

DEMOCRATIC EDITORS TAKE FIRM HOLD OF THE COMMONER'S TOWLINE

Many newspapers throughout the country are co-operating with The Commoner in the primary pledge plan. The Commoner's exchange list is very large and many newspaper references to this work have doubtless been overlooked. Newspaper editors are requested to direct their readers' attention to the primary pledge plan and they will confer a favor if they will mail under first-class postage a clipping of any editorial reference they may see fit to make.

Democratic editors are taking firm hold of The Commoner's towline, and there is reason to believe that democrats generally will in a short time be working with a long pull, a strong pull and a pull all together for the organization of the party by the rank and file.

The Mitchell, S. D., Gazette reproduces the primary pledge and calls upon its readers to co-operate.

The Vandalia, Mo., Mail presents the primary pledge and asks signatures.

The Kingstree, S. C., Mail reproduces Mr. Bryan's statement with respect to the organization plan.

The Carbon County Journal, published at Rawlins, Wyo., presents the primary pledge and urges its readers to co-operate in the work of organization.

The Cassville, Wis., Index announces its co-operation in the primary pledge plan.

The Fremont, Ohio, Daily Messenger reproduces the primary pledge and says: "The Messenger, knowing that state and national organization is impossible without concentrated effort and believing that Mr. Bryan has hit upon the right idea to bring about the desired end, herewith reproduces the pledge and all democrats are urged to sign and forward to The Commoner. This pledge does not bind the signer to any theory or candidate."

The Johnson County, Neb., Journal reproduces the primary pledge for the benefit of its readers.

The Butler County, Neb., Press presents the primary pledge and calls upon its readers to lend a hand in this work of organization.

The Crete, Neb., Democrat is lending its efforts in the work of organization along the lines of the primary pledge.

The Lake City, Colo., Phonograph urges its readers to aid in the organization of the party so that it may be of service to the people.

The Ozark, Mo., Democrat reproduces the primary pledge and says: "It is exactly what the Democrat has repeatedly urged upon all democratic voters—turn out to your township meetings and take part in all the proceedings, never miss a meeting, never neglect an opportunity to express your will by voice and vote. We gladly publish form of pledge and hope our readers will sign and send them to us and we will forward to Mr. Bryan."

The Sullivan, Ind., Democrat reproduces The Commoner's outline of the organization plan and urges its readers to co-operate.

The Farmington, Ia., Herald directs its readers' attention to the primary pledge plan and invites their co-operation.

The Grand Island, Neb., Democrat puts its shoulder to the wheel and aids in the work of organization.

The Florence, Tex., Vidette asks its readers to push the plan of organization.

The Aberdeen, S. D., Democrat endorses the primary pledge plan of organization.

The Graham Guardian, published at Safford, Ariz., reproduces the primary pledge.

The Joplin, Mo., Globe endorses the primary pledge plan, saying: "In all his recent speeches of a political character Mr. Bryan has emphasized the necessity of returning the democratic party to the control of the people. Mr. Bryan's paper, The Commoner, is conducting what may be called

a 'primary pledge' campaign. The primary pledge is a promise on the part of every democrat subscribing to it to participate in every party primary between now and the next presidential campaign, and by his vote and voice register the individual expression of the principles he wants his party to advocate. The response which The Commoner's canvass has elicited is very gratifying, showing conclusively that democrats are taking a lively interest in the campaign to be fought in 1908. That such an interest should exist at this early date is very significant. The Globe interprets it to mean that the rank and file of the party don't intend to witness another humiliating fiasco such as occurred at St. Louis last July."

THE DEMOCRATIC ROAD

An editorial, entitled "The Democratic Road," in the Denver Daily News follows:

"Mr. Bryan's plan for the 'reorganization' of the democratic party is based on the simple proposition that the party doesn't need a reorganization if democratic voters will merely take the trouble to interest themselves actively in its affairs. The majority of democrats, he believes, is firmly in favor of a progressive and aggressive policy instead of a policy catering to the friendship of those interests which are firmly tied up with the managers of the republican organization.

The political organization which is the representative of large financial interests can very well permit its conventions to be filled by persons appointed by those interests for that purpose, but the party which undertakes to be the party of the people must have a membership eternally vigilant, else the organization may drift away from its moorings and fall a prey to manipulators affiliated with the other side.

