

THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY MUST BE PROGRESSIVE

for the shore." Wishing The Commoner and its noble editor every success in life, I am with you to the last ditch.

Richard Hawes, Esperance, N. Y.—Enclosed find primary pledge. It is unnecessary for me to sign as I have always attended the primaries, but the plan is right. I have always advocated the majority must rule, have always voted the democratic ticket from Douglas to Parker. In 1896 the trend was for Bryan without money. When the corruption fund came around the tide turned. It is all right, they bought the presidency then. What have we got now? One willing to ride all over the United States at the peoples' expense, but the world says the railroad carries him free gratis. Yes, but I don't believe it. Neither do you. Some one must pay for it.

J. H. Mason, Del Rio, Texas.—Enclosed please find a few names to the primary pledge. A few of them have been G. O. P. men, but are being converted to the right of way of thinking.

W. P. Whitmore, Haskill, Texas.—Enclosed find primary pledge with 35 signatures.

Charlie M. Neeley, Shark, Ark.—Find enclosed 23 primary pledges. I am in hearty favor of the good work you have begun. I am a whole democrat who advocates the Chicago and Kansas City platform, and am willing to stand by Mr. Bryan. Yours for clean politics.

J. M. Lowry, Bellefontaine, O.—Please find enclosed primary pledge. I have been very busy for the last month. Our state convention comes off this week and I want to be there. You can count on me to do all I can for the cause of democracy and the common people, for I am one of those who voted the democratic ticket since 1876. Yours for success.

P. W. Forman, Gilbert, La.—Enclosed find three pledges. May the good work continue. Success to your patriotic undertaking.

Israel Wolfe, Arbuckle, W. Va.—Enclosed find primary pledge. I voted for Parker. The reason which prompted me to do that was I read in the good book of the two evils—choose the least.

H. W. Sutherland, Bristol, Va.—Enclosed find primary pledge. I have never had a doubt as to the duty of all true democrats, since the Chicago convention in 1896. The fight begun then and there was for right and justice, and all real democrats should see to it that the grand crusade then inaugurated should never be hampered again like it was in 1904. We are just now beginning to see some of the fruit from the seeds then sown, even from the republicans. Push this fight without compromise with wrong, and success is sure to crown your efforts.

C. C. Early, Louisville, Ky.—I hand you primary pledge signed. I have always voted the democratic ticket; one or two have been bitter pills to swallow. The last ticket was a poor excuse and the platform not what it should have been. I hope the next platform will be as it should be with a plank proclaiming this a white man's country.

William T. Creasy, Catawissa, Pa.—I enclose my primary pledge.

J. H. Benson, Aspen, Colo.—Enclosed you will find primary pledge duly signed. Let the good work go on.

N. J. Goodman, Tidewater, Ore.—I write this to let the editor of The Commoner know that every democrat and two former republicans of our precinct have signed The Commoner's primary pledge and hope it will be an incentive for others to do likewise.

Our star of hope had almost set when our delegates to the St. Louis convention still stood for Parker, after his ill advised gold telegram. But now, after reading in The Commoner such cheering word. from so many faithful democrats we again feel as buoyant as we did in '96, when we gladly supported our noble platform and our faithful candidate. The beacon light now shines brightly and soon we hope to see plutocracy and imperialism dethroned and triumphant democracy giving equal rights to all and special privileges to none. I hope that all true lovers of our free institutions will sign the pledge and keep the faith, come out to the primaries and select delegates, who will stand by Jeffersonian principles.

T. C. Rowland, Farmersville, Texas.—Herewith I enclose my primary pledge. I am heartily in sympathy with the movement of putting the democratic house in order after having as an unwelcomed guest a lot of political hybrids who spat upon the floors, who picked the locks and pilaged for plunder, who befowed everything wholesome and pure by their unhallowed touch. They turned with faces to the wall the pictures of Jefferson and Jackson. They strove to make the temple of democracy a den of thieves and money changers. In disgust, humiliation and chagrin the people left it with the representatives who advocated the Parker subterfuge for harmony and success. We saw that subterfuge result in a complete delivery of the democratic party bag and baggage to the plutocratic element of the country at the St. Louis convention. There the chrysalis was broken and there unfolded the most disgusting travesty upon democratic principles this nation ever witnessed. No democracy doesn't need reorganizing. A democrat "once in grace always in grace." His feet are resting upon the rock of eternal justice, his rule of action is guided by the precept and example of the immaculate Christ. We are simply house cleaning that's all. Whoever becomes a member of the democratic household must have an experience of grace and be able to tell it himself or bring forth fruit most for repentance for his treachery in the past.

