

# BRYAN AND WATSON, NOMINEES OF THE POPULIST CONVENTION AT ST. LOUIS.

## TEXAS BOLTS IN A BODY.

Bryan's Message Withheld From the Convention—National Committee Is Given Plenary Powers to Deal With the Situation—Middle of the Readers Ready for Another Ticket.

St. Louis, Mo., July 27.—William Jennings Bryan of Nebraska, who was nominated by the Democratic national convention at Chicago a fortnight ago, was made the standard bearer of the Populist party by a vote of 1,042 to 321. The Democratic candidate was nominated in the shape of a telegram directing the withdrawal of his name, to Senator Jones, sent after Sewall, his running mate, had been ditched for the vice presidential nomination and Thomas E. Watson of Georgia had been named for second place on the ticket. It was also made in the face of an opposition so bitter that after the convention adjourned some of the radicals held a "rump" convention.

The last session of the convention, which lasted from 8:30 Saturday morning until almost 5 o'clock in the afternoon, was marked by scenes of turbulence and noisy excitement which several times bordered on actual riot and which almost precipitated personal collisions. One fist fight did occur, a delegate was ejected and a West Virginia delegate, inflamed by the action of the convention, walked sullenly out of the hall. The storm center, as on the three previous days, was in the Texas delegation. But the really dramatic features of this wild session were enacted behind the scenes. Rumors of what was going on in the wings reached the delegates, but they knew nothing definitely, and to the very end a message from Mr. Bryan, which might have changed the result, was kept from their ears.

The Populist Bryan managers decided at the outset to disregard Mr. Bryan's telegram, to nominate him and straighten out the tangle afterward. They started out to rush his nomination through before any other candidates could be put in the field. But the interference was too much for them, and their line was broken.

Henry L. Call of New York, formerly of Kansas, nominated S. F. Norton of Chicago. He eulogized Mr. Norton as a "philanthropist, a man of the people and a pioneer in the cause of reform."

General Weaver of Iowa, the Populist candidate in 1892, placed Bryan in nomination, and General Field of Virginia, who was his running mate, after a brief speech, moved to make the nomination unanimous. Chairman Allen held the motion was in order, and that, until that motion was decided, the call of States for nominations, which was the order of the convention, could not proceed. This ruling almost precipitated a riot, and there probably would have been serious trouble had not the Bryan leaders wisely concluded to abandon this, so regarded, high-handed program.

**Oratorical Floodgates Opened.**

But in doing so they opened the floodgates, and for six hours the convention was deluged with oratory. Almost every state and territory had its inning on the platform. Most of the speakers seconded Bryan's nomination. About fifty seconding speeches were made and some of them were both eloquent and brilliant. The middle-of-the-road contingent insisted upon knowing at every opportunity, in view of his telegram, whether Bryan would stand on the platform and accept the nomination. But all of these pointed questions were neatly parried. Judge Green of Nebraska and others vouched for Bryan's sympathy with Populist principles, but that was all the satisfaction the radicals could get. The Texas delegation then sent a message to Bryan at Lincoln, putting the direct question to him. To this no answer was received, but the Democratic candidate had been in constant telegraphic communication with Senator Jones, chairman of the Democratic committee, and word came to the convention hall that Jones had a message which he wanted the convention to hear.

**The Key to the Complications.**

It was then that, upon the suggestion of Senator Allen, a motion was carried in the confusion, just before the ballot was taken, that may prove the key by which the complications attending the desired union of all the silver forces may be unlocked. It was a motion conferring upon the national committee plenary powers—all the power, as the motion stated—of the convention itself. Some of the radicals picked up their ears when the motion was put, and there was a vague protest, but it is certain that the rank and file of the convention did not realize its full import.

**The Message From Bryan.**

As the roll call was proceeding, Governor Stone of Missouri appeared on the platform with the Bryan message, but Senator Allen would not permit him to read it to the convention, and Stone retired, very much disconcerted. The Populist leaders had decided to go ahead with Bryan's nomination, irrespective of the wishes of the Democratic managers. Rumors that such a message was in the convention aroused the Lone Star delegates to frenzy, and Stamp Ashby demanded to know if there was a message from Bryan on the secretary's table. Chairman Allen promptly responded that there was not, but that there was some talk of a "fictitious" message somewhere; he had not seen it.

