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OFFICE IN TRIBUNE BUILDING 208 FOURTH STREET.

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WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1904

WATSON'S STATEMENT.

It should be borne in mind that at the time the Springfield convention tendered me the presidential nomination, the People's party had had no existence as a factor in national politics for eight years. In the Presidential election of 1900 it gave to its nominee only 50,000 votes. To that extent had the fusion of 1896 swallowed up a movement which in 1894 counted nearly two millions of votes and about 1500 active newspapers, therefore we had to build from the ground up in 1904. We had almost nothing to start with in the way of party organization, campaign fund and newspaper support; we had only three months in which to work. These things being first considered a fair idea of what was accomplished can be had only when the official returns are known. Up to this time no official statement has been made of the vote, and I can only guess what it was from information conveyed to me by friends in various parts of the country. These sources, of course, are not very reliable. Basing an estimate upon them, however, my opinion is that I received something like half a million votes scattered thru so many states, North and South, East and West, country and town as to indicate that the sentiment which gives its moral support to the People's party is national and not sectional. I have found everywhere that the current was strong and deep in favor of Jeffersonian Democracy. I believe today that if all these who believe in that theory of Government could be united in harmonious political action, we could sweep the country.

Mr. Roosevelt's overwhelming majority was not so much due to the fact that our people believe in class legislation and the reign of special privilege. It was not by any means an endorsement of corruption, tyranny, the greed of the trustee, or the methods of cumulated capital. I sincerely believe that Mr. Roosevelt's majority over Mr. Parker was due to two things, one was the immense personal popularity of Mr. Roosevelt himself, and the other was the immense unpopularity of Mr. Cleveland's second administration.

Unfortunately for Mr. Parker he became so completely identified with the marauders who plundered the Government during Mr. Cleveland's second administration that he had to bear all the odium which they had incurred. The people have never had a chance to show just what they thought of that second administration. Mr. Bryan's two campaigns did not give them the opportunity; it was only when the old Cleveland combination secured the defeat of Bryan and Hearst, and dictated the nomination of Mr. Parker that the masses got the opportunity to vent upon a national candidate the intense hatred which they had been nursing for years against such men as Olney and Belmont and Carlisle and Cleveland himself. They knew that I could not be elected and they were so eager to make the best of the opportunity to safeguard the country against a repetition of that saturnalia of class legislation which marked Cleveland's second administration that they rushed to Roosevelt and gave him a majority which belongs to the Republican party. In other words, the unpopularity of Mr. Roosevelt and the unpopularity of Parker's environment carried into the Republican columns vast multitudes of men, who under ordinary circumstances would not be found there.

My own plans for the future embrace a complete organization of the people along the lines of Jeffersonian democracy, the re-establishment of reform papers, and a systematic propaganda of Jeffersonian principles, in order that in 1908 there shall be a party of genuine opposition to the Republican party and its present policies. If political history teaches anything it is that old parties never accomplish any reform unless they are irresistibly driven to it by pressure from without. I hope at least to be of some use to my country in aiding those who will apply that pressure. It is immaterial to me who does the work which the reformers want done so that the work itself is done.

I have no faith whatever that reforms will be accomplished by the Democratic party. It is not only discredited in the eyes of the people by a series of crushing defeats, but it has been so vacillating in its course, it has changed its principles so often, it has run from one extreme to another so recently, it had such a magnificent opportunity in 1892 to work out the reforms to which they stood pledged, and they made such a wretched use of that opportunity, that it cannot inspire the confidence which leads to success. Since 1892 the Democratic party has almost entirely boxed the compass in political professions of faith. It has been pretty much everything until this year, when it stood for everything or nothing, according to the interpretation which the voter chose to put upon its ambiguous platform. Mr. Bryan, while a great Democrat, is not the Democratic party. There are other distinguished Demo-

