

# The Commoner Million Army

may have an interest to serve entirely distinct from the public interest. There are some papers whose support would damage a man rather than help him, because some of them are notoriously the representatives of the interests that are exploiting the public."

"Do you think that, under all the conditions, your party has a fighting chance in New York?"

"Yes, more than a fighting chance. While I think the party could win without New York, it is entirely within the range of probability that we shall carry New York. The situation is quite different from what it was in 1896 and 1900. The power of the great financial interests, of course, has been very much weakened. The investigations have disclosed the unholy alliance between the high financiers and the corrupt in politics, and no such campaign of intimidation can be carried on now as was carried on a few years ago. The three reasons which I have given for democratic hope apply to New York as they apply elsewhere. It must be remembered that all of the state officers of New York are democrats now, excepting the governor, and that the radical vote in New York City, as well as in the state of New York, is an increasing one. There is no reason whatever to concede New York to the republicans."

"How do you construe the Kentucky election?"

"It will not have any effect upon the presidential situation. We lost Kentucky last fall because about thirty thousand democrats stayed at home, and the election of a republican senator is apt to impress those who stayed at home and make them the first ones out at the polls next fall. While the election of Governor Bradley was due to a betrayal of their trust by four democrats, the action of these democrats can not excite anything but indignation among the democrats of the state."

"A charge was made in The Commoner that money has been used to control the selection and action of delegates. Is there anything more to say on that point?"

Mr. Bryan replied warmly: "Information came to me, and it is positive, direct and conclusive, that an effort is being made, or at least it was being made some three weeks ago; and I know the name of the man who had the money, and I know that those interested stated that they had all the money they needed. I can not say how widespread this effort is, but I thought it worth while to put the readers of The Commoner on their guard by giving them the information that had come to me."

"You have said that other men may have been mentioned for the democratic nomination. Are you willing to express an opinion with reference to their qualifications?"

"No, I do not care to discuss the qualifications of men mentioned for the democratic nomination or of men mentioned for the republican nomination."

"What do you think of Mr. Roosevelt as a candidate? Do you believe that he has a secret yearning to succeed himself?"

"No. In the first place, I do not see how a man could desire to hold that office for a third term. I believe that a single term is as long as a man ought to hold it, and I have assumed from the beginning that the president meant what he said the night of the election, and his recent utterance on the subject emphasizes this view. I can not understand why friends of his raise any question as to his sincerity; neither do I see how the question can arise. If Mr. Taft has a majority of the delegates the president would certainly not be a candidate against Mr. Taft, and an adverse majority is likely to be as much against the president as against Mr. Taft, so that the stampede to Mr. Roosevelt, which some imagine, looks to me like an impossibility."

"Your feeling, then, is one of optimism and of assurance of democratic success?"

"I have already given three reasons for hope, and I find that these reasons have made the democrats hopeful. Wherever I have been I have found our democrats ready for the fray. The conventions that have been held have been large and enthusiastic, unusually so, and our banquets have been better attended than ever before. Some of the most enthusiastic of our democrats this year are men who were not with us in 1896, while those who were with us then feel that this is the year when the defeat of twelve years ago is to be converted into a victory. Not only are democrats hopeful, but republicans are despondent, and one can get a great deal of encouragement from conversation with republicans."

Through The Commoner's million army plan it is hoped to circulate this publication in every precinct in every state in the union. To this end The Commoner will be sent to those who take advantage of this plan for 60 cents from now until after the November election.

Cut out, sign and return the certificate printed on this page for your own membership. Or if you do not care to mutilate your copy of The Commoner send in a request asking for a number of blank certificates and they will be forwarded to you, thus enabling you to give your acquaintances an opportunity to join in the work of building up the "army of a million plan" and enabling them also to secure The Commoner from now until November, 1908, for only sixty cents.

It is not possible to print in full the letters received at The Commoner office and relating to the Million Army plan, but extracts from some of them are given below:

Albert Bryan Lewis, Lenoir City, Tenn.—Enclosed find money order for \$1.80 for three subscriptions to The Commoner. Please send me a few certificates and I will try to secure others for your paper.

W. L. Snapp, Belleville, Kan.—Find enclosed 60 cents for subscription to The Commoner. Please send me six certificates and I will try to increase The Commoner army.

Alvin Koch, Liberty, Ill.—Enclosed find money order for \$1.80 for which please send The Commoner one year to the enclosed names on the membership certificates. Please send a few more certificates.

Robert L. Edwards, Dexter, Ore.—Please find enclosed three certificates for your million army. Please send me a dozen more certificates and I will help you all I can.

