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BRYAN AND SEWALL

ARE THE NOMINEES.

The Work of the National Democratic Convention—Peoples Party Platform Stolen.

SILVERITES IN CONTROL.

A Rattling Fight Lasting Five Days—What the Peoples Party Has Taught Now Declared to be Truth and Justice By the Peoples Party Enemy—Judge Walter Clark Gets Only 16 Votes For Vice President.

FOR PRESIDENT, WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN, of Nebraska.

FOR VICE-PRESIDENT, ARTHUR SEWALL, of Maine.

These are the nominees of the national Democratic convention.

Williams Jennings Bryan, of Lincoln Neb., was born in Salem, Marion county, Ill., March 19, 1860; attended public school until fifteen years, spending his vacations on the farm; in the fall of 1875 entered Whipple Academy, at Jacksonville, Ill.; entered Illinois College, Jacksonville, in 1877; completed a classical course and was graduated with the highest honors in 1881; attended Union College of Law, Chicago, Ill., for two years, during which time he was connected with the office of ex-Senator Lyman Trumbull; began the practice of his profession at Jacksonville; removed to Lincoln, Neb., October 1, 1887, and became a member of the firm of Talbot & Bryan; never held an elective office prior to his election to Congress; was elected to the Fifty-second and re-elected to the Fifty-third Congress as a Democrat.

Arthur Sewall was born at Bath, Me., November 25, 1835. He has been chairman of the Maine Democratic State committee for many years. His residence is the Sewall estate, in Bath, which has been in possession of the Sewall family since 1760, when his great-grandfather took the title, only thrice removed from a grant by King George. Mr. Sewall married in 1859. His wife was Emma D. Crookes, of Bath. There are two children—Harold M. and William D. Harold M. was appointed during Mr. Cleveland's first administration United States Consul-General at Samoa, but has since gone over to the Republican party.

Mr. Sewall is president and principal owner of the Bath National Bank. He was president for nine years of the Maine Central railroad. He was at one time president of the Eastern railroad, and has still considerable interest in railroads and railroad-building.

Platform.

We, the Democrats of the United States, in national convention assembled, do reaffirm our allegiance to those great essential principles of justice and liberty upon which our institutions are founded, and which the Democratic party advocated from Jefferson's time to our own—freedom of speech, freedom of the press, freedom of conscience, the preservation of personal rights, and equality of all citizens before the law and the faithful observance of constitutional limitations. During all these years the Democratic party has resisted the tendency of selfish interests toward the centralization of governmental power, and stolidly maintained integrity of the dual rights of government established by the founders of this republic of republics. Under its guidance and teaching the great principle of local self-government has found its best expression in the maintenance of the rights of the States, and in its assertion of the necessity of confining the general government to the exercise of the powers granted by the Constitution of the United States.

"The Constitution of the United States guarantees to every citizen the right of civil and religious liberty. The Democratic party has always been the exponent of political liberty and religious freedom, and it renews its obligations and reaffirms its devotion to the fundamental principles of the Constitution."

MONEY QUESTION.

"Recognizing that the money question is paramount to all others at this time, we invite attention to the fact that the Federal Constitution names silver and gold together as the money metals of the United States, and that the first coinage law passed by Congress under the Constitution made the silver dollar the monetary unit and admitted gold to free coinage at a ratio based upon the silver dollar unit.

"We declare that the act of 1873 demonetizing silver without the knowledge or approval of the American people has resulted in the appreciation of gold and a corresponding fall in the prices of commodities produced by the people; a heavy increase in the burden of taxation, and of all debts, public and private; the enrichment of the money-lending class at home and abroad; the prostration of industry, and the impoverishment of the poor.

"We are unalterably opposed to monometallism, which has locked fast the prosperity of an industrious people in the paralysis of hard times. Gold monometallism is a British policy, and its adoption has brought other nations into financial servitude to London. It is not only un-American, but anti-American, and it can be fastened upon the United States only by the stifling of that spirit and love of liberty which proclaimed our political independence in 1776, and won it in the war of the Revolution.

FREE COINAGE AT 16 TO 1.

"We demand the free and unlimited coinage of both silver and gold at the present legal ratio of 16 to 1, without waiting for the aid or consent of any other nation. We demand that the standard silver dollar shall be of full legal-tender, equally with gold, for all debts, public and private, and we favor such legislation as will prevent for the future the demonetization of any kind of legal-tender money by private contract.

"We are opposed to the policy and practice of surrendering to the holders of the obligations of the United States the option reserved by the government of redeeming such obligations in either silver coin or gold coin.

"We are opposed to the issuing of interest-bearing bonds of the United States in time of peace, and condemn the trafficking with banking syndicates, which, in exchange for bonds and at an enormous profit to themselves, supply the Federal Treasury with gold to maintain the policy of gold monometallism.

