

People's Voice.

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FROM GEORGIA.

The Situation in the South as Viewed by S. L. Bishop, a Former Resident of Sumner County, Kansas.

The South Will be Almost Solid for the People's Party—Wonderful Excitement—Threats of Violence—A Test Vote in Glascock County.

WAYCROSS, GA., July 15, 1892.
EDITOR PEOPLE'S VOICE: Some time ago I promised to write an article for your paper on the political situation in the south and would have done so some time ago, but have not had opportunity until now. It would require too much space, even if I had the time, to discuss the events and underlying causes that have brought the south into its present conditions, but it is safe to say that there never was a section of any country that was in exactly the same situation that the south is in today. Without stopping to discuss causes, I will proceed to the discussion of the subject just as I find it.

The great question in the minds of the southern people is negro supremacy. This has been the campaign issue of every campaign for years. The southern people believe that this is a white man's country and that the whites and not the blacks shall rule it and it makes no difference which race is in the majority, the whites are going to rule, either by fair means or foul. The negroes after the war and as long as the races are divided, the one against the other, they will continue to do so. I do not care how many election bills are passed. If the so-called "force bill," as the southern people call the election bill, would become a law it would not change matters in the least, for the whites would find some way to avoid its results. As long as one race is united in opposition to the other, the best educated race is going to rule. No law can be effective until public sentiment is ready to enforce it, but the force bill is to be the campaign song of the Democratic party in the south. They even accuse the People's party of being in favor of it and place a misconception on it and say that it is simply a measure to turn the elections over into the hands of the present administration and put the federal army into his hands to force the south to submit to negro rule. They never once intimate that the rule would apply to the north as well as the south, providing the same tactics were used there that they use here, but the whole burden of their speeches is that the farmers and laboring classes must stick to the Democratic party and hold the south solid, or be ruled by negroes under the protection of federal bayonets.

For the first time in the history of the south, the Democratic party is exceedingly anxious to have the negroes vote the Republican ticket. Just the other day I saw where a negro had got up in a Democratic rally and pledged himself to support the Democratic party in this campaign and the Democratic speaker took him by the hand and fairly wrung it and the crowd of Democrats cheered lustily at the scene. Such a thing never occurred in Georgia before, but it will likely occur many more times before the campaign is over if enough negroes can be induced to become parties to such action. You see it makes a difference as to what ticket a negro votes as to whether he is worthy to shake a white man's hand in public or not. If he had been going to vote the straight Republican ticket he would still have received plenty of encouragement, for the first time in his life, though he would hardly have got a hand shake in public, but if he had been going to vote the People's party ticket and would have had the courage to have said it in public, he would have done well to have got out of the crowd with nothing less than a broken head. A northern man would have fared pretty much the same way. Here in Waycross they have passed a resolution declaring themselves "fighting Democrats" and denouncing all who do not agree with them in politics, as public enemies. They have boasted openly that if they cannot defeat Tom Watson for congress, they will use personal violence. This threat was not made officially by the Democratic party, of course, but it has been made by prominent Democrats. I, personally, know of one who has boasted what they would

do and have heard of others making the same threat. Now whether these are idle threats or not, I am unable to say, but am inclined to believe from my knowledge of certain tough cases, who will not stop at anything to carry their point, that there is considerable danger, not only for Tom Watson, but for others who have been taking a prominent part in the People's movement. Not that they would dare do anything openly, but they would get some desperado under the influence of liquor and get him to insult the object of their spite so grossly that he could hardly help resenting it and then kill him and make it appear that it was a general melee and done in self defense. This is the plan they have adopted for making way with certain individuals in the reform movement. They will hardly dare attempt such a thing with Watson, although there is no doubt but what they have threatened it. I would not be at all surprised to see such things happen to less prominent leaders in the movement.

Now I want to say to my Republican friends, who have been ranting about the People's party being a scheme to disrupt the Republican party, if you want to test the truth of what I say, just come down and go into a certain locality that I can point out to you and go to making a third party talk, especially to the negroes and I guarantee that you will never say again that the People's party is just a scheme of the Democrats to break up the Republican party. You can talk Republicanism this year to negroes or any one else with perfect safety any place in the south, but you had better keep your mouth shut when it comes to the People's party. Funny way to break up the Republican party, isn't it?

