

THE VALENTINE DEMOCRAT

SUCCESSOR TO
CHERRY COUNTY INDEPENDENT.

ROBERT GOOD, Editor and Publisher

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THURSDAY, JUNE 25, 1896.

Our Platform.

Following is the platform adopted by the Democrats of Cherry county, in mass convention assembled, Saturday, April 18, 1896:

We, the Democrats of Cherry county, in mass convention assembled, do reaffirm our allegiance to the principles of the Democratic party as formulated by Jefferson and exemplified by the illustrious line of his successors in Democratic leadership, from Madison to Cleveland.

We still denounce the Republican doctrine of protection as a fraud—a robbery of the benefit of the law. We still adhere to and maintain the Democratic doctrine of "a tariff for revenue only." We believe the interests of the masses of our population will be best conserved by the collection of such taxes as shall be limited to the necessities of the government, honestly and economically administered.

We express our faith in the time honored doctrine of the Democratic party as to international trade relations—an interchange by which the countries participating shall enjoy reciprocal advantages. We denounce the shabby protection scheme of the Republicans, which juggles with the people's desire for freer exchanges by pretending to establish closer relations, while enacting prohibitive tariff taxes against the countries of the world that stand ready to take our entire surplus of products in exchange for commodities which are necessities and comforts of life among our own people.

Appreciating the condition of the public mind with reference to the financial policy of this country, and recognizing the importance of a proper solution of this question, we unhesitatingly express our unalterable opposition to the free and unlimited coinage of silver, except by international agreement; and, until such agreement can be procured, we favor the present standard of value. We denounce the action of the Republican county convention in intentionally omitting to state its views on this important question as a repetition of the cowardly and dishonest practices of that party.

Finally, we endorse the administration for its excellent conduct of public affairs, its vigorous foreign policy and its unparalled management in maintaining the public credit against foes from without and foes from within.

McKinley and Hobart will not be the next president and vice president of the United States, despite the efforts of a few protected monopolists. This is the people's year.

The sentiment in favor of electing United States senators by a direct vote of the people is growing in favor, and this will probably be the method of their election in the near future.

The recent rains have greatly encouraged farmers throughout this part of the state, and a good crop is assured. Small grain especially is looking fine, and Nebraska will be not only able to take care of herself this year but help her neighbors.

Mr. Hobart of New Jersey is said to be in receipt of a \$50,000 salary as one of the arbitrators of the national railroad pool. The salary of \$8,000 which attaches to the vice presidential office would be something of a reduction in his income, but he appears to be willing to make the sacrifice.—*Boston Herald.*

William C. Whitney, who was a strong presidential probability, has written a letter in which he states that he would not accept the nomination for president if it was tendered him, and that he would not serve if elected. This is a sad blow to democratic believers in bimetalism, who would have been glad to have a chance to vote for Whitney.

A McKinley organ says that "under the Wilson bill the importations of shoddy into this country have increased about 400 per cent." How can a decrease of 10 per cent on the tariff increase importations 400 per cent? And if good, honest, all-wool clothing can be bought now for one-half the cost that prevailed under the McKinley tariff what has "shoddy" to do with the tariff question?

Half sheet posters were distributed through the mails in O'Neill, Monday, announcing such speakers as Hon. A. L. Towle, J. W. Tucker, W. Oldham, J. M. Thurston, E. L. Myers, E. F. Dodd and W. J. Bryan at the 4th of July celebration at Newport, and that Holt and Boyd counties would join in the celebration. The people should not be deceived by such misstatements, as no one believes that either Bryan or Thurston will speak at Newport on the fourth.—*O'Neill Sun.*

MCKINLEY'S CONVENTION.

The national convention of the republican party which was held at St. Louis last week was unique in many ways. Never before has a political convention met with but one end in view, the advancement of a single man, and never before did the convention machinery move so smoothly in the right direction for the accomplishment of the desired result. From the time the doors were thrown open to the delegates until they were closed at the end of the meeting, but one thought seemed to control the delegates and that was the nomination of McKinley. All the finer sensibilities of mankind were for the time laid aside, all the customary independence of the American citizens was stifled, all the individuality of the members of that convention was thrown to the winds and everyone bowed down to McKinley as the heathen does to his idol and the Mohammedans to their God.

