religion admonishes him of his stewardship and of his obligation to use his greater strength, his larger ability, and his richer reward in the spirit of brotherhood. Under individualism we have seen a constant increase of altruism. The fact that the individual can select the objects of his benevolence and devote his means to the causes that appeal to him has given an added stimulus to his endeavors; would this stimulus be as great under socialism?

Probably the nearest approach that we have to the socialistic state today is to be found in the civil service. If the civil service develops more unselfishness and more altruistic devotion to the general welfare than private employment does, the fact is yet to be discovered. This is not offered as a criticism of civil service so far as civil service may require examinations to ascertain fitness for office, but it is simply a reference to a well known fact, viz., that a life position in the government service, which separates one from the lot of the average producer of wealth, has given no extraordinary stimulus to higher development.

It is not necessary to excuse or to defend a competition carried to a point where it creates a submerged fifth or even a submerged tenth to recognize the beneficial effect of struggle and discipline upon the men and women who have earned the highest places in industry, society and government.

There should be no unfriendliness between the honest individualist and the honest socialist; both seek that which they believe to be best for society. The socialist, by pointing out the abuses of individualism, will assist in their correction. At present, private monopoly is putting upon individualism an undeserved odium and it behooves the individualist to address himself energetically to this problem in order that the advantages of competition may be restored to industry. And the duty of immediate action is made more imperative by the fact that the socialist is inclined to supoprt the monopoly, in the belief that it will be easier to induce the government to take over an industry after it has passed into the hands of a few men. The trust magnates and the socialists unite in declaring monopoly to be an economic development, the former hoping to retain the fruits of monopoly in private hands, the latter expecting the ultimate appropriation of the benefits of monopoly by the government. The individualist, on the contrary, contends that the consolidation of industries ceases to be an economic advantage when competition is eliminated, and he believes, further, that no economic advantage which could come from the monopolization of all the industries in the hands of the government could compensate for the stifling of individual initiative and independence. And the individualists who thus believe stand for a morality and for a system of ethics which they are willing to measure against the ethics and morality of socialism.

DOES NOT REPRESENT DEMOCRATS

St. Clairsville (Ohio) Gazette: Harmon, measured by his record and especially by his late deliverance before the constitutional convention, does not come up to the standard of progressive democracy. It is clear to everyone, who will give the matter a little consideration, that Harmon is not in sympathy with the masses nor does he believe in the people, but he is with the interests and the monopolies—a reactionary—a favorite of Wall street. His chances for the nomination and election to the presidency, he believes, depends upon the trusts, the monopolies, Wall street and the liquor interests of the country. This is plainly shown by his opposition to the initiative and referendum and by his support of the license proposition. As a standpatter and reactionary he out-Tafts Taft.

The Gazette stands for the people and believes in the people, hence it is for the initiative and referendum and the recall. It is opposed to licensing the saloon. It is for the election of United States senators by direct vote of the people. It is in favor of an income tax, and for a tariff for revenue only. In short it is for progressive democracy, not simply to get the offices and spoils of office, but for the greatest good to the greatest number.

The Gazette does not believe Harmon to be the logical, consistent or the available democratic candidate for the presidency of the United States.

Harmon is to be given credit with being honest in his views and that his actions are consistent, as he sees them. But this is not entirely a question of honesty of views and opinions, it is first a matter of fundamental principles, all centering at this time around the fact of whether the platform shall be progressive and whether the candidate for the presidency shall believe in the people and be in sympathy with their efforts to obtain relief from iniquitous laws that have built up manufacturing trusts, transportation trusts, and worst of all, money trusts.

The Gazette is for a progressive candidate and can not allow state pride, desire for party success and the spoils of office to induce it to forsake the principles it believes, stands for, and has stood for. We have no personal pique or grouch against Governor Harmon, but think he does not represent the principles of true, progressive democracy and hence is not for him for the nomination.

UNRESPONSIVE CANDIDATE

New Orleans Item: Governor Judson Harmon, of Ohio, one of the candidates for the democratic presidential nomination, is showing an unwillingness to discuss vital public questions and open issues.

He has said that he does not approve of the initiative, the referendum and the recall; but this has no bearing on the presidential fight, though it does reveal the governor's mental character to some extent. He is a thorough conservative, and does not take kindly to recent theories of popular government.

But on most questions which are likely to be issues in the presidential campaign he is silent.

This is unfortunate for Mr. Harmon.

It is still more unfortunate that he has now positively refused a direct invitation to tell the country how he stands on the great national issues before the democratic convention.

This is what Alton B. Parker did in 1904.

Judge Parker refused positively to commit himself upon any national issue before the convention of that year. He got the nomination, but the delegates who did not enjoy his confidence had to take him on faith. He was a gift passed in the dark. The convention picked him very much as you would take a blind chance for a prize in a grab bag.

