

THE PRIMARY PLEDGE

As this copy of The Commoner may be read by some one not familiar with the details of the primary pledge plan, it is necessary to say that according to the terms of this plan every democrat is asked to pledge himself to attend all of the primaries of his party to be held between now and the next democratic national convention, unless unavoidably prevented, and to secure a clear, honest and straight-forward declaration of the party's position on every question upon which the voters of the party desire to speak. Those desiring to be enrolled can either write to The Commoner approving the object of the organization and asking to have their names entered on the roll, or they can fill out and mail the blank pledge, which is printed on page 14.

Extracts from letters received at The Commoner office follow:

G. L. Babcock, South New Berlin, N. Y.—Inclosed find primary pledge with twelve signatures.

William P. O'Rourke, Newark, N. J.—I take pleasure in handing you herein primary pledge with twenty-five signatures.

John Moran, Unityville, Pa.—Enclosed please find primary pledge with signatures of thirty-five loyal democrats.

W. C. Broan, Cotter, Ark.—Enclose find list of thirty-seven signers to the primary pledge.

Joseph Martin, Camden, Ohio. Please find seventy names signed to the primary pledge, promising to attend all primaries of the democratic party. I expect to do all I can for the good work. Please send me more blanks.

Linn A. E. Gale, East Pharsalia, N. Y.—Enclosed find several primary pledges which I have secured from loyal democrats. I will send more as soon as I can for I consider it a very important part of the work for reform. A full representation in the democratic primaries would soon rid the party of the domination of men whose only motive is greed.

Henry G. Clayton, Waynesburg, Pa.—Enclosed find primary pledge sheet, signed by 35 democrats; the plan is a good one, and will, I believe, be the means of arousing a lively interest among the voters of the country that will tell at all future elections. Please forward other blank pledges; also sample copies of The Commoner.

Edward Callaghan, Charleroi, Pa.—I never realized the importance so forcibly or so clearly of the attendance of voters at the primary election as I did at our last election for delegates to the county convention. And I do now sign the primary pledge and hope that all the voters will vote all the time because all the voters will be right sometimes, although I voted for Parker, yet I have been sore at Bryan for taking the stump for the ticket. And just think of it! The Pennsylvania democracy, instead of giving Bryan the "skidoo," endorses him, and rocks the boat for Emery. I am going to vote for Emery, because I know him to be a good clean republican. I take back all the harsh things I said against Bryan.

F. Stuart Byrne, Marquette, Mich.—Here is my primary pledge and it is no empty promise either; have attended every one I could for the past thirteen years. Right in this neck of the woods democrats at the present time are as scarce as hen's teeth, as you may know when I tell you that at a primary held a month ago mine was the only democratic vote cast in a precinct where the voting strength all told is 363. But I am one of those kind of democrats who believe in striving for a principle even if it is unfashionable. But wait till 1908; then they will all be tumbling over themselves to get into the band wagon—those "temporary expedient" fellows and all the rest. Yes, put me down as a primary pledge democrat, and put me down big.

F. M. Newkirk, Mountain Grove, Mo.—Enclosed find 35 signatures to the primary pledge.

J. M. Stowe, Davidson, Sask, Canada.—As I am under another flag my support can not help you much up here, but I expect to be of service in 1908, when I will be not a "still democrat," but a live one, all the time.

Henry G. Clinton, Waynesburg, Pa.—The Commoner of July 20, has excited much favorable comment: Mr. Metcalfe's article, "Stand by Roosevelt," is one of the best of the many good things that have appeared in The Commoner. Evidently Mr. Metcalfe knows what he is talking about, and his article has so opened the eyes of many voters that they are now earnestly asking "which Roosevelt?"

FROM THE PEOPLE

Mrs. G. T. Watson, Portales, N. M.—Please give me your opinion as to the best preparatory school for boys, a school that looks after the moral development of boys as well as the learning of books. I am a reader of The Commoner and one of its staunchest friends. (Will some educator among The Commoner readers give this reader the desired information?)

