The Commoner.

A Heart to Heart Talk

Here's for a heart to heart talk to Commoner readers. The republican administration has admittedly failed to carry out its pledges of tariff revision downward. The cost of living is steadily advancing. The protected industry together with other trusts continue to mark up the price of their goods and the public is compelled to "stand and deliver."

The people know they have been betrayed. Mr. Roosevelt gave them Mr. Taft and Mr. Taft certifies that Senator Aldrich is a safe counsel-

lor for the people.

Some of the specific legislation which the present administration is reported to be planning to force through congress at the present session is a ship subsidy bill, and a federal incorporation law that will protect the big corporations from "undue interference" by the different states in which they do business. Neither of these propositions has a known supporter throughout the country except the special interests and the republican organization which probably pledged it in return for campaign "assistance" at the last national election. The entire middle west is a seething mass of opposition to all legislation already enacted or that is likely to be pushed by the present administration. Insurgent republicans and progressive democrats abound everywhere. At no time in recent years has the democracy had such an opportunity to elect a majority of congress and to do the public a real service as the present. Will the democrats arouse themselves and press forward to victory? We are receiving requests from members of the democratic organization from all parts of the country asking us to suggest plans and to supply literature to help crystalize public opinion around the standard of democracy. We are constantly being asked to suggest some plan whereby The Commoner can be circulated liberally throughout all close districts.

We believe the first step toward success in the congressional campaign that is now opening should be an assurance to the people that the democratic candidates for congress may be trusted to carry out the will of their constituents as set forth in their platforms. It should be the duty of every member of the democratic organization to see that a candidate who is not tinctured with corporation tendencies is selected in each district to contest for a seat in congress. Every democratic candidate for congress should make a specific statement of his position on all questions likely to come before congress. The Commoner will put forth every possible effort to elect a democratic congress. It has a circulation in every congressional district in the United States.

We want to publish the views of every democratic candidate for congress. No one should be permitted to secure a nomination who has "no views" or who is opposed to taking the public into his confidence.

Now is the time to organize for the coming contest. Every democrat in each voting precinct should pledge himself to attend the primaries or party caucus and be on hand at the proper time to see that no mistake is made, either intentional or unintentional, in the selection of delegates to city, county, legislative, congressional or state conventions.

If you believe The Commoner is trying to serve the public interests you can help by joining with The Commoner in placing progressive democratic literature in the hands of the people.

L. D. Masson, Hammondsport, N. Y.—Enclosed find 16 cents to pay for The Commoner up to date. Please discontinue my paper as I do not want a prohibition paper. Shall refuse

do not want a prohibition paper. Shall refuse to take same from postoffice in the future. (The

Will you help in this work?

Commoner is a democratic paper.) Melvin E. Rector, Anderson, Ind .- I send you herewith a list of nine subscribers. The Commoner is doing a grand work and should have as wide distribution as it is possible to give it. It is of the utmost importance to do as much educational work as possible between now and the congressional elections next fall for the "mills of the gods are still grinding," and it looks decidedly as if our triumph certainly were in the near future. What a grand opportunity we would have had for a clean-out fight next fall had it not been for traitors in the party; but Mr. Bryan has done the right thing in opposing their heresies and reading the guilty ones out of the party. I will do what I can in the future in the way of subscribers. Keep the good work going; let not defeat abate our efforts, and I feel confident in predicting the ultimate triumph of our cause. I wish you and the cause you serve the best of success.

I. B. Carolus, Sterling, Ill.—I send you five subscriptions, including my own, as per your

offer.

William M. Rankin, Calif.—I herewith hand you list of subscribers for The Commoner containing five names, all of this city, with postoffice money order for \$3. (This club makes nineteen annual subscriptions sent to The Commoner by Mr. Rankin within the past few weeks.)

Seymour Hubbs, Hammondsport, N. Y.—Enclosed please find 16 cents in postage for The Commoner. For three times I voted for Mr. Bryan on account of my belief in his brand of politics, but now that that field does not seem large enough and he has to add prohibition in order to keep him busy I am through.

