

The Commoner.

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VOL. 7. No. 26.

Lincoln, Nebraska, July 12, 1907.

Whole Number 338.

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NOT A MATTER OF AMBITION

Those who urge the nomination of a "conservative" candidate by the democratic convention studiously insist that "Mr. Bryan's friends say he does not want the nomination." But is this the real issue? The presidential nomination ought not to be regarded as a compliment to be handed to some one because he would be pleased to have it. A candidate should be selected because the rank and file of the party WANT HIM NOMINATED—not merely because he wants the nomination. First, what will the party stand for? Second, who can best represent these principles in the campaign? These questions ought to control the selection. Men's ambitions ought not to count for much in a presidential contest.

THE LINE UP

This is the way the situation looks to some observers:

Pro-Harriman—	Anti-Harriman—
	Theodore Roosevelt
	J. P. Morgan
	J. J. Hill
E. H. Harriman	Thomas F. Ryan
H. H. Rogers	George J. Gould
Wm. Rockefeller	W. H. Moore
J. H. Schiff	James Speyer
James Stillman	B. F. Yoakum
	D. G. Reed
	Stuyvesant Fish
	Edwin Hawley
	J. R. Keene
	—Wall Street Journal.

PERHAPS

Mr. Bryan might as well have answered the World's plain question with a disquisition on the declaration of independence.—Milwaukee Sentinel.

Perhaps, but if he had, would the World and the Sentinel have understood it any better than they did Mr. Bryan's answer to the World's question, "What is a democrat?"

REFORM BY "FRIENDS"

As the republican tariff reformers insist that the reduction of the schedules shall be left to the beneficiaries of protection, why not insist that railroad regulation be left to the railway presidents and anti-trust legislation to the trust magnates? It would be just as reasonable.

FOR THE MASSES

The "leaders" are still worrying about candidates and horses—light, dark and colorless—are being trotted out; but the "leaders" must not forget that in a democratic party authority comes up from the people—not down from the leaders. The voter is supreme and his will is law.

"INDIVIDUAL ACCOUNTABILITY" THE REMEDY



One really responsible man in jail, one real originator of the schemes and transactions which are contrary to the public interests legally lodged in the penitentiary would be worth more than a thousand corporations mulcted in fines, if the reform is to be genuine and permanent.—President Woodrow Wilson of Princeton.

TRUSTS AND THEIR TREATMENT

Senator Beveridge enumerates seven evils of the trusts. First, rebates, which he says "we have ended." Let us hope that these have been ended, although the tenderness with which the public deals with the Standard Oil company, after it has been convicted of violating the law in twelve hundred different cases, is not encouraging. Many of our college presidents are still anxious to secure from Mr. Rockefeller a part of the money that he has made by violating the law. Would they be as willing to solicit from the professional safe breaker or from the ordinary highwayman? Why should grand larceny be regarded as a less heinous crime than petty larceny?

The second evil is "contributions," and he assures us that "we have ended them." Not yet. It is not sufficient to prevent contributions from corporations, for where there is a great temptation to aid in campaigns, the officers will find ways of contributing that will not bring the corporation within the letter of the law. It is necessary that the contributions of individuals shall be made public where those contributions are to any considerable amount, and it is also necessary that the publication shall be made in advance of the election in order that the voter may know what influences are at work in the campaign. One of the Wash-

ington correspondents has reported the president as considering a law which will provide all the parties with necessary campaign funds to be paid out of the public treasury. I do not know whether this statement is authoritative, but it is a suggestion worthy of consideration. If each party was furnished with a moderate campaign fund in proportion to the votes which it cast at the preceding election, and then all other contributions were prohibited by law, corruption in politics might be reduced to a minimum. And why should not the reasonable and necessary expenses of a campaign be paid by the public, if the campaign is carried on in the interest of the public? At present, in any controversy between predatory wealth and the masses of the people, the corporations which are seeking special privileges and favors are able to furnish enormous campaign funds to the party subservient to them, and no one can doubt that these campaign funds are furnished upon an understanding, expressed or implied, that they shall be allowed to reimburse themselves out of the pockets of the people.

The third trust evil enumerated by Senator Beveridge is found in bad meats and impure foods, and these, he assures us, "we have ended." That remains to be seen. The pure food law is not yet perfected, and it has not yet been