

# THE LOUISIANA POPULIST.

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## Reform Press of Louisiana.

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 THE ISSUE, New Orleans, La. J. B. Cameron, Editor.

## People's Party Platform.

1. We demand a national currency, safe, sound and flexible, issued by the general government only, a full legal tender for all debt public and private, and that without the use of banking corporations; a just, equi able and efficient means of distribution, direct to the people, at a tax not exceeding 2 per cent, be provided, as set forth in the sub-treasury plan of the Farmers' Alliance, or some better system also by payments in discharge of its obligations for public improvements.

a. We demand free and unlimited coinage of silver and gold at the present legal ratio of 16 to 1.

b. We demand that the amount of circulating medium be speedily increased to not less than \$50 per capita.

c. We demand a graduated income tax.

d. We believe that the money of the country should be kept as much as possible in the hands of the people, and hence we demand that all State and national revenue shall be limited to the necessary expenses of the government, economically and honestly administered.

e. We demand that postal savings banks be established by the government for the safe deposit of the earnings of the people and to facilitate exchange.

2. Transportation being a means of exchange and public necessity, the government should own and operate the railroads in the interest of the people.

a. The telegraph and telephone, like the post office system, being a necessity for the transportation of news, should be owned and operated by the government in the interest of the people.

3. The land, including all the national resources of wealth, is the heritage of all the people, and should not be monopolized for speculative purposes, and alien ownership of land should be prohibited. All land now held by railroads and other corporations in excess of their actual needs, and all lands now owned by aliens, should be reclaimed by the government and held for actual settlers only.

Will some Democrat who boasts of what the party is doing for the people explain in what way the poor farmer who raises a few pounds of leaf tobacco will be benefited by the 3 cent per lb. tax on it put there by the new Wilson tariff law? Don't all speak at once. Say you honest old Democratic farmers, who have for 40 years have been plowing and sowing, and voting the straight Democratic ticket, because you believed it was right, how do you feel over your party charging you 8 cents a pound for the few pounds of leaf tobacco you raise for your own use, and putting you in prison if you try to evade the payment of it. Great party that—for the sugar trusts and other unholly combines—but not much of a party for the people.—Arkansas Farmer.

The Louisiana Populist, a newspaper characteristic of its name, and published at Natchitoches, La., is now in full blast. It is live, energetic, and up to date. Send in your subscription and keep posted. —Winnfield Comrade.

## Democratic Prayer.

No. IX.

Oh, Cleveland, our great political father whose strength can only be computed by the length and breadth of the political pie counter whose word is law and whose wrath is like unto the lightning that striketh the Hills and rippeth up the Vest of those who walk not in thy ways whose word is gone out and it will not return to thee, we worship thy mighty name, and bow before thee in humble submission. Oh, almighty father, thou who canst it to rain political manna upon the stalwart and the mugwump alike; thou who art not a respecter of persons but appointest a Gresham, or a McNeigh, or a negro, as thou seest fit; thou who holdeth in the hollow of thy hand the fattest offices in the land, and distribute them whithersoever it pleaseth thee, we come to thee in deep and humble contrition that we may not provoke thy displeasure. Most adorable master, our enemies encompass us round about. The mortgage eateth up our wheat and cotton; the railroads take our corn and pork, and lo! the sheriff gathereth in the remainder for taxes. Winter holds us in its icy grasp and the cold chills trot gleefully up and down our spinal column. This seems to be all that our backbone is fit for. We voted for \$1.00 wheat and lo! 40 cents a bushel stares us in the face. We voted for 10-cent cotton, and again we are obliged to drink the gall of bitterness. Disappointment seems to be the badge of democracy. The sea of democratic expectation is strewn with the wreck of disappointment. In vain do we look for the better times that do not come. Oh, precious Cleveland; canst not thou woo Dame Fortune back, even as thou didst woo Maria Halpin, that she may smile upon us as thou didst smile on Maria. Most adorable father, our punishment is greater than we can bear. We cry for work and there is no work. Our children cry for bread and there is no bread. Help us, oh gracious father of mugwump democracy, and save us from the body of this death. If it pleaseth thee, send us over to Hawaii to thy friend Queen Lil, that we may eat of the crumbs with her dogs. Send out thy servants and put these Populists to flight, for they cry from every corner: "Aha! we told you so!" Let thy servants smite them with a splinter of thy wrath. They sorely distress us and speak disrespectfully of thee. They are a dangerous element and will not vote for thee. We are not like unto them, most adorable master. We take things as they come. We "vote 'er straight." We love thee because we love thee. We are democrats because we are democrats. We propose to continue to "vote 'er straight" if it sinks every pound of cotton and every bushel of wheat into the bottomless pit. Our loyalty to thee and the party shall not be questioned. For thee and democratic success we will face poverty, cold and hunger.

