# BRYAN AND WATSON

## These Are the Candidates of the People's Party.

## WILD SCENE ENACTED

### Nebraskan Carries the Convention with a Whoop.

**"Boy Orator of the Platte" Is Named for President by More than Two-Thirds Majority at the Populist National Convention—His Refusal to Run Without Sewall for a Mate Is Ignored—Great Confusion Attends the Calling of the Roll.**

W. J. Bryan was nominated at St. Louis Saturday afternoon by the Populists as their candidate for President of the United States.

Only two other candidates were nominated to contest the field against Bryan. One was Seymour F. Norton, a lawyer from Chicago, and the other was Gen. Casey. The general's name was withdrawn before the balloting was begun. Eugene V. Debs would have been a candidate had he not sent a message to the convention declining to accept the nomination. The voting was all one way, and when the result was announced bedlam broke loose and pandemonium reigned for fifteen or twenty minutes. The Texas, Arkansas and Maine middle-of-the-road men, with their guidons together, took no part in the demonstration.

PERMANENT CHAIRMAN ALLEN.

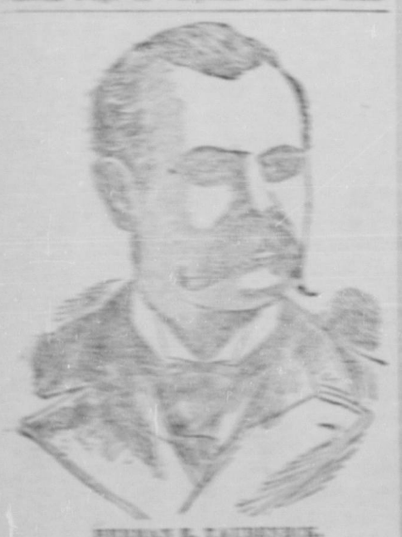
The middle-of-the-road men finally massed about their standard on the left of the hall, about 300 in number, and made a counter demonstration. They cheered and yelled and yelled and fought for ten minutes. The sergeants at arms were powerless to restore order, and, after rapping for five minutes, Chairman Allen declared Mr. Bryan the nominee of the convention.

At the first session, Friday the anti-Sewall people moved to change the rules and make the nomination of candidate for Vice-President the first order of business, preceding the nomination for President. It was generally understood this was a test vote on the Sewall proposition, and on it the anti-Sewall people were victorious by 100 majority.

Gen. J. B. Weaver, chairman of the committee on resolutions, read the platform as agreed to by the majority of the committee.

Marked applause was given to the pronouncement for free coinage of silver, against interest-bearing bonds, the denunciation of the position of the present administration on the bond question; the income tax provision, and the Cuban plank. The platform was adopted as a whole after the minority reports of Delegates Kirby of Texas and Coxey of Ohio had been rejected.

The convention met for its evening session at 4:30 o'clock and speeches nominating candidates for Vice-President were declared to be in order. Half a dozen candidates were put up. Thomas E. Watson of Georgia had the greatest number of friends. No fewer than two dozen speeches were made in his behalf. The other candidates named were Sewall, Skinner of North Carolina, Burnett of Mississippi, Minnis of Tennessee and Jones, Page of Virginia. All the candidates save Sewall were from the South, there being a tacit understanding that a straight-out Populist from that section should be placed upon the ticket.



HERMAN E. TAUBENECK.

When the roll was called Arkansas started off with twenty-five votes for Watson. Mr. Patterson of Colorado cast the forty-five votes of his State for Sewall amid a storm of applause from the Bryan men. Indiana gave her thirty votes to Watson. Kansas gave Sewall eighty-two of her eighty-five votes. Louisiana gave the bulk of her vote to Watson. Maryland divided her vote between Sewall and Watson. North Carolina cast her twenty-five votes for Skinner, Tennessee voted for Minnis and Texas for Burkitt. This split up the large delegations. Before the roll call was completed, however, Texas changed her vote to Watson and there were other changes in favor of the Georgian. Col. Burkitt of Mississippi went to the stand and withdrew his name. Then Minnis withdrew in Watson's favor. The Georgian already had votes enough to nominate, but the vote of Tennessee was finally transferred to his column. Some one made the motion to make the nomination unanimous and it was carried with a whoop.