**Literally, of course, Senator Allen**

was correct. He said afterwards, in explanation of his action, that Bryan was the overwhelming choice of the convention, that the telegram, whatever it was, was not addressed to the convention or to a Populist delegate, that it was purely a Democratic negotiation, and something with which a Populist convention had nothing to do.

When the roll call was completed it was found that Bryan had 1,042 out of the 1,366 votes in the convention. Frank S. Norton of Chicago was the only other candidate. Ignatius Donnelly of Minnesota and General Coxe of Ohio were nominated, but their names were withdrawn. Norton received 521 votes, Eugene V. Debs 101 and Donnelly L. Norton got the majority, or the sole vote, of Texas, Michigan, Missouri, Rhode Island and Wisconsin, and a respectable portion of the votes of Alabama, California, Kentucky, Illinois and Ohio.

**The Vote in Detail.**

State	Bryan	Norton
Alabama	254	14
Arkansas	25	12
California	24	12
Colorado	45	5
Connecticut	6	3
Delaware	3	3
Florida	3	3
Georgia	16	5
Idaho	7	7
Illinois	39	15
Indiana	23	19
Iowa	27	1
Kansas	28	104
Kentucky	24	104
Louisiana	30	5
Maine	3	5
Maryland	21	11
Massachusetts	19	11
Michigan	19	11
Minnesota	49	4
Mississippi	6	6
Missouri	6	32
Montana	11	2
Nebraska	7	2
Nevada	4	2
New Hampshire	4	2
New Jersey	4	2
New York	314	94
North Carolina	79	23
North Dakota	22	2
Ohio	17	17
Oregon	24	7-9
Pennsylvania	33	3
Rhode Island	3	3
South Carolina	3	3
South Dakota	17	3
Tennessee	67	10
Texas	5	101
Utah	5	5
Vermont	3	3
Virginia	53	3
Washington	11	6
Wisconsin	8-15	10-15
West Virginia	5	4
Wyoming	6	6
Arizona	6	6
Indian Territory	6	6
Dist. of Columbia	6	6
Oklahoma	6	6
Alaska	6	6
Totals	1,042	321

Donnelly got 14 in Connecticut and 2 in Ohio. Debs got 8 in Ohio. M. Coxe got 1 in Ohio.

**Bedlam Again Turned Loose.**

It was 4:22 p. m. when the announcement was made. Bedlam was loosed again and pandemonium reigned for fifteen or twenty minutes. The Texas, Arkansas and Maine middle-of-the-road men, with the guidons together, took no part in the demonstration. The middle-of-the-road men finally massed about their standard on the left of the hall, about 300 in number, and made a counter demonstration. They cheered and yelled, and pushed and fought for ten minutes.

The sergeants-at-arms were powerless to restore order, and after rapping for five minutes, Chairman Allen declared Mr. Bryan the nominee of the convention. Some one made a motion to adjourn. The chairman put the motion and declared the convention adjourned sine die. As he did so Stamp Ashby shouted, "Texas cast 103 votes for Norton—first, last and all the time."

**After the adjournment Senator Jones refused to give out Mr. Bryan's message, and he immediately posted off to Lincoln to confer with the "Silver Knight of the West" regarding the situation.**

**Radicals Take Action.**

About sixty middle-of-the-road delegates, representing the states of Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Louisiana, Kansas, Maine, Tennessee, Missouri, Mississippi, Wyoming, Texas, Wisconsin and West Virginia, met in the headquarters of the Texas delegation at the Southern hotel to receive the report of the committee appointed to prepare an address to the people. The state most numerically represented was Texas. Kansas was represented by G. C. Clemens and Frank Elliott and Missouri by Sheridan Webster. "Cyclone" Davis of Texas was not present.

The address was presented by Chairman Ashby, but after considerable discussion it was laid on the table, as it did not cover the ground as fully as it was deemed necessary it should.

Henry L. Call of New York, formerly of Kansas, offered a motion that the committee appointed in the afternoon be required to communicate with Bryan, ascertain his decision and report within ten days; also that a provisional committee be appointed by the chair, after consulting with middle-of-the-road friends, to confer as to what further action should be taken. After some discussion this motion was adopted and the meeting adjourned.

