

interposes in behalf of the public when he has no interest in it at all, and says, 'this ought not to be done, and by my vote it shall not be done?' By what grotesque standard of morality is the group of men that made that infamous threat, which the president says caused both houses of congress to execute a corrupt bargain, by what alchemy of diseased morality do they become the nucleus around which the solidarity of a great political party is to be organized for the future, while men who stood for public rights fought for them, and voted as they fought, are to be kicked out of the republican party as unworthy of its membership or its fellowship? We are fallen upon curious times.

Will Fight Corrupt Deals

"To make the matter short, I am opposed—and I was associated last summer with a little group of fairly good men who were opposed—to that method of transacting the business of the American people. We are in favor of a tariff commission, but we do not want the fellows to appoint themselves on the commission; we do not want them to write the laws which congress is to pass, and above all things, we do not want them to form a corrupt combination in the two houses of congress to put the ban of coercion and corrupt influences upon the action of congress, for it not only is likely to rob the American public, but it dislocates politics in a very awkward way.

"In the place of that kind of a commission making these tariff schedules to suit their own profits and convenience, I uphold the president in his demand in public speeches and through his messages to congress to prepare the way for a scientific investigation of these questions, in order that in the future American business may not look to congress with suspicion and with alarm; in order that it may no longer be the business of senators to trade in a program in the interests of their constituents and to sometimes be disappointed, as more than one man was disappointed who had traded in everything he had and got sold out in the final adjustment of affairs.

"Why, you say, that is a fearful accusation to make against congress. It is the most scandalous accusation that ever was made against the congress of the United States; and I would not dare to repeat it, except for the fact that, on motion of the senator from Maine (Mr. Hale), it was printed as a senate document, in order that it might be circulated all over the United States as a handbook of republican party faith.

On the Bargain Counter

"What a farce to send men around talking about the rule of majority, when, before the eyes of all men, and with no dispute of the truth of it possible before God or men, the most important business of the American people has come down to the bargain counter; and men authorized to say, 'This is the citadel of protection; if any of you have constituents that want anything, come here; we are the dispensing power; support what we want, and take anything you think you need,' and the man who does not like it, and has no stomach for the fight, is requested to depart. If that is to be the continued practice of the government of the United States, I think it would be better for nearly everybody to depart.

"I do not propose that it shall become the practice of the republican party if I can help it. I do not propose that the work which it did, and which it brought forth here last summer, shall be forced into the platform of the republican party and made a test of party fealty and party duty, and party obligation. I propose that the job shall stand on its merits, and that the American people shall inquire to the full limit of their curiosity into every detail of the performance.

"Again, I do not like this idea of having custom house officials, to whom most of us have never been introduced, write our tariff laws. It hurt my pride, to start with. I can conceal it from the public, but you can not conceal when you are at home. Those who know you begin to see what a bubble this senate business is; that its majority does not represent anybody's ideas—which my friend from Oregon (Mr. Bourne) so well says is the one potent thing there is in this world—that its debates have no significance, that when you want to get anything done, send out to the customs house and get an expert—a veteran expert, if you can—to fix it up.

"Well, I am tired of it, and I will tell you why. The veteran experts that are given carte blanche to fix up our laws do not appeal to

me as they used to. Behind nearly every veteran expert that we have had flittering around here in recent years is the veteran manager of the enterprise that is to be fixed.

"How long does the senate of the United States propose that these great interests, affecting every man, woman and child in the United States, shall be managed with brutal tyranny, without debate and without knowledge and without explanation by the very people that are engaged in monopolizing the great industries of the world, that propose to impose intolerable burdens upon the market place of the United States?

"I do not propose that the remaining years of my life, whether they be in public affairs or in my private business, shall be given up to a dull consent to the success of all these conspiracies, which do not hesitate before our very eyes to use the lawmaking power of the United States to multiply their own wealth and to fill the market places with evidences of their avarice and of their greed.

"I am through with it. I intend to fight as a republican for a free market place on this continent.

"The time is coming when the laws of the United States will be respected by great and small alike; when they will be so framed that the old reign of greed and of avarice, piling up unheard-of millions, to be exploited in all the ostentations of modern life, will become no longer a badge even of distinction, but, rather, of discredit, and, it may be, of infamy itself; when this people, occupying the greatest market place that God ever gave to his children, shall protect alike the enterprises of rich and poor without distinction, and when the law of justice, even to the humble, will be so well entrenched in the hearts and in the habits of the community that we will not be in a perpetual agitation about panics and commercial disasters when the enforcement of the laws of the United States is suggested to the public.

