

# POPULIST POINTS

## FUDGE AND FUSTIAN.

### A PLUTOCRATIC PAPER'S ROSY EYEGLASSES.

There is Distress in Gold-Standard Europe, but in Gold-Standard America Every Man Has a Fat Job or Can Quickly Get One.

Since C. H. Jones was frozen out of its management the plutocratic sympathies of the proprietors and editors of the St. Louis Republic are well understood, although to save its circulation the paper tries to be, editorially, as vague and non-committal as possible.

But in a recent issue one of the Republic's underpaid editorial scribblers made himself absurd by trying to say something, as follows:

The dominating tendency of monarchies is to use the common people upon whom they subsist as beasts of burden which must be fed and housed out of their own productiveness, but never permitted to realize that, after all, they are the whole thing. If they become at once too numerous and ill provided for, they can be plunged into war without their consent. This debilitates the herd and prevents a stampede which might have trampled into the clay the faces of their drivers. War in Europe adds luster to the crown jewels by washing them in the tears of widowed Betsy Jane. It relieves the apoplexy of royal misrule by letting the heart's blood of the cannille. Therefore it is good. With us the one perpetual prejudice against war is that we have not and never will have one drop of blood to squander from the veins of the American citizen. There is not a man among the quarter of a million now under arms for whom there is not a place of honor and independence in the office and factories, the fields and mountains of his home. We begrudge them even to the noble cause into which they rushed voluntarily and unselfishly.

The Republic's editor is probably actually ignorant of the fact that the St. Louis millionaire and trust magnates with whom the paper's owners associate "use the common people upon whom they subsist as beasts of burden which must be fed and housed out of their own productiveness, but never permitted to realize that after all they are the whole thing," just as the same class does in Europe. The royal families are merely ornamental appendages of the aristocracy and the whole burden of royalty, aristocracy and plutocracy could be thrown off at any time by the principal European nations, but the people allow themselves to be exploited by monopolists, money changers and tax eaters, just as they do here. The people have self-government and universal suffrage in Great Britain, Germany, France, Italy, Austria, Belgium, Holland, Denmark and Scandinavia. Moreover, in most of those countries there is less illiteracy than in the United States.

Of course the people there are used as servile beasts of burden, but they deserve no sympathy, because a majority of them vote for a continuance of present conditions. The United States, also, recently gave a vote of confidence in government by monopolists, trusts and money-lenders, but this will soon be reversed. The people of Europe, too, show signs of waking up.

According to the Republic it is such a snap to be a citizen of the United States that one wonders why immigration from Europe is falling off so fast. Read: "There is not a man among the quarter of a million now under arms for whom there is not a place of honor and independence in the offices and factories, the fields and mountains of his home." Certainly that is the way it was before monopoly got this country in its grip.

In these days of the single gold standard, land monopoly and trust control of industry, how is it? Perhaps when mustered out the Republic expects the volunteers to gain places of honor and profit by taking the places of striking coal miners in Pennsylvania or Illinois. While the war progressed the trusts have all been reducing wages, and ex-soldiers will find no more honor and less profit in working for them than heretofore.

Perhaps the volunteer worked formerly in the Dechess print works at Wappinger's Falls, New York. If so, when he comes home he will find them shut down for the first time in twenty years. Strikes, shut-downs and wage reductions are general today, and when the supply of workers is increased by the return of the soldiers and Klondikers industrial conditions will naturally be worse. There is much work now in the northwestern harvest fields, but that is about over. The coming winter will be a hard one and the returning volunteer who relies on his labor to feed his family may have to live chiefly on honor and independence this winter, as he will not see much money.

A mechanic of Washington, D. C., named A. E. Wild, in writing to a New York trades paper as to the prospects for work there, describes conditions in Washington as follows:

"In the shadow of the U. S. Treasury where untold millions of money are stored away, in a city teeming with wealth and every sign of prosperity, there are thousands of idle men and women who do not know where their daily bread is to come from. The little trade and business there was in this city has ceased almost entirely since the breaking out of the war, in fact, ever since McKinley's election it has been declining until almost all trade and business have stopped, and I have long ago arrived at the conclusion that when McKinley said, 'There will be prosperity,' he did not finish the sentence, but should have said: 'There will be prosperity for the banker, broker and capitalist in general,' for so it has been."

