

REMEDY FOR WRONG

the country for the common interest of the common people. It will prove to be the most important card in the preliminary work of the campaign of 1908.

George Rementer, Philadelphia, Pa.—I approve of the move because it's all honest and democratic; hoping success.

M. U. Johnson, Summitville, Ind.—The common people are honest at heart politically, and when that will is expressed and executed we need have no fears for the future.

W. S. Furman, lawyer, Sidney, Ohio.—I am greatly pleased to be afforded the opportunity of signing and forwarding to you the enclosed primary pledge. I am always ready to lend what assistance I may to a move that is for the right and for the betterment of existing conditions, and I fully believe, with you, that this move means and can only result in a stronger, a better, and a more representative democratic party, which again means and can only result in a democratic victory, a stronger, a better, and a more representative government.

W. J. Wimer, Waldo, Ore.—That our party may avoid any more blunders I sign the primary pledge and send herewith. With the right man and with proper care we can carry the country in 1908.

Dr. Charles L. Otrich, Anna, Ill.—"Back to the people" is the proper slogan. Send me 100 pledges and I will return them signed by Union county democrats. I have been faithful to democratic principles through the party's successes and defeats and though at times the silver lining on the party clouds grows dim I have never lost faith in the people's ability to right wrongs. It is good and wholesome to renew our pledges.

Robert H. Hoffman, Silverton, Colo.—Being born and raised only about fifty miles from and nourished by the drippings from the eaves of Monticello, you can rest assured that nothing but a democratic ballot will ever receive my endorsement.

E. B. Sheldon, Maryville, Mo.—Enclosed find primary pledge of twenty names of our best men in town. As I am a traveling man and am very busy now could not spare much time to the cause but will always be in line and ready to take up this line of work at any time. Now let the good work go on.

Clarence H. Sears, Chillicothe, Ohio.—My sympathies have always been with the common people and since 1896 I have been an enthusiastic admirer and follower of Mr. Bryan. I have agreed with him in principle and policy and I have always had implicit faith in his honesty of purpose, but have not had the undoubted conviction of his political sagacity and masterful leadership until within the latter months, including the St. Louis convention. The triumph of needed reforms is now in sight. I sometimes feel selfish in my indifference, thinking that being in a position where I can "stand" the oppression of organized greed, I can afford to turn a deaf ear to it, but conscience quickens the pulse, the thought of those who are oppressed and the possible misery of my posterity prompts to action. Success to you in your work and God-speed!

John Seaman, Cincinnati, Ohio.—I cast my first vote for James Buchanan forty-nine years ago and continued to keep the colors up. This city is not a very healthy place for democracy but there are a number of old Jeffersonians here that never fail to sound the bugle on election day. Please find enclosed my pledge properly signed. I heartily approve of your method for

organizing and will attend strictly to my obligation.

William W. Anderson, Forsythe, Ga.—Although reared in the old whig party, I have since 1860 heartily supported the democratic ticket in every presidential contest except two. I did not support Mr. Greeley, because he did not represent democratic principles, and I did not support Mr. Parker because I did not know what he did represent. This changing and shifting of ideas and policy simply to win, without any fixed principles by which to be governed may suit modern politicians, but it is not in harmony with the principles upon which our government was founded. What is defeat when compared with principles? Are we to abandon principle and seek policy? Never. Bimetallism, tariff for revenue, income tax, economical expenditure of the people's money are vital questions yet.

Alfred J. Davis, democratic nominee for congress, Third Wisconsin district, in 1896, Minneapolis, Minn.—A political platform worthy of our support should be something more than a net to catch votes on election day, and kept in the political garret from one campaign to another. It should be a living expression of truth. Let our party platform be inspired with the needs of the hour—a present remedy. Endorsement of the past is not so important as a realization of future need. It is to be hoped that we learned last fall that, "Where the church makes a feast, the devil should not send cooks." The unanimity of the last campaign, if there was unanimity, came by the slackening of our pace but I have reason to believe that future unanimity will be by the "quickenings of the gait of our less ardent colleagues."

Joseph Russell Jarvis, Cobden, Ill.—In my opinion, the highest duty of every American citizen to his Creator is to exercise his God-given talent in preserving, protecting and defending our form of government from its enemies. This can not be done if the Christian element stay away from the primaries and allow the corrupt and corruptible elements to take control as they have done of late in the two leading parties of the nation. This pledge will be the greatest revival of true religion ever known in our nation, as it will cause the best element of the democratic party to take control. The true Christians in the republican party, despairing of redeeming their own party from the control of the plutocratic anarchists, will join the resurrected democracy.