William Orr Farmer, Kirkland, Wash.—I send you a clipping from the Seattle Times containing an extract from the address of Prof. Ross, given at the commencement exercises at the Washington state university. Prof. Ross's remarks are certainly opportune, in view of the wholesale disclosures of corruption in high places that have recently been made in the crimes condoned because of the social position of the criminal who remains unpunished.

W. F. Burgener, Los Angeles, Cal.—Enclosed you will find two editorials from the Los Angeles Times of June 18. In these editorials Editor Harrison Otis tries to explain away the vindication of the quantitative theory of money. I send these clippings to show you the trend of republican argument here, and hope you will reproduce that part of Mr. Roberts' speech touching on the quantitative theory, in The Commoner. It would pass for an extract from one of Mr. Bryan's 1896 speeches.

C. B. Cole, Wyandotte, I. T.—I would like to say a word to The Commoner readers in regard to The Commoner Condensed, or Commoner, book form. I fear that a great many Commoner readers have overlooked the value of this work. I have taken every copy just as fast as they have been put out, and added to my collection of books, and I have none that I prize more highly than The Commoner Condensed. They cost practically nothing. I would not take \$5 per volume for them, if I could not get them again, and I would like to urge every Commoner reader who has not got them to take all back numbers and also take the volumes as fast as they come out, and add to their library. As a reference book on all political subjects it has no equal.

A. G. LaGrange, Worthington, Minn.—If the cartoonist of your paper is short of material, I would suggest the following: "As the elephant is the exponent of the republican party, or g. o. p., which means the great octopus party, I would suggest that the four legs of the elephant be sub-divided into eight tentacles or suckers and that one of these suckers should have for its co-efficient or money-valve, J. P. Morgan, who is doubtless a lineal descendant and heir-at-law of the Morgan, the Ladrone pirate who infested the high seas three hundred years ago, and J. Dodger Rockefeller for another; Carnegie, the modern Robin Hood, who divides his loot with the people, and so on, and as this is to be a lean year for the g. o. p.'s, let him be drawn in skeleton form."

John Flaherty, South McAlester, I. T.—I inclose you a copy of a letter by Governor Green McCurtain of the Choctaw Nation, of which the McAlester Daily Capitol says: "Green McCurtain, governor of the Choctaw Nation, a man known as one of the greatest living Indian scholars and statesmen; a man who has long served his tribe in many positions of trust with honor to himself and race—boldly comes out at this important time and advises his tribesmen to weigh well the evidence of the past before forming an alliance with a political party whose history has been one devoid of respect or honor in the execution of sacred treaties." In this letter Governor McCurtain said: "Judging the future by the past, we must conclude that if the Indians have any friends they are to be found in the democratic party. We have never received any favor from the republican party. That party has been unjust and oppressive to the Indian from 1865 to the present moment. The only favors the Choctaws and Chickasaws have ever received from the government were at the hands of President Cleveland, a democrat. His instructions to his commissioner sent here to treat with us showed him to be our sincere friend. Had his policies been carried out, we would not now have any cause for regret. He was anxious that every protection be given us, and told his commissioners that they must yield us every advantage. The only thing he insisted on was a change in our form of government."

SPECIAL OFFER

One reader writes: "Find 7 subscriptions. I have intended to do this for your paper long ere this, but have simply neglected getting at it. There was a meeting of our democratic county central committee at my office last Saturday and this is the result of the mere announcement that I would send in the names of any who desired to subscribe for The Commoner. Hope I can do more for the good of the cause you represent, in the future."