"The simplicity of the Bryan plan is shown by the pledge, which is being widely circulated and signed in the middle states and returned to Mr. Bryan at Lincoln.

"First of all, voters are to pledge themselves to take their proper part in the direction of their party, and in the second place they are to stand for clear and honest declarations of principle in the party platforms instead of planks which rest their ends on opposite views of important questions and are intended as mere bridges.

"What Mr. Bryan urges in regard to national politics might very well be adopted as a fixed rule of conduct in city and state as well. Indeed, if democrats expect to have a voice in the selection of those who speak for their party on national matters they must see to it that the machinery of the party by which such persons are chosen is not permitted to escape from their control.

"No election is pending in this city or state at present, and it is therefore an opportune time to urge, without relation to factions or differences, that Mr. Bryan's excellent advice be taken to heart and followed by every citizen who hopes for the triumph of true democratic principles. The way to win a great battle is to come out in the open and fight for victory in such a manner as to deserve and to win the confidence of the people.

"A policy of evasion and of carrying water on both shoulders does not win. A noteworthy example of this is seen in the recent suspension of the St. Paul Globe, a newspaper which has been professedly democratic, but which for thirty years has been the organ of J. J. Hill and the Great Northern railway. The public refused to support a journal which pretended to be one thing and secretly was another. What has proven true of the St. Paul Globe is true of parties and of men everywhere. The democracy never came so close to winning a great and significant victory as in 1896."

The Sheridan, Ark., Headlight reproduces the primary pledge and says: "The attention of our

readers is called to the primary pledge which appears on the front page of this issue of the Headlight. This is Mr. Bryan's plan for the organization of the democratic party, and should be read carefully by every democrat. Sign the pledge and hand in to this office or send direct to The Commoner, Lincoln, Neb."

The Monroe County News, published at Albia, Iowa, says: "It looks as if there is to be a united effort on the part of all democrats to get together and push the real, genuine democratic principles, as the same are becoming more and more popular and necessary."

The Plattsmouth, Neb., Journal invites its readers to sign the primary pledge and return the same to the Journal office.

The York, Neb., Democrat reproduces the primary pledge and asks its readers to take hold of the work.

The Des Moines, Ia., Democrat-Chronicle prints the primary pledge and says that the democratic party must keep close to the people.

The Ripley, W. Va., Mountaineer reproduces the primary pledge and says that it presents "a plan for the betterment of political conditions by arousing an interest among the rank and file of the party."

The Carroll, Ia., Times prints the primary pledge and asks its readers to co-operate in the good work.

The Frankfort American Standard presents to its readers the primary pledge and says: "Suppose the effort to control the democratic party should be made by the masses of the party and they should prove their ability to suppress the plutocratic tendencies of their organization. Could any one who is a democrat, regret it?"

The Lincoln Monitor, published at Hamlin, W. Va., prints the primary pledge and calls upon its readers to sign and return the same to the Monitor.

The Wichita, Kan., Beacon says: "The primary pledge plan has been taken up in all sections and everywhere democrats are giving it enthusiastic support. A compact organization is assured when the campaign opens."

The DeKalb County Herald, published at Maysville, Mo., directs the attention of its readers to the primary pledge plan.

The Bourbon, Ind., Advance reproduces the outline of the primary pledge plan and asks every democrat to sign and return the same to the Advance office.

The Missouri Telegraph, published at Fulton, Mo., is urging its readers to sign the primary pledge and co-operate in the work of organization.

The Utah County Democrat, published at Provo City, Utah, presents the primary plan to its readers and urges their co-operation.

The Hamilton, Ohio, Sun says: "Just as long as attention is paid to those who have been deprecating the democratic course ever since 1896 (except during the Parker comedy) and who are now bobbing up again with advice to those who have been carrying the banner during the last decade, just that long will the republicans have things their own way. Let's have a democratic democratic party."

The Glasgow, Ky., Times takes hold of the work of organization and presents to its readers the outline of the primary pledge plan.

The El Reno, Okla., Daily Globe reproduces the primary pledge and calls upon its readers to fall into line.

The Kendallville, Ind., News says: "The effort of democracy to 'get back to the people,' before the next national democratic convention is meeting with hearty commendation everywhere. Suppose in this state last fall the entire democracy had attended the primaries? Every one knows that a very different delegation would have been sent to the national convention."