

Judge Seabury for Watson.

The New York dailies tell the following story, which will be cheering news to western populists who have despaired of any support for Watson and Tibbles in the east:

Judge Samuel Seabury of the city court, has written a letter saying that he will not vote for either Parker or Roosevelt, but for Watson. His letter is as follows:

"I shall not vote for Parker and Davis. The action of the convention in approving the crime committed in Illinois, the facts being clearly presented and being undisputed, showed that the convention preferred the rule of the political corruptionist rather than recognize that political conventions should be honestly conducted and that the majority should rule.

"Judge Parker's persistent silence before he was nominated and his tricky telegram as soon as he had safely secured the nomination showed him to be an apt pupil of the political methods of David B. Hill. The deception to which Judge Parker and his friends resorted to secure the nomination and the repudiation of the compromises entered into in relation to the platform will, I believe, before the campaign is over, be made perfectly apparent. When the facts are appreciated they can excite no other feeling than disgust and contempt.

"The convention was controlled by a union of the monopoly and pro-slavery elements. It was impossible that any really democratic action could have proceeded from such a combination. Both the republican and democratic parties as at present constituted are controlled by plutocratic influences. The great corporations which depend for success upon special privileges, the existence of which impoverish the masses, will in this campaign contribute impartially to both of the great political parties. No matter which party loses, monopoly is confident that it will win.

"In the contest between Roosevelt and Parker no political issues are involved. It is a mere personal contest for place and power. This is the lowest plane upon which a political campaign can be fought.

"The fact that Grover Cleveland and others who deserted the party when it became democratic in 1896 are now in control of the party is a sure guarantee for the benefit of a corrupt plutocracy, as it was during Cleveland's last administration.

"The indictment which Mr. Bryan brings against the element which now controls the democratic party is in all respects true, and the fact that it is true shows that the party is unworthy of support. It seems to me unreasonable to assert that the democratic party stands at present for policies which are destructive of free government and at the same time to support that party upon the theory that the best way to reform the party is to intrust the plutocratic element in the party with the control of the government.

"The best way to reform the party is to see to it, when it sells out to the plutocracy as it has in this campaign it should go down to the defeat which it deserves. The republican party stands for the some plutocratic influences which are behind Judge Parker, and for imperialism and militarism. There is no reason to believe that Judge Parker is any more opposed to imperialism and militarism than is President Roosevelt, but even if he is opposed to imperialism, and should be elected, no change in the present imperialistic policy could be secured without a similar change in the senate which can not be secured in this election.

"From my standpoint a choice of two evils is presented, and I shall choose neither. If Parker is defeated the democratic party will be forced to adopt progressive and liberal democratic principles, or go out of existence and give place to some party which will give expression to these principles.

"The principles are more important than the party. Mr. Watson, nominated by the people's party, is a worthy representative of the principles which I conceive to be truly democratic, and the adoption of which I believe to be essential to the preservation of democratic institutions in this country.

"He is the only representative of these democratic principles in this campaign. I shall, therefore, cast my vote for him. I am informed that a full Watson electoral ticket will be nominated and I believe it will receive a large vote."

Well Pleased

The Springfield platform is a model

for plain statement of conditions and demands and should command the admiration and support of all the right-minded who believe the rights of humanity are paramount to money or property. In Thomas E. Watson and Thomas H. Tibbles, the nominees for president and vice president, the people's party has worthy and brainy standard bearers who will no doubt be heard from in no uncertain manner during the campaign. Mr. Watson has a national reputation for his brilliant record in congress and for having been one of the running mates of Mr. Bryan in the unique campaign of 1896. Mr. Tibbles is the virile and versatile farmer-editor of the Nebraska Independent, the leading people's party paper of the country, and is a powerful influence for good. The new national chairman is James H. Ferriss, the veteran editor of the Joliet (Ill.) News, and he will, if correctly and liberally aided, conduct a strong campaign of education. The issues are made up, the lines of battle are drawn, and it is now up to the people to say by their ballots what sort of government they want. — James Flannigan in Fort Morgan (Colo.) Herald.

Tennessee

To the Populists of Tennessee: You are aware that our national convention, which met at Springfield, Ill., July 4, 1904, nominated the Hon. Thomas E. Watson of Georgia and the Hon. Thomas H. Tibbles of Nebraska, for president and vice president in the pending campaign.

