

THE PEOPLE'S PILOT.

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People's Party Platform.

FOUNDATION PRINCIPLES.

FIRST.—That the union of the labor forces of the United States this day consummated shall be permanent and perpetual; may its spirit enter into all hearts for the salvation of the republic and the uplifting of mankind.

SECOND.—Wealth belongs to him who creates it, and every dollar taken from industry without an equivalent is robbery. "If any will not work, neither shall he eat." The interests of civic and rural labor are the same; their interests are identical.

THIRD.—We believe that the time has come when the railroad corporations will either own the people or the people must own the railroads, and should the government enter upon the work of owning and managing any or all railroads, we should favor an amendment to the constitution by which all persons engaged in the government service shall be placed under a civil service regulation of the most rigid character, so as to prevent an increase of the power of the national administration by the use of such additional government employees.

FINANCE.

FIRST.—We demand a national currency, safe, sound and flexible, issued by the general government, only, a full legal tender for all debts 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 to exceed 2 percent per annum to be provided as set forth in the sub-treasury plan of the Farmers' Alliance or a better system; also by payments in discharge of its obligations for public improvements.

We demand free and unlimited coinage of silver at the present legal ratio of 16 to 1.

We demand that the amount of circulating medium be speedily increased to not less than \$50 per capita.

We demand a graduated income tax.

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 revenues shall be limited to the necessary expenses of the government, economically and honestly administered.

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.

TRANSPORTATION.

SECOND.—Transportation being a means of exchange and a public necessity, the government should own and operate the railroads in the interests of the people.

The telegraph and telephone, 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.

LANDS.

THIRD.—The land, including all the natural sources of wealth, is the heritage of the people, and should not be monopolized for speculative purposes, and alien ownership of land should be prohibited. All lands 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.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESOLUTIONS.

WHEREAS, Other questions have been presented for our consideration, we hereby submit the following, not as a part of the platform of the People's Party, but as resolutions expressive of the convention.

RESOLVED, That we demand a free ballot and a fair count in all elections and pledge ourselves to secure it to every legal voter without federal intervention through the adoption by the States of the unperverted Australian or secret ballot system.

RESOLVED, That the revenue derived from a graduated income tax should be applied to the reduction of the burden of taxation, now levied upon the domestic industries of this country.

RESOLVED, That we pledge our support to fair and liberal pensions to ex-Union soldiers and sailors.

RESOLVED, That we condemn the fallacy of protecting American labor under the present system, which opens our ports to the pauper and criminal classes of the world and crowds out our wage earners; and we denounce the present ineffective laws against contract labor and demand the further restriction of undesirable immigration.

RESOLVED, That we cordially sympathize with the efforts of organized workmen to shorten the hours of labor and demand a rigid enforcement of the existing eight hour law on government work and ask that a penalty clause be added to the said law.

RESOLVED, That we regard the maintenance of a large standing army of mercenaries, known as the Pinkerton system, as a menace to our liberties, and we demand its abolition and we condemn the recent invasion of the Territory of Wyoming by the hired assassins of plutocracy, assisted by federal officers.

RESOLVED, That we commend to the thoughtful consideration of the people and the reform press the legislative system known as the initiative and referendum.

RESOLVED, That we favor a Constitutional provision limiting the office of President and Vice President to one term and providing for the election of senators of the United States by a direct vote of the people.

RESOLVED, That we oppose any subsidy or national aid to any private corporation for any purpose.

Fresh bread and cakes at Bakery. One door east of Morgan's.

Over Twelve Hundred sets of window shades in colors, qualities and prices never before equalled. You can't help buying after seeing them. At Frank B. Meyer's "Old Reliable" drug store.

Coin's Financial School (price 25c) is given free to every new trial subscriber of The People's Pilot. Twenty-five cents for three months.

What is the Matter?

The people of this country are aware that since about the middle of the year 1893 the business interests of the United States have been passing through a panic period from which they have not emerged as yet, although a great improvement is seen and a very pronounced feeling of confidence is everywhere expressed.

