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POLITICAL IDEALS.

Populism in No Sense a Representative of True Democracy-The Departure of the Democratic Party from Democratic Ideals.

Frank Nash in Charlotte Observer.

Both the Democratic and Populist parties claim to apply concretely the abstract principles of democracy. The Populists claim is, of course, mere pretense. It is the most powerful and most aggressive representative in this country of collectivism as opposed to the individualism of democracy It professes to be the special advocate of a government by the people, yet is itself dictated to by a coterie of self-seeking politicians. It declares that a majority must rule, yet in the history of this country there never has been a small minority party which has so hampered, if it did not totally prevent, beneficial legislation. I proclaims that it will purify the public service and public life, yet, since reconstruction, there has not been so corrupting an influence in State and national politics. It is in no sense, then, a representative of true democracy. Yet it is admitted that it has a reason for existence, to the rank and file of itsown followers, in what they conceive to be the errors, if not op pressious, of the two old parties. This conception being honest, though vague o'ten and nearly always erroneous, is entitled. dealing with them, to respectful

That the Populist party should obtain a respectable following in this State is, I believe, to a great degree, due to the departure of the Democratic party not only Mr. Bryan's leadership, a still from Democratic ideals, but from the principles of common fairness if not of common morality. I can see very well that an overwhelming public necessity in South Carolina or Mississippi, justify strin gent election laws, which exclude | would be well for you to cut out or from the ballot box a large number copy for reference in your Bible of an ignorant majority; or even in the absence of these laws, might make force or fraud at the ballot twenty-three and one-fifth miles. box a venial offense. But I can see nothing in the condition of North Carolina which could excuse, much less justify either the inches. one or the other. A large white majority, an admirable county three and five-eights inches. government system, which placed the management of the county's one inch. financial affairs and its justices' courts in the hands of the best citi- ty cents. zens, together with a wholesome and well-nigh universal distrust of the negro's capacity, either as a financier or legislator, left him no offices that he could be elected to, except member of the Legislature from a few counties and Congressman from a district or two. of a cent. Filling these he could do no harm; indeed, I am informed that under the old regime the negro legislators showed an inclination, outside of party questions, to act with the better element of the Democratic party. Not content that he should have even the modicum of political right, however, legislative tinkering and ballot box manipulating soon deprived him of it. Then it was that the Democratic party sowed the wind, which it is now reaping in the form of a whirlwind. Many Democrats, either from disgust or carelessness, knowing the matter would be fixed anyhow, failed to vote, got out of the habit of voting,

doing their part to prevent it. Again, the county government day. system, excellent as it was, essenial, in fact, to the well-being of Friday. the eastern counties, as was admitted by its foes, was itself a departure from Democratic ideals, and so gave foundation for the attacks of the theorists among these modern apostles of true democracy, the Populiets. In its administration, too, active Democratic politicians, mostly lawyers, were not as considerate as desired of would-be active politicians, who were not lawyers. Indeed I have heard it said that many Democratic county conventions met sim,

and when the crash came were not

date of a town clique; whether or not true I do not know.

Another departure from Democratic ideals which gave occasion to the attacks of both theorists and practical politician among the Populists.

In national politics, bowever, vate property, as well as personal taxes for two years. liberty. Any departure, then, calling themselves Democrats. By | throughout the State. this they may have departed from the democracy, but they did so to prevent, as they thought, the country itself from making, under greater departure.

### BIBLE TERMS.

Here is a handy table which it

A day's journey was about A Sabbath day's journey was about an English mile.

A cubit was nearly twenty-two

A hand's breadth is equal to A finger's breadth is equal to

A shekel of silver was about fif

A shekel of gold was \$8.

A talent of silver was \$558.30. A talent of gold was \$13,809. A piece of silver or a penny was thirteen cents.

A farthing was three cents. A mite was less than a quarter

A gerah was one cent. An ephan, or bath, contained

seven gallons and five pints. A bin was one gollon and two

A firkin was about eight and seven-eights gallons.

An omer was six pints. A cab was three pints.

What Happened on Friday.

Lee surrendered on Friday. Moscow was burned on Friday Washington was born on Friday. Shakespeare was born on Friday. America was discovered on Fri

Richmond was evacuated on Fri

The Bastile was destroyed on

The Mayflower was landed on Friday. Fort Sumpter was bombarded

on Friday. Queen Victoria was married or Friday.

King Charles I was beheaded on Friday. Julius Caesar was assassinated

on Friday. Napolean Bonaparts was born on Friday.

The Battle of Bunker Hill was ply to register the conceived man- lought on Friday.

HOW THE PEOPLE VOTE.

The Election Laws of the Various States-Registration and Form of the Ballots. New York Sun.

The other charges of the Popu- a useful and interesting task in lists against the Democracy of the compiling the provisions of the State are mere froth and fury, election laws of all the States of signifying nothing, so it is not the Union, and presenting the renecessary to examine them in de- sult in a document which Congress has caused to be published.

