

NEBRASKA STRIKES THE KEYNOTE OF CAMPAIGN

Roaring Applause at Every Mention of the Name of Bryan Whose Address is Greeted by an Ovation

PERFECT HARMONY MARKS CONVENTION

Proceedings Filled With Spirit of Loyalty to the "Commoner"—Most Largely Attended Convention in the History of Democracy in the State—Address of Chairman Hanks—Task of Democrats Used to Be to Persuade the Republicans to Accept Democratic Policies; Work Now is to Expose the Imitation by Them of Democratic Ideas, Says the Nebraskan—The Platform Which Reflects the Ideas, He Will Present to the Denver Convention.

(By the Associated Press.) Omaha, Neb., March 5.—This was "Bryan Day" in Omaha and throughout Nebraska. With the Democratic State convention as a nucleus, party leaders from every county and practically every primary district in the commonwealth gathered here to stage allegiance to the presidential candidates of Mr. Bryan and to consider means for furthering his interests before the Democratic National convention at Denver next July.

Enthusiasm was prevalent throughout the day. It broke loose early in the afternoon session of the convention and gradually gathered volume, broke out in tumultuous vociferations as the delegates of the evening session, the platform committee presented this resolution:

"The Democratic party of Nebraska again declares confidence in, and admiration for William Jennings Bryan. In him we behold the ideal American citizen—the ideal Democrat. We rejoice that the principles which he has so ably advocated have been gladly received and are now generally accepted by the American people.

"Resolved, that the delegates by this convention chosen, be and are hereby instructed to vote as a unit for the nomination of Mr. Bryan for the Presidency."

This official endorsement of Mr. Bryan's candidacy met the full approval of the delegates. The ironclad instructions to the sixteen men selected during the afternoon to represent the State at Denver, will, it was thought, leave no doubt as to where Bryan's home State stands.

The platform as a whole was largely Mr. Bryan's own work. It reflected the leader's view as to what should form the issues upon which the party should go before the country next fall, was not denied.

Mr. Bryan, however, said that the declarations of the platform were necessarily incomplete. The same subjects which undoubtedly will be included in the national platform, were omitted, while others were treated in a purposely brief manner so as to allow amplification at Denver.

The platform in full is as follows: **Text of the Platform.**

We, the representatives of the Democracy of Nebraska, in this convention assembled, reaffirm our faith in, and pledge our loyalty to, the principles of our party. We rejoice at the increasing signs of an awakening in the United States. The various investigations have traced graft and political corruption to the representatives of predatory wealth, who have used the unscrupulous methods by which they have debauched elections and preyed upon a defenseless public through the subservient officials whom they have raised to place and power.

The conscience of the nation is now aroused and the honest appeal is made, to free the government from the grip of those who have made it a business asset of the favor seeking corporations; it must become again a government of the people, by the people and for the people, and be administered in all its departments according to the Jeffersonian maxim "equal rights to all and special privileges to none."

This is the overshadowing issue at this time; it manifests itself in all the questions now under discussion and demands immediate consideration.

Fastes and Rebates. We heartily approve of the laws prohibiting the pass and the rebate, and insist upon further legislation, State and national, making it unlawful for any corporation to contribute to campaign funds, and providing for publication before the election, of all individual contributions above a reasonable minimum.

States Rights. Believing with Jefferson, in "the support of the State governments in all their rights as the most competent administrations for our domestic concerns and the surest bulwark against anti-Republican tendencies," and in the preservation of the general government in its whole constitutional vigor, as the sheet anchor of our peace at home and safety abroad, we are opposed to the centralization implied in the suggestions, now frequently made, that the powers of the general government should be extended by judicial construction. While we favor the exercise by the general government of all its constitutional authority for the prevention of monopoly and for the regulation of interstate commerce, we insist that Federal remedies shall be added to, and not substituted for State remedies.

Natural vs. Artificial Man. We insist upon recognition of the distinction between the natural man and the artificial person called a corporation, and we favor the enactment of such laws as may be necessary to compel foreign corporations to submit their legal disputes to the courts of the States in which they do business, and thus place themselves upon

the same footing as domestic corporations.

Election of Senators. We favor the election of United States Senators by direct vote of the people, and regard this reform as the gateway to all other national reforms.

