

# AND YOUTH JUST BEGINNING CITIZEN'S WORK

With pleasure I send you blank with three signatures to the primary pledge. Our firm being a subscriber to The Commoner (Robt. Voigt & Son.) I have sent my pledge about three months ago. I will do all I can to call the attention of democrats to this pledge. I heartily endorse every good work you propose, and hope that we will be victorious in 1908. I shall always be at your command.

John J. LeCrow, Evanston, Ill.—Enclosed find list of 25 names from Evanston, a city almost unanimously republican, endorsing your primary pledge and organization plan. I have taken great pleasure in reading The Commoner ever since its first issue, and now regard it as my political bible. Mr. Bryan has always been consistent, and on the right side of every great question and is a leader who knows how to fight for his principles.

Clarence Maudesley, New Orleans, La.—Enclosed please find primary pledge. Your plan for organization is good, and I think all genuine democrats should sign the pledge and aid in bringing about the reforms advocated. I expect to do all I can in the future to advance the interests of the common people.

Jim Pearce, Merchant, Pearce's Mills, Ala.—Herein you will please find the primary pledge signed. I

## ME TOO

The "Tail Enders" That Follow Genuine Articles.

It is sometimes interesting to watch the curves imitators make to get the public to buy imitations of genuine goods.

Every now and then some one will think there is a splendid opening to fix up something like Postum Coffee and advertise the same way and take some of the business.

An imitator is naturally ignorant of food values and how to skilfully make a cereal coffee, on scientific lines.

Such men first think of preparing something that looks and tastes like the original, with no knowledge of how the grains should be treated to prepare them so that the starchy part is transformed properly and the valuable nourishing elements made digestible.

Such imitations may be foisted on the public for a short time, but the people are critical and soon detect the attempt, then the imitators go out of business.

Something like 400 of these little factories have been started in various parts of this country in the past 9 years, and practically all of them have gone the "long journey." Just lately a new one has come to life and evidently hopes to insert itself in public favor by copying the style of the Postum advertising in the papers.

This is a free country and every man who makes an honest product and honestly labels it, has reason for some recognition, but the public has the right to know the facts.

Postum is the one original and genuine Cereal Coffee, made skilfully and for a definite purpose. It has stood through all the wars of the imitators, has won the approval of the physicians and the people.

People who really seek to free themselves from the coffee habit and at the same time to rebuild the soft gray matter in the nerve centres and thus reconstruct the nervous system, broken down by coffee, can rely on Postum.

There's a reason.

feel like it is hardly worth while for me to sign this pledge and send it in as I have been laboring so long for this system of conducting our political business, knowing so well that it is the only way to establish a government of the people and knowing so well that this kind of a government is the only kind of a government that protects the people in their rights, liberties and pursuit of happiness. However, as it seems to be customary I will sign it and send it in, hoping you may exercise a great influence on this line.

Wm. Werner, Douglas, Wyo.—Enclosed find my primary pledge. My hearty approval. I would like to read some funny illustrations about those primary jobbers and heelers, how they work everything from the primary to the state convention; how platforms are written in advance and given to the committee on platform. I think something on this subject, would tend to be an eye-opener to the average voter.

W. H. Talcott, Tecumseh, Neb.—Herewith find the pledge, which I think is the true way of beginning honest reform, and as time goes the desire for true reform grows among the American people, regardless of party affiliations. Every true and loyal citizen wishes you Godspeed in the noble work of reform.

W. M. Holland, Wichita, Kans.—We were all democrats in 1896 and 1900 and we are getting ready for the fight in 1908 and most heartily endorse your primary pledge plan.

L. B. Wilson, Burnt House, W. Va.—I am a democrat and admire The Commoner. Enclosed please find my primary pledge.

W. P. Hostetler, Sugar Creek, Ohio.—Enclosed find primary pledge. The principles for which it stands, and advocates every fair minded patriotic American citizen should support, not only in theory, but in practice as well. I am a firm believer, advocate and supporter of the principles of the democratic party because its principles are founded upon the declaration of independence, the cornerstone of the republic. The works of Jefferson, Jackson and a host of others is the superstructure, and the teachings of William J. Bryan and his followers will be the finished edifice—"The Brotherhood of Man." All honor to the comparatively few in every age who speak and act earnestly, inspired by hope of reward other than gold. These are our truly great men. We are proud to know that the great leaders of the democratic party have been and are men of such noble character. We hope that The Commoner and its editor will continue their fight for the principles of the good old democratic party, and may their efforts be crowned with success.

James R. Bondurant, Sergeant City Council, Martinsville, Va.—Enclosed please find primary pledge properly signed. I have always attended primaries and have never been in favor of straddling on any question. My first vote for president was for you in 1896; also voted for you in 1900 and for Judge Parker in 1904. I do not know how to vote anything but the straight democratic ticket. My father and grandfather before me were true loyal democrats. I went from here to Greensboro, N. C. to see and hear you speak in 1896, and would go to California if I had to in 1908 to vote for some man loyal to the plain people. We will this fall for the first time elect a United States senator directly by the people, a plan I have always advocated, thus bringing them nearer to us and making them feel under some obligations to

the plain people instead of railroads and trusts generally who furnish money to buy up state legislatures. I wish you and your good work God speed.

