

THE VICTORY AND THE PLATITUDES

The real platform of the people of New York, as of the old people of the United States, was the speech of Theodore Roosevelt as temporary chairman of the Saratoga convention. The "declaration of principles"

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put forward with the perfunctory acquiescence of the convention must be taken as a manifestation of the survival of the old habits—the wiggle of the tail of the serpent that "doesn't die till the sun goes down"—an echo from the era of yesterday, when party platforms were as sounding brass and tinkling cymbals and had no meaning beyond their melody. Not all at once, even with a great example and through fine inspiration, can the customs of years be overcome.

It is doubtful whether the people of New York expected as much true representation as they got from these delegates. They won their fight with the election of Roosevelt against the combined forces of standpatism and political graft. They forced their views, through him, upon a reluctant, struggling organization. Their command was for direct primary legislation, and that they enforced.

Direct popular government is the open door to what Roosevelt stands for. It is the necessary first step for enacting the square deal into law. With the power of political action in their own hands the people can have such control of government as they

desire. That is all which leadership can bring to pass. It is all which leadership has any right to bring to pass. That victory will survive, while the conventional platitudes of the delegates will make their exits through the other ear.—Kansas City Times, republican.

SOCIALISM

Lincoln, Neb., October 7.—In order to get an intelligent idea of this or any other subject it will be necessary to class things of a like nature together and compare them with each other, and contrast them with their opposites.

Effects partake of the nature of their primary causes.

Things may be called by different names, but that does not change their nature or their effects.

Opposite causes have opposite effects, other things being equal.

This principle will hold good in economics as well as in other things.

For instance, all speculative incomes, exacted of the wage working or producing class under the profit ownership of property, would be retained by them under the use or collective ownership of all the instruments of production and distribution in the different productive industries.

It requires the expenditure of man's mental and physical energy co-operating together in the production, distribution and conservation of the different kinds of commodities or labor products.

The labor of many workers enters into the production, distribution and conservation of each single commodity or social product, the value of which is measured or determined by the total average social labor time expended by each worker in helping to produce and distribute each single commodity.

To the extent that prosperity is acquired as profit and then used as a basis for consumption and additional profit, to that extent the producing classes are deprived of their social products or their exchange value.

To that extent they are denied their right to "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." To that extent we have, on the other hand, a non-producing class in society, whose labor and time are expended in upholding and defending the system of speculative ownership of property, which has its origin in the rental or non-productive ownership of the natural opportunities, furnished for the use and equal benefit of the whole human family. Economically, the labor of each individual in society is expended in helping to build up the useful industries and the preservation of life and property, or on the other hand, helping to destroy property, and life and the enjoyment of the same.

All are consumers, more or less, whether they are engaged in helping to produce the necessities of life or not.

The producing or wage working class are the real producers of both the value of the wages they receive and the profits exacted of them.

In order to give to each producer the full social share of the value of the property that he or she helps to produce or its equivalent in value, it will be necessary that the whole system of rental, interest, profit or speculative ownership of property be abolished, and substitute in its place the collective ownership for us or for productive and transportation purposes, of all the instruments of production, and by so doing establish complete co-operation in all the different branches of productive business, which would make it possible for the producing class to retain the full social share of the value of the property that each one helped to pro-

duce, and not be compelled to support a non-producing class, to the extent of the profits exacted of them, as the result of the speculative ownership of property.

To point out the increasing destitution and hardships that the producing class as a whole have to undergo, as the result of the speculative ownership of property, and contrast it with the economic advantages that would be gained by them under the collective ownership for use or for productive purposes, would be an endless task.

HENRY SCOTT.

A NOBLE THOUGHT

"No north; no south!" It is a thought all patriots cherish. It is a thought which causes the heart to swell with pride in our union, and with admiration for these heroes whose self-sacrifice won the victories of the civil war.

