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A NEW YEAR THOUGHT

New times demand new measures and new men; The world advances and in time outgrows The laws that in our father's day were best; And, doubtless, after us some purer scheme Will be shaped out by wiser men than we, Made wiser by the steady growth of truth. The time is ripe, and rotten-ripe, for change; Then let it come; I have no dread of what is called for by the instinct of mankind. Nor think I that God's world would fall apart Because we tear a parchment more or less. Truth is eternal, but her effluence, With endless change, is fitted to the hour; Her mirror is turned forward, to reflect The promise of the future, not the past.

—By James Russell Lowell.

GOOD WORDS FOR THE COMMONER

P. B. Gordon, Decatur, Neb.—I renew my subscription to The Commoner and whenever I can forward the cause I shall send in other subscriptions for other parties. I believe that if we could get the republicans to read The Commoner many would change their minds.

C. E. Layman, Troutville, Va.—It will be a pleasure in the future, as in the past, to co-operate with you in keeping the voters in this section fully posted and on the alert. I have always been an ardent admirer of Mr. Bryan and at all times ready to render him any assistance in my power. It will, therefore, be a great pleasure to me to send you a subscription list in the future. The Commoner is certainly doing a great work and it is a pity that it cannot be placed in the hands of every voter in the United States.

J. W. Dumas, Fresno, Cal.—It will be a pleasure to me to obtain any and as many subscribers to The Commoner as possible for me to do in my spare moments, for I know the only way in which to win is to get the people educated, but the trouble has been, and is yet, to get the people or the voting public to read. The working men do not take the time to post themselves, but we will labor hard for success. I will send you a subscriber occasionally.

The Commoner.

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"If the Democratic Party is to be Successful in 1912 the Candidate Must Not Wear the Wall Street Label"

Cincinnati, Ohio, January 26.—"As ye sow, so shall ye reap." In 1896 the leaders of the republican party sowed political corruption throughout the United States and especially in Ohio. The vote sellers in Adams county are reaping the whirlwinds of disfranchisement from the hand of that upright, honest patriot, Judge Blair. In 1896 William J. Bryan carried the state of Ohio at least by 25,000 votes, but they were not counted for him. That great political corrupt campaign fund that was raised by the national republican chairman in 1896 that Lawson spoke of, a large portion of it was spent in the state of Ohio for the purpose of bribing election officials and buying votes to defeat Mr. Bryan. At that time I called the attention of the people in our state to the fact that the methods used in the campaign of 1896 and 1900 were so corrupt, that it would only be a few years until thousands of votes of the state of Ohio would be bought by the highest bidder and become as open as an auction sale. As time developed the truth of my assertion has been verified. In 1896, 1900 and 1908 money was lavishly spent to defeat William J. Bryan for president.

After the death of the national chairman, the republican party, especially in Ohio, was left without a guiding hand. The interests which had been so intelligently manipulating matters, seemed to comprehend the importance of holding the gigantic political trust (the republican party) together. However a few sparks of insurgency had been ignited in the republican ranch, and now that the great force which had guided the party so successfully was no more, the sentiment of insurgency began to assert itself, hence many leaders, schemers and advisers appeared on the scene. In 1905 it was apparent to all well posted people that Myron T. Herrick would be defeated for governor. The forces which at that time were working for his defeat, were the saloon league, the temperance league, and the race horse league. In other words, Mr. Herrick incurred the enmity of every saloon man, and all of the friends of the temperance league, and every man who owned a race track or a race horse, because he would not submit to their faction trying to dictate to him.

About this time the interests which had heretofore controlled and contributed to the republican party began to drift to the democratic party, and instead of the republican party having a large campaign fund, as they had had heretofore from 1895 to the present time, the republican party has suffered for a lack of funds to carry on corrupt campaigns. They did not have the necessary corrupt funds, hence the changing of the political conditions. If reports are true the democratic party in Ohio no longer suffers from a financial depression. The state party for the past six years has been abundantly supplied with ready funds to carry on an aggressive campaign to meet the demands.

