

Allen's Editorial and Bryan's Reply.

THE EDITORIAL.

A very careful study of the political situation satisfies us that the only really wise thing to be done by the fusionists is to nominate Hon. William J. Bryan for governor and redeem the state from republican misrule. Without the slightest disparagement of other gentlemen who have announced their willingness to make the race, all of whom are well qualified to discharge the duties of the office, The Mail is satisfied that wisdom and prudence demand that the democrats and populists unanimously tender the nomination to Mr. Bryan and insist on his acceptance.

Notwithstanding his defeat in 1907, he is by long odds the strongest man in the state. His personal magnetism exceeds that of any other gentleman who could be nominated, and his name would create greater enthusiasm and bring to the polls more democrats and populists than the name of any other candidate whom we have heard named.

The Mail sees no force in the argument that the republicans will flood the state with money to defeat Mr. Bryan. If they can defeat him with money they certainly can defeat a weaker candidate with a less sum of money, and they can defeat any candidate with a sufficient amount of money.

If Mr. Bryan should be elected he would carry the balance of the ticket to victory, and the young state of which we are all proud would be thoroughly redeemed. Mr. Bryan would then be placed in a position to defeat the attempts of the reorganizers of the democratic party to control the nomination for the presidency in 1904. If he should be defeated we would know that we had had a fair test of political strength and would understand "where we are at."

It is due to Mr. Bryan to say that we have had no communication whatever with him respecting the matter and do not know what view he will take of it; but we assume that as a patriotic citizen and a loyal son of the state he would not decline a nomination if it were unanimously tendered him.

The Mail begs to express the hope that democratic and populist papers will take a sober view of the situation and remember that however much we may wish to advance the interests of some particular and worthy personal and political friend, the political exigencies of the situation require the exercise of a high degree of wisdom and political foresight, and that in such circumstances personal preferences should be laid aside.—Madison Mail.

THE REPLY.

Hon. Wm. V. Allen, Madison, Neb.—My Dear Mr. Allen: I have just read the editorial which appeared in the last issue of your paper, The Madison Mail. While I have not thought it proper to take public notice of the suggestions that have occasionally been made in line with your editorial, your prominence in the populist party and your high standing among the democrats of Nebraska and the nation would seem to make some reply necessary, and I answer at once. I need not assure you that I appreciate the compliment which you pay me, as I do the friendship that you have shown toward me on former occasions. Neither need I repeat my expressions of gratitude to the democrats and populists of the state for the support they have given me. After twelve years of service, four of which were spent in congress and eight in the advocacy of those reforms for which democrats and populists have contended, I take it for granted that political friends are

convinced that my sole aim is to be useful in securing good government; but I am satisfied, and I believe you and other friends in the state will upon reflection agree with me, that I can best serve our people by continuing to discuss through the columns of my paper and upon the platform and stump, the principles which were enunciated at Chicago and reiterated and amplified at Kansas City.

Many can be found in the democratic and populist parties fully equipped for the discharge of the duties of governor—men who have and deserve to have the confidence of the reform forces to the fullest possible extent. Several have already been mentioned in the public press and others might be mentioned. The moral courage, fidelity to principle and willingness to sacrifice for the right shown by these men entitle them to the unanimous and enthusiastic support of all who are opposed to republican policies. The selection of one of these to head the state ticket and of others to complete the ticket, ought to be undertaken with a feeling of friendliness toward all the candidates, for as between them it is only a matter of personal preference, not a matter of great political importance.

It is not certain that I could poll more votes than any one of a dozen who might be named. Therefore, from the standpoint of votes, there is no necessity for my nomination and no good reason why I should give up what I believe to be a more important work for the task which you so generously suggest. I have no personal ambition to serve; there is no office to which I aspire. I am not only content to do the work which I am now doing, but I believe that in this way I can accomplish more for my state and for the United States, as well as for my political associates, than I could accomplish as a candidate for governor whether my candidacy resulted in defeat or in success.

My candidacy is not necessary to defeat the reorganizers. While I expect to do all that is within my power to aid those who are determined to prevent the Clevelandizing of the democratic party, yet the success of that effort does not depend upon me or upon any influence that I may be able to exert. It depends upon a multitude of earnest, honest and loyal democrats who, having seen the party once debauched by an abject surrender to plutocratic influences, will spare no pains to protect the party from another such humiliation and disgrace.

I may add that I am looking forward with pleasure to an opportunity to return some of the favors that have been bestowed upon me. In five campaigns I have received the constant and unwavering support of the democrats of Nebraska. In the campaigns of '92 and '94 I was supported by many populists, and in 1896 and 1900 received the votes of all of the fusion populists. I am now in a position to make return and I am not willing to intercept a reward which is due to these friends. I am not willing to deprive any one of them of the honor that attends a gubernatorial nomination or election.

For these reasons I am not and cannot be a candidate and I beg you to make no further mention of my name in connection with this office. On the contrary, I hope you will hold yourself in readiness to throw your great influence to such democrat or populist as may in the opinion of the delegates give the best promise of uniting the fusion forces of the state in a supreme effort to recover the state from republican hands. While a large number of those who acted with us in

1896 were of republican antecedents, there ought to be no fear of their permanent return to the republican ranks so long as the corporate domination of that party not only continues, but becomes constantly more aggravated. The republicans of Nebraska are weakened by both national and state issues, and an aggressive fight by the reform forces ought to result in a sweeping victory.