Wm. H. Petrie, M. D., Gray, N. Y.—Enclosed please find six membership certificates together with money order for \$3.60. I will have some more in a few days. Send me ten more certificates.

Edwin D. Smith, Ligonier, Ind.—Please find enclosed money order for 60 cents and one certificate for membership in The Commoner army. I am glad to say that things look very favorable for democratic success in Noble county. Please send me a few more certificates.

Sam Vincent, Hayton, Wis.—Find enclosed four membership certificates and \$2.40 to pay for same. Send me ten more certificates and I will place them.

Johnson Pence, Estancia, N. M.—Enclosed you will find money order for \$4.20 for which send The Commoner for one year to the following names. Please send me six more of your certificates and I will try to dispose of them.

A. C. Hensley, St. Joseph, Mo.—Please find enclosed money order for 60 cents for one subscription to The Commoner. If you will send me a few more certificates I will try to get some more subscribers.

Wm. Reedy, Yates Center, Kan.—You will please find enclosed herewith thirteen new names to add to the list of the million army for the campaign and new subscribers to The Commoner from now until after the campaign of 1908. Find money order for \$7.80 to pay for the same.

Please mail me twenty-five copies of your valuable paper and the same amount of certificates for new subscribers, as I believe I can get that many more by making a little effort.

F. D. Gallup, Franklin, Vt.—Enclosed find postoffice money order for \$1.20 for which please send The Commoner to the following named republicans. Please send me a few certificates and sample copies.

M. W. Mitchell, Weiser, City, Idaho.—Please find enclosed money order for \$2.40 for four subscribers to The Commoner. Last week I sent you fourteen names and I think I can soon send you more.

Charles Revoir, Bloomer, Wis.—Enclosed please find money order for \$2.40 for four subscriptions to The Commoner. Send me some more certificates.

Pete Brashears, Laddonia, Mo.—You will find enclosed money order for five subscriptions to The Commoner. Please send me more certificates.

J. S. Payne, Green City, Mo.—Please find enclosed money order for \$1.20, also two membership certificates. Please send me a few more membership certificates as I think I can use them to good advantage.

I. L. Carter, Yorkville, Ill.—Enclosed please find money order for \$3.60 for The Commoner to be sent to the following named members of the Yorkville club. If you will kindly send me twenty-five certificates I think I can make use of them.

Francis Ryan, Argyle, Wis.—Enclosed find money order for \$4.80 for eight subscriptions to The Commoner. Please send me ten subscription blanks and I will use them to promote the cause of true democracy.

N. M. Thompson, Alpina, S. D.—Please find enclosed \$1.80 for three subscriptions to The Commoner. Please send me a few more certificates.

Willa W. Viley, St. Louis, Mo.—Enclosed please find 60 cents to pay for one subscription to The Commoner. You may send me a few application blanks and a few copies of The Commoner. I wish to distribute some copies among my friends.

O. Scott, Galena, Mo.—I would like for you to send me one-half dozen certificates for your valuable paper as I want to get up a club here.

W. H. Petenon, Ellensburg, Wash.—Here-with find money order for \$1.80 for three subscriptions to The Commoner. Send me one dozen more membership certificates and I will see what I can do.

A. N. Whittington, Red Lodge, Mont.—Enclosed please find 60 cents for which please send The Commoner to the following address. Send me a few subscription blanks.

John L. Ferguson, Sweet Springs, Mo.—Enclosed please find \$1.20 for two subscriptions. Please send me some blanks so that I may hand them to my friends to increase the good work.

George O. Monday, Mt. Airy, N. C.—Enclosed I hand you money order for 60 cents for subscription to The Commoner. I will be glad to spend some effort in this cause if you will send me about twenty membership certificates, also some sample copies of The Commoner.

## Here is Your Opportunity to Help

*The Commoner will be sent from now until November, 1908, to every one who will sign and send Coupon accompanied by Sixty cents.*

ONE MILLION MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATE

### The Commoner Army for 1908

HEADQUARTERS LINCOLN, NEB.

**I hereby enlist in The Commoner Army and pledge my assistance in bringing success to Democratic arms.**

*Enclose 60c to cover the expense of sending The Commoner to my address until the close of the 1908 campaign.*

Name.....

Post-Office.....

State.....

NOTE.—Membership certificates will be countersigned with Mr. Bryan's printed signature and numbered in the order they are received at The Commoner office; and they will be returned at the close of the campaign to the members who signed them, if requested.

Countersigned