

# The Commoner.

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Vol. 6. No. 44.

Lincoln, Nebraska, November 16, 1906.

Whole Number 304.

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Now Does He Know Which Way The Wind is Blowing?

### MISSOURI

We have heard from old Missouri and our heart is light and gay;  
 She is once more democratic clean from Pike to Nodaway,  
 And we hear the roosters crowing in a loud and lusty tone  
 While the echoes are resounding all the way from Polk to Stone.  
 We have heard from old Missouri and she's back again in line,  
 And our heart is filled with rapture and we're feeling mighty fine.  
 We have heard from old Missouri and we're feeling good today.  
 She has turned about in gladness from the error of her way.  
 She has shouted out the tidings that she'll never err again,  
 And we hear the echoes rolling all the way from Cass to Wayne.  
 We have heard from old Missouri; she's again within the ranks—  
 And our cup of joy brims over and our heart is full of thanks.  
 We have heard from old Missouri and the news was full of joy.  
 Still the old state's democratic—that's the truth without alloy.  
 Clear from Atchison to Butler and then back again to Ralls  
 Comes the word that she is ready when the voice of duty calls.  
 We have heard from old Missouri; she is standing staunch and true—  
 And the sun of hope is shining in a sky that's fair and blue.

### DO IT THOROUGHLY

The New York World says: "By an unexpectedly small plurality the people of New York have selected Mr. Hughes to do the work that Mr. Hearst was claiming to do, but there can be no question as to their demands that the work shall be done." If Mr. Hughes really begins the good work let us hope that he will make a better finish of it than he did of the insurance investigation.

## THE ELECTIONS OF 1906

The elections of 1906 indicate a trend in favor of the democratic party. The details will be found upon another page, but they prove that the democratic party is growing stronger as republican policies are developed. In New York the party has won a signal victory in spite of the tremendous efforts put forth in behalf of the administration. The republicans had all the money they wanted; they had the support of all the great corporations; and at the close they had whatever influence the administration could lend. The fact that the democrats elected every state officer excepting the governor shows that in the Empire state the republican party has been repudiated. The defeat of Mr. Hearst, the democratic and independent candidate for governor, while a great disappointment to his friends and to the party, is explained by facts which rob Mr. Hughes' victory of both glory and political significance. Mr. McCarren, whom Mr. Hearst denounced as a boss, threw his influence to Hughes and cut down Mr. Hearst's vote in Brooklyn. Mayor McClellan, the legality of whose election Mr. Hearst had denied, used his influence for Mr. Hughes and cut down the Hearst vote in New York. Mr. Jerome, the prosecuting attorney of New York, who had also been attacked by Mr. Hearst, supported the republican ticket, and his influence was felt in Greater New York. Mr. Croker, during the last days of the campaign, made an attack upon Mr. Hearst, which doubtless weakened the democratic candidate among the Tammanyites. Mr. Murphy, the head of Tammany, while supporting the ticket, could not put much enthusiasm into the campaign owing to the personal controversies which he had had with Mr. Hearst. It is evident, therefore, that

Mr. Hughes owes his victory not to republican votes but to democratic votes brought to him by the very men whom he and the republican leaders have been denouncing for years.

President Roosevelt can not find very much cause for rejoicing in the New York returns. To have his own state go democratic can not be gratifying to him, and to find that his personal attack upon Mr. Hearst had little influence on the result compared with the influence exerted by McCarren, Murphy and Croker will not gladden his Thanksgiving day. The president's personal attack on Mr. Hearst was in bad taste, to say the least, and the failure of that attack to favorably impress the public ought to be a warning for the future.

Mr. Hearst is, of course, disappointed, and yet, when all the facts are known, he has much to congratulate himself upon. He made a tremendous fight against great odds, and while he himself failed of election, his heroic struggle brought victory to the rest of the ticket. As the rest of the ticket stood for the same principles for which he contended, it is evident that he has been vindicated on the position taken and this must be more gratifying to him than any personal victory could be. His personal enemies have contributed to his defeat, but the triumph of his ideas still leaves him in a position to continue the fight for the protection of the public against the encroachments of predatory wealth.

If the trend toward democracy continues as strong for the next two years as it has been for the last two years, New York can be counted among the democratic states in 1908, and Mr. Hearst is in a position to do valiant work in se-