

# LOUISIANA POPULIST.

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## People's Party Platform.

1. We demand a national currency of 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.

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.

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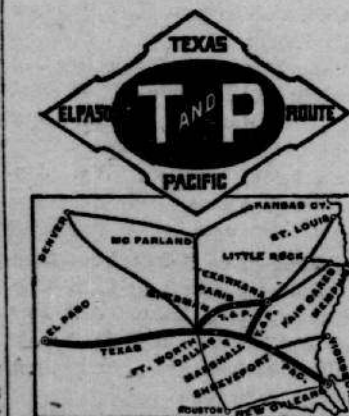
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The friends of the Union Pacific funding bill charge its defeat to the Populist congressman from Kansas, and the passage of the income tax law was clearly a victory for the populists at the last session.

Every populist last Thursday voted against the gold bond scheme and it was defeated by their influence, and as these are the most essential features passed on so far in recent legislative propositions, we have every reason for being proud of our little band of reformers at the national capital.—Chicago Sentinel.

The State Normal School at Natchitoches closed the first term of its present session the last of January, with a total enrollment of 325 students. There were fourteen young people graduated and given diplomas at this term. This school is doing a vast amount of good in educational work in this state and each year is enlarging its usefulness. Every citizen of Louisiana should feel proud of this institution.—Farmersville Gazette.

Eight thousand carrier pigeons are kept for use in the German army.

## The Gold Standard Helps Only the East and Europe.

The Constitution has been contending that so far as the interest of the great mass of the people of this country are concerned, the single silver standard would be more beneficial than the single gold standard. We have not advocated, nor do we now advocate, the single silver standard, but we have maintained, and we think we have very clearly shown that if the remonetization of silver resulted in a premium on gold the material and productive interest of this country would be in a vastly better condition than they now are or than they are ever likely to be under the single gold standard.

It is both surprising and gratifying to find that The London Statist, the foremost financial journal of the world's financial center, agrees with The Constitution in this matter. It is surprising, because The Statist is a warm and an eager organ of gold monometalism. The editor nevertheless, sees two sides to the question, and, in discussing the recommendations of Mr. Cleveland for a five hundred million bond issue, he refers to a possibility of a premium on gold.

Although the declarations of the Statist were cabled to the New York newspapers through the medium of the Associated Press, all that portion relating to the results of a premium on gold was carefully suppressed in the columns of those great dailies which belong, body and soul, to the money sharks. We print below what the Statist says on this important matter, and commend it to the careful attention of our readers:

If gold is demonetized it is perfectly clear that there will be a greater transfer of property from the capitalist and lending classes to the producing and borrowing classes. This would be of immense advantage to the west and south, and would prove a serious loss to the eastern states and to Europe.

Of course a great country like the United States adopting a silver standard would have great influence on the whole of the world, and silver would undoubtedly rise, but it would be long before it reached 60 pence. The great reduction of debts all over the United States by a fall to silver would give the farming and producing classes generally a sense of freedom and prosperity which they have not had for many years, and would probably give a great stimulus to production. If silver did not rise much for a while, American wheat, cotton, pork, etc., would compete with the produce of other countries at a very great advantage, and there would be probably a very rapid and great growth of exports and at the beginning an era of great prosperity.

On the other hand, the lending and creditor classes would suffer, but their losses would not affect production to anything like the same extent as the gains of the debtors and producers would do. Further there would be a very serious fall in securities, which would injure capitalists and lenders both in the United States and in Europe.

If Congress refuses legislation, then gold would go to a premium, but probably not high. The tendency would still be to benefit debtors and producers, and would injure capitalists and lenders, while production and exports would be stimulated, though not to a great extent.

Thirdly, if the mints were opened for free coinage, which would tend to make the gold premium higher still, the premium would not be very high, and the reduction of the debt and losses of capitalists would be small compared with the demonetization of gold.

What the Statist means here by the "demonetization" of gold is not its demonetization by statute, but its temporary demonetization by reason of a premium. The remark that a premium on gold will cause "a transfer of property from

the capitalists and lending classes to the producing and borrowing classes" is simply the phraseology of the goldbug. It is only another way of saying that the process by which property is now being transferred from the producers and borrowers to the capitalists and lending classes would come to an end. It is only another way of saying that the single gold standard does unjustly transfer property from the producers to the money sharks, and that if the silver standard were adopted this transfer would not only cease, but the producers and borrowers would be able, by means of higher prices and the higher debt-paying power of products, to recover a good part of the substance of which they have been unjustly robbed by the operations of the single gold standard.

