

PRESERVE DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES.

THE WEEKLY PRESS FORUM.

The promulgation of democratic principles is a work that every earnest democrat should promote. It is only by constant watchfulness that those who seek the republicanization of the democratic party can be checkmated, and only by constant effort that the principles of democracy can be made to supplant the un-American and undemocratic policies that have been fastened upon the country.

Many of the daily newspapers of the country are controlled by interests adverse to the masses. Because of the ingenious methods of the reorganizers their efforts must be combatted and their manifold schemes exposed.

The Commoner is one of the few periodicals of national circulation that stand for the supremacy of democratic principles and combat the efforts of those who place spoils of office above principle. In this work it is proud to have the assistance of the loyal weekly press which has already accomplished so much and which is capable of accomplishing so much more in the future.

If democrats who place principles above self-aggrandizement will stand

may be better accomplished if loyal democrats lend their assistance. In order to further the good work of maintaining the party organization and preventing it from falling into the hands of those who seek to secure control for selfish purposes, it has been decided to inaugurate a plan whereby The Commoner may be placed in the hands of every democrat seeking to further the principles of democracy.

The subscription price of The Commoner is \$1 a year, but in order to increase its influence the following plan has been perfected:

Subscription cards, each good for one year's subscription to The Commoner, will be furnished in lots of five for \$3 per lot. The purchaser of a lot of five may sell the cards at the regular subscription price of \$1 each and retain the profit of \$2 for his trouble, or may apply the \$2 upon the purchase price of another lot of five, or may sell the cards at the cost price of 60 cents each and feel rewarded by increasing the influence of The Commoner.

The Commoner will discuss the issues of the campaign as they arise.

Hillsboro (Tex.) Record: The deeper one goes into Philippine affairs the worse they are shown to be.

Clarkville (Ark.) Herald: A great many of the democrats who now want to reorganize the party, assisted in disorganizing it in 1900.

Oskaloosa (Ia.) Times: Roosevelt does not roar at Funston just as he did at Miles. Prudence, not desire, made him ask the Kansan to quit.

St. Marys (W. Va.) Oracle: Hon. D. B. Hill came forth from his retirement a few days ago and said: "I am a democrat." Yes, David, but what wert thou in 1896?

Indianapolis (Ind.) Standard: The money power has selected the democratic candidate for president—D. B. Hill. They are not much concerned about the republican nominee. That party has plenty of "good men."

Millheim (Pa.) Journal: That full dinner pail promised the laboring man by the republican party is now filled with grass instead of meat. As all flesh is grass, the g. o. p. thinks that hay is good enough for the laborer.

Anna (Ill.) Democrat: There are some pretty tall mountains in the Philippine archipelago, it is said, but the bluff which Secretary Root is trying to unload upon the islands in the matter of punishing the authors of the atrocities perpetrated upon the natives will make the tallest peak look like a Japanese haycock.

Wahpeton (N. D.) Times: The bill to give millionaires more millions for running steamships at a profit will probably go over until the next session. This is wise, as some men do not care to face their constituents with the record of having voted for this misappropriation of the people's money. After election, scruples will not be so urgent.

Pontiac (Ill.) Free Trader and Observer: Does any one now disbelieve that the administration supports the English as against the Boers? Reminded of the fact, however, that another campaign is on its way, the president has ordered an investigation of the matter, and if found necessary the English gentlemen will be ordered to desist, or change their base of operation.

Phillipsburg (Kas.) Herald: Hurrah! for Captain Clark of the battleship Oregon. He has declined to go to the coronation of King Edward as special representative of the navy. Now if Whitelaw Reid and General Willson had that much sense, the imperialistic tendencies of our "strenuous" president might be checked somewhat.

Cadillac (Mich.) Democrat: It were better, a thousand times better, to surrender whatsoever claim we think we have to the Philippines; to wipe the slate clean of the cost no matter how great, and return the boys in blue to their native land and its peaceful pursuits, than to build up a nation of butchers whose appetite for blood will be transmitted to their progeny for generations. Let us stop it before it is everlastingly too late.

Elk City (O. T.) Roger Mills Democrat: The first matter set up for the Roger Mills Democrat was the Declaration of Independence, a document written by Thomas Jefferson, the founder of the democratic party, and upon this document is founded the doctrines and principles of democracy, and upon the doctrines and principles of the Declaration of Independence and the democratic party the Roger Mills Democrat will be content to stand.

Albion (Mich.) Mirror: That Philippine investigation turns out something disagreeable for the administration right along. Reputable witnesses

have testified that the half has not been told of inhuman cruelties inflicted upon the natives by men wearing the American uniform. Public sentiment against the republican Philippine policy is daily increasing, although the administration still refuses to see it.