AGAINST NATIONAL BANK NOTES.

"Congress alone has the power to coin and issue money, and President Jackson declared that this power could not be delegated to corporations or individuals.

"We therefore denounce the issuance of notes intended to circulate as money by national banks, as in derogation of the Constitution, and we demand that all paper which is made a legal tender for public and private debts, and which is receivable for dues to the United States, shall be issued by the government of the United States, and shall be redeemable in coin.

THE TARIFF.

"We hold that tariff duties should be levied for purposes of revenue, such duties to be so adjusted as to operate equally throughout the country, and not discriminate between class or section, and that taxation should be limited by the needs of the government, honestly and economically administered.

"We denounce, as disturbing to business, the Republican threat to restore the McKinley law, which has twice been condemned by the people in national elections, and which, enacted under the false plea of protection to home industries, proved a prolific breeder of trusts and monopolies, enriched the few at the expense of the many, restricted trade, and deprived the producers of the great American staples of access to their natural markets.

INCOME TAX.

"Until the money question is settled, we are opposed to any agitation for further changes in our tariff laws, except such as are necessary to meet the deficit in revenue caused by the adverse decision of the Supreme court on the income tax. But for this decision by the Supreme court there would be no deficit in the revenue under the law passed by a Democratic Congress in strict pursuance of the uniform decisions of that court for nearly 100 years, that court having in that decision sustained constitutional objections to its enactment which had previously been overruled by the ablest judges who ever sat on that bench.

"We declare that it is the duty of Congress to use all the constitutional power which remains after that decision, or which may come from its reversal by the court as it may hereafter be constituted, so that the burdens of taxation may be equally and impartially laid, to the end that wealth may bear its due proportion of the expenses of the government.

PROTECTION OF LABOR.

"We hold that the most efficient way of protecting American labor is to prevent the importation of foreign pauper labor to compete with it in the home market, and that the value of the home market to our American farmers and artisans is greatly reduced by a vicious monetary system, which depresses the prices of their products below the cost of production, and thus deprives them of the means of purchasing the products of our home manufactories, and as labor creates the wealth of the country, we demand the passage of such laws as may be necessary to protect it in all its rights.

"We are in favor of the arbitration of differences between employers engaged in interstate commerce and their employees, and recommend such legislation as is necessary to carry out this policy.

CONTROL OF RAILROADS.

"The absorption of wealth by the few, the combination of our leading railroad systems, and the formation of trusts and pools, require a stricter control by the Federal Government of those arteries of commerce. We demand the enlargement of the powers of the Interstate Commerce Commission, and the addition of such restrictions and guarantees in the control of railroads as will protect the people from robbery and oppression.

"We denounce the profligate waste of the money wrung from the people by oppressive taxation, and the lavish appropriation of recent Republican Congresses, which have kept taxes high while the labor that pays them is unemployed, and the products of the people's toil are depressed in price, till they no longer repay the cost of production. We demand a return to that simplicity and economy which best befits a Democratic government, and a reduction in the number of useless offices, the salaries of which drain the substance of the people.

"GOVERNMENT BY INJUNCTION."

"We denounce arbitrary interference by the Federal authorities in local affairs as a violation of the Constitution of the United States and a crime against free institutions, and we especially object to government by injunction as a new and highly dangerous form of oppression, by which the Federal judges, in contempt of the laws of the States and the rights of citizens, become at once legislators, judges, and executioners; and we approve the bill passed at the last session of the United States Senate and now pending in the House of Representatives relative to contempt in Federal courts, and providing trials by jury in certain cases of contempt.

"No discrimination should be indulged by the Government of the United States in favor of any of its debtors. We approve of the refusal of the Fifty-third Congress to pass the Pacific railroad bill, and denounce the efforts of the Present Republican Congress to enact a similar measure.

PENSIONS.

"Recognizing the claims of deserving Union soldiers, we heartily endorse the rule of the present Commissioner of Pensions that no names shall be arbitrarily dropped from the pension-roll, and that the fact of enlistment and service should be deemed conclusive evidence against disease and disability before enlistment.

"We favor the admission of the Territories of New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Arizona into the Union as States, and we favor the early admission of all the Territories having the necessary population and resources to entitle them to Statehood, and while they remain Territories we hold that the officials appointed to administer the government of any Territory, together with the District of Columbia and Alaska, should be bona fide residents of the Territory or District in which the duties are to be performed.

"The Democratic party believes in home rule, and that all public lands of the United States should be appropriated to the establishment of free homes for American citizens. We recommend that the Territory of Alaska be granted a delegate in Congress, and that the general land and timber laws of the United States be extended to said Territory.

"The Monroe doctrine, as originally declared, and as interpreted by succeeding Presidents, is a permanent part of the foreign policy of the United States, and must at all times be maintained.

CUBA.

"We extend our sympathy to the people of Cuba in their heroic struggle for liberty and independence.