The selection of McKinley was a foregone conclusion, and the convention was a mere formality. The enthusiasm there manifested was of the made-to-order brand, and like all things made to order it was a good fit. No enthusiasm for principles was apparent; it was all McKinley. He dictated the platform in all its ramifications with but one exception—the finance plank. He wanted a straddle platform, but it didn't work. The little band of free silverites present worked hard for their principles, but they were defeated. Of all those who were in favor of free silver before going to St. Louis, only twenty-six stayed by their convictions and walked out of the convention. All the others were McKinley men.

The A. P. A's were nicely circumvented by the appointment of a Jewish Rabbi as chaplain of the convention, thus once more the republican party showed its cowardice by appointing neither a Catholic nor Protestant to do its praying. The A. P. A. question is still unsettled so far as any action taken by the party which originated it is concerned.

The bosses, Platt and Quay, were defeated, and the party now claims to be without the baneful influence of bosses, but in the place of those defeated new ones have risen who are greater than the old. The new coterie is headed by Mark Hanna, the greatest political manipulator ever known. It is simply a case of "Le roi est mort; vive le roi," changed to "The boss is dead; long live the boss."

The selection of a vice presidential nominee was made apparently on a money and social basis, and was the most brazen-faced sale of this exalted honor ever known. The selection of Hobart seems to have been made prior to the convention, though a big fight was supposed to be in progress between the various candidates for the position. Hobart received 533 1/2 votes on the first ballot, making a second ballot unnecessary. Badges with the pictures of McKinley and Hobart printed thereon were immediately circulated, showing conclusively that the nomination was only a part of a prearranged plan as these badges from their very nature must have been printed prior to the convention.

McKinley and Hobart! The combination of names is not mellifluous in sound, but the two men are probably in harmony, especially on the tariff question. If democracy cannot defeat these men, nominated under such circumstances, it cannot defeat anything.

A PLATFORM.

THE DEMOCRAT is in receipt of a communication from Robert Martin, an old line democrat of Ainsworth, in which he says: "Now that the republicans have had their blowout and nominated two of the greatest monopolists of this nation and set them upon a high protection and gold platform, I will suggest a platform which if adopted by the democratic national convention at Chicago July 7, will be endorsed by members of all parties. In part the platform is this:

"We believe in a tariff for revenue only.

"We believe in bimetalism and demand the coinage of American gold and silver at the ratio of 16 to 1.

"We believe in liberal pensions to the old soldiers who offered their lives on the country's altar to keep it one and inseparable and thereby made it the best government on earth.

"Nominate and place on this platform William C. Whitney of New York and Horace Boies of Iowa and the democratic party is a sure winner."

This kind of a platform and ticket seems to be growing in favor and we will not be surprised to see such a one adopted.

FACTS TO REMEMBER.

The organized lie which has been in session this week in St. Louis has ignored several important facts:

1. It was the republican party, represented by the Harrison-Reed-McKinley congress, which, by extravagant appropriations, looted the treasury, turning a splendid surplus into a great deficit.

2. It was the republican party which passed the McKinley protective tariff law—a law which demoralized business, impoverished the people, engendered labor strikes and lockouts innumerable and oppressed every legitimate industry in order that political adventurers and gamblers might thrive on the uncertainties and distress that such measures always occasion.

3. It was the republican party which passed the insane Sherman silver purchase law, a measure forced from the tariff plunderers by the free silver fanatics of the senate as their portion of the grand divide, and a measure which more than any other one thing caused the panic of 1893 and the depression that has since existed.

4. It was the republican party which turned over to the Cleveland administration a bankrupt treasury, with continuing appropriations of millions in favor of subsidized interest with public revenues depleted in the interest of private plunder, and with the plates for the bond issue that became immediately necessary already engraved and ready for the printer.

5. In fine, it was the grand collapse of the republican party's unrestricted legislation in favor of privileged classes, of the republican party's wanton abandonment of the masses in favor of the classes, of the republican party's rotten financial and economical doctrines, that caused all the ills from which the country has suffered during the last three years and from which an honest and able democratic administration has done much to rescue it.—*Chicago Chronicle.*

ASSESSORS' ERRORS(?)

In response to numerous requests that it do so, THE DEMOCRAT once more publishes the result of the work of the board of equalization and wishes to make a few remarks on some of the discrepancies found in the assessors' reports.

For the benefit of those who are not familiar with the methods by which taxes are equalized we will explain that the average value of a certain class of property is obtained in each precinct, the precinct averages are added and divided by the number of precincts and the general average for the county thus obtained, and the assessment in each precinct is raised or lowered to conform to this general average. This explanation will make the table which appears in another column perfectly intelligible.