A vast deal of time has been expended in trying to discover what the causes of this revulsion in business have been. Some say that it is due to the long period of high protection the country has had since 1861. Others declare that the election of a democratic president created such a general feeling of insecurity as to cause the panic. Still others say that it was the low-tariff bill, although the panic began long before the bill was framed or introduced in congress. Others charge it to the demonization of silver in 1873. Some say the Sherman law did it. Others maintain that the repeal of the Sherman law is at fault.

In all this muddle of conflicting opinions a high-tariff newspaper of this city comes to the rescue. It affirms that "the direct results of the Wilson law no longer are doubtful. There are reduced prices for all we export, whether it be food iron, cotton or wool, reduced production of home manufactures, reduced rates of compensation for labor, reduced purchasing power of the people, reduced revenues from duties on imports, a startling deficit in the treasury, a large increase in the national debt."

As the Wilson bill, which was a low-tariff measure, did not pass congress at all it is not easy to see how it could possibly be the father of all these dire calamities, admitting, for the sake of argument, that they have occurred. The Wilson bill gave way to a senate bill, which, except in two or three schedules, was an essentially a protective measure as the McKinley law which preceded it, and as the panic antedates by some months the passage of the senate bill it is not easy to see how it could produce the disasters complained of, all of which have their origin in 1893 or earlier.

But it is more perplexing still to know that the same newspaper within the last few months has charged that every one of the disasters it now lays at the door of the "Wilson law" were due to the demonization act of 1873 and that because of these perils silver should be restored to its former position as a money metal.

Perhaps both the tariff law and the demonization act can prove an alibi.—Chicago Record.

Asia and Free Silver.

In view of the prospect of increased commercial activity in Japan and the opening of China to international trade, the argument advanced by Senator Teller in dealing with one phrase of the silver question is of peculiar interest. Senator Teller's opinion is that in the gold-standard countries, the price of exports from such countries to silver-standard countries must either fall in the country of their production or rise in the country to which they are sent. He thus believes that the adherence to gold as the standard of money value would decrease exportation here and stimulate production in the silver countries, where, as in the orient, labor is cheap.

Senator Teller's theory that with cheaper silver and cheap labor the Asiatics would rapidly become the world's manufacturers presents an interesting phase of the case. Right or wrong, it will have to be taken into consideration in estimating the changed conditions in the orient and the awakening of China. Before his prophecy could come to pass there would have to be a revolutionary alteration in the life of Asia, but that some remarkable changes are presently to be witnessed on that continent there is no doubting.

The conditions over there would be worth attentive study if for no other reason than that two ancient silver countries may be on the eve of entering into the activities of civilization.

THE WINDSOR.

B. F. Ferguson sells the Windsor bicycle, a strictly high grade wheel, for less money than any one on the market. Call and get prices before purchasing elsewhere.

From One Who Knows.

Noticing an article, a short time since, from a special correspondent of the Chicago Record, in which Governor Atkinson of Georgia was held up to public gaze as a man of unequalled political purity, a sort of modern Cincinnatus who had come up from the ranks of the people, and in opposition to the corrupt rings of his dominant party, had single handedly unaided by professional politicians conducted his late gubernatorial campaign to a splendid and honorable triumph, the editor of the Pilot took the pains to write to a friend who knows absolutely the facts and whose veracity is above suspicion. The article was enclosed for his inspection and the following is his strictly impartial and unprejudiced version of Governor Atkinson and his lily-white campaign. The editor would mention that he lived for two years in Douglas county, near Atlanta, and is familiar with Georgia political methods and the statements in this letter have all the old familiar ear-marks.

"The Atlanta correspondent of the Chicago Record gets up a mighty clean and pretty record out of a mass of about as corrupt matter as ever disgraced the human family.

