

## TO THE OLD GUARD

### Friends and Fellow Laborers:

The editors and management of The Independent desire to enlist your co-operation in making the next National Convention of the Peoples Party the greatest in its history. Begin the work now, to make the gathering at Springfield, Ill., July 4th one that will mark a new epoch in history. From that date and place let it go forth to the world that the re-united Peoples Party, stronger in the faith that truth is mightier than money, renews with greater energy its battle for the cause of the plain people. The place is a fitting one. The thousands will gather and at the martyred Lincoln's tomb will pledge anew their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor for the advancement of the principle that as between the dollar and the man the MAN shall come first.

It will be a new inspiration to remember that the political party that elected Lincoln was made of essentially the same political elements that will be gathered there. Barnburners, Abolitionists, Free Soilers, a Whig faction and a Northern Democratic faction united to form the republican party and in a battle for human rights with the patriotic Lincoln for a leader came out victorious. The need for reform is greater now than then. The problem is not whether the white man shall enslave the black man but rather whether a few white men through the medium of trusts and combinations shall enslave the American people. Joined in a protest against it will be the Peoples Party, the mid-road populists, Independent Democrats aided by the National Federation for majority rule, single taxers and many lesser organizations. The star of the plain people is in the ascendant and will grow brighter, brighter until success is theirs.

To the Old Guard--Fall in--fill up the ranks and push forward with greater zeal than ever before. Help to spread the doctrines of truth and justice to every household. The subsidized press of the country will deride and ridicule but truth will overcome it. You who have read The Independent know of the fearless battle it makes for the cause of right. You may depend upon it to continue the battle with greater zeal than ever before. With your assistance the money changers can be driven from the temple of power. Education is the first essential. The people must be taught the truth. Thousands of our readers insist that The Independent is the most valuable educator and are pushing its circulation into every locality. Will you help? To make the work easy we have made a special EDUCATIONAL RATE for trial subscriptions.

FIVE MONTHS FOR 25 CENTS is a rate that puts the paper within the reach of everyone. Invite your neighbor to subscribe. Every laborer for reform should be on The Independent list. He cannot properly do his duty to the party without it. It furnishes the ammunition--information that cannot be had elsewhere. We are counting on the assistance of every Old Guard in pushing this educational work. How many new names can you secure at 25c each? How many educational subscription cards shall we send to you? Fill out the blank below and we will send them to you by return mail. The editor will be glad to have any information or suggestions from readers as to political conditions in their localities. All such communications receive his personal attention and more than anything else serve to guide him in his work.

Yours faithfully,

**THE INDEPENDENT.**

### HEARST AND BRYAN

How Hearst and Bryan can find any common ground upon which to stand is one of those things that no pop can find out. Hearst is an imperialist from the crown of his head to the soles of his feet, and Bryan made anti-imperialism the "paramount issue" in his last campaign. The paramount issue in Bryan's former campaign was free silver, and Hearst has always been against that. The next morning after the campaign Hearst denounced both free silver and Bryan's campaign most bitterly.

Lately Hearst has taken to imperialism with more energy than ever. His Chicago papers of last Monday came out, as his other papers have been doing of late, for enormous naval expenditures. The articles were written after the true Hearst style, much of them in black-faced type and spread across four columns. They started out in this way:

"Happily for the country and, in our judgment, happily for the interests of the democratic party also, the efforts made in the house of representatives to severely check the growth of the navy have been defeated.

"And defeated with the help of democratic votes."

The logic by which this sort of im-

perialism was maintained was of the school-boy kind that all are familiar with who have read any of the Hearst papers. The following is a sample:

"The inland population has, in fact, a special interest in the building of plenty of warships, if we are weak on the sea armies can be landed and the interior of the country subjected to invasion."

On the fundamental propositions of the Kansas City platform Hearst and Bryan are as much at war as Bryan and Cleveland are. It is said that politics make strange bed-fellows, but if Hearst and Bryan can lie down together, they will be the strangest bed-fellows that ever got under one cover.

The republican dailies are all declaring that Senator Allen is for Cleveland, because he said that Cleveland is the logical candidate of the democratic party. The senator did say that as far back as the Denver conference and a good many other populists have been saying it for a year or more. That was the opinion of every populist at the St. Louis conference. Whether Cleveland is the "logical" candidate or not, it is very likely that he will get the democratic nomination when that convention assembles.

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