

A SIMPLE METHOD OF GIVING VOTERS THE INITIATIVE

(Continued from page 5.)

closed primary pledge. I make it in good faith. I cast my first vote for Pierce, president of the United States, and have been voting the ticket ever since. No compromise with the enemies of our country. I am a Jefferson, Jackson and Bryan democrat.

E. N. Lweitzer, Marlboro, Ohio.—Enclosed please find my pledge to work for real democracy.

H. Clay Worth, Oberlin, Ohio.—No man should hesitate to join a movement that has for its end the promoting of better citizenship; still less ought he to hesitate in giving his hearty support to a national movement in the direction of clearing up politics of corruption, opening the eyes of all true democrats to the responsible position they hold with respect to the destiny of these our beloved states, and giving "back to the people" the only true source of government and power.

John W. Hill, Elva, Ky.—I will do all in my power to fulfill the primary pledge, and hope that all who sign it will be faithful.

W. P. Ownly, Whitewright, Texas.—I heartily endorse your plan. I hope every democrat will fall in line and send in his name.

H. H. Foard, Eunice, Mo.—Enclosed find primary pledge, signed. I heartily endorse the plan.

John A. Steele, Walden, Colo.—I am a democrat; I believe in equal rights, equal laws and equal justice. I believe in silver and gold as the money for the people, and in the unlimited coinage of both metals. I do not believe in a protective tariff—the tariff is the father of trusts. I am against trusts or combines of any kind whatever. I believe in laws that grant special privileges to none.

James R. Stafford, Pearsburg, Va.—It gives me pleasure to add my name to the list of those who are anxious for the proper organization of the democratic party. If all the people who are loyal to the principles of Thomas Jefferson attend the primaries, the mistakes of the party will be corrected in 1908.

Frank M. Griffin, Greenup, Ky.—Sometime ago I sent you my personal pledge. Today I send names of twenty others.

Ott Crownover, East Germantown, Ind.—Please enroll my name as one who will stand by democracy as advocated by The Commoner.

A. H. Ellis, Orlando, Okla.—I enclose a primary pledge, signed. It should not be necessary to sign this pledge and would not be if the democrats of the several states were as thoroughly imbued with Jefferson, Jackson and Bryan democracy as they should be. Now is the time for democracy to begin to fight the battle not only of democracy as advocated by The Commoner.

Wm. H. Hicks, Springfield, Mo.—Received one of your primary pledges several days ago. All the democrats I have spoken to are loyal to the cause you so ably and faithfully defend.

J. M. McLain, Thayer, Mo.—Your excellent plan for working up and enthusing the rank and file of democracy, meets my most hearty approbation. I therefore send, herein, two pledges, signed, one for myself and one for a neighbor. We mean to live up to them, too. If every true democrat will do this until 1908, victory will most certainly perch upon our banner in that contest. God bless The Commoner and its editor, who is doing so much for the American people.

A. J. Glenn, Macon, Mo.—Find pledge enclosed. I am a primary man. In 1896 our party spoke in every county, and made a platform to suit the party with a candidate to suit. This county (Macon) gave our ticket 999 majority over McKinley. In 1904 our friends in Wall street arranged for us—this county gave Roosevelt 176 over Parker. There is a lesson for democracy. All should sign the pledge, I think, and live it out.

W. H. Dupree, Island Grove, Fla.—Enclosed is pledge for towline, signed, to help the democratic party. Numbers count. I hope all democrats will sign the pledge and work faithfully in its organization, that ultimately the number will count as it should.

W. M. Hunter, Zanesville, Ohio.—Enclosed please find names of twenty "true blue democrats," who will do all they can at the primaries to secure a good ticket and to choose delegates who are democrats and not like the majority who were sent to St. Louis.

D. J. Kinsey, Republican City, Neb.—Enclosed find pledge which I have signed. I heartily endorse your plan.

C. R. Peters, Haskell, Texas.—Find enclosed the primary pledge, which I heartily endorse. I believe it will be the means of victory in 1908.