crats who are yet to be heard from and they may not endorse his Populist platform. There is John Sharp Williams, of Mississippi; there is Senator Joseph W. Bailey, of Texas; there is Senator Ben Tilman, of South Carolina; there is Senator Morgan, of Alabama; there is Senator John W. Daniels, of Virginia; in fact, there are quite a number of distinguished Democrats who may claim the right to put in a word before the next national Democratic platform is fixed. They may not be willing to take for instance, Mr. Bryan's 47 different systems of government railroads; they may not be in favor of some other plank in his platform. Be that as it may, Mr. Bryan has no more right at the present time to say what the Democratic platform shall be in 1908, than any other distinguished Democrat. For the next four years the Democratic creed must remain what the St. Louis convention of 1904 made it, and the machinery of the party must remain in the hands of the men who now hold it. The air still riffs with the equivoque with which Mr. Bryan endorsed the candidate of the St. Louis convention, spoke of him as the Moses of Democracy, spoke of Parker's idea as his own ideal, and proclaimed the sincerity with which he was advocating both the platform and the nominee of 1904. Mr. Bryan himself will remain for four years as much bound by the action of the St. Louis convention as was when he made his whirlwind trip through Indiana. If the action at the convention bound him then, it binds him now. The election didn't release him. He can only be released by another national convention; and that national convention will not meet until 1908. Therefore, when Mr. Bryan asks those from a platform which he so recently asked the people to endorse in behalf of Judge Parker, he takes a position which is that of Bryan, the individual, and which cannot bind any other democrat whatsoever. For four years the democratic party has got to stand by the action of the St. Louis convention, whether they wish to do so or not. What they did there is official and binding. Mr. Bryan himself gave it his sanction. Again, Mr. Bryan has no substantial reason for believing that he can ever get the national democratic party to adopt the populist program which he has just formulated. The democratic party never did do it and never will. The plutocratic element has just as much power within the party now as it had when the St. Louis convention met. Indeed, it has more. It has all the machinery now which the Bryan men then had; it has the same control over the newspapers which it then had; therefore, it is as certain as anything can be that they will be able to again defeat Mr. Bryan in the national convention when he comes before it with his populist platform. Suppose, however, that he should be victorious over them in the national convention—can they not knife him just as successfully as they did in 1892? Is it not absolutely certain that they are just as much joined to their idols now as they were then? Will they not be as desperate and as unscrupulous in knitting their own ticket as they were in 1892? Every argument based upon human nature says that they will. Then even if Mr. Bryan should win the nomination of his populist platform in 1908 the plutocratic element in his own party will bar his progress and compass his defeat just as they did before. Again, suppose that the plutocratic element should triumph over Mr. Bryan in 1908, as they did in 1904, then what? Mr. Bryan will have to submit just as he did submit in 1904, after having declared publicly and positively that he would never support a gold standard nominee of the democratic party. Mr. Bryan could not both in 1904. That opportunity will not return. He himself has set the example of submitting to what was wrong, because, although it was wrong, it was regular.

In short, the democratic party presents this hopeless situation. The Bryanites cannot drive out the plutocratic element, the plutocratic element cannot drive out Mr. Bryan. They exhaust their strength with internal struggles leaving the party where its enemies can always defeat it at the polls. There is this further weakness in the program of Mr. Bryan. The plutocratic element has shown that it can safely defy him and combat him, although he is the nominee whereas he submits to them when they put up a plutocratic nominee. From a party so hopelessly divided, it is the rankest folly, in my judgment, to expect any reforms. From year to year it is a dreary go round and round of one faction, each of which alternately whips the other and neither of which ever whips the enemy.

I should only be too glad to co-operate on parallel lines and honorable terms with any Jeffersonian democrat like Mr. Bryan or Mr. Hearst or George Fred Williams to accomplish a purpose which is common to us all, but I believe that the best way to assure the final success of the reform movement is for us to build up a party of Jeffersonian democracy on a solid foundation where unity of sentiment goes hand in hand with unity of purpose, and where, therefore, some hope of accomplishing that which we wish to accomplish can be reasonably entertained.

In the South, there are peculiar reasons why the present policy of the democratic leaders should be defeated and a better line of policy accepted. For the last twenty or thirty years the democratic machine politicians have made that great section a mere tool in the hands of Wall Street and a handful of ex-tern democrats who have no purpose in common with us and



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who use the electoral vote of the Solid South for their own selfish purposes. In this manner, our southern country, which is an empire in itself, has been made a mere province for a few great financial magnates who exploit it for their private gain without the slightest reference to the welfare of the southern people. The situation is pitiable. The degradation of it finds expression in the phrase, "The Solid South would vote for a yellow dog on the democratic ticket." As a southern man I am ashamed of such a state of affairs and resent it profoundly. If I can do anything towards accomplishing the political independence of my own people from this slavish servitude to a handful of Wall street politicians, I consider it a duty to do so. If the people's party had no other mission than to relax the grasp which the great railway corporations have upon the commercial throat of the Southern States, a grasp which is maintained by the alliance between democratic bosses and Wall street financial kings, then it would have sufficient mission to warrant its continued existence. My own state of Georgia is as completely under the thumb of Morgan and Belmont, one of whom controls the Southern railway combine, the other of whom controls the Louisville & Nashville combine, as the state of Pennsylvania is under the control of the Pennsylvania railroad, or the state of Wisconsin is under the control of those corporations which La Follette has won national fame in combating. The situation is simply appalling and would not be believed by anybody who was not conversant with the facts. I expect to return home and open a campaign on the lines of Jeffersonian Democracy to take our state government out of the control of Morgan and Belmont, and to put it in the control of the Georgia people where it belongs. In nearly every Southern state there is a similar contest to be waged against corporation tyranny. By the time the next presidential election rolls around there is every reason to believe that there will be a sufficient sentiment and organization in favor of the reform principles which are embodied in the national platform of the People's party, to win success at the polls. It all depends upon the work which is done in the years between now and then. I expect to do my share of it, that is all I can say at present. I will, however, repeat that I have not purchased or rented a home in New York, or anywhere else, and do not expect to do so. My home is in Thomson, Georgia, in a region which my ancestors settled 150 years ago, and it is there that my home will be to the end.

