

deserves credit for having called attention to this very important distinction, a distinction which is constantly overlooked by the aristocratic and plutocratic elements of society. The contest between the man and the dollar is not only an elementary contest but is a universal contest, and a perpetual contest. The masses must ever be on the alert or they will find themselves at a disadvantage. Property is a potential factor in society and in politics, and in every great reform the chief object has been to reassert the rights of man and establish the true relation between man and money. Mr. Roosevelt is to be congratulated upon presenting the subject so forcibly as to rivet the attention of two hemispheres upon the issue.

MR. BRYAN IN POLITICS

A number of eastern papers and some in the west have made the mistake of assuming that because Mr. Bryan takes part in the discussion of moral and religious questions, he has therefore lost interest in politics. For the benefit of any who may have been misled by assumptions or suggestions of this kind, The Commoner begs to give assurance that Mr. Bryan is as deeply interested today as at any other time in his life in the science of government, in political problems and in the discussion of the principles and policies under consideration by the American people. He expects to continue in politics during the remainder of his days, and he expects to be just as active and just as earnest in the discussion of these questions as he has been in the past. The readers of The Commoner may therefore expect that Mr. Bryan will deal with all questions, state and national, upon which the people are ready to act. The fact that Mr. Bryan is not a candidate for any office and does not expect to be, instead of lessening his interest, really relieves him of embarrassment and makes it possible for him to do more than he could when he might be accused of having a personal interest in the result of the campaign.

THE COLLEGE AT LA PAZ

At La Paz, the administrative capital of Bolivia, there is a college called the American Institute. It was founded about four years ago at the request of the Bolivian government, and enjoys an annual appropriation from that government. The sum given the present year is 14,000 Bolivian dollars, or about \$5,000 in American money. The Institute has a student body numbering between 140 and 150 boys and young men, drawn from the entire country, several of whom are from the families of officials. It is the only American college in Bolivia and therefore occupies a very important field. It was founded by Methodists and is under the control of that branch of the Christian church, but it is not sectarian in its teachings.

It now occupies rented ground and buildings, and the rent is likely to increase in proportion as the college prospers. Mr. Bryan visited the college during his stay in Bolivia and became so interested in its work and so impressed by its possibilities that, finding it would require about \$50,000 to purchase the needed land and buildings for the Institute, he volunteered to try to raise \$25,000 through The Commoner if Bishop Bristol would undertake the raising of the remaining \$25,000. Mr. Bryan, therefore, invites subscriptions, and starts the list with \$250. If ninety-nine readers of The Commoner will send \$250 each the sum will be raised, and there ought to be many readers of the paper who, out of their abundance, could spare the sum mentioned for so worthy an institution. But lest the number should fall short of ninety-nine, those who do not feel able to contribute as much as \$250 are invited to send any sum they like—\$200, \$150, \$100, \$50, \$25, \$10 or \$5. Giving should be in proportion to one's ability, and each one is the best judge of the amount he is able to spare. Subscriptions will be acknowledged from week to week, and the money will be dispatched to Hon. J. H. Stutesman, the American minister to Bolivia, who will turn it over to the Institute when the deed for the property is ready for delivery. Drafts can be made payable to J. H. Stutesman or to William J. Bryan. This is a good way to show our appreciation of the blessings which come with American citizenship and a good way, too, to extend American influences in South America.

ADDING TO THE DEFICIT

Right on the heels of the postmaster general's efforts to wipe out the postal deficiency, Representative Fish, of New York, comes now to complicate the situation by introducing a bill to extend the franking privilege to one Th. Roosevelt.

Chicago Tribune Poll on the 1912 Campaign

Below will be found the result of a poll taken by the Chicago Tribune and reproduced in the Washington Post.

While Mr. Bryan appreciates most highly the compliment paid him by those editors who express a preference for his renomination in spite of three defeats, he regards the vote merely as an indication that a larger number of editors are still uncertain as to who will be most available—they probably voted for Mr. Bryan from habit, because they had not yet decided on a candidate. As Mr. Bryan is not a candidate and never expects to be a candidate again he can, without being misunderstood, commend the attitude of those who are awaiting developments. He is in that attitude himself. It is two years yet before the convention and he now feels about the candidacy of others as he felt about his own candidacy in 1906. When nearly half the states had endorsed him, he said it was too early; that we needed the light that events

would throw on the situation. And so now we need the light which the events of the next two years will throw on the political situation. We have many state elections this fall; some of these campaigns may bring candidates into the arena.

