## BRYAN **ACCEPTS**

## In Hearty Accord With Platform.

## SHALL THE PEOPLE RULE

That is the Overshadowing Question.

## RESPONSIBLE. REPUBLICANS

All Present Abuses a Result of Their Acts, and They Are Impotent to Correct Them.

Mr. Chayton and Gentlemen of the Notification Committee: I can not accept the nomination which you officialby tender, without first acknowledging my deep indebtedness to the Democratic party for the extraordinary honor which it has conferred upon me. Having twice before been a candidate for the presidency, in camputins which ended in defeat, a third nomination, the posult of the free and voluntary act of the voters of the party, can only be explained by a substantial and under puted growth in the principles and policles for which I, with a multitude of others, have contended. As these principles and policies have given no whatever political strength I possess, the metten of the convention not only re-news my faith in them, but strengthens

A Platform Is Binding.

il, in the near future, prepare more formal reply to your notification, and, in that letter of acceptance, will deal with the platform in detail. It is sufficient, at this time, to assure you that I am in heavy accord with both the letter and the spirit or the par-form. I endorse it in whole and in part, and shall, if elected regard its declarations as binding upon me. And, I may add, a platform is binding as to what it outlis as well as to what it contains. According to the democrate idea, the people think for themselves and select officials to earry out their wishes. The voters are the sevendents; wishes. The voters are the soverelgas; the officials are the servants, capacyed for a fixed time and at a stated salary to do what the soverelgas want does and to do it in the way the soverelgas want it done. Platforms are entirely in harmony with this democratic dea. A platform amounces the party's pestion on the questions which are at issue, and in official is not at therry to use the authority vested in him to such that at decreases and a factory to use the nuthority vested in him to urge personal views which have not been submitted to the voles for their approval. If one is nominated upon a platform which is not satisfactory to him, he must, if candid, either do if the nomination, or, in accepting it pr pose an amended platform in lieu-the one adopted by the convention. N such situation, however, confronts your emiddate, for the platform upon which I was nominated not only certains nothing from which I dissent, but it specifically outlines all the remedia legislation which we can hope to se-cure during the next four years.

Republican Challenge Accepted.

The distinguished statesmin who re-ceived the Republican nonlination for president said, in his notification speech: "The strength of the Republican cause in the campaign at hand is the fact that we represent the posities on sential to the reform of known abuses to the conflamance of liberty and true prosperity, and that we are determined, as our platform unequivocally declares. to maintain there and carry them on

In the name of the Democratic purity, I accept the challenge, and charge that the horalities party is responsible for all the a uses which now exist in the federal government, and that it is impotent to accomplish the reforms which are imperatively needed. Further, I can not concur in the statement that the Republican platform unequivocally declares for the reforms that are necessary; on the contrary, I affirm that it openly and notoriously disappoints the hopes and expectations of reformers, whether those reformers be Republic-ans or Democrats. So far did the Re-publican convention fall short of its duty that the Republican candidate felt. It necessary to add to his platform in several important particulars, thus re-buiding the leaders of the party, upon whose co-operation he must rely for the enactment of remedial legislation.

As I shall, in separate speeches, dis-cuss the leading questions at issue, I shall at this time confine myself to the paramount question, and to the farreaching purpose of our party, as that purpose is set forth in the platform.

Shall the People Rule?

Our platform declares that the over

shadowing issue which manifests itself shadowing issue which manifests itself in all the questions now mider discus-sion, is "Shall the people rule?" No matter which way we turn; no matter to what subject we address cursolves, the same question confronts us: Shall the people control their own govern-ment, and use that government for the protection of their rights and for the promotion of their welfare? or shall the representatives of predatory wealth year upon a defenseless public while proy upon a defenseless public, proving a decease of plants, which offenders secure immunity from subservient officials whom they raise to power by unscriptulous methods? This is the issue raised by the 'known busses' to which Mr. Taft refers.

choses" to which Mr. Taft refers.