There is something peculiar about the assessments this year, and it is remarkable that men of experience and mature judgment should vary so much in their estimates on the value of stock. Take horses for an example. In Wood Lake precinct the assessment on this class of property was raised 121 per cent! while in Steen precinct the assessment was lowered 52 per cent. The assessment on mules was raised 200 per cent in Merriman, and lowered 33 per cent in Sparks. Cattle, sheep and lands show the same difference in judgment, but not in so great a degree.

The total assessed valuation of the county is \$195,000 less than that of last year, which is something of a surprise to those who are acquainted with Cherry county property and values, but this is all due to the work of the assessors. As an instance of how either ignorance of true values of property or an attempt to defraud the county has lowered the total valuation, this paper refers its readers to the returns from a certain precinct which place a valuation of \$500 on one of the finest residences in northwestern Nebraska. A valuation of \$25 is made on the furniture contained therein! We know bachelors in Cherry county who pay taxes on more furniture than that, and they only have one or two rooms furnished. The assessor's books from another precinct fail to show a single cent of credits opposite the name of a prominent citizen, when it is well known that he owns thousands of dollars' worth of mortgages.

THE DEMOCRAT is loth to believe that the assessors wilfully misrepresented these valuations, and attributes the results to negligence on their part in failing to thoroughly investigate the property or question the owners. It should be borne in mind, however, that a sin of omission is sometimes as great as a sin of commission.

Valentine Will Celebrate.

THE TRUTH OF IT.

Republican papers make two claims for McKinley which will not hold together very long. They are:

(1) The nomination of Major McKinley means of itself the certainty of the adoption of a system of protection which will insure ample revenue.

The McKinley tariff increases protective duties and repealed revenue duties for the express purpose of reducing revenue. So successful was it in this that the custom collections fell from \$229,000,000 in 1890 to \$177,000,000 in 1892, a loss of \$52,000,000.

(2) The adoption of a protective system and an ample revenue will of itself bring about the condition in regard to currency which prevailed when the country had protection, ample revenue and general prosperity before.

The country had not "ample revenue and general prosperity" under the McKinley tariff and the republican silver law supported by him. During the Harrison-McKinley regime a treasury surplus of \$88,000,000, an annual surplus of \$100,000,000 and an excess of \$98,000,000 in the gold reserve all disappeared. During the last four months of the Harrison Administration the public expenditures exceeded the receipts \$5,810,549, and so low was the cash balance and the gold reserve that Secretary Foster near the end of his term ordered the plates prepared for an issue of bonds to replenish both. This was avoided by a seizure of the national bank redemption fund, by holding up payments on appropriations and by "securing" \$8,250,000 in gold from certain bankers in New York in exchange for greenbacks.

CLEVELAND'S LETTER.

Last week President Cleveland gave out the following letter for publication: "I have made no figures as to the probable action of delegates already chosen or to be chosen to the democratic national convention, but I refuse to believe that when the time arrives for deliberate action there will be engaged upon our democratic creed a demand for the free, unlimited and independent coinage of silver.

"The adoption by democracy of this policy would, I believe, give to our opponents an advantage, both in the present and the future, which they do not deserve. My attachment to true democracy is so strong that I consider its success as identical with the promotion of the country's good.

"This ought sufficiently to account for my anxiety that no mistake be made at our party convention. In my opinion no effort should be spared to secure such action of the delegates as will avert party demoralization. A cause worth fighting for is worth fighting for to the end. If sound money democrats suppose there is danger of a mistake being made, such danger should stimulate their activity in averting it instead of creating discouragement."

President Cleveland disclaims any desire of arrogating to himself a controlling influence upon the policy of the party, and closes his letter by saying "I hope I may not be blamed for saying thus much at this time in the interest, as it seems to me, of the grand old organization, so rich in honorable traditions, so justly proud of its achievements, and always so undaunted and brave in its battles for the people's welfare."

Peoples' Independent Party County Convention.

The Peoples' Independent Party County Convention is hereby called to meet at Valentine, Neb., on Wednesday, July 8, 1896, 1 o'clock p. m. for the electing of delegates to the State Convention, and for the transacting of such other business as may come up.