Ramsey (Ill.) News-Journal: While the democracy in any section is trying to reunite every encouragement should be given their effort. But the attempt to reorganize by the adoption of a policy so nearly like the republican policy, that you can hardly distinguish the one from the other, is the merest bosh and buncombe, and a disgrace to the time-honored and never changing principles of a true democracy.

Springer (N. M.) Stockman: The democrats of the house last week gave a demonstration of what a determined minority can do by standing together for a common purpose. A little more of that sort of unity, purpose and resolution would go a long way toward correcting the obstructive rules of the present congress and in forcing the republicans to make some other needed reforms.

Sullivan (Ill.) Democrat: Both Indiana senators voted for the ship subsidy bill, while ninety per cent of the people of the state, regardless of party affiliation, oppose this measure, which takes money out of the pockets of tax payers to place it in the hands of special interests. Would these senators vote for a bill so unpopular, if they were elected directly by the people

Ozark (Ark.) Democrat: Senator Depew of New York assailed the election laws of the south, a few days ago, in the United States senate. The senator is under the impression that the negroes are badly treated in the south. Senator Depew is a corporation and trust attorney and is not so much in sympathy with the people of his own state, who are oppressed by monopolies and trusts.

Red Wing (Minn.) Argus: One reason particularly why the republicans fear to see a democratic house elected is that its first act would be to order an investigation of the Philippines with the object of disclosing the facts instead of glossing them. It would sit with open doors. It would summon witnesses to testify and not to apologize. The best the senate committee can do with all its ingenuity it cannot prevent some disgraceful facts from being known. A committee seeking for truth would be more embarrassing.

Steubenville (O.) Gazette: We do not assume that the Kansas City platform was perfect, nor do we worship it as a fetish, but it was democratic clear through, and that is more than any platform made by the "reorganizers" would be. After the experience of the democratic party with Grover Cleveland upon an ambiguous platform, it is the path of wisdom to hold fast to that which is good, so when the specious plea is made that "a platform is needed upon which every democrat can stand" real democrats will turn a deaf ear to the tempter, for it means that the people who brought the democratic party next door to destruction are busy at work again trying to inject their republican poison, and should they be successful it won't make a bit of difference which party carries the elections—the trusts and monopolists will be in control. While the democratic party can afford to be defeated as it was in 1896 and 1900, it cannot stand such another "victory" as that of 1892; nor could victory come on the 1892 plan after that experience, while there is a splendid chance if the party stands true to democratic principles.

Subscription Card. LOTS OF FIVE. No. This card, when properly filled out with subscriber's name and address, is good for one year's subscription to THE COMMONER. W. J. BRYAN, Editor and Proprietor. Name of Subscriber..... Postoffice..... County..... State..... Place this card in envelope, stamp and address to The Commoner, Lincoln, Neb. (The above is fac simile of Subscription Card and is not to be used.)

firmly by democratic principles the plans of the reorganizers who seek to republicanize the democratic party will come to naught. But there is grave danger that democrats who are devoted to principle will not become aroused in time to the insidious schemes of those who, having once betrayed the party in its time of need, now seek to again secure control of the organization and further their own selfish ends by making the democratic party so near like the republican party that a victory for the democratic ticket would be also a victory for the men who profit by the un-American and undemocratic policies now fastened upon the country. There can be no victory for democratic principles in allowing men who do not believe in those principles, or who betray those principles whenever opportunity affords, to secure control of the party machinery and dictate the party platforms.

The Commoner is striving to arouse loyal democrats to a realizing sense of the danger confronting the party organization. In the accomplishment of this work it needs the help of every loyal democrat. The Commoner is a medium through which democrats in all parts of the country may keep in touch with one another. But this

and will be valuable campaign literature to be placed in the hands of the voters. If democrats will assist in enlarging The Commoner's influence by enlarging its field, they will contribute to the great work of achieving the supremacy of democratic principles and assist in administering a rebuke to those who would make the party the mere tool of designing men.

A fac simile of the subscription cards is printed in the body of this article, and is self-explanatory.

If you are interested in the work The Commoner seeks to further, order a lot of five subscription cards at once and begin lending your assistance in the battle for the preservation of democratic principles.

Woodfield (O.) Spirit of Democracy: The subsidy scheme is the protective tariff theory carried to the last extremity. The protective tariff is a device by which certain favored industries are enabled to exact from the people exorbitant prices for their products—it empowers manufactures to rob the people. The subsidy scheme makes the government authorities do the robbing—it takes the people's money by taxation and dumps it into the pockets of the shipowners.