So much for this aspect of the situation and now for the People's side of it. We have the old mass back party of the south the worst scared they have ever been. They are growing more and more desperate every day. They have tied the "force bill" on the end of their party lash and are using it with vigor, and where that will not do, they use more violent means, where they are in large enough majority to dare to do so. We have made it safe and easy for the Republicans to run candidates for any office they desire to. We do not desire negro supremacy any more than the Democrats, but we propose to prevent it in an entirely different way from what the old party does. They propose to hold the white race solidly together and rule the negroes by force. This is safe enough as long as we have the force to do so, but the time will come some time when the other race will have the force and turn the tables on us. We propose a more effective way to settle the race problem than that. We think with the negro divided and working in sympathy with us, we can manage him better than with him united and working against us. The People's party will just as surely divide the negro vote of the south as the voting time comes. More than half of them will vote with us this year. I am confident of this and if I was as sure that the People's party would elect the next president as I am sure that the most of the Republicans of the south will vote the People's party ticket, I would feel perfectly sure of the result. There will be no formal fusion whatever, but the negroes have been educating themselves as well as the whites and thousands of them realize that they can expect no more from one of the old parties than they can the other. They understand these great issues of the day as well as we and will vote from principle this time as they have never done before.

Nearly all of the strength of our party is in the rural population. It is only around the towns where mean whiskey can be had that the dangerous opposition is met with, except in very remote instances. In all the counties that have large towns the majorities will likely go against us, except perhaps, in Augusta. There is a strong Knights of Labor organization and we have pretty good prospects of carrying that county in spite of all the Democrats can do. In Glascock county, a short time ago, there was a special election to fill a vacancy in a county office. The Democratic organs all over the state boasted of the test vote that would be made in that election. They had Gen. Gordon come from Washington, Major Black, the candidate for congress against Watson, Governor Northern from Atlanta and two or three speakers of less prominence come into the county just a few days before the election and show up the

"third party." They howled "force bill" and negro supremacy and admonished the boys to stick to the grand old Democratic party and save our glorious southland from carpet bag rule and federal bayonets. Besides that, they did not hesitate to spend money profusely. The Democratic dailies boasted that the "third party" as they call it was entirely obliterated and that old Glascock would roll up her usual Democratic majority. Great headlines announced how completely the new movement was wiped out of existence. They lauded Gordon, Northern, Black, etc., to the skies. Well, election day came on. The farmers had made no display. The other side had done all the campaign work and made all the speeches. The vote in the county was the largest ever cast and the People's party candidate was elected by two votes for one for the Democrat. Both sides had put up their strongest men and made the election a test of strength, but the next day and the day after the Democratic dailies said not a word and finally when they could not ignore the fact any longer, they said it was only a petty election anyway and was no test of strength at all; that it was simply a local election, etc. Now, if this is anything to go by, we will carry the state by a handsome majority. I think the prospects are as good as we could wish. At one time I thought there was no possible doubt about the result in several of the southern states, including Georgia, North Carolina and South Carolina, but the Democrats have all the money on their side and if money can defeat us they will surely do it. I confidently expect, however, that when the votes are counted this fall it will surprise everybody. The violent methods of the Democrats may stop people's mouths, but it will not change their minds and when they come to vote they will simply "Glascock" the entire south. In South Carolina, even if the Democrats carry the state, which is doubtful, the Alliance has the Democratic party of that state captured body and soul and have adopted the Ocala platform almost without change. I think, from the present outlook, the vote of that state will be cast for the Alliance Democrat state officers and for the People's party presidential electors. North Carolina may go in the same way, although it is not so certain that the People's party will not carry the state entirely. Florida, Alabama and Tennessee are in much the same condition as Georgia, and I think the chances for the people carrying them this fall are splendid. The other southern states I am not so well informed about, as I do not hear directly from them, but from the best information I can get they are all in same boat and we may still see a solid south this year, but not solid for the Democrats. Next week I will give you my reasons for this wonderful political change in the south.