Senator Allen called the convention to order at half o'clock Saturday morning. After the invocation the chairman announced that the first thing in order was the selection of members of the national committee and the committees to notify the candidates for President and Vice-President. Several resolutions were presented and referred without reading or debate.

#### Weaver Names Bryan.

The chairman then called for the nominations of President and Vice-President, and Judge Green of Nebraska took the stage to place Mr. Bryan in nomination. A Texas delegate interrupted with a point of order that the States must be called in alphabetical order for nominations. Judge Green was driven off the stage by the Texan's point of order. When Alabama was called Gen. Kolb yielded to Gen. Weaver of Iowa, but Col. Gaither of Alabama got to the platform first and interpreted a speech about joining the cotton fields of the South with the wheat fields of the West. At the conclusion of his remarks Gen. Weaver came forward and formally placed Mr. Bryan in nomination.

Gen. Weaver in his opening remarks called the convention not to applaud, and the delegates listened to him without much demonstration. But when he concluded by naming "that splendid young statesman, William J. Bryan," the convention broke loose. Cheer followed cheer. The delegates jumped to their chairs, and flags, handkerchiefs, coats, hats and State guidons were waved in wild confusion. The enthusiasm that followed Gen. Weaver's speech was something terrific. Miss Minerva Roberts led the cheering in the Colorado delegation. While the demonstration was at its height thousands of copies of the "Bryan Silver March" were flung high in air and fell in clouds on the frantic delegates.

THE NATIONAL CONVENTION OF THE PEOPLE'S PARTY IN SESSION.

When quiet was restored Gen. Field of Virginia, who was Gen. Weaver's running mate in 1892, hobbled forward on his crutch, and, after a brief speech, moved to suspend the rules and make Bryan's nomination unanimous. The convention rose almost en masse and cheered, but above the chorus of cheers came the shrill cries of the Texas men. "No," "no," they yelled. Chairman Allen declared the motion carried, but, yielding to the protest, decided to allow a roll of States on the motion. The Texas men wildly protested. The Nebraskan having asserted that he positively would not accept the nomination if Sewall was rejected, Robert Schilling of Wisconsin attempted to secure a recess until Bryan could be heard from, but he was howled down. The greatest confusion prevailed, and Bryan's nomination was sounded by orators from nearly every State, and at last, after six hours of speech-making, the roll call on the ballot was reached. When Alabama, the first State, was called she divided her vote between Bryan and Norton. Arkansas gave her twenty-five votes for Bryan; Colorado, Connecticut and Delaware voted solidly for Bryan. Georgia gave five of her sixty-one votes for Norton of Illinois. As the roll call proceeded it became apparent that Bryan would be nominated before it was completed. At its conclusion the tally clerks had figured the totals, and without further delay Chairman Allen announced the official vote as: Bryan, 1,042; Norton, 321; Donnelly, 1. It was then 6:22. Someone made a motion to adjourn. The chairman put the motion and declared the convention adjourned sine die.

#### The Vote by States.

Following is the vote by States, the totals being those announced to the convention:

| | Bryan. | Norton. |
|---|---|---|
| Alabama | 28 1-4 | 10 3-4 |
| Arkansas | 25 | ..... |
| California | 18 | 22 |
| Colorado | 45 | ..... |
| Connecticut | 6 | ..... |
| Delaware | 3 | ..... |
| Florida | 8 | ..... |
| Georgia | 56 | 5 |
| Idaho | 7 | ..... |
| Illinois | 35 | 21 |
| Indiana | 30 | 30 |
| Iowa | 37 | 1 |
| Kansas | 82 | ..... |
| Kentucky | 11 1-2 | 10 1-2 |
| Louisiana | 20 | ..... |
| Maine | 3 | 3 |
| Maryland | 8 | ..... |
| Massachusetts | 17 | ..... |
| Michigan | 18 | 21 |
| Minnesota | 20 | 4 |
| Mississippi | 22 | 6 |
| Missouri | 1 | 22 |
| Montana | 7 | ..... |
| Nebraska | 16 | ..... |
| Nevada | 7 | ..... |
| New Hampshire | 4 | ..... |
| New Jersey | 20 | 2 |
| New York | 34 1-4 | 9 1-4 |
| North Carolina | 26 | 25 |
| North Dakota | 12 | ..... |
| Ohio | 21 | 27 |
| Oregon | 7 1-2 | 7 1-2 |
| Pennsylvania | 32 | ..... |
| Rhode Island | ..... | ..... |
| South Carolina | ..... | 3 |
| South Dakota | 11 | ..... |
| Tennessee | 47 | 10 |
| Texas | ..... | 18½ |
| Utah | 3 | ..... |
| Vermont | 2 | ..... |
| Virginia | 26 | 3 |
| Washington | 19 | 6 |
| Wisconsin | 1 1-2 | 24 1-2 |
| West Virginia | 3 1-2 | 2 1-2 |
| Wyoming | 6 | ..... |
| Arizona | 6 | ..... |
| Indian Territory | 6 | ..... |
| New Mexico | 6 | ..... |
| District of Columbia | 6 | ..... |
| Oklahoma | 9 | ..... |
| Alaska | 6 | ..... |
| Totals | 1,042 | 321 |

#### WEDNESDAY.

The national convention of the People's party was called to order in St. Louis shortly after noon Wednesday by Chairman Taubeneck of the national committee.

The hall in which the Populists met was the same in which the national Republican convention was held last month. There were the same arrangements as to seats. The State delegations were located in the pit, each marked by a guidon. The galleries round themselves above the pit on all sides. The platform in front was flanked by the press benches. The decorations were not elaborate and were practically the same as those of the Republican convention. The delegates began to come in before 10 o'clock, but the spectators were slow in arriving.

It was just 12:07 when Chairman Taubeneck called the delegates to order. Rev. R. Hill Smith invoked the divine blessing after which Gen. Stone was introduced, as the chief executive of Missouri, and not as a member of the Democratic national committee, made an address welcoming the People's party to St. Louis. Gen. Stone only hinted at the past differences of opinion between the Democrats and Populists, and hoped that in the future they would unite for the welfare of the country. This allusion to a Bryan endorsement set the Nebraskan's friends on the floor to cheering.



MRS. L. C. FAIRES.
Delegate from New York City.

W. H. HARVEY.

Ignatius Donnelly replied to the Governor's address in behalf of the convention. Mr. Donnelly made a "middle-of-the-road" speech, in which he mentioned the names of Lincoln, Jackson, Washington and Jefferson, thereby arousing enthusiasm. He paid an earnest tribute to the People's party, and, in brief, detailed its doctrines, which, he claimed, sought to array the people against those who would seek to deprive them of their rights. Mary Ellen Lease came into the hall as Mr. Donnelly finished his address and was greeted with cheers. She was invited to a seat on the platform.

Chairman Taubeneck announced that the national committee had named Senator Marion Butler of North Carolina for nomination for temporary chairman. The fight which was expected on Butler's selection did not materialize. Somebody on the platform proposed three cheers for the new chairman, and they were given with a will.

Senator Butler's speech was long and his voice was not capable of penetrating the vastness of the auditorium. The delegates wanted to hear what he said, however, and regardless of the protests of the sergeants-at-arms and his assistants, ran into the aisles and crowded around the platform. The Senator closed with an ardent appeal to the convention to stand together, no matter what might be the result of its deliberations.

The only routine business transacted by the convention was the formation of the usual committee, after which an adjournment was taken until 8 o'clock. A sort of free-for-all meeting was held after the convention proper had adjourned, at which many men prominent in the party voiced their views. The meeting lasted for nearly three hours.

#### No Night Session.

The attempt of the convention to hold a night session was a failure. Through somebody's omission no provision was made for lighting the hall, and when the delegates and spectators assembled there the interior of the big auditorium was dark. The telegraph companies sent for a supply of railway candles, with which they lighted the tables of their operators. They also furnished candles to the newspaper correspondents, and the flickering lights burning in the two press sections were the only illuminations in the hall. They served to throw fantastic shadows across the floor where the delegates were assembled, but were not strong enough to enable the convention to proceed with business. Chairman Butler arrived long after 8 o'clock, and announced that as no arrangement could at that late hour be made for light, the convention would adjourn until 10 o'clock Thursday morning.

