

# LOUISIANA POPULIST.

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There is no Free Country, Unless the People Rule.

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- LAKEVIEW REVIEW, Lakeview, La. C. F. & N. L. Miller, Editors.
- THE ISSUE, New Orleans, La. J. B.ameron, Editor.

## People's Party Platform.

- 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, equitable 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.
  - We demand free and unlimited coinage of silver and gold at the present legal ratio of 16 to 1.
  - We demand that the amount of circulating medium be speedily increased to not less than \$50 per capita.
  - We demand a graduated income tax.
  - 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.
  - 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.
- Transportation being a means of exchange and public necessity, the government should own and operate the railroads in the interest of the people.
  - 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.
- 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.

## THE PLACE!

Do you feel inclined to take a glass of cold Beer, or choice Wine or Liquors, get a SQUARE MEAL, and then smoke a good Cigar. If you do go to that popular resort, the Saloon and Restaurant of

**GEO. W. ADAMS,**  
 Corner Second and St. Dennis Sts.,  
 Natchitoches, La.  
 Sept 17

**Samuel J. Henry,**  
 ATTORNEY AT LAW,  
 NATCHITOCHE, LA.  
 Will practice in all the State and Federal Courts.

—Judge Harlan says it is not a crime to quit work.

## POINTS FOR THE PEOPLE.

—Inequitable distribution of labor's production is the father of the great discontent now everywhere prevailing. The remedy for the trouble would seem to be a proper disposition of the creator.

—Competent authority states that under proper conditions America could consume our entire product at home and at the same time regulate its price which would be two or three times that now received.—Nonconformist.

—I am a populist and am in favor of wiping both the old parties out so they will never come into power again. I have been a democrat all my life and am ashamed to admit it. I want every one of you to go to the polls and vote the populist ticket.—E. V. Debs.

—What this nation wants—what the world wants, is not a system under which human beings are compelled to beg for a chance to work, but a system under which a chance to labor, and the enjoyment of the fruits of one's labor, shall be guaranteed as the basic rights of every human being.—New Charter.

—The old parties combined to slander and abuse us rather than try any longer to furnish argument against the facts we are presenting to the people every day, but the voters are awakening to the truth and making preparations to visit the ballot box this fall, with a quiet determination to vote for principle, instead of being influenced by prejudice and falsehood.—Chicago Express.

—No man should be permitted to monopolize the earth or the minerals it contains any more than the air above it. They are the common heritage of all the people, and a private appropriation of them is robbery. And men commit this crime in order to get the power to commit another. What they want is to rob labor of its rewards and appropriate them to their own use.—Star and Kansan.

—The people's party is the only party on earth that stands unqualifiedly for the free and unlimited coinage of silver and gold at the ratio of 16 to 1—that is the silver dollar 16 times as heavy as the gold dollar—and this being so the man who believes this is right and yet sticks to either of the old parties must be simple indeed. If you want reform vote for it, that's the only sensible way.—Liberty Bell.

—Henry Clews gave the whole snap away when he sent the Mercury a circular, saying in effect "the democratic and republican leaders of congress have given us (Wall street) to understand that they will provide for the issuance of \$500,000,000 more bonds to base national bank currency upon, and thus forever shut out the free silver coinage and legal tender paper money crazes."—Southern Mercury.

—Laboring men are to blame for their poverty in one respect. For years they have been voting for the men who have created the laws that have made their condition thus. There is no reason why the industrial class should not have the majority of representation in congress and see to it that laws beneficial to them are framed. By affiliating with the people's party they have taken the first step toward their own emancipation.—Pleasanton Herald.

—We notice that some of our people's party papers are clubbing with old party papers and offering the two at about the price of one. It don't pay, boys. When an eight-page weekly paper is offered you for clubbing purpose at only 25 cents a year, just set it down that some campaign committee is making up the balance of the cost, and throw the offer in the waste basket. Let the old parties circulate their own papers; none of the old party papers will club with yours.