Mr. Wild speaks from experience and observation when he says that in his city there are thousands in need of bread. The Republic editor shuts his eyes to facts and lies cheerfully.

### CURRENT NOTES.

Having tested our fighting qualities, no European power will again attempt to manipulate this country by force of arms; but foreign bondholders and their New York and Boston allies will subjugate us if we do not politically Schley-Deweyize them.

These are not good times, although a million extra men are employed directly or indirectly by the government. Look out for industrial depression following the war.

The poverty-stricken capitalists of Massachusetts have issued an address in which they say that the short work-day must go or they will have to go out of the capitalist business. How about the overproduction of goods? If Massachusetts factory hands work twelve hours per day instead of ten there must soon be a shut down until the surplus product is disposed of. This will suit the capitalist well enough, but the advantage to the workingman is not apparent.

The single gold standard has paralyzed Japan just as it has Chile. The Japanese are having their first experience with our regular periodical condition, industrial depression.

### More Idle Men Wanted.

A great many workingmen—perhaps a majority of them—are anxious for restriction of immigration. They feel that it is hard now to make a living in this country, that for every man at work there is an idle man eager for a chance to work. Immigration, they say, will only increase the demand for employment and add nothing to the visible supply. By increasing competition among workingmen it will lower wages.

To these arguments it is difficult to reply satisfactorily. It may be said that justice should be the first consideration and that the workingman who is willing to keep down the poor fellow across the sea ought not to be surprised if he himself is kept down by the rich fellow at home. But to this it may be replied that to bring more men where there is already an excess of labor would be as unfair to the immigrants as to the workers here and do harm to both.

Undoubtedly the question is one most important to the men who depend on daily wages and should be settled by them. They can not be expected to pay great attention to the statement that the country, now only half populated, requires tens of millions of workers to make it what it should be. Perhaps this argument will appeal to them.

As things now stand, one hundred thousand men are idle in this city alone—and not a thing is done about it.

The country has plenty for everybody, yet millions willing to work are in constant poverty—and not a thing is done about it.

There are thousands of idle, half-starved tailors in New York City half the year and thousands of farmers need coats but cannot get rid of their farm produce.

With millions of willing producers, production must cease when a small class of consumers is satisfied—and not a thing is done about it.

Since hundreds of thousands now suffer permanently and have not the power or intelligence by their votes to bring about a change, why not try the power of greater numbers?

Being in another hundred thousand unemployed, and if that will not do, bring in a million, or five millions.

There must finally come a point at which the workingman will open his eyes and decide to vote.

The man out of a job is a hopeless poor devil with no standing. The man with a job is a self-contented creature, apt at any moment to join the unemployed, yet voting with might and main to keep things as they are—just because he has work for the moment.

Organization for proper wages, proper taxation and proper expenditure of public money would soon bring about a change. But there is no sign yet of such organization. The workman makes as much use of his ballot as a howling savage would make of a chronometer. He can by voting work out his own salvation. When will he begin?—New York Journal.

## POPULIST PLATFORM

The people's party of South Dakota triumphantly reaffirms its allegiance to the fundamental principles enunciated in the Omaha and St. Louis platforms.

We distinctly reaffirm our position in favor of the free and unlimited coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1 and our unalterable opposition to the issue of interest-bearing bonds in time of peace or war.

We are opposed to banks of issue and in favor of the issue of all money direct by the government.

We demand the passage of the free homes bill, and condemn the opposition to that measure by the national Republican managers and their failure to redeem their pledge in the St. Louis convention.

We approve of the war now being waged in behalf of the oppressed people of Cuba and the Philippines and demand its energetic prosecution and that it be terminated as quickly as possible after the purpose for which it was inaugurated shall have been accomplished.

We denounce the infamous policy of government by injunction fostered by the federal courts, and we demand the election of such courts by a direct vote of the people for stated terms.

We regard the life tenure system in our federal judiciary as subversive of liberty and we demand the election of members of the United States supreme court for stated terms by direct vote of the people.

