

still more exasperated at the evident assumption that they are a pack of dolts and blockheads who can be bamboozled with impunity.

"It is time for congress to wake up to the facts. Either the consumers of this country are going to get what they demand, genuine revision downward, with raw materials on the free list, and without any administrative 'jokers' or any 20 per cent maximum trickery, or there is going to be the dickens to pay two years and four years hence in the republican party. Failure to comply with the demands of the rank and file will split the party wide open.

"These are not threats. They are a plain statement of popular feeling as expressed in this state by individuals and as revealed in the columns of the press of the country from one end to the other."

There now, will the republican congress be good? But why this belated wrath? Who is this man Aldrich, the "hoary old sinner?" He is the same man who has controlled the republican majority in the senate for lo these many years. And who is this awful man, Payne? He is Speaker Cannon's right hand man. And how do such unspeakable men happen to be in control of the republican machine? Because the righteously indignant newspapers like the Pioneer-Press helped to win a republican victory.

But why does the Pioneer-Press rage? There is President Taft—he can by his veto prevent the consummation of the foul plot which Aldrich and Payne have concocted. We have the guaranty of the "mighty hunter" that Mr. Taft is a reformer and Mr. Taft himself, in a burst of confidence, ventured to say that he thought the revision would be downward.

The Pioneer-Press had a chance to help elect a tariff reform president and a tariff reform congress, but it refused. Where will it be in 1910 and 1912 when the republican party seeks an endorsement of its odious record?

#### WANTED—MORE DEMOCRATIC WEEKLIES

At this time when the great dailies are becoming more and more business enterprises rather than exponents of opinion, and especially when a number of them have become the property of predatory interests, the country newspaper increases in importance. It can be owned by the man who edits it, and, therefore, has behind it a conscience and a character that can be identified. It is close to the people and can give voice to the sentiments of its readers. We have to rely more and more upon the country papers for the educational work that is necessary to a correct understanding of public questions. The country newspaper can obtain its news from the metropolitan daily, but it must do its own digesting and interpreting. There is a lot of difference between the man who writes what he is told to write and the man who writes what he believes, and writes because he believes he has a message to deliver to his readers.

Every county ought to have a democratic weekly—here is a field for patriotic effort. The Commoner will be pleased to chronicle the birth of each new paper.

#### TO DEMOCRATIC VOTERS

Democratic voters, you can not begin too soon to select candidates for congress. In about a year the campaign will be on, and upon that campaign will largely depend the hope of the party in 1912. Let those democrats who believe in pure and undefiled democracy get together in each district and pick out a democrat who can not be bought or frightened. The trusts have stealthily secured control of some of the congressmen who were elected as democrats, and they will have the influence of the trusts in securing a re-nomination. The trusts can very well afford to put up the campaign funds if they can control the congressmen after election. The steel trust, for instance, could put a million dollars into the congressional campaign without missing it (and it is only one of many trusts), and a million dollars would supply a hundred candidates with ten thousand dollars apiece, or two hundred candidates with five thousand apiece. When you see that a congressional candidate has money to spend, find out where he is getting it. Take it for granted that he can not get money from a predatory corporation without a promise, expressed or implied, and that he will pay the corporation back out of the pockets of the people. We can better afford to have republicans in congress than republican-democrats; we can criticize republicans and make capital out of their subserviency to the trusts, but when a democrat becomes a

representative of the trusts, his sins have to be borne by his party. Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty. Look up the record of your congressman and hold him to strict accountability. When a congressman forgets his constituents he forfeits his right to their support. If he votes with the trusts ignorantly he is too ignorant to be a congressman; if he votes with the trusts intentionally, he is not fit to be a congressman. No time is to be lost; now is the time to organize the real democrats to secure congressmen whose democracy is real.

#### GUARANTY OF BANK DEPOSITS

The cause is growing. Oklahoma, Nebraska and Texas now have compulsory systems for the protection of depositors in state banks. In Texas the state bank can choose between joining the compulsory system and giving individual security, but so far every bank that has acted has decided upon the guaranty system. In Kansas and South Dakota voluntary systems have been adopted, while in Colorado, Arkansas and Indiana the guaranty bill passed one branch of the legislature.

Attorney General Wickersham has delivered an opinion to the effect that national banks are at liberty to insure their depositors, and insurance companies are already being organized for that purpose. The fight made last year has had its influence, and in spite of republican opposition to the plan, the protection of depositors is coming. The republican leaders have taken the side of the big financiers, but even the big financiers will in the end be compelled to yield to the just demand of the depositors for security. And so another democratic doctrine is being vindicated. The democratic party has something to be proud of when it can, even in defeat, control public sentiment and force its ideas upon a reluctant opposition.

