

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

THE INDUSTRIAL AND EDUCATIONAL INTERESTS OF OUR PEOPLE PARAMOUNT TO ALL OTHER CONSIDERATIONS OF STATE POLICY.

Vol. 7.

RALEIGH, N. C., AUGUST 30, 1892.

No. 29

THE NATIONAL FARMERS' ALLIANCE AND INDUSTRIAL UNION.

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PAPERS.

Progressive Farmer, State Organ, Raleigh, N. C.
The Workingman's Helper, Pinnacle, N. C.
Farmers' Advocate, Salisbury, N. C.
Country Life, Trinity College, N. C.
Farmer, Hickory, N. C.
Agricultural Bee, Goldsboro, N. C.
Alliance Echo, Monroeville, N. C.
Special Informer, Raleigh, N. C.
Carolina Dispatch, Hertford, N. C.

Each of the above named papers are requested to keep the list standing on the first page and add others, provided they are duly elected. Any paper failing to advocate the Ocala platform will be dropped from the list promptly. Our people can now see what papers are published in their interest.

CUMBERLAND COUNTY RESOLUTIONS.

Resolved, That in the death of our National President, L. L. Polk, the Farmer's Alliance has lost a great and trusted leader at a time in which we needed his council and services most. He was, we believe, a true friend to the industrial classes a champion of the reforms demanded by the Alliance of this country, and believing him to have been such, we will cherish the memory of his virtue as a faithful and fearless leader in the great cause dear to all our hearts.

2. That to the family of our deceased brother we extend our heartfelt sympathies, and commend them to the care of that God in whom he trusted.

3. That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family, one spread on our minutes and one sent to THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER and National Economist for publication.

E. T. USHER,
A. D. MCGILL,
T. H. McLEAN,
A. H. MCGWAIN,
Committee.

SCRIPTURAL.

DISMAL, Sampson Co., N. C.

Mr. Editor:—Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of plotters, nor standeth in the way of reform, nor sitteth in the seat of Dr. Kingsbury. But his delight is in the "St. Louis demands" and on the "Ocala platform" doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his hopes also shall not wither, and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

The "old parties" are not so; but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away.
Three-pan "gold bugs" shall not stand in the election, nor "monopolists" sit in the halls of Congress.
For Weaver and Field knoweth the ways of "the People's party," but the ways of the "old parties" shall perish.
Yours fraternally,
W. J. FAIRCLOTH.

"KEEP IN THE MIDDLE OF THE ROAD."



Side tracks are rough, and they're hard to walk. Keep in the middle of the road; though we haven't got time to stop and talk we keep in the middle of the road.

Turn your backs on the goldbug men, and yell for silver now and then. If you want to lead Grover, do so. Just stick to the middle of the road.

Don't answer the call of goldbug tools, but keep in the middle of the road; prove that the West wasn't settled by fools, and keep in the middle of the road.

They've woven their plots and woven them ill. We want a WEAVER who's got more skill, and mostly we want a silver bill. So we'll stay in the middle of the road.

This Is The Way They Do It In The West.

POLITICAL PLATFORMS.

A Series of Interesting Documents.

Milestones in the Development of Political Parties Since the Organization of the Government.

1872

DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM, BALTIMORE, JULY 9TH.

We, the Democratic electors of the United States, in convention assembled, do present the following principles, already adopted at Cincinnati, as essential to just government.

[Here followed the "Liberal Republican Platform," which see above.]

1872

REPUBLICAN, JUNE 5TH.

The Republican party of the United States, assembled in national convention in the city of Philadelphia, on the 5th and 6th days of June, 1872, again declares its faith, appeals to its history, and announces its position upon the questions before the country:

1. During eleven years of supremacy it has accepted, with grand courage, the solemn duties of the time. It suppressed a gigantic rebellion, emancipated four millions of slaves, decreed the equal citizenship of all, and established universal suffrage. Exhibiting unparalleled unanimity, it criminally punished no man for political offenses, and warmly welcomed all who proved their loyalty by obeying the laws and dealing justly with their neighbors. It has steadily decreased, with firm hand, the resultant disorders of a great war, and initiated a wise and humane policy toward the Indians. The Pacific Railroad and similar vast enterprises have been generously aided and successfully conducted, the public lands freely given to actual settlers, immigration protected and encouraged, and a full acknowledgment of the naturalized citizen's rights secured from European powers. A uniform national currency has been provided, repudiation frowned down, and national credit sustained under the most extraordinary burdens, and new bonds negotiated at lower rates. The revenues have been carefully collected and honestly applied. Despite annual large reductions of the rates of taxation, the public debt has been reduced during Gen. Grant's presidency at the rate of a hundred millions a year, great financial crisis have been avoided, and peace and plenty prevail throughout the land. Menacing foreign difficulties have been peacefully and honorably compromised, and the honor and power of the nation kept in high respect throughout the world. This glorious record of the past is the party's best pledge for the future. We believe the people will not intrust the government to any party or combination of men composed chiefly of those who have resisted every step of this beneficent progress.

2. The recent amendments to the National Constitution should be cordially sustained because they are right, not merely tolerated because they are law, and should be carried out according to their spirit by appropriate legislation, the enforcement of which can safely be intrusted only to the party that secured those amendments.

3. Complete liberty and exact equality in the enjoyment of all civil, political, and public rights should be established and effectually maintained throughout the Union by efficient and appropriate State and Federal legislation. Neither the law nor its administration should admit any discrimination

in respect to citizens by reason of race, creed, color, or previous condition of servitude.

4. The National Government should seek to maintain honorable peace with all nations, protecting its citizens everywhere, and sympathizing with all peoples who strive for greater liberty.

5. Any system of civil service under which the subordinate positions of the government are considered rewards for mere party zeal is fatally demoralizing; and we, therefore, favor a reform of the system, by laws which shall abolish the evils of patronage, and make honesty, efficiency, and fidelity the essential qualifications for public positions, without practically creating a life tenure of office.

6. We are opposed to further grants of the public lands to corporations and monopolies, and demand that the national domain be set apart for free homes for the people.

7. The annual revenue after paying current expenses, pensions, and the interest on the public debt, should furnish a moderate balance for the reduction of the principal; and that revenue, except so much as may be derived from a tax upon tobacco and liquors, should be raised by duties upon importations, the details of which should be so adjusted as to aid in securing remunerative wages to labor, and promote the industries, prosperity, and growth of the whole country.

8. We hold in undying honor the soldiers and sailors whose valor saved the Union. Their pensions are a sacred debt of the nation, and the widows and orphans of those who died for their country are entitled to the care of a generous and grateful people. We favor such additional legislation as will extend the bounty of the government to all our soldiers and sailors who were honorably discharged, and who in the line of duty became disabled, without regard to the length of service or the cause of such discharge.

9. The doctrine of Great Britain and other European powers concerning allegiance, "once a subject always a subject" having at last, through the efforts of the Republican party, been abandoned, and the American idea of the individual's right to transfer allegiance having been accepted by European nations, it is the duty of our government to guard with jealous care the rights of adopted citizens against the assumption of unauthorized claims by their former governments, and we urge continued careful encouragement and protection of voluntary immigration.

10. The franking privilege ought to be abolished, and a way prepared for a speedy reduction in the rates of postage.

11. Among the questions which press for attention is that which concerns the relations of capital and labor; and the Republican party recognizes the duty of so shaping legislation as to secure full protection and the amplest field for capital, and for labor, the creator of capital, the largest opportunities and a just share of the mutual profits of these two great servants of civilization.

12. We hold that Congress and the President have only fulfilled an imperative duty in their measures for the suppression of violence and treasonable organization in certain lately rebellious regions, and for the protection of the ballot-box; and, therefore, they are entitled to the thanks of the nation.

a national crime. We witness with pride the reduction of the principal of the debt, and of the rates of interest upon the balance, and confidently expect that our excellent national currency will be perfected by a speedy resumption of specie payment.

14. The Republican party is mindful of its obligations to the loyal women of America for their noble devotion to the cause of freedom. Their admission to the wider fields of usefulness is viewed with satisfaction and the honest demand of any class of citizens for additional rights should be treated with respectful consideration.

15. We heartily approve the action of Congress in extending amnesty to those lately in rebellion, and rejoice in the growth of peace and fraternal feeling throughout the land.

1876

INDEPENDENT (GREENBACK) INDIANAPOLIS, IND., MAY 17TH.