We recommend that at the state convention of the People's party to be held in 1900, a candidate for United States senator be nominated to be voted upon by the legislature elected by the party.

### State Issues.

No people can be free who are denied the right to vote yes and no on every law to which they are subject, and we therefore favor the initiative and referendum as the only measure by which majority rule can be secured.

We are firmly committed to the public ownership of natural monopolies and we favor an amendment to the constitution permitting the state to engage in public works.

We favor the repeal of the so-called fellow servant statute and the enactment of legislation making employers liable for injuries received by their employed while in the discharge of their immediate duty, when injuries thus received are directly traceable to the negligence of employes or follow servants.

We believe in fostering the institutions of the state and insist that county, and state supplies should be purchased from home producers.

We are opposed to the employment of convict labor in competition with free labor except to such an extent as may be necessary to preserve the health of the convicts and maintain the institutions in which they are incarcerated.

We demand an equitable tax upon the franchises and property of railroad and other corporations, and we denounce the majority of the state board of equalization for its refusal to assess railroad property on the same basis as that of the citizens of the state.

### Resolutions.

Resolved, That we heartily commend the course of Representatives Knowles and Kelly.

Resolved, That we commend the magnificent fight which Senator Pettigrew is making against monopolistic enemies of the people, and we rejoice in the power and influence which he has gained by his able and courageous defense of the right of man.

Resolved, That we commend the honest and fearless administration of Governor A. E. Lee, and especially emphasize our approval of his courageous policy in demanding the same standard of official probity from members of his own official family that he exacts from officers of the opposition.

Resolved, That we appreciate the sterling worth and patriotism of the brave boys of the state who have gone to the front, and pledge to them our hearty co-operation.

Resolved, That we hereby grant that the state central committee full plenary power to transact all business which this convention might do, and instruct said committee to fill all vacancies which may occur on the state of national tickets.

Resolved, That we are highly pleased and gratified over the proud fact that the silver senators and representatives in congress enjoy the distinction of having forced the national administration to a just and proper punishment of Spain for the destruction of the Maine and her 290 brave soldiers.

Resolved, That we heartily endorse the course of the state railroad commission in its efforts to enforce the state law regulating freight and passenger tariffs.

Resolved, That we favor the state taking proper steps looking to the publication of all necessary school text books, the same to be furnished school patrons at cost, for the purpose of terminating the present monopoly of the American school book company in this state.

### Feat of Memory.

De Masher—So tired—er—just been measured, don't you know.

Used Uppe—Aw! What's your height, dear boy?

De Masher—Well, it was either seven feet five inches or five feet seven inches, but, upon my word, old man, I forget which.—Ally Sloper.

### Fatal Handling of a Gun.

Balaton, Minn., Aug. 16.—Dick Hughes, one of two brothers who lived on a farm between here and Tracy, accidentally shot himself last evening while taking down his gun. He died from the effects of the wound.

### Outbreak of Cholera.

Madras, Aug. 16.—The cholera is epidemic here. Between Monday morning and Friday night there were fifty-three deaths from the disease, and the fatalities prior to the day first mentioned, 117.

## DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM

The Democratic party of the state of South Dakota in delegate convention assembled, hereby reaffirm our faith in the principles set forth and enumerated in the platform adopted by the Democratic party in national convention held in Chicago in July, 1896.

The absorption of wealth by the few, the consolidation 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 enlargements of the powers of the interstate commerce commission for such restrictions and guarantees in the control of railroads as will protect the people from robbery and oppression.

We congratulate the people of this state upon the splendid legislation for the control of the regulation of freight and passenger tariffs enacted by the fusion forces in the last legislature, and we condemn the earnest and persistent efforts of our board of railroad commissioners in upholding said law, and in seeking to enforce it, and we pledge ourselves to uphold and enforce said law by every honorable means at the command of our party organization. We arraign and denounce the republican party in the state for its encouragement of the extreme and unreasonable methods resorted to by the railway companies to defeat the successful enforcement of this law.

