## The Commoner.

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ISSUED WEEKLY

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#### MY MORNING PRAYER

Today let me live content; be clean; refined; worthy; act frankly, go slowly, listen well, think quietly, fear nothing, do my full share of the world's work, and rest tonight knowing I have injured nothing that exists.

Four years ago Mr. Roosevelt could find patriotic reasons to justify every trust magnate "in supporting the republican ticket" but now if any republican prefers Wilson to Roosevelt it is accepted by the ex-president as conclusive proof that there is something wrong with the democratic candidate.

Governor-elect Haines of Maine seems to have both "bull moose" and "steam roller" guessing. Taft acclaims Haines' victory as an administration victory, and Roosevelt hails it as a grand gain for the new party. Mr. Haines seems to have carried water on both shoulders without spilling a drop.

If in Vermont where the republicans are influenced by heredity rather than by reason—if in Vermont more than one-third of the party prefers Roosevelt for a third term rather than Taft for a second term, what hope can the president have in other states?

Communities whose professional baseball teams failed to win a pennant during the playing season may now proceed to win some pennants in the winter season games played around the radiators.

Professional baseball players have formed a union. Doubtless the umpires would like to discover some scheme calculated to afford them mutual and adequate protection.

The republicans used to say, "As goes Vermont so goes the nation." Well Vermont has gone and it looks like all doubt of Wilson's election has gone with Vermont.

If Mr. Roosevelt erred in judgment when he commended Mr. Taft in 1908, may he not be mistaken in judgment in commending himself so highly now?

Where was Mr. Roosevelt when the progressives were risking their political lives trying to reduce the tariff? In hiding, waiting until it was safe.

It will be hard for the republicans to use the fear of a panic to scare the voters into electing a republican president—which republican, they will ask.

It remains to be seen whether the sovereign state of Wyoming is content to remain an oyster to afford Senator Warren pleasure in the opening.

Governor Wilson has a double strength—his own virtues and the weaknesses of his opponents.

# Good Work by New York Democrats

The New York democrats are doing great work in preparing the way for the defeat of the renomination of John A. Dix, the present governor. All over the state democrats are demanding that the Charles F. Murphy hold upon New York politics be released. The New York World is the newspaper leader in this great fight and in a powerful editorial that gives cheer and hope to democrats everywhere the World

"The World will not support a Murphy candidate for governor. It will not support John A. Dix for re-election. It will not support a candidate for governor who owes his nomination, directly or indirectly, to the sinister power of Tammany. It will not support a candidate for governor who is not avowedly anti-Tammany and who does not measure up to the political idealism, courage and independence of Woodrow Wilson. Even if the Tammany boss were not the dominating power in the state administration, independent democrats can not support a governor, who, as a delegate to the national convention, meekly allowed himself to be voted 'as a unit' forty-five times by Charles F. Murphy. They can not support a governor who in that great test of democracy willingly allied himself with the forces of plutocracy and reaction. They can not support a governor who saw no meaning in the great victory of that convention except that Bryan should be eliminated from the party."

### LINING UP AGAINST MURPHY

The Knickerbocker Press says: Petitions for placing anti-Murphy delegates to the democratic state convention on the primary ticket of Albany county were filed at 12 o'clock Saturday night by Colonel Jacob L. Ten Eyck, leader of the movement which is opposing the state domination of Tammany's chief. The petitions included signatures from the first and third districts only. An additional petition, bearing names of residents of the second district, will be filed later.

The fact that petitions from all three districts were not handed to the election commissioners by midnight Saturday may necessitate a court contest to determine the validity of names subsequently filed. Under the law, all designations for the primary ticket must be in the hands of election commissioners not later than five days after the third Tuesday preceding the date for the primary voting. The fifth day falls on Sunday, and Monday is a legal holiday, so the validity of any filings made after Saturday night may have to be settled by the courts. Colonel Ten Eyck will carry the question up for litigation if necessary, he said.

The Watervliet Argus prints the following: The Watervliet Wilson and Marshall club held an enthusiastic meeting at its club house on Broadway. Forty new members were voted in and some rousing addresses were delivered. Besides address by John Eddy, of Glenmont, and John W. Kenny, there were short speeches by the democratic candidates on the Watervliet city ticket. Mr. Eddy discussed the national ticket and alluded at some length to the fight in the interests of the Rochester conference, in which he has proved an ardent worker. Mr. Eddy gave notice that after the primaries he should offer his services to the organization and work with all his might for the success of the ticket.

