

THE PEOPLE'S PILOT.

BY F. D. CRAIG, (Lessee.)

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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 per cent, 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 bank 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 post office 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 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.

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.

Affidavit of Circulation.

State of Indiana, County of Jasper, ss.
Francis D. Craig, Editor of the People's Pilot, does solemnly swear that the actual number of bona fide subscribers to The People's Pilot is in excess of 1,000, subscribers to Mr. Pleasant, Iowa, Refundum, which list has been combined with that of the People's Pilot, and that the regular edition of the People's Pilot printed during the past three months, 2,000 copies, and that the number of new subscribers received for the People's Pilot since the 1st day of January, 1895, exceeds 300.F. D. CRAIG,
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 20th day of May, 1895. David W. Shields, Notary Public.

What May Happen in 1896.

The intensity of the silver campaign now in heated progress is developing some very strong indications of a split in both the old parties on this issue. The masses of the people in all parts of the country are strongly attached to silver and refuse to be led by the bosses who defend the single gold standard with a zeal and determination that could be aroused only by the limitless purse of the Rothschilds and their American allies.

The people resent the ridicule and brutal attacks of the gold bug press upon their honest convictions, and are suspicious of the Herculean efforts being made by the great banking interests with headquarters in New York, to "educate" the people against silver. They took with alarm at the rapidity with which the great papers of the country have been bought up and their powerful influence changed from silver to gold.

They saw with disgust their legislators in the last congress betray their trust through the corrupt distribution of public patronage. Everywhere the spectacle is presented of the utmost harmony between democratic and republican leaders; almost nothing is being said on the tariff, and each party says the other is all right on the financial question. It is given out squarely through all the official sources of both the old parties that they are a unit on the money question; both are for gold; both are against silver; both are for the destruction of the few remaining greenbacks; both are for bonds, gold bonds, plenty of them, hundreds of millions more than we now have; both are for national banks with their circulation untaxed and loaned to them free by the government; both are against the income tax; both by their acts have proven a practical unity of opinion and purpose on the stupendous tariff farce.

The voter is athirst for information on the subject of finance and everywhere he is laying aside the goggles of party prejudice and carefully reading with the naked eyes of a free elector the plain, logical statements of fact, and drawing his own conclusions. A marvelous revolution of thought is taking place and as the days go by the disturbance of old ideas is increasing.

The effect on many will be to stimulate them in an effort to have their honest convictions incorporated in the platforms of their respective parties, but the majority will go to the populists and help win victory for the principles of the Omaha platform. Those who carry the fight into the old party conventions will have a warm job on their hands, for this is a battle to the finish, and whichever faction is defeated will bolt, and organize an independent convention. It need surprise no one if in the campaign of 1896 there are two republican and two democratic tickets, the conditions being fully as favorable for such a development as were the conditions in 1860.

It must be remembered that under such circumstances the peoples party will cut no insignificant figure, for in the last election it polled one-fourth of all the votes cast. It has since made immense growth through the agitation of the coinage question and the natural effect of the crushing defeat of the democracy last fall. With the opposing parties divided and a prospect of success large numbers who have populist sympathies would leave the old parties and vote with them, thus practically assuring their success.

In the event, also, of the formation of a new party by the silver republicans and democrats the chances of success for the populists are equally as good, for the same support would go to them as though the old parties divided into four parties.

Again, if the silver men capture both the old party conventions, it is a settled question that the gold standard men will bolt and unite in the formation of a gold standard party. If but one of the old parties is saved to the goldites, that party will receive the united support of all the banking interests and gold democrats and gold republicans will stand loyally by it shoulder to shoulder.

In any event the prospects of victory for the masses though the people's party in 1896 is flattering indeed. The wrecking of one or both of its great opponents is a foregone conclusion in the minds of every thinking observer, and the opportunity is propitious for winning a glorious victory. On, brothers, on!

No Money Contributed for Silver.

The report that the silver convention at Salt Lake proposed to raise \$250,000 a month to push the silver campaign in the East has been the cause of much gossip and discussion. While Mr. W. H. Harvey sat chatting with a group of gentlemen in the Illinois Club Friday night after his debate with Professor Laughlin, this report was referred to and it was jokingly asked how much "Coin" expected to get out of the silver fund. Said Mr. Harvey:

"Not a penny. That is a good story for my friend the professor, or to use, and it may be true the gentleman gathered at Salt Lake talked of raising \$250,000 a month, but they could not raise one hundredth part of that sum for a campaign. It is natural for men who have little to talk about the use of money in a campaign. They hear this talk and get the idea that money is the only power that will win. They feel that it is necessary to raise money, and they often plan to do it, but the great trouble is that they are not able to get it themselves, and those who are able are not with them and will not give. I do not believe that the men at the Salt Lake convention can raise \$10,000 to push their propaganda, and it is not necessary. They have no need for money in such a campaign."

"But where are your rich silver miners of Colorado? They ought to subscribe liberally," remarked one of the club men.

"The silver miners are like the gold miners. They are bullet men and bankers. Their banking interests outweigh their silver interests, and they are with my friend the professor, on the other side, when it comes to giving money. Here is a letter received by a gentleman in Chicago today from Mr. C. F. Thomas, of Denver. It was handed to me this afternoon to look at. Mr. Thomas is chairman of the Democratic State committee. In reference to just such a scheme as that proposed at Salt Lake Mr. Thomas says,"

said Mr. Harvey reading from the letter:

HARD TO RAISE MONEY.

"So far as your plan is concerned, it is a most excellent one, but there is no probability that \$200 per month or any other sum will be raised or paid for that purpose among our people. Indeed, I have resolved to ask for no more contributions for the cause, since the most of those who can give bluntly and almost rudely refuse to do so, while those who cannot give need not be troubled with needless importunities." The silver campaign is not pushed by money. It is the cause of the people, and it has a sentiment behind it that is stronger than any created by money."

NOT BOOMED BY RICH MEN.

"My friends, the good men are too generous in their efforts to boom 'Coin.' Nobody and no organization is buying the books by thousands for circulation. The news companies and book dealers are handling it in every state in the union, and thousands of people are sending us letters every day ordering single copies, while a good