Thousands of voters refused to see any good in voting as they formerly had done, when there was nothing in a personal way offered them. Since 1896 the republicans have not had the campaign fund they were formerly used to receiving, hence the loss of the state. When Bryan and his friends controlled the situation the Wall Street crowd and the interests realized that it was no use to apply. The state of Ohio ever since 1896 has been purchasable or at least enough votes could be purchased to decide any important election, and for the past few years the republicans not having the necessary funds to pass around to the voters, have lost Ohio with the exception of the presidential year, when the interests swung to the republican party again for president. It would seem that the democratic party is now abundantly supplied with funds, as we have heard no complaints from committees that they were stranded, like we heard at the time Mr. Bryan ran for president.

In 1896, when Hon. Daniel McConville was state chairman, the state democratic executive committee in Ohio had less than \$2,000 to conduct their campaign. In fact, the state democratic campaign committee with the exception of one state election has been short of funds from 1896 up to the year 1906 and from 1906 the wheels of political financial prosperity have been amply oiled with campaign contributions, with the exception of 1908, when Mr. Bryan ran for president. However, it is a noticeable fact that the state ticket went democratic in

that year and the national ticket was defeated by a large plurality. I had the honor of assisting the national executive committee in raising the campaign fund in 1896, 1900 and also in 1904. Every man who assisted in raising the campaign fund knows just how difficult it was to secure funds. We had to raise a fund from the dollar contributors and the men of small means. I found invariably where the large interests were concerned, all that claimed to be democratic were opposed to Mr. Bryan's financial views and refused to contribute and also opposed a revision of the tariff. If I could have been in a position to promise an increase in tariff, instead of a reduction, where I raised dollars I could have raised hundreds. If I could have been in a position to promise that our party would be in favor of class legislation for the interests I could have secured thousands of dollars where I did not get a cent. I have been in a position to know the sources from which the campaign fund came and those who contributed. Some of my friends who assisted me in gathering funds have, in the past few days, advised me of the great difference and sentiment that now exist and then existed. I am informed that the interests that heretofore have refused to assist the democratic party are perfectly willing and anxious to assist and contribute providing the Bryan democrats can be eliminated from the councils of the party.

The actions of the insurgents and the congressmen seemed to have frightened the large interests and they are now willing to become the great and good friend to the democratic party, providing they can be placed at the head of the party and in control of the men who voted for Palmer and Buckner, who bolted the ticket in 1896 and 1900. If intelligence and honesty is to guide the democratic party, and if the warning of the actions of the republican party and the vote that was cast in 1904, they will not sow the political Wall Street winds and be guided by the hand of J. Pierpont Morgan and his gang. The interests no longer become frightened by reason of recent democratic victories. It seems that the interests have grown tired of a party that harbors such men as President Roosevelt, Senator LaFollette, Senator Beveridge and Senator Cummins and hundreds of others and are now pleasantly associating with the democratic party with the old republican brand stamped upon it. If the democratic party is to be victorious in 1912 the candidate must not wear the label of J. Pierpont Morgan and the Wall Street gang.

M. A. NEFF.

SOWING THE SEED

(From the Aberdeen (S. D.) Democrat.

Whether or not William J. Bryan is ever elected to the presidency or to any other position of political preferment, his name is bound to go down in history as that of a great statesman and a patriot of the highest character.

Although thrice defeated for the presidency through the corrupt use of money, and the influences of a servile press, he has had the satisfaction of seeing nearly every political theory advocated by him either verified by the lapse of time or endorsed directly or indirectly by his enemies.

His first great speech that attracted nationwide attention was delivered seventeen years ago, while he was a member of congress, in behalf of a reduction of the tariff, and he has seen the country declare in a manner which admits of no uncertainty, in favor of such reduction.

He took the position in 1896 that an increased volume of money was necessary to an advance in property values, and prices of commodities, and he has had the satisfaction of reading the speeches of President Taft, Senator Lodge and other prominent republican leaders wherein they have attributed the high cost of living to the increased gold production, by way of shielding their pet tariff measure, the Payne-Aldrich bill.

In 1896 no one dreamed that a phenomenal production of gold would take place, but nearly all students of political economy were agreed that the country needed an increased volume of circulating medium, and whether it should be provided through free coinage of silver, the issue of legal tender treasury notes or by some other means, was regarded by many as of secondary consideration. Mr. Bryan favored the free coinage of silver because it had been the money of the constitution and had always been at #