Trusts. A private monopoly is indefensible in this State. We therefore favor the vigorous enforcement of the criminal law against trust and trust magnates, and demand the enactment of such additional legislation as may be necessary to make it impossible for a private monopoly to exist in this State. Among the additional remedies we specify three:—

First, a law preventing the duplication of directors among competing corporations; second, a license system which will, without abridging the right of each State to create corporations, or its rights to regulate as to the foreign corporations doing business within its limits, make it necessary for a manufacturing or trading corporation engaged in interstate commerce to take out a Federal license before it shall be permitted to control as much as 25 percent of the product in which it deals; the license to protect the public from watered stock, and to prohibit the control by such corporation of more than fifty percent of the total amount of any product consumed in the United States; and third, a law compelling such licensed corporations to sell to all purchasers on all terms and conditions the same terms after making due allowance for cost of transportation.

Tariff Reform. We welcome the belated promise of tariff reform, now offered by a part of the Republican party, as a part recognition of the righteousness of the Democratic position on this question, but the people cannot safely entrust the execution of this important work to a party which is so obligated to the highly protected interests that it postpones relief until after the election. And we call attention to the significant fact that the promise now made by those Republicans who favor tariff revision is wholly vitiated by the use of the very qualifying words under which the present tariff inequities have grown up.

We favor an immediate revision of the tariff by the reduction of import duties. Articles entering into competition with articles controlled by trusts should be placed upon free list; material reductions should be made in the tariff upon necessities of life, and reduction should be made in such other schedules as may be necessary to restore the tariff to revenue basis.

We favor an income tax as part of our revenue system, and we urge the submission of a constitutional amendment specifically authorizing Congress to levy and collect a tax upon individual and corporate income to the end that the wealth may bear its proportionate share of the burdens of the federal government.

We favor a national inheritance tax to reach the "swollen fortunes" already in existence, but we believe that it is better to permanently prevent "swollen fortunes" by abolishing the tax on the favoritism upon which they are based.

We sympathize with the efforts put forth for the reclamation of the arid lands of the West and urge the largest possible use of irrigation in the development of the country. We also favor the reclamation of swamp lands upon the same principles.

Forest Preservation. We favor the preservation of the forests still remaining, and the replanting of the denuded districts in all our mountain ranges, as well as the forestation of the Western plains.

We believe that the Panama Canal will prove of great value to our country and favor its speedy completion.

We urge liberal appropriations for the improvement and development of the interior water-ways, believing that such expenditures will return a large dividend in lessened cost of transportation. We favor a generous pension policy both as a matter of justice to the surviving veterans and their dependents, and because it relieves the country of the necessity of maintaining a large standing army.

Imperialism. We condemn the experiments in imperialism as an inexcusable blunder which has involved us in an enormous expense, brought us weakness instead of strength, and laid our nation open to the charge of abandoning the fundamental doctrine of self-government.

Interstate Commerce. We favor an immediate declaration of the nations, purpose to recognize the independence of the Philippine Islands as soon as a stable government can be established, such independence to be guaranteed by us, as we guard the independence of Cuba until the neutralization of the islands can be secured by treaty with other powers. In recognizing the independence of the Philippine Islands our government should retain such land as may be necessary for coaling stations and naval bases.

Desiring the prevention of war, wherever possible, we believe that our nation should announce its determination not to use our navy for the collection of private debts and its willingness to enter into agreements with other nations, providing for the investigation by an impartial international tribunal, before any declaration of war or commencement of hostilities, of every dispute which defies diplomatic settlement.

Interstate Commerce. We assert the right of Congress to exercise complete control over interstate commerce, and we assert the right of each State to exercise just as complete control over commerce within its borders. We demand such an enlargement of powers of national and State railway commissions as may be necessary to give full protection to persons and shippers from discrimination and extortion. We believe that both the nation and the various States should first ascertain the present value of the railroads, measured by the cost of reproduction; second, prohibit the issue of any more watered stock or fictitious capitalization; third, prohibit the railroads from engaging in any

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business which brings them into competition with their shippers; and fourth, reduce transportation rates until they reach a point where they will yield only a reasonable return on the present value of the railroads—such reasonable return being defined as a return sufficient to keep the stock of the roads at par when such roads are honestly capitalized.

The injury done by issues of watered stock is more clearly seen and better understood since the shrinkage in the market value of such stock has precipitated a widespread panic and brought enormous loss to the country.

The panic has emphasized the necessity for legislation protecting the wealth-producers from spoliation at the hands of the stock gamblers and the gamblers in farm products.

The present financial stringency furnishes additional proof that the Republican leaders are either unwilling or incompetent to protect the interests of the general public. They have so linked us to Wall street that the deposits of the speculators are visited upon the entire country.