C. M. Beeghly, Conrad, Iowa.—Enclosed find my pledge to do the right thing at the right time. Tilling the soil and raising stock is my pride, but as conditions are at present it takes most of a farmer's time to keep the wolf from the door and put one-tenth of what you raise on 160 acres away for old age. Time to read is scarce and many nights find me up all the way from 10 until 1 o'clock. At present Lawson's Frenzied Finance Part One, is my study. My girl of four and boy past one shall be trained and educated to hate oppression in any form; also that Washington, Jefferson, Jackson, Lincoln and Bryan were moral heroes and dared to do right. I voted for Mr. Watson last fall and am glad I did. Our president has all the time and power he needs if he had wanted to enforce the law. Every day he neglects his duty it will be that much harder to perform. Morality should be taught as a study in our public schools. There should be a limit put upon the wealth of any one man or set of men, \$50,000 or \$100,000 is enough for any man.

O. F. Thiel, Yoncalla, Ore.—Enclosed please find primary pledge. I believe in the principles advocated by you. I am no Cleveland democrat, but one of Jefferson, Jackson and Bryan. Every true democrat should be a reader of The Commoner, and assist in the good work it is doing. The only way to purify politics is to stand together and vote for such principles as laid down in the platforms of 1896 and 1900. In order to secure reform in national affairs, we must work. Now is the time.

Robt. H. Hoffman, Silverton, Colo.—I herewith enclose primary pledge with 36 signatures. You will notice it is started with John F. Melton, member of legislature, who stood firmly by his colors in the memorable Adams-Peabody contest. I'm a prospector and have but little time to spend in town as the season is so short or I could easily send you several hundred names. They all heartily endorse the plan and pronounce it as important as voting at general election.

Austin Holmes, New Harmony, Ohio.—Enclosed please find primary pledge signed by myself and neighbor; we think the plan an excellent one to get the old veterans in line by 1908 for the greatest struggle in the nation's history.

J. F. Martin, Macon, Ohio.—Herewith primary pledge, together with a suggestion which if of any value is all yours, if not cast it in the waste basket. I suggest: That no person (father, mother and minor children of the same family to be counted as one person) shall own, control or act as agent, officer, stockholder or in any capacity whatever in more than 1,000 miles of railway, or in two competing or parallel railways; in more than one mill, mine, factory or corporation of any kind, doing the same class of business in the United States; in more than 640 acres of land in any one state; municipal ownership of all public utilities; an inheritance tax of one-half of all sums over \$50,000, same to be divided equally between the state and national treasury. All purchases and sales, exceeding \$50 in value made by a public official for public use, to be open competitive bidding.

T. C. Hatler, Neosho, Mo.—Enclosed find primary pledge signed. Every democrat should help to carry out the

pledge plan; in such an organization lies the strength of a pure government—democracy.

E. L. Berry, Nehawka, Neb.—Find a signed primary pledge. I think it is the duty of every democrat to attend the primaries.

A. W. Stoll, Hartford City, Ind.—Find primary pledge signed by myself. I think your plan an excellent one. I also believe that this plan will get the common people closer together and we will win.

George D. Thompson, Iola, Kans.—Your primary pledge plan is, in my judgment, the best plan yet devised for keeping the democratic party in the hands of real democrats.

G. H. Wheeler, Conconully, Wash.—I enclose herewith my primary pledge signed. I heartily approve the plan and it will be no new duty for me, for I am always there anyway.

A. W. Nolan, Edna, Kans.—Please send me primary pledge blanks.

Chas. N. Birdsall, Madison, Okla.—Enclosed please find seven subscriptions and primary pledge, signed by twenty-five of the leading democrats of this precinct, who are willing to work for the good of the cause.

T. G. Brame, Paulding, Miss.—I enclose you primary pledge. I never missed voting at a primary in my life and never expect to, but think the pledge is a good thing.

A. E. Canode, Mt. Morris, Ill.—I think very highly of your primary pledge plan. I don't think that I have missed a primary since Pierce was nominated. Success to the plan and best wishes for The Commoner.

John Daly, Hollister, Calif.—Enclosed please find primary pledge. I hope your efforts will succeed to make democracy what the signers of the constitution of the United States intended it should be.

C. L. Winters, Poteau, I. T.—I also send my primary pledge. I think that if the people can be roused to a realization of their responsibility and power, the object lessons that are now being presented to them in all the different branches of commercial activity, will certainly bear fruit in better condition for the great mass of humanity, and in an honestly administered government. "Back to the People" should be our slogan.

W. V. Marquis, Olmitz, Kans.—Find primary pledge filled out. I was born and raised a democrat and believe in democratic principles, but when Cleveland sold the party out, I got out and voted with the populists, except when the democrats had democratic principles in their platform.

J. W. McCoy, Hepburn, Iowa.—Enclosed find primary pledge. I think every true democrat should sign it and see to it that he keeps the pledge. It's a long step in the right direction. Pick flint and stay in the trenches.

W. S. Chisholm, Minneapolis, Minn.—I send primary pledge with ten signatures.

W. T. Richardson, Odessa, Mo.—Enclosed find primary pledge.

Henry Griffith, Henrietta, Mich.—I send primary pledge. I have voted in this township since 1876 when at first I was alone. I am not ashamed to stand up and be counted.

M. D. Montgomery, Freeman, Wash.—The primary pledge plan is the way to bring democracy to the front. Something seems to have aroused the people out here. The city of Spokane has elected a democratic mayor and all the officers in general.

Wm. M. Hutchens, Philomath, Ga.—I wish to be represented as a voter in the democratic ranks. I did not vote for Parker, and am glad I didn't. I

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