#### THURSDAY.

At 10:22 the convention was called to order and at 12:42 took a recess till 3 o'clock. Shortly before 10 o'clock Senators Stewart of Nevada and Kyle of North Dakota joined Senator Allen and Gen. Field of Virginia on the platform. The tall form of "Cyclone" Davis of Texas could be seen on the floor, towering above the delegates. "Stump" Ashby of the South State, held forth from a rostrum composed of a chair. At 10:40 Senator Butler, the handsome temporary chairman, appeared on the platform. Simultaneously the band struck up "Dixie," and the delegates unwarbled some of their pent-up enthusiasm. Five minutes later Chairman Butler called the convention to order and the Rev. Mr. Smith offered the invocation.

The report of the committee on credentials was called for, but no one responded, and the States were called for members of the committees on permanent organization and resolutions.

There were at times long delays and the delegates grew perceptibly impatient. The middle-of-the-roaders were extremely suspicious. They intimated that it was part of the plot to defeat them.

#### A Dramatic Outbreak.

After the announcement of the committee on permanent organization the members retired. While other announcements were being made a middle-of-the-road man attempted a demonstration. It was dramatically arranged. A squad of middle-of-the-roaders suddenly plunged into the hall through the main entrance and came whooping down the center aisle. Delegate Branch here aloft a big white banner with the inscription: "Middle-of-the-road—a straight ticket." The Texas, Georgia, Maine, Missouri and Mississippi delegations mounted their chairs and yelled. At the same time a middle-of-the-road delegate stationed in the gallery over the platform hurled out through the air about a peck of small green tickets, which broke and fell like a cloud of single snow over the pit. The green tickets contained the following financial plank:

"We demand a national treasury note issued by the general government receivable for all public dues and a full legal tender in payment of all debts, public and private, and loaned direct to the people through postal and other governmental banks at cost, for the benefit of the people, and the purchase and coinage of such amount of gold and silver bullion, at the ratio of 16 to 1, as may be necessary to pay the debts of the Government, which are made payable in coin. We demand that the volume of money shall speedily increase to an amount necessary to transact the business of the country on a cash basis."

#### Afternoon Session.

It was half an hour after the chairman had called the convention to order for the afternoon session when the committee on credentials reported. When the matter of contests had been settled New York called for the report of the committee on permanent organization. Some of the delegates wanted to adjourn until 8 o'clock, but the anti-Bryan people objected.

Senator W. V. Allen of Nebraska was named for permanent chairman by the majority of the committee on permanent organization. This was a straight out-and-out Bryan recommendation, and the Bryan delegates stood on chairs and waved hats and handkerchiefs. Then the minority report was made. It recommended James E. Campion of Maine as the permanent chairman. With a whoop and a yell Texas' 18½ delegates jumped up and Georgia followed, and soon the "middle-of-the-road" and anti-Bryan demonstration was in full blast. On motion the previous question on the adoption of the majority report was ordered. The roll of States began in the midst of great confusion. Before it was finished darkness set in and after losing a quarter of an hour the electric lights were turned on and the roll call proceeded. Many of the States had their votes challenged, and each side watched the other closely.

MRS. ELLEN H. FORNEY.

The vote as announced was 778 for Allen and 364 for Campion, indicating a majority for Bryan. Instantly the convention became a mob of howling, shrieking, yelling, cheering men. The spontaneous outburst of Bryan enthusiasm put the previous anti-Bryan demonstration in the shade.

The "middle-of-the-road" men were gone, however, for one of them carried a banner to the front, and Texas, Arkansas, Tennessee and Ohio sent their standards to re-enforce it. The excitement reached its height at this point, and several personal encounters took place. At last, after a quarter of an hour of almost riotous enthusiasm, the delegates calmed down and Senator Allen was brought to the platform. When Senator Allen appeared the Bryan men gave him three hearty cheers. He was introduced by "Cyclone" Davis and addressed the convention in a speech of considerable length. It was nearly 10 o'clock when the Senator concluded, and shortly after the convention adjourned until the following morning.

