

Orange Cal Apr 24th 1894
Hon A. W. Dorgan
Wayville N. C.

Dear Sir

Your circular of recent date, together with paper containing your letter in reference to nomination for Congress rec'd

I am glad to learn that the paper is to be launched. I had after thought of it, & with sorrow that not enough support could be enlisted to justify the venture, for so I understood my failure to hear from my subscription.

I noticed last week in some paper a clipping from some eastern paper, stating that an effort to send you to Congress was to be made, & I had concluded to write you in a day or two, & tell you that it seemed to me, that as a representation in Congress you could accomplish more for the cause in which you have labored so long & earnestly, than you could hope ^{to} as a private citizen.

But now comes this circular announcing the publication of the National Citizen, & the question

arises: Can Judge Lougee conduct that paper while representing in Congress the 34th N.M., & I am sceptical on that point. That paper had better not be started, than to start & fail, ^{to} prosper. The financial conditions are such that only by great effort can a reasonable subscription list be secured, & I can see no ground for hope of much improvement while the chair of state creaks under its present burden.

The average citizen considers his party papers a necessity, & however much he may sympathize with the reform you are attempting, he will be apt to consider the National Citizen a luxury & so "pass by on the other side." Much as I would like to have you in ~~in~~ Congress, & I think I do to some degree realize the great need now existing of not one only, but a score of men like yourself in Congress, still if your efforts directed along another channel can more quickly inaugurate the grand reform under consideration, then my voice would be for your declining the preferment held before you. I am not insensible to the fact as I believe it to be, that no one now in Congress or likely soon to get there can be so well equipped for the task of arousing the dormant sentiment of the American people in behalf of Free Men as yourself. But at the same time it is no less patent to me that Judge Lougee is the one man in all the nation, best

fitted to conduct the National Citizen through the perils which so thickly beset the infant journal.

Now Judge I am well aware that a very coward can talk bravely when descending upon what others ought to do. & I beg you to understand that I am simply one of ^{the} great majority, one unit only, & I write as things appear to me knowing well that my facilities for judging in the matter, are no better than they were when as a private in an artillery Co I vainly scratched my head in an effort to conclude what the commander ^{in chief} ought to do.

I wish the National Citizen was already on its feet, for the country does so sadly need a leader to show this people how to deal with the industrial army movements. If the people had refused these traveling organizations any assistance whatever either sympathy or food they could ^{not} have held together one week, & there would have been no more companies formed.

I am inclined to believe that the Populist leaders planned the scheme to gain ammunition for the next campaign. What a club is the hands of that party, if they could have assembled 100,000 men at Washington.

The fact that Congress could not grant their demands would have made no matter of difference to the Populist orator, as he declaimed with tears in his voice of the tyranny of this plutocratic government in refusing to grant relief to 100,000 starving men.

God knows there is rottenness in high places, but the idea of an army of men demanding certain legislation, why it is neither more nor less than highway robbery. If one set of men can demand one set of laws, another set can demand another, & there is an end of order at once, "chaos come again".

I can't close this without telling you, how heartily I hurrah for Reed in his triumph in the House. It is the greatest victory for law & order that has been scored for years.

I enclose one dollar fifty cents for the National Citizen to be sent to me at Orange Cal. Please send me a lot of sample copies to distribute.

Respectfully Yours

R. M. Hazard