**THE VICE PRESIDENCY.**

**Turning Down of Sewall and Nomination of Mr. Watson.**

St. Louis, Mo., July 25.—Thomas E. Watson of Georgia, who was a member of the Fifty-first congress, and who, in the Fifty-second and Fifty-third congresses, unsuccessfully contested Colonel Black's seat, was nominated for vice president by the Populist convention, on the first ballot, shortly after midnight, this (Saturday) morning. There were five other candidates: Sewall, Mann Page of Virginia; A. L. Mimms of Tennessee, Congressman Skinner of North Carolina, and Colonel Burkett of Mississippi. The nomination was made unanimous before the result of the roll call was announced. Mr. Bryan sent word to his supporters that he would not accept a nomination at the hands of the convention under these circumstances. He will stand loyally by his running mate.

The report current at the convention hall that Mr. Bryan had announced his determination not to accept the Populist nomination for president, in case of the rejection of Sewall, was based upon the following telegrams exchanged between Senator Jones and Mr. Bryan:

St. Louis, Mo., July 24.  
To W. J. Bryan, Lincoln, Neb.  
The Populists will nominate vice

president first. If not Sewall, what shall we do? I favor your declination in that case. Answer quick.

JAMES F. JONES,  
Chairman National Democratic Committee.

LINCOLN, Neb., July 24.  
To Senator James K. Jones, Chairman National Democratic Committee, St. Louis, Mo.  
I entirely agree with you. Withdraw my name if Sewall is not nominated.  
W. J. BRYAN.  
Senator Jones said at 1 o'clock this morning: "I believe it will be impossible for Mr. Bryan to accept the Populist nomination while it is withheld from Mr. Sewall."

**The Turning Down of Sewall.**

The opposition to Arthur Sewall in the Populist convention practically swamped the Bryan forces at the day session of the convention by making it impossible to prevent a division of the Chicago ticket. The leaders were powerless to check the strong feeling against the Bath shipbuilder and banker. They had carried the day in the committee on resolutions in framing a comparatively moderate platform, which they afterwards got through the convention with ease, and their strategy was skillfully displayed at other points, but the intense undercurrent of feeling against Sewall was fatal to them.

It was a sunken ditch unmarked upon the battlefield which, clutching with its muddy fingers at the wheels of his artillery, bore down Napoleon and his eagles at Waterloo.

Yesterday the ditch was in open view. From the beginning, it had gaped like a chasm thwarting the path of the Bryan managers. In vain they attempted to bridge it. Moreover, the middle of the road element displayed generalship worthy of the name. Recognizing the fact that all hope of defeating Bryan's nomination was lost, they concentrated all their efforts against Sewall.

They did more; they devised a scheme by which the convention was forced to nominate the Vice President before the President. It was an unprecedented thing, but it served to mass the votes in favor of a Populist candidate for Vice President and uncover them in advance, in the fear that if Bryan were first nominated the enthusiasm might break down the opposition to Sewall and stampede the majority of the voters for the Nebraskan's running mate.

**The Vice Presidency.**

When the proposition was made to change the regular order of the nominations, the Bryan men strained every nerve to prevent it. Jerry Simpson, on behalf of Kansas, went so far as to intimate that the vote of the Sunflower state would be cast for a Southern man for vice president if the regular order were not reversed. When the vote was called they rallied every vote at their command. Senator Butler of North Carolina was a powerful ally with the ninety-five votes of the old North state behind him, and Congressman Skinner, the chairman of the delegation, cast the solid vote of the state against the change. When the vote was figured up, however, and he ascertained that there was a majority of 26 in favor of the proposition, the vote of the delegation was cast for the proposition, and the anti-Sewall emerged from the contest with a majority of 170. This made the defeat of Sewall and the nomination of a Populist for vice president certain.

After that, the conference of the joint committee of the two conventions could come to nothing, and the silver convention promptly nominated Bryan and Sewall and adjourned sine die.

The anti-Bryan men, although they presented a minority platform, demanding an irredeemable paper currency and the Democratic and Republican parties, did not attempt to press it after their victory. The majority report, which is moderate, contains a few radical propositions, such as a demand for the gradual assumption by the government of the ownership of the railroads and for direct legislation through the initiative and referendum. It was adopted without a division and the minority report laid on the table.