"We are opposed to life-tenure in the public service. We favor appointments based on merit, fixed terms of office, and such an administration of the civil service laws as will afford equal rights to all citizens of ascertained fitness.

AGAINST THIRD TERMS.

"We declare it to be the unwritten law of this republic, established by the custom and usage of 100 years, and sanctioned by the examples of the greatest and wisest of those who founded and have maintained our government, that no man should be eligible for a third term of the presidential office.

"The Federal Government should care for and improve the Mississippi river and other great waterways of the republic, so as to secure for the interior States easy and cheap transportation to tide-water. When any waterway of the republic is of sufficient importance to demand aid of the govment, such aid should be extended upon a definite plan of continuous work until permanent improvement is secured.

"Confiding in the justness of our cause and the necessity of its success at the polls, we submit the foregoing declaration of principles and purposes to the considerate judgment of the American people. We invite the support of all citizens who approve them, and who desire to have them made effective through legislation for the relief of the people, and the restoration of the country's prosperity."

How It Was Done.

The National Democratic convention met in Chicago on Tuesday, July 7th.

It was a noisy, boisterous, tumultuous assemblage of large proportions. It was what Democratic papers call an "enthusiastic convention"; but the same behavior in a Republican gathering would be called by these papers a "howling mob" or a "conglomeration of savages." In fact it was an exaggerated edition of the lawyer convention recently held in Raleigh, except it had more harshness and bitterness in it.

We shall not attempt to describe the features of "mobocracy" which prevailed at times. Hisses and jeers were lavishly indulged in. A delegate had an open fight with a policeman who tried to keep him from entering the hall. A fool yelled "fire" one time and like to have created a panic among 17,000 people. Ex-Governor Weedock, of Michigan called a man a "liar". This was a gold delegate from Michigan who was denying that the gold men had "stolen" or bought the State. At one time the convention was in a solid roar for twelve minutes. This was when New York cast its solid vote against seating the silver delegates from Michigan. It was a desperate effort of the goldbugs to stampede the convention.

Time and again the convention looked like infernal bedlam let loose. Two strong bands of 100 brass lunged pieces could no more be heard than the croak of a tree frog in a raging thunder storm. Delegates mounted chairs, climbed upon each others, shoulders, gave Indian war-whoops, and did everything that a wildly enthusiastic and half crazed crowd of men could think of. The galleries helped to increase the demoniacal din. Women smashed and ruined parasols, spoiled their hats and took a lively hand in the general melee. During the nominating speeches the wild yahoos in the galleries had to be warned that they would be cleared out. Disorder and confusion and parliamentary insurrection were supreme. It was an indescribable commotion.

Prominent silver Democrats and gold Democrats had been on the scene for several days before the convention met, and had been arranging for the coming battle. When the delegates all arrived the silver men were very largely in the majority. They made their headquarters at the "Sherman" House, and this hotel was derisively called the "Lunatic Asylum" by the gold men. The silver men were not long in letting it be known that they proposed to have evything their own way. The goldbugs were flatly notified that they need not expect any quarter.

THE OPENING SKIRMISH.

The silver men were practically under the leadership of Senator Jones, of Arkansas, backed by Senator Tillman, Senator Blackburn, ex-Congressman Bryan, Governor Altgeld and others. The gold men were led by Wm. C. Whitney, of New York, with Senator D. B. Hill, Comptroller Eckels, ex-Governor Russell, of Massachusetts, Jno. R. Fellows, of New York, and other shrewd politicians and manipulators. The first clash came over the temporary chairmanship. The national Democratic committee has, for years, been accorded the right to name the temporary chairman. But this time that right was nullified. A majority of the committee were gold men and they insisted on naming a gold man for the position. The silver men told them that nothing would be approved by the convention but a silver man, and if the committee insisted on naming a gold man, the convention would turn him down. The majority of the committee, however, named Senator D. B. Hill, of New York, for temporary chairman. Senator Hill was begged by many silver men not to allow his name to be presented, because as Democrats they did not want to vote against him, but were afraid to face the people if they allowed him to be elected. Hill refused to withdraw. The gold men made something like a threat to bolt the convention if Hill was turned down. In reply to this the silver men told them to bolt and be d—d; that the States which the gold men came from were Republican States anyhow.

The silver men on the national committee were in the minority, but they named Senator Jno. W. Daniel, of Virginia, for temporary chairman. National Chairman Harrity called the convention to order, and these two men were before that body as candidates.

Four years ago Daniel stood before the national Democratic convention and in one of the strongest and most eloquent speeches ever heard, nominated D. B. Hill for President of the United States. He was hissed by the Cleveland crowd then. Now he stood fighting him in a political battle royal.

Many speeches were made by the supporters of each candidate, lasting over three hours.