You know yourself, a little of the make up of the Court House rings of Georgia. Of course the names of men you know in Douglas county, for instance will occur to you; that element of Democracy that favors and flatters you to secure your vote, and why resort to the most villainous practices to that end, or, failing there-in, to discredit and make you odious through like disreputable means. That element that through ostracism, persecution and abuse drove every man of Northern birth, who had settled there, from his home and blighted the honorable hopes and expectations of hundreds of the citizens of that town, because they could not control their votes. This element of Democracy are the Atkinson men of Georgia, and his nomination was secured through just exactly these disreputable methods, against the now thoroughly disgusted brother democrats, who while winking at these methods as practiced to defeat Populists or Republicans, are "too honest" to submit themselves as victims. Atkinson, instead of being as the Record correspondent says, "elected by an enormous majority," it is an undoubted fact that his so called election was simply accomplished through manipulation of the ballots by these same Court House rings, the men of the state, who, according to Hox Smith, do the counting in the interest of democracy let the people vote as they may. One instance to illustrate. You know Salt Springs district and the semi-official-whiskey influence that dominates that district. Its possible legal vote is 171. The polls close at 4 o'clock p. m. and usually the head of democracy, with a hot whiskey-democratistew-wash-pot in the buggy, reaches the Court house first of all the precincts, proclaiming in hallooing exaltation the usual 400r50 democratic majority. But this time, by 4 o'clock, democracy had its hands, mouth and ears on both ends of the telephone. No news from Salt Springs. Midnight, returns from every precinct in the county received showing reasonable Populist majority in every one. All this time and no authentic news from Salt Springs. It comes; out of a possible total vote of 171 Mr. Atkinson gets 382 majority. This is but one out of hundreds of like instances that could be given. But we must be charitable and attribute these causes of stealing the people's rights to political "kleptomaniacs," just as we are charitable towards other cases of "kleptomaniacs" in high quarters. C. F. PARKER.

Kipling To Revisit India.

Much interest will be felt by the public in the return of Rudyard Kipling to India. He has agreed to furnish a regular contribution to The Cosmopolitan Magazine for the coming year, beginning his work upon his return to India. India has never been critically considered by such a pen as Kipling's, and what he will write for The Cosmopolitan will attract the widest attention, both here and in England.

Perhaps the most beautiful series of pictures ever presented of the Rocky mountains will be found in a collection of fourteen original paintings, executed by Thomas Moran for the May Cosmopolitan.

Altogether.

The hard money, hard-headed and soft-headed elements of both the Republican and Democratic parties are thicker than peas in a pod. Anybody who has a gold dollar mark on his left arm goes with the crowd. Politics cuts no figure. There is no mention in the Republican papers that wear a gold collar about a man being an "ex-rebel," a "moss-backed copperhead," or an "English serving free trader," if he only believes firmly in the gospel of the gold dollar robbery. He is of the elect if he is only dishonest enough to advocate a 200-cent gold dollar. The democracy of Chicago have no daily paper now. The gold dollar portion of the party does not need one. The Republican papers are doing its work quite as well as any party organ could do. A fellow-feeling makes these people, who were lately estranged by political differences, wonderful kind to each other. It is another illustration of the truth that birds of a feather will flock together. The tie that binds them to each other is strong. It is the tie of greed and selfishness. Gold dollar Democrats are vowing that if the party endorses free silver they will go with the Republicans. Free silver Republicans declare that if their party bows to the golden calf they will forsake it, and thus the financial question is becoming the dividing line, and it is well enough that it is. The battle might as well be fought to the finish now as at any time; indeed better now than later, for the question must be settled and settled in the interests of the people, or we shall plunge into bankruptcy as individuals and as a government. And the people should be fully awake to their own interests in the premises. No partisan prejudice and no sentiment should prevent the people from taking the side of silver. There is one great danger ahead and that is that the friends of silver will split up into two many parties and the minority gold advocates will be able to ride into power over a majority. A free silver party is contemplated; the Populists are for free silver, and it looks very much as if the Democratic party, or a portion of it would be. If the free silver forces go into the conflict with any divisions as this, they will be beaten from the start.—The Farmers Voice.

"Blood to the Horses' Briddles."

Hon. David H. Waite, ex-governor of Colorado, who has caused the corporations and money changer more uneasiness than any man of the present time, has established a weekly reform paper at Denver, Colo. It is chockful of good thoughts and terse sayings on living issues. It would be cheap at \$1.00 per annum, but the price is 50 cts. The governor is a broad, liberal thinker; he delves deeply and analyzes closely; he is such a forceful writer that even those who differ with him delight to read his paper. He closed one of his recent speeches with the following significant paragraph: "Our weapons are arguments and the ballot—a free ballot and a fair count. But if the money power shall attempt to sustain its usurpation by 'the strong hand,' we will meet that issue when it is forced upon us; for it is better, infinitely better, that blood should flow to the horses' briddles, rather than our national liberties should be destroyed." Every progressive thinker should send 50c to "Our Nation's Crisis," Denver, Colo. The paper will be given as a premium with every payment of \$2.00 to the People's Pilot on subscription account.