I shall be at the service of the joint committee, and shall devote such time to the campaign as they think necessary.

Again assuring you of my respect and good will, I am, very truly yours,
W. J. BRYAN.

Whether Common Or Not.

Ginger up.

Ginger up!

No use repinin';
Behind th' clouds the sun is shinin'.
Road may seem both long and dreary;

Days o' toil may make you weary;
Just look out for silver linin'—

Ginger up!

An' quit your whinin'.

Ginger up!

Don't look so tearful!
Costs no more for actin' cheerful.
Go to work with whistle ringin';
If you can't whistle, go t' singin'.
Life with sorrow isn't near full—

Ginger up!

An' don't be tearful.

Ginger up!

An' get a hustle.

You can win out if you rustle.
Grab a root an' keep a-holdin';
Stretch your arms instead o' foldin'.
Swear you'll give th' world a tussle—
Ginger up!
An' use your muscle.

Ginger up!
An' keep a tryin';
Waste o' time t' talk o' dyin'.
Be a man an' not a monkey;
Show you're full o' grit, an' spunky.
Quit your mournin' an' your sighin'—
Ginger up!
An' go a-flyin'!

Professional.

"Say, my good man, will—"
"Don't call me 'good man.' I am a professor."
"Ping pong, massage or tonsorial?"

A La Kitchener.

"Gee! That was a glorious victory I won."

"How's that?"

"The other fellow said 'enough' just as I was trying to say it myself."

A Philanthropist.

"You are charged with burglary. The complaining witness says you broke into his house and forcibly possessed yourself of all his money and valuables. What have you to say?"

"I admit all he charges, your honor, but the next morning after robbing him I spent the money for books and gave some of them to his children."

Courts are great on following precedent, therefore the judge felt impelled to discharge the prisoner and fine the complaining witness for contempt.

Preserve Democratic Principles

Are you preaching democratic doctrine? Are you pleading with your neighbor to give up his partisanship long enough to see what the present republican policy is leading to?

Trusts are controlling everything we eat, use and wear; there are strikes, lockouts and riots in all parts of the country; the American army is being used to subjugate a people who desire the privilege of governing themselves.

If the American people were aroused to the dangers confronting the republic, they would show their disapproval by refusing to elect any candidate for congress who is in sympathy with imperialism, trusts, ship subsidies, high tariffs and the Fowler bill.

These are the vital questions that the people must decide at the coming election. Are you willing to do your part towards placing in their hands a weekly paper, the aim of which is to apply democratic principles to all questions now before the people for settlement?

The "lots of five" plan by which we furnish five yearly subscriptions to The Commoner for \$3.00 (which is at the rate of 60c each) places the paper within the reach of all.

A great many persons have interested themselves in this plan.

Hundreds have ordered five subscription cards each, and have sold them to their acquaintances at cost, feeling repaid by extending The Commoner's circulation.

Others have bought five cards and presented a year's subscription to five of their friends.

A large number of persons are finding profitable employment by buying subscription cards five for three dollars and selling them at our regular subscription price of one dollar each.

It matters not what plan you adopt in securing your subscribers. Each lot of five cards adds that much to The Commoner's influence and places it in touch with five more families.

City, county and state conventions are now being held, and a great many

subscriptions could be secured at these conventions. Now is the time to make a united effort to distribute literature that will be instrumental in shaping democratic platforms and securing democratic victories.

Mr. John G. Willis, of Jefferson, Okla., has already secured sixty-five subscriptions through the "lots of five" offer. He has given the subscribers the benefit of the low price, and has given his own time to the benefit of the cause.

A gentleman in Buffalo, whose name we withhold, has sold fifty cards, and says he feels repaid by the promise he secured from each subscriber that they would read the first three pages of The Commoner each week.

Mr. M. P. Funk, of Rantoul, Ill., started out to secure five subscriptions before ordering his "lot of five" cards, and secured nineteen subscriptions while attending a sale.

Persons interested in increasing The Commoner's circulation and influence will find no trouble in selling a few "lots of five" subscription cards.

These cards are now ready for distribution.

Will you not assume the responsibility for disposing of at least one "lot of five."

If you are in doubt as to your ability to sell five subscriptions, secure your pledges first and then order your cards; or send in the names of five subscribers with three dollars, and we will fill out the cards for you and enroll your name on the list that we are making of those who are interested in our plan to preserve democratic principles.

Address all orders for cards to The Commoner, Lincoln, Neb.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup
Has been used for over SIXTY YEARS by MILLIONS of MOTHERS for their CHILDREN WHILE TEETHING, with PERFECT SUCCESS. IT SOOTHES the CHILD, SOFTENS the GUMS, ALLAYS all PAIN; CURES WIND COLIC, and is the best remedy for DIARRHOEA. Sold by Druggists in every part of the world. Be sure and ask for "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup," and take no other kind. Twenty-five cents a bottle. It is the Best of all.