

# The Commoner.

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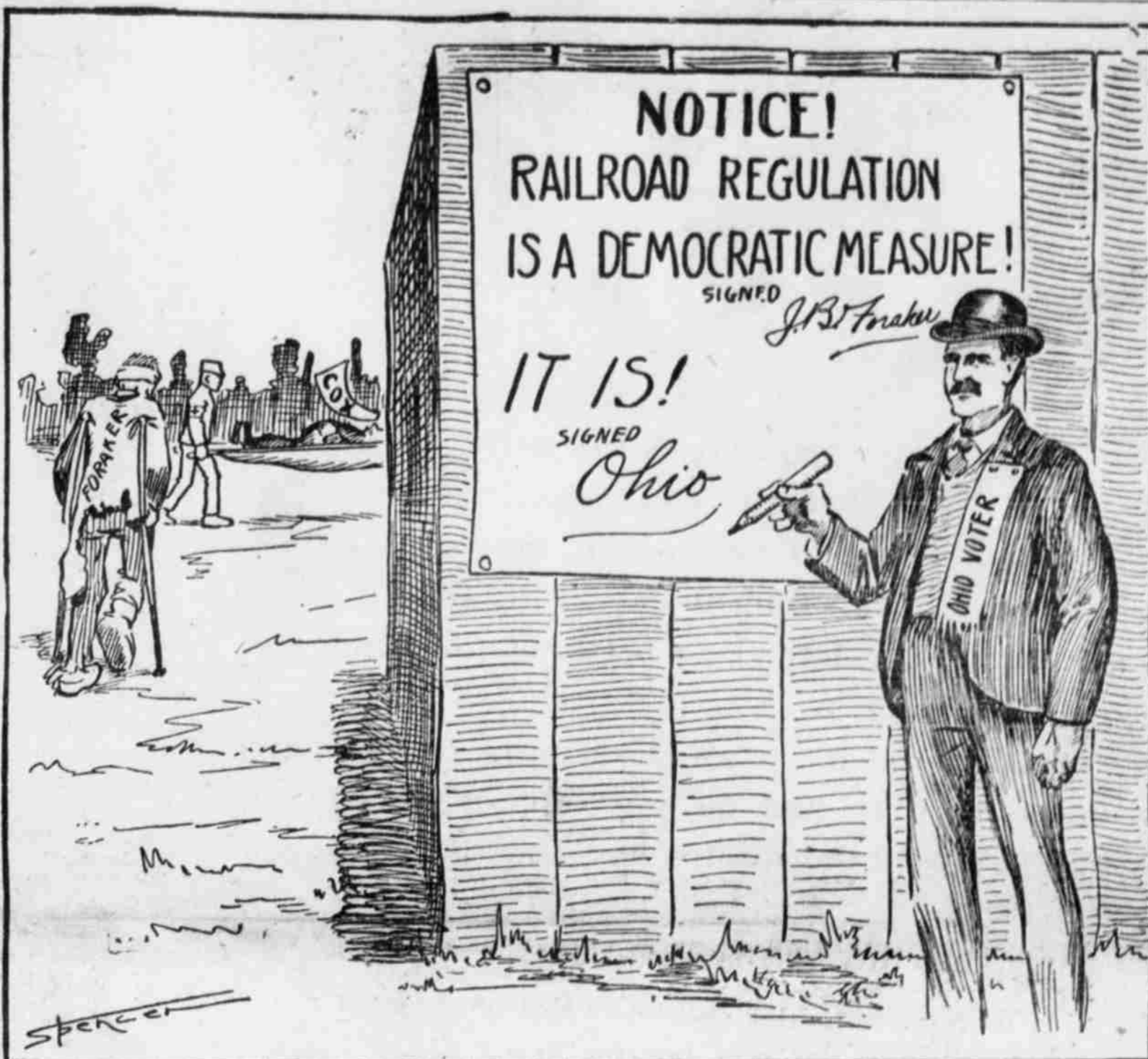
### DEMOCRACY WILL TAKE COURAGE