Wants Old Party to Lead

"It is a time nearer than most of us think. A thousand forces are making for it. It is the fruitage of these centuries of Christian teaching and of good living that lie behind the men and women who have laid the foundations of this commonwealth and maintained these institutions. I want the old republican party freed from bad advice, freed from corrupt influence, to become the leader of the larger reforms which shall make of the future a realization of all the labors of the past, but beyond all the dreams of those who have struggled and

sacrificed for the welfare of the people of the United States."

Early in the speech Mr. Dolliver, after saying that Aldrich had made a plea for the protection of rubber in the interest of the rubber tire industry, said that it subsequently had been ascertained that these concerns were multiplying their wealth by rapid strides. He instanced one concern that in ten years had increased its capital from \$50,000 to \$10,000,000. He pronounced this an outrage.

Again, the senator said:

"I have known many vicissitudes in public life, but I never dreamed that within less than a year that I would be called upon to defend myself and the little group of men with whom I stand against the charge of taking seriously the president's speeches and the platform pledges."

MOTHER-LOVE

Mother-love is mother-love
The wide, wide world around,
Mother-love, is mother-love
Wherever it is found;
In palace or in cottage,
The city or the clan,
Mother-love is mother-love,
God's sweetest gift to man.

Mother-love is mother-love
The long, long ages through,
Though years corrode all other love
Still mother-love is new,
A bloom that never fadeth,
A fruit beyond decay,
The fresh warm tints of mother-love
Are beautiful for aye.

Mother-love is mother-love
However fortunes go,
Mother-love is mother-love
Though tides are high or low,
Though self-respect may falter,
And scorn of life prevail,
Yet mother-love is mother-love
And naught shall make it fail.

Mother-love is mother-love,
Most like the love of heaven,
Though precious every other love
To erring mortal given:
Strain of immortal music,
Glow of eternal morn,
Love of all loves is mother-love
Whence all our loves are born.
—Robert Whitaker, San Francisco Star.

The Commoner's Million Army

In the campaign of 1908 The Commoner's Million Army rendered distinguished service to the cause of democracy and it may well be believed that a similar organization will even be able to do better work in the year of 1910 now that men who were heretofore indifferent are aroused to the importance of action.

If half of the readers of The Commoner would take active interest in the organization of this Million Army plan, the results would be immediately noticeable and the contribution to the welfare of popular government would be enormous.

Many individuals are willing to help in a

patriotic movement but find it difficult to know just what to do to make their efforts count. In a struggle such as the one we are now engaging in, the efforts of every man, woman and child on the side of popular government will count and in The Commoner's Million Army a practical plan is presented whereby the efforts of many individuals may be aggregated and used with telling effect.

Let every Commoner reader ask his neighbor, "Have you joined The Commoner's Million Army?" Let every Commoner reader lend a hand to this particular effort at democratic organization. A long pull, a short pull, and a pull all together, will bring great results.

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| <p>Recommendation for Membership</p> <p><small>The signer of this enlistment blank is personally known to me, and is in every way worthy of membership in The Commoner's Million Army.</small></p> <p>Signed.....</p> <p>Address.....</p> | <p>APPLICATION BLANK</p> <p>The Commoner's Million Army</p> <p><small>I hereby enlist in The Commoner's Million Army, and pledge my assistance to secure the nomination of only worthy and incorruptible men as democratic candidates; that I will attend democratic primaries and nominating conventions, and assist in promoting the great democratic campaign of education by devoting a reasonable share of my time to the distribution of literature. I will recommend worthy persons for membership in The Commoner's Million Army, and in any way I can assist to increase the usefulness of this organization.</small></p> <p>Signed.....</p> <p>Address.....</p> <p><small>With the understanding that Mr. Bryan agrees to accept annual subscriptions to The Commoner from members of this Army at a net rate of 65 cents each, and that each subscription to The Commoner shall include a subscription to The American Homestead (a strong home and farm paper)—thus leaving The Commoner free to devote its undivided efforts to political matters and current events—I enclose herewith 65 cents for one annual subscription to The Commoner (including The American Homestead). If you are already a subscriber to The Commoner and do not care to extend your expiration date at this time, the last paragraph above may be disregarded.</small></p> |
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