

COME WORDS OF CHEER TO DEMOCRACY

subscriber to The Commoner. This is the second year that I have read it and I take pleasure in reading democracy in it. I supported democracy in 1896 and in 1900. That of 1904 made me a little sick. Many democrats in this section of the country would not vote for Parker. I wish The Commoner and all its readers success.

Robert H. Miller, Lake, Pa.—I send you primary pledge with fifteen names.

W. A. Moore, Dunlap, Tenn.—Enclosed find primary pledge with twenty-eight names. These were picked up as the parties came into the store. I hope I have done some good for the cause of right and justice. There is success awaiting the old style of democracy and the cause of right.

I. W. Denton, Ingram, Texas.—Enclosed find my pledge. I believe your plan is a good one.

Ed Talz, Ingram, Texas.—Enclosed find my own and two other pledges. I shall do all in my power to further the interests of the party of the people.

J. J. Denton, Ingram, Texas.—I had rather fast one day in the week than be without The Commoner. Your paper is doing wonderful work. Enclosed find three primary pledges, including my own.

W. T. Stephen, Willow Springs, Mo.—I send you primary pledge, signed by twenty.

B. W. Russell, Rushville, N. Y.—I am always interested in the cause of honest democracy, and think it was born in me. I have fought a good many fights and I want to live long enough to fight some more. This plan is in the right direction. I do not believe in a sham democracy. I am very busy, but will devote a little time to the primary pledge plan.

M. C. Gentry, Prairie Grove, Ark.—Signing the primary pledge will be a good thing for the democratic party.

Stephen P. Ilgenfritz, Ordway, Colo.—I have served my party since before I was old enough to vote. In Tippecanoe county, Indiana, I was chairman and candidate. I am now located in Colorado. I shall be glad to mingle with the democrats of my adopted state and be of service to my neighbors and the party of which I am proud to be a member.

J. W. Davidson, Patoka, Ill.—Enclosed find primary pledge. I have always attended all our conventions, and if all democrats would do this there would be no defeat, as the members of the party would be satisfied and the candidate would be a democrat who would not sell us out to Wall street.

John M. Hickman, Dunn Place, La.—Find enclosed five signatures to the primary pledge—my own and that of my four boys. They are all full-blooded democrats. I never scratched the ticket in my life. Will give \$5 to see one of the name that is not a democrat. The names of these signers are John M. Hickman, Sr., J. E. Hickman, Oscar Hickman, O. Hickman, M. D. Hickman. I am 61 years old, and can trace my history back to great-great-grandfather. All were democrats.

A. M. Hallowell, Oklahoma City, Okla.—I herewith hand you blank application on the pledge plan involved and presented by your valuable journal. I have known the editor since his first visit here and as a republican I left the party in his support in 1896 and helped organize the free silver republican party in the Territory and became secretary of its

territorial central committee, and now fully endorse all the Kansas City platform implies. Your plan will surely result in the marshalling and solidification of the most vital interests for, by and of the people and the prophetic Lincoln were he living would be heart and hand in the movement as well a long train of compatriots who will ever live in the memory of a grateful people.

Frank H. Garrett, Council Bluffs, Ia.—Enclosed please find my primary pledge. I might add that being a traveling salesman, I am not always in position to attend every primary, but at the same time heartily endorse Mr. Bryan's plan, and will do what I can to further it. Please mail me a lot of blanks and I will interest a lot of my democratic friends in same. Would suggest that all democratic traveling men adopt this method of increasing the interest of the democratic voters in the primaries. With best wishes for success of The Commoner, and its efforts along this line.

Lloyd S. Dailey, Chicago.—I enclose herewith primary pledge. I am willing to do anything honorable to assist in preventing the democratic party from repeating the disgraceful proceedings of last year. If the party is to live it must prove its right to existence. This can only be done by casting out the moral and political lepers who now defile it, and making it an aggressive party of the people. Let us have no more "safe, sane and conservative" rot; no more Belmont; no more nonentity candidates; no more political hacks at the head of party affairs.

George V. Jones, Columbus, Ohio.—I enclose herewith a primary pledge duly signed. I heartily endorse the plan, as I have no doubt it will exercise an influence for good. Like all other suggestions of The Commoner, it is in the interest of political justice. The Commoner comes to my table every week and is the most welcome editorial visitor I have. It represents patriotic effort of the right kind and is always rational. I am a municipal ownership man and the arguments put forth by Mr. Bryan always aid and reassure me.