Russell Threshing Machines.

L. S. Renicher is the agent for the Russell threshing machine. Any one contemplating the purchase of a threshing machine should see him and investigate the merits of this machine. He has used one with unequalled satisfaction in this county, and can guarantee every claim for it. Farmers who have had work done with it prefer it to any other. Prices as low as asked for inferior machines, and the easiest possible terms given for time payments. A full steam outfit will be on exhibition near Rensselaer depot after the 15th of April.

BUCKLIN'S ARNICA SALVE.

The best salve in the world for cuts, bruises, sores, ulcers, salt rheum, fever sores, tetter, chapped hands, chilblains, corns and all skin eruptions, and positively cures piles, or no pay required. It is guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction, or money refunded. Price 25 cents per box. For sale by F. B. Meyer.

England dictates our finances.

More money will bring better times.

Push the work of the Industrial Legion.

Nothing is settled until it is settled right.

All kinds of money should be issued by the government.

Neither laws nor constitutions can prevent revolutions.

Organization is what we need, and not platform trimming.

What are you doing to assist your neighbor to see the truth?

The People's party headquarters ought to be in the Mississippi valley.

What are the chairman and secretary of the People's party national committee doing?

The Supreme court exempts the British landlord and bondholder from paying an income tax.

The people made the courts and legislatures, and it now looks like the people will have to unmake them.

The Standard Oil company has raised the price of oil. That's right, sock it to 'em! That's what they voted for.

The Supreme court has not "guessed" at the bond sale, but it is, doubtless, in their opinion, perfectly constitutional.

The trouble about the Republicans redeeming Kansas seems to be, there were not enough offices for the redeemers.

Enforced idleness and hunger make anarchists, and the men who are responsible for these conditions are worse than the anarchists.

They are having more fun than a box of monkeys over in Illinois about the Democratic convention called there to declare for free silver.

The Globe-Democrat remarks that Cleveland's letter to the Chicago bankers "reads as if he had been taking another ride with John Sherman."

There is nothing new in Coxey's plan for the government to build public roads. Henry Clay and John C. Calhoun advocated this idea in their time.

If there is one legal way to stop the depredations of the Standard Oil company, they ought to be treated as any other set of thieves when caught stealing.

The million and a half of Populist voters in this country say emphatically that "a government for the people, of the people, and by the people shall not perish from the face of the earth."

The Supreme court having decided that direct taxes are unconstitutional and that the income tax so far as it relates to incomes on lands and bonds is a direct tax, why not decide that it is unconstitutional to pay the sugar planters a "direct" bonus on the sugar they raise?

Miss Kate Field speaks of the Populists as the "disgruntled tailings of both political parties." But then Miss Field lives in Washington, and Washington is the gable end of hell. By the way, there are some tailings in the Field family, and they are not Populists, either.

The railroad companies and the Standard Oil company are claiming that their incomes are from land, and under the decision of the Supreme court they will not pay the income tax. It seems like this farce has gone far enough. Here are the seeds of revolution. "Sow to the wind and you will reap the whirlwind."

"Business is looking up," says the plute press all over the country. Of course it is. It cannot look in any other direction, being flat on its back, and too weak to turn on its side. It is in feebleness trying to view its surroundings in the hope it may yet have a chance to rally its remaining strength for a final struggle with the money barons that struck it down.

The parity parrots prate continually about honest money and the parity of gold and silver, but why do they not admit both of these metals to the mints on an equal footing, and settle at once and forever the question of parity? For a very simple reason, and because there is no sincerity or honesty in all their talk. They are simply dissembling and shamming for the express purpose of deceiving the people. These parity parrots are simply croaking frauds.