Ex-Governor Waller said. "Turn down David B. Hill!" "In God's name is this a Democratic convention?"

He tried to appease the silver men by intimating that the speech Mr. Hill would deliver would not be offensive, but when he asked, "Will you turn him down?" there were cries of "We will."

"Very well," he shouted, "turn him down, and we will fight you here and elsewhere."

This unmasking of the position of the gold men was met with a storm of hisses, and one of the silver men shouted, "One vote for McKinley."

Delegate C. A. Ladd, of Illinois who spoke for Daniel said: "No one doubts that Hill's speech would be a good one; no one doubts that it would be a Democratic speech and no one doubts that it would be a New York speech," and at this sally Senator Hill himself was forced to laugh outright, while Mr. Ladd went on to delare that such a speech would have to be explained to the Republicans throughout the whole campaign.

The roll was called. The announcement of the vote—556 to 349 in favor of Daniel was received with a brief demonstration by the silver victors. Delegates waved their hats and the spectators in the galleries cheered. When New York was called Hill did not vote. When Virginia was called Daniel voted for Hill, thus outgeneralling that gentleman in courtesy.

Senator Daniel addressed the convention in a speech, the keynote of which was silver at 16 to 1 without regard to any international agreement.

The convention then adjourned till Wednesday at 10 o'clock.

Wednesday.

The silver men had boasted the day before that they had everything their own way and were going to rush things through at a lively rate. They boasted that all the business of the convention would be finished on Wednesday. But the gold men showed them better. Though greatly in the minority, they battled for every inch and only gave way to superior numbers. The silver men were winning victory like Grant won victory over Lee—not by generalship, but by overwhelming force. They found themselves effectually stopped from making a "one day" convention.

Chairman Daniel called the convention to order at 10:30 o'clock. The committees were not ready to report, and as usual prominent men were called out to speak. Among these were Governor Hogg, of Texas, Senator Blackburn and Governor Altgeld, all of whom aroused great enthusiasm. Another speaker was Goerge Fred Williams, of Massachusetts. He had just become a convert to the silver cause in spite of his surroundings in goldbugdom. He had studied the question as a citizen—not as a shylock, banker or money gambler.

His first sentence, "This is not a sectional convention," brought the silver men to their feet like a regiment answering to the word of command, and when he declared that "this is a battle for the restoration of the union of the States," the shout made the roof rattle.

"This is no transfer of the seat of power from the Atlantic to the Mississippi," he continued, and the cries went up "hear him." "I speak" he said, "in behalf of the honest capital of New England, in behalf of the honest toil and in behalf of the millions whose spindles now are silent. Our customers have been ruined," he declared, and this new portrayal of the silver issue was received with marked approval.

THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTE.

The committee on credentials had two cases before it and on the action of that committee depended the important fact as to whether the silver men would finally have a two-thirds majority, and thus have full power to name a candidate as well as to adopt a platform. The contested cases were from Nebraska and Michigan. The Nebraska case was quickly disposed of by seating the silver delegation headed by Wm. J. Bryan. The gold faction was a creation of Jackass Sterling Morton, who now sits in the office of Secretary of Agriculture in Cleveland's cabinet.

While the strains of "Just Tell Them That You Saw Me" were floating over the convention, the Nebraska silver delegation came marching in, bearing on their shoulders their champion, Wm. J. Bryan. A big banner accompanied the delegation. The Nebraskan was given a great ovation. The huge royal purple banner of the Wm. J. Bryan Club was finally carried to the platform and planted in full view of the audience.

The convention then adjourned till five o'clock p. m.

EVENING SESSION.

During the recess the credentials committee had been wrestling with the contested case from Michigan. That State had twenty-eight votes in the convention. A majority of the members were gold men, and under the unit rule this majority could cast the entire twenty-eigh votes for the gold side. While this remained so the silver men could not have a two-thirds majority necessary to nominate a candidate. If they could take advantage of the contest to unseat four gold men in the Michigan delegation and put silver men in their places, then there would be a majority of silver men in that delegation and they could swing the twenty-eight votes to the silver side. This would give the silver men more than the two-thirds majority so badly wanted. The silver men having a majority on the credentials committee, of course a majority report was made that four gold delegates be unseated. A minority report was made in favor of allowing the gold delegates to keep their seats, And then there was a fight that lasted for hours.

It was a notorious fact that when the State Democratic convention of Michigan met, it was thought to have a hundred and fifty majority in favor of silver. But the gold men captured it and there was much ado about it. During the fight over the committee's report there stepped to the front of the platform a stalwart, blonde moustached young man with a red rose on the lapel of his coat.

"Gentlemen, I am the man they say stole Michigan," he shouted in a tone that rang to the rafters. This defiant introduction caught the funny multitude, which sent up a great shout of laughter.

"Name, name," the galleries cried.

