

was accidental, has not been explained. If a majority of all the votes can not be secured at the November election the bill is lost. The machine was depending upon that, so they introduced at the same time a series of twenty-two amendments, called the 'lost amendments,' because they were not entered in the house journal; in fact few legislators, not to mention citizens, knew of them. Think of it! Twenty-two amendments to our fundamental law, designed to replace a new constitution, being juggled in this secret, underhanded manner; these amendments contain provisions authorizing the legislature to make important laws themselves, like the initiative and referendum, workmen's compensation, special charters for cities, classification of property for taxation, etc. — laws which are fundamental and are a part of the constitution, and should be made by the people themselves.

"Says Cooley: 'In accordance with universal practice and from the necessity of the case, amendments to an existing constitution, or an entire revision of it, must be prepared and matured by some body of representatives chosen for the purpose.'

"Jamison says: 'That whenever a constitution needs a general revision a convention is indispensably necessary.'

"That fundamental law is the work only of a convention, a special and extraordinary assembly, convening at no regular recurring periods, but whenever the harvest of constitutional reforms has become ripe."

"Knowing who owns our government and controls our legislature, you can readily see the deep laid plot of the machine to frame those laws—first, when they like; second, how they like.

SILENCE OF PARTIES IS EXPLAINED

This will explain to you why both old parties in their platforms endorsed a new constitution, and why both parties, through their press and speakers today, ignore the 'constitution' question. Silence is negative; in this instance silence is more, it is worse than open opposition, because without knowledge of the question the people know little or nothing about a new constitution, and so will not vote; and every voter who does not vote is counted 'No.'

"Perhaps the most glaring instance of a bold raid and an utter disregard on the part of the 'machine' for the rights of the people, and especially the working people, is found in the state public utility law, passed by the same notorious legislature. Supposedly designed to protect the people and the cities from the merciless tyranny of public franchise corporations, we find this situation: The law was framed by public utility lawyers; it was passed through the legislature by the public utility agents; it is executed by a commission made up of politicians and public utility lawyers. Where do you suppose the people's interests come in?

"They have been trying to put a similar scheme 'over' in Minnesota, but they have something in Minnesota that we have not yet reached in this state; they have many organizations of citizens for the purpose of watching the political machine and the legislature, and so they are always ready for action. Those organizations went to work and investigated the public utility commission which has been operating in their neighboring state, Wisconsin, for several years. The work of the Minnesota league has been put in pamphlet form. Here are just a few quotations:

"The commission has shown a strong leaning toward the interest

of the utilities as against public interest, revealed in its finding of high rate for service, more than reasonable profits and excessive valuations. Originally created as an agency for the protection of the public from the exploitation of utility companies, it has become rather an agency for the protection of the companies and the means of increasing the value of their investment."

"It has moved with exasperating slowness in rate and service cases involving great public concern, with the companies profiting enormously in the interim of its inaction."

"It has used the indeterminate permit to protect inefficient private electric utilities in their local monopoly, in continuing poor service and excessive charges, and avoiding their legal contract obligations with municipalities."

"It has interfered unwarrantably with the operation of municipal plants."

"It has failed signally to eliminate the public utilities from local politics. On the contrary it has compelled them to be more active than ever."

"It has worked to suppress community initiative and to retard the development of citizenship and growth of the citizens in capacity for self-government."

"It has shown a brutal disregard of local public sentiment in matters affecting vitally the political, social and material welfare of communities."

"It has gained such influence over the legislative body of the state that, in effect, it writes its own legislation, with the result of dangerously enlarged powers in this department of government."

"The public was successful before the Wisconsin commission to a substantial extent in but 7 per cent of the cases brought by it for rate reductions, and was given even the slightest relief in but 29 per cent of the cases."

"Public service corporations were successful to some extent in more than 96 per cent of the cases brought before the Wisconsin railroad commission for rate increases, and were fully or substantially successful in more than 82 per cent of the cases brought by them before the commission for rate increase. They got practically what they asked for in this percentage of all the cases brought."

"In a term of five years, during which the trend of public service charges have been so strongly downward, it is quite amazing that the trend under the Wisconsin commission should be uniformly upward."

INDIANA BILL IS IN INTEREST OF UTILITIES

"In like manner the Indiana utility bill is wholly in the interest of public utilities, and against the cities. Section 48 reads:

"No municipality shall hereafter construct any such plant or equipment where there is in operation in such municipality a public utility engaged in similar service under an indeterminate permit as provided in this act without first securing from the commission a declaration after a public hearing of all parties interested, that public convenience and necessity require such municipal utility."

"This bill declares that all public utilities shall be monopolized, no competition will be allowed. The city must, therefore, buy the existing private plant, or submit; and when they buy they will be handed a piece of property that has been overloaded with watered stock to the bursting point, and the price will stagger the people."

"This movement for the establishment of public utility commissions is a nation wide, and has for purpose the

rendering of franchise corporations absolutely independent of the cities, and to enable them to charge exorbitant rates and give such service as they like; and lastly to legalize the over-capitalization through the issue of watered stock; and if the cities should desire to purchase they must do so at the companies' price.

