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Every Plank in Great Progressive Party Document Hewed From the Necessity of the Times— Gives People Absolute Control.

PARTY STANDS FOR WOMAN SUFFRAGE

Contains Planks on Initiative, Referendum and Recall, Child Labor, Conservation, Panama Canal, Good Roads and Public Welfare.

Chicago, Aug. 8.—Following is the full text of the Progressive platform Declaration of Principles of the Progressive Party.

The conscience of the people in a time of grave national problems, has called into being a new party, born of the nation's awakened sense of justice.

We of the Progressive party dedicate ourselves to the fulfillment of the duty laid upon us by our fathers to maintain that government of the people, by the people and for the people whose foundations they laid.

We hold with Thomas Jefferson and Abraham Lincoln that the people are the masters of their constitution to fulfill its purposes and to safeguard it from those who, by perversion of its intent, would convert it into an instrument of injustice.

In accordance with the needs of each generation the people must use their sovereign powers to establish and maintain equal opportunity and industrial justice, to secure which this government was founded and without which no republic can endure.

This country belongs to the people who inhabit it. Its resources, its business, its institutions and its laws should be utilized, maintained or altered in whatever manner will best promote the general interest. It is time to set the public welfare in the first place.

The Old Parties. Political parties exist to secure responsible government and to execute the will of the people.

From these great tasks both of the old parties have turned aside. Instead of instruments to promote the general welfare they have become the tools of corrupt interests which use them impartially to serve their selfish purposes.

Behind the ostensible government sits enthroned an invisible government, knowing no allegiance and acknowledging no responsibility to the people.

To destroy this invisible government, to dissolve the unholy alliance between corrupt business and corrupt politics is the first task of the statesmanship of the day.

The deliberate betrayal of its trust by the Republican party, the fatal incapacity of the Democratic party to deal with the new issues of the new time have compelled the people to forge a new instrument of government through which to give effect to their will in laws and institutions.

Unhindered by tradition, uncorrupted by power, undismayed by the magnitude of the task, the new party offers itself as the instrument of the people to sweep away old abuses, to

build a new and nobler commonwealth. **A Government With the People.** This declaration is our covenant with the people and we hereby bind the party and its candidates in state and nation to the pledges made herein.

The Rule of the People. The National Progressive party committed to the people of the government by a self-controlled democracy, expressing its will through representatives of the people, pledges itself to secure such alterations in the fundamental law of the several states and of the United States as shall insure the representative character of the government.

In particular the party decrees for direct primaries for the nomination of state and national officers, for nation-wide preferential primaries for candidates for the presidency, for the direct election of United States senators by the people, and we urge on the states the policy of the short ballot with responsibility to the people secured by the initiative, referendum and recall.

Amendment of Constitution. The Progressive party believing that a free people should have the power to amend their fundamental law so as to adapt it progressively to the changing needs of the people pledges itself to provide a more easy and expeditious method of amending the federal constitution.

Nation and State. Up to the limit of the constitution and later by amendment of the constitution, if found necessary, we advocate bringing under effective national jurisdiction those problems which have expanded beyond reach of the individual states.

It is as grotesque as it is intolerable that the several states should by unequal laws in matter of common concern become competing commercial agencies, barter the lives of their children, the health of their women and the safety and well being of their working people for the profit of their financial interests.

The extreme insistence on states rights by the Democratic party in the Baltimore platform demonstrates anew its inability to understand the world into which it has survived, or to administer the affairs of a union of states which have in all essential respects become one people.

Equal Suffrage. The Progressive party, believing that no people can justly claim to be a true democracy, which denies political rights on account of sex, pledges itself to the task of securing

equal suffrage to men and women alike.

Corrupt Practices. We pledge our party to legislation that will compel the limitation of all campaign contributions, the expenditure of committee funds, and the publicity of committee receipts, both before as well as after primaries and elections.

Publicity and Public Service. We pledge our party to legislation compelling the registration of lobbyists, publicity of committee hearings except on foreign affairs and recording of all votes in committee, and forbidding federal appointees from holding office in state or national political organizations or taking part as officers or delegates in political conventions for the nomination of elective state or national officials.

