

The Commoner.

ISSUED WEEKLY

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flag to the enemy the moment they win their fight. Insurgency has done well because the people believed in the self-sacrificing sincerity of the men heading the movement. It is absolutely necessary to criticize Mr. Roosevelt at this juncture, for he is a real menace to the insurgent movement, which is one of the most promising movements ever known in American politics. Based on principle, it can not win by political trading. It is no time for compromise or compromisers."

MINIE BALLS

Congressman McCall of Massachusetts was renominated by the republicans.

John Kennish of Kansas City, Mo., former deputy attorney general, was selected by the republican state committee as its candidate for the supreme court in 1911 to succeed the late Judge Fox.

Since Elihu Root was a good enough "insurgent" to be made chairman of Mr. Roosevelt's New York convention Mr. Taft seems to regard him as a good enough "standpatter" to be made chief justice of the United States supreme court. Beverly dispatches say that Root may be given the honor of succeeding the late Chief Justice Fuller.

The best that Elihu Root can say so far as his party's prospects in the Empire state are concerned, is "the republicans have a fighting chance."

The Massachusetts democratic state committee sent special delivery letters to all the delegates to the recent state convention enclosing return special delivery envelope in which delegates may express their preference for a nominee for governor to take the place of the candidate selected temporarily by the state convention. The contest now is between Congressman Foss and Charles J. Hamlin.

Ezra P. Prentice, Mr. Roosevelt's chairman of the New York republican committee failed to appoint William Barnes, Jr., of the "old guard" as a member of the executive committee. Barnes has, therefore, resigned as a member of the state committee. He says, however, he will vote for Stimson, the Roosevelt candidate for governor.

Theodore Roosevelt, speaking in St. Louis, charged that the democratic party in New York is nothing but "an unholy alliance between Wall Street and Tammany Hall."

Mr. Bryan spent from October 11 to October 13 in Iowa speaking for the democratic ticket. On October 14 in the afternoon he spent at Auburn, Indiana, and at Columbia City, Indiana, in the evening, making speeches for Mr. Kern,

the democratic candidate for senator. He spent from the 14th to the 20th in Indiana, closing at Richmond, Indiana, with an evening meeting. Beginning on October 21 he will hold four meetings in Speaker Cannon's district.

A dispatch printed in the Omaha (Neb.) News is as follows: "W. J. Bryan is going gunning for the political scalp of Uncle Joe Cannon right in the speaker's home, October 21 and 22, when he will make several speeches in the Illinois district. To pay a debt to an old friend and whack Cannon at the same time is the dual purpose of Bryan in his Illinois invasion. The democratic candidate, Cundiff, running against Cannon is a former Nebraskan and an old friend of Bryan. They were young lawyers in the same city years ago, and Cundiff nominated Bryan for congress in 1890."

Theodore Roosevelt made a trip through Indiana, making campaign speeches for Senator Beveridge. He said "there is victory in the air here in Indiana," but a lot of republicans in Indiana don't believe it.

"BRYANISM"

The Wausau (Wis.) Record-Herald, republican, prints the following editorial:

"There is a good deal of doubtful propriety about figuring Mr. Bryan down and out altogether. The St. Paul Dispatch is trying to think of him as res judicata, a thing quite impossible in the case of the peerless one.

"Mr. Bryan may have outlived party. He may have begun to live several decades ahead of the vanguard of that organization. He may be breathing the atmosphere of an elysian of which the party only has a meagre prophetic knowledge. At all events, we have not done with Bryan.

"The only thing perhaps that will defeat the eternal purpose of the Nebraskan is Time. It is coming—coming as sure as the tide rolls the surface of the sea—this reconciliation of Bryan and his party, but the span of years of man's life is short, and the reconciliation may be with Bryanism instead of Bryan, but it is sure to be.

"Bryan, the man, is a fleeting quantity; Bryanism is an aeternum. And what is Bryanism? It is nothing if it is not dogged honesty; persistent, intense, absorbing sincerity. Yes, it is possible for one to be honest and not be a democrat. It is likewise possible for one to be a democrat and be honest—but it isn't necessary. Bryan, we believe, chose to be honest. He yearned for victory, but in his times and under those peculiar conditions it was to be got at an additional cost—a sacrifice of principle. Bryan preferred to try his conscience out. He lost.

"No, democracy is merely playing the prodigal.—off on a vacation. The party will come back,

some day, some how; and when it does it will find the patriarch at the yard gate waiting—the same old patriarch with the crown of thorns and the cross of gold."

DISINTERESTED

J. L. Franklin, McKinney, Texas.—I see you relate an anecdote of General Grant about the wolf howling, to illustrate the noise a few sheepmen can make about protection. Some years since one of our sheepmen wrote to his congressman that if he voted for free wool that he would vote against him next time and hound him all over the district in his next race for congress. A short time after receiving the aforementioned letter the same congressman received another letter from the same constituent saying: "Vote as you please on that wool schedule, as I have sold my sheep."

INFORMATION WANTED

Mrs. R. G. Russell, Byars, Oklahoma.—I know that you know a parent's love, and ask you to advertise for my son, who joined the United States artillery in San Francisco in 1904, discharged June 7, 1907. Have not heard from him in four years. Age twenty-five years, dark complexion, black hair, black heavy eyebrows, gray eyes, height five feet nine inches, weight 160 pounds. Name, A. Erwin Russell. Any information thankfully received. He is supposed to be in California.

STITCHES IN TIME

Governor Eberhart does well to remind the people of Minnesota that they should have taken precautions through the establishment of fire protection to preserve the valuable property and the precious lives recently lost in the forest fires. It would have been better had Governor Eberhart emphasized this statement long ago. But even now his reminder will serve to direct public attention to the lesson so sorrowfully learned.

FOR "PRACTICAL" USES

A current number of the Outlook publishes an article on "Why a Political Party Needs Money." One of the "practical" reasons has already been suggested in Colonel Roosevelt's "Dear Harriman" letter, in which he asked for that \$50,000 needed to "turn" sufficient votes to insure victory in 1904.

The American Homestead, a monthly farm journal of national scope, will be sent to all Commoner subscribers, without additional cost, who renew their subscriptions during the month October, when accompanied by this notice.

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.

APPLICATION BLANK

The Commoner's Million Army

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.

Signed.....

Address.....

With the understanding that Mr. Bryan agrees to accept annual subscriptions to The Commoner from members of this Army at a net rate of 66 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 66 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.

Recommendation for Membership

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.

Signed.....

Address.....