Postal Savings Bank. We favor the postal savings bank and, in addition thereto, insist upon passage of laws, State and national, for the better regulation of banks and for the protection of bank depositors. The government demands security when it deposits public money in a bank, and we believe that the security of the individual depositor who intrusts his earnings to a bank, should be as specific as the government security.

Aldrich and Fowler Bills. We oppose both the Aldrich bill and the Fowler bill, and believe that in so far as the need of commerce requires an emergency currency, such currency should be issued and controlled by the Federal government, and that it should be loaned upon adequate security and at a rate of interest which will compel its retirement when the emergency is passed. We demand further, that favoritism in the deposits of treasury funds shall be abolished, and that surplus revenues shall be deposited at competitive rates upon sufficient security and fairly distributed throughout the country.

Labor and Capital. We favor the eight hour day. We believe in the conciliation of capital and labor and favor every legitimate means for the adjustment of disputes between corporations, employers and employees, to the end that justice may be done to those who toil and that society may be relieved from the embarrassment occasioned by prolonged strikes and lockouts.

Injunctions. We favor such a modification of the law relating to injunctions, as will, first, prevent the issuing of the writ of injunction in cases where it is not necessary to the end that justice may be done to those who toil and that society may be relieved from the embarrassment occasioned by prolonged strikes and lockouts.

Immigration. We favor full protection, by both national and State governments within their respective spheres, of all foreigners residing in the United States under the treaty, but we are opposed to the admission of Asiatic immigrants who cannot be amalgamated with our population, or whose presence among us would raise a race issue and involve us in diplomatic controversies with oriental powers, and we demand stricter enforcement of the immigration laws against any immigrants who advocate assassination as a means of reforming our government.

We welcome Oklahoma to the sisterhood of States and heartily congratulate her upon her auspicious beginning of a great career.

We favor separate statehood for Arizona and New Mexico and demand that the principles which have been so ably advocated have been gladly received and are now generally accepted by the American people.

Resolved, that the delegates by this convention chosen, be and they are hereby instructed to vote as a unit for the nomination of Mr. Bryan for the Presidency.

Although William Jennings Bryan appeared only as a spectator at the opening session of the Nebraska Democratic Convention this afternoon the proceedings were filled with a spirit of loyalty to him that left no doubt as to the attitude of his party members in this, his home State. From the time that Chairman H. H. Hanks made his first reference to Bryan as the "next President of the United States," in the opening address, until the convention took its recess, every mention of Bryan's name or principle was greeted with a cheering applause.

Not even the tedious work of selecting delegates-at-large to the National Convention of the party that is to meet in Denver in July, could lessen the enthusiasm, the members of the convention shouting themselves hoarse with each mention of their leader.

Harmony was the keynote of the proceedings and the only semblance of a contest came when the task of choosing delegates-at-large to the National Convention was reached.

Nominations for all the other places as to the disposal of the convention, were practically settled before the proceedings began.

Dr. P. L. Hall, of Lincoln, was files cured in 6 to 14 days.

chosen national committeeman for Nebraska to succeed Major Dahlgren, or Omaha, who declined to run.

The direct delegates to the Denver Convention was selected by the State convention delegates from each congressional district. Twelve men, two from each district, were then chosen.

One of the features of the gathering was the effort of the newly organized "Nebraska Bryan Volunteers" to give its propaganda among the delegates, by searching canvass of Democrats who were willing to join the organization which is formed principally for the raising of funds for the use of the State central committee.

The convention lost no time in getting down to business. The report of the Committee on Resolutions was the first matter to come before the evening session. After the cheers which greeted its reading had subsided, the report was adopted as the official expression of the convention. Three former members of the party were recently re-membered by resolutions.

Another declaration in favor of the issuance of \$500,000,000 in government bonds in order to provide funds with which to prosecute public works, thus giving work to many unemployed persons, was also carried. The convention then endorsed the work of Congressman G. H. Hitchcock, the only member of the party in the Nebraska delegation at Washington.

The speeches of the evening followed. Mr. Bryan speaks. Mr. Bryan entitled his speech, "A Word of Encouragement," and devoted his remarks to the producing of evidence to show the growth of Democratic policies and principles and the basis for Democratic hope. He spoke in part as follows:

"Our trouble used to be to persuade the Republicans to accept Democratic policies; our work now is to expose the limitation by them of Democratic ideas and to point out where they come short in their effort to appropriate Democratic doctrines."