The Courts. The Progressive party demands such restriction of power of the courts as shall leave to the people the ultimate authority to determine fundamental questions of social welfare and public policy. To secure this end it pledges itself to provide:

1.—That when an act, passed under the police power of the state is held unconstitutional under the state constitution by the courts, the people, after an ample interval for deliberation, shall have an opportunity to vote on the question whether they desire the act to become law notwithstanding such decision.

2.—That every decision of the highest appellate court of a state declaring an act of the legislature unconstitutional on the ground of its violation of the federal constitution shall be subject to the same review by the supreme court of the United States as is now accorded to decisions sustaining such legislation.

Administration of Justice. The Progressive party in order to secure to the people a better administration of justice and by that means to bring about a more general respect for the law and the courts, pledges itself to work unceasingly for the reform of legal procedure and judicial methods.

We believe that the issuance of injunctions in cases arising out of labor disputes, or overwork, is prohibited when such injunctions would not apply when no labor disputes existed.

We also believe that a person cited for contempt in labor disputes, except when such contempt was committed in the actual presence of the court or so near there as to interfere with the proper administration of justice should have a right to trial by jury.

Social and Industrial Justice. The supreme duty of the nation is the conservation of human resources through an enlarged measure of social and industrial justice. We pledge ourselves to work unceasingly in state and nation for:

1.—Effective legislation, looking to the prevention of industrial accidents, occupational diseases, overwork, involuntary unemployment and other injurious effects incident to modern industry.

2.—The fixing of minimum safety and health standards for the various occupations and the exercise of the public authority on state and nation including the federal control over interstate commerce and the taxing power, to maintain such standards.

3.—The prohibition of child labor.

4.—Minimum wage standards for working women, to provide a 'living wage' in all industrial occupations.

5.—The general prohibition of night work for women and the establishment of an eight-hour day for women and young people.

6.—One day's rest in seven for all wage workers.

7.—The eight-hour day in continuous twenty-four-hour industries.

8.—The abolition of the convict contract labor system, substituting a system of prison production for governmental consumption only; and the application of prisoners earnings to the support of their dependent families.

9.—Publicity as to wages, hours and conditions of labor; full reports upon industrial accidents and diseases and the opening of public inspection of all tallies, weights, measures and check systems on labor products.

Department of Labor. We pledge our party to establish a department of labor with a seat in the cabinet and with wide jurisdiction over matters affecting the conditions of labor and living.

of such statistics, and cooperation with the health activities of the various states and cities of the nation.

Business. We believe that true popular government, justice and prosperity go hand in hand, and so believing it is our purpose to secure that large measure of prosperity which is the fruit of legitimate and honest business, fortified by equal justice and by sound progressive laws.

We demand that the best of true prosperity shall be the benefits conferred thereby on all citizens, not confined to individuals or classes and that the test of corporate efficiency shall be the ability better to serve the public, that those who profit by the control of the business affairs, be held responsible for that profit and control by sharing with the public the fruits thereof.

We therefore demand a strong national regulation of interstate corporations.

The corporation is an essential part of modern business. The concentration of modern business, in some degree, is both inevitable and necessary for national and international business efficiency. But the existing concentration of vast wealth under a corporate system unguarded and uncontrolled by the nation, has placed in the hands of a few men, enormous secret irresponsible power over the daily life of the citizen—a power unsufferable in a free government and certain of abuse.

This power has been abused in monopoly of national resources, in stock watering, in unfair competition and in unfair privileges and finally, in sinister influences on the public influences of state and nation. We do not fear concentrated power, but we insist that it shall be operated with publicity, supervision and regulation of the most efficient sort, which will preserve its good while eradicating and preventing its evils.

To that end, we urge the establishment of a strong federal administration commission, high standing, which shall maintain prompt and active supervision over industrial corporations engaged in interstate commerce, or such of them as are of public importance, doing for them what the government now does for the national banks, and what is now done for the railroads by the interstate commerce commission.