#### THE NATIONAL MONTHLY

The first issue of Chairman Mack's new paper, the National Monthly, has appeared and it is a very worthy production. Besides editorial matter it contains a number of interesting articles written by democrats of prominence. The magazine will bring democratic literature before a large number of voters, and that is the thing most needed at this time. The republican papers so outnumber those published by democrats that the reading public has little opportunity to understand the democratic position. Every democrat ought to read the National Monthly. Success to it.

#### NOW IT IS THE TARIFF

R. G. Dun & Co.'s weekly letter for May 21 says: "Almost every development, except the lengthening debate on the tariff, is favorable, and the gains made in spite of the tariff disturbance are a fair indication of what may be expected when that is out of the way."

Will it ever be possible for the American people to obtain relief from impositions by special interests without being threatened with commercial disaster when they undertake to legislate for their protection?

#### ALDRICH AND BROWN

The Lincoln (Neb.) Journal (rep.), in defending Senator Brown of Nebraska throws some light on the sacred protective system. In an editorial entitled "Brown vs. Bribe" this republican paper says:

"Senator Brown's colloquy with Senator Aldrich over the pumice stone duty does its mite to help understand how a hog combine is made and maintained. Senator Brown held that the Nebraska pumice stone deposits could be developed and made to supply the American market if encouraged by a duty giving the Nebraska product a special advantage during the time required to establish a market and get the industry under way. This, if Senator Brown's statement is correct, exactly fits the condition covered by the principle of protection, a young industry needing encouragement till it is able, once on its legs, to stand alone. Did the senate leader enter into the merits of the case, applying the principle he prates so much? Not that anybody could see. His answer was, in effect, that Senator Brown did not deserve a duty on pumice stone because he had refused to vote for certain other duties, duties favoring industries so far from infancy that they control foreign as well as home markets. Which means that the question of principle does not enter into the calculations of Aldrich and his band. He represents a coalition of interests, steel, lumber,

cotton, wool, and such others as have to be let in to make a majority of the senators. Do you want protection? Your need is not facts and arguments, but votes to put on the counter."

Yes, it is all a trade and every intelligent republican ought to have understood that as well last fall as now. Every high tariff bill passed in twenty-five years has been passed in that way. But how many republicans will vote against it on final passage? And all this about pumice stone? Who owns the stone? How many would be benefited by that tax? But let us be grateful for pumice stone if it helps the people to understand the iniquities of the protective system.

#### MRS. HOWE'S VISION

Julia Ward Howe, one of America's sweetest singers, recently celebrated her 90th birthday. Mrs. Howe recently had a vision which she described in this way:

"One night recently, I experienced a sudden awakening. I had a vision of a new era which is to dawn for mankind and in which men and women are battling equally, unitedly, for the uplifting and emancipation of the race from evil.

"I saw men and women of every clime working like bees to unwrap the evils of society and to discover the whole web of vice and misery, and to apply the remedies and also to find the influences that should best counteract evil and its attending suffering.

"There seemed to be a new, a wondrous, ever-permeating light, the glory of which I can not attempt to put in human words—the light of new-born hope and sympathy blazing. The source of this light was human endeavor—immortal purpose of countless thousands of men and women, who were equally doing their part in the world.

"I saw the men and the women, standing side by side, shoulder to shoulder, a common, lofty and indomitable purpose lighting every face with a glory not of this earth. All were advancing with one end in view, one foe to trample, one everlasting good to gain.

"And then I saw the victory. All of evil was gone from the earth. Misery was blotted out. Mankind was emancipated and ready to march forward in a new era of human understanding, all-encompassing sympathy and ever-present help. The era of perfect love, of peace passing understanding."

There are many who are simple-hearted enough to believe that Mrs. Howe's vision described the world as it will become through the process of education. In the light of the moral awakening apparent on every hand, in the presence of the wealth of individual effort toward the world's betterment these simple-hearted folk feel that, in the very language of Mrs. Howe's beautiful hymn:

"He has sounded forth the trumpet that shall never call retreat;  
He is sifting out the hearts of men before his judgment seat;  
Oh! be swift, my soul, to answer him! Be jubilant, my feet!  
Our God is marching on."

#### FAILED

The Washington Bulletin calls attention to the fact that in all the evidence which the republican party has accumulated in its effort to justify an increase in the tariff, it has signally failed to support its contention that it is limiting the tariff to an amount sufficient to cover the difference in the cost of production here and abroad.

#### CHEAPER

The "business" interests are insisting that congress pass the tariff bill and adjourn, but as the bill seems likely to increase the tax, the consumer may think it cheaper to prolong the session indefinitely and thus postpone an increase in taxation.

#### LISTEN!

The Man Who Wants to Know,  
But Don't Know,  
And Yet  
Tries to Learn How to Know,  
WILL KNOW.  
BUT  
The Man Who Thinks He Knows,  
And Rests Content  
In What He Thinks He Knows,  
WILL NEVER KNOW.  
—John Uri Lloyd.