J. W. Fanchin, Moody, Texas.—I am glad to enclose herewith the primary pledge, duly signed.

Much good can be done if the rank and file of the democratic party will stand together at the polls. I heartily endorse this plan.

G. W. Cameron, county assessor of Fresno county, Calif.—I heartily endorse your plan of every democrat in the United States attending the primaries, for that is the place for us to do our work for good government and get our men on the ticket. I herewith send my primary pledge—I could not do otherwise, as I was born and raised under the shadow of Andrew Jackson.

J. B. Carver, attorney, Ossawatimie, Kan.—Please find enclosed my pledge to support democracy in its stand for better government and higher civic standard of purity in politics. I heartily endorse all that The Commoner labors to bring to pass along all lines of reform. I feel that the cause of the people is righteous.

F. J. Noetzel, La Crosse, Wis.—I am grateful for the opportunity offered to join the ranks in such a good cause, and hope that every democrat worthy of the name will do his full duty in this respect, and there will be no doubt as to the result in the great struggle of democracy vs. plutocracy.

Levi Moyer, Edinburg, Ind.—Enclosed find primary pledge filled out properly. I think your plan is practical and will result in good to the party.

D. Morrow, Harrah, Ct.—Enclosed please find the primary pledge, and I will say that I think this the best method of getting the results desired by the democrats four years hence that I know of. The great trouble with democrats in the west, they all stay at home until after nomination convention is over, and then say that they can not support the ticket.

J. A. Gardner, Nickerson, Neb.—Enclosed you will find pledge signed. I have lived in Nebraska over twenty-eight years, and never missed a primary and truly hope to live to attend many more.

A. C. Hanchett, Des Moines, Ia.—I enclose pledge signed, and will keep it. I have always been loyal to Thomas Jefferson democracy, and will do what I can to have others do likewise.

Henry B. Cowap, Oshkosh, Wis.—Herewith find the primary pledge which I have signed, and take great pleasure in sending you. My business, that of a commercial traveler, oftentimes prevents my attending party caucuses, but ever since one June day in 1893 when I first heard Mr. Bryan speak at a mass meeting in the house of representatives at Springfield, Ill., I have been so thoroughly convinced of the righteousness of the cause he is advocating that every day has been a "primary day" with me. After a succession of defeats, largely owing to the apathy of democracy's rank and file in caucus matters, it certainly begins to look as if our grand old party were about to score a victory for human rights. And nothing will accomplish this any quicker than for each individual member of the party to follow The Commoner's advice, and attend the primaries.

J. W. Fewel, Vasalia, Calif.—This is one from the 1900 banner Bryan county of California. May success be the result of your efforts.

C. M. Weaver, Commerce, Mo.—I have signed and send you herewith primary pledge. I want to be one of the "very elect" who will not bow to the god of gold nor worship at the shrine of corporate greed. May your faithful labors in the political field be blessed of God to the universal good of the American people.

R. H. Miller, Nebraska City.—I am pleased to send you the enclosed list, all of whom cheerfully signed and were glad to enlist in the noble cause of true democracy. Send me a half dozen of these sheets, and I shall take care to place them in the hands of proper persons to be filled out.

Oliver Bond, Chillicothe, Ohio.—I send enclosed the pledge signed. I think every loyal democrat ought to sign, and then see to it that he works for the upbuilding of the principles of a truly democratic government, run by the people and for the people.

Ole Halgesen, Washington, Calif.—Enclosed please find primary pledge which I cheerfully sign. I earnestly hope, and shall use my influence, to secure the adoption in future conventions of the principles which were adopted at the Chicago and Kansas City democratic national conventions.

John W. Mason, Peebles, Ohio.—Enclosed find "the primary pledge," properly signed. I hope to be near the enemy on the firing line in every campaign until this country is redeemed, regenerated and disenthralled from the thralldom of plutocracy. Democracy forever!

J. V. Seybold, Dell, N. Y.—Enclosed find primary pledge. If the democrats of the country will live up to the pledge, success is sure. There must be a change, or monarchy will be the reward we will have for carrying out republican policies.

