

be remembered that the republicans in congress defeated a resolution for the appointment of an investigating committee. Why were the republicans unwilling that the investigation should be made by a committee composed of democrats as well as republicans? Why did the republicans insist that the investigation should be a one-sided, partisan republican investigation?

If a county official admitted that there was some corruption in his office but insisted that its investigation should be made by a committee composed entirely of members of his own party, it would be regarded as a confession that he did not want all of the facts made public. Why should we apply a different rule when a republican administration admits corruption in the departments but insists that only republicans shall know the inside facts? The republicans have no argument that will answer their own conduct in preventing a non-partisan investigation.

Judge Parker's election will give us a chance to look at the books and to ascertain the full extent of the corruption which became so flagrant that it could no longer be concealed.

Cleveland's Blighting Endorsement

Mr. Cleveland has endorsed the nomination of Judge Parker, but he has done it in such a way as to justify the judge in praying to be saved from such friends. Instead of rejoicing that Mr. Parker's election would rid the country of imperialism, reduce the army, quench the warlike spirit which the president has engendered and remove the race question from politics, Mr. Cleveland insults the loyal democrats by talking about a return to "sanity," and enlarges upon the judge's telegram. Mr. Cleveland seems more anxious to turn the campaign into a vindication of himself than to contribute toward Judge Parker's election.

Guessing Contests Illegal

The New York court of appeals has held the guessing contest illegal. In the case before the court the United States Tobacco Journal printed an advertisement for a firm which offered cash prizes for guesses on the amount of revenue taxes paid on various brands of cigars. The court held that the "dominating and controlling factor in the award was chance" and that it was therefore a violation of the anti-lottery law. It is to be hoped that the same logic will be applied to the demoralizing newspaper guessing contests which some of the large dailies are running. The Louisiana lottery in its worst days was a virtuous institution compared with these newspaper lotteries and it is astonishing that the postoffice department permits them to use the mails.

Judge Parker's Acceptance

The Commoner is gratified to be able to commend the speech (to be found on another page) made by Judge Parker on the occasion of his notification. He takes a strong position against imperialism—a position entirely in harmony with the party's position in the campaign of 1900. His utterances on this subject and on the kindred subject of militarism make this an important if not the most important issue in the campaign. With Judge Parker in the executive chair Philippine independence will soon be an accomplished fact and one of the evil results of republican rule removed. Judge Parker's condemnation of the president's disregard for constitutional limitation is strong and clear, and his analysis of the powers of the co-ordinate branches of the government sound and statesmanlike.

He uses the Colorado troubles as an illustration of the danger of lawlessness upon the part of the authorities. It is to be hoped that his formal letter of acceptance will cover other phases of the labor question—the eight-hour day, arbitration and government by injunction.

His treatment of the tariff question is not as satisfactory as it might be. He concedes too much when he says that it will be impossible to change the political complexion of the senate during the next four years. One-third of the senate goes out next spring and another third in two years and it is not at all impossible that he may have a democratic senate after 1906. If the senate is to be republican during his entire administration then the only change to be hoped for is a change of executive with only such legislative reform as a republican senate will consent to. On the trust question, too, his speech is general rather than specific. The failure of the

president to enforce the law is properly criticized but there is nothing in his speech calculated to make the trust issue a vital one in the campaign. The declaration of his purpose not to be a candidate again in case of his election will go far to convince the public of his purpose to discharge his duty with an eye single to his country's good as he understands that good. His desire to remove selfish considerations contrasts most favorably with the three years' effort of the present incumbent to secure a second term. The speech is sure to make the judge friends and will increase his growing chances of success.

Jeffersonian Principles

Jefferson not only announced great fundamental principles, but he applied them to so many different questions that he can be read as an authority on all questions of today. He was opposed to imperialism and believed in self-government; he was for a republic composed of equal and self-governing states and entirely opposed to the colonial idea.

He was opposed to a large army and believed that a government was stronger when resting upon the love of the people than when tolerated only because of fear.

He was so opposed to the principles of monopoly that he only excepted copyrights and patents. Here is the amendment which he suggested to the constitution: "Monopolies may be allowed to persons for their own productions in literature, and their own inventions in the arts, for a term not exceeding — years, but for no longer term, and for no other purpose." At another time he suggested fourteen years as the limit for patents.

His hostility to monopoly was exemplified in 1787 in a communication to John Jay, in which he said: "A company had silently and by unfair means obtained a monopoly for the making and selling of spermaceti candles (in France). As soon as we (Lafayette assisted him) discovered it, we solicited its suppression which is effected by a clause in the Arret."