Such a commission, with the complete publicity of those corporate transactions which are of public interest; must attack unfair competition, false capitalization and by continuous trained watchfulness, guard and keep open equally, all the highways of American commerce. Thus the business man will have certain knowledge of the law, and will be able to conduct his business easily in conformity therewith; the investor will find security for his capital; dividends will be rendered more certain; and the savings of the people will be drawn naturally and safely into the channels of trade.

Under such a system of constructive legislation, legitimate business freed from confusion, uncertainty and fruitless litigation, will develop normally in response to the energy and enterprise of the American business man.

Patents. We pledge ourselves to the enactment of a patent law which will make it impossible for patents to be suppressed or used against the public welfare in the interests of injurious monopolies.

Interstate Commerce. We pledge our party to secure to the interstate commerce commission the power to value the physical property of railroads. In order that the power of the commission to protect the people may not be impaired or destroyed we demand the abolition of the commerce curfew.

Currency. We believe there exists a need for prompt legislation for the improvement of our national currency system. We believe the present method of issuing notes through private agencies is harmful and unscientific. The issue of currency is fundamentally a government function and the system should have as basic principle soundness and elasticity.

The control should be lodged with the government and should be protected from domination or manipulation by Wall street or any special interest.

We are opposed to the so-called Aldrich currency bill because its provisions would place our currency and credit system in private hands, not subject to public control.

Commercial Development. The time has come when the federal government should co-operate with manufacturers and producers in extending our foreign commerce. To this end we demand adequate appropriations by congress and the appointment of diplomats and consular officers solely with a view to their special fitness and worth, and not in consideration of political expediency.

It is imperative to the welfare of our people that we enlarge and extend our foreign commerce. We are pre-eminently fitted to do this because as a people, we have developed high skill in the art of manufacturing; our business men are strong executives; and our organizers in every way possible, our federal government should co-operate in this important matter.

Any one who has had opportunity to study and observe first hand Germany's course in this respect must realize that their policy of co-operation between government and business has in comparatively few years made them a leading competitor for the commerce of the world. It should be remembered that they are doing this on a national scale and with large units of business, while the Democrats would have us believe that we should do it with small units of business, which would be controlled not by the national government but by forty-nine conflicting state sovereignties. Such a policy is utterly out of keeping with the progress of the times and gives our great commercial rivals in Europe—hungry for international markets—golden opportunities of which they are rapidly taking advantage.

The natural resources of the nation must be promptly developed and generously used to supply the people's need, but we cannot safely allow them to be wasted, exploited, monopolized or controlled against the general good. We heartily favor the policy of conservation and we pledge our party to protect the national forests without hindering their legitimate use for the benefit of all the people. Agricultural lands in the national forests are and should remain open to the genuine settler. Conservation will not retard legitimate development. The honest settler must receive his patent promptly without hindrance, rules or delay.

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ests, coal and oil lands, water power and other natural resources still in state or national control (except agricultural lands) are more likely to be wisely conveyed and utilized for the general welfare if held in the public hands. In order that consumers and producers, managers and workmen now and hereafter need not pay toll to private monopolies of power and raw material, we demand that such resources shall be retained by the state or nation and opened to immediate use under laws which will encourage development and make to the people a moderate return for benefits conferred.

In particular we pledge our party to require reasonable compensation to the public for water power rights hereafter granted by the public. We pledge legislation to lease the public grazing lands under equitable provisions now pending which will increase the production of food for the people and thoroughly safeguard the rights of the natural conservationist. Natural resources whose conservation is necessary for the national welfare should be owned or controlled by the nation.

Good Roads. We recognize the vital importance of good roads and we pledge our party to foster their extension in every proper way and we favor the early construction of national highways. We also favor the extension of the rural free delivery service.

The coal and other natural resources of Alaska should be opened to development at once. They are owned by the people of the United States and are safe from monopoly, waste or destruction only while so owned. We demand that they shall neither be sold nor given away except under the homestead law, but while held in government ownership shall be opened to use promptly upon liberal terms requiring immediate development.