E. C. Montgomery, Mt. Pleasant, Iowa.—Enclosed please find primary pledge. Am glad to help in this matter, and think the democrats are

on the right track. With me this will only be doing what I have been doing for years.

L. Boyce Harp, Godley, Texas.—Enclosed is the primary pledge, which I take pleasure in signing. Democrats, put your shoulders to the wheel! We are bound to win in 1908.

O. L. Bright, Harris, Colo.—Your primary pledge plan is a good one. Let the ball be started rolling among the rank and file of the democrats all over our great country, and keep it rolling until our next national delegates are selected.

J. M. Williams, Allen, Texas.—Please find enclosed my primary pledge. I am heartily in favor of your plan, and will attend all primaries and will get all I can to do the same.

G. W. Lane, Waynesville, Mo.—Enclosed find my primary pledge. I heartily endorse this method. We are preparing to give a democrat 75,000 majority for president in 1908.

Wm. Homer Greer, Cairo, W. Va.—Enclosed please find the primary pledge bearing my signature. I most heartily endorse your political ideas and policies, and shall be pleased to give them and the party of Jefferson, Jackson and Bryan my very best efforts. Your primary pledge plan is a positive promulgation of party principles, and if progressively pursued promises purer politics and a position of prominence and permanence for our party. Yes, your method is distinctively democratic, and The Commoner is sending forth fruit-bearing, sound, old-line democratic doctrine. A thorough organization and an aggressive campaign along true democratic lines as mapped out by The Commoner will result in much good for the party and her restoration to former greatness, honor and power in this nation will be the inevitable result. Let every democrat put his shoulder to the wheel. Grab hold of The Commoner towline and assist in bringing about this happy condition of party affairs in 1908.

J. S. Swan, editor The Bugle, Debeque, Colo.—Find herewith my primary pledge. Think the plan an excellent one, and shall do all I can to forward it. Am giving space for a few weeks to an outline of the plan, together with the blank pledge as published in your paper.

W. C. Crosby, St. Paul, Ind.—Find herewith primary pledge. I think the democrats of Indiana more than those of any other state should respond to the necessity of primary attendance, for we have only to roll up the curtain of time a few months to see the primaries that were controlled by the politicians rather than by the rank and file of the democratic party, and to see how the state and nation were not only affected but afflicted thereby.

O. Scott, Galena, Mo.—You will find enclosed my pledge, for I think that you are striking the keynote.

J. M. Fryar, editor The Mail, Kerkel, Texas.—Being a democrat of the Jefferson, Jackson and Bryan stripe, I approve your plan and enclose my primary pledge. I shall not only keep the pledge but work to have others sign it.

Edgar D. Sims, Glenville, W. Va.—Find herewith my pledge to assist in organizing the democratic party for the campaign of 1908.

Andrew Dean, Holly, W. Va.—I pledge myself to attend the primaries of the democratic party, and do all I can for its victory.

F. H. Kidd, Flatwood, W. Va.—I enclose primary pledge. The idea is an excellent one, and should be taken up and aided by every true democrat. If we would keep the party of Jefferson near the people and true to their interests, we must organize and we watchful. "Eternal vigilance is the price of victory."

C. B. Gunn, Decatur, Texas.—Find list of twenty pledges signed. It only took me a few minutes to get it full. Texas, I think, is truly the home of Bryan democracy.

C. Patterson, Howardsville, Va.—I enclose herewith the primary pledge, duly signed. When the democratic party calls I am always ready to answer. Success and organization go hand in hand.

M. T. McManus, Philadelphia.—Enclosed find my primary pledge. Those who do not attend the primary elections should not sulk when candidates are chosen whom they do not like. It is the duty of all democrats to help to choose good candidates, and when that is done to give them hearty support.

W. G. W. Geiger, Tipton, Ia.—Enter my name on the primary pledge roll. The whole trouble is that the loyal members of the party do not attend the primary meetings. They often leave the primary to an element that does not have the interests of the party at heart, or to a few dictators who simply seek notoriety; and so have misrepresentation instead of representation at the conventions.