

# "BOSS" COX AGAIN AN ISSUE IN OHIO

Columbus, Ohio, October 22, 1906.

The head of the democratic state ticket in Ohio this year is Samuel S. Hoskins, nominee for secretary of state. In his speech of acceptance Mr. Hoskins declared that in accepting the democratic leadership he stood for all that the late Governor Pattison had stood for; and this is the keynote for the state campaign.

Commoner readers are familiar with the proceedings in the republican convention at Dayton, Ohio, when Senators Foraker and Dick were endorsed in spite of the fact that the rank and file of the republicans bitterly condemned those senators. As a result of those proceedings there is a distinct break in the republican line. Boss Cox of Cincinnati ruled the Hamilton county delegation in the republican state convention and voted for the senators as against President Roosevelt, who was represented by Congressman Burton. Boss Cox dictated the nomination by the republican convention, of Mr. Thompson for secretary of state. Thompson is now speaker of the house of representatives, and as such has a record to defend. Mr. Hoskins is making a fight on the same lines Governor Pattison fought. He is opposed to bossism, to Dick, to Foraker and to Cox. His election will mean that the republican party of Ohio, unable to cast out its own dross in its own convention, has cast it out through the instrumentality of the democratic party. The election of Thompson would mean that the republican party of the state supinely sits down and permits its hands and feet to be tied and calmly surrenders to the absolute and unqualified bossism of a senatorial combine that is engineered and directed by the greatest grafter of the century, Boss George B. Cox.

From this statement of fact democratic duty in Ohio may be easily discerned. The republicans of the state, who are as patriotic as democrats, are anxious to be relieved of the odium that attaches to a boss-ridden party, are anxious

to declare their independence of senatorial combines and local spoliemen and grafters, and also expect to accomplish their ends, are with the democracy of the state rallying to the bugle call of the late Governor Pattison's personal representative. A democrat who fails to vote his ticket in Ohio this year does so at the expense of patriotism as well as of party fealty. There is no appeal made by Democratic speakers or writers to partisanship in this campaign. The appeal is made direct to loyal citizens of all parties. If an approximately full democratic vote can be polled in Ohio the plurality for Candidate Hoskins will exceed that of Governor Pattison a year ago. There can be and is no question of this, and no Buckeye democrat can afford to remain away from the polls or refrain from urging every other democrat to stand up and be counted on the 6th day of November.

If we can carry Ohio again this year, and we can if we vote, the contest in 1908 will have been practically decided. If the democrats can score a second consecutive victory in this state they are foreordained to secure the third consecutive one and cast the state's electoral vote for the democratic candidate in 1908.

The campaign is comparatively quiet. Determination is set in every voter's face, but little talk is heard. The people's minds are made up. Those republicans who did not learn last year to scratch their tickets, but who are none the less patriotic and who hesitate this year on the ground of reluctance to do that which their conscience commends them to do, will stay at home. The 150,000 who learned last year that it is not a civic crime to vote for a man though his name appear beneath an emblem that is strange to their partisanship, will vote the democratic ticket without a scratch this year. And the democratic state ticket, if it is defeated at all, will be defeated by democrats.

So far as the congressional situation is con-

cerned there is not a democratic candidate for congress in Ohio who has not a chance of election. Instead of having one democrat in the next congress, as she had in the last, Ohio will have not less than ten, and the chances are that a majority of the twenty-one members in the next house will be democrats. In every district and county in the state republicans are voting against the rule of bosses. And these local situations will have a tendency to bring out the vote and swell the majorities for reputable candidates.

J. H. G.

## MR. BRYAN'S ITINERARY

On October 20 Mr. Bryan spoke at Colorado points, and in the evening he left for Indiana, where on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday he spoke at Terre Haute, Sullivan, Linton, Bedford, Mitchell, Shoals, Washington, Vincennes, Princeton, Oakland City, Everfield, Evansville, Tipton, Huntington, Fort Wayne, Bluffton, Hartford City, Muncie, Anderson, Fortville, Greenfield, Indianapolis, Lebanon, Lafayette, Delphi, Logansport, Plymouth, Columbia City and Fort Wayne. October 25, 26 and 27 were to be devoted to Ohio. Returning to Nebraska, Mr. Bryan will speak in his own state on October 30 and 31 and November 1, 2, 3 and 5.

## SUGAR

Senator Dolliver says the sugar trust would go bankrupt if it raised the price of sugar a cent a pound, because it would decrease consumption. The chief argument against Senator Dolliver's assertion is that the sugar trust has done that very thing and still continues to do business at the same old stand; the same old stand meaning the lobbies of the national capitol.

## Porter, of Iowa, Has Made a Good Record

When the twenty-sixth general assembly of Iowa convened in January, 1896, a young man was sworn in as the member of the house from Appanoose county and took his seat on the democratic side of the chamber.