## THE SILVER PARTY.

### White Metal Men Hold a Convention of Their Own in St. Louis.

The delegates to the national silver convention in St. Louis were slow in assembling at the Grand Music Hall Wednesday, and there were not enough visitors to fill the galleries when J. J. Mott, chairman of the national committee, called the convention to order. He, too, was tardy, and it was long after 12 o'clock when he stepped to the platform and rapped for order. It was not surprising that the delegates, the visitors, and the chairman should have been slow in coming together. The weather was intensely hot. It was of that variety of heat that one finds in the steam room at a Turkish bath.

When the call for the convention had been read, Congressman Francis G. Newlands, of Nevada, was introduced by Chairman Mott as temporary chairman of the convention, and the delegates gave him a vigorous reception. In his speech he urged the advantage to support the nominee of the Democratic party.

Wm. P. St. John, of New York, was chosen for permanent chairman, and when escorted to the platform addressed the convention. What he said was quite in accord with the sentiments of the assemblage and he got several salvos of applause.

The platform declares in favor of a distinctly American financial system, opposes the single gold standard and demands the immediate return to the constitutional standard of gold and silver by the restoration by this Government, independently of any foreign power, of the unrestricted coinage of both gold and silver into standard money, at the ratio of 16 to1, and upon terms of exact equality, as they existed prior to 1873; the silver coin to be a full legal tender equally with gold for all debts and dues, public and private, and we favor such legislation as will prevent for the future the demonetization of any kind of legal tender money by private contract. It holds that the power to control and regulate a paper currency is inseparable from the power to coin money, and hence that all currency intended to circulate as money should be issued and its volume controlled by the general government only, and should be a legal tender. The declaration unalterably opposes the issue by the United States of interest-bearing bonds in time of peace, and appeals to the people of the United States to leave in abeyance for the moment all other questions, and unite in one supreme effort to free themselves and their children from the domination of the money power.



PERMANENT CHAIRMAN W. P. ST. JOHN.

# POPULIST PLATFORM.

## PEOPLE'S PARTY MEN DEFINE THEIR VIEWS.

### Independent Free Coinage of Silver, Government Ownership of Railroads and Direct Vote on President and Senators Demanded.

#### People's Party Principles.

Following is the Populist platform as adopted by the St. Louis convention:

The People's party, assembled in national convention, reaffirms its allegiance to the principles declared by the founders of the republic and also to the fundamental principles of just government as enumerated in the platforms of the party in 1892. We recognize that through the continuance of the present and preceding administrations the country has reached a crisis in its national life, as predicted in our declaration four years ago, and that prompt and patriotic action is the supreme duty of the hour. We realize that while we have political independence our financial and industrial independence is yet to be attained by restoring to our country the constitutional courts and exercise of the functions necessary to a people's government, which functions have been basely surrendered by our public servants to corporate monopolies.

#### Finance.

1. We demand a national money, safe and sound, issued by the Government only, without the intervention of banks of issue, to be a full legal tender for all debts, public and private; a just, equitable and efficient means of distribution direct to the people and through the lawful disbursements of the Government.

2. We demand the free and unlimited coinage of silver and gold at the present legal ratio of 16 to 1, without waiting for the consent of foreign nations.

3. We demand the volume of circulating medium be speedily increased to an amount sufficient to meet the demands of the business and population of this country and to restore the just level of prices of labor and production.

4. We denounce the sale of bonds and the increase of the public interest-bearing debt made by the present administration as unnecessary and without authority of law, and that no more bonds be issued except by specific act of Congress.

5. We demand such legislation as will prevent the demonetization of the lawful money of the United States by private contract.

6. We demand that the Government, in payment of its obligations, shall have the option as to the kind of lawful money in which they are to be paid, and we denounce the present and preceding administrations for surrendering this option to the holders of Government obligations.