The Democratic managers consulted after it became evident that Sewall could not be nominated, and Mr. Bryan was communicated with by telegraph. They decided that Mr. Bryan could not be disloyal to his running mate, and word was sent to the leading Bryan managers in the convention that the "Silver Knight of the West" would not accept a nomination unless Sewall was also nominated.

The convention for five hours last night listened to nominating speeches in profound ignorance of this fact. Tom Watson of Georgia, Congressman Skinner of North Carolina, Mimms of Tennessee, Burkett of Mississippi and Mann Page of Virginia were nominated. About 11 o'clock the Bryan men decided to spring the sensation. Senator Stewart of Nevada was selected to make the announcement, coupled with a plea for uniting the silver forces, but the anti-Sewall crowd was in the saddle. It howled down the venerable senator and, after a hurried consultation, the leaders decided not to permit the announcement to be made at that time.

Tom Patterson of Colorado, who had possession of the telegrams announcing Bryan's position, at midnight still declined to make them public.

**The Platform.**

The convention had little or no trouble in agreeing upon a platform. Several amendments were offered to the report by the resolutions committee, but they were whirled out of sight by a practically unanimous vote, and the report went through in all of its middle-of-the-road glory. Delegate J. H. Vallette of Rhode Island, presented the Declaration of Independence, with just enough change in its wording to include the Populist idea of finance, as a minority report. It was partially read, when, by an overwhelming vote, further reading was dispensed with. But this did not suit Vallette. He mounted the speaker's stand and demanded the further reading of his creed. Chairman Allen argued with him for a while without avail, and then ordered him off the platform. He refused to go. A lieutenant of the city police laid a hand on the obstreperous dele-

gate and requested him to go down from the stand. He refused again, and a struggle followed between the two men.

**Put Out by the Police.**

The convention was on its feet in an instant yelling like mad. Some "shouted, "Don't hurt him! Others, "Shut him out," and still others, "Let loose of that man." The officer knew his business, however, and put the Rhode Island man out of the stand. He went tumbling down the stairs with his declaration in one hand, the other wildly playing the Weller, his voice could be heard above the din, demanding: "Is this a free country?"

**The Evening Session.**

When the convention reassembled at 6 o'clock, with the nomination of a candidate for Vice President for the first thing on the programme, the convention hall contained the largest audience which had yet assembled. The convention settled down at once to the business of speechmaking. Torrents of fervid oratory poured in a cataract over the audience for hour after hour.

Tom Watson was placed in nomination by Congressman Howard of Georgia; Life Pence of New York performed a like service for Arthur Sewall; H. H. Hays of Iowa presented Frank Burkett of Mississippi; Captain Burmah of Tennessee named A. M. Mimms of the same state; Virginia named Mann Page, and North Carolina named Harry Skinner. As fast as the states were called, one, and some times two, orators responded from each, with speeches for their favorites. Watson and Sewall were the recipients of many of the seconding speeches.

The deal which had been made between the Democratic national committee, the Bryan managers, and the middle of the road facts was accentuated when Nebraska took the floor and seconded the nomination of Tom Watson. Kansas was one of the states which had two speeches. W. A. Harris first took the stage and in a ringing speech seconded the nomination of Sewall. He had no more than finished when Frank Doster mounted his chair, and in behalf of the greater portion of the Kansas delegation, repudiated Colonel Harris' speech. He then pledged the great majority of the delegation to Tom Watson, "that old elected and oft defrauded patriot of Georgia," and declared that the logic of political events would compel the Democrats to drop Sewall and endorse the Populist. "They need us to elect Bryan and they must come to our terms," declared the Kansas man, and this sentiment was greeted with vociferous cheering.

The other who received the greatest ovation was a colored delegate from Georgia, who declared that Watson was the Moses who would lead the negro race out of the wilderness. His time was extended twice. When New Jersey was reached, the chairman stated that, with one exception, his delegation had no desire to make a speech. The exception made his way to the stage in the person of a portly old man who got as far as "Mr. Chairman" when the crowd broke into yells. Then followed a battle royal. The old man held his ground and wildly waved his cane and worked his jaws amidst the frightful din. Finally, his delegation led him to his seat, but he refused to be put down. He was pelted with paper wads, remnants of lunches, apple cores and other light missiles which came readily to hand, but he kept up his speech in pantomime until he was seized and forced into his seat. This incident wasted just fifteen minutes of time, but formed the greatest diversion of the night.