—Some persons who claim to be friendly to organized labor tell the laboring men that they should not endorse any party—not even the people's party. These self-styled labor leaders are doubtless under the thumb of one or both of the old parties. Why should not organized labor endorse the people's party? Was not the people's party born at a convention of farmers and thirteen orders of organized labor at St. Louis? What is the people's party, any way, but a labor party?—

## PRIMARY ECONOMICS.

The Nature, Attributes and Functions of Money Clearly Discussed and Elaborated.

Money is not metal and metal is not money. Money is what the government says shall be received in full satisfaction of debt. Strike a piece of gold money a heavy blow with a hammer and it is no longer money. The money has vanished. You can no longer compel a creditor to receive it. Why? Because the edict or fiat of the government has been obliterated. The metal may be sold like so much lead or iron and it possesses a known commercial price, but is not money.

Money on paper usually contains a promise to pay. It is an awkward and useless expression. All real money is legal tender, and legal tender needs no redeemer in money. When presented for redemption it can be redeemed in any legal tender money, hence it can have no real redeemer. National bank notes and silver certificates are not real money, because a creditor is not compelled to receive them.

It is odd, how easily unthinking people can be stampeded away from the truth. The hirelings of Wall street sent up the cry, some years ago, of "flat money." The cry was echoed by an unthinking press 'till the people were scared into the belief that "flat money" was poison. They have finally regained their senses. We no longer see flat money held up to ridicule. People have learned that there can be no money but fiat money. The fiat is what is the money. The substance bearing the fiat has nothing to do with the money. That substance may, or may not, possess a commercial value, but if it possesses a commercial value, like gold, it is an evidence of the destruction of wealth. So long as that substance bears the fiat of money the commodity is valueless. When you use the commodity you destroy the money. It is, therefore, unwise to stamp money on any valuable commodity.

It is ridiculous to suppose that we need a metal money to trade with foreign countries. Money (the fiat) never passes beyond the jurisdiction of the nation issuing it. We believe it unwise to import goods that can be made in this country, but wise or otherwise, if we wish to prohibit importation, our money should never be placed on a metal that is liable to be exported. If that metal must be exported, let it be in discs, such as are now used, with simply the weight and fineness stamped thereon.

Statistics, however, show that our metal is never sent abroad to settle balances. For twenty years past there has been no considerable length of time when we imported more than we exported, so that there could be any balance to settle. During that time we have exported hundreds of millions of dollars worth of products more than all our importations. This shows that the vast exportations of the money metals has been to pay the interest on foreign capital invested in the bonds, factories, lands, railroads, etc., in this country.

If those foreign leeches want any particular product of ours and will pay for it, let them have it. Let us produce all we can and sell it to them, but do not let us issue bonds to buy it back. It would be the part of wisdom to keep our gold mining at its best and produce enough gold to satisfy the greed of Shylocks. While they are so anxious to buy that metal, it is good business policy to sell them all we can produce, instead of issuing bonds to enter the scramble for that metal. While the wild scramble for gold is on, we cannot be injured by it if we will stamp our money on something else. As it now stands, when those Shylocks grab for the gold they destroy our money. Money should never be placed on any substance that is so liable to be gobled. However much we may advocate the unlimited coinage of silver and gold 16 to 1, it is our firm belief that metal should not be extensively used to bear our money fiat. Paper is handier and is not so cowardly in time of trouble.—Meadville (Pa.) Sledge Hammer.

## THE PLACE TO STRIKE.

Labor Organizations Must Secure Their Rights at the Ballot Box, and Not by the Strike.

The great strike of the American Railway union, being a cause of such mammoth proportions, has had many effects; but there are two which stand out above all the others. And though the strike was a very costly one, both to the men engaged and to the country at large, the fact that these two points have been made clear to the thinking men of the land is well worth all its cost. The first point which has been made so plain is the necessity for the government ownership of railroads. The single-taxers have been advocating this for fifteen years, but the week's strike of the American Railway union and the consequent tying up of the railroads made more converts than our whole fifteen years' work. It was then apparent to the most stupid citizen that the railroad business was entirely different from the grocery business or any form of manufacturing. The grocermen might quit work, while the rest of the country could go on with its duties. But when the railroads quit there was an end to all business. And when people realized how dependent they were upon the railroads it dawned upon them that it was as easy for the owners or managers of railroads to secure

## CATCHES THE LITTLE FISH.

Rich Are Found to Respect.