In a brief autobiographical sketch, Amos Luck, who represented a New Hampshire district in congress some fifty years ago, describes the growth of the cause with which he identified himself and the success of those who espoused that cause. In the course of his comments he gives expression to a sentiment which deserves to be emphasized at this time. He says that these men had "some title to be considered far-sighted, though," he adds, "they simply had faith in the wisdom of doing right." This truth has been expressed before, but it is doubtful whether it has ever been expressed as concisely, as simply and as forcibly. The dictionaries ought to define political foresight as "faith in the wisdom of doing right." What a contrast between this candid recognition of the triumph of the truth and the miserable, short-sighted doctrine of expediency! There is no basis upon which one can calculate expediency; there is a standard of morality and conscience by which one can measure every public question. One seeks for expediency as the hunter searches for game, uncertain where he will find it and fearful that even when discovered it may yet escape him, but as the farmer follows the plow, confident that sun and soil will reward his industry and that in spite of local food or drouth the earth will yield its increase, so he who attaches himself to a truth knows that he works in harmony with immutable and irresistible laws.

Let the democracy take courage from the results of the recent elections; let the democracy of all the states and the democracy of the nation, like the democracy of Ohio and the democracy of Pennsylvania, appeal to the honest and the conscientious, even if in doing so they risk the alienation of the selfish and the sordid. Let them put their trust not in corruption or deception, but in that sense of justice which is at once the source and the guarantee of good government.

### MUNICIPAL OWNERSHIP

It is apparent from the recent election returns that the municipal ownership sentiment is growing in every section of the country. There can be no doubt that there is today an overwhelming sentiment in favor of the collective ownership and operation of what are called natural municipal monopolies. It is impossible to have competition in lighting, in heating or in street car service, and the private ownership of these franchises not only leads to corruption in city government, but results in high rates and the accumulation of great fortunes for which the people at large receive no adequate return.



ENDORSED!

## Have You Heard From Ohio?

Respectfully Dedicated to the "Standpatters."

Have you heard from old Ohio? Don't it fill your soul with glee?

Scooped it clean from Meigs to Fulton, from Scioto to Maumee!

Cincinnati to Toledo, from Defiance to Monroe! Honest voters gladly rallied to deal graft a fatal blow.

And they landed good and lusty on the rotten Cox machine

Till the buckeyes popped with laughter at the long awaited scene.

"I've retired," said Cox next morning. But the statement isn't true—

Cox was shoved, and shoved forever—don't it look that way to you?

"That's a democratic measure—I'll have none of it in mine!"

Shouted Foraker in frenzy as he pranced along the line.

"Stand by Roosevelt!" he shouted, "but don't vote the way you stand;

Vote for railroad domination—they have made the country grand;"

Had he boosted Mr. Herrick back to place and power again

He'd have claimed a vindication—Joe's the foxiest of men.

But the people have grown wiser in the past decade or two,

And they're "onto" Joseph Benson—don't it look that way to you?

"Don't go back upon the party!" pleaded Dick in tearful tones.

But the answer of the people was to walk upon his bones.

"Don't be fooled by public clamor—stand up for the G. O. P.,"

Shouted Dick—and then the people smote him on the neck with glee.

"Don't do railroads an injustice," pleaded Dick with plaintive cries,

And the people for an answer smote him fair between the eyes.

Cox and Dick and Joseph Benson all are feeling mighty blue,

But Ohio is rejoicing—don't it look that way to you?

Have you heard from old Ohio? Don't the figures make you smile?

Beat the railroad combination seven furlongs in a mile.

Have you heard from old Ohio? Notwithstanding Shaw and Taft

Honest Buckeye voters rallied and knocked out both greed and graft.

Have you heard from old Ohio? Don't the figures loom up fine?

Got the "stand pat" fellows locoed all along the voting line,

Have you heard from old Ohio? Pattison just fairly flew,

And boss rule is more than busted—don't it look that way to you?

—O. B. JOYFUL