"Stevenson," the young man yelled. His full name was Eliot G. Stevenson, he is the law partner of President Cleveland's friend and one time cabinet aide "Don" Dickinson, and the man who is accused by the silver men with rounding up four hundred Federal office holders to swing the Detroit convention for gold. Defiantly he told the convention that it had no right to turn out delegates chosen by a sovereign State, that by doing so it would establish a precedent that would return to damn it, and to those declarations were returned cries of "right you are."

J. W. Blake, of Texas, made a violent speech in favor of seating the silver men. He charged that it was notorious that the Michigan convention had been packed and manipulated by office holders.

"The whole infernal delegation should in my opinion be turned out," he said earnestly, and many of the silver delegates on the floor seemed to agree with him from the manner in which they received his sentiment.

Delegate McKnight, one of the Michigan silver, delegates, replied to Mr. Stevenson. He said that it was notorious that the silver men elected a majority of two hundred to the Michigan convention.

"As soon as the administration at Washington ascertained this fact," he said, "Mr. Stevenson was hastily summoned to Washington for a conference with the Great Chief."

"It's a lie," yelled Mr. Stevenson, mounting a chair and facing the delegates."

And so the "scrap" and din went on until a vote was had which resulted 558 to 368 in favor of seating the silver delegates. Thus the twenty-eight votes of Michigan were turned from gold to silver, and the silver men were fully in the saddle.

When New York voted her 72 votes in favor of the gold delegates, a tumultuous wave of cheering broke over the assembly. The first efforts of the chairman to repress the manifestation by the use of his gavel were met by a counter-demonstration on the part of the gold delegates, who, rising and turning their backs to the chairman and their faces to the immense crowds in the galleries, waved hats and handkerchiefs and stood on their chairs and gesticulated. The galleries, evidently strongly anti-silver in sentiment, were not slow to respond and unearthly sounds from 15,000 throats filled even the vast space of the great hall.

The Tammany yell was plainly heard in every temporary lull. The band tried in vain to compete with the babel of noise. Every rap of the chairman's gavel also seemed to start it again as it began to quiet down. Shouts for Hill, cat-calls and shrill whistles added to the confusion. Then the silver men began to hiss and stamp their feet, and this made matters infinitely worse. Senator Daniel's powerful voice, much worn with its service yesterday, called the next State, "North Carolina."

"North Carolina declines to vote till she can be heard," replied the chairman of the delegation.

PERMANENT ORGANIZATION.

The committee on permanent organization reported Senator Stephen M. White, of California, for permanent chairman, and Thos. J. Hogan, of Ohio, for permanent secretary. Senator White made a brief speech, and then the convention adjourned until Thursday.

The "one day" convention of the silver men was getting to be a very long day.

Thursday.

Thursday proved to be platform and nominating day. The platform above was adopted by a vote of 628 to 301.

The gold men made an effort to substitute an anti-silver plank for the silver plank. The substitute was offered by Mr. Hill in behalf of a minority of the platform committee, and was as follows:

"We declare that our belief that the experiment on the part of the United States alone of free silver coinage and a change of the existing standard of value independently of the action of other great nations, would not only imperil our finances, but would retard or entirely prevent the establishment of international bimetallism, to which the efforts of the government should be steadily directed. It would place this country at once upon a silver basis, impair contracts, disturb business, diminish the purchasing power of the wages of labor and inflict irreparable evils upon our nation's commerce and industry.

Until international co-operation among the leading nations for the free coinage of silver can be secured we favor the rigid maintenance of the existing gold standard as essential to the preservation of our national credit, the redemption of our public pledges and the keeping inviolate of our country's honor. We trust that all our paper and silver currency shall be kept absolutely at a parity with gold. The Democratic party is the party of hard money, and is opposed to legal tender paper money as a part of our permanent financial system, and we therefore favor the gradual retirement and cancellation of all United States notes and Treasury notes, under such legislative provision as will prevent undue contraction. We demand that the national credit shall be resolutely maintained at all times and under all circumstances."

Senator Hill also offered the following amendments to the platform and moved their adoption:

"But it should be carefully provided by law at the same time that any change in the monetary standard should not apply to existing contracts.

Our advocacy of the independent, free coinage of silver being based on belief that such coinage will effect and maintain a parity between gold and silver at the ratio of 16 to 1, we declare as a pledge of our sincerity that if such free coinage shall fail to effect such parity within one year of its enactment by law, such coinage shall thereupon be suspended."

The substitute and amendments were opposed by the silver men under the leadership of Senator Tillman and W. J. Bryan. They were supported by Senator Hill, Senator Vilas and ex-Gov. Russell. Mr. Bryan's speech is reported to have been a marvel of eloquence and oratory. It aroused the convention to the highest pitch of enthusiasm and practically stampeded the convention in his favor as the presidential nominee.

Hill's substitute and amendments were voted down by a vote of 626 to 303.

