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THE COMMONER, Lincoln, Neb.

Governor Johnson, the bull moose candidate for vice president, says that Mr. Roosevelt is the "flaming arrow of God." A careful examination of the prophets, both major and minor, discloses no prediction that a flaming arrow will be sent at this time; but a careful reading of the experiences of Elijah would indicate that Governor Johnson is laboring under a delusion.

Faulkner, the veteran correspondent of the Cincinnati Enquirer, suggests that you can not always judge of the interest people are taking in the campaign by the attendance at a big meeting. He explains by saying that "Mr. Bryan could pack a pest house in the midst of an epidemic on fifteen minutes' notice."

Senator Poindexter accuses the democrats and republicans of being in a combine against Roosevelt because both are willing to expose Mr. Roosevelt's connection with corporation contributions. Should the democrats try to shield Mr. Roosevelt? Is he not fighting the democratic party as bitterly as the republican party?

VOTE! VOTE!! VOTE!!! VOTE FOR WILSON AND MARSHALL. Elect a democratic legislature in every state in which A SENATOR IS TO BE ELECTED. Vote for the democratic nominees FOR CONGRESS IN EVERY DISTRICT. Vote for the democratic state ticket everywhere.

President Taft's distrust of the people is so pronounced that he refuses to permit the people's representatives in the house and senate to reduce the tariff. He even puts the judgment of a commission APPOINTED BY HIM above the judgment of a congress elected by the people!

Mr. Roosevelt's late arrival at Armageddon makes him prize that Bible passage which says that the last shall be first and that the first shall be last.

Now that we have a law requiring newspapers to tell their readers who own the papers it will be necessary for the big corporations to put the poison label on the editorials of the papers they own.

IMPORTANT TO NEBRASKANS

The initiative and referendum amendment to the state constitution will be voted on in Nebraska November 5th. Men who "scratch" their tickets should see to it that a cross is placed beside the "yes" in connection with the initiative and referendum amendment. Don't overlook this duty.

An Appeal to the First Voter

(Every Commoner reader is asked to call the attention of at least one "first voter" to the following article):

Young man, great responsibility attaches to your first vote. As you begin, so you are likely to continue. The momentum that carries you into a party at the beginning of your political life is apt to keep you in that party unless some convulsion shakes you out of it. Start right, and in order that you may start right, examine the principles of the parties and the policies which they advocate.

There are two great party organizations in this country, one more than fifty years old, the other more than a century old. The younger party, called the republican party, has recently split into two pieces—one faction led by Mr. Taft still holds to the name republican and the faction led by Mr. Roosevelt claims the name "progressive." But in the words of the poet, "You may break, you may shatter, the vase if you will, but the scent of the roses will cling to it still." Neither Mr. Taft who has held the office of president the past four years nor Mr. Roosevelt who held that office for seven years and who gave Mr. Taft to the American people can escape responsibility for the acts of commission and the acts of omission on the part of the republican party.

The republican party has been in power almost uninterruptedly for more than half a century and under its reign abuses have grown up which threaten the perpetuity of the government and endanger our civilization. So great are these abuses that republican reformers are now pointing out that something must be done—and what can be done? The first thing is to undo the things that have been done, and the party to undo these abuses is not the party which has done them, nor a faction of that party, but rather the work must be done by the party which has protested against these abuses and pointed out the remedies.

The republican party has turned the taxing power over to private individuals; it has allowed monopolies to grow up and assume control of the industries of the country by granting privileges by law and by giving immunity to the large violators of the law; the republican party has permitted the fortunes of the predatory rich to become so large that government is corrupted, politics debauched and business polluted.

The so-called progressive party does not offer any relief so far as redeeming the taxing power from private individuals. It confesses devotion to the high protective tariff policy. It would not destroy monopoly but it would recognize it and would undertake to "regulate" it. It would centralize "power" over the monopolies, removing the control from the people and thus permit monopolies to flourish.