The Independent party is called into existence by the necessities of the people, whose industries are prostrated, whose labor is deprived of its just reward by a ruinous policy which the Republican and Democratic parties refuse to change; and in view of the failure of these parties to furnish relief to the depressed industries of the country, thereby disappointing the just hopes and expectations of a suffering people we declare our principles, and invite all independent and patriotic men to join our ranks in this movement of financial reform and industrial emancipation.

First. We demand the immediate and unconditional repeal of the specie resumption act of January 14, 1875, and the rescue of our industries from ruin and disaster resulting from its enforcement; and we call upon all patriotic men to organize in every Congressional district of the country, with a view of electing representatives to Congress who will carry out the wishes of the people in this regard and stop the present suicidal and destructive policy of contraction.

Second. We believe that a United States note, issued directly by the government and convertible, on demand, into United States obligations, bearing a rate of interest not exceeding one cent a day on each one hundred dollars, and exchangeable for United States notes at par, will afford the best circulating medium ever devised. Such United States notes should be full legal tenders for all purposes, except for the payment of such obligations as are, by existing contracts, especially made payable in coin; and we hold that it is the duty of the government to provide such a circulating medium, and insist, in the language of Thomas Jefferson, that "bank paper must be suppressed, and the circulation restored to the nation, to whom it belongs."

Third. It is the paramount duty of the government, in all its legislation, to keep in view the full development of all legitimate business, agricultural, mining, manufacturing, and commercial.

Fourth. We most earnestly protest against any further issue of gold bonds for sale in foreign markets, by which we would be made, for a long period "hewers of wood and drawers of water" to foreigners, especially as the American people would gladly and promptly take at par all bonds the government may need to sell, provided they are made payable at the option of the holder, and bearing interest at 3-65 per cent, per annum, or even a lower rate.

the sale of government bonds for the purpose of purchasing silver to be used as a substitute for our more convenient and less fluctuating fractional currency, which, although well calculated to enrich the owners of silver mines, yet in operation it will still further oppress, in taxation, an already overburdened people.

11. It is the immediate duty of Congress to fully investigate the effect of the immigration and importation of Mongolians upon the moral and material interests of the country.

12. The Republican party recognizes, with approval, the substantial advances recently made towards the establishment of equal rights for women by the many important amendments effected by Republican legislatures in the laws which concern the personal and property relations of wives, mothers and widows, and by the appointment and election of women to the superintendency of education, charities, and other public trusts. The honest demands of this class of citizens for additional rights, privileges, and immunities, should be treated with respectful consideration.

13. The Constitution confers upon Congress sovereign power over the territories of the United States for their government and in the exercise of this power it is the right and duty of Congress to prohibit and extirpate, in the territories, that relic of barbarism—polygamy; and we demand such legislation as shall secure this end and the supremacy of American institutions in all the territories.

The pledges which the nation has given to her soldiers and sailors must be fulfilled, and a grateful people will always hold those who imperiled their lives for the country's preservation in the kindest remembrance.

15. We sincerely deprecate all sectional feeling and tendencies. We, therefore, note with deep solicitude that the Democratic party counts, as its chief hope of success, upon the electoral vote of a united South, secured through the efforts as those who were recently arrayed against the nation; and we invoke the earnest attention of the country to the grave truth that a success thus achieved would re-open sectional strife, and imperil national honor and human rights.

16. We charge the Democratic party with being the same in character and spirit as when it sympathized with treason; with making its control of the House of Representatives the triumph and opportunity of the nation's recent foes; with re-asserting and applauding, in the national capital, the sentiments of unrepentant rebellion; with sending Union soldiers to the rear, and promoting Confederate soldiers to the front; with deliberately proposing to repudiate the plighted faith of the government, with being equally false and imbecile upon the overshadowing financial questions, with thwarting the ends of justice by its partisan mismanagement and obstruction of investigation; with proving itself, through the period of its ascendancy in the lower house of Congress, utterly incompetent to administer the government, and we warn the country against trusting a party thus alike unworthy, recreant, and incapable.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

SOME QUESTIONS.

If the supporters of the National People's party were to support the State Democratic ticket, would they share any of the appointments of office? In short, could or would a Democratic Governor elected in this way appoint any man who voted for Weaver a director of a railroad or any other appointment? Betsy Bilkins will please answer. [Betsy says no.]

5. Under the Constitution, the President and heads of departments are to