We favor the enactment of laws in behalf of laboring classes regulating the employment of women and children, limiting the hours and days of labor, regulating labor contracts, providing for compulsory arbitration of labor disputes, the abolition of government by injunction, and compelling employers to take better precautions for the safety, health and comfort of their employes. We favor the repeal as to railroad corporations of the fellow servant rule as embodied in the statutes of this state.

We believe that every effort should be made to build up the institutions existing in this state and promote their welfare wherever possible, and to this end insist that supplies for state and county officers be purchased within the state, and from institutions whose principal place of business and headquarters are located within the state, when the prices charged are no higher than outside institutions. We are unalterably opposed to the convict labor of the state entering into competition with the paid labor of the state penal institutions shall not be employed on any state work to the exclusion of free and reasonably paid labor.

We favor the enactment of a graded income tax so adjusted as to make those who are best able bear the expenses of government.

We favor the establishment of government savings banks under a properly regulated postal savings system.

We favor the publication by the state at its own expense, of all the text books for use in its public schools and the furnishing of such text books to the school children free of charge, from a fund provided by general taxation, and thus destroy the business of the school text book trust in this state.

We favor the initiative and referendum as the best means yet offered of killing the lobby and preventing the enactment of obnoxious and injurious legislation.

We demand the free and unlimited coinage of silver by the federal government at the ratio of 16 to 1 without asking for the consent or waiting for the aid of any other nation on earth.

We favor the limitation of the tenure of office of all federal judges to a term of eight years, and urge that the federal constitution be so amended as to fix and limit such term and pledge our representatives in congress to propose the proper legislation therefor.

We commend the course and acts of the democratic congressmen and senators in persistently urging the declaration of war with Spain on humanitarian grounds, but condemn the present administration for making the war an excuse for issuing interest bearing bonds.

We congratulate the free silver forces of this state for energetic and successful support extended to William Jennings Bryan in 1896, and pledge to him the continuance of such support.

We point with pride to the public acts services and conduct of Honorable R. F. Pettigrew in the senate of the United States for the past two years.

We acknowledge the commendable honesty and laudable business administration of his excellency, Governor Andrew E. Lee; and we acknowledge the great value of the services to the people rendered by our representatives in congress, the Hon. Freeman Knowles and Hon. J. E. Kelley.

We most heartily approve of the course pursued by our representatives in congress in their efforts to procure the passage of the free homestead bill, and we pledge them in the future to work and vote for its passage.

We heartily endorse the action of the Democratic minority in congress, in its firm stand against the policy of the Republican party in its efforts toward imperialism through colonial expansion.

### Valid Excuse.

"My sister got the measles, sir," said young Sharpkin to his teacher.

"Well, you'd better go home at once; they're infectious. You ought not to have come to school."

Young Shopkin—I say, teacher, 'Is sister don't live 'im; she's dah in Birmingham!

"But young Sharpkin haf gone home.—Moonshine.

### Two Were Drowned.

Algona, Ind., Aug. 14.—While a party of six young folks was returning from bathing in Crooked lake the boat capsized and Leonard Ruby, stepson of Judge Ruby of Auburn, and Lena Kemple of Waterloo were drowned in seventy feet of water.

### Visit by Capt. Clark.

Cheyenne, Wyo., Aug. 14.—Capt. Clark, of the battleship Oregon, is expected in Wyoming for a two-weeks visit to his brother-in-law, N. R. Davis, in a few days.

## SILVER REPUBLICAN PLATFORM

The Silver-Republicans of the state therefore, deem it their duty, out of self-respect and loyalty, to the state and nation, to maintain a separate organization and present to the people of the state and invite their support of the nominees presented by this convention upon the following:

1. We affirm and endorse the principles of representative government of and for the people, as advocated and loyally supported by Washington Jefferson, Lincoln, Grant and Bryan.

2. We reaffirm and endorse the national platform of the Silver-Republicans adopted at St. Louis, in July, 1896, in its entirety, and declare it the purpose of the Silver-Republicans of South Dakota to unite at all times with other political reform parties who favor just and equitable principles such as were put forth by the national conventions of the peoples and Democratic parties in 1896, and advocated from the Atlantic to the Pacific by that matchless leader, William J. Bryan.

