Rebirth of American Ideals Urged as Republican Plank

Law and Order The Bulwarks Of Americanism

Nation Is Urged to Cling to Principles Which Made It Free and Which Also Assure Its Continuity

"America First" as Motto

Duty of Republican Party to Take Lead in Strict Adherence to Our Ideals

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: The national platform of the Republican party must have a strong plank on law and order. The Republican party may rightly be called the American party. Its policies have been, first, American is everything. Since Lincoln our country under its successive administrations has developed the nation physically, geographically and industrially.

Law and order are very essential to our existence and these should be enforced to the limit without fear or favor. No individual or party should be suffered whose principles are inimical to the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution, which are the bulwark of our Americanism.

The principles which made us free and gave us life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness—the Magna Charta of the United States of America—should not be trampled by citizen or alien.

The ballot box, which is our tool, so to speak, of making and unmaking officers, should be the only means by which we may obtain better officials, who may see that our laws are executed with the just spirit of fairness. Not "to the victors belong the spoils," but that justice and righteousness may prevail throughout the land. We must love our country, our people, our nation and declare allegiance to her only. This does not mean that we must be indifferent to other countries, other peoples or nations. Let our motto be America first. JOHN MAZZEI.

Candidates Must Reveal Their Views to the Public

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: The time is at an end when candidates for public office can hoodwink the people with dazzling generalities and enigmatic equivocations. There are a number of clearly defined issues. Shuffling and evasion will accomplish nothing. When a man refuses or hesitates to express his opinions it can only be concluded that he has none to express or that he fears the antagonism of those who may disagree with him.

A party cannot select men as exponents of its platform unless it knows exactly where they stand. No honest aspirant for office will long leave the public in doubt on this score. The conciliating, compromising type of candidate, afraid to stand or fall on his own merits and beliefs, seeks to ensnare the votes of all classes and all interests; the thinking voter will ignore him, for to pull equally in all directions must preclude progress in any.

Some wit has aptly observed that many a candidate, though he has thrown his hat into the ring, continues to talk through it. The meaningless, befogged vocables that are now issuing from some of these hats are crowding out the sincere statements of many worthy men. Let us be suspicious of the candidate who strikes a sphinxlike attitude, declining to divulge his views "until the proper time arrives." If he persists in making a deep mystery of his opinions, let us at least make no secret of the fact that we have thrown him into the discard. Action is wanted in the next Administration, and the only way to get it is to elect a man whose promises are reliable and susceptible of but one interpretation. T. W. FRIEDMAN.

26 New York Avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Platform That Rings True

This Called Only Thing Needed for Republican Success

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: If the Republican party can promise us the rectification of present day evils and give us "earnest of success, commencing in a truth" by adopting a platform that rings true and by nominating a man of recognized worth as a business manager, instead of one who is available politically or one with a reputation for flowery speech, we will acclaim the Republican party as our deliverer and carry it to victory at the polls.

The issues exist. How will the Republican party define them?

W. E. THOMAS.

161 South Arlington Avenue, East Orange.

Conditions of the Platform Contest

The Tribune invites you to write planks for a Republican platform and to write letters about planks proposed by other readers through its columns.

For the best planks and letters The Tribune offers these prizes:

For the best plank.....$500.00
For the second best plank.. 250.00
For each of the eight next best planks 100.00
For the best letter a daily prize of 10.00
For the best letter in the whole competition 100.00

The Tribune will make up a platform of ten planks to be determined by your votes. The ten issues receiving the most votes will be the planks. The ten planks that best express the chosen issues will be selected for the prize awards.

Each plank is limited to 100 words. Of two planks or letters of equal merit the shorter will be chosen.

Every plank and letter must bear the name and address of the sender, although a nom de plume will be published if the writer desires.

The contest will close at midnight, April 30, 1920. Manuscripts will not be returned.

The judges of the contest will be three of The Tribune's editors. They will base their decisions on sound thinking and brevity, clearness and strength of statement.

To-Day's Prize Letter

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: If the Republican party wants to make a hit there are two things at least that it should promise to work for if it gets into power, viz., a reconsideration of the Eighteenth Amendment, which is obnoxious in its present form, and a real solution of the housing problem.

After all the different things the powers in Washington have done to the people it is time something were done for the people.

Americanization programs are bunk! Make the foreigner satisfied and he will be a good American; only the sad truth is that it takes a real American to be dissatisfied. It does not take much to satisfy a foreigner; and he is apt to form a love for this country more easily than an American does.

The housing problem is not a local issue; it is national; and if any one says that the government is powerless to act, he lies.