The democratic party proposes to withdraw the taxing power from private hands, to so legislate as to make a private monopoly impossible, and to enforce the law without discrimination. It proposes to protect legitimate wealth and punish those who attempt to plunder the public for private gain. On which side do you stand, young man? Are you with the masses in their effort to restore the government to its old foundation and make it a government of the people, for the people and by the people, or are you with the republican leaders in their effort to perpetuate the party in power by selling immunity in return for campaign contributions?

There are always two parties in the country, and one is necessarily nearer to the people than the other. In this country the democratic party is nearer to the people than the republican party or its companion in responsibility—so-called progressive party. Democratic leaders have more faith in the people and are more anxious to keep the government under the control of the people. Take the election of United States senators by the people as a test. The democrats want to give to the voters a chance to elect and to control their representatives in the United States senate. The democratic party in the house of representatives passed the first resolution for the submission of the necessary constitutional amendment. They did this eight years before any republican congress did it. The democratic party has four times demanded this reform in its national platform. The republican party has not done so. Why did democratic leaders insist upon this reform and republican

leaders oppose it? There can be but one answer—the democratic party is nearer to the people than the republican party. Young man, will you stand with the people or against them?

The answer to this question affects your country. If you are with the people your influence, be it great or small, will hasten their victory. If you are against the people your influence may retard that victory. But while in the first instance it is your country that may gain or lose by your action, you must remember that in the long run your own position in politics will depend upon your conduct. You can not fool the people always. You may lead them astray if you dare, but they will punish you when they find you out. You may work for the people without their recognizing it at first, but you can trust them to discover the character of your work and to reward you accordingly.

FROM WOODROW WILSON'S SPEECHES

The republican party doesn't propose to change any of the essential conditions which mark our present difficulties.

Mr. Roosevelt proposes in his platform not to abolish monopoly, but to take it under the legal protection of the government and to regulate it, to take the very men into partnership who have been making it impossible to carry out these great programs by which all of us wish to help the people.

We don't want to disturb the industry of the country, but to destroy the control over the industry of other people which these men have established and which makes it impossible that we should give ourselves a free field of service.

Tariff schedules have been made for the purpose of keeping as large a number as possible of the rich and influential manufacturers of the country in a good humor with the republican party which desired their constant financial help.

The republican party has practically fostered the trusts. The democratic party proposes to prevent monopoly, and the third party proposes to take monopoly into partnership with the government by accepting it as an inevitable necessity and bringing it under the regulation of law, making it a legalized institution.

JUDGE CHARLES C. GRANT

Judge Charles C. Grant of Akron, Ohio, and editor of the Akron Times, has been nominated for circuit judge by the democrats. This district includes the city of Cleveland. Judge Grant left the republican party in 1896 and took his stand in that campaign by the side of Mr. Bryan. He has been a faithful supporter of democratic principles and every progressive in that circuit should be glad of the opportunity to vote for such a thorough going progressive as Judge Grant.

HARRY H. COLLIER

Harry H. Collier, proprietor of the Tacoma (Wash.) Progressive Democrat, is the democratic nominee for lieutenant governor of Washington. Mr. Collier has been a faithful champion of democratic principles for many years, and he will render faithful service to the people of Washington.

Why didn't Mr. Archbald do like Mr. Perkins, i. e., support Mr. Roosevelt for his children's sake, and thus enter the patriot class? "Saint George," as the harvester trust magnate appears now, has Archbald beaten a mile when it comes to getting in out of the rain.

ONE ON HILLES

The David City (Neb.) People's Banner says: "The joke is on Secretary Hilles. He listed California and South Dakota in his long column of sure Taft States and there are no Taft electors on the ballots."

Peter J. Hanley, a well known lawyer of Washington, Iowa, has written an interesting publication entitled, "Hanley's Revised Political Primer." The price is 25c per copy or \$2.50 per dozen. Democrats everywhere will be interested in it.

***** SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2, IS "WILSON DAY." MAKE IT A DAY TO BE REMEMBERED. *****