He denounced as a fatal fallacy the doctrine that a national debt is a blessing.

He was the relentless enemy of banks of issue. At one time, he declared that banks of issue were more dangerous than standing armies. At another time he said: "I hope we shall crush in its birth the aristocracy of our monied corporations, which dare already to challenge our government to a trial of strength, and bid defiance to the laws of our country."

In 1819 he said: "Interdict forever to both the state and the national government the power of establishing any paper bank; for without this interdiction we shall have the same ebbs and flows of medium, and the same revolution of property to go through every twenty or thirty years."

He warned his countrymen against the dangers of an appointive judiciary holding office for life.

Of the freedom of speech he said: "The liberty of speaking and writing guards our other liberties."

Of the freedom of the press he wrote: "Our liberty depends on the freedom of the press, and that cannot be limited without being lost."

He was the author of the statute of Virginia guaranteeing religious liberty, and was also the father of the University of Virginia. He favored a free school system which would bring to every child an opportunity to secure an education.

He was an advocate of the jury system; and he argued in favor of freeing the slaves three-quarters of a century before Lincoln issued his emancipation proclamation.

His writings fill many volumes and cover almost every conceivable subject, but through all that he said there runs the evidence of a great heart as well as a great intellect.

There is need today of a revival of Jeffersonian principles. He was not an enemy of honestly acquired wealth, but he believed that the government had no right to exaggerate by favoritism the differences between individuals. He believed that all should stand equal before the law and that every department of government, executive, legislative and judicial, should recognize and protect the rights of the humblest citizen as carefully as it would the rights of the greatest and most influential.

Jefferson's principles, applied to the problems of the Twentieth century, would restore the republic to its old foundations and make it the supreme moral factor in the world's progress. The application of his principles today would restore industrial independence and annihilate trusts. The application of his principles today would drive the money changers out of the tem-

ple, insure to the people a stable currency and harmonize labor and capital by compelling justice to both.

Society today has its aristocratic and its democratic elements; whether Jefferson's principles are applied depends upon which element controls the government.

George W. Berge

If the people of Nebraska want an honest, able, industrious and courageous chief executive they have a chance to secure one. Hon. Geo. W. Berge, the fusion nominee, is admirably fitted to give the people a real reform administration. He is a scholarly man with taste for public affairs, incorruptible and a sincere advocate of the principles that underlie popular government. He ought to be elected by an overwhelming majority. Both on public occasions and in the routine work of his office he will, if elected, be a model after which future governors can pattern.

When the people are allowed to elect their postmasters the postoffice department will not be controlled by men more anxious to serve political interests than they are to serve the people.

A Great Work

The Commoner intends to do its part in the great educational campaign upon which the American people are about to enter.

The Commoner believes that the time has come when railroad ownership of the public should be abolished and public ownership of railroads substituted.

An income tax is necessary in order that the burden of taxation may be equitably distributed.

Federal judges should be elected by the people to serve for a limited period.

Postmasters should be elected by the people whom they are presumed to serve.

The principle of municipal ownership of public utilities should be established in every community.

A private monopoly is indefensible and intolerable.

United States senators should be elected by the people.

Upon these lines The Commoner will undertake to do its part in the effort to encourage those who already appreciate the importance of these proposed reforms and to inform those who may be ignorant upon the subject.

Those who agree with The Commoner on these lines may find in the special subscription offer an opportunity to help in this educational campaign. The increase in the circulation of The Commoner means the widening of its sphere of influence.

The attention of those who are willing to assist in this work is directed to The Commoner's special subscription offer.

According to the terms of this offer, cards, each good for one year's subscription to The Commoner will be furnished in lots of five, at the rate of \$3 per lot. This places the yearly subscription rate at 60 cents.

Anyone ordering the cards may sell them for \$1.00 each, thus earning a commission of \$2.00 on each lot sold, or he may sell them at the cost price and find compensation in the fact that he has contributed to the educational campaign.

These cards may be paid for when ordered, or they may be ordered and remittance made after they have been sold. A coupon is printed below for the convenience of those who desire to participate in this effort to increase The Commoner's circulation.

THE COMMONER'S SPECIAL OFFER	
Application for Subscription Cards	
5	Publisher Commoner; I am interested in increasing The Commoner's circulation, and desire you to send me a supply of subscription cards. I agree to use my utmost endeavor to sell the cards, and will remit for them at the rate of 60 cents each, when sold.
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Indicate the number of cards wanted by marking X opposite one of the numbers printed on end of this blank:	
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