A government that can tell you what to eat and when to eat it, that can tax the toddler's ice cream cone and send a man to war, can certainly build houses. If it can build them for soldiers, why not for civilians?

As for the high cost of living, it is useless to expect help from the government; and the public can cure a great deal of it. But the public is powerless in the matter of rents, and if the government will not help us out in this respect what good is it then?

When the government is in trouble, it says to you and me: I want your help! But when you and I are in trouble, God help us! That is why I say, let the Republican party promise (and do it) something that will benefit the people.

As for prohibition, so much has been written and said that nothing need be added, only that the far-seeing man can spy trouble in the distance if some reservations are not put into the Eighteenth Amendment.

Get busy! JULIUS REICH,
121 Vermilyea Avenue, New York.

U. S. Forced From Place of Hermit Nation of World

Circumstances We Did Not Create Have Swept Us Out of Splendid Isolation; Must Combat Many Evils

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: As Americans it is our moral duty to realize that we can no longer live the life of a semi-hermit nation. That world circumstances, which we did not create, have destroyed our magnificent isolation, and that the traditions of the fathers, which were of great value in days gone by, we can no longer consider as of divine authority. Therefore, the policy of "ourselves only" must give place to the spirit of "the world is my parish."

The forces of corruption and destruction are with us, as well as in other nations, and we must meet them with the weapons of unadulterated justice and mercy. In this world struggle it is the special duty of the recognized leaders of society, namely, the captains of industry, the labor leaders, the press, and those who are prominent in state, education and church to lead in the right direction by word and example. In building up our country upon the foundation of justice, altruism and mutual confidence we shall be a blessing to ourselves, and a shining example to the rest of the world.

We must hold our almost inexhaustible material resources, our culture, and power as a sacred trust for the physical, intellectual and moral uplift of America and of the world.

AMOS I. DUSHAW.

Votes for Women Advocated

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: The Republican party would do well to include "votes for women," for women pay taxes, just the same as men. If a woman pays taxes why should she not be allowed to vote? Surely a woman is just as intelligent as a man. I have known many of them more brainy than all the men in their set. Surely we need brains to settle the weighty questions of the day. Women have them, let them use them. B. YORKSTONE HOGG.

Fort Pierce, Fla.

Training Urged Of Men Picked To Run Nation

No Efficiency or Honesty Possible in Government Without Some System of Coaching Officeholders

Radical Change Proposed

Politicians Would Be Placed on Same Basis as Experts in Other Lines of Work

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: I have been reading with much interest the many proposed planks for the Republican party platform which you have published and have been somewhat surprised that more of them do not bear on the lamentable lack of trained and efficient men in our government offices. I feel very strongly that there will be very little improvement in the efficiency and honesty with which our government is administered until we institute some system for training men for government offices just as we train them for all other lines of endeavor, and then recognize good work and reward it in this field just as we do in others.

In this country to-day a young man can, with one exception, select any line of service which he chooses, educate and train himself in that line and the success he enjoys will be limited only by his own application and endeavor. The one exception is government or political office, and in this field education, training, application and honest endeavor reap very scant recognition or reward. This is all wrong and must be changed radically before our governmental system becomes an unqualified success.

CLEMENT F. STREET.

Type of Man for Nominee

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: Because of the grave conditions confronting us as a people there should be nominated for President at Chicago neither a school teacher, an autocrat nor a partisan politician, but a nationally known, broad-gauged man of preeminent business ability and of at least pronounced Republican leanings.

GEORGE O. EATON.

115 West 120th Street.

Some Suggested Planks

Among the mass of suggestions for planks in the Republican platform are the following:

Improve Diplomatic Service

Appreciating the vital and extremely logical lessons taught by the recent war not only during the conflict, but throughout the peace negotiations, the Republican party pledges itself to initiate legislation which shall make for greater efficiency in the diplomatic service. Officials who have proved themselves competent and efficient should not be dismissed from their posts by a change in the administration, but should be encouraged in every conceivable way to make the diplomatic service their life work.—Louis E. Collier, 511 West 169th Street, New York City.

Protect Individual Rights

The Republican party pledges itself to the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States and advocates laws of action in strict conformity with the spirit of the one and the law of the other, to the end that the rights of the individual may be secured, the rights of the public be protected and a "government of the people, for the people and by the people" maintained, claiming no rights of interference with the government of other peoples except for the protection of our government and our people.—W. H. R.