Thor J. Benson, former assistant prosecuting attorney, Chicago.—The "fads" that Judge Parker spoke of at the recent New York Jefferson banquet, such as the direct issue of money by the government in gold, silver and paper, and municipal ownership of public utilities, have ever been dear to the heart of most of the educated Scandinavians and their home governmental policies shaped in accordance. Without such policies, they would never be able to maintain a civilization as highly developed as they have in regions so inhospitably treated by nature and they feel sure that in a country so well-favored in this respect as their adopted land, if the same policies were adopted, prosperity would be within the reach of all honest persons no matter how humble their station in life may have been. Within the last nine years, democracy when under the leadership of radical reforms, has always drawn a largely increased vote from this element of the country's citizenship, the great speech on the tariff delivered by a subsequent standard bearer of the party in two presidential campaigns, actually contributing to the changing of the political

affiliation of one of their most able representatives in congress, John Lind, who six years later was elected governor of his state, later proving himself a veritable Warwick by pointing out another Scandinavian American democrat, now the governor of Minnesota, John A. Johnson. They feel loath to vote for candidates catering to the good will of the captains of predatory wealth, and others whose pecuniary interests all lie in the direction of making opportunities for dividends, interest and other forms of devising means for getting money without work. While it is true that President Roosevelt's open and fearless denunciation of fraud and oppression has in the past appealed to their approval and secured their support and good will, they are beginning to have serious doubts as to his ability or serious inclination to carry out his much talked of reforms and the republican party is alienating an increasing number each year.

J. Z. Higgs, Mano, Barry county, Mo.—Enclosed find my primary pledge which I gladly sign, also two of my neighbors. I have always attended the primaries and shall continue to do so and use my influence so far as I can to promote true democracy. I love true democracy because it is right. I consider it an honor to have my name written on the pledge list.

George W. Hunter, Durango, Colo.—Enclosed find signed primary pledge, believing the plan a splendid proposition. But, while thus giving partial expression and with a full indorsement of "Bryan democracy" I reserve the right to refuse to support any platform or any candidate that is democratic in name only. I wish The Commoner continued success.

H. Fleming, Hardin, Ill.—With pleasure I sign the primary pledge as I wish to go on record as a true blue democrat.

Joseph A. Scott, Madison, Mo.—I take pleasure in mailing you my primary pledge. I have been carrying out the program therein suggested for nearly forty years. If one is a democrat he believes in the rule of the people and the primary is the only place in which the power can be exercised. Therefore I hope that every democrat in the nation will respond to your call.

A. T. Hatch, San Francisco, Calif.—With pleasure I here enclose the primary pledge taken from your paper,

to which I am glad to be a subscriber, as I am very much pleased to read and consider, which pledge, I take without any qualification, being only too willing to comply with all the specifications therein. Having had it in my conscience ever since I was old enough to know what was right or wrong (am past 68 years since January 31, last) to follow the principles the democratic party now advocates. Equal rights to all, no preference to rich or poor, to stand to the declaration of independence and the constitution of the United States of America, without any reservation whatever.

R. B. Toland, Secretary Democratic County Committee, Lima, Ohio.—There is no question but that the placing of these blanks in the hands of all democrats will work much good for the party of the people. John A. Walton of this city, is interesting himself in the movement with considerable success—there should be many like him.

E. A. Trosdahl, Hamilton, Mont.—I as a "commoner" will put the shoulder to the wheel and push. I am one of the '96'ers and am going to stay so.

Wallace A. McKay, Lawyer, Louisville, Ky.—It is highly important that the democrats who believe in the people controlling the party organization and dictating the party's policy on the live issues of the day should get together and begin now the work that must be done in preparation for the great battle of 1908.

Charles Just, Presto.—I feel we are taking the right step toward victory.

Ezra Graybill, Middletown, Ind.—Enclosed you will find my primary pledge duly signed, and to acknowledge my appreciation of your noble work is a pleasant task. Democracy dates back in our family to the days of Thomas Jefferson, but I never was prouder of my political faith than now. I am only a farmer, but my interests are much affected by the miserable imitations of the American Beauty roses.

Victor P. Moses, County Clerk, Benton, County, Corvallis, Ore.—Herewith I enclose pledge, and will ask you to kindly forward one hundred blanks to me, and I will circulate them among the democracy of Benton county. I am a firm believer in complete organization, and the primaries are the proper times for us to strike the enemy, as well as gird our own loins for the fray.

(Continued on page 14.)

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