Pessident's Indictment Against the Party.

In a message sent to congress last January. President Roosevelt said:

"The attacks by these great corporations on the administration's actions have been given a wide circulation throughout the country. In the newspapers and otherwise, by those writers and speakers who, consciously or unconsciously, act as the representatives of predictory wealth of the wealth accumulated on a giant scale by all forms of linguity, rausing from the oppressionalized and plant scale by all forms. of predatory wealth—of the wealth ac-commutated on a glant scale by all forms of iniquity, rauging from the oppres-sion of ware earners to unfair and un-wholesome methods of crashing out competition, and to defrauding the public by stock-jobbing and the manip-linition of se unities. Certain wealth; men of this stamp, whose conduct should be abberrent to every man of ordinarily decent conscience, and who commit the follows we say of teaching our young men that phonomenal basi-ness spaces must cralinarily be based on dishonasty, have, during the his-few meants, mude it apparent that they have bunded together to work for a resultion. Their mideavor is to-overchavic and dispessible all who his-estly administer the law, to present on dishonasty, hove during the bread for months under it apparent that they have lained it apparent that they have lained together to work for a resultan. Their endeavor is to correction and discredit all who has easily additional depletation which used to the same large any additional depletation which used to be keined by the smare, but it was over any additional depletation which used to be same and the first and them, and to secure if possible a freedom from all resembles wrong-door to do what to scripplious wrong-door to do what to wishes un be lock, provided by his sart by expressing him self as a malifeed way, in favor of ascending the value of the presidents indictance true?

It is the president's indictance true?

It is the president's indictance true?

And, if true, arguest whom was the indictance directed? Not against the Demostratic party.

Mr. Taff Enderses the Indictance true?

During all this time, I beg to remind you, Recal them officials provided in the extensive department, filled the calsing, debugged to the continuous the senate controlled the house of representatives and overgold most of the federal industries. Four years my the Republican plat form besentally destared that single-less with the exception of two years—the Republican party and been in our trid of part or of all the branches of the federal government, that for two years only was the Democratic party in a position to either caset or reced a law. Having drawn the subries having scherol the pressure, let the Republican party money the responsibility!

Republican Party Responsibility.

Republican Party Responsible.

Mr. Taff was restive under the design of the function of the highly protected in district. And yet the influence of the life again, and the five against the fi enupsign fund, and who in return have framed the tariff schedules, has been sufficient to prevent fariff reform. As the present campaign approached, both the president and Mr. Taft declared in favor of tariff revision, but set the date of revision after the election. But the pressure brought to bear publican success. If the past can be he favors, it would give but partial retaken as a guide, the Republican party lief. He has read the Democratic platwill be so obligated by campaign conform; not only his tanguage, but his

outlens from the beneficiaries of protection, as to make that party power-less to bring to the country any ma-terial relief from the present tariff

Why No Anti-trust Legislation?

A few years ago the Republican lead-ers in the house of representatives were correst by public opinion into the support of an anti-trust law which had the endorsement of the president, but the senate refused even to con-sider the measure, and since that time no effort has been made by the domimust party to secure remedial legisla on this subject.

Why No Railroad Legislation?

For ten years the Interstate Com-perce Commission has been asking for a calargement of its powers, that it sight prevent relates and discriminamight prevent relates and discrimina-tions, but a Republican sounts and a Republican house of representatives were monoved by its entreates. In 1900 the Republican mational conven-tion was urried to endorse the domand for railway legislation, but its platform was shert on the suffect. Even in 1901 the sourcention give he fieldige to rouncedy these abuses. When the presi-dent finalic resised for legislation he drew his haspiration from three Demo-eratic national physics and he re-coved more contain support from the tennos rats than from the Republicans. The Republicans in the secure deliber-rated decarded several amendments of ferroal by Senaror La Follette and sup-ported to the Lemocrate amountments of ferroal pin ferrial rouncing the part of the tensor of the tennoscore amountments of ferroal by Senaror La Follette and sup-ported to the Lemocrate amountments contain meaning the follette and sup-ported to the Lemocrate amountments contain the production asked by the In-heritate Commence Commission. One

whiles the booked, provided by his enough money. What an arraignment of the predictory interests?