The party, in slang phrase, got a "lemon." The Bryan supporters refused to support Parker in the election. Many democrats deserted. Roosevelt beat him by a majority which showed that more than 1,000,000 democrats thought less of Parker than they did of Bryan.

Parker's mystery contributed as much as anything to his defeat.

Mystery will defeat Harmon.

Silence, in both cases, probably meant that each knew that many of his opinions would be unpopular with a majority of his party.

The democratic party does not want a mysterious candidate. It will accept no man on faith, especially if it has a suspicion that it would not want him if it knew his opinions thoroughly.

No party would indorse a candidate on these terms today. Even if the convention of either party were to nominate such a man the people would defeat him.

The man who is to be the next president will not pass on the indorsement of a few delegates who know all about him; he will have to lay his stock of qualifications openly before the people.

LOSING GROUND

Bucyrus (Ohio) Daily Forum: Some time ago, becoming convinced that the reactionary surroundings and views of Governor Harmon made his nomination and election to the presidency a difficult task, the Daily Forum frankly said so and abandoned the support which it had before loyally given to the Harmon cause.

Many who at that time could not see just grounds for our opinion have been convinced by Governor Harmon himself, chiefly through the medium of his speech to the constitutional convention. The Marion Mirror has come out in opposition, and has been followed by a host of other democratic papers of long standing, and without any axes to grind other than a desire for the success of democratic principles and democratic candidates.

The latest recruit to the number whom the governor has forced into opposition is the St. Clairsville Gazette, for more than a hundred years the leading democratic paper of Belmont county. In all the papers which have taken this step we have seen no personal attacks on the governor. All have regretted that such a step should be necessary, but all have felt that in justice to themselves and loyalty to democratic principles they could not do otherwise.

Harmon's Record

The vetoes of Governor Harmon give an interesting little view into the old-fashioned sort of democratic mind. The governor did not veto many bills. When he did not particularly like one he simply allowed it to become a law without his signature, not caring to excite any controversy. Especially does this seem to be true during his second siege with the legislature, which was last year. It is difficult to get a line upon his policy by looking over these vetoes, which number but thirty-seven, a third less than the number of bills which he allowed to become laws without approval. A number of these vetoes were of bills which he believed or suspected meant the expenditure of additional sums of public money.

Apparently he was not in favor of the state extending its activities along the line of guarding against the spread of the white plague. His second veto was of a bill to compel the disinfection of a house and contents in which a person had had pulmonary tuberculosis. The governor vetoed it because the bill paid a fee for the work done. Another bill of similar character which he disapproved authorized county commissioners to employ nurses to visit the homes of persons afflicted with tuberculosis, to instruct them how to conduct themselves so that others of the family might not be infected and to perform other necessary work. This was not a mandatory bill; it simply gave commissioners power to act in such cases.

Twice as governor he has vetoed a bill authorizing the state dairy and food commissioner and assistants authority to give public instructions pertaining to the dairy industry, sanitary inspection, the food and drug laws and their enforcement, an effort to assist in spreading knowledge regarding it.

Governor Harmon also vetoed a bill which has been highly esteemed in many quarters. It required the supreme court to report all of the opinions it handed down, to state the facts upon which it based these opinions, and to decide each question submitted to it. This bill was in the interest of the litgant, in that, if the decision of the lower court was affirmed, the reason for the decision was known, and if reversed, then the parties to the action, in a retrial, would have their controversy vastly simplified. It made courts go on record.

In its wisdom the state legislature passed and sent to the governor acts intended to put an end to the trading stamp and to guessing contests and advertisements. Both of these were vetoed by the governor. The trading stamp has been the subject of litigation in a number of states, being regarded as an excrescence upon trade and a source of profit somewhat illegitimate. In vetoing the anti-guessing contest bill, the governor said it was of a similar character to the trading stamp, and that where there is no element of chance or gambling and the offer is made in good faith, the law has no business to try to forbid. He concluded with this remarkable statement: "The state has too much to do to act as guardian for credulous persons who, in the absence of fraud, rely on the puffing statements of those with whom they deal." In other words, that it is no concern of the state if its citizens be bilked through believing what was promised, if no legal fraud was committed.

Another bill which the governor vetoed sought to include urban and interurban railways along with steam railroads as corporations which could be compelled by law to eliminate grade crossings. Still another which he disapproved exempted from the prohibition against the raising or lowering of salaries during official terms persons in the classified service of the merit system.

None of these bills is of grave importance, but a survey of them is interesting to show the cautious character of the executive mind, its exclusion of innovations, its dislike for trying any experiments, its faithful adherence to the ancient doctrine that all that a state government should do is to watch expenditures and act as a policeman.

C. Q. D.

WILL YOU JOIN IN THE EFFORT TO INCREASE THE COMMONER'S CIRCULATION FOR 1912?

TAKE IT UP AT ONCE WITH YOUR NEIGHBOR.