SEPTEMBER 16, 1910

# The Commoner.



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D. L. Thompson, Tacoma, Wash .-- | the brave man who andertook to It is their own fault that they do not purify San Francisco politics. The rule. They possess the power. The majority elected Taft to office, and majority, however, support the "rob- | it gets just what it wants. ber tariff" and have deliberately kept the republican party in control the se many years. The majority Eternal vigilance is the price of libturned down that great democrat, erty. We have lost our rights as Tom L. Johnson, protected the graft- freemen through lack of vigilance.

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John James, Winterset, Iowa .ers of San Francisco, and threw down Get busy and win it back in 1912.

> J. H. Redington, Redington, Ariz. -Because they are subject to so many restrictions and checks. There are only two parties to choose from, and both are open to graft, from a petty justice of the peace to a United States senator.

C. B. Coe, Wyandot, Okla.-Because the federal courts of this counmestead \$1.25 1.75 1.85 1.75 1.25 try have deprived the people of legislation that was enacted for the benefit of the common people. Review the actions of the federal courts for 1.65 the last twenty years and see what they have done. Note particularly the decisions on two-cent fare and guaranteed banks.

> Robert M. McKee, Greenville, Tenn .- Senator Owen's inquiry, with its point blank pertinence, pierces deeply into general public conditions. A comprehensive answer, briefly stated, would run something like the sententiousness of the question itself, viz., The people don't dutifully see to the running of the machine.

William C. Findley, Butler, Penn. -Because they listen to the siren songs of officeholders and politicians. If the people did their own thinking they could easily discriminate; and having done so, they would vote for their own interests. 1.70

Jesse T. Brillhart, Omaha, Neb .--The people do not rule since we have had a packed supreme court and an American house of lords (senate)

as history records, was framed as a the public grafter as a more dangercompromise with the aristocrats who ous enemy to public safety than any were loyal to the British crown and other class of criminals. who strongly objected to the people ruling themselves. So they provided for the American house of lords, The very fact that the people do not elected in Wall Street and ratified by get what they want is proof sufficient the different state legislatures. The that they do not rule. The imporonly way they can rule is by abolish- tant thing is to find some way whereing the United States senate and by the people may rule. In the first electing the president and the fed- place they must be in complete coneral judges by direct vote, together trol of their government, and to acwith the adoption of the initiative complish this we must elect United and referendum and recall and the States senators by direct vote, also abolition of the present despotic mil- federal judges and postmasters. We itary laws.

Frank Carroll, Creighton, Neb .---They do not rule for the same reason that made P. T. Barnum say that the Americans, more than any other people on earth, love to be humbugged.

Arthur Callaghan, Northwestern, Calif .- Because a large number of hands is to be continued. The peovoters take very little interest in ple's government has drifted away their government.

reason the people do not get what they want is on account of the greed, history of our country when the need graft and trusts.

Ralph Rogers, Veronia, Ore .- One word answers the question. It is ignorance.

lies in an aroused public conscience-

pretation of the constitution which, the conscience which shall look upon

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J. W. Whitney, Malvern, Kan .--must have the initiative and referendum and the right of recall; then in my opinion the people will get what they want.

Virgil L. Penland, Orange, Calif. -They do not rule and never will rule if the tendency to concentrate the wealth of this country into a few from them more rapidly during the last twelve years than at any other Joe Buie, Hillsboro, Texas .- The time in the history of this country. There has never been a period in the of a true Jeffersonian party was greater than it is today.

Jules LaForest, Thibodaux, La.-As a matter of fact the people do not rule, and they do not rule because Russell F. Collins, Spokane, Wash. this is a purely representative gov-Because the special interests have ernment and population has involunteered to bear the expense of creased to a point where the natelections and the people have con- ural law of self-preservation makes sented. The people's money alone it impossible for representatives to should defray the expenses of nom- be honest. As conditions now are inations and elections. The remedy the people themselves have no power to enact any law, nor under any cir-



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and they never will until we elect the supreme court judges, the presi-2.10 dent and the senate by direct vote of the people and make our national 1.60 law-makers more responsive to need-1.75 ed reforms. 1.25

J. Granville Heaps, Streat, Md.-The people do not rule because they do not want to rule; or we might say, because it is impossible for a master to be less learned than his servants and still remain the master. We have a majority of dollared voters, i. e., men who do not vote for principle but who are influenced by someone who has selfish motives.

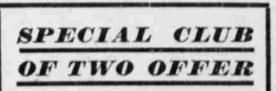
Levi Cochran, Effie, Minn.-Because the trusts rule, and until the people change their way of voting, they never will rule.

L. L. Kantz, Fayetteville, Ark .--1.60 The people don't get what they want. First, because the powerful interests of the country are controlled by the men who do not believe in democracy at all, and they could never be brought to trust the plain people, of whom this nation is mostly composed.

H. K. Stephens, Winslow, W. Va .-Because the masses are divided. That 4.25gives the trusts a chance to bribe enough of the people to control this government. If the people ever do rule they will have to come together and vote for men who stand for the public interests.

> L. J. Raymond, Jackson, Miss .---They never did rule and they never can rule under the present inter

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