Subscriptions have been sent to The Com-

moner as follows: T. C. Martin, Wash., 5; R. O. Thomas, Sr., Texas, 5; J. J. Dickerson, O., 4; A. H. Sumner, Ia., 6; T. H. Maphis, Wash., 5; Frank R. Star, Cal., 4; T. V. Reed, Wash., 2; Jas. A. Clark, Ind., 4; W. W. Palmer, Kan., 4; D. W. Miller, Neb., 5; Chris Baker, O., 4; J. B. Freeman, Cal., 3; Harry Sanders, W. Va., 3; J. M. Maunger, Texas, 5; Dr. B. T. Radcliffe, Ind., 4; Jno. McNally, Pa., 8; Jno. McNomara, Ill., 5; Jno. C. Doyle, Pa., 4; Fred Walliker, Ill., 6; David McCauley, Kan., 5; F. C. Grant, Neb., 5; J. H. Martin, Wis., 8; G. W. Huntington, Ia., 6; J. L. Williams, Ia., 5; Samuel Strutt, O., 6; Geo. Boyd, O., 5; R. D. Jarboe, Wash., 5; W. J. Knight, Kan., 6; W. O. Thorniley, O., 9; Chas. Reitz, Kan., 2; S. E. Wilkerson, Texas, 4; Fred Stoffel, Wis., 5; David Lehmann, Kan., 5; H. B. Chilton, Mo., 6; W. T. Baird, Mo., 5; D. J. Smith, Neb., 5; E. D. Tull, Ill., 7; Emery L. Bennett, Kan., 5; Chas. P. Douglas, Mich., 5; C. H. Coldren, O., 6; O. J. Cord, Ind., 5; Dan Jones, Kan., 5; T. B. Breen, Md., 2; E. R. Dempsey, Okla., 3; Sam Eldodt, N. M., 5; A. F. Wilson, Ia., 3; Geo. W. Weeks, O., 6; Andres P. Leech, Col., 4; R. W. Johnson, Cal., 2; J. D. Vance, Okla., 4; M. W. Wygabroad, Ill., 2; B. B. Sharp, M. C., Ill., 8; Jno. P. Schumacher, Wis., 3; H. T. Martin, Ia., 4; P. L. Messer, Md., 2; Dr. W. E. Richardson, Minn., 1; J. G. Kulzer, Wash., 5; J. D. Julian, Mo., 7; Guy Hollingsworth, Ill., 6; O. L. Farrand, Ia., 5; Ike Weinstein, Tenn., 5; W. S. Sires, W. Va., 5; Ellsworth S. Ball, Neb., 5; J. W. Kirby, Mo., 5; W. C. Brooks, S. D., 5; S. F. Cuyler, Col., 5; P. L. Swartz, Mo., 2; Wm. Tulley, Wis., 2; Albert F. Droll, Kan., 4; H. W. Christopher, Col., 11; A. Jammey, W. Va., 3; W. A. Griffith, W. Va., 9; J. A. Erikson, Minn., 5; Thomas Close, Ohio, 6; Howard Simms, Neb., 2; H. Allen, Ill., 4; R. W. York, Mo., 3; R. J. Fossbender, Wis., 3; H. N. Snell, Ia., 2; H. C. White, S. D., 2; Geo. Rennert, O., 5; Everett Sutherland, Kan., 5; R. D. Mobley, Mo., 2; Noah Brunner, O., 7; W. H. Milligan, Ill., 2; Walter S. Brown, O., 2; John O'Halloran, Ill., 9; A. B. Brady, Okla., 6; Rev. E. G. Widman, N. Y., 5; A. I. Lafever, Cal., 13; O. C. Stewart, O., 6; G. B. Loeffler, Ill., 5; J. D. Loomis, O., 6; B. Hartloub, O., 8; John Bratsing, Pa., 5; P. J. Fetty, W. Va., 7; C. H. Davis, Mo., 5; H. F. Pitts, Penn., 5; M. Parsons, W. Va., 5; T. E. Greenlee, W. Va., 2; W. W. Sanders, Wis., 2; D. C. Moltzan, Wis., 5; E. W. Woodward, Mo., 5; O. G. Smith, Ia., 3; J. F. Shuman, W. Va., 3; Mrs. W. Peters, Ia., 6; R. H. Beauchamp, Cal., 2; P. Prentiss, O., 3; J. R. Johnston, Ky., 2; W. I. Boreman, W. Va., 2; A. Q. Bates, Cal., 5; W. C. Heyman, O., 3; Geo. Bainier, Mo., 2; Wm. C. Hafky, Ia., 5; James Andrews, Kan., 4; D. Robertson, Cal., 8; J. D. Sweet, Cal., 3; J. A. Cruickshank, Neb., 5; S. S. Chase, Cal., 5; T. J. Rhoads, Wash., 5; G. H. Woodhull, Kan., 4; J. H. Hopper, O., 5; John F. Stone, Pa., 5; W. A. Heylman, Ore., 5; H. A. Edwards, Neb., 3; John Oakley, Pa., 5; Jas. McGrath, Cal., 2; G. T. Stone, Okla., 2; Jno. A. Dagger, Ind., 5; R. McGillinay, Wis., 6; F. O. Woolery, Ky., 2; Richard H. Greenwood, Ind., 6; F. M. Ross, Okla., 6; O. P. Bevington, O., 6; T. W. Huston, Mo., 7; M. J. Holden, W. Va., 5; A. C. Snively, Pa., 5; W. W. Kessler, Mo., 5; Fred Ritterer, O., 4; R. C. Rumbaugh, O., 6; Hugh Morrow, Pa., 5; Ulysses Adams, Mo., 6; C. R. Gardner, O., 7; Frank Austin, O., 2; J. E. Wilman, Ark., 3; W. E. Bloom, Pa., 2; W. H. Hopper, Ark., 6; L. A. Sears, O., 4; Jno. Gardiner, Wis., 6; Lewis Hutchion, Ind., 6; J. L. Truitt, Cal., 3; Wm. Driskill, Ore., 3; V. J. Ancian, Ia., 5; E. J. Claussen, Ia., 3; W. R. Freeland, Kan., 7; J. W. Walker, W. Va., 10; R. L. Brown, Kan., 5; Albert Gerner, N. M., 3; Fred Meyer, Cal., 5; J. W. Turner, W. Va., 5; Jno C. Altman, Pa., 11.

