

The Commoner.

WILLIAM J. BRYAN, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR

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THE BALTIMORE CELEBRATION

The following correspondence explains itself: Baltimore, Md., December 14, 1910.—Hon. William Jennings Bryan, Lincoln, Neb.—You are earnestly requested to be one of the speakers at the Jackson Day celebration to be held in Baltimore on January 17th in honor of the recent democratic victory throughout the country. This celebration is being made a national affair and there will be a large afternoon meeting and a banquet at night, at both of which gatherings a great many representative democrats from all parts of the country have expressed a determination to be present. An early and favorable reply is urged. Wire Albert J. Almoney, Secretary, Eutaw House, Baltimore, Maryland.

GOVERNOR A. L. CROTHERS,
U. S. SENATOR JOHN WALTER SMITH,
U. S. SENATOR ISADOR RAYNER,
HON. J. HARRY COVINGTON,
HON. J. F. C. TALBOTT,
HON. MURRAY VAN DIVER,
FRANK FURST, Executive Committee.

Mission, Texas, December 21.—Mr. Albert J. Almoney, Eutaw House, Baltimore, Md.—Please express to Governor Crothers and other members of the executive committee my appreciation of invitation, just received via Lincoln. It will be impossible to be present and I hesitate to send a letter to be read at the celebration, lest it might prove a discordant note, if, as I would infer from the preliminary arrangement, those who originated the meeting are dissatisfied with the last democratic national platform. That platform was satisfactory to the party two years ago and is satisfactory to the rank and file now. The victory of last month was, in my judgment, largely due to the fact that several planks of that platform had already been vindicated by events and events have since the election vindicated other planks. W. J. BRYAN.

THE ROLL OF HONOR

Alabama.	Maryland.	Oklahoma.
South Carolina.	Kentucky.	Georgia.
Illinois.	Mississippi.	

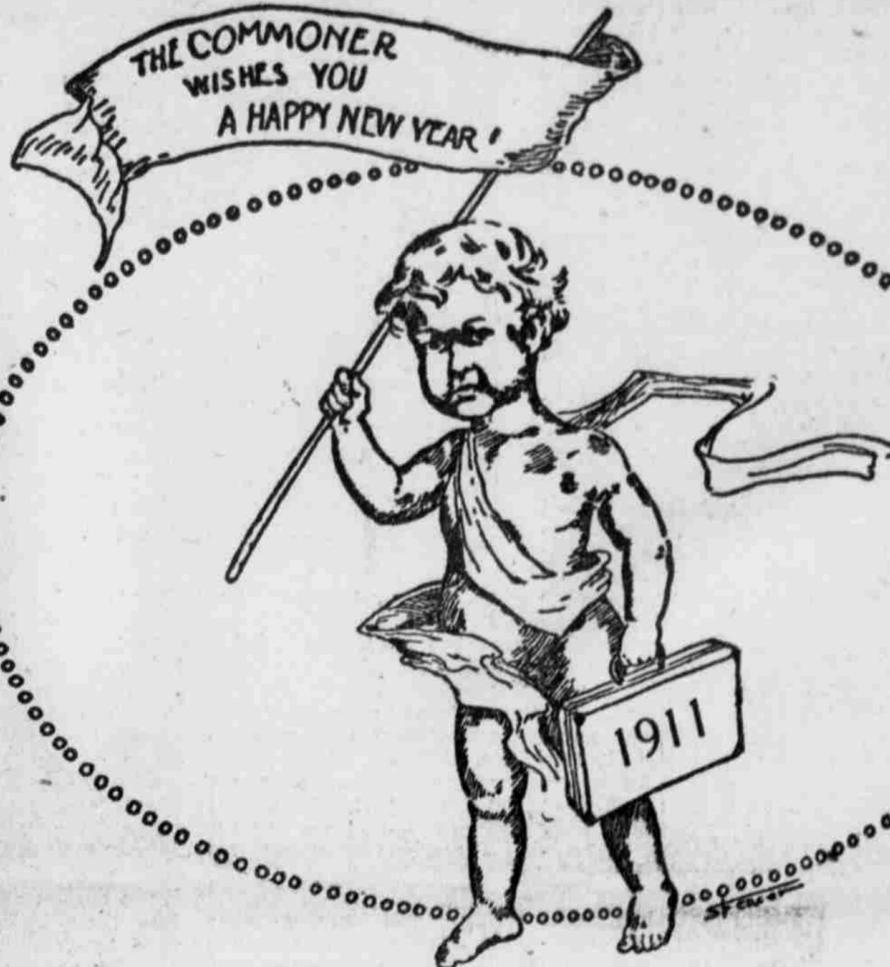
These states have ratified the income tax. What state will be number nine? New York and Massachusetts, which refused to ratify last year, are likely to act favorably now. Can't Virginia and Louisiana join Alabama, South Carolina, Mississippi and Georgia?