Appanoose county had given the republican state ticket a majority of something like half a thousand, but at the same election had chosen a democratic representative to the legislature.

That stripping of 24 years, the "baby" of the house, was Claude R. Porter, who is today the democratic nominee successfully contending with Governor Albert B. Cummins for the suffrages of the people of Iowa for chief executive.

When young Porter came to Des Moines as a democrat representing a republican district the republican members said that he would be short lived. They hinted at personal popularity and suggested that, possibly, the republican nominee might not have been an especially strong man and thus explained to their satisfaction the reasons for Mr. Porter's election. However, as the session progressed, the young man from Appanoose grew in experience and developed unexpected ability as a lawmaker, and when the twenty-seventh general assembly convened he was there again, still representing a district which was republican except for member of the house.

By this time his republican colleagues had learned to know him and they no longer offered trivial excuses to explain his success. They also recognized in him, as did the members who sat on his side of the chamber, a measure of integrity and ability which commanded their respect, and a personal charm which won their friendship. And so, when, in the twenty-eighth general assembly, Mr. Porter became a member of the senate from the Appanoose-Davis district, a district which gave the republican state ticket a decided majority, they said "Good for Porter," and accepted the result of the election as a matter of course.

In 1898 Mr. Porter was nominated on the democratic ticket for secretary of state and polled 173,000 votes, which proved that already the democratic party of Iowa recognized in him one of their strong, earnest, effective young workers and a man of ability worthy any position to which he might be called.

Mr. Porter's legislative record is one which

has endeared him to the hearts of the great mass of the people who look for men to represent them in legislative halls who are incorruptible, alert in looking after the interest of the common people and earnest in their support of the great doctrine of democracy, "Equal rights for all, special privileges for none." This principle was the rule by which Mr. Porter measured his political activity. Whatever was for the good of the people always received his earnest support and he was equally quick to discern and brave to oppose any measure which put the interest of the classes above that of the masses. While a member of the legislature his voice and vote were always against the rule of the corporations and the roll calls in both senate and house show his name recorded on the negative side whenever such measures as the iniquitous Molsberry bill, which sought to make Iowa a second New Jersey in affording an asylum for "mergers," was put upon its passage.

During the eight years of his membership of the legislature his record shows that he voted against every measure which came up upon which was fixed the trade mark of the corporations.

Mr. Porter was also a constructive statesman. He was appointed a member of many important special committees which had to do with the preparation of measures of great public interest. He was one of the strong supporters of the law which provided for the establishment of the board of control for the state institutions and as a member of the senate was appointed on the special committee which formulated a plan for the better assessment and taxation of the railroad companies. In the important work of the session which revised the code of Iowa Mr. Porter was one of the hardest working and most efficient legislators.

Mr. Porter responded to the call for troops at the breaking out of the Spanish-American war and remained in the service until mustered out.

When the bitterness of the pre-convention campaign for the control of the republican state convention this year gave promise of dissensions in the republican ranks, the leaders of the democracy looked about them for a man to whom the people of Iowa could turn as a safe man to fill the executive chair. They realized that the struggle was on between the Cummins oligarchy

and the people who loved principles of right and justice and who did not want their state to be made the football of a faction or a stepping stone to the goal of the ambition of a man who declared himself the only one fit to represent a great party. The magnificent democratic convention at Waterloo, the largest, the most earnest and thoroughly determined body that ever met to select partisan candidates in Iowa, did its work after mature deliberation and careful consideration of the claims of all the candidates. This great convention selected Mr. Porter as the standard-bearer of the party in this crucial campaign.

Thus selected and commissioned to bear aloft the banner of pure democracy, Mr. Porter entered upon such a campaign as has never before been undertaken by the democrats of Iowa. Calm and dignified, he states the issues clearly and fairly and does not allow his opponents to cajole the people into blind following of party name, but insists that the records shall determine which candidate most properly represents the interests of all the people.

Mr. Porter was one of the leaders of his party in the campaigns of 1896 and 1900 and as such he now appeals to every democrat who believes in maintaining the vitality of his party and its principles. His irreproachable character and his unimpeachable record of a public man, together with his earnest support of the cause of the people, makes friends in all parties and many of his speeches in the campaign have been veritable ovations in which republicans as well as democrats vied in paying the tribute of respect to his honesty, ability and patriotism.

The result of the pre-convention campaign among the republicans and the methods by which the adherents of the present governor in his efforts to secure a third term, brought about those results, made this campaign largely one of individuals. On the part of those who support the republican organization the issue is "Cummins." Mr. Porter has very willingly accented this issue and he has not failed to keep before the people Governor Cummins record of variability, inconsistency and extravagance. He has fortified himself with record facts to prove every statement which he makes and his clear, incisive logic and convincing arguments are rallying the voters to him and the prospects of his triumphant election are bright.

G. A. H.