Is the president's indifferent true? And, if true, madust whom was the indictment directed? Not against the Democratic party.

Mr. Taff Enderses the Indistment.

Mr. Taff confinition of the compilate is well founded in the compilate it will found to the confinition of the militroads under one maintainty spurred by financial state. Which are under one maintainty evidence of the breakless of times the second of the manufacture of the artificial for the manufacture of the rafficults under one maintagement,—all these includes and tends of interestate rainy reads for the militroal for the multiplicant of the rafficults under one maintagement,—all these in the control of the purpose of concentrations of the surface of the surface of the surface of the purpose of concentrations of the multiplical for the manuface of the purpose of concentrations of the surface o

Fasting In Wilderness Necessary

So being as the Republican party re-mains in power, it is powerless to re-generate basif. It can not attack aroughlong in high places without disarroughding in high places without dis-gracing immy of its preminent mem-ters, and it, therefore, uses opartes in-stead of the surgeon's knife. Its male-factors construe each Republican vic-tory as an endorsement of their con-dict and threaten the party with de-feat if they are interfered with. Not until that party passes through a pe-riod of fasting in the wilderness, will the Republican lenders learn to study public ansetions from the standpoint Why were these "Green abuses" the Republican leaders learn to study permitted to develop? Why have they public questions from the study public questions from the studyoid law sould-sent why have they not been calleder, why have they not been conforced. All of the executive machinery of the federal government is so in politics, when party lenders serve in the hands of the Regulation party.

but he says upon this subject, you ill find that his promise fails far short the requirements of the situation

of I am elected president, I shall urge upon congress, with every hope of success, that a law be passed requiring the filing, in a federal office, of a statement of the contributions received by committees and candidates in election for members of congress, and in suc elections as are constitutionally

within the control of congress" I shall not embarrass him by asking him upon what he bases his hope of success; it is certainly not on any en-couragement he has received from Hetion. But the pressure brought to bear by the protected interests has been great enough to prevent any artempt at fariff reform before the election; and the reduction promised after the election is so hedged about with qualifying phrases, that no one can estimate with accuracy the sum total of tariff reform to be expected in case of Republican success. If the past can be the favors, it would succeed in securing the many control of the very law which he favors, it would give but partial re-

An election is a public affair. The people, exercising the right to select their officials and to decide upon the their officials until to decide upon the policies to be pursued, proceed to their several politing places on election day and register their will. What excuse can be given for secrecy as to the influences at words If a man, pecularly interested in "concentrating the control of the railroads in one manurement," subscribes a large sum to add in control of the railroads in one manage-ment," subscribes a large sum to aid in carrying the election, why should his part in the campaign be concalled un-til he has put the officials under obl-gation to kim2. If a trust magnate contributes \$100,000 to elect political friends to office, with a view to pre-venting fostile legislation, why should that fact be concealed until his friends are securely seared in their official po-

sitions?

This is not a new question: It is a question which has been agitated—a question which the Beputdican leaders fully understand—a question which the Republican conditate has studied, and yet he refuses to declare himself in fa-ver or the legislation atsolutely neces-sury manely, legislation requiring pub-fication before the election.

Democratic Party Promises Publicity.