3. We commend the brave and patriotic position of the Silver-Republicans, Populists and Democratic senators and congressmen who have for the past two years so nobly stood by the principles enunciated in the various national platforms, and pledge to them our political and moral support until success shall be obtained in this, the people's government.

4. We most emphatically demand the remonetization of silver upon the basis of 16 to 1 without waiting for the consent of any other nation, and that the government issue full legal-tender money to meet the necessities and demands of the people without the intervention of national banks or other private corporations. We are uncompromisingly opposed to the issue of interest-bearing bonds, as advocated and adopted by the present Republican administration, but believe it is the duty and function of government to issue full legal-tender money and control the circulation thereof, and that a legal-tender, non-interest-bearing treasury note, countersigned by the government officials, is as honest money as any interest-bearing bond signed by the same authority and its payment guaranteed by the same people.

5. We are opposed to the present pooling and trust-fostering policy of railroad management, whereby they charge exorbitant rates for transporting public necessities over public highways that should properly belong to government, so they may pay interest and dividends on a fictitious valuation annually increased by larger bonded capitalization.

6. We denounce the manipulators and managers of the Republican party for their evident sympathy and covert support of the trusts and combines which have been formed to control the price of nearly every article of human necessity. The toilers and producers of the nation under the present system are forced to sell their labor and their products in competition with the whole world and at the same time to purchase their necessities at such prices as the trusts may mercilessly establish.

7. We are in favor of government postal savings banks which will prevent unscrupulous banking organizations from swindling honest depositors of their surplus earnings, and we also favor a government postal telegraph system which will prevent telegraph monopolies from controlling the transmission of commercial and public thought at extortionate rates.

8. We are opposed to the assumed authority of federal courts vetoing the acts of the legislative and executive co-ordinate branches of this government and demand that the congress of the United States submit to the people an appropriate amendment to the constitution.

9. We favor the election of United States senators by a direct vote of the people and urge and demand congress to submit such constitutional amendment to the people for an expression of their will.

10. We demand that the congress of the United States enact such amendments to the present interstate commerce law as will give the interstate commerce commission full power to regulate interstate railway traffic and prevent discriminations in favor of commercial centers and favored individuals.

11. We are in favor of a vigorous prosecution and successful termination of the present war with Spain for the independence and freedom of Cuba, yet we believe the time has come to protest against any effort to convert the present war into one of conquest.

12. We are in favor of an income tax framed on the general lines followed by the income tax law which was annulled by the decision of the United States supreme court, by a bare majority of one on a re-hearing and after one of the judges of that tribunal had reversed his own decision announced after the first hearing of the case, thus reversing the settled law of the land for more than a hundred years prior thereto.

13. We denounce the Republican party for ruthlessly defeating the free homestead bill, which they pledged the country to pass in their national platform of 1896.

14. We heartily commend and endorse the reform forces in the recent legislature for the enactment of the present railroad law, thus redeeming the pledge made in the campaign of 1896, and we endorse the course of the present railroad commission in the courageous struggle it is making for the establishment of a reasonable maximum freight and passenger rate in

### New Town in Alaska.

Port Townsend, Wash., Aug. 16.—The steam schooner Albion has arrived here from Norton Sound, Alaska. The Albion reports that a syndicate has established a town named Blair five miles from the mouth of the Unalakleet river, where there is already a Russian and reindeer station. From this town it is proposed to build a railroad to a point on the Yukon about where the river opens for navigation from three to four months earlier than at the mouth. Several hundred miles travel will be saved.

conformity with the provisions of that law.

15. We heartily endorse the administration of Governor Andrew E. Lee as courageous, manly and business-like, and we particularly commend his course in driving from public office corrupt men of whatever political party. We unhesitatingly endorse the public acts of Senator R. F. Pettigrew as United States senator and of Freeman Knowles and John E. Kelley, as members of the houses of representatives of the United States.

16. We are in favor of the enactment by our next legislature of a law making all railroad and other corporations operating within the state liable to their servants and employes for damages and injuries sustained by reason of the negligence of their co-employees.

17. We are also in favor of the establishment under state authority of a uniform system of text books for use in the common schools of the state, thereby preventing the extortions practiced upon the people of our state by the school book trust, and providing to the state a uniform, symmetrical and efficient system of text books.