"There is every promise," he said, "of success this year for the democratic national ticket. There is a good prospect of success for the state ticket if the right sort of men are nominated and the right motives and influences are behind them. The time has arrived when the people of the state of New York demand that their officials be chosen by themselves and not foisted upon them by the bosses of any party. The time of the political boss has passed. It never should have come. I believe we should be progressive, but we can never make real progress so long as we bow in submission to the mandates of Charles F. Murphy or any other boss. It is right that we should have leaders; they are necessary, but should be of the right sort. They should be honest men who have at heart the public good and not personal aggrandizement. They should be real leaders-not bosses.

"The state-wide movement to throw off the shackles of boss rule, which is being strengthened every day by victories for the right, is a movement calculated not only to promote the welfare of the democratic party but of the whole

people. It is not a fight being carried on by political malcontents or disgruntled men to gain their own ends at the expense of the democracy. It is a fight strictly within the party to purge it and put it back on the proud plane it should occupy. It is not a fight against the democratic organization anywhere, for it is entirely among the enrolled voters of the party—and they are the organization.

"I want to say right here that after I have fought with all the energy and force that is in me for what I know is right, the fight will not go beyond the primaries. The issue will be determined at the primaries, and as I believe in the majority rule, I shall abide by the result. I think that is the way every man enlisted in the Rochester conference cause feels. When the primaries are over I shall offer my services to the organization and work tooth and nail for the success of the ticket. I shall put my shoulder to the wheel and do everything I can do to advance the democratic cause. That is the right spirit, and I believe it is the sentiment of every man connected with this fight for the uplift of the democratic party in the grand old Empire state."

### BOSS MADE CONGRESSMEN

New York democrats are also after some of the boss-made congressmen. The World prints the following editorial: Henry George, jr., was nominated for congress two years ago in a heavily republican district. He surprised his nominators by winning and followed up a brilliant campaign by an admirable record in the house. He has been turned down by Boss Murphy.

Steven B. Ayres served one term and gave promise of usefulness and independence far above the average. He was set aside by Boss Murphy to make room for a relative-expectant, but the plan got tangled up at the last moment and Mr. Ayres's predecessor, Joseph A. Goulden, was named. Jefferson M. Levy was displaced for Peter J. Dooling, a district leader and a friend of the boss.

Over in Brooklyn Representative William C. Redfield was euchered out of his seat by gerry-mandering his district so that he could not be elected. He has declined the nomination. Like Mr. George, he can get republican votes, but he could scarcely do the impossible. He has so served as to reflect credit upon the city. He is not a "Cannon democrat" but a democrat. He is not a district leader but a manufacturer who knows at first hand how the tariff oppresses the people.

Such acts of boss autocracy explain why the city's representation in congress has so little weight in national affairs. Instead of profiting by reapportionment and a larger number of representatives, we are losing men of ability, character, independence and experience. The bosses do not want such men, and that is why true democracy must have a housecleaning in this state.

## PASS IT ALONG

The Beatrice, Neb., Wilson and Marshall club adopted the following resolutions:

Whereas, Governor Wilson closed his remarkable speech of acceptance of the nomination by the democratic party to the office of president of the United States by these hopeful words: "I thank God and take courage." Be it, therefore

Resolved, That the secretary of this league have printed upon all letter heads, envelopes, stationery and other papers used by the league, the following: "I thank God and take courage." Woodrow Wilson."

The concluding paragraph of Governor Wilson's speech of acceptance ought to be committed to memory by every student of government. Here it is:

"Should I be entrusted with the great office of president, I would seek counsel wherever it could be had upon free terms. I know the temper of the great convention which nominated me; I know the temper of the country that lay back of that convention and spoke through it. I heed with deep thankfulness the message you bring me from it. I feel that I am surrounded by men whose principles and ambitions are those of true servants of the people. I thank God and will take courage."

If a man has had seven years of uninterrupted opportunity to do something, and didn't do it, what hope have we that he will do it if given another chance?