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How can the people topic to rule, if
they are not able to bearn until after
the election what the predatory Interests are doing? The Benes ratio parts
mosts the issue homestly and coura
geomsty. It says:

"We people the Democratic party to

the enactment of a law prohibiting any corporation from contributing to a camputer fund, and any individual from contributing an amount above a reasonable maximum, and providing for the publication, before election, of all such contributions above a reason-

The Democratic national committee corporations, that no individual would be allowed to contribute more than \$10,000, and that all contributions above \$100 would be made public before the election—those received before October 15 to be made public on or before that day, those received after ward to be made public on the day when received, and no such contribu-tions to be accepted within three days of the election. The expenditures are to be published after election. Here is a plan which is complete and effec-

Popular Election of Senators

Next to the corrupt use of money the present method of electing United States senators is most responsible for the obstruction of reforms. For one hundred years after the adoption of the constitution, the demand for the popular election of senators, while find ing increased expression, did not be come a dominant sentiment. A con-stitutional amendment had from the to time been suggested and the matter had been suggested and the machine had been more or less discussed in few of the states, but the movemer had not reached a point where it mail fested itself through congressional action. In the Fifty-second congression. however, a resolution was reported from a house committee proposing the necessary constitutional amendment and this resolution passed the house of representatives by a vote which was practically unanimous. In the Pifty-third congress a similar resolu-tion was reported to, and adopted by the bouse of representatives. Both the Fifty second and Fifty-third con-gresses were Democratic. The Repub-licans gained control of the house as a result of the election of 1804 and in conforced? All of the executive many contents of the described lines of the described and executive many contents of the described by the second of the house as in the bander of the depublican party from home and are not in the standard second of the house as a result of the described of the house as the publican party with the voters, contained with a logislation resolution that them dead for the people and makes the many contributions.

Publicity as to Campaign Centributions.

An effort has been made to secure been done for further than a model to the cry of distress.

An effort has been made to secure beginning for a logislation to all the Republican controls than the present executive? can be safe for a larger majority in the senate than his party now has? Does he thread for a larger majority in the senate than his party now has? Does he thread for a larger majority in the senate than his party now has? Does he thread for a larger majority in the senate than his party now has? Does he thread for a larger majority in the senate than his party now has? Does he thread for a larger majority in the senate than his party now has? Does he thread for a larger majority in the senate than his party now has? Does he thread for a larger majority in the senate than his party now has? Does he thread for a larger majority, demand it. And the form of the party of the form of the little senate of the party of the form of the larger majority of the proposition of which the form of the little senates the proposition of which to decrease the proposition of the form of the form of the lower of the people and makes them dead for the local for the course of the proposition of the proposition of the form of the little senates the proposition of the pr 190), 190), and 1908-specifically cal for a change in the constitution which will put the election of senators in the hands of the voters, and the proposi tion has been endorsed by a member of the smaller parties, but no Repub-lism national convention has been willow to champion the cause of the people on this subject. The subject was ignored by the Republican national sevention in 1900; it was ignored in 901, and the proposition was explicit repullated in 1908, for the recent Republican national convention. vote of 806 to 114 rejected the plank endorsing the popular election of sena tors—and this was done in the conven-tion which nominated Mr. Taft, few felegates from his own state voting for

the plant. Personal Inclination Not Sufficient. In his notification speech, the Republican candidate, speaking of the election of senators by the people, says:
"Personally, I am inclined to favor it,

evident alarm, indicates that he has read it carefully. He even had before him the nection of the Democratic unitional committee in interpreting and applying that platform; and yet, he fails to say that he favors the publication of the contribulious before the election. Of course, it satisfies a natural curiosity to find out how an election has been purchased, even when the knowledge course are late to be of service, but why should the people is kept in dirthess until the election is past? Why should the locking of the door be delayed until the large is gone?

An Election a Public Affair.

An election is a public affair. The people, everyding the right to select. What influence could be the senate: What immence cound no exert in behalf of a reform which his party has openly and notoriously con-demned in its convention, and to which he is attached only by a beauted ex-pression of personal inclination?

The Gateway to Other Reforms.

