

FLAT-FOOTED FOR GOLD

That is the Way the Indianapolis Platform Reads.

A STRAIGHT PLANK.

The Platform is Presented to the Convention this Afternoon and It is Plain Spoken-Speculation as to the Presidential Nominee.

By Telegraph to the Press-Visitor.

INDIANAPOLIS, Sept. 3.—As delegates began filing in the hall there seemed to be no definite decision regarding the nomination of candidates for the presidency and vice presidency. There is much opposition to Bragg of Wisconsin who developed more strength than any other candidate. General Palmer and General Black are coming to the front. Vilas has withdrawn now and is out of it.

The drawing of the platform is calling into play political genius and ingenuity of nearly every leading member, the object being to make it as strong for the people as possible, yet not demagogic. The sub-committees worked all night, yet are not satisfied this morning. The convention may be called on to take a hand. This combination of the probabilities and possibilities demonstrates the earnestness of the body.

Florida Pulling for Cleveland. The Florida delegation still insists on putting forward Cleveland's name for president unless they hear from him to the contrary. A strong effort is now being made to defeat Bragg.

A Word from Cleveland. The following message was received by Daniel Griffin: "My judgment and personal inclinations are so unalterably opposed to your suggestion that I cannot for a moment entertain it."

(Signed) GROVER CLEVELAND. The delegates have caucused to decide for the head of the ticket. Most of them favored Palmer. He has told the Illinois men that he will accept. The attendance exceeded yesterday's. The Illinois delegates decided to present no candidate as the choice. It is expected that some other State will present Palmer's name. Palmer, Bragg, Vilas, Buckner and other prominent leaders were cheered as they entered. Col. Breckenridge was received with boisterous cheers by his admirers. The convention is waiting for them to finish the platform. Nearly all delegates are seated. Three thousand five hundred people are present. It is expected that the convention will complete its work and adjourn late this afternoon.

At 12:38 John Warner, of New York, was introduced and addressed the convention. The committee on resolutions is still out. At 12:55 Mr. Outhwait, of Ohio, asked if the committee on resolutions was ready to report. The chair announced that their time would be extended on report. Frederick Lehman, of Missouri was recognized and spoke from the platform.

The committee on platform has completed the platform. The financial plank is a flat footed declaration for the gold standard. Bimetallism is not mentioned. On motion Mr. Byrum addressed the convention at one o'clock. Mr. Eckels of the committee on resolutions took the platform amid cheers. He explained that he arose to announce that the Senator from Wisconsin would arrive in a few minutes to present the report of the committee.

The Southern Meets the Cat. By Telegraph to the Press-Visitor. New York, Sept. 3.—The Executive Committee of the Southern Freight Association held a two hours' meeting yesterday to consider what course to take since Judge Simonon had dissolved the temporary injunction. News was received that the Seaboard Air-Line had put its passenger rate from Atlanta to Norfolk to \$8. This created a split of open opposition and much comment. After appointing a committee to take up the matter and report this afternoon, the morning session of the executive board adjourned.

Samuel Spence, A. B. Andrews and all the Southern railway are in attendance. The Association decided to meet the cut in rates made by the Seaboard Air-Line. On and after Sept. 5 rates on all classes of freight in the territory reached by the Southern Freight Association will be at or about 35 per cent of the present rate.

PRITCHARD TALKS.

He Speaks Confidently But Is He Confident?

The Washington Times of yesterday says: "This has been a day of notable political callers at local Republican headquarters."

First among them in order of arrival was Senator Warren, of Wyoming, who brought with him confident opinions of Republican chances in that State, and a little later came Senator Pritchard, of North Carolina, member of the executive committee, and Representative Aldrich, of Alabama.

The North Carolina Senator was returning from New York, where he had visited Republican headquarters and stops here on his way to take the stump for McKinley, the Republican State ticket, and incidentally his own Senatorial candidacy in his State. The very latest news from North Carolina he had had no means of learning except through the newspapers, but up to a few days ago, and he believed conditions had not changed since that time, there was nothing but encouragement for Republican hopes.

"All I have to say about North Carolina," answered Senator Pritchard promptly, in answer to the first question of a Times reporter, "is that it is going to do its part to help elect McKinley and Hobart." But he said a good deal more.