Hon. W. J. Bryan, of Nebraska, once spoke of a fish net that caught the little fish and let the big ones go. This may appear ridiculous. It is on a par with the action of the man who, in constructing a poultry house, left a small, and a large opening for the little chickens and hens respectively.

The fish net suggested by Congressman Bryan has recently been disclosed in Nebraska. It is used by the Union Pacific railroad. This road has recently issued orders forbidding employes from engaging in politics, and discharging them if they do. A Nebraska paper says:

"At Columbus last week, an assistant yardmaster named Middagh, lost his place because his name was brought forward as a candidate for the legislature in the populist county convention. He did not get the nomination, but his job was taken from him just the same. Meanwhile, John M. Thurston, general attorney for the Union Pacific, with a salary of \$12,000 per year, goes out on a campaigning tour over the state as the republican candidate for United States senator, and is absent whole weeks from his legal duties. Does anybody hear of Thurston losing his job or being ordered to keep out of politics, or even being docked for lost time? When the great Union Pacific railroad that was built with the people's money, that to-day owes the common people of the United States over a hundred million dollars which it cannot pay, sends out a fish net order to catch firemen and yardmen, but will let a big catfish like John M. Thurston flop through unchecked, the handwriting on the wall has become too plain to be misinterpreted."

## ARE MEN THINGS?

If Corporate Monopoly Is Not Wiped Out Flesh and Blood Will Soon Be of No Value.

Vice President Wickes, of the Pullman company, deserves credit at all events for being perfectly frank in his testimony before the national labor commission. When Chairman Wright asked him if it would not be a good plan to increase the wages of men in prosperous years, he demurred and said: "We go into the market for men just as we do for materials. It is all regulated by the law of supply and demand. We don't recognize the men as members of unions, but as individuals. If they are not able to plead their own case it is their own misfortune." The antique British myth that employers only are men and employees only things has seldom been better put. Even the old English economists never uttered it with such naive brutality. It implies, of course, that Mr. Wickes and those who think like him buy their men as they buy their iron, their coal, their lumber or the other things that they buy, according to the law of supply and demand. There is no trace whatever of the fundamental truth of human brotherhood and its obligations. Mr. Wickes is a century behind the sociological times. Men are not things; they are brothers, with the same capacities and aspirations and rights to have those capacities exercised and those aspirations gratified.—N. Y. Press.

The people's party is the only party that recognizes the eternal fatherhood of God and the universal brotherhood of man and places man upon a higher plane than money.

GEORGE C. WARD.

## GETTING TOGETHER.

The Wage-Workers of New York Are Going to Cast a Solid Vote for the People's Party.

Speaking of the action of the Central Labor union, of New York city, endorsing the platform of the people's party and declaring their intention of taking political action, President Gompers, of the American Federation of Labor, said: "The action of the Central Labor union is the natural result of the last two years' agitation. If our men are true to themselves, and I am confident they will be, we can send several men to the legislature and capture two or three congressmen. I believe we will poll a better vote than we did in 1886. The time is ripe for it. Recent judicial decisions, the injunction against Debs and the entire policy of perverting the law to oppress labor, have aroused the people to the necessity of action."

The Silver Question.

The socialists, as a rule, oppose the free coinage of silver at a ratio of 16 to 1, or any other ratio. The populists favor it. In this the populists are right. The people have not been allowed by their leaders to study the money problem, and do not understand the money functions. They do know that silver money can be made by law as good as gold money, and, therefore, it is well to enact that law, and keep gold and silver money until a majority of the people can be taught that metal is not necessary for money at all. When a majority favors government money, the majority will have it, and should have it. But until that time the mints of the nation should be as free to silver as they are to gold. Every populist desires this, and is working to accomplish it. Neither of the old parties want it, and will not have it if they can prevent it.—Coming Nation.

—Write it down in big letters—the populists will control the next congress and cut no small figure in the selection of a president.

## ILLINOIS MOVING.

The State Federation of Labor Passes Resolutions Indorsing the Action of the Springfield Convention.