"Shall the people rule?" Every remedial measure of a national char-acter must run the gauntlet of the The president may personally semife. sonate. The president may personally incline toward a reform; the house may consent to it; but as long as the senate obstructs the reform, the people must wait. The president may pied to reable opinion; but as long as the senate is defiant, the rule of the people is defeated. The Democratic platform very properly describes the popular election of senators as "the gateway to other national reforms." gateway to other national reforms."
Shall we open the gate or shall we allow the exploiting interests to bar the way by the courted of this branch of the federal legislature? Through a Democratic victory, and through a Democratic victory only, can the peo-ple secure the popular election of sen-ators. The smaller parties are unable ators. The smaller parties are unable to secure this reform; the Republican party, under its present leadership, is resolutely exposed to it; the Fenneeratic party strinds for it and has boildly demanded it. If I am elected to the presidency, those who are elected mean the tieket with me will be, like myself, piedged to this reform, and I shall course congress in extraordinates. convene congress in extraordi nary session immediately after form guration, and ask, among other things for the fulfillment of this platforn

House Rules Despotic.

The third instrumentality employed to defeat the will of the people is found in the rules of the house of representatives. Our platform rolls out that "the house of representatives was designed by the fathers of the consti-tution, to be the popular branch of our government, responsive to the public will," and adds:

"The house of representatives, as

controlled in recent years by the Re-publican party, has censed to be a de-liberative and legislative body, respon-sive to the will of a majority of the members, but his come under the ab-solute domination of the speaker, who has entire control of its deliberations, and powers of legislation.

"We have observed with amazemen the popular branch of our federal gov-crament helpless to obtain either the consideration or enactment of measures desired by a majority of its mem-

This arraignment is fully justified The return Republicans in the house of representatives, when in the mines by la their own party, are as helples, to obtain a hearing or to secure a vote upon a measure as are the Democrats. In the recent session of the present congress, there was a considerable cocongress, there was a considerable co-ment in the Republican party favorable to remedial legislation, but a few load-ers, in coursel of the organization, despoticully suppressed these mem-hers, and thus forcest a real majority in the honce to submit to a well organ-ized minority. The Republican national convention, instead of rebuiling this attack upon popular government, eulo-glised congress and nominated as the Republican candidate for vice president Republican candidate for vice president one of the men who shared in the re-sponsibility for the coercion of the house. Our party demands that "the house of representatives shall again become a deliberative body, controlled by a majority of the people's repre-sentatives, and not by the speaker," and is pledged to adopt "such raises and rescriptions to major the house

and is pledged to adopt "such rules and regulations to govern the house of representatives as will enable a ma-jority of its members to direct its de-ilherations and control legislation." "Shall the people rule." They can not do so maless they can control the house of representatives, and through their representatives in the house, give expression to their nursease and their expression to their purposes and their desires. The Republican party is committed to the methods now in vogue in the house of representatives; the bemocratic party is pledged to such a revision of the rules as will bring the popular branch of the federal government into harmony with the ideas of those who framed our constiand founded our

Other Issues Will Be Discussed Later. "Shall the people rule?" I repeat, is declared by our platform to be the overshadowing questlom, and as the campalga progresses, I shall take occasion to discuss this question as it man ifests liself in other issues; for whether we consider the tariff question, the trust question, the rallroad question the banking question, the labor ques-tion, the question of imperialism, the development of our waterways, or any other of the numerous problems which press for solution, we shall find that the real question involved in each is, whether the government shall remain a mere business asset of favor seeking corporations or be an instrument in the hands of the people for the advancement of the common weal.

Democratic Party Has Earned Confidence.

If the voters are satisfied with the record of the Republican party and with its management of public affairs

we can not reasonably ask for a change in administration; if, however, change in administration; if, however, the voters feel that the people, as a whole, have too little influence in shaping the policies of the government; if they feel that great combinations of capital have encroached upon the rights of the masses, and employed the instrumentalliles of government to secure an unfair share of the total wealth produced, then we have a right to expect a verdict against the Republican party and in favor of the Democratic strety; for our party has risked defeatparty; for our party has risked defeat-aye, suffered defeat-in its effort to arouse the conscience of the public and to bring about that very awakening to which Mr. Taft has referred.

