

# The Commoner.

WILLIAM J. BRYAN, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR

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## A CALL TO SERVICE

"I summon all honest men, all patriotic, all forward-looking men, to my side. God helping me, I will not fail them, if they but counsel and sustain me!"—President Woodrow Wilson in his inaugural address.

### A Bit of Humor

Those who enjoy humor are having a good laugh over Colonel Roosevelt's latest utterance. Speaking recently, he said:

"The progressive party will amalgamate with neither of the old parties, both of which are boss controlled and privilege ridden. We believe that in each of these parties, however, there are hundreds of thousands of good honest men and women who are progressives. The only place for them is in our party. We will welcome in and we will treat them on an exact equality with ourselves, paying not the slightest heed to whether they are ex-republicans or ex-democrats. We are all progressives together and nothing else we of the progressive party, and ours is the only party competent to mould right the future of this mighty republic."

This is certainly delightful. To have him receive the vice presidency and the presidency at the hands of Wall street, then join Wall street in electing Mr. Taft and after that try to get the republican party to nominate him for a third time—and then invite democrats to accept him as the only simon-pure progressive!

Isn't it rich?

How can he keep his face straight when he claims a monopoly of the reform sentiments of the country for his party?

The democratic party, after leading the progressive forces of the nation for a generation, is not likely to surrender the standard into the hands of so new a recruit. The democratic party has earned the right to march at the head of the procession and its commander-in-chief, President Wilson, is in the saddle.

But Colonel Roosevelt will serve the country well if he holds the progressive republicans together until they feel justified in connecting themselves with the democratic party. No hurry, but that is the logical course.

By the way, what is Colonel Roosevelt saying about those Wilson anti-trust laws in New Jersey?

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### OUR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

A gathering of newspaper men at the department of state in Washington city asked Secretary Bryan what would be the foreign policy under this administration. Mr. Bryan made the following statement:

"I do not care to speak of our foreign relations or our nation's position in relation to any particular nation or question, but my views on our national position are expressed in the closing words of the speech which I delivered at Indianapolis August 8, 1900. The words to which I refer are as follows, and show that I am in hearty accord with President Wilson on his desire to promote international peace and good will:

"I can conceive of a national destiny surpassing the glories of the present and the past—a destiny which meets the responsibilities of today and measures up to the possibilities of the future. Behold a republic, resting securely upon the foundation stones quarried by revolutionary patriots from the mountain of eternal truth—a republic applying in practice and proclaiming to the world the self-evident propositions that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with inalienable rights; that governments are instituted among men to secure these rights, and that governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed. Behold a republic in which civil and religious liberty stimulate all to earnest endeavor and in which the law restrains every hand uplifted for a neighbor's injury—a republic in which every citizen is a sovereign, but in which no one cares or dares to wear a crown.

"Behold a republic standing erect while empires all around are bowed beneath the weight of their own armaments—a republic whose flag is loved while other flags are only feared. Behold a republic increasing in population, in wealth, in strength and in influence, solving the problems of civilization and hastening the coming of an universal brotherhood—a republic which shakes thrones and dissolves aristocracies by its silent example and gives light and inspiration to those who sit in darkness. Behold a republic gradually but surely becoming the supreme moral factor in the world's progress and the accepted arbiter of the world's disputes—a republic whose history, like the path of the just, 'is as the shining light that shineth more and more unto the perfect day.'"

### LOST OPPORTUNITY

In imposing sentence upon the convicted officials of the cash register trust, Judge Hollister of Cincinnati, said: "You men belong to the walk of life which should set the example. You have lost the opportunity that was given you by the methods which you pursued. In your desire for gain you forgot everything else. The government is strong enough to protect its people, whether this protection extends to the transportation of dynamite across the land for the purpose of blowing up bridges or to the laying of hands upon men who seek to stifle competition by illegal business methods."

Judge Hollister's remarks ought to be read by every American citizen.

### The Inauguration

The inauguration of President Wilson and Vice President Marshall could not have been more impressive. Assembled in the senate chamber when the vice president took the oath of office were representatives of all parties and sections of our own country, and of all the leading nations of the world, with bowed heads. These men, all of them exercising authority—and many of them great authority—bowed while the chaplain in a most felicitously worded prayer, acknowledged the higher authority of the Heavenly Father, and invoked His blessing upon those retiring from, as well as those entering into, official position.

The vice president's speech was a characteristic one, full of thought and vigor and replete with epigrams. It will be more read and commented upon than any similar speech delivered in many a year.

Then came the administering of the oath to the president-elect—a solemn act performed amid a hush, broken only by the applause that followed when the new president turned to address the assembled multitude. The lesson taught by what followed ought not to be lost upon our own people and upon those who look to us for an example.

A nation of more than ninety millions of inhabitants passed peacefully from one administration to another—the new administration representing what must be regarded as scarcely

### INAUGURAL HYMN

Father, in this, Thy son, who comes to take  
This solemn oath today  
Are gathered all a nation's hopes and fears—  
Guide him aright, we pray.

Thy children, groping blindly toward the light  
Throughout the ages long,  
Have often missed the purpose of Thy thought  
And blundered into wrong.

But still with forward faces toward the right,  
We leave the troubled past;  
At birth endowed with breath of God, we must  
Look upward to the last,

And come before Thy mystic, unseen throne,  
With naught of pomp today,  
To bring the chosen leader of our race  
And humbly kneel and pray.

We can not point the way that he should walk  
today;  
Thy thoughts beyond us rise.  
And so we ask Thee, Lord to ever lift  
The veil before his eyes.

Show him Thy light, and from Thy bounty  
grant,  
To him a vision clear,  
That he may lead us on our forward way  
Devoid of guile or fear.  
—Mrs. Frances McKinnon Morton, in Christian  
Advocate.