

father of the present kaiser, was called to preside, has a constitution which confers manhood suffrage in the election of the lower and greater branch of its parliament, and at his accession, William took an oath to observe its limitations. Nobody will wonder at the surprise with which the leading German newspapers received the kaiser's outburst. It is an echo in 1910 of a voice of 1710 or 1610. 'Why,' asks the Tagelich Rundschau, 'should the emperor choose this moment to emphasize his ruling by God's grace, and his own right, when it will nourish anti-monarchical agitation, and good monarchists be thrown into tragic disruption?' On this side of the Atlantic, where the kaiser has many admirers, his words will hardly carry the portentous import which Europe will be inclined to give them. The German press undoubtedly takes them seriously. If they carry the menace which these near at hand believe that they bear, they are a challenge to democracy which will be promptly accepted in his country. What answer will the socialists, the radicals, and the national liberals make to this challenge when, early in November, the reichstag assembles?"

IN A NEWSPAPER interview Gifford Pinchot says: "When Mr. Roosevelt's administration came to an end the progressive campaign was in full swing. But no sooner had the African jungles closed upon the ex-president than a wholesale desertion of republican leaders from the progressive ranks took place. The forces of feudalism rejoiced openly, returned to the attack and carried the war triumphantly into the people's country. Mr. Roosevelt has returned from the jungle. He finds that during his absence, in spite of the regulars of the republican party, the doctrines that he preached a year ago have germinated with astonishing rapidity and power. Mr. Roosevelt finds that, following his initiative, the people have thrown down the gauntlet to the special interests. He finds, in short, that a large part of the country is involved in a state of political and moral warfare, with the people and the insurgents lined up on one side and the special interests and their regular supporters on the other. Politically the situation is clean-cut and obvious: The very life of the republican party depends upon the outcome of the conflict. If the insurgents do not become the recognized dominant element of the republican party; if the word 'republican' is not disassociated in the public mind from machine politics and corporate control of government; if the party is not freed from its false regular leadership and, above all, from its false reactionary doctrines, its fate at the hands of the young men of America will be the fate of Ananias when he refused to abandon his lie, 'and the young men arose, wound him up and carried him and buried him.'"

SENATOR LAFOLLETTE, writing in his magazine, says: "A Beverly dispatch says that President Taft is working on his letter for the republican campaign handbook. It is stated that the President's letter will not be controversial and that there is no desire on his part or on the part of anyone closely identified with the administration to read any person out of the party." This dispatch furnishes the further information that 'as to state figures, there is every reason to believe Mr. Taft will re-state what he has said here many times of late—that he does not believe it to be the province of the chief executive to interfere in state fights.' What has happened since the President left Washington for Beverly? At that time senators and representatives were denounced as 'pirates' at the White House because they had voted against the tariff revision upward and refused to swallow a bad railway bill on the recommendation of the president that it was good. It is scarcely four months since Mr. Taft dispatched Wickersham to Chicago to deliver a speech reading the progressives out of the party. That speech was submitted to and approved by Mr. Taft. Not later than June, James Schoolcraft Sherman, vice president by grace of Cannon, who jammed his nomination through the Chicago convention, left his place as presiding officer of the senate and journeyed to Milwaukee to address a tory assemblage convened for the sole purpose of perfecting an organization to defeat the progressive Wisconsin senator and representatives. Those in attendance upon this meeting appointed a committee which is now engaged in placing the funds—with which it is abundantly supplied—to defeat all progressive republicans in the state. Vice President Sherman well understood the purpose of the meeting which he addressed and the object of the

organization thereafter perfected. He stated that he was there 'at President Taft's request.' Mr. Taft's interest was still further shown by his sending a telegram of congratulation which was read at the meeting by its presiding officer. We have not complained that the president and the vice president are taking part in the campaign in Wisconsin against progressive republicans. We have made no protest against the hothouse politics played by the administration with the federal patronage since the vote on the tariff bill. LaFollette's magazine does protest against the dishonesty and cowardice back of such dispatches as the one above quoted from Beverly. Let the truth be plainly stated. Let the president stand out in the open. The administration has presumed to read republicans out of the party for voting their honest convictions on legislation. The president is directly taking part in state fights involving the election of republican senators and congressmen. These are facts."