The report of the state executive board of the Illinois State Federation of Labor relating to the Springfield conference was presented at the late session and the following was adopted unanimously amid the greatest enthusiasm. The demonstrations closed with three cheers for the people's party and organized labor:

Whereas, The State Federation of Labor did at its session authorize the executive board of the federation to call a conference of all reform elements of the state for the purpose of combining into one harmonious whole all those who are interested in the welfare of the people of this commonwealth; and

Whereas, The executive board called such a conference at the city of Springfield, at which a platform of principles was adopted which affords a means of relief to all of the toilers of this state; and

Whereas, This grand work was brought about by the labors of our executive board and those leaders of the cause of labor in this state, M. H. Madden, T. J. Moran, W. C. Pomeroy, Henry D. Lloyd and others; be it

Resolved, That we, the delegates of the Illinois State Federation of Labor, in convention assembled, do most heartily indorse and approve the work of the executive board done at Springfield on July 4, 1894, and be it also

Resolved, That we cordially and sincerely indorse and approve the platform and resolutions adopted at that conference without the elimination of a single line; and be it further

Resolved, That we earnestly urge the workmen of this grand state, whether organized or unorganized, in the mine or in the factory, on the farm or in the shop, to support and carry out the principles adopted at the conference and to work earnestly and vigorously in support of the candidates officially recognized by the county, state and national committee of the people's party as the only party that has ignored the principles of the Springfield conference and the one that holds out to the toilers of the state the only guarantee of relief from the evil from which they now suffer.

## LABOR'S EFFICIENT WRAPON.

Take the Government by Ballots—If Any One Attempts to Recapture It with Bullets, Shoot Him on the Spot.

Many hope for labor's emancipation through the medium of strikes or bullets, but the only true method for labor to obtain its rights is by the ballot. This is my method. Do you object to labor organizations going into politics? Then what do you organize for? We have seen that to strike against federal bayonets is criminal folly; we must not resist the government with armed force. Then there is but one method left, and that is the ballot. Organized labor is entering the political field all over the land. Why not we? Labor has the votes. It can elect the officers from president to constable, if it only will, and at any time. We can capture the government by the ballot; make it our friend and ally; burn up all the statute books; abolish all our present laws and pass new ones based on justice and equity, with "equal rights for all and special privileges for none." We can run the government to suit ourselves, and if the millionaires and capitalists don't like our way of doing things they can do what Mr. Astor has done, move over into England and live there. They can take their money with them, no matter by what method they made it; but we will see to it that no more men pile up millions of dollars out of labor. The only trouble is concerning party allegiance. Party idolatry is the curse of this land today. Men talk as though loyalty to a political party is equivalent to loyalty to the government. We must break away from party idols and be free men. We must not be the slaves of any party, but make political parties our servants to do our bidding. I stand ready to vote with any party, no matter what its name, if it will only do justice to labor and restore to the people their rights. Brothers, be careful how you vote, and for whom you vote. Do not be blinded by prejudice. Remember that all this cry about free trade and protection is only to throw dust in your eyes, or fill them with smoke. The new Wilson bill is only an average of 9 per cent lower than the McKinley bill. The political contest before us will only be a sham battle, so far as the two old parties are concerned, to deceive you and get your votes. There is but little difference between them as to principle. The last official act of President Harrison was to appoint a southern democrat to be a United States judge. One of the first acts of President Cleveland was to appoint a life-long republican to be secretary of state. The same man owns the Chicago Herald and a controlling interest in the Chicago Inter Ocean. He teaches free trade in one paper to the democrats, and high protection in another paper to the republicans, on one and the same day. Both parties are owned and controlled by capital. When a man asks for your vote, find out who he is, what his principles are, and who he represents. If he is a capitalist or represents their interests, it is not to your interest to vote for him, no matter what his party label. Find out how monopoly votes, and then let labor vote against it, and see which has the most votes. It is unnatural to suppose that organized capital, or its paid agents, will vote for your interests. Labor must have a party of its own, and vote for its own principles, interests and candidates, if it ever obtains its rights. Let the cry of labor be "on to Washington." The government has captured you by bullets; now you must capture the government by ballots; and in the language of James R. Sovereign, grand master workman of the Knights of Labor, "if anyone attempts to recapture it by bullets, shoot him on the spot."—Extract from Labor Day Ad.