"Take for instance the trust question. We had difficulty convincing the Republicans that there were trusts; now they admit trusts exist. We had difficulty convincing them the criminal laws should be enforced against trusts; now they admit it should be enforced but fail to enforce it. In so far as they have acted along the lines laid down by the Democrats, but their magistrates are still at large, the trusts are still flourishing, and even the supporters of Mr. Taft have no specific remedies to offer for relief, and trusts arise while Republicans are boasting of their crusade against them. They propose regulation of monopolies instead of extermination, although they have reason to know that regulation has failed and that any one of a number of trusts can afford to contribute ten times as much to a campaign fund as can be collected from all the voters who are outside the privileged circle."

"On the tariff the Republican leaders now admit that tariff reform is now necessary, but a careful reading of their promises show that they use language identical with that employed in former platforms which have been the basis for the present extortionate rates. The advocates of the McKinley tariff, tariff and of the Dingley tariff never asked for more than enough to cover the difference in cost of labor here and abroad, but under the pretense of protecting labor they built up the present oppressive schedules. What reason then have we to believe their promises are worth any more now than they have been in the past twenty years? Surely the people will not trust tariff reform into those who have stubbornly refused to reduce tariff rates when they had full power to do so, and then asked to be returned to power that they may do what they have failed to do."

"The Republicans admit that railroad regulation has been needed and yet for ten years the Republican party allowed itself to be overruled by the railroad lobby at Washington and having with the aid of the Democrats, secured a little relief, the Republican leaders now rely upon what has been done, and outline no program for further legislation. The Republican leaders have watched a few railroad magnates strangle competition and combine great systems into greater ones without raising a hair for the protection of the public and now they ask for another lease of power as a result for their inaction."

"Under Republican rule the relations between capital and labor have become more and more strained and yet the Republican leaders resist each attempt to bring employers and employees into more harmonious relations."

"The Philippines presents another instance of gross mismanagement. Instead of applying American ideas to the Philippine Island question the Republican leaders initiated the attempt of the old world and entered on a colonial policy which has involved us in enormous expenses, brought us weakness instead of strength, and humiliation instead of glory."

"The present financial stringency is another illustration of Republican incompetence. In its full possession of power it has allowed the country to be run by Wall street financiers and in the crisis is impotent to do more than furnish money out of the public treasury to support the market. It has made no effort to stop

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gambling—the fruitful cause of panic—it has made no effort to furnish relief, but it has made no effort to protect depositors. While it demands security for government funds when deposited with banks, it has left the individual depositor to risk his scanty savings without protection against mismanagement by bank officials.

The Republicans admit that something must be done and they now know not how to proceed. They are so convinced that the present conditions are deplorable that they applaud the President's last message, which was an indictment of Republican misrule for the issues of which he complained are traceable to Republican legislation or lack of legislation.

"The Democrats face the future with hope and their hope rests on a firm foundation. Democratic politics have grown in popularity as the people have become better acquainted with the evils which they remedied. The Democrats have been looking at public questions from the standpoint of all the people, while Republican leaders have been looking at them from a standpoint of a few. As the strength of a party must in the long run be measured by the number of its principles, Democrats have reason to believe that their prospects of success have been greatly increased by the widespread acceptance of Democratic remedies."

"Another reason, for hope is to be found in the fact that the Democratic party is divided, while the Republican party is divided, and the reunion of the Democratic party is due to the same causes that have brought division into the Republican ranks. The country has moved forward to a more positive and aggressive resistance to the encroachments of predatory wealth and this growth has brought the rear ranks of the Democratic party up to the firing line, while it has separated the Republican reformers from the Republican stand-patters. The fight for the supremacy in the Republican party is a bitter one, and which ever side wins the other side will be disgraced. As the Republicans used one faction of the Democratic party to defeat us in 1896, we shall return the compliment this year and use one part of the Republican party to defeat the other, for it is hoped that the party that cannot be trusted to do anything at present."

"The third cause for hope is to be found in the moral awakening. Never within a generation has there been such a stirring of conscience, and the sense of justice inherent in the people has been made sensitively to the Democratic appeal which is essentially an appeal for justice. The Democratic party has been doing pioneer work and now it will enjoy the gratitude and the appreciation showered upon the pioneer when the character of his work is fully understood."

Chairman Hanks' Address. "The campaign of 1896 began in 1906," said Mr. Hanks. "Against the Chicago platform and the nominee have been hurled denunciations, vituperation and accusations of anarchy. Vain are the battles against the right. Where are the defenders of 'National Honor' who are the originators of the 'Safe and Sound' Democracy? Their mask has been torn asunder and they stand condemned before the bar of public opinion. This band of men told us to 'preserve the National Honor' when they were devoid of personal honor."