For democratic success we will forsake our wives and our children. It is pleasant to have a democratic postmaster. For this pleasure alone we are willing to sell our wheat at 40 cents and our cotton at 6 cents. It is worth it. We are poor. We don't deserve to be anything else. We never expect to be any better off. But we propose to keep right on voting the democratic ticket. It is born and bred in us. We can't help it. We know our leaders lie and make promises they never fulfill. But it don't swerve us. We pass right on. The road of poverty is broad and well beaten, and many there are that travel thereon. But most

worshipful master, we look to thee for comfort in this our hour of trial. We know that when thou speakest thy voice is like unto the thunder. When the American congress hearth it it trembleth in its boots. It humbly bows to thy mandate. We pray thee to lash it with the cat-o-nine-tails of thy displeasure. Misery love company. Make our law-makers as miserable as possible. Scorch them with the rod of thy wrath. Make them dance to the tune of thy displeasure. We love to see it, even as it pleases us to watch the trained dogs of a circus. Belt 'em over the head with an empty political pie pan. Sock it to 'em with the toe of thy political boot. Rip 'em up the back with thy civil service knife. Spot 'em on their political snouts with the ungloved hand of thy wrath. Lay them down on the floor of thy dignity and stand on them with all the weight of thy political greatness until their eyes stand out like a tumblebug's with a wagon wheel rolling over it, and their tongues protrude from their mouths like that of a dying calf. Bravo! old Big Punch! Go on with the show. We are enjoying it. It is meat and drink and clothes to us. Punch up the cattle! Make 'em squirm! It is the "Greatest Show On Earth!" It shows the "vanity of all things," and especially of democratic promises. But soak it to 'em and we will be with you to the end, and thine shall be the political glory. Amen.

## "Evidences of Prosperity."

It was "Bill" McKinley who declared a couple of years ago that "mortgages were an evidence of prosperity"—and every popgun Republican orator in the United States repeated the assertion.

And now comes the Chicago Evening Journal—superannuated to be sure, but still in the Republican ring—and says:

"Strikes indicate prosperity among the working classes. Laboring men, when ground down to the last degree, are too much disheartened and depressed to organize a strike. It is when they have been receiving good wages, and have thereby been enabled to save money, that they are willing to try conclusions with their employers."

The Pullman strikers were so "prosperous" for instance that they were getting on an average of 95 cents a day. This extravagant income made them so obstreperous and bighted that they got up feeling too good, and they got up their ears and thought they would teach their boss a lesson.—The Chicago Sentinel.

## What Causes Hay Fever.

When we lived in Kansas it was said hay fever was caused by kissing grass widows. A Mississippi editor says it is caused by grass widows kissing fellows by moonlight; and now comes the editor from the Sucker state who says it is caused by a fellow kissing the hired girl while she is feeding the cow hay.—Ex.

"Here is a daisy, that we have just clipped from an exchange: 'An editor recently wrote a ball-room puff saying: 'Her dainty feet were encased in shoes that might be taken for fairy boots,' but the blundering types made it read: 'Her dirty feet were encased in shoes that might be taken for ferry boats.'—Vermillion Star.

President Cleveland has a happy way of coining phrases which are never forgotten, and are often quoted, and he adds to them every time he writes a message to Congress or a letter for publication. "The communism of pelt" is his latest and in no better or terser language could the trusts of this country be pictured.—Daily States.