One amendment offered by Mr. Hill was as follows:

"We recommend the honesty, economy, courage, and fidelity of the present Democratic administration."

Senator Tillman offered as a substitute for this the following:

"We denounce the administration of President Cleveland as un-Democratic and tyrannical, and as a departure from those principles which are cherished by all liberty-loving Americans. The veto power has been used to thwart the will of the people, as expressed by their Representatives in Congress. The appointive power has been used to subsidize the press, to debauch Congress, and to overawe and control citizens in the free exercise of their constitutional rights as voters. A plutocratic despotism is thus sought to be established on the ruins of the republic. We repudiate the construction placed on the financial plank of the last Democratic national convention by President Cleveland and Secretary Carlisle as contrary to the plain meaning of English words, and as being an act of bad faith, deserving the severest censure. The issue of bonds in time of peace, with which to buy gold to redeem coin obligations payable in silver or gold at the option of the government, and the use of the proceeds to defray the ordinary expenses of the government, are both unlawful and usurpations of authority deserving impeachment."

Senator Hill's amendment was defeated by a vote of 564 to 347.

Senator Tillman got on a chair and withdrew his resolution of censure. "The vote just taken," said he "is equivalent to a vote of censure. Where an affirmative proposition is negatived its converse is affirmed. A brave man never strikes a fallen foe. I withdraw the resolution of censure."

The galleries were "packed" with gold men and they kept things lively by eternally calling for Hill and cheering everthing the gold men did while hissing nearly everything done by the silver men. The convention then adjourned till eight o'clock at night.

NIGHT SESSION.

The third day of the convention had nearly gone, but as it faded away into the fourth day the climactical period of interest was reached. Everything had been cleared away for the beginning of nominations. Incident upon

(Continued on fourth page.)

NO TRIMMING THE PLATFORM

The Omaha Declaration Must Stand as It Is—A Radical Course Is Imperative.

THE ISSUES ARE VITAL.

Land, Transportation and Finance May Build Up or Destroy a People—According to the Way They Are Managed—"Anti-Monopoly" and "Majority Rule" Are a Safe Platform.

For The Caucasian.]

PFAFFTOWN, N. C., July 10.—Will you give an original Alliancemen and Populist the use of your columns for the expression of opinions somewhat at variance with those of some of our political leaders who advise conservative action, and wish to trim down the Omaha platform. It may be well for us to go down once more to rock bottom, and in the light of the natural rights of man, and the legitimate powers and duties of government, reconsider our position.

It is literally true that God created man (the physical man) out of the dust of the earth. It is equally true that this very life depends upon the sustenance drawn from the bosom of mother earth. Plainly, then, if we tolerate conditions under which some men own more land than they need, or can cultivate, while others find it impossible even to own a home, we reduce the landless to the alternative of starving or selling themselves into slavery. And as the land-owner will never pay his wage-slave the full value of the product of his toil, it follows that the slave must pay his master for the use of land of which he has himself been robbed by society. Land, air, and water are God's free gift to all who wish to use them, and I would like to see the photograph of the man who claims for himself or his government the right to stand between any man and God's title deed to enough land to supply his reasonable needs. God gave the Israelites a law which compelled them to give every man a just share of the land and decreed that it should never be taken from him. He could not even sell it except under certain conditions and for a short time only. Give a man land and he can secure himself against want. Deny him this and under no condition is he secure. Let no trimmer, therefore, lay unholy hands on our land plank. In importance it overshadows all our other demands and has the approval of common honesty and the God of all truth and justice.

Now supposing that we have given all men free access to land, it will be found that the different sections of our vast country can each produce some of the things of common use better than any other section. A division of labor will also be found convenient and economical. Here, then, an exchange of products will become necessary; and while money is a great convenience in effecting exchanges, yet this could be accomplished without it by establishing common depositories where each could deposit his products and take out others of equal value. It could not, however, be effected without transportation. Transportation, then, is second in importance among demands. Given free access to the resources of nature, and transportation at cost, moderate industry, if protected against robbery, will insure prosperity.

Next comes the money question. What is the office of money? It is to keep accounts where the direct exchange of commodities is impossible. It is a system of portable and transferable accounts. I possess a dollar, either of gold, silver or paper. This dollar is my account against the public. If I have obtained it honestly it shows that I have given one dollar's worth of labor to the public, and may therefore withdraw that amount from the exchangeable products of the country. You give me a bushel of wheat for the dollar. I am now paid—have had the dollar redeemed, and you hold the account against the public. No one, certainly, will deny that paper is the most convenient material with which to keep these accounts, and it would be just as reasonable to require book accounts to be kept on silver or gold leaf as it is to require transferable accounts to be thus kept. But how about a basis for paper money? It must be based on something possessing intrinsic value. Certainly. What is a basis? It is that which causes or makes necessary the thing resting upon it. The necessity for an exchange of products necessitates a medium of exchange, and the necessaries of life are the basis.

