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**The Commoner**

Lincoln, Nebraska

bench, which had never known more than one democratic member out of the seven, so that the court within a few weeks will have a majority of democratic members. Two superior court judges, for years republicans, were supplanted by democrats. Even police and municipal courts are now presided over by members of that party. With two exceptions, every county in the state has a majority of its officers from the democratic party.

All of these changes have been brought about in one way or another in two years. The political overturn has completely demoralized the strong republican organization. That organization is now in the throes of a political campaign, fighting for its existence, threatened from without by a confident and well-led foe, and threatened from within by an element held within party lines only with utmost difficulty, and which is only waiting word from Oyster Bay to throw open the gates to the enemy and, by division on the eve of battle, make all prospects for republican victory utterly hopeless.

When the bull moose movement was inaugurated the Maine delegation was disposed to be the foremost of bolters, but a singular obstacle confronted them. While they were wrestling with the reports of the credentials committee at Chicago Maine held its first direct primary election. Most of the candidates successful in winning nominations for state and county offices had been swept into victory by the impetus of the Roosevelt victory a few weeks before. These candidates were Roosevelt adherents, or at least were not Taft adherents.

At the critical moment in Chicago they appealed to the Maine delegation not to assist the bull moose movement. These regularly nominated candidates realized that if there should be a party division their chances at the polls would be small. Colonel Roosevelt was appealed to to discourage the participation of Maine men in his bull moose movement. The colonel

promised to keep hands off until the state election was over. Today the bull moosers stand committed by resolutions passed in the convention they recently held in Portland to fight for and support the regular nominations of the republican party.

But what will the other republican element do about the coming election? Taft republicans, and there are many of them, are by no means pleased with what has happened. Their loyalty to Taft is not supreme, but their loyalty to the republican party is stronger than ever. They know that while the bull moosers will support the republican ticket, will turn about in November and knife the Taft republican ticket.

They do not have to be told that this is what will happen, for every Taft man in Maine is sure it will happen. They would like to redeem Maine from democratic control, but do not care to help men who have sympathized with the third party movement, and who have plotted to carry Maine for the third party candidate in November.

It is likely that the greater number of Taft republicans will either refrain from voting in September or will content themselves with voting that part of the republican congressional ticket which suits them and neglecting to vote for other republican candidates.

This is what the republicans who are running for office fear. For this democrats who are running for office hope.

Democrats will force fighting in Maine along national issues. Republicans will endeavor to sidestep these issues and confine argument to state and local matters. The democrats will bring Woodrow Wilson, Champ Clark and other democratic leaders into Maine to help carry the state. The republicans do not dare to bring any of their national leaders into the state for fear of creating a split and division on national issues between the Taft and Roosevelt republicans. If Maine goes democratic in September, it is certain to go for

Wilson in November by an enormous plurality. On the other hand, if Maine goes republican in September, it by no means follows that it will go for Taft in November. Roosevelt's chances of carrying Maine are believed by his supporters to be excellent, but those who claim to know say that nothing can prevent the electoral votes of Maine being counted for the democratic presidential candidate.

With all state offices in their control, and the prospects of many plums to bestow from a democratic national administration; with experienced leaders who are confident of victory and who have money, energy and hope to help them complete their organization; with republicans torn by dissensions, suspicious of their leaders and their candidates, distrustful of one another, and absolutely disorganized, it would not be a risky wager that Maine not only goes democratic by an overwhelming vote in September, but also at the November election following.—Denver Times.

**MORE REPUBLICAN CAMPAIGN FUND SECRETS**

Following is a cablegram from Cincinnati Enquirer: London, August 25.—When Senator Boies Penrose diffidently arose in the United States senate and made a few remarks concerning a Standard Oil contribution to the 1904 campaign fund for the election of Theodore Roosevelt he probably overlooked that old maxim concerning the danger of starting a thing which one is thereafter unable to control.

A new figure and personality appeared in the controversy today when William R. Hearst called upon all the participants in the affair to tell the whole truth concerning their connection with the raising of campaign funds, coupling with the request a threat which may cause many statesmen to tremble in their boots. In a signed statement cabled to the United States today, Mr. Hearst said:

"I have read in the foreign papers accounts of the explanations that Senator Penrose has given of his receipt of a certificate of deposit of \$25,000 from the Standard Oil company.

"I have also read Senator Penrose's statement of the purpose for which this secret certificate of deposit was intended and the use to which this sum of money and other sums of money from the Standard Oil company were put.

"Senator Penrose's explanation is not quite accurate. His statement is not altogether truthful. He is in part saying what is true and in part saying what is false.

"I have the documents to prove my assertion.

"Senator Penrose should take warning of the fate of Senator Foraker and the predicament of that gentleman when he attempted to explain falsely the reason for which his certificates of deposit from Mr. Archbold were received. I was able to produce promptly the documents which showed that Senator Foraker was not speaking the truth and that the certificates were received for other purposes than the one stated by him.

"Senator Penrose should also remember the difficulty into which Mr. Archbold got himself by making false statements in regard to some of the letters published inculcating certain Pennsylvania judges. Mr. Archbold said that he had interested himself in the selection of these judges without their knowledge. I thereupon produced more letters of Mr. Archbold's in which the judges were shown to have requested him to interest himself in their behalf.

"I advise Senator Penrose, therefore, to adhere to the exact facts and

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