John W. Ward, Dallas, Texas.—Herewith find the pledge, which in my mind every true democrat should

sign and then scrupulously live up to it, for I believe in my humble judgment this to be the way of beginning and bringing about an honest and true reform which every true and honest loyal American citizen sincerely wishes you Godspeed in your noble work of reform. The principles for which it stands every patriotic American citizen should be found battling for. I always have been; I am now and always expect to be a firm believer advocate and unceasing supporter of the true principles of democracy, because its principles are founded upon the cornerstone of this grand republic, the Declaration of Independent and the constitution of these United States which stands for number and for the masses and not the classes as set forth in the teachings of William Jennings Bryan and his followers. Whenever I can be of service in this section of the country I am at your command.

Virgil L. Penland, Mountain Grove, Mo.—Enclosed please find primary pledge with 35 signatures. This makes 102 signatures; time, about four hours. One of the unfortunate features of our form of government is the unwillingness of many to take an active part in our primaries. In order to secure a healthy condition of public sentiment, it is necessary that there should be the greatest freedom in the discussion of public questions. In our primaries is the place to discuss these question. May the democratic party strive to get more democratic in the future than it has in the past. There is more interest and enthusiasm among democrats here than there were one week before the last election. The democrats here, are renewing their faith in the final triumph of the democratic party. May success crown the efforts of Mr. Bryan in bringing the government back to the people.

T. J. Wright, Youngs, Miss.—I gladly join the force of democrats who believe in a government of the people and by the people and like our great leader, William J. Bryan, in equal rights to all and special privileges to none, which principles I believe will ultimately triumph. I will tell you what kind of a democrat I am. I cast my first vote for president when the party committed suicide in the nomination of Greeley and voted it straight ever since, but it

was all I could do to vote for Parker.

H. F. Williams, Stanbury, Mo.—I take pleasure in subscribing to the primary pledge and enclose same herewith. I was an enthusiastic supporter of the democratic ticket in 1896 and 1904 and reluctantly supported Mr. Parker in the last campaign. You can depend upon me to do all I can to further the principles so fearlessly championed by yourself in 1896 and 1900. Success to your in your good work.

C. L. Coston, Mancos, Colo.—Among other good things which The Commoner brings us is the primary pledge, which find enclosed. It is a step in the right direction and if faithfully carried out, much good must accrue from it.

R. H. Minister, The Palms, Los Angeles County, Calif.—I enclose primary pledges that I have been able to obtain to date. You will note names that are familiar to you already. I. B. Dockweiler, former candidate for lieutenant governor of the state; W. H. Workman, city treasurer; George M. Cake of the Tammany club, Democratic club of which I am also a member; M. P. Snyder, ex-mayor of this city. I may be able to send you more later on. My residence at present is outside city. I hope to obtain subscriptions to your paper, but at present am at a disadvantage.

F. W. Carswell, Hephzibah, Ga.—Enclosed I send list of 28 signatures to the primary pledge. You might send blank pledges to my friends as follows. Mr. J. E. Tarver, Augusta, Ga.; Hon. Joseph S. Rhendols, Augusta, Ga.; R. E. Farmer, Loufsville, Ga.; Hon. Wm. H. Davis, Waynesboro, Ga.; W. W. Hamilton, Grovetown, Ga.; W. J. Caeswell, Waycross, Ga. Also send sample copies of The Commoner to each of above.

David Whaley, Humphreys, Mo.—Herewith find my primary pledge duly signed and 28 others. I heartily approve the object of the organization. It is a good way to arouse and encourage the part of democracy that should control the party, and I feel that this move on your part, with the help of the common people, will head off another farce convention, such as we had in 1904. There are yet plenty of good democrats in this country, but they want sincere leaders and sound principles to work for.

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.