We have a congressional election this fall and a democratic congress, if we elect one, may bring out a number of available men. It is a free for all race and every loyal democrat can afford to suspend judgment until a choice can be made with intelligence. We want, first, one who is democratic on all issues and who can be trusted to give us a sure enough democratic administration if elected; among those who stand this test—and there are many—we want the most available man, the man who, in the judgment of the democratic voters seems likely to poll the most votes.

When the time arrives for making a choice The Commoner will discuss the relative availability of those whose claims are presented.

SOME DEMOCRATIC EDITORS FAVOR ROOSEVELT FOR PRESIDENT

From the Chicago Tribune: The Tribune, in an effort to discern the political tendencies of the present day, asked the editors of democratic newspapers, east and west, to express their view on the best and most valuable man for the democratic presidential nomination in 1912. The answers received are compiled in the following tabulation:

STATE	Bryan	Harrison	Roosevelt	Folk	Marshall	Clark	Gaynor	LaFollette	Taft	Hughes	Scattering
Ohio	26	105	8	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..
Michigan	2	7	9	2	..	..	1	1	1	..	4
Indiana	13	15	1	..	80	..	..	..	..	..	1
Illinois	45	21	16	7	..	4	1	3	..	..	12
Wisconsin	22	12	16	2	..	..	..	1	1	..	2
Iowa	34	16	11	6	..	4	3	2	..	..	2
Kansas	15	8	4	2	1	1	..	1	..	..	6
Nebraska	39	11	14	..	..	2	1	1	..	..	..
Oklahoma	27	34	12	2	..	2	1	4	..	..	13
Minnesota	16	5	6	..	..	..	..	2	1	1	..
North Dakota	3	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
South Dakota	2	4	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Missouri	37	34	6	51	..	24	..	3	1	..	3
Montana	2	2	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Idaho	1	4	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Colorado	13	9	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	1	2
Utah	2	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wyoming	1	2	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Nevada	2	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
Washington	8	3	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Oregon	5	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Kentucky	24	27	..	2	..	1	1	..	..	..	3
Tennessee	12	12	5	1	..	1	1	..	..	..	7
Arizona	2	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
New Mexico	..	1	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
California	14	5	6	5	..	..	1	2	..	..	2
Total for West	367	342	121	86	81	42	12	22	5	2	61
Maine	..	4	..	1	..	..	..	1	1	..	..
New Hampshire	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	1
Vermont	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Massachusetts	3	3	5	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Rhode Island	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	2	..
Connecticut	1	1	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..
New York	11	18	12	..	..	..	14	2	11	9	13
New Jersey	3	7	6	2	..	..	6	..	..	3	2
Pennsylvania	25	26	13	2	..	2	3	2	2	2	14
Delaware	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	2
Maryland	7	11	1	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	4
Total for East	51	72	38	7	..	2	27	5	19	16	36
Grand total	418	414	159	93	81	44	39	27	24	18	97

A MASKED ASSAULT

Under this title the Springfield (Mass.) Republican caustically comments on the arguments presented by six prominent lawyers, Choate, Guthrie, Morowitz, Fox, Milburn and Stetson before the legislature in opposition to the income tax. They are the attorneys of the big corporations and are naturally employed to present the corporation side. They present the same argument as that advanced by Governor Hughes—and, by the way, is there anything singular in the fact that Governor Hughes just happened to make the same objection that these corporation attorneys do? The Republican points out that five of the six corporation attorneys also present an argument against the income tax on general principles. That is the

explanation—the predatory interests, not satisfied with the fruits of their exploitation, oppose just taxation—and Governor Hughes is with them.

COMING, COMING, COMING

And now comes the Massachusetts house of representatives and by a vote of 109 to 98 declares for the direct election of senators. It was only a few years ago that Mr. Hoar, the veteran senator from Massachusetts, made an attack on this proposed reform, and Senator Lodge is still a senator from Massachusetts. But the old Bay State is coming around and others will follow.

Aldrich gone, Hale too; next!