And now when there is no north and no south why should there not be an amalgamation of the veterans of the country? "It is a noble thought of the commander-in-chief of the Grand Army of the Republic," says the Paxton Register, "that hereafter there be but one annual national encampment of all veterans of the civil war, union and confederate. Both north and south have glorious memories, records of unextinguishable brilliancy that will live as long as American history is read or tradition revered. The men who engaged in these stupendous battles are rapidly decreasing in number, bent with age and crowned with honors. Well may they devote their remaining years to the cultivation of that spirit of fraternal affection and unity which has grown out of the great conflict. One camp fire for all, the blue and the gray. It is a splendid conception, and would furnish a spectacle and a lesson in exalted ideals and high purposes for the world and the nation. Next year will see the passing of a half century since the inception of hostilities, so bravely and fearfully fought out and with such a splendid outcome. It would be an apt time for the consummation of the commander-in-chief's idea, when all the old warriors might meet as one great army, the pride and inspiration of the union."—Illinois State Register.

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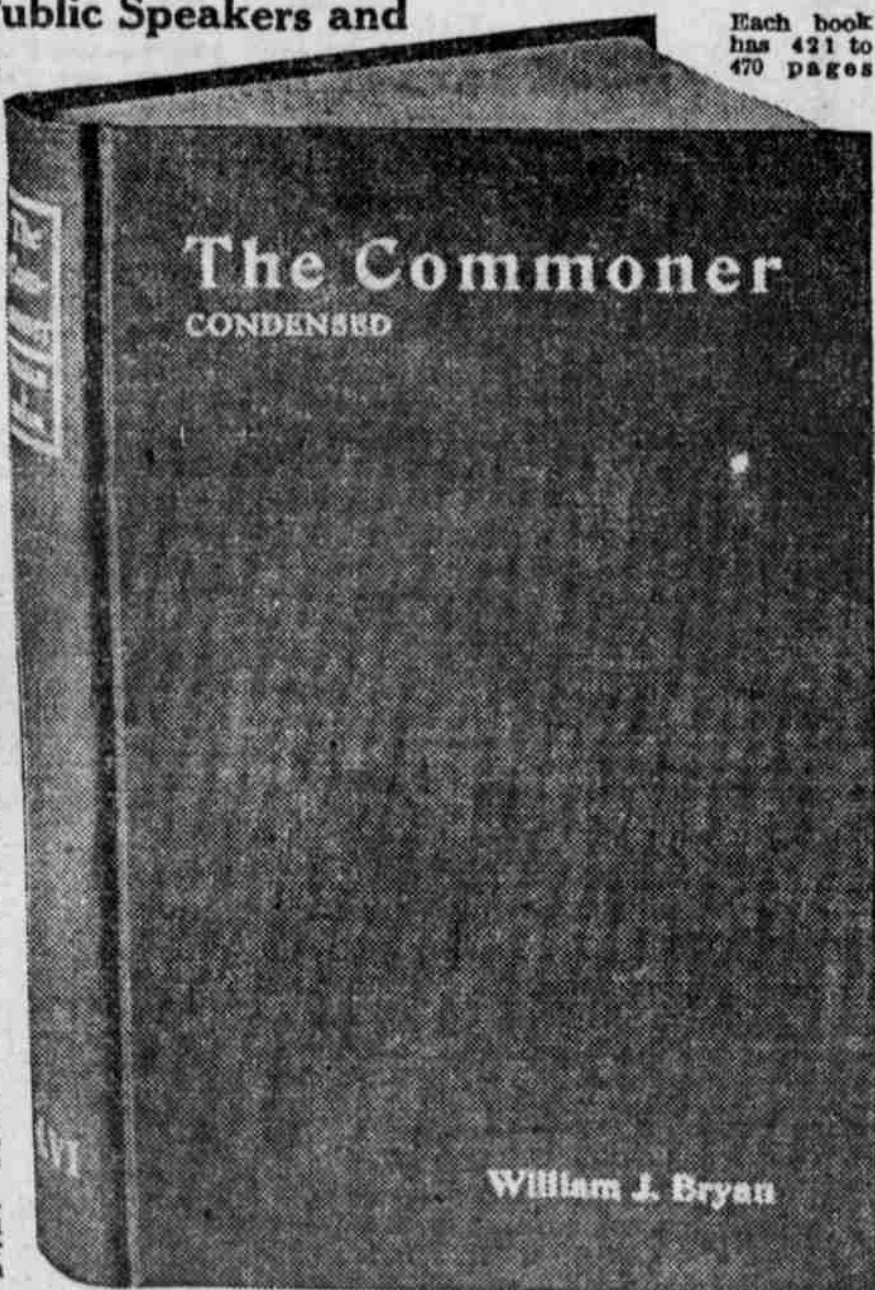
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