The present attitude of the democratic and republican parties, their close alliance with plutocracy and complete subservience to its demands, renders imperative the continued existence of the people's party, in order that democratic principles and the liberties of the common people, if possible, may be preserved to the present and coming generations of the American people.

As the state chairman of the old executive committee, I hereby call a mass convention of the populists of Tennessee, to meet in the capitol at Nashville, Thursday, Sept. 3, 1904, at 1:30 p. m., for the purpose of re-organizing, the appointment of a state electoral ticket, and such other business as may be necessary.

I invite all persons, regardless of previous party affiliations, who may feel that they can not, in the present campaign, support the candidates of Wall street, and who wish to see the government returned to the people through the medium of a party that stands truly for the integrity of popular rights and popular rule, to participate in this mass convention and assist the populists of Tennessee to firmly establish such a party in the state and nation. Hon. Thomas E. Watson will be present and address the convention.

W. W. MULLENS,
Nashville, Tenn. Chairman.

Union Labor for Watson.

In the past organized labor has been an uncertain quantity so far as concerns the people's party. Although the people's party was originally organized by a coalition between the farmers on the one hand and the wage workers on the other, when the votes were counted out in the early '90s it was found that the people's party vote came largely from the country districts and was very light in the cities.

The tide seems to be turning this year. Organized labor has discovered that neither of the old parties have any use for it except on election day. Organized wealth, the greatest foe to organized labor, is now absolutely in control of both old parties. Among the wage-workers, and especially the property owning members of trade and labor unions are thousands of men who find nothing in socialism to attract them; and they are pledged by sheer necessity to look to the people's party for relief. The people's party platform takes the stand that intelligent organization of labor is essential and that wealth being organized, has no right to deny to labor the privilege which is claimed for itself.

The following circular is being sent out by the organized laborers of Missouri. It speaks for itself:

"To the officers and members of the Trade and Labor Unions of St. Louis, Greeting: Believing that the action taken by both the republican and democratic parties in not in any manner recognizing the rights of organized labor either in the adoption of a platform or in the selection of a candidate, we believe it is time for organized labor to take an active part in politics, and to become aligned with that party which boldly and sincerely

advocates the principles of the American Federation of Labor, as well as that of all the people. Therefore, we append a copy of the preamble and platform of the national people's party adopted at Springfield, Ill., July 5, 1904, and would earnestly recommend that you take the same action that has been taken by the unions in other cities, namely, Kansas City, St. Joe, San Francisco, and many others, and send at least two properly accredited delegates to the city convention to be held at National hall (formerly Columbia), 1022 Franklin Ave., Tuesday evening, August 30, 1904, at 8 o'clock p. m.

CHARLES F. M. LEONARD,
GEORGE FULLER, Chairman.
Secretary.

Following this is a copy of the people's party platform adopted at Springfield and accompanying it is the following little ballot. Mr. Nelson is doing a great work among the urban population in showing wage-workers that they are already populists, but haven't known heretofore.

"Do you (1) believe in public ownership of railroads, gas and electric lighting plants and city water works? Ans.

"Do you (2) believe in preventing manipulation and corruption of public officials and elections that corporations may not secure governmental power to accumulate immense fortunes? Ans.

"Then you believe in direct legislation as the initiative and referendum.

"Do you (3) believe that the government credit should not be used by bankers to issue their own credit money and thus absorb the real wealth of the country?

"Believing in the aforesaid statements makes you a populist, therefore we ask your support and vote.

"THE PEOPLE'S PARTY."

Name

Address

Sign and return to A. E. Nelson, 206 N. 6th St., St. Louis, Mo."

Agrees with Freeland.

Editor Independent: I thoroughly agree with the ideas expressed in Mr. Freeland's letter printed in the 28th of July issue and I am convinced that single taxers should give the populist candidates their hearty support.

I have always considered the silver question the weakest issue in the populist platform but our associations with the democrats compelled us to select this question as the dominant question four years ago and the strongest planks were lost sight of.

While I do not think that the gold standard is right, the plank in the platform declaring against speculation in land would give us more money than the remonetization of silver. My experiences as a prospector and miner convince me that not one-twentieth of the known gold bearing land in the west is in use. It is today held by speculators who demand a price for it that would discount the wages of developing it. If the speculator did not stand between the land and the man with a pick axe, drill and a few pounds of blasting powder there would be ten times the number of laborers in the Rockies. The metal taken from the ground would follow the usual course of being stamped into money and returned to the miner. Miners do not usually hoard their money but spend it freely and in this manner it would find its way into the channels of trade without banks of issue, and in a natural way. It would create a magnificent home market for the American farmer who would then obtain money in exchange for farm products instead of borrowing on a mortgage. It is always better to earn money than to borrow it. It would also settle the wage war in Colorado. To this end the transportation question must also be settled.