Are gold and silver of any use to mankind? Hardly. They may plug a tooth but amalgam is better. Of very limited use in the arts, perhaps, but not indispensible. Among all the commodities offered for exchange it would be the last to find one more useless. Economy would forbid the waste of time required to secure them. "Oh, but there is a great demand for them." True; but by whom, and for what purpose? It cannot be denied that under the great law of compensation they have served the dude in the external decoration of his person, and thus gained for him the admiration of the vulgar, and divided attention from the absence of intrinsic value in the way of brains, in that animal. But we pay too much for our whistle when we allow the interest of a few worthless dudes to overshadow the vast commercial interests of the useful citizens of our country and of the world.

No, silver alone must not be the issue in the coming campaign. It would, of course, under existing conditions, give temporary relief. Members of the old parties might even help us to elect a President and secure free coinage. But they would go with us no further, and the vast monopolies would soon swallow up silver as they have gold. The billionaire would soon be upon us. To increase our supply of money without, at the same time, destroying all monopolies would be as useless as to try to fill a tub with water while there was a big hole in the bottom.

Think now, my brother, you who wish to shorten our platform. 'Tis easily done. The one word "anti-monopoly," expresses every demand in and outside the Omaha platform necessary to establish justice among us. Write this upon our standard and hew to the line, and the pressure of existing conditions will soon drive the people to our help. Land, transportation, money, manufacturing and legislative monopolies must all go down if we would save the American people from poverty and slavery. Look at the process. The possession of the resources of nature and labor-saving machinery by the [illegible] to control and rob [illegible] buy legislation. Under government [illegible] by one hundred or [illegible] called representatives, the people, money [illegible] able to buy legislation. We always will. From the very foundation of our government legislation favored the rich. One thing, only, saved our people from speedy destruction. Failing in the older settlements, the vast public domain furnished them free homes in the new. Westward they continually wended their way until the mighty Pacific forbade further retreat. Now at last, they are compelled to face the advancing foe. The public lands have all been taken up. The one safety valve of the republic is closed. Millions of our citizens have become tramps, and starvation menaces many an humble home. The people are standing at bay and sullenly brooding over their wrongs. Already the gory spectre of revolution looms far above the western horizon, and still, upon every avenue of approach, plutocracy's bloodhounds are pressing upon them, and still our well fed law-makers are dozing in their cushioned seats and prating of conservative action; even of going back to the days of the fathers and doing as they did. Well, then, destroy all the railroads, all the labor saving machinery, and all the large fortunes in the country and reduce our population to three millions, and you can safely, for a time at least, do as the fathers did. Ah, the fathers also slept while the enemy sowed tares. Had they been wise and watchful they would have promptly adjusted constitutions and laws to the demands of changing conditions, and prevented all this trouble. Too late now for conservative action! No free silver plaster will heal the terrible cancer that is rapidly eating the life out of the industries of the country. The radical must come to the front, and we must fight for all or nothing. Never mind the insane cry of Socialism. All honest government is socialistic, but we need not think of that. It cannot be wrong to follow where Justice leads the way, and if it leads towards socialism who can help it? We MUST follow or deny the Just One.

Now let us be honest. We all pretend to favor the rule of the majority. We all know that this NEVER HAS BEEN AND NEVER WILL BE permanently established under government by representatives. Then why waste time? Let us have Direct Legislation, the Initiative and Referendum. Let this be the one plank in our platform. This is the only possible way to unite all reformers, and this gained puts everything under the control of the people, stops the purchase of legislation, and establishes the rule of the majority.

J. A. TRANSON.

THOSE PERSON POPULISTS

DECLARE FOR UNADULTERATED DOCTRINE—AND DEMAND THAT THE COURSE BE "MIDDLE OF THE ROAD."

"Place None But Americans on Guard" Is the Slogan—Endorsement of Democrats For President or Vice-President Emphatically Opposed—Guthrie For Governor.

At a convention of the Peoples Party of Person county, held at Roxboro, Monday, July 6th, 1896, the following resolutions adopted and reported by the committee on resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That we declare our steadfast adherence to the principles of the national Peoples Party as enunciated in the Omaha platform, every plank in it. Especially, we are in favor of a sound, honest dollar; a dollar worth neither more nor less than 100 cents; a dollar that is as good as the nation's credit and as untarnished as its honor; a dollar as good in the hands of the poor as in the tills of the rich; a dollar worth its face value in the products of labor; a dollar that speculators cannot corner; a dollar that will pay debts and taxes; a dollar that will be good as long as the republic endures. We favor bimetallism and to that end we demand the free and unlimited coinage of both silver and gold at the ratio of 16 to 1 as standard money with equal legal tender powers independent of the action or advice of any other nation on earth.

We are the pioneers in the fight for the free coinage of silver. Free silver coinage would increase business, wages and demand for labor. Free silver coinage would double the volume of money.

The Peoples Party is the only true silver party in existence, having advocated the free coinage of both silver and gold at the ratio of 16 to 1 without waiting for the consent of other nations since its organization.

We oppose the endorsetaent of a Democrat for President, Vice-President or Congress, even though that party should declare for free silver and nominate free silver men. The Democratic party is honey-combed with goldbugs, has had its chance, betrayed the people, violated its promises, demoralized silver, killed eleven free silver bills (one after it had passed a Republican Senate), bonded the present and future generations, piled up the public debt by $262,000,000 in time of peace, pawned American credit to alien syndicates, produced shrinkage in values

[Continued on 2nd page]

LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE

Various Matters on Which the Popular Opinion is Expressed—All Sections Interested.

LIVING ISSUES FORWARD.

More Endorsements of the Action of the Committee—Good Feeling Everywhere—People Are Coming to the "Stay in The Middle of The Road" in The Slogan.

The Father of the Row.

For The Caucasian.]

LAKE SCOTTON, N. C., July 10, '96.—We Pops in this part of Moore county heartily endorse the action of our State executive committee in not fusing with the Republican party, and are opposed to fusion with either of the old parties except on principle.

We have about the same opinion of the old parties that an old Irishman had of the preacher at a certain church in this community. He was holding a protracted meeting and seeing the old son of Ireland in the back end of the church (while the usual crowd were shouting in a high key,) he concluded to go over and give the old Catholic a personal invitation to the mercy seat. The old man looked up and said: "Be faith and be Christ; get right off from here, for you're the father of this whole d—n row."

With Maj. Guthrie for Governor we can make it warm for Watson and Russell. We are delighted with your paper. It strikes square from the shoulder every time.

J. J. EDWARDS.

Silver In Maryland.

For The Caucasian.]

FORESTVILLE, Prince George Co., Md., July 10, '96.—A wonderful change of sentiment has taken place in this State in favor of silver. The people, crushed by Gorman's machine, have not been allowed to hear anything. But the light is breaking fast and we have even chances to carry the State NOW. If the silver feeling continues to increase anything like it has done in the past three months, we will be CERTAIN to carry it.

WM. MACON COLEMAN.

On Top in Cleveland County.

For The Caucasian.]

I will say that the Populist party is on top in this section. We can count ten every time the two old parties count one, and I think that Cleveland county will pol! a large majority for the Populists this fall.

We all heartily endorse Senator Butler's course. I for one am not in favor of fusion with any party unless it is on principle; for when I joined the Populist party I joined it from pure motives and I do not want the Peoples Party adulterated.

J. W. MCGINNIS.

Let's Work Together.

For The Caucasian.]

BUNN LEVEL, N. C., July 8, '96.—The Peoples Party in this section is gaining every day. Every movement of our party brings in new comrades, crying for free silver.

We do not care to fuse with either of the old parties for one is as bad as the other.

The Democrats and Republicans held their primaries in May. Seven attended the former and four the latter. It looks as though we Pops must do the work, although our lines are open. We extend to all a hearty welcome to those who will place principle above party to join us in the all-important work that lies before us.

T. H. BLALOCK.

Dr. Person For Congress.

For The Caucasian.]

ROCKY MOUNT, N. C., July 10, '96.—I would like to present Dr. B. L. Person, of Wilson, N. C., to the consideration of the voters of our Congressional district. If nominated I have no fear but he will be elected. Dr. Person is a good man for that place and a fine speaker. I know he can, and will nobly defend the oppressed masses.

He was swindled out of his seat in the last legislature, and I know he will be a terror to those miserable frauds in this campaign. I think he would add great force to our ticket, and if nominated and elected, we will see that he is seated.

J. B. BARNES.

Dems Demoralized in Nash.

For The Caucasian.]

NASH COUNTY.—The Democrats, after advertisement at every public place in Nash county, held their primary on June 18th. Bailey's township had THREE Dems and two Pops to watch. Jackson's had two Dems and one Pop to look on. East Fessels had not a man. I haven't heard from the other places, but suppose they went the same way. The county convention had only a hand full.

I saw a Democrat the other day who said if things did not get better he should vote the Republican ticket. I told him they had split open. "Then I shall stay at home," he said. This man is one that wants a "dollar good in Europe."

So you see we have them demoralized and in November will have a walk-over.

M. N. BISSETT.

They Are For Guthrie.

For the Caucasian.]

KELFORD, July 8, '96.—Our people are for Guthrie for Governor, and will vote for and co-operate with no party that goes for a gold standard.

As for the overtures of the Democracy, they are not in any "walk into my parlor said the spider to the fly" humor at all just now. It would be the wolf and the lamb a-hunting together.

H. P. HARRELL.

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