S. L. BISHOP.

NEGRO COLONIZATION

Operator McKenzie Cockrell went down to Guthrie yesterday and negotiated for the employment of fifty ebony hued sons of Ham, all of them arriving here last night. The depot and platform afforded them shelter and sleeping quarters. Many of the party put in the time singing plantation songs, dancing, etc., until this morning, when they were taken charge of by Roadmaster Bradley, who will consign them to section work and distribute them on his division from here to Eaglewood. —*Mulvane Graphic*.

The simple statement above corroborates the story of negro colonization in Kansas. Why does the Santa Fe road happen to need a host of extra hands on that practically unused branch of its road just at this time? How many more negroes can the Santa Fe company alone absorb until after the election? Farmers, how do you like so have your votes killed by these ignorant tools in the hands of corporations? Let every patriot exert himself to prevent this high-handed outrage on freedom.

The Monitor has learned at last the Alliance party is so preponderant in South Carolina that they are horse-whipping Democrats to force them into line. We are glad to have our neighbor concede this much, and would recommend his reading our letter from Georgia, published elsewhere, to give him an insight into the progress of the movement in that state. If the Alliance party and Democrats are all of one family, as the Monitor would have us believe, this horse-whipping business and threats of violence are very peculiar ways of expressing fraternal affection. Eh Grandmother?

THEY MEET.

The "Unterrified" Republicans Meet, Resolve, Nominate and Retire—A Little Disfigured But Still in The Ring.

Showalter and Forney Shelved—Judging by Remarks of Delegates the Goose Does Not Hang Very High.

The "unterrified" Republicans of Sumner county rallied into Wellington last Tuesday and filled the court room. The party has for the two years past been holding primary elections to make its nominations and this return to the old methods seemed to rub up a good deal of interest in the old machine. At 11:10 a. m. Chairman Berry rapped the convention to order with his gold-headed umbrella, which he broke in the effort, and Secretary Campbell proceeded to read the call. S. D. Crane, of Conway Springs and J. S. Dey, of Wellington, were put in nomination for temporary chairman. Mr. Crane withdrew and J. S. Dey was chosen by acclamation. He was introduced and orated briefly and grandiloquently on the record of the g. o. p. He registered objections to the name of the People's party because he said, "we are a party of the people"—a small part, at least. We have been misrepresented, traduced, maligned and disgraced by a "grinning clown" in the halls of congress. We are here today, he said, to set on foot the initial work of displacing him."

C. A. Branscombe, of South Haven, was chosen temporary secretary. Committees were appointed as follows:

Order of business—John Hanghey, Mr. Hunter, M. H. Kirk, Matt Hamilton, D. C. Millard.

Credentials—James Lawrence, W. H. Simmons, J. W. Nye, Gabe Jones, S. H. Snyder.

Permanent organization—Geo. W. Bailey, I. N. Cooper, Harmon Straw, Mr. Hastie, Mr. Morris.

Resolutions—Mr. Houseworth, R. T. Simons, Mr. Kenyon, Mr. Pope, T. A. Hubbard, J. T. Sanders, Mr. Miller, S. D. Crane, Thos. Mordy, Mr. Troger.

A glee club from Genda Springs was called for and favored the convention with some good music.

The roll of townships was called and the new county central committee was announced, after which the convention adjourned until 1:30 o'clock.

At 1:30 p. m. the convention was called to order. The enthusiasm in the old party was somewhat revived by the drum corps which came to the door of the hall.

The committee on credentials reported the names of the delegates with no contests, which report was adopted.

The temporary organization was made permanent. C. A. Branscombe declined as secretary and J. T. Campbell was elected. Alva Clapp and L. Lightfoot were chosen assistants.

Committee on order of business reported that nominations be made as follows:

1st, County Attorney, 2nd, Clerk of the District Court, 3rd, Probate Judge, 4th, County Superintendent.

The report of the committee on resolutions was read by Editor Simons, of the Caldwell News. It provoked a good deal of laughter and was as follows:

We, the Republicans of Sumner county, in convention assembled, endorse the platform of principles adopted at the Republican national conventions held at Minneapolis and Topeka, Kansas.

