If they do not resist the power of plutocracy our republic is gone. I am willing to do all I can to save it.

T. L. Smithdeal, Bluefield, W. Va.—I take great pleasure in adding another name to the list of true democrats, who are signing the primary pledge and I sincerely hope that this simple plan may be the means of bringing about such a perfect organization of our forces as will result in a triumphant vindication of the policies which you have so nobly and ably contended for in the past few years. I wish you, a true exponent of the people's best interest, much success in your every endeavor.

N. G. Richards, Bonifay, Fla.—Please find enclosed primary pledge and application for subscription cards.

A. N. McBride.—It is with pleasure I sign the primary pledge. I think it is the best move the democratic party can make.

John I. Stafford, Law and Real Estate, Modesto, Cal.—Enclosed you will find the primary pledge signed as suggested in The Commoner. Casting a vote, like joining a church, is an act that should appeal to the conscience. If all voters with democratic

tendencies will attend the primaries, and there assist in an honest declaration of principles and upon a clean ticket, their conscience will not trouble them so much on election day. The Commoner is right. Recent elections demonstrate that when democracy stands for the people, declares for something positive, as does The Commoner, the people support it. The conservative radicalism of Chicago's democracy was warmly supported by the people of Chicago. It is apparent, and has been for some time, that our next candidates nominated for president and vice president on the democratic ticket will be thoroughly in accord with The Commoner and its editor on substantially all party plans and party questions. This fact is becoming more apparent each day, and The Commoner is recognized as the only publication universal enough in its declarations to be an official national democratic paper. If this be true (and it certainly is) then no section of the country, city, county, district or state should at all hesitate to begin organization at once along the lines suggested by The Commoner.

Wm. Campbell, Mt. Pleasant, Ia.—Election day true democracy is the voice of the people. Not the voice of a half dozen politicians. In my mind the saving grace for the democracy is the voice of the people and the golden rule. Enclosed you will find five primary pledges.

J. M. Money, Scottsboro, Ala.—I have read the editorial in The Commoner relative to organization and am returning herewith signed the primary pledge. I think the plan a wise one. "Get back to the people" and the people will get back to the democratic party. The aggressive element of the party is again in the saddle, with the fearless Nebraskan in command. Let all good democrats go to work and the victory of 1908 will be ours.

M. V. Sheldon, McCook, Neb.—Enclosed find pledge signed by myself and son. We heartily endorse your pledge arrangement to attend all primaries of our party between now and the next national convention. I have been a democrat all my life and expect to be. I supported Douglas in 1860 and McClellan in 1864, Seymour in 1868, Greeley in 1872, he being the regular convention nominee. I voted for Tilden in 1876, for Hancock in 1880, for Cleveland in 1884-88-92. I supported Wm. J. Bryan in 1896 and in 1900. I voted for Parker in 1904 and expect to stay with the democracy of our country as long as I live, because their principles are right. If we can get near the people they will stay with the party, and we will win out in 1912, if not in 1908. May your life and health be spared to complete this great work.

Stephen Shackleton.—I cast my first vote for Buchanan, my next for Stephen A. Douglas, none during the war, the next for Peter Cooper, and have followed that line since, until I voted for you and now as the democrats and republicans have divided our platform between them, I shall again vote the democratic ticket. I have never yet voted a republican ticket that is the presidential head. I have voted for what I took to be good republican men for the offices, because I thought they were better fitted for the office than their opponents. I think that there will be three parties next time, and as I can not swallow socialism in its entirety, I shall vote the reformed democratic ticket as nearest to my thinking.

Frank Shell, Andrews, Ind.—I think this is the best step that has ever been taken towards organization in the democratic party. I believe that the six and one-half million voters who voted with us once are as anxious now to vote for such platforms and such men, as was before the people in 1896 and 1900. I, like many others, expected our great leader, W. J. Bryan, to lead us through that St. Louis con-

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