COULY, LA., Sept. 3rd, 1894.  
 Ed. POPULIST.

Dear Sir:—The LOUISIANA POPULIST came to hand with her home dress, and its appearance and tone is highly satisfactory. We feel satisfied that it will do a great work, and with the help of Hon. H. L. Brian, you will accomplish much good. We see Bro. B. W. Bailey of Winn, has been nominated for Congress of the 4th district. Bro. Bailey was raised in Winn parish by a widowed mother on the farm, and is therefore well acquainted with all of the political diseases that the farmer has to contend with. He is a self-made man, and one that will represent the will of the people, being a high-toned gentleman, he will stand unwaveringly on the People's party platform without fear or the hope of favor. And I will say to the voters of the 4th congressional district that we must stand by our man and do every thing in our power to elect him, for all the hope we have is at the ballot box, or fight. We will never get any aid from either the Democratic or Republican party, for I staid with them myself too long to be further deceived. They don't want the laborer to have any finger in the pie without you are a ward or parish boss. They want to dictate and you do the work and the bosses get the pie. The southern part of the State is Democratic by name only, but when they come to business, they are Republicans.

This tariff bill is a farce; it is money for the manufacturer who is running this government to suit themselves. If the United States would open her ports free to the world, and have free trade and let the wealth of the nation pay the expenses of the government and not the poor consumer, and give us plenty of money to buy with, our country would build up, and all business flourish, and the farmers would improve their homes, clothe and educate their children, but if the policy of the present administration should continue (which will be the case, no matter which of the old parties succeed) it will continue to fetch misery and woe to the laborers and producers. Now in conclusion, let me say to the voters of the 4th district: come out like men and shoulder your part of this great work, each and every individual has something to do in working for this great cause of "equal rights to all and special favors to none." You may expect to be called hard names, and for fun to be poked at you when you declare yourself a Populist, take it all in fun and it won't be long until you will hear the same men talking reform to you. We want all of the good people to help to make this great fight for liberty. Read and study for yourselves and do your own thinking. Tariff means money for the manufacturer; bounty means money for the sugar refinery; bonds means money for the money king, and all of it means hard times for the farmer. Where is your part coming in at any how?

Over production is what we get, still we cannot support our families; times never harder for the farmer than at the present time, for twenty years the country has been going to rack, and we have been voting the Democratic ticket solidly, time still; times are rapidly growing worse. The merchant will soon have judgment on our farms; examine the dockets of your courts, you will find out for yourselves. The merchants are in debt, and the way things are now going they will soon be crowded, and of course, will have to crowd you, and the result will be that all of our farms will be absorbed by the great money power, and we will be in a worse fix than Ireland, to-day. Now is the time to strike for liberty; we

must not let the noble heritage bought by the blood of our forefathers, slip through our hands without an effort to save it.

Health of country good, corn fine, cotton not as good as last year. Every body speaks well of the LOUISIANA POPULIST, may it continue to do the noble work it has so ably begun.

Yours Truly,  
 PLANTER.

## Centralization of Government—Cleveland a Dictator.

The Santo Cruz Gulf, some time ago, declared that: "There is a powerful tendency at the present time to subvert the original form and purpose of our government." As an indication of what the future government is intended to be, if secured, it quotes from the San Francisco Argonaut, as follows:

"Slowly, but surely, this country is drifting toward centralization. State lines will one day be as insignificant as county lines are now. States will be but expressions; state governors but shadows. In every state—which will then be a federal district—there will be a federal official, appointed like the governors of our preset territories. Behind them will be arrayed the federal government and the army of the United States—the pitiless machine. Bayonets do not think, ties of local friendship, feelings of kindred, do not appeal to the troops of the United States."