It was Dr. S. M. Carlton, of Thornton, Texas, instead of Dr. "Carton" who, as printed in a recent issue of The Commoner, said: 'I have never failed to vote the democratic ticket. I voted for Greeley and for Parker, two political sins, but they were my party's candidates. Moral manhood

makes it obligatory upon every true blue democrat to vote at the primaries. If every voter could have the moral courage to do right, because it is right to do right, without any restraints being thrown around him, and to refuse to do wrong, because it is wrong to do wrong, regardless of temptation or influence, a grand democratic victory would be won in 1908.'

S. A. Kral, Vail, Ia.—I have always attended the primaries and have not missed an election since and including 1884, and always voted the democratic ticket, but last fall although I voted it, I hated to, not so much on account of Parker as on account of the men that were his sponsors or backers. I will try to get some of my friends to sign the pledge also.

Jesse Stevens, Liberty, Ind.—Enclosed are the primary pledges of myself and my father. My father has been a lifelong democrat and I certainly intend to follow his footsteps in that line. My first presidential vote will be cast in 1908 and I desire to cast it for some good democrat. We consider your plan of organization very good.

J. C. Corrine, Yelm, Wash.—I served through the Civil war from '61 till '66. Am now 66 years old and the only republican president I ever voted for was Abraham Lincoln for his second term. I am still in the ring and take great pleasure in signing the pledge for unadulterated Jeffersonian democracy.

Alex. Russel, Unionville, Mich.—The democrats of Michigan are not all dead yet, so I am pleased to enclose you ten single pledges and one with seven names subscribed upon. The question of primary reform was the principal part of the platform upon which the state election was fought last fall, and W. N. Ferris received the nomination for governor at the democratic convention because of his advocacy of that principle. When will the people remove the scales from their eyes and see what is for their interests and not for the interests of a few that can manipulate everything to themselves. I wish you every success in this work.

George Martin, Meridian Township, Ingham county, Mich.—I am glad to endorse your primary pledge, and to ask that my name be enrolled with those who believe that the people should rule.

Allen Scott, Plato, Mo.—Enclosed find primary pledge signed by 35. I will send in the other blanks in a

short times. I heartily endorse the primary pledge plan and will put in what time I have to spare helping to encourage the work. Good wishes to Commoner and success to the party.

James E. Groman, Allentown, Pa.—Find enclosed primary pledge, with 12 true blue democrats, who are loyal to the principles for which The Commoner and Mr. Bryan so willingly strive.

R. O. Bradshaw, Noble Texas.—Enclosed please find my primary pledge signed. I am a little late sending it in, but as I have always done I will will if nothing prevents be at the primary with my vote, and I hope all true democrats will sign Mr. Bryan's primary pledge and not stop at that, but go to every election and vote for men that will stay with our old time Jefferson and Jackson principles of democracy. I hope The Commoner with its primary pledge plan will lead us to victory in 1908. I have been a reader of The Commoner from the first issue and I think I have every Commoner now that I have received and I expect to read it as long as I live and it is published. Please file my pledge and add my name to your roll of democrats who want the democratic party to be democratic.

E. D. Tull, Windsor, Ill.—Herewith I send my primary pledge with 102 others. Our township has about 120 majority. This list is part of an evening's work, and we think it will entitle us to a club organization. There will be more to follow soon, as we think Mr. Bryan has struck the right string. Organization means success.

W. D. Mayfield, Raymonville, Mo.—I send you pledge with thirty-five signatures.

A. W. Nolan, Edna, Kans.—Enclosed find primary pledge with forty-one signatures.

John T. Dow, Duluth, Minn.—I send you primary pledge with eleven signatures.

J. S. Johnson, Cairo, Ill.—With pleasure I sign the primary pledge, and am ready and willing to assist in anything that is democratic. I think if all democrats would attend all primaries and conventions we could select to fill all offices men of good character—men who would stand for the masses rather than the classes. We are drifting farther from democracy every day, and will continue as long as democrats sit at home and

(Continued on Page 14)

THE PRIMARY PLEDGE

I promise to attend all the primaries of my party to be held between now and the next democratic national convention, unless unavoidably prevented, and to use my influence to secure a clear, honest and straightforward declaration of the party's position on every question upon which the voters of the party desire to speak.

Signed.....

Street..... Postoffice..... State.....

County..... Voting precinct or ward.....

Fill out blanks and mail to Commoner Office, Lincoln, Neb.