"The people for years proceeding in darkness, no leader dared defend them. Their representatives were bribed. Men of wealth banded together with but one purpose, and that to plunder the people. They knew no political lines save for business interests. They were Republicans for States that were Republican and Democrats for States that were Democratic. They nominated the candidates for both political parties and financed both campaigns that they might control the administration, no matter who was elected."

"Against the dictation and usurpation of power the American people have rebelled. Getting their inspiration from the self-sacrificing patriots of our country, betting for purer politics, with a determination founded on eternal right, they will yet nominate, they will yet elect, they will yet rule."

"There is a feeling of unrest everywhere that bodes ill for the Republican party. The time is ripe for a change. It is vain for the Republicans to claim credit for widespread prosperity and try to avoid the blame for a widespread panic."

"The Republican party defends aristocracy and grants its special privileges—the privilege of taxing the many for the benefit of the few, the privilege of controlling our finances, the privilege of monopolizing the necessities and the privilege of disobeying the law."

"The Democratic party challenges this right of privilege by aristocracy. They demand that they obey the law; they demand that they shall not rob the public; they demand that monopoly must be destroyed; they demand equal rights to all and special privileges to none."

"The united Democratic party welcomes the conflict. It will be a contest between the few that dominate the commercial world and control the Republican party and the many that carry the living masses toward equality and justice."

"Thousands of Republicans are telling us that if a reform candidate is not nominated they will vote for Bryan. LaFollette is their only reform candidate—the only man bold enough to take his stand with the people. Roosevelt, thundering Democratic doctrine in his message to Congress, has opened the minds of millions of Republicans to the philosophy of Democracy. His call to arms to the masses against the classes has opened the hearts of thousands to the evangel of Democracy."

"We do not know which of the special representatives of the special interests their candidate will be—Fairbanks, Cannon or Forsaker. Or will it be Taft, who has not committed himself on any public question, there

is no reform with a candidate like Taft.

"You search in vain for his convictions on vital questions that has been the policy of candidates in the past whose administrations were owned completely by the financiers."

"The Democratic party is not extreme. The extreme radical is the Socialist party. They believe that legislated equality is the panacea for all government ills. The extreme conservatism is the Republican party. They are so extremely conservative that tariff protects a few at the expense of the many; so conservative that a few own the necessities of life while the millions of people must pay the price; so extremely conservative that they would ape European governments and establish a colonial policy."

"The Democratic party is not radical, but conservative; not the conservatism of special interests, but of Jefferson, Jackson and Bryan. I do not agree that Bryan is radical. He is simply advocating earnestly and fearlessly Democratic doctrine. To the special interest he is the horror of their thought and the nightmare of their dream. They fear him not because they think he is radical, but because they know if elected he will be faithful to these principles."

"The Democratic party will name a man for President who would rather live on a farm at Fairview than to be President owned and controlled by special interests; a man who would rather go down to defeat in a third battle than to mortgage his party before election; a man who for twelve years has been oak and rock to the Democratic party. He is not Democracy's choice—Democracy's hope; they tell us that he has been defeated twice. Twice defeated, he has convinced the world that he is right; twice defeated, he has convinced the world that he is worthy to be President; twice defeated, he has forced a Republican President to turn his back upon the Republican party and to take his stand upon a Democratic platform."

CLASH IS COMING Between Judge Pritchard and South Carolina

Gov. Ansel Sends Message to General Assembly Urging Legislation to Protect Dispensary Funds.

(By the Associated Press.) Columbia, S. C., March 5.—That a clash between the State of South Carolina and Federal Judge Pritchard is imminent was indicated today when Governor Ansel sent a special message to the General Assembly in extra session, urging it to enact legislation preserving the State autonomy and protecting the dispensary funds from the interference of the Federal courts.

The message is an outgrowth of Judge Pritchard's decision to take jurisdiction of the suits brought by creditors to secure the payment of debts contracted for liquors furnished to the former State dispensary.

Three Ballots for a Successor to Senator Lattimer.

(By the Associated Press.) Columbia, S. C., March 5.—The first ballot at today's joint session of the Legislature for a successor to the late United States Senator Lattimer, resulted as follows: Gary 68; Coker 29; Maudlin 18; Scattering 4. Necessary to a choice 78. Gary's vote showed a gain of eight over that cast for him yesterday.

The second ballot resulted Gary 68; Walker 51; Maudlin 19; Coker 12; Jones 5; Holiday 1.

The third ballot showed no material change. The fourth ballot resulted: Gary 71; Walker 48; Maudlin 17; Coker 12; Willie Jones 6; Ira B. Jones nine.

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