FROM THE ASHES

Baltimore Family's Experience Points a Moral to Residents of Willmar.

The visitor to Baltimore today scarcely realizes that less than a year ago the city was almost destroyed by a memorable fire. A similar comparison might be made by George W. Nally, one of the leading citizens of Baltimore, as to the change in his own looks.

A short time ago, Mr. Nally, writing from his home address, 2213 Barclay St., says "I have been troubled for years with catarrh and had resorted to all remedies that could be thought of. My wife was also afflicted with this terrible disease, but all the treatments we used were an absolute failure until we tried Hyomel. It worked like a charm and has made a complete cure in both of our cases. There is no disagreeable stomach dosing in using Hyomel. We breathed it, and its fragrance so clean, pure and bracing, killed all the catarrhal germs in the head, throat and lungs. The experience of Mr. Nally and his wife certainly points a moral to all readers of the TRIBUNE who are suffering from catarrh. It shows how they can be cured of this frightful disease, without dangerous stomach dosing. A. E. Mossberg, the local agent for Hyomel, has so much faith in the treatment that he gives his personal guarantee to refund the money in case it does not benefit. A complete outfit costs one dollar, and extra bottles are but fifty cents. Ask to see the strong guarantee under which Hyomel is sold.

After a Good Dinner a smoke is in order. Only fine cigars form a proper sequel to a feast, as otherwise the aftermath would mar the pleasure of its forerunner. There's nothing more praised by good livers than our cigars, which are fit to follow a royal meal. These goods are manufactured exclusively from choice grades of tobacco.

ELSA for 5 cents straight. For sale by leading dealers. Manufactured by PERSON & JOHNSON.

For every 25 cents purchase at Elquist's Jewelry store you get one vote on the \$400 piano.

SPECIAL! SPECIAL! SPECIAL! 50 CENTS A YEAR FOR A DAILY NEWSPAPER

THE ST. PAUL DAILY NEWS desires to add 5,000 new subscribers to its list on this offer: Send in one new paid-in-advance subscriber for one year at \$1.50 and you can have your own paper one year for 50 cents instead of paying traveling man, hotel bills, railroad fare and other expenses of solicitors, we want to give that money to our friends.

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The Folk Issue. Just honesty. That's all. A perfectly simple proposition. A child could see it. But it took a big man to work it. Just honesty. Thou shalt not steal. When Moses said it, it was already old. When Folk said it, it was still new. It runs through autocracy, aristocracy, democracy and all other forms of government, and if it doesn't vivify them they are dead. The election in Missouri went to the roots of life.

Just honesty. Why should a man who believes in it be reviled as a revolutionist? Because the business men who were advancing their interests in Missouri by bribery regarded any change as a revolution. They wanted no change. They were conservatives. Folk wanted a big change. He was a radical. There was no telling how far he might go. If he objected to having business interests control the legislature by bribery he might object to having them control it by discrimination in freight rates. He might get fighter and fighter till he was as insane as La Follette.

Meanwhile he gives no indications of having anything in mind except honesty. Honesty has elected him Democratic governor of Missouri.—Chicago Tribune.

It is now proposed to authorize postmasters and deputies to open letters on which no postage stamps have been placed to learn the name of the writer and avoid sending it to the dead letter office. If all who write would have their name and address printed on the envelopes they use, as the postoffice department requests, no such trouble would arise.—Ex.

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Advertisement for CHATHAM Fanning Mill, featuring an image of the mill and text describing its capabilities for grinding grain and producing flour. It lists various types of screens and riddles available.

Photography for the AMATEUR at Half its Former Cost

Advertisement for American Jr. CAMERA, highlighting its features like 'Buck-Eye' lens and 'American' plates. Price is \$1.60.

Advertisement for Fred W. Segerstrom Supply Co., specializing in undertakers and funeral directors. Includes contact information and services offered.

Advertisement for EMIL HEGSTROM, a piano and orchestra instrument dealer. Lists various models and contact details.

Advertisement for Stenographers Furnished by the Employment Department. Details the process of finding and providing stenographic services.

Advertisement for Osteopathy, listing various ailments treated and the location of Dr. Baker's practice.

Advertisement for The New Livery, offering first-class horse-drawn carriage services. Includes contact information for DOWNS BROS.

Advertisement for THE ONLY SHOP IN THE CITY THAT MAKES AN EXCLUSIVE BUSINESS OF HORSESHOEING. Located at 49th St. S. W.

Table titled 'GREAT NORTHERN' showing train schedules, including routes to St. Paul, Minneapolis, and other destinations.

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