THE RECALL IN COLORADO

Governor Shafroth of Colorado is urging the adoption of the recall in the law of his state, and the Denver News well says: "Contact with the nation's sentiment has merely confirmed Governor Shafroth in his progressive policy. He is now pushing for the recall; thereby giving an opportunity for those who are afraid of it to oppose it—and this is a part of progress, to expose the reactionaries."

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TO EVERYONE, EVERYWHERE—AND FOREVER!

The "New Democracy"

The editor of The Commoner begs pardon of its readers for devoting so much space to the New York World—but that paper may be taken as fairly representative of the plutocratic press, has a large circulation and is one of the most persistent of the exponents of Wall Street.

When it is answered all are answered. The unfairness of the World is manifested in the way it replies to an editorial which recently appeared in The Commoner. It says (speaking of certain men mentioned in connection with the presidency): "Ostensibly Mr. Bryan distrusts these because the World looks toward them hopefully for sane, progressive leadership; but the true reason for his suspicion is that they have been elected to office. Mr. Bryan knows one infallible test of democracy. A true democrat is one who cannot be elected—a false democrat is one who has been elected. The more any democrat appeals to popular confidence the less he appeals to Mr. Bryan's confidence. Mr. Bryan's notion of a democratic party is a small, exclusive club whose affairs are controlled by him personally. The smaller it is the easier he can control it. For fourteen years he has been actively engaged in driving democrats out of the party and with a new democracy his domination ends."

This is a sample of the World's honesty and truthfulness. What are the facts? Mr. Bryan was nominated in 1896, at a time when the financial policy, supported by the World, had rent the party in twain; when congress was overwhelmingly republican as a result of that policy, and when no one thought the party had any chance to win. Yet in spite of the desertion of a democratic president, his cabinet, all the office holders, he could control and the plutocratic press, Mr. Bryan came so near election that twenty thousand votes, changed from one side to the other in the close states, would have

made him president. He polled about a million more votes than the democratic candidate polled four years before, and more democratic congressmen were elected in 1896 than in 1894.

In 1906 Mr. Bryan was renominated notwithstanding the violent opposition of such papers as the World, and he received practically the same vote as before, although the republican party had the prestige of a successful war, claimed credit for returning prosperity and took advantage of an insurrection in the Philippines.

In 1904 Mr. Bryan announced that he would not be a candidate and the World joined with other Wall Street organs demanding that the organization be turned over to the men who had defeated the party in two campaigns. It had its way; the candidate advocated by it was nominated; it then impudently took charge of the campaign, issuing daily instructions to the candidate and congratulating the party that it had converted itself into a "new democracy" without "isms"—a party free from the taint of Bryanism. And what was the result? A popular vote of A MILLION AND A QUARTER LESS THAN MR. BRYAN POLLED IN 1896 AND 1900, and less democratic congressmen than were elected in 1896 and 1900. If Mr. Bryan really wanted a small party he could not do better than adopt the World's plan, for it is warranted to shrink any party that adopts it.

In 1908 Mr. Bryan was nominated for a third time—in spite of the World's protest and he polled a million and a quarter more votes than the World's candidate had polled in 1904 and the party made such gains in congress that, with the aid of the insurgents, the party has been able to secure some good legislation and to defeat some bad measures.

For fourteen years the democratic party has been the dominating force in this country and it has forced the republican party to recognize the necessity for reforms—the plutocratic press all the while biting at the party's heels. This is the record of the fourteen years during which—according to the World—Mr. Bryan has been