We heartily endorse the nomination of that great soldier and statesman, Benj. Harrison, for re-election, and pledge our earnest efforts in support of the national, state and congressional tickets in the interests of honest government and the greatest welfare of the American people.

We denounce bartering and trickery in politics for the sake of political spoils as shown by the recent action of the People's party in Sumner county, leaving a spare seat in the office of county attorney for so-called deborned Democrats.

We favor the immediate opening of the Cherokee Strip to homestead settlement and denounce the hypocritical action of Jerry Simpson, the misrepresentative of the seventh district, for his masterly inactivity in the interest of the homeseeker.

We rejoice in the abundance of a Republican harvest of golden grain, which augurs a great Republican victory at the polls, and we return our sincere thanks to the great Creator for divine assistance in refuting the shameless scandals of the hot wind calumnists in defamation of our beloved state.

Upon the motion for the adoption a few fellows said no and shouts went

up "put him out."

J. H. Heriff, of Ryan township, the Republican Alliance man whom they run for representative in 1890, offered an additional resolution as follows:

We favor a law that will protect the producer and consumer against the extortionate charges by express companies so that they cannot exact one-half the value of farm produce for transporting it from producer to consumer, or cause the owners of machinery and farm implements to pay three and sometimes ten times the value of articles to keep up repairs. We demand that there be a radical reduction in express charges and if the express companies cannot do the business except upon the halves, the common carriers, the railroad companies, should be compelled to do the business themselves direct, without the intervention of a system for robbing the people.

It was greeted with cries of "buncombe" and treated very disrespectfully. On motion it was laid on the table. Seeing the record they had made in favoring monopolies, it was again taken up and referred to the committee on resolutions, after much wrangling, which proved to have the same effect as the previous motion.

Mr. Heriff was very indignant that so mild a resolution against the encroachment of corporations should be so vigorously hooted out of the convention. He resented the idea that it was introduced for buncombe and claimed that he meant every line of it. Every one who has patronized the express companies knows full well the justice of his demand, but he failed to realize that the Republican party is dependent on the corporations for their campaign fund.

The meeting became noisy and a sergeant of arms and two assistants were appointed.

On motion the convention proceeded to nominations and dispensed with nominating speeches beyond naming the candidate.

For county attorney the following parties were placed in nomination: H. L. Wood, J. M. Reedy, W. S. Whittinghill, Whittinghill was nominated on first ballot, the vote resulting as follows: Whittinghill, 162; Wood, 73; Reedy, 8. It was made unanimous.

For District Clerk, W. J. Wollam, Charles Locke, Isaac Rhine, R. F. Nugent were nominated. The ballot stood, Wollam 130; Locke, 67; Nugent, 35; Rhine, 11. A motion to make it unanimous was greeted with some "no's."

There was a close contest on Probate Judge. C. C. Ridings, Chas. Willisie and J. D. Simpson were put in nomination. Simpson was nominated on second ballot, receiving 125 votes, 123 being necessary to a choice. Ridings received 108 votes and Willisie 10.

For County Superintendent, Mrs. M. M. Carson and W. S. Varner were named. The first ballot stood, Carson, 156; Varner, 87.

STATE SENATOR.

The county convention then adjourned and the senatorial convention convened with I. N. Cooper in the chair and Geo. Cain secretary. John T. Showalter, C. C. Curtis and J. W. Forney were put in nomination and up to the third ballot each had nearly an equal number of votes. On the third ballot Valverde cast its three votes for R. T. Simons, editor of the Caldwell News and before the ballot closed he received 23 votes. The fourth ballot gave him 81 and on the fifth he was nominated, receiving 143 votes. Forney's vote all left him but his own precinct, 11 votes, going to Simons. The nomination was influenced largely by the fact that all the balance of the ticket had been selected from Wellington and north, the south having been slighted.

Simons was called out and made a short speech, in which he said he would be "in it" until the votes are all counted, leaving the inference that he would then be "out of it."

"And," says he, "we count all the votes in this country," and he might have said "and more too," having in mind Humphrey and Willisie in 1890.