"To protect themselves they inserted this clause:

"Section 100 provides that 'Every new franchise granted hereafter will be an indeterminate permit, and any existing franchise may be exchanged for the indeterminate permit.'

"The Wisconsin commission admits that 'The indeterminate permit is a legally protected monopoly which is more valuable than the original special franchise, and is a practically perpetual and exclusive franchise.'

"This is also the opinion of the Wisconsin supreme court.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN TO CITIES?

"As you will see from this, no franchise will hereafter expire. They are now, in effect, perpetual. Picture to yourselves this situation. The day will soon come when the people must take over their public utilities—their street car, gas, electric light and water privileges. The history of the cities of the whole civilized world, outside of the United States, teaches us that, and any thinking man can see this day coming soon in the United States. The fight is already on in many cities. The public utility lawyers knew what was coming, and so they prepared for the fight. This piece of highway robbery and of wholesale betrayal will cost the people of the cities of Indiana millions upon millions of dollars; and this is but one example of what it means to own the legislature, and why it pays to own the government.

"The cost of a convention has been used by the opposition. 'It will cost a million and a half dollars,' they say. Here are the facts: The official figures in Ohio show that the cost of their constitutional convention was \$267,571.11. We will have one or two special elections in Indiana, and these will cost approximately \$200,000 each. At the most, total cost would be about \$650,000. That looks like a large amount of money, but the governor of Ohio makes the statement and proves it, that the new constitution saved the state of Ohio \$4,000,000 the first year. I am willing to make the statement that a new constitution in this state, with 'home rule' and the 'initiative and referendum' in it, will save the people of Indiana from five to ten million dollars every year. The reason the

opposition is so much concerned about the 'dear people' spending \$650,000 is because the five to ten million dollars a year saved comes from the 'bags of money.'

WHAT OHIO THINKS OF ITS CONSTITUTION

"The opposition states that the new Ohio constitution is not a success; that the people are dissatisfied, that they see the dangers of their new constitution, etc. I wrote letters to leading citizens in each of the larger cities of Ohio, asking their opinion regarding these statements. The replies indicate that just the opposite is true. One of the most clinching arguments received was made by a gentleman from Cleveland, who says:

"If the amendments that were adopted to the state constitution as a result of the recent constitutional convention were so unpopular as represented, there would be a strong move looking to their repeal. The fact that no such movement is being undertaken, and that the proposed amendments to the constitution to be voted upon at the next November election are by way of more radical amendments to the constitution, such as the prohibition amendment and the woman's suffrage amendment and the taxation amendment, indicate that the people of Ohio are not dissatisfied with the 'fads' and 'isms' of the new state constitution."

"A wave of reform against dishonest government is passing over the country. The people are getting an insight into the question, 'Who owns our government?' New York, California and several other states will have constitutional conventions this fall. Over 500 cities have scrapped the old bi-partisan, political city government system. Indiana is one of but a few states of the union which are still black on the map of progressive states. Are we going to be the very last in the union."

A STANDARD OF CITIZENSHIP

Elsewhere in this issue will be found a report of an address delivered recently in Terre Haute, Ind., by Theodore F. Thieme before the Federated Commercial clubs. It deals with the question of a constitutional convention for Indiana and in speaks for itself.

The inspiration for these observations is not the address, but the speaker. Without investigating his pedigree, we take it that Thieme is a Dutchman—he is more, he is a new standard of citizenship.

The easiest way to dismiss the disciples of principles with which we

\$3000 FOR YOU



Exclusive Territory.
100% Profit.

That's the money you should get this year. I mean it. I want County Sales Managers quick, men or women who believe in the square deal, who will go into partnership with me. No experience needed. My folding Bath Tub has taken the country by storm. Solves the bathing problem. No plumbing, no water works required. Full length bath in any room. Folds in small roll, handy as an umbrella. I tell you it's great! GREAT! Rivals \$100 bath room. Now listen! I want YOU to handle your county. I will furnish demonstrating tub on liberal plan. I'm positive — absolutely certain — you can get bigger money in a week with me than you ever made in a month before. I KNOW IT!

**Two Sales a Day—
\$300.00 a Month**

That's what you should get—every month. Needed in every home. Bodily wanted, eagerly bought. Modern bathing facilities for all the people. Take the orders right and left. Quick sales, immense profits. Look at these men—Smith, Ohio, got 12 orders first week; Meyers, Wis., \$250 profit first month; Newton, California, \$60 in three days. You should do as well. 2 SALES A DAY MEANS \$60 A MONTH. The work is very easy, pleasant, permanent, fascinating. It means a business of your own. Little capital needed. I grant credit—Help you out—Bank you up—Don't doubt—Don't hesitate—Don't hold back—You cannot lose. My other men are building houses, bank accounts, so can you. Act then quick. SEND NO MONEY. Just name on penny post card for free tub offer. Hurry!

H. S. Robinson, Pres., 740 Factory Bldg., TOLEDO, OHIO.
Canadian Branch—Walkerville, Ont.



Demonstrating Tub Furnished