SOMETHING IS going on in the United States treasury department. An Associated Press dispatch under date of Washington, September 2, says: "Coinage of gold in the United States will be suspended for an indefinite period, if plans now forming in the treasury department are adopted. The idea is to issue gold certificates for all gold bullion and foreign gold turned into the mints, instead of coining them into eagles and double eagles. It is understood that Treasurer McClung, in his annual report, will endorse the plan, which was originated by A. Platt Andrew, now assistant secretary of the treasury, when he was director of the mint. Two reasons for such a step are pointed out. The first is to save from \$300,000 to \$500,000 a year in mint expenses. The second is to stop coining gold at the expense of the United States for convenience of foreign markets which use it for the settlement of commercial balances. The rate at which American coined gold is exported is well illustrated by the situation which now confronts the treasury. In spite of the fact that more than \$11,000,000 in gold was coined during August, the mint at Denver will be started up next week to turn out gold coins at the rate of \$400,000 a day, the Philadelphia mint will start coining gold in October and the San Francisco mint is now making eagles at the rate of \$500,000 a day."

NEW YORKERS are making it as unpleasant as possible for Mr. Roosevelt. While the former president was in Omaha the Associated Press carried the following dispatch: "William Barnes, Jr., republican state committeeman and leader of Albany, issued a statement in which

he declares that hysteria has run riot throughout the country, and the question to be decided at the coming republican state convention is 'whether the republican party will fight the disease or succumb to the interests of politicians seeking office or temporary acclaim.' The character of the recent addresses of Theodore Roosevelt in the west, Mr. Barnes says, 'has startled all thoughtful men and impressed them with the frightful danger which lies in his political ascendancy.' When he talked with Colonel Roosevelt after the meeting that selected Vice President Sherman as temporary chairman of the convention, and learned his attitude toward 'public matters' Mr. Barnes says he told the former president that he never could have voted for him. Mr. Barnes' statement in part says: 'Hysteria has run riot throughout this country, expressing itself in one form or another, such as direct nominations, the initiative and referendum, the initiative and recall—it matters little what particular form the hysteria takes—the question to be decided at Saratoga is, whether the republican party will fight the disease or succumb in the interests of politicians seeking office or temporary acclaim. The recent attack upon the supreme court of the United States by a keen-witted and aspiring citizen could not have been made without a purpose well thought out. It was an appeal to passion. If this appeal against the judiciary is popular and is not rebuked there is no reason whatsoever, if a direct primary law should be enacted in this state, that candidates for judicial offices, compelled to run the gauntlet of a district or statewide primary, would not, in order to appeal to the temporary sentiments of the moment, declare in advance their attitude upon matters which would come before them for judicial review.'"

Let's see, is this Sherman who is not the proper person to preside over a New York republican convention the same Sherman who was recommended by the ex-president as the proper man to preside over the United States senate? What has he done since 1908 out of harmony with his previous record?

NO BREWERS THERE

Democrats, republicans and prohibitionists—all have endorsed the initiative and referendum in Kansas and they have no bunch of brewers in that state to oppose it either.

The American Homestead, a monthly farm journal of national scope, will be sent to all Commoner subscribers, without additional cost, who renew their subscriptions during the month of September. Take advantage of this offer at once, and send in your renewal.

The Commoner's Million Army

In the campaign of 1908 The Commoner's Million Army rendered distinguished service to the cause of democracy and it may well be believed that a similar organization will even be able to do better work in the year of 1910 now that men who were heretofore indifferent are aroused to the importance of action. If half of the readers of The Commoner would take active interest in the organization of this Million Army plan, the results would be immediately noticeable and the contribution to the

welfare of popular government would be enormous. Many individuals are willing to help in a patriotic movement but find it difficult to know just what to do to make their efforts count. In a struggle such as the one we are now engaging in, the efforts of every man, woman and child on the side of popular government will count and in The Commoner's Million Army a practical plan is presented whereby the efforts of many individuals may be aggregated and used with telling effect.

APPLICATION BLANK

The Commoner's Million Army

I hereby enlist in The Commoner's Million Army, and pledge my assistance to secure the nomination of only worthy and incorruptible men as democratic candidates; that I will attend democratic primaries and nominating conventions, and assist in promoting the great democratic campaign of education by devoting a reasonable share of my time to the distribution of literature. I will recommend worthy persons for membership in The Commoner's Million Army, and in any way I can assist to increase the usefulness of this organization.

Signed.....

Address.....

With the understanding that Mr. Bryan agrees to accept annual subscriptions to The Commoner from members of this Army at a net rate of 65 cents each, and that each subscription to The Commoner shall include a subscription to The American Homestead (a strong home and farm paper)—thus leaving The Commoner free to devote its undivided efforts to political matters and current events—I enclose herewith 65 cents for one annual subscription to The Commoner (including The American Homestead). If you are already a subscriber to The Commoner and do not care to extend your expiration date at this time, the last paragraph above may be disregarded.

Recommendation for Membership

The signer of this enlistment blank is personally known to me, and is in every way worthy of membership in The Commoner's Million Army.

Signed.....

Address.....