During the last ten years, or the Democratic party conforms its since the Australian system of balprinciples more nearly to the dem- loting began to make its way here, ocratic ideal than either of its under the leadership of Michigan, competitors. Even its vices are there have been many changes in but virtues carried to a vicious ex- the election laws. The first point treme. The taint of green backism we have to note is that usually some years ago it contracted from nowadays no prepayment of poll the people, and it declared for tax is required. The exceptions both greenbackism and free coin- are Arkansas and Florida; Pennage last year at the demand of sylvania, as to the State and county what it thought the popular voice. | tax; Delaware, the county tax; But true Democracy is essentially Oregon, school taxes; South Caroconservative. Not only its ideal, lina, all pell dues; Georgia, all but its mission, is to protect pri- taxes since 1871; Mississippi, all

Next as to registration. None from this ideal by the Democratic at all is required in New Hampparty is a departure from the true shire, Vermont, Indiana, South democracy, and such the conserva- Dakota, Oregon, and Arkansas. tism of the country last year re- In Maine, Ohio, Illinois Wiscongarded its demand for free coin- sin Iowa, Missonri, Kansas, Neage. And part of this conserva- braska, North Dakota, Washingtism, knowing that protection was ton, Kentucky, Tennessee, and so interwoven into our industrial Texas it is limited or confined to system that a return to a tariff for certain counties or cities. In revenue only could not be had im- Rhode Island it is limited to per mediately without great disaster, sons not paying a tax. In Penn- duced by Senator Butler, by repreferred to bear the ills they had sylvania and West Virginia it is quest: than to fly to those they knew not general, except for schools. In A bill entitled "An Act to Regof, and voted for McKinley, still all the other States it prevails ulate the State Printing.

Dakota, Montana and Washing- repealed. 21x5 inches in size.

Now as to the form of the balot. The general usage is to have a column for each party in which only the names of its candidates are printed. But Florida, Ala-Jersey have an official ballot for each party. New Hampsbire, Rhode Island, Minnesota, Nebraska, Wyoming, Utab, Washington, Oregon, Nevada, Virginia, Tennessee, and Louisiana base "a group of electors" in the party or group column.

Can a candidate's politics be placed against his name? It can be in New Hampshire, Vermont, Indiana, Minnesota, Nebraska, Wvoming, Colorado, Utah, Washington, Oregon, Nevada, California, and Arkansas; and Louisiana. except for electors; and in Wisconsin it can be so placed for "individual nominations." party emblem, familiar in New York, is still less generally allowed, Delaware, Obio, Indiana, Michigan, Colorado, Utah, Mary land and Kentucky being the only other States that permit it, except in North Carolina, where its use is optional.

How are the ballots marked? The X or cross is also universal. In the two Carolinas and in Georgia, however, there is no provision for marking, and in Connecticut and New Jersey the rule is not to mark except to scratch. In Missouri, Virginia, West Virginia and Arkansas the voter scratches the names not voted, and both scratching and marking is optional from the fact that in all those States provision is made for one mark for a straight ticket. In New Hampsbire, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island one mark for a straight ticket is allowed for electors only. In Massachusetts, Delaware, Indiana, Michigan and California the authorities fornish a stamp and ink pad with which to make the X. Maryland furnishes an indelible pencil, and in Lou-

isiana a rubber stamp obliterates a circular white spot in a black in a lower life, if we would know square opposite each name voted what it means to enjoy a higher for. With few exceptions, instruc- one. tion of voters or a suitable ballot is furnished, and, in most cases, Mr. John C. Honk has performed both. In most States, also, the voter is asssisted, "if he cannot read," in case of "physical or mental disability," and in a few the law requires an educational qualification. Thus, in Connecticut, the voter is to be assisted only in enveloping his tickets and there the voter must be able to read. In Massachusetts he must be able to read and write, unless a voter before 1857; in Mississippi, to read or construe the constitustitution, and the same rule will apply to South Carolina, as we

understand, next year. Only a few States require the presenting of a tax receipt or registration certificate. Most of them have laws regulating primary elections at least to the extent of prescribing penalties for fraud, but some have very limited rules in this respect. In Connecticut and New Jersey the ballot must be put man envelope.

## THE STATE PRINTING.

ext of the Bill Introduced by Senator Butler Changing the Law in Giving Out the Public Printing Contract.

The following is the bill intro-

Sec. 1. That chapter 20, acts of How is it with the official ballot? 1896, entitled "Au Act Providing As a rule, it is general, that is, for the Letting of the Public "printed by the State or county. Printing to the Lowest Respon-

throughout the State." But in sible Bidder, and for Other Pur-New York, Illinois, Iowa, South poses," be and the same is hereby ton it is "general except for Sec. 2. That the joint commitschools," in Tennessee and Texas tee on printing are hereby direcit is limited, or printed by the ted and instructed on the part of State or county only in certain the State, to make, execute and counties, while in North Carolina deliver a contract with Guy V. and Georgia there is an unofficial Barnes for the public printing at

ballot for each party, and in South such rates as they think to the in-Carolina also an unofficial one, terest of the State, and not exceeding those of the contract of 1893. The said Guy V. Barnes to whom said contract is awarded shall give bond with approved security, payable to the State of North Carolina, in the sum of five bama, Mississippi and Arkansas thousand dollars.conditioned upon have no party column or group so the faithful performance of his printed. Connecticut and New duties and undertakings under the contract and under this chap-

Sec. 3. That the Secretary of State furnish to the public printer on his requisition and receipt for the same, such printing paper as may be necessary in executing the public printing.

Sec. 4. It shall be the duty of the Public Printer to have the laws, documents, journals and all State printing printed and bound with the utmost expediton, and the work shall be done in the city of Raleigh, and with union labor. Sec. 5. The Public Printer shall keep a stock book, showing all paper and material received from the Secretary of State; what part thereof bas been used, and the balance on band. This stock book shall be open to the inspection of any State officer. Each job shall be numbered, and each bill rendered shall show the number of ems, impressions, volumes bound, and other items charged

Sec. 6. The Public Printer shall and propose at all times to carry make a report to the General As- a Full Line of all Kinds of sembly, showing in tabulated form the amount of work and for what department done. Sec. 7. That all laws and clauses

of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed. Sec. 8. That this act shall be in force from and after its ratifica-

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