**OCTOBER 2, 1908** 

# The Commoner.

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Bryan's right-hand men in the demo- thorough-going and far-reaching concratic convention, and at Mr. Bryan's instance has been made treasurer of the great business combinations the democratic national committee. It is appalling to think what would have been the result in the educa- pered by the extremists, well meantional systems of the Philippines and ing or otherwise, who demanded vis-Porto Rico, in the digging of the lonary and impracticable radicalism Panama canal, in the work of irriga- as by those other extremists, no less tion and reforestration, in the administration of the postoffice, the interior and agricultural departments, in the appointments of foreign ministers, if this spirit which has actu- yourself, has shown itself to be just ated the democratic authorities in as much the enemy of progress as the the state of Oklahoma should be per- other. mitted to take control of the federal government at Washington. Governor Haskell, by actions which speak louder than words, has declared his disbelief in Grover Cleveland's motto, 'A public office is a public trust,' and Mr. Haskell is a to put a stop to the abuses of these representative leader in the Bryan corporations are wholly chimerical; democracy. What does Mr. Bryan how chimerical your last plan is you think of Mr. Cleveland's principle? What do the American people think ernor Hughes' speech at Youngsof Mr. Haskell's contemptuous reversal of it?'

#### No Investigation is Required

ing that you expect and will demand against the trusts) we find ourselves fair and honorable treatment from journeying in a land of dreams. those who are in charge of the re- Again the magician of 1896 waves publican campaign. I am not in his wand. At a stroke difficulties charge of the campaign, but am disappear and the complex problems greatly interested in it. I have told of modern business are forgotten in you above, fair and honorably, that the fascination of the simple panacea. Governor Haskell is a man who, on every count I have named, is unworthy of a position in our public trading corporation engaged in interlife. No further investigation of these facts is required. They are take out a federal license before it spread on the record before you and shall be permitted to control as much they were available before Mr. Haskell was chosen for his position for duct in which it deals, and no cortreasurer. You also say that you will not permit any responsible mem- trol 'more than fifty per cent of the ber of the republican organization to total amount of any such product. misrepresent the attitude of your party in the present campaign. You will have no difficulty in getting me to represent it aright, for my sole anxiety is that the people of this country shall understand this atti-

tude clearly and then condemn it as

would be ineffective in curing a to hopeless and utter confusion.

trol in the interest of the public over which do an interstate business. In this effort I have been as much hamdangerous, who stand for the reactionary refusal to remedy any grievance. One side, the side on which I am obliged to say you have placed

### Natural to Prefer Bryan

"I hold it entirely natural for any great law-defying corporation to wish to see you placed in the presidency rather than Mr. Taft. Your plans will yourself see if you read Govtown, Ohio. To recall to your mind what Governor Hughes said I quote as follows:

"'When we consider those (pro-"You close your telegram by say- posed) remedies (of Mr. Bryan The most important proposal of Mr. Bryan is that any manufacturing or state commerce shall be required to as twenty-five per cent of the proporation shall be permitted to conconsumed in the United States."

#### What Does It Mean?

"It might be interesting to inquire what is the meaning of 'any product consumed in the United States.' Does it refer to a class of tude clearly and then condemn it as it clearly should be condemned. "You say that you have advocated more radical measures against pri-vate monopolies than either I or my were a class of commodities, and if so, how shall the classes be defined? Or does it refer to each separate article of com-merce, and if so, what account does the classes of commodities are article of com-merce, and if so, what account does the classes of commodities are article of com-merce, and if so, what account does the classes of commodities are article of com-merce, and if so, what account does the classes of commodities are article of com-merce, and if so, what account does the classes of commodities are article of com-merce, and if so, what account does the classes of commodities are article of com-merce, and if so, what account does the classes of commodities are article of com-the classes of the classes are article of com-the classes of the classes are article of com-the classes of the classes are article of com-the party associates have been willing this approval take of the skill and to undertake. You have indeed ad- initiative of manufacturers who have vocated more measures that sound built up a more or less exclusively more radical, but they have the prime trade in particular articles often prodefect that in practice they would not | tected by trade marks, although in work. I should not, in this letter most active competition with other to you discuss your attitude on this articles designed for the same genquestion if you did not yourself bring eral purpose and seeking the same it up, but as you have brought it market? In a desire to correct the up I answer you that in my judg- evils of business are we to place all ment the measures you advocate embargo upon honest endeavor whose activities present none of the single evil, and so far as they had abuses requiring remedies, and if not any effect at all would merely throw what statutory definitions shall be the entire business of the country in- found too adequate and just by us if we lay down our prohibition in terms of volume or ratio of business and not in terms of right and wrong? "If we adopt Mr. Bryan's proposal, your words. I ask that Mr. Taft he to what period of production is the judged by all his deeds, for he prohibition to apply; is the excess wishes none of them forgotten. I for a day or for a month to be conask that you be judged both by the sidered, or is the production for a words you wish remembered and by year to be taken? and what system the words that seemingly you and shall be devised Ly ... hich suftable your party now desire to have for- information may be furnished in the nature of danger signals along the "I ask that your present plans for routes of trade so that the manufacregulating the trusts be judged in turer may know when he is about connection with your past utterances to exceed the "escribed ratio? He that you did not believe in their may justly be required to govern his regulation, but in their destruction, own conduct, but how shall he be and, then again in connection with apprised of the conduct of others, your past utterances to the effect upon which is to depend his guilt "Let us repeat that no law-defying tem of railroads would avail; and corporation has anything to fear again by your past utterances when from you save what it will suffer in you proposed to remedy all the suf- the general paralysis of business ferings of our people by a depreciat- which any attempt on your part to reduce to practice what you have ad-"For several years, now, I have vocated would bring. This paralysis been steadfastly fighting to secure would affect the wage worker, the



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