How much farther, I ask, must we travel to see the entire fulfillment of the above prediction? Is a state anything more than a federal district at the present time, or its "governor" more than a "shadow"? Are not officials "appointed" who override governors and behind whom "stands the federal government and the United States army"? How much longer will the American people allow the dictator, Cleveland, to trample all law and constitution beneath his feet in his mad rush to build up and defend the monopolies of the country? He regards neither law, justice, the constitution nor his oath of office. He should now be impeached, or by some Cromwell be hurled without ceremony from his throne at Washington. The people should no longer in patience bear his tyrannous dictation.

Talk of anarchy! The real anarchists are at Washington at the head of the government; and they want to increase the standing army to 400,000 men, they think it will require at least that number to hold 60,000,000 of loyal American citizens in awe of them and perpetuate the rule of the oligarchy that is crushing the American nation, plundering them of their substance bringing them down to pauperism and starving millions of them. They expect us to be law-abiding while they trample humanity and human law under their feet. It is not only our right, but it is our duty, to rebel against despotism that would crush human rights. They are not created by law, nor can they be suppressed by law. They are natural, they are inalienable, they pertain to man by virtue of his manhood; nothing can be law, however or by whomsoever enacted, that does not protect the equal rights of man; all else are merely despotic decrees in the form of law, that should be defied and trampled under foot. Governments only exist to protect human rights; they derive their only just powers from the "consent of the governed." When they no longer serve the only purpose for which they have a right to exist, they should be abolished and new governments should be established in harmony with justice and human rights.

G. W. THURSTON.

Don't fail to subscribe to the POPULIST, the leading People's party paper in the State.

## Alabama Election.

### Samples of the Way in Which Democrats Elect Themselves.

I send you by to-day's mail the election returns from Dallas county. Please give publication to same. We want the people everywhere to know the corruption practiced in Alabama politics. In the first column you will find the actual vote cast in the different beats, or within two or three of the exact number. In most of them the figures are correct. In about all the beats where the vote does not show an increase the reformers were given an inspector that accounts for the correctness of the vote. In those beats where the vote is so largely increased is where the reform ticket headed by Captain R. F. Kolb, was not allowed an inspector. In nearly all them two white men, organized Democrats, and an ignorant negro, who could not read or write were appointed inspectors. This was the case in all but two or three beats where they appointed an intelligent negro, who claimed to be a republican, but in fact one who usually does the bidding of the organized democrats. Please have all reform papers to copy.

BEATS.	No.	Vote actually cast at different precincts.	Increased vote at official count.
Plantersville	1	41	41
Summerfield	2	35	216
Woodlawn	3	24	130
Valley Creek	4	43	43
Harrells	5	13	13
Dublin	6	48	48
Martins	7	77	677
Orrville	8	31	432
Lexington	9	45	277
River	10	20	293
Pine Fat	11	16	26
Oldtown	12	103	280
Pleasant Hill	13	35	129
Richmond	14	18	81
Portland	15	26	26
Burnsville	22	22	22
Union	23	29	329
Pence's	24	37	37
Liberty Hill	25	10	315
Vernon	27	12	13
Marion Junct	28	25	119
Browns	29	17	316
Kings	30	31	31
Smyley's	31	7	182
Elm Bluff	32	11	11
Carlowlville	33	22	22
Boykins	34	30	110
Mitchell's	35	26	400
Selma	36	719	2,083

Dallas is one of the largest counties in the black belt. Three-fourths of its population are negroes. Under our new election law we thought if we could persuade them not to register that they could not be voted and counted as has been the custom heretofore. We succeeded in getting them not to register, but it seems to have but little effect in beats where their votes were wanted.—S. P. McILWAIN, in Nonconformist.

## Wouldn't Trade With a Dead Man.

It is told of a printer that he recently walked into a certain business house in his round to know who desired anything in the way of advertisements, and noticed a drummer, who stood by the counter, with his sample valises ready to open. "Anything you want to say in the paper this week?" said the printer to the business man behind the counter. "No," said the business man, "don't believe in advertising." The drummer waited until he was half way to the door, then slowly taking up his sample valise, remarked: "Well that lets me out. I do not care to sell on time to any man who, at this age, does not believe in advertising. I prefer to deal with live men. When I want to strike up a trade with a dead man, I'll go to the graveyard and swap business. Good day."