The statement of so high an authority as the London Statist that the silver standard "would be of immense advantage to the people of the west and south, and would prove a serious loss to the eastern states and to Europe," is only a roundabout way of saying that the operations of the single gold standard involves an immense loss to the people of the south and west, and a corresponding gain to the eastern states and to Europe.

Under those circumstances it is not only amazing but absolutely disheartening to find newspapers in the south not only willing but eager to sacrifice the interest of the people who nourish and support them to the interest of the east and of Europe. We presume that never before in the history of the world has such a spectacle been offered for thoughtful men to gaze upon and weep over. The newspapers of the east are practically solid in supporting a monetary system which robs the producers of the south and west, and enriches the eastern states and Europe, but in the south, wherever a newspaper is published next door to a bank, or whenever it has official or semi-official connection with the administration (which has deserted both its party and its principles to promote the greed of the east) such a newspaper will be found advocating the continued robbery of the people who support and maintain it.

For many reasons The Constitution is glad that so high an authority as The Statist has made this matter so clear. What it calls "a transfer of property" would in reality be a retransfer. The transfer has already taken place in the shape of falling prices and shrinking values, as compared with the increased purchasing power of money in the hands of the eastern capitalists. The retransfer, which would only be a simple act of justice, long delayed, would take place by means of higher prices, enlarged values and the lower purchasing power of money.

But, in the end—nay almost immediately—this retransfer would benefit all classes of all sections by increasing business of all kinds, by promoting new investments of all kinds and enlarging old ones, and by restoring prosperity to all classes and to all sections. The Statist goes on to say that the west and the south "are perfectly right in the view that a change in the present system would benefit their sections of the nation." We go further than this and contend that by removing the present depression and restoring prosperity it will benefit the people of the whole country, with the exception of a few hundred money sharks in Wall street and other portions of the east.

The Constitution prefers the free and unlimited coinage of both gold and silver, but if the east, by setting its face against remedial legis-

lation, drives the country to the silver standard, we shall hail that as the next best remedy.—Atlanta Constitution.

DERRY, LA., Feb. 16th, 1895.  
EDITOR POPULIST:—Please give space for these few lines in your next issue, as I wish for our Populist friends in ward two to read this, as I am a Populist myself, and wish all our Populist friends, and all friends to help us with prohibition, as I would like to know what does our poor friends gain by whiskey being sold in this parish? What do we get from licenses, as well as our friend in ward two! only being molested as we are down here in ward ten, where there is a great deal of the dreadful stuff sold, considering the hard times and scarcity of money. And what does our poor people get? only being molested, even by their friends when they are under the influence of intoxicating liquor, and that is what our friends would get to, were it not that they are away off where not a drop of whiskey is sold, but think of us friends, that are where whiskey is sold, as we in ward ten, often are.

The case, a distant friend passing in front of our doors using profane language, and even shooting their pistols and Winchesters, and to take all these events to court, takes money out of the vicinity, as well as out of our pockets. And at present under the whiskey law, our parish collects whiskey license and the police jury gets school funds from some other source, and with all the large sum collected from whiskey license and taxes, the police jury discontinued our schools. So let us try some other way than whiskey licenses to get our schools continued, let us save our dimes and quarters now spent for liquor, and the cause of liquor being sold, and when our police jury can not continue our schools, we can ourselves, and have a moralized community, so that we may see when we go to Natchitoches, the jail house open and no prisoners to be at the expense of the parish, and let the grass grow on the streets in the city of Natchitoches. Let us consider, a large per cent of the criminal cases are caused by liquor; let us think of our friends, and even relatives that are in the pen and jail that never would have been there were it not for liquor being so convenient, that they got under the influence and committed crimes they never would have committed had it not been for whiskey being sold in bar-rooms.

If there was none sold, any one who wished to drink whiskey could send to a city and get a jug and keep it at their homes, and take a drink when they wished, that way, Mr. Anti, would be less expensive to the parish, and then we will have a moral community, and also more money in the country.

Now, let us vote for prohibition laws and help the country, while at present under the whiskey law there is no chance to derive any benefit therefrom.

## WARD TEN.

There are some wise people who say that in the next State campaign there will be a combination between the Populists and Republicans, and that Henry McCall will be the candidate for governor.

He would make a good governor, but we think the next campaign will be fought on other lines. It will be a combination of honest men of all parties against bull-dozers and ballot box stuffers. It will be a fight for a pure ballot.—Monroe Bulletin.

Client—I want to sue the railroad company for \$50,000 damages. What is the first thing for me to do?

Attorney—Give me a retainer for \$500.—Detroit Free Press.