these industries to get foreign supplies, but they would be reduced to making their purchases entirely from the trust, which employs only about 100 persons to the thousands employed in the various industries mentioned. To offset this raid it required the vigorous protests of dozens of manufacturers, users of the rattan and reeds, who showed that notwithstanding the pitiful appeals of the rattan combination an understanding existed among manufacturers to hold up the prices of chair cane, so that it yields a profit of about 100 per cent. The tariff remains at 15 per cent.

Years ago molasses was a common article upon the tables of the poor and even of the wellto-do. Very little of it is seen there any more. The sugar trust is responsible for this. It so fixed the schedule as to make unprofitable the importation of molasses of such a test boiling as would render it fit for the table. Another reason lies in the fact that sugar production methods have been so improved that every bit of sugar possible is extracted, and the resultant molasses is of a grade generally fit only for horse and cattle feeding, for use in vinegar and yeast making and in the iron casting and electrical business. The United States does not produce enough molasses to meet this demand and about 25,000,000 gallons are imported. The tax on this has been six cents per gallon for the table grade, and from half a cent to three cents on the other grades used for feeding and industrial purposes. It as unchanged in the Payne-Aldrich bill. C. Q. D.

PROPORTIONATE

Uncle George Perkins, the fine young editor of the Sioux City, Iowa, Journal says: "If the public can be brought to look at the facts instead of listening to loud voiced exhortations to get out and swat bogies, the Taft administration will eventually find popularity proportionate to its merit."

But the Taft administration is already finding "popularity proportionate to its merit;" and if one were disposed to say mean things it might be added that that is why this administration is one of the most unpopular in American history.

SENTIMENT IN POLITICS

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My son, it is all right to be sentimental about your mother, or your best girl, or your home, but never be sentimental about your political party.

Brown, Jones and Smith were sentimentalists in politics. For sentimental reasons they voted the regular ticket of a glorious old party that has kept the United States on her feet for fifty years, when she has not been on her knees.

Aided by the votes of Jones, Brown and Smith, the party machine put men in municipal office who were extravagant and neglectful.

Taxes were therefore high.

Accordingly high were the rents that Jones, Brown and Smith had to pay. The party machine sent men to the state capital and Washington to do the

state capital and Washington to do the bidding of the trusts, the railroads and Wall Street, who were the owners and proprietors of the party machine.

Living was therefore almost costly

Living was therefore almost costly enough to be regarded as a luxury, and Jones, Brown and Smith felt large callous spots growing on their necks from the pressure of the yoke.

That was years ago, and the callous spots are thicker today than ever before.

Today Jones has it in for the trusts

something fierce.

Brown would rather denounce the railroads than eat.

Smith declares that Wall Street is a vampire.

Next fall Jones, Brown and Smith will go to the polls and vote the regular ticket as usual. Loyalty is a noble quality, my son;

but loyalty to a party that is disloyal to you is sentimental tommyrot.—Newark Evening News.

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All new and renewal subscribers to The Commoner during the month of May will receive a year's subscription to the national farm paper, the American Homestead, without additional charge. Give your friends an opportunity to join you in accepting this offer.