Thus the benefit of cheap fuel will accrue to the government of the United States and to the people of Alaska and the Pacific coast; the settlement of extensive agricultural lands will be hastened; the extermination of the salmon will be prevented; and the just and wise development of Alaskan resources will take the place of private extortion or monopoly. We demand also that extortion or monopoly in transportation shall be prevented by the prompt acquisition, construction or improvement by the government of such railroads, harbor or other facilities for transportation as the welfare of the people demand.

We promise the people of the territory of Alaska the same measure of local self-government that was given to other American territories, and that federal officials appointed there shall be qualified by previous bona fide residence in the territory.

Waterways. The rivers of the United States are the natural arteries of this continent. We demand that they shall be opened to traffic as indispensable parts of a great nation-wide system of transportation in which the Panama canal will be the central line, thus enabling the whole interior of the United States to share with the Atlantic and Pacific seaboard in the benefit derived from the canal. It is the national obligation to develop our rivers, and especially the Mississippi and its tributaries, without delay under a comprehensive general plan covering each river system from its source to its mouth, designed to secure its highest usefulness for navigation, irrigation, domestic supply and the prevention of floods.

We pledge our party to the immediate preparation of such a plan which should be made and carried out in close and friendly co-operation between the nation, the states, and the cities affected. Under such a plan, the destructive floods of the Mississippi and other streams which represent a great and needless loss to the nation, would be controlled by forest conservation and water storage at the headwaters, and by levees below, and sufficient to support millions of people would be reclaimed from the deserts and the swamps, water power enough to transform the industrial standings of whole states would be developed, adequate water terminals would be provided, transportation by river would revive and the railroads would be compelled to co-operate as freely with the boat lines as with each other. The equipment, organization and experience acquired in constructing the Panama canal soon will be available for the lakes-to-the-gulf deepwaterway and other portions of this great work and should be utilized by the nation in co-operation with the various states, at the lowest cost to the people.

The Panama canal, built and paid for by the American people must be used for their benefit. We demand that the canal shall be so operated as to break the transportation monopoly now held and misused by the transcontinental railroads. Ships owned or controlled by transcontinental railroads must not be allowed to use the canal, and American ships shall pay no tolls. The Progressive party shall favor legislation having for its aim the development of friendship and commerce between the United States and Latin American nations.

Tariff. We believe in a protective tariff which shall equalize conditions of competition between the United States and foreign countries both for the farmer and the manufacturer and which shall maintain for labor an adequate standard of living.

Primarily the benefit of any tariff should be disclosed in the pay envelope of the laborer. We declare that no industry deserves protection which is unfair to labor or which is to be unjust or excessive.

We believe that the presumption is always in favor of the consuming public.

We demand tariff revision because the present tariff is unjust to the people of the United States. Fair dealing toward the people requires an immediate downward revision of these schedules wherein duties are shown to be unjust or excessive.

We pledge ourselves to the establishment of a non-partisan scientific tariff commission reporting both to the president and to either branches of congress which shall report first the cost of production, efficiency of labor, capitalization, industrial organization and efficiency, and the general competitive position in the country and abroad of industries seeking protection from congress; second, as to the revenue producing power of the tariff and its relation to the resources of government; and third, as to the effect of the tariff on the prices, operations of middlemen and on the purchasing power of the consumer.

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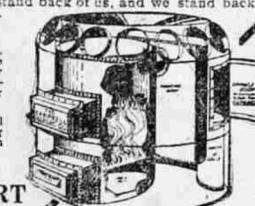
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eral law, as will tax large inheritance, returning to the states an equitable percentage of all amounts collected. We favor the ratification of the pending amendments to the constitution giving the government power to levy an income tax.
Peace and National Defense. The Progressive party deplores the survival in our civilization of the barbaric system of warfare among nations, with its enormous waste of resources even in time of peace and the consequent impoverishment of the life of the toiling masses. We pledge the party to use its best endeavors to substitute judicial and other peaceful

(Continued on Page Six.)