Electric lights are enabling people to see more clearly many things in the dark than they have ever seen before. Most conspicuous of all is the fact that municipal ownership of this and other conveniences reduces the expense to the people from 100 to 300 per cent over the rates maintained under corporate control. In the 400 or 500 cities where municipal ownership of water works, electric light and gas plants has been tried not a single failure has been reported, but on the contrary the people have had a more efficient service at rates from 100 to 300 per cent cheaper than when supplied by corporations. If these conveniences can be managed so well under municipal ownership, why not apply the same principle to railways and telegraph lines and have government ownership of these conveniences and natural monopolies? Would it not be a political application of the same principle of the municipal ownership of water works, gas and electric lighting plants? If not, why not?

We must educate or we must perish.

Now is the time to push the work of organization.

Any law passed in favor of the rich is constitutional. See?

And now comes the Democratic party trying to pose as a free silver party. Scat!

Everybody seems to be disposed to get in line again on the Omaha platform.

The divisions in the Democratic party must be met with unity in the People's party.

The only over-production we see in this country is an over-production of fools.

An old party promise is not worth the paper it is written on, unless given to a plutocrat.

The "sound" currency men are now very busy, which means the devil is not asleep.

There is talk of nominating Cleveland for a third term. Should they do so the People's party should pass a vote of thanks.

Sentiment favoring government ownership of railroads is growing faster than any other principle embodied in the Omaha platform.

We don't indorse everything in "Coin's Financial School," yet it is good literature to circulate. It knocks the gold bugs "off'n the Christmas tree."

The advice to drop all other issues but the currency question would have more weight if it came from Populists themselves. As it is, it is well the people so promptly rejected it.

Mr. Bland announces his intention of still continuing the fight for free silver in the ranks of the Democratic party. This is as good a thing as the gold bugs want. They own the Democratic party.

The political mountebanks of the two old parties are scheming how to construct their platforms so as to again fool the people. It will not only take a change of platforms, but there must be a change of leaders, and this they will not submit to.

The alien landlords who hold 25,000,000 acres of land in this country will escape taxation under the decision of the Supreme court of the United States on the income tax laws. The Astors and great land syndicates, who own millions of acres of land and derive millions of dollars from rents, also escape. Why should these land owners escape? It is true the Supreme court has decided the law as applied to incomes from land rents unconstitutional, but what fair-minded man believes the decision a just one, except those greedy land-owners who are heartless? Very few men have any respect for a decision that seems to have been strained to protect as far as it was possible to do the very wealthy classes. This decision is so closely akin to the noted Dred Scott decision that it is already meeting with the righteous condemnation and contempt of the people, who look upon justice as now rendered by the courts as a miserable farce.

Times are hard, eh? That is true—ah, too true, but what are you doing, reader, to better them? You may consider yourself as being but a drop in the great ocean of humanity, but you have a vote, and every man and woman has a certain influence. How are you voting your influence? Are you voting with the men who make times hard? If you are, you ought not to complain, for you are aiding in imposing these conditions upon yourself, your family and your neighbors. Do not be content to float as a rotten chunk in the stream of public opinion, but be a man, think and act for yourself. It is your bounden duty to study the problems of government, as you have as much right to a voice in the affairs of government as any other man in it, and you are as much a factor—a part of the government as any other man, and to a certain extent responsible for the wrongs in government if you are not faithful to the trust imposed in you as a voter. Think of these things soberly and candidly, and let your vote and influence be cast with those who would correct the evils you complain of, and drive hard times from our land.

If you are opposed to the government ownership of railways and telegraph lines can you give a good reason for your position on that question? If the principle is wrong the world ought to know it soon, as it is rapidly coming to the front and being accepted by men in all politics. If you have good reasons why government ownership of the natural monopolies is wrong you ought to at once make them known. Who knows but what you are the very one to undeceive the people in this matter and expose the fallacy—if fallacy it be, of government ownership of railways? Then, again, is it not possible that the principle may be right and you are wrong? Is it not possible that you are guided more by prejudice than common sense and reason? Is it not altogether probable that party bias may have a good deal to do in the makeup of your judgment? That you oppose government ownership because your party opposes it or does not indorse it? In short is not the reason of your opposition based on the fact that you are very much like a poll-parrot—mouthing over words you have heard somebody else say, and really have no well-defined opinion of your own in the matter?