7. We demand a graduated income tax, to the end that aggregated wealth shall bear its just proportion of taxation, and we regard the recent decision of the Supreme Court relative to the income tax law as a misinterpretation of the Constitution and an invasion of the rightful powers of Congress over the subject of taxation.

8. We demand that postal savings banks be established by the Government for the safe deposit of the savings of the people and to facilitate exchanges.

#### Transportation.

1. Transportation being a mode of exchange and a public necessity, the Government should own and operate the railroads in the interest of the people and on a non-partisan basis, to the end that all may be afforded the same treatment in transportation and that the tyranny and political power now exercised by the great railroad corporations, which result in the impairment, if not the destruction, of the political rights and personal liberties of the citizen, may be averted. Such ownership is to be accomplished gradually in a manner consistent with sound public policy.

2. The interest of the United States in the public highways built with public money and the grounds of extensive grants of land to the Pacific railroads should never be alienated, mortgaged or sold, but guarded and protected for the general welfare as provided by the laws organizing such railroads. The foreclosure of existing liens of the United States on these roads should at once follow default in the payment thereof to the detriment of the companies, and at the foreclosure sales of said roads the Government should purchase the same if it becomes necessary to protect its interest therein, or if they can be purchased at a reasonable price, and the Government should operate said railroads as public highways for the benefit of the whole people and not in the interest of the few, under suitable provisions for protection of life and property, giving to all transportation interests equal privileges and equal rates for farm and freight.

3. We denounce the present infamous scheme for refunding these debts, and demand that the laws now applicable thereto be executed and administered according to their true intent and spirit.

4. The telegraph, like the postoffice system, being a necessity for the transmission of news, should be owned and operated by the Government in the interest of the people.

#### Land.

1. The true policy demands that the national and State legislation shall be such as will ultimately enable every prudent and industrious citizen to secure a home, and therefore the land should not be monopolized for speculative purposes. All lands now held by railroads and other corporations in excess of their actual needs should, by lawful means, be reclaimed by the Government and held for actual settlers only, and private land holdings as well as alien ownership should be prohibited.

2. We condemn the fraud by which the land grant to the Pacific Railroad companies have, through the connivance of the Interior Department, robbed multitudes of actual bona fide settlers of their homes and mines of their claims, and we demand legislation by Congress which will enforce the exemption of mineral land from such grants after as well as before patent.

3. We demand that bona fide settlers on all public lands be granted free homes, as provided in the national homestead law, and that no exception be made in the case of lands recently opened for settlement, and that all lands not now patented come under this demand.

4. We favor a system of direct legislation through the initiative and referendum, under proper constitutional safeguards.

#### General Propositions.

1. We demand the election of President, Vice-President and United States Senators by a direct vote of the people.

2. We tender to the patriotic people of Cuba our deepest sympathy in their heroic struggle for political freedom and independence, and we believe the time has come when the United States, the great republic of the world, should recognize that Cuba is and of right ought to be a free and independent state.

3. We favor home rule in the Territories and the District of Columbia, and the early admission of the Territories as States.

4. All public salaries should be made to correspond to the price of labor and its products.

5. In times of great industrial depression idle labor should be employed on public works as far as practicable.

6. The ordinary course of the courts in assuming to imprison citizens for indirect contempt and ruling by injunction should be prevented by proper legislation.

7. We favor just pensions for our disabled Union soldiers.

8. Believing that the election franchise and unmutilated ballot are essential to a government of, for and by the people, the People's party condemns the wholesale system of disfranchisement adopted in some of the States, as unexplainable and unconstitutional, and we declare it to be the duty of the several State legislatures to take such actions as will secure a full, free and fair ballot and an honest count.

9. While the foregoing propositions constitute the platform upon which our party stands and for the vindication of which its organization will be maintained, we recognize that the great and pressing issue of the pending campaign upon which the present Presidential election will turn, is the financial question, and upon this great and specific issue between the parties we cordially invite the aid and co-operation of all organizations and citizens agreeing with us upon this vital question.

The Atlanta Journal, which led the fight in Georgia against free coinage, says in an editorial that, while it cannot approve all of the Chicago platform, it will support Bryan and Sewall.