The defeated candidates were called upon for short speeches. Curtis dealt his local competitor, Col. Showalter, a cutting blow by remarking that the contest had terminated just as he wanted to see it terminate. Col. Forney talked briefly, remarking that the speech he had prepared would not fit. Showalter had fled in disgust with the convention adjourned in a roar of confusion.

NOTES.

Not an old soldier on the ticket. We will dehorn the Republicans in November.

While the people have got this de-horning business going, they propose to lop off those of Johnny Bull.

Republican harvest! Rats! An

open insult to the intelligence of every farmer in Sumner county.

"The Republican party is composed of the people," quoth Chairman Dey. "We, the people of England," said the tailors of Tooley street.

The Democrats came in for a good scoring. The Republicans can't get over their old partisan antipathy for Democracy.

Judge Ridings, although an old soldier and an exceptionally good man, was given to understand that "no soldiers need apply."

Chairman Dey seemed to have no fault to find with the principles of the People's party. His grievance was wholly with the name and its standard bearer, Jerry Simpson.

GENERAL WEAVER HOPEFUL.

People's Party Leaders Full of Confidence—Part of the Campaign Program.

St. Louis, Mo., July 21—General J. B. Weaver and Chairman Taubeneck arrived in St. Louis this morning from Vincennes, Ind., and went directly to the national People's party headquarters. General Weaver had abandoned his linen duster and was attired in a handsome suit of broadcloth and wore a derby hat. When asked how he was pleased with prospects after the grand rally at Vincennes, he replied:

"I am more and more convinced of the fact that the people of the United States have no legitimate excuse for voting either the Republican or Democratic ticket. Our platform is solid and is exactly what the masses endorse and I am confident that we have equally as good a show for success as either of the old parties."

General Weaver positively refused to give facts and figures relative to his strength, nor will he commit himself on any of the leading questions of the day. The campaign through the silver states has been mapped out and General Weaver and General J. G. Field will fire off the first gun at Denver July 25 and 27. From there they go to Pueblo, thence to Leadville and on the 29th they will hold forth at Aspen.

August 1 a grand rally will be held at Grand Junction, when they will leave Colorado and spend ten days in Nevada, three in California and make a trip through Oregon and attend a big mass meeting at Portland. They will proceed from there to Tacoma, thence to Seattle and from there to Spokane Falls, winding up at Helena, Montana. From this point a platform campaign will be carried on through the north to St. Paul, returning to Des Moines August 16. This will conclude the work in the silver states, after which a campaign will be mapped out for the work they hope to accomplish in the south.

The Republican papers, taking their cue from one source, keep talking about Carnegie men who refuse \$5 a day, and endeavor to impress the people with the idea that these \$5 men comprise a majority of the strikers. These \$5 men are the strongest evidence of the honor, determination and principle in organized labor. They strike with their fellow laborers who get low wages, because they see the handwriting on the wall that rings the death knell of all organized labor and brings in the rule of scabs.

—*Kansas City Fair Play*.
When the "strike" broke out among the farmers, plutocracy's jawsmiths united in sounding the great prosperity of the farmers of America as compared with other occupations. Now when factory men are in trouble they raise the same sort of deception. When the railroad men have a grievance with their employes that demands adjustment, they will have the same sort of "dirt" thrown at them. The boys of the rail may not be able to see it now, but they will sure run afoul of it then. Mark the words, boys.

The railroad employes' picnic at Arkansas City last Saturday was a grand success. Thousands of railroad men, some with their wives and many with their "best girls" were there and a glorious time was had in the beautiful park on the Walnut river near that city. Railroad people were there from every part of the state, but Wellington was not very well represented, on account of the boys being busy on extra runs. We have never seen a prettier lot of girls together than was at that picnic and they were having a great time along with the rest. Speeches were made by Hon. L. S. Stedman, of Des Moines, president of the Trainmen's Association; W. E. Perry, of Minneapolis, secretary; Jos. B. Ady, of Newton and Burce Lynch, Republican candidate for treasurer. The "rantancrous" J. Kansas Morgan was billed for a speech, but he did not show up. Verr little politics was mixed with the speeches.