It has been recommended that we base our representation on McFadden's vote for Sec'y of State in 1894, giving one delegate at large and one for each ten votes or major fraction thereof which entitles the several precincts to delegates as follows:

Valentine	6
Irwin	6
Tower	6
Kewanee	6
Lavaca	6
Mimachadza	6
Wood Lake	6
Sharps Ranch	4
Schlagle	4
Ell	4
German	4
Gilaspie	2
Bolling Springs	2
Nenzel	2
Table	2
Pleasant Hill	2
Kennedy	2
Loup	2
Mother Lake	2
Dewey Lake	2
Sparks	2
Steen	1
Georgia	1
Cleveland	1
Buffalo Lake	1

It is recommended that each precinct hold its primary Wednesday July 1, 1896. Further, that no proxies be allowed but that the delegates present be empowered to cast entire vote of their delegation.

CENTRAL COMMITTEE.

AS EQUALIZED

The Valuation of the Various Precincts of Cherry County is as Given Below—Some Valuations are Raised and Some are Lowered

NOTE—R raised L lowered. Figures are the per cent of increase or decrease

PRECINCT.	Horses		Cattle		Mules		Sheep		Lands		Lots		L'nds		Pets		Total
	R	L	R	L	R	L	R	L	R	L	R	L	R	L	R	L	
Buffalo Lake	1825	1826	2	14	14	14	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	3545
Bolling Springs	17649	19756	11	11	62	62	62	62	62	62	62	62	62	62	62	62	35405
Cleveland	10900	11544	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	22544
Dewey Lake	19063	19700	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	31703
Ell	7127	27376	284	284	284	284	284	284	284	284	284	284	284	284	284	284	34503
Ell	9672	9670	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	18548
Gilbane	7101	32348	358	358	358	358	358	358	358	358	358	358	358	358	358	358	32149
German	8287	3102	-62	-62	-62	-62	-62	-62	-62	-62	-62	-62	-62	-62	-62	-62	11289
Georgia	4294	2572	-40	-40	-40	-40	-40	-40	-40	-40	-40	-40	-40	-40	-40	-40	6656
Irwin	14516	22044	52	52	52	52	52	52	52	52	52	52	52	52	52	52	35599
Kewanee	18496	2958	-84	-84	-84	-84	-84	-84	-84	-84	-84	-84	-84	-84	-84	-84	17812
Kennedy	7388	10724	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	14944
Loup	27756	28253	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	46009
Lavaca	8099	8099	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	26098
Merriman	11953	12016	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	23969
Mother Lake	36770	2598	-92	-92	-92	-92	-92	-92	-92	-92	-92	-92	-92	-92	-92	-92	39368
Mimachadza	4287	3257	-24	-24	-24	-24	-24	-24	-24	-24	-24	-24	-24	-24	-24	-24	7544
Nenzel	18212	12913	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31123
Pleasant Hill	4957	2426	-51	-51	-51	-51	-51	-51	-51	-51	-51	-51	-51	-51	-51	-51	23292
Sharps Ranch	13512	2833	-78	-78	-78	-78	-78	-78	-78	-78	-78	-78	-78	-78	-78	-78	15945
Steen	6695	11452	71	71	71	71	71	71	71	71	71	71	71	71	71	71	18147
Schlagle	14051	4570	-68	-68	-68	-68	-68	-68	-68	-68	-68	-68	-68	-68	-68	-68	18041
Table	23206	4944	-79	-79	-79	-79	-79	-79	-79	-79	-79	-79	-79	-79	-79	-79	28210
Valentine	14724	7397	-50	-50	-50	-50	-50	-50	-50	-50	-50	-50	-50	-50	-50	-50	22121
Wood Lake	65387	18115	-72	-72	-72	-72	-72	-72	-72	-72	-72	-72	-72	-72	-72	-72	83592
Valentine Village	51812	1232	-97	-97	-97	-97	-97	-97	-97	-97	-97	-97	-97	-97	-97	-97	53044
Woot Lake	1232	1232	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2464
Cody	880	880	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3520
Cronston	1108	1108	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4432
Nenzel	69	69	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	276
Kilgore	206	206	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	824
Georgia	970	970	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3880
Cooper	38	38	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	152
Sparks	174	174	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	696
F. E. & M. V. E. R.	39480	39480	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	157920
W. E. Telegraph	1711	1711	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6844
Wagner Sleeping Car	1711	1711	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6844
Total valuation of the county	599057040	784400	-99	-99	-99	-99	-99	-99	-99	-99	-99	-99	-99	-99	-99	-99	606891040
Grand total of valuation	599057040	784400															606891040
Av. value of horses \$5.15; mules \$6.00; cattle \$5.09; sheep \$0.40; land \$1.09																	

SHOT AT SUNRI