18. We believe that every effort should be made to build up the institutions existing in this state and promote their welfare wherever possible, and to this end insist that supplies of the state and county officers be purchased within the state from institutions so far as possible, whose principal place of business and headquarters are located within the state.

19. We are unalterably opposed to the convict labor to the state entering into competition with the paid labor of the state.

20. We recognize the growing disposition throughout the state in the cities and towns to favor the municipal ownership and control of such municipal and public necessities as water, gas and the electric lights, and we heartily favor and endorse the same and pledge our support to the enactment of such laws and to the submission of such amendments to the state constitution, if necessary, as will place it within the power of municipalities desiring so to do, to acquire, own, and control their own plants for supplying their own citizens with such public necessities.

### BATTLE AVERTED.

News of Peace Arrives in Porto Rico Just in Time.

Ponce, Porto Rico, Aug. 17.—Notification of the signing of the protocol reached Porto Rico just in time to prevent several battles which might have resulted in driving the Spanish from the island. The forces of the United States were advancing in strong columns. There was a slight skirmish on the road between Mayaguez and Lares. The Eleventh infantry of Gen. Schwan's brigade fought with a column of Spanish who had been in retreat. Col. DeSoto, the Spanish commander, and two of his officers were captured. The Americans lost not a man. Another battle was narrowly averted at Albonito. Gen. Wilson succeeded in communicating with Gen. Guezo, the Spanish commander of the Spanish forces there. It was arranged that neither side should advance and flags of truce fluttered from both the American and Spanish picket lines. Gen. Brooke eventually pursued the same plan at Guayama, which he had invested. Had it not been for the timely arrival of Lieut. McLaughlin, of the signal corps on Saturday there would have been a battle at Guayama. Now that peace is practically concluded the soldiers are anxious to get home without delay.

### TOO ILL TO SERVE.

Col. Shandrew Resigns Command of the Fifteenth Minnesota.

St. Paul, Aug. 17.—Gov. Clough has received the resignation of Col. Shandrew of the Fifteenth regiment. The resignation is consequent upon the serious illness with which the colonel was attacked a couple of weeks ago. Col. Shandrew has since recovered the force of his speech, but under the advice of his physician it was deemed advisable for him to relinquish his command. Gov. Clough, on accepting the resignation, made the following appointments:

Lieut. Col. H. A. Leonhauser to be colonel. Maj. Paul A. Gotzian to be lieutenant colonel. Maj. D. W. Hand to be first major. Capt. James Elwin, of Company A, to be second major. First Lieut. F. J. Barrows to be captain of Company A. Second Lieutenant F. A. Vincent to be first lieutenant of Company A. J. S. Sweet to be second lieutenant of Company A.

### Autonomist Outfit Resigns.

Madrid, Aug. 17.—The Cuban autonomist government has resigned. It is believed the Spanish government will decline to accept the resignations of Governors General Blanco and Augustin.

Havana telegrams state that Spanish citizens are favorable to American Annexation as the only means to avert anarchy.

### The Deadly Cigarette.

El Paso, Tex., Aug. 17.—Contractor J. H. McCarty of Little Rock, Ark., who is building the Chihuahua & Guerrero railroad in Mexico, arrived here and says that a Mexican laborer dropped a lighted cigarette into a stack of giant powder last Friday and a fearful explosion followed, killing three Mexicans and breaking the leg of a fourth.

Washington, Aug. 17.—The mail service between the United States and Spain will be resumed promptly as far as this country is concerned. The two countries being practically at peace the officials here see no reason why the mail service should not be resumed.

### Fated Company.

Lithia Springs, Ga., Aug. 17.—During a terrible thunder storm here lightning struck Camp Hobson. Seven soldiers are in the hospital seriously hurt. The same company was in the wreck a week ago at Port McPherson.

### Sleepy Eye Burglary.

Sleepy Eye, Minn., Aug. 17.—Klossner & Mueller's hardware store was broken into by forcing the doors in the rear. About \$75 worth of property and \$5 in change were taken. There is no clue.