Commoner readers have sent in yearly subscriptions in numbers as follows: L. A. Leberman, Meadville, Pa., 6; E. J. Hall, Marion, Ind., 11; S. M. Redfield, Maryville, Mo., 6; J. M. Starke, Montgomery, Ala., 10; D. A. Fraker, Shelburn, Ind., 7; Ida Alice Westerfield, Lincoln, Neb., 8; J. N. Baxter, New Martinsville, W. Va., 6; S. N. Smith, Muncie, Ind., 7; J. S. Moyer, McKeesport, Pa., 7; Phillip Dolan, Union Center, Wis., 7; G. P. Armstrong, McEwensville, Pa., 6; I. N. Jones, East Stone Gap, Va., 8; John Doheny, Fairmont, W. Va., 12; Levi Thayer, New Berlin, N. Y., 8; H. H. Willisle, Tarkio, Mo., 10; James Heagan, Elkhorn, Mont., 10; Terence D. Stewart, Morgantown, W. Va., 7; I. N. Kelly, Big Stone Gap, Va., 20; Thomas Thomas, Ionia, Mich., 8; Annie L. Jack, Vicksburg, Miss., 31; W. I. Williamson, Jannings, La., 6; A. C. R. Morgan, Weatherford, Texas, 9; J. H. Langston, Phoenix, Ariz., 7.

The following have each sent in five yearly subscriptions: J. J. Russell, Charleston, Mo.; Michael J. Flynn, Cincinnati, Ohio; J. H. Beard, Carthage, Wis.; Isaac R. Kennard, Rossville, Ind.; Joseph F. Tull, Carrollton, Mo.; A. G. Read, Forest Hill, Cal.; T. S. Collier, Dearborn, Mo.; John Mc Nerney, Dayton, Ohio; Joseph A. Quinlan, East Chicago, Ind.; Preston Childers, Muddy Branch, Ky.; C. H. Davis, Livonia, Mo.; J. W. Kline, Des Moines, Ia.; C. W. Hazlett, Jones, Okla.; James W. Ross, Atwood, Ind.; S. W. Morgan, Sunnyside, Cal.; F. B. Atwater, High Springs, Fla.; J. Hoge Tyler, East Radford, Va.; F. W. Kamman, Herscher, Ill.; O. A. Crout, D'Lo, Miss.; M. D. Daggett, Oshkosh, Wis.; P. S. Anthony, Huntsville, Ala.; Edward N. Rutherford, Lafayette, Ind.; J. J. Cleary, Escanaba, Mich.; W. T. Barnett, Terre Haute, Ind.; W. H. Musgrove, Cullman, Ala.; R. M. Rings, Kirksville, Mo.; John Draper, Freeport, Mich.; L. C. Northcutt, Elmira, Cal.; L. E. Brackett, Harris, Ia.; C. W. Worsler, Wellsville, N. Y.; L. J. Ezell, Trenton, N. D.; A. Applegate, Prospect Plains, N. J.; G. G. Jaines, Exeter, Mo.; I. B. Talbot, Albion, Neb.; J. M. Earnhart, Lebanon, Ohio.

Everyone who approves the work The Commoner is doing is invited to co-operate along the lines of the special subscription offer. According to the terms of this offer cards each good for one year's subscription to The Commoner will be furnished in lots of five, at the rate of \$3 per lot. This places the yearly subscription rate at 60 cents.

Any one ordering these cards may sell them for \$1 each, thus earning a commission of \$2 on each lot sold, or he may sell them at the cost price and find compensation in the fact that he has contributed to the educational campaign.

These cards may be paid for when ordered, or they may be ordered and remittance made after they have been sold. A coupon is printed below for the convenience of those who desire to participate in this effort to increase The Commoner's circulation:

THE COMMONER'S SPECIAL OFFER

Application for Subscription Cards

5	Publisher Commoner: I am interested in increasing The Commoner's circulation, and desire you to send me a supply of subscription cards. I agree to use my utmost endeavor to sell the cards, and will remit for them at the rate of 60 cents each, when sold. NAME..... BOX, OR STREET NO..... P. O..... STATE..... Indicate the number of cards wanted by marking X opposite one of the numbers printed on end of this blank.
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If you believe the paper is doing a work that merits encouragement, fill out the above coupon and mail it to THE COMMONER, Lincoln, Neb.