A row broke out the next minute over the attempt of Senator Stewart of Nevada, to speak, he having been put forward by the Colorado delegation. After a noisy interval he was granted two minutes' time. At the expiration of that time, the clamor broke out again. The chairman appealed for order in the name of Southern chivalry. Southern chivalry remained silent about one minute and then howled the Senator off the platform. Senator Stewart was not a delegate.

**Convention in Darkness.**

At precisely three minutes before midnight the last speech was finished and the chair ordered a roll call, and at precisely the same minute the electric lights went out. A sullen roar started, but before it had fairly developed the lights came on again. Before the secretary could announce the vote state after state changed to Watson, and his nomination was finally made unanimous.

Just as this motion was put the lights went out again, and then followed a scene which beggars description. The delegates stood for awhile and yelled, and then they commenced to seeth around the hall in the darkness. A candle light here and there flared up, in flickering bits, a confused mass of humanity, but the din was something awful. The hall remained in darkness just fifteen minutes, and then the lights flashed on again, but only long enough to permit the putting of a motion to adjourn until 9 o'clock this morning, which was carried.

**VERDICT FOR HEARNE.**

San Francisco Chronicle Sued for \$10,000.

SAN DIEGO, Cal., July 27.—The jury in the Hearne libel case returned a verdict for the plaintiff, assessing damages at \$10,000. The action had been tried once before, the jury failing to agree. The plaintiff in the case is Dr. J. C. Hearne of this city. The defendants are M. H. DeYoung, proprietor of the San Francisco Chronicle, and J. F. Blunt, formerly that paper's San Diego correspondent.

The article which formed the basis of the suit was written from this city in August 1894. It was construed by Dr. Hearne and some of his friends as implicating the doctor in the murder of Amos J. Stillwell, at Hannibal, Mo., in December, 1888. Subsequent to the publication of this article Hearne was indicted for the murder, tried and acquitted.

Hoke Smith to Resign.

New York, July 27.—A Washington dispatch says Hoke Smith, secretary of the interior, and a proponent of what was formerly the administration's most potent organ in the South, will resign from the cabinet within the next week.

**R. E. LEWIS THE MAN.**

**HEADS THE MISSOURI REPUBLICAN TICKET.**

Nominated on the Sixth Ballot—The Fight Was Between Him and Webster Davis—Other Nominations Made in Short Order.

**The Ballots on Governor.**

Candidates	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th
Robert E. Lewis	110	191	114	114	114	114	114	114	114	114
Webster Davis	13	14	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17
Walter B. Hays	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
John C. Holt	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Upton	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Brick	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Thompson	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Tabb	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Levy	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Pat Johnson	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Joy	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

SPRINGFIELD, Mo., July 27.—The Republican state convention nominated the following ticket and adjourned sine die:

For Governor—Robert E. Lewis, of Henry county.

For Lieutenant Governor—Dr. A. C. Pettijohn, Linn county.

For Judge of Supreme Court—Judge Rudolph Hirschel, of St. Louis county.

For Railroad and Warehouse Commissioner—George N. Stille, of Putnam county.

For Secretary of State—William P. Freeman of Miller county.

For State Auditor—John G. Bishop of Jackson county.

For State Treasurer—J. F. Gmelich of Boone county.

For Attorney General—Senator John Keenish of Holt county.

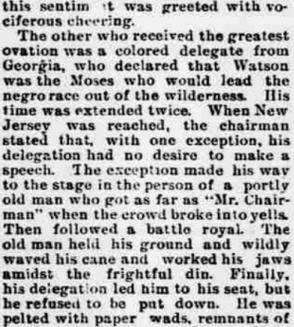
For Electors-at-Large—Judge Joseph B. Upton of Polk county, Colonel John B. Hale of Carroll county.

For Judge of St. Louis Court of Appeals—R. E. Rombauer of St. Louis city.

For Judge of Kansas City Court of Appeals—James S. Botsford of Kansas City.