Only those are worthy to be entrust-ed with leadership in a great cause who are willing to die for it, and the Democratic party has proven its worthiness by its refusal to purchase victory by delivering the people into the hands of those who have despolled them. In this contest between Democracy on the one side and plutocracy on the other, the Democratic party has taken its pothe Democratic party has taken its po-sition on the side of equal rights, and invites the opposition of those who use politics to secure special privileges and governmental favoritism. Gauging the progress of the nation, not by the hap-plness or wealth or refinement of a few, but "by the prosperity and ad-vancement of the average man," ti Democratic party charges the Repub-lican party with being the promoter of present abuses, the ponent of breesitem party with being the promoter of present abuses, the ponent of becassury remedies and the only bulwark of private monopoly. Democratic party affirms that in the campaign it is the only party, having a prospect of success, which stands for justice in government and for equity in the division of the fruits of industry.

Democratic Party Defender of Honest
Wealth.

We may expect those who have committed inreens by law and purchased
mamunity with their political influence,
to attempt to mise false issues, and to
employ "the livery of Heaven" to concent their evil purposes, but they can no longer deceive. The Democratic party is not the enemy of any legiti-mate industry or of honest accumulations. It is, on the contrary, a friend of hidustry and the steadfast protector of that wealth which represents a serv-ice to socioty. The Pemocratic party does not seek to annihilate all corporations, it simply asserts that as the gov-erament creates corporations, it must retain the power to regulate and to control them, and that it should not permit any corporation to convert itself into a monopoly. Surely we should have the co-operation of all legitimate corporations in our effort to protect business and industry from the odium which lawless combinations of capita-will, if unchecked, cost upon them. Only by the separation of the good from the ball can the good be made steeure

Not Revolution, but Reformation.
The From stratte party seeks not revolution but reformation, and I need hardly remind the student of history that remes are mildest when apputed at once that reme has become a new remarked party as their are feation is postponed. Blood palsocially may be stopped by the loss of a remer tellay. It may east an arm toward we or a life the next day. So select for the losty positio can not be removed too soon, for the cells produced by it increase with the layer of time. That there are although which heed to be remeabled, even the Reputican condidate admits; that his party from consider namits; that his part, is that he to remedy thou, has been fully demonstrated during the last ten they demonstrated during the last ten-years. I have such confidence in the intelligence as well as the patrictism of the people, that I can not doubt their readiness to accept the reasonable re-forms which our party proposes, rather than permit the continued growth of existing abuses to hurry the country on to remedies more radical and more drastic.

Our Party's Ideal.

Our Party's Ideal.

The platform of our party closes with a brief statement of the party's ideal. It favors "such an administration of the government as will issue, as far as human wisdom can, that each eltizen shall draw from society a reward commensurate with his contribution to the voltage of acceptance." the welfare of society."

Governments are good in proportion as they assure to each member of soclety, so far as governments can turn commensurate with individual

The Divine Law of Rewards.

There is a Divine law of rewards. When the Creator gave us the earth, with its fruitful soil, the sunshine with with its fruifful soil, the sunshine with its warmth, and the rains with their moisture. He prochaimed, as clearly as if His voice had thundered from the clouds, "Go work, and according to your industry and your intelligence, so shall be your reward." Only where might has overthrown, cunning under-mined or government suspended this law, has a different law prevailed. To conform the government to this law ought to be the ambilion of the states man; and no party can have a higher infesion than to make it a reality wherever governments can legitimately operate.

Justice to All.

Recognizing that I am indebted for my nomination to the rank and file of our party, and that my election must come, if it comes at all, from the un-purchased and unpurchasable suffrages of the American people, I promise, if entrusted with the responsibilities of this high office, to consecrate whatever ability I have to the one purpose of making this, in fact, a government in which the people rule—a government which will do justice to all, and offer to every one the highest possible stim-ulus to great and persistent effort, by assuring to each the enjoyment of his just share of the proceeds of his toll. no matter in what part of the vinerard he labors, or to what occupation, pro-fession or calling he devotes himself.