Commerce Needs Attention

Believing that the Democratic orgy of mismanagement and extravagance has been detrimental to the best interests of our country and that it has encouraged contempt for our business policies abroad, the Republican party stands on a platform of rigid economy as it applies to nonessential and overlapping overhead finances, and for an intelligent expenditure of moneys for the enlargement and enhancement of our Americanism in domestic and foreign trade.—Mrs. Ralph R. Magee, 35 North Ninth Street, Newark, N. J.

Economy in Government

While the life of government must be sustained by taxation, and the legal power to tax is only limited by the necessary expenses of administration, the Republican party recommends the most rigid economy in governmental expenditures, to the end that the imposition of the taxing power be minimized and the burden of property and the accomplishments of industry and commerce be lessened thereby. — Elizabeth Brooke H. Bates, 738 Whitney Avenue, New Haven, Conn.

Direct Vote on Amendments

The Republican party advocates an amendment to the Constitution providing that it shall be amended only upon the consent of seven-eighths of the total number of states, and that no state shall be deemed to have given its consent until it shall be expressed by affirmative ballot of a majority of its citizens; that any amendment shall be rescinded upon the consent of a majority of the total number of states, and that no state shall be deemed to have given its consent until it has been expressed by affirmative ballot of a majority of its citizens.—H. G. Chase.

Curb Autocratic Executive

Convinced that our foreign relations can best be served by open diplomacy, and that in a democracy nothing should ever be concealed from anybody, the Republican party unhesitatingly advocates that our foreign policy should be conducted by every department of the government without unnecessary interference from an autocratic Executive.—Charles Goldson, Eighty-first Street and Thirteenth Avenue, Brooklyn.

Americanize the Aliens

The Republican party welcomes to our shores all who are seeking the liberty and freedom of a genuine protective civilization. But it will reject the criminal and undesirable elements that have hitherto been permitted access to our country, and will see to it that aliens who are admitted be properly and thoroughly Americanized.—Rogers Taylor, 30 North Ferry Street, Schenectady, N. Y.

Bureau to Promote Commerce

The Republican party favors the creation of a commercial bureau to encourage, develop and exploit commerce on the Pacific Ocean, for cultivating more intimate business relations with the people dwelling within this vast region, and for acquainting our own people with the products, opportunities and possibilities of this section of the world.—Mrs. J. J. O'Connell, 934 I Street Northwest, Washington.

Republican War Record

During the war Republican Congressmen unselfishly and patriotically dropped all partisan interests and deserve as much credit for the winning of the war as the Democrats. Nevertheless, on two occasions the President attempted to make political capital out of American patriotism, which the voters promptly defeated. As loyal Americans, we point with pride to our war record.—P. J. M.

Return Government to People

It is high time that the extraordinary powers granted by the Democratic Congress to the Democratic Administration to expedite the prosecution of the late war should be returned to Congress and the people whom Congress represents.—Clermont Cartwright jr., Amherst, Mass.

Union Benefits For All Urged

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: Make strikes unnecessary.

Give everybody all the benefits of the union without its dues and abuses. It can be done by establishing social and industrial courts.

Let shop, ward, city, town, county, district, state, national district and national social and industrial supreme courts parallel every kind of court from the local justice of the peace to the Supreme Court of the United States. Decisions and laws would eventually establish a working code and standardize many things now out of control.

WILHELM.

Golden Rule, Commandments And Prayer for Platform

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: I herewith submit three planks which will make a complete platform for this or any other government:

1. The Golden Rule.
2. The Ten Commandments.
3. The Lord's Prayer.

I also offer as a national anthem "Home, Sweet Home."

This covers any future attempt to deliver us to Europe, freight prepaid.

I do not belong to any church or party; just a tired-out and nearly worn-out master mechanic, awaiting with pleasure the end and a long rest.

The platform I suggest was taught me by my mother, who learned it from her mother in a log cabin in Michigan, for the right of which her father fought the wild beasts and Indians. It made the United States what it was, and if there is a just God he will punish those who have made it what it is now. CITIZEN.

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Malaguena (Spanish Dance) Piano	Alfred Cortot	64846	10	1.00
A La Luna (To the Moon)	Emilio de Gogorza	64847	10	1.00
Last Tears (Posledni Slzy)	Emma Destinn	87306	10	1.00
Kol Nidrei Violin	Mischa Elman	74601	12	1.50
Rigoletto—Piangi, Fanciulla! (Weep, My Child)	Amelita Galli-Curci and Giuseppe De Luca	87567	10	1.50
That Tumble-Down Shack in Athlone	John McCormack	64837	10	1.00
Rienzi Overture—Part I	Philadelphia Orchestra	74602	12	1.50
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