**Sketch of the Nominee.**

Robert Edgar Lewis was born April 3, 1857, in Cass county, Mo. He is, therefore, 29 years of age. He was raised and educated in Cass and Callaway counties. He took a collegiate course in Westminster college at Fulton. He taught school four years



ROBERT EDGAR LEWIS.

in Calloway county. During this time he read law, when he was not engaged in his school duties.

In January, 1880, he moved to Clinton and prosecuted his study of law under Judge James B. Gantt, who is now a member of the supreme court. In August, 1880, he was admitted to the bar. He opened an office and began to practice law. In 1882, the Democrats of Henry county nominated and elected him prosecuting attorney, re-electing him in 1884. He was a very efficient officer. In 1896 the law firm of Fyke, Calvard & Lewis was formed. When M. A. Fyke went to Kansas City, Calvard & Lewis continued in partnership at Clinton.

Mr. Lewis changed his political belief in the campaign of 1888 on the idea of protection. Two years ago he made the race in the Sixth district for Congress and cut De Armond's plurality from nearly 3,400 votes to 92. He was renominated by acclamation for Congress in the Sixth district last spring by the Warrensburg convention. He made no active canvass for the nomination for governor. In May, 1895, he was married to Miss Avery, the oldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James M. Avery of Clinton. They have two children, a boy and girl named Mason, aged 9, and Dorothea, aged 6 years.

**TWENTY-NINE DEAD.**

Death List of the Cloud Burst in the Colorado Mountains.

DENVER, Colo., July 27.—The cloud-burst in the neighborhood of Morrison and Golden, last Friday night, inundated Bear Creek canyon, caused the loss of at least twenty-nine lives and destroyed all the bridges over the creek and much other property. Nothing has been heard from several places in the mountains in the stricken region, and the worst is feared.

**MORE BODIES FOUND.**

Four More Victims of the Cloudburst in Clear Creek Canon.

DENVER, Colo., July 27.—The terrible effects of the cloudburst in Clear Creek canon above Golden, Colo., last Friday are still coming to light. Last night four more bodies were found among the debris several miles below Golden. They are of two old men and two young women, none of whom have been identified. There is also a report of eight men employed in a Denver brewery, who passed through Golden a few hours before the storm, en route to Idaho Springs, for an outing. They have not since been heard from, and parts of what are believed to be their wagon have been found.

**Mr. Winslow Declines.**

PORTLAND, Me., July 27.—E. B. Winslow, the Democratic candidate for Governor, has declined the nomination. He cannot stand on the Chicago and Maine Democratic platforms, and therefore steps down. The Maine platform declares for the gold standard.

**POPULIST PLATFORM.**

Adopted in National Convention at St. Louis on July 24, 1896.

"The People's party, assembled in national convention, reaffirms its allegiance to the principles declared by its founders to be the public and also to the fundamental principles of just government as enshrined in the platform of the party in 1892. We recognize that through the connivance of the present and preceding administrations, the country has reached a crisis in its national life, as predicted in our declaration of four years ago, and that prompt and positive action is the supreme duty of the hour. We realize that while we have political independence, our financial and industrial independence is yet to be attained by restoring to our country the constitutional control and exercise of the functions necessary to a people's government, which functions have been basely surrendered by our public servants to corporate monopolies. The influence of European money changers has been a potent in shaping legislation that has robbed the American people of Executive power and patronage have been used to corrupt our legislators and has thereby been enthroned upon the ruins of democracy. To restore the government intended by the fathers and for the welfare and prosperity of this and future generations, we demand the establishment of an economic and financial system which shall make us masters of our own affairs and independent of European control, by the adoption of the following declaration of principles:

- "First—We demand a national money, safe and sound, issued by the general government only, without the intervention of banks of issue, to be a full legal tender for all debts, public and private, in just, equitable and efficient means of distributing it to the people and through the lawful disbursements of the government.
- "Second—We demand the free and unrestricted coinage of silver and gold at the present legal ratio of 16 to 1, without waiting for the consent of foreign nations.
- "Third—We demand that the volume of circulating medium be increased in the amount sufficient to meet the demands of the business and population of this country and to restore the just level of prices of labor and production.
- "Fourth—We demand the abolition of the increase of the public interest bearing debt made by the present administration as unnecessary and without authority of law, and that no more bonds be issued except by specific act of Congress.
- "Fifth—We demand such legislation as will prevent the domination of the law by money of the United States by private control.
- "Sixth—We demand that the government in payment of its obligations shall use its own money as the kind of lawful money in which they are to be paid, and we denounce the present and preceding administrations for surrendering this option to the holders of government obligations.
- "Seventh—We demand a graduated income tax to the end that aggregated wealth shall bear its just proportion of taxation, and we regard the recent decision of the supreme court relative to the income tax law as a misinterpretation of the constitution, and in violation of the rightful powers of Congress over the subject of taxation.
- "Eighth—We demand that postal savings banks be established by the government for the safe deposit of the savings of the people and to facilitate exchange.

**Transportation.**

"Transportation being a means of exchange and a public necessity, the government should own and operate the railroads in the interest of the people and on a non-partisan basis, to the end that all may be accorded the same treatment in transportation and that the arbitrary and political power now exercised by the great railroad corporations, which result in the impairment, if not the destruction, of political rights and personal liberties of the citizen may be destroyed. Such ownership is to be accomplished gradually, in a manner consistent with sound public policy.

"The interest of the United States in the public highways built with public money, and the proceeds of the sale of the same, and the Pacific railroads should never be alienated, mortgaged or sold, but granted and protected for the general welfare as provided by the laws existing such railroads. The force of any existing laws of the United States on these roads should at once be repealed, and the payment thereof by the debtor companies and at the foreclosure sales of said roads the government shall purchase the same if it becomes necessary to protect its interests thereon, or if they can be purchased at reasonable prices, and the government shall operate said railroads as public highways for the benefit of the whole people and not in the interest of the few, under suitable provisions for protection of life and property, giving to all transportation interests equal privileges and equal rates for fares and freights.

"We denounce the present infamous schemes for refunding these debts and demand that the laws now applicable thereto be executed and administered according to their true intent and spirit.

"The telegraph, like the postoffice system, being a necessity for the transmission of news, should be owned and operated by the government in the interest of the people.

**Land.**

"The true policy demands that the national and State legislation shall be such as will ultimately enable every prudent and industrious citizen to secure a home, and that no lands should be monopolized for speculative purposes. All lands now held by railroads and other corporations in excess of their actual needs should by lawful means be reclaimed by the government and held for actual settlers only, and private monopolies, as well as alien ownership should be prohibited.

"We condemn the frauds by which the land grants to Pacific railroad companies have, through the connivance of the Interior department, robbed the people of their lands and the settlers of their homes and mine a of their claims, and we demand that legislation by Congress which will enforce the exemption of mineral land from such grants after as well as before payment.

"We demand that bona fide settlers on all public land be granted free homes as provided in the national homestead law, and that no exemption be made in the case of Indian reservations when once the same have been surveyed, and all lands now patented come under this demand.

**Direct Legislation.**

"We favor a system of direct legislation through the initiative and referendum under proper constitutional safeguards.

**General Propositions.**

"We demand the election of President, Vice President and United States senators by a direct vote of the people.

"We tender to the patriotic people of Cuba our deepest sympathy in their heroic struggle for political freedom and independence, and we believe the time has come when the United States, the great republic of the world, should recognize that Cuba is a nation of right ought to be, a free and independent state.

"We favor home rule in the Territories, and the District of Columbia and the early admission of the Territories as States.

"All public salaries should be made to correspond to the price of labor and its production.

"In times of great industrial depression idle labor should be employed on public works as far as practicable.

"The arbitrary course of the courts in assuming to imprison citizens for indirect contempt and ruling them by injunction, should be prevented by proper legislation.

"We favor just pensions for our disabled Union soldiers.

"Believing that the elective franchise and untrammeled ballot are essential to a government of, for and by the people, the People's party condemns the wholesale system of disfranchisement adopted in some of the States as unconstitutional and undemocratic, and we declare it to be the duty of the several State legislatures to take such action as will secure a full, free and fair ballot and honest count.

"While the foregoing propositions constitute the platform upon which our party stands, and for the vindication of which our organization will be maintained, we recognize the great and pressing issue of the pending campaign, upon which the People's Presidential election will turn, is the issue of the gold standard, and we declare our support of the gold standard, and we declare for the gold standard.