I would like to cover some of the other issues raised by the platform, but I am aware that long letters are the nightmares of editors, and will end will end with the assurance that single taxers in Lyon county can be depended upon in the irrepressible conflict before us.

N. A. VYNE.

Emporia, Kan.
(Mr. Vyne is one of the Watson and Tibbles electors in Kansas.—Associate Editor.)

The Golden Rule.

Editor Independent: There are many parties—only one right. The republican and democratic parties use the people to subserve their own interests and ends. There is the people's party that is trying to act in the people's interest by principle, rather than by party influence. There are the socialists—that is well enough, to wake up the people that they may see what is going on about them and

where they are. But I can not go all the way with them—if they could come up fully to the apostolic order of doing they would find a Judas in every dozen men so organized, let it be in church or state.

Only the one way—Christ—has laid the foundation by the square, level and plummet—by the "Golden Rule." When all men are disposed to come to the right and want it, they will get it to their satisfaction. Nothing is ever settled until right is found. Many little parties are springing up, some, for the fleece, some for the flock—advertising many good things, but they stop short of the essential point of teaching and doing as they wish to be done by. They never find the right, and it requires a very sharp law to make some people see the right, and they do not see it, unless the law is founded on justice and equity. By that rule they are forced to see it.

A. W. SPRAGUE.

Blue Mound, Ill.

Passed Over the Divide.

Editor Independent: You no doubt remember Mr. C. D. Shrader, who used to be in politics in Nebraska. He passed away the 23d of May, after months of suffering. The day he left home to go to the Seattle hospital, he said: "Save all The Independents for me to read when I get back." But he did not live to get back to read them, and now will you please discontinue the paper as there is no one to read it, and oblige,

MRS. C. D. SHRADER.

Wenatchee, Wash.

Convention Stories.

When the tense excitement at the convention got to such a point that it could not be endured, the delegates sought relief in telling stories. Senator Allen got off the following, and he told it with boyish glee, as a joke on his old friend Tibbles:

"Tibbles came to me," said the ex-senator, "to take me out last evening to see Tom Watson, who was holding a reception at Colonel Lager's house. As we started out he led me through a store building and down an alley.

"Where are you taking me, Tibbles?" I asked.

"I want to get you away from those other fellows," he replied. "We will take the street car here at the corner and then we won't have anyone hanging onto us."

"We reached the corner presently and stood waiting for a car. 'We will take a Fourteenth street car,' said Tibbles. But the cars seemed to whisk past in quick succession and Tibbles not having his glasses with him, asked me to read off the signs, saying, 'Not this one, not this one,' as I read.

"Finally, after waiting fully twenty minutes, Tibbles exclaimed, 'I think this car coming is ours. Doesn't it say Fourteenth street on it?'

"Yes, it says Fourteenth street," said I.

"That's our car, then," said Tibbles. "I think it must be," said I, "because the other sign reads: 'To the Cemetery.'"

The Agitator Agitated

Mr. Bryan's statement is in the nature of a defense of his action, but he puts up a very lame defense. He tells us, in effect, that he has no use for Parker, who secured his nomination practically through fraud, and that the country need expect nothing from such a man; and yet, he (Mr. Bryan) will support the man who perpetrated the fraud. Why? Simply to preserve harmony in the party—not for the country's good.

Mr. Bryan tells us that he will support this gold-bug, trust-controlled ticket, but after election, he will pick up the thread where he dropped it and renew his teachings along economic lines. Mr. Bryan's present position, as a champion of a gold-bug ticket, reminds up of Rip Van Winkle. Rip swore off drinking whisky, but whenever any one offered him a drink, he drank it, saying, "Well, boys, this time don't count." And then he proceeded to swear off again. With Bryan, his support of the gold-bug crowd this time doesn't count. After election he'll swear off again—till the next time.

How can Mr. Bryan expect the people who believed in him so implicitly to continue to follow him? If he will lay down his principles to support Cleveland's friend, Parker, what proof have we that he would not have supported Cleveland under like circumstances?

No, Mr. Bryan; the people will never trust you so implicitly again.

We say these things in sorrow, not in anger. W. O. Champe in Kansas Agitator, Garnett.