"We shall take advantage of the failure of fusion plans between Democrats and Populists, and elect our State ticket, legislature and Presidential electors, and besides re-electing the four Republican Congressmen, gain one in the Fourth district, where Mr. White is our candidate."

The reason for his complete confidence, he said, is that the farmers won't listen to silver talk while the tariff is such an important issue to them, and those who desire the development of the natural resources of the State will turn an equally deaf ear to the clamoring of the silverites.

Senator Pritchard said that he would take the stump in North Carolina next Saturday, making his first speech in Ashboro. Except a little speaking in Illinois, under the direction of the national committee, he will not do any campaign work outside of his own State.

A Question Asked.

Correspondence Press-Visitor.

The Board of Directors of the Deaf and Dumb Institution elected, or thought they elected, one Mr. Place, of Indiana. It turns out that according to our statutes Mr. Place could not possibly hold the position and could not therefore possibly be elected. The board could not possibly make any contract with him. Mr. Young holds the place until his successor has been elected and installed into office. No successor has yet been appointed or elected and installed. Why is not Mr. Young still the Superintendent? An impossible appointment, such as that of Mr. Place, could not displace Mr. Young. If Mr. Young is Superintendent how could he be made to pay back a part of his salary, to be paid to Mr. Place, which was done? How could Mr. Place draw a salary when he has not been, nor could be under the law, Superintendent which he has done? How could Mr. Young be made Assistant Superintendent when he has not been divested of his office as Superintendent, for his successor has not been appointed? Under which law does Mr. Young draw a salary as Assistant Superintendent?

With such a man lawyer as chairman of the board, who is so conversant with, and so publicly expatiated upon, the eligibility of its members, and who ought to be equally conversant with the eligibility of the Superintendent (for the law is very plain) it looks to a "man up a tree" that an inexcusable blunder has been made.

CITIZEN.

Bryan Keeps on Speaking.

By Telegraph to the Press-Visitor.

TOLDO, Sept. 3.—Notwithstanding the arduous trip of yesterday, great speeches were made last night by Mr. Bryan. He started for Adrian, Michigan, early this morning. There was heavy rain before starting and he received a small delegation of local Democrats.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Ray wish to thank their friends and neighbors for the kindness shown them during the sickness and death of their little baby.

THE CITY'S MORTALITY.

The Monthly Report for August Makes a Good Showing for Health.

Sanitary Inspector Sale reports deaths, births and contagious diseases registered at the Health Department as follows: Total deaths 21, whites 8, colored 13, deaths under five years of age 13, deaths over seventy years of age 2; this is a very gratifying showing indeed and leaves only 25 per cent. of the whole number of deaths that died at ages that were not expected to die. It will be further observed by comparison with Aug. '95, that the death rate has very materially decreased for Aug. '96. The corresponding month last year shows a total of 36 deaths; 20 white and 16 colored. So it will be seen that the rate for both races has decreased, that of the whites being the greatest. Another remarkable fact is shown by reference to this and former reports for '96, which is there there has not been a death of the white race caused by typhoid fever. The report will show four deaths resulting from typhoid fever, all colored, while for the corresponding month in '95 we had seven deaths from typhoid fever, six of which were white. We had fifteen cases reported in Aug. '95, while in '96 we have only had six.

The registered cause of deaths were enteric colitis 4 meningitis 2, membranous croup 1, rickets 1, heart disease 1, typhoid fever 4, enteritis 1, bronchitis 1, marasmus 1, softening of brain 1, consumption 2, suicide, not stated 1. Births were reported as follows: White 12, colored 8. Total 20. Mr. Sale says that the city is clean and the sanitary condition good.

REPUBLICAN COMMITTEE.

Is Called to Meet here at Noon Next Tuesday.

The Republican State committee is formally called to meet here next Tuesday at noon. Chairman Holton, who has been in New York a few days in company with Senator Pritchard and Congressman Pearson and Settle to see Mark Hanna, returned home this morning. Hiram L. Grant, the only committeeman now at headquarters here, says: "The matter of our State ticket will be settled Tuesday. I am for taking down none of nominees save Dockery. I want W. A. Guthrie, Populist, nominee for Governor, to run. Dockery is the only one who really conflicts with us. If the Populists want to run their ticket let them do so. The Asheville Register talks of taking down Russell and Henderson from our ticket. That paper no longer speaks by authority. Its editor is soured. If the Populists had met us fairly and squarely, Henderson, our nominee for Auditor, would have been taken down in favor of Ayer, Populist. There would have been no trouble in getting rid of Henderson."

Editor Ramsey Still Dissatisfied.

In today's Progressive Farmer is the following editorial: "One of our subscribers paid up his subscription last week and ordered his paper stopped until such time as we see proper to endorse Senator Butler and the St. Louis Convention? We have endorsed Senator Butler time and again. No Senator has a better public record at Washington. But when it came to frittering away the greatest reform movement on earth, we drew the line and kicked."

Hoke Smith Takes His Leave.

The Washington Times of yesterday says: Secretary Hoke Smith today took formal leave of the heads of bureaus and other employees of the Interior Department. Upon his arrival at the Department this morning he found the corridor leading to his office crowded. The doors were thrown open and the clerks were presented by their chiefs. The Secretary gave each a cordial handshake and pleasant smile. He will remain until tomorrow, when his successor, ex-Governor Francis will arrive.

The Tobacco Board of Trade.

At the annual meeting of the Raleigh Tobacco Board of Trade the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, E. L. Fleming; Vice-President, V. B. Moore; Secretary and Treasurer, E. W. Thomason.

There was much enthusiasm at the meeting.

Ways and means was discussed for the benefit of this market which is gradually becoming one of the most important tobacco markets in central North Carolina.

Seaton Gates Lodge, No. 64, I. O. O. F.

Regular meeting of Seaton Gates Lodge No. 64, I. O. O. F., tonight at 8 o'clock. It is earnestly desired that every member be present.

Members of sister lodges are cordially invited to attend.

A. M. POWELL, N. G. Third, Sec.

BIG FIRE IN NORFOLK

Two Hundred Thousand Dollars of Property Destroyed.

FAMILIES HOMELESS

The Big Blaze Carries Off a Large Portion of the City—A Change of Wind Saves the Old Dominion Property.

By Telegraph to the Press-Visitor.

NORFOLK, Va., Sept. 3.—A fire which started in the five-story plough implement factory of S. R. White & Bro. destroyed two hundred thousand dollars worth of property here last night. A number of buildings in the lane leading to Main street caught, consuming the block and tenements. A hundred families are homeless. A change of the wind saved the property of the Old Dominion Steamship Company and the Clyde line.

TOM. WATSON'S KICK

Causes Senator Butler to Decide to Notify Him.

Tom. Watson's emphatic kick has had quick effect. He will be notified that he was nominated by the Populist convention at St. Louis for Vice President of the United States.

The Atlanta Constitution says this notification will be formally made and Bryan at the same time will receive the information that he has been placed at the head of the People's party ticket.

Senator Butler has yielded to the urgent demand made upon him by the members of the party who made up the "middle of the road" element and yesterday informed Chairman John Cunningham that he would agree to a consultation in Atlanta Thursday between Watson, H. W. Reed, of Brunswick, Seaborn Wright and himself. At this conference the method of notification will be discussed and the plan of the Populist campaign outlined.

It will have important bearing upon the future doings of the Populists.

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We will not endorse the St. Louis convention until the work started is carried out, and that means one electoral ticket, and that for Bryan and Watson.

Even then it will be a bitter pill for a man who loves the welfare of his country. There are not enough Senators, friends of Senators, and subscribers on all the newspaper lists in the country to bulldoze us."

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THOUSANDS AFFECTED.

The Civil Service Law Extended to War Department Employees.

The Washington Times announces that ten thousand employees of the War Department have been classified under the civil service. Only two exceptions are made. These are the private secretaries of Secretary Lamont and his assistant, Secretary Doe.

All other employees of the Department, including all the clerks in the Secretary's office, and from the chief clerk down, are included in the change. The only ones connected with the Department not affected will be a very few day laborers of the lower class.

The classification is made in accordance with President Cleveland's sweeping order of May 6, which extended the operations of the civil service law to practically all government employees, except those laborers whose work did not require any great amount of technical skill.

The occasion of the delay in complying with the order in the War Department has been due to the difficulty involved in including all those on the pay-roll, particularly of the engineer's division.

A large number of the employees of the department, including those of the war records and pensions divisions in this city, have, since the enactment of the civil service law, been under its operation, though this number has by no means included half of those upon the pay roll of the department.

When President Cleveland's order was first issued it was thought both impracticable and impossible to place the engineer's division of the War Department under the operations of the civil service law.

The classification of more than 5,000 employees, chiefly engaged upon the work of improving the rivers and harbors throughout the country was, however, at once begun.

It was a herculean task which the department set about to accomplish, many of the employees being located at out of the way points and all scattered about the country.

Interpretation of the Law.

In many of these places the work only goes on in the summer and at other times nothing can be done, save in the winter. To bridge over this hindrance and enable a successful classification, a proviso was inserted in the rules allowing the men to be furloughed without pay in the season in which work could not be accomplished.

Provided the men are efficient they can thus hold their positions and be re-employed without the necessity of an examination when the operations are resumed on rivers and harbors at favorable seasons of the year.

Those capable men who are at present in the employ of the department will all be retained and will not have to submit to an examination. All new comers, or applicants, however, from this time forth, for positions under the engineer's division, as well as any other, will have to take the regular examination prepared by the commission.

The sweeping effects of the order have been liberally interpreted by Secretary Lamont, as is shown by the effect the change will have in his own office, only two private secretaries being exempt from the operations of the law.

Mr. Whiting Tells About Grapes and Pears

There is a great deal of blight of pear trees in this section. Mr. Seymour Whiting, a very successful fruit and grape-grower, says that he inserted ten grains of calomel under the bark of each tree, that there is no sign of blight and the trees are loaded with fruit. Yet scientific people assure him that calomel is not dissolved by the sap of the tree. Mr. Whiting finds it easy to raise figs in this climate if the bushes are bent to the ground and well covered with earth in the autumn before frost, and so kept until danger of frost is over. After much experience, he finds, as to grapes, that the Delaware pays best and is most in demand, the Niagara being second.

Suit Against the Ocean View Hotel Manager.

Suit has been commenced by Receiver O. E. Smith of the Norfolk & Ocean View railroad against Mr. Edward R. Thornton, lessee of the Ocean View Hotel, Norfolk, Va., to recover \$1,129 due on electric lighting. The action was caused by what seemed to Mr. Smith very suspicious movements on the part of the defendant to evade payment of the debt.

ANOTHER RISE IN COTTON

New York Market Advanced 25 to 35 Points Today.

New York, Sept. 3. Cotton quotations furnished by E. B. Cuthbert & Co., 56 Broadway, New York, and 305 Wilmington street, Raleigh, over their special wire:

Table with columns: MONTHS, OPENING, HIGH, LOW, CLOSING. Rows for January, February, March, April, May, June, July, August, Sept'mb'r, October, November, December.

New York opened wild and excited today 25 to 30 points up from yesterday's closing prices, continued steady and rather firm during the entire session, and closed at the highest point of the day 30 to 35 points higher than yesterday's market.

New York Stock Market.

The following were the closing quotations on the New York Stock Exchange today:

Table with columns: Stock Name, Price. Rows for Missouri Pacific, Union Pacific, Rock Island, St. Paul, General Electric, Tennessee Coal and Iron, Manhattan, American Tobacco, Burlington and Quincy, Western Union, Louisville and Nashville, United States Leather, Southern Railroad, Southern Preferred, Chicago Gas, Sugar, Reading, Do. and Cr. Feed, Atchison, D. L. & W., Jersey Central, Erie, Silver.

Liverpool Cotton Market.

Table with columns: Month, Price. Rows for September, September-October, October-November, November-December, December-January, January-February, February-March.

Chicago Grain and Provision Market.

The following were the closing quotations on the Chicago Grain and Provision market today:

Table with columns: Commodity, Price. Rows for Wheat-September, 56; December, 59; Corn-September, 20; December, 21; Oats-September, 15; December, 16; Pork-September, 5.62; December, 5.65; Lard-September, 3.27; Dec. 3.50; Clear Rib Sides-September, 3.15; January 3.27.

Steel Works Shut Down.

By Telegraph to the Press-Visitor. PITTSBURG, Sept. 3.—Owing to poor business the Edgar Thomson Steel Plant of the Carnegie Co., at Braddock, has been shut down in all departments, making 5,000 idle employees for an indefinite period. This is the first time in the history of the works that poor business has forced the company to shut down. Bryan and free silver are held responsible according to the managers who are Republicans.

Earthquake in Japan.

By Cable to the Press-Visitor. YOKOHAMA, Sept. 3.—Reports are received that a great earthquake ravaged the northeast provinces of Japan Monday night, destroying the town of Rokugo and other towns in that part of the empire. Over a thousand persons are reported as having been killed.

Will Confiscate Their Property.

By Telegraph to the Press-Visitor. ZANZIBAR, Sept. 3.—It now appears that leading Arabs who supported Said Khalid in his attempt to usurp the throne of Zanzibar will be banished and their property confiscated.

He Has Fifty-Five "Saratoga's."

By Telegraph to the Press-Visitor. New York, Sept. 3.—Changroseat 6 o'clock and started for Philadelphia at 8:30 where he was received with honors similar to the attentions paid him here. It required seven large wagons to transport fifty-five trunks.

Meeting of Phalanx Lodge Tonight.

Phalanx Lodge, Knights of Pythias, meets tonight at 8:30 o'clock and all members are earnestly requested to be present as it is the occasion of the annual installation of officers.

S. F. TELFAIR.

SHORT STATEMENTS.

Minor Matters Manipulated for the Many.

AROUND THE CITY.

Pot-Pouri of the News Pictured on Paper—Points and People Pertinently Picked and Pithily Put in Print.

The Republican State committee is called to meet here at noon next Wednesday.

It is feared that another case of the "Texas fever" has developed in Charlotte cattle.

Rev. Dr. John A. Preston, pastor of the First Presbyterian church at Charlotte, is critically ill at Lexington, Va.

There are 300 employees in the S. A. L. Shops at Portsmouth. Mr. Jake Nottingham is now there in the moulding department.

The Raleigh "Puzzlers" and the Wilmington "Black Stockings" will play a match game here Monday at Athletic Park.

B. R. Lacy and E. C. Beddingfield will make political addresses at the Orinco warehouse in Winston tomorrow night and at Waightown Saturday.

Johnston county superior court adjourned at noon yesterday, after two and a half hours session, having disposed of the civil and criminal dockets.

Mr. S. L. Patterson, Commissioner of Agriculture, has returned after an absence of a month, during which he conducted a number of farmers' institutes.

Holt & Homewood, of Alamance, today secured at the fair grounds the same amount of space as has been taken by George Vanderbilt for his Biltmore farm exhibit.

Governor Carr today paid \$50 reward for the capture of Peter Cameron, a noted robber and house-breaker, wanted in Chatham county. He was arrested at Aberdeen.

Mr. W. H. McCorkle of Mecklenburg county saved his 18-year-old daughter from being killed by a mad cow. He caught the enraged animal by the horns and threw her down.

Sheriff Page and his deputies have certainly tried hard to capture Chas. alias Booker, the negro who blew out Mahala White's brains last Saturday, but he appears to have escaped.

Hon. R. B. Peebles will speak at Windsor, Bertie county, Monday, September 14th, and Hon. R. B. Glenn will speak in the eastern part of the State several days successively next week.

The Lynchburg and Durham road is to be sold at Lynchburg, Va., in two weeks. It has been stated that the Southern would buy it, but a statement from President Spencer is that the Southern does not desire its control and will not buy it.

The Port Royal and Augusta railroad was sold yesterday by receiver Averill for \$550,000. This is the road which made the application to Judge Simonton for an injunction restraining the roads from cutting rates.

An alarm of fire turned in at Oxford late Monday night called out the whole town and the volunteer fire department. A blaze was discovered in the orphan asylum caused by the explosion of a kerosene lamp. It was quickly extinguished. The damage was about \$600.

A patent has been issued for a mouth shield for bicycle riders, the object of which is to protect the throat from wind and dust. The invention is that of Mr. Oscar McCullen, of Richmond, who was for some years a telegraph operator here.

A tobacco dealer of Greensboro in the course of a trip in Rockingham and Caswell says he saw at least one hundred different farms where tobacco is grown and failed to see one good crop. All in all he says it is decidedly the poorest crop he ever saw.

The "Indian doctor," J. L. White, whose trial for rape came up at Rowan Superior Court was acquitted Tuesday. The trial occupied five days. More than a hundred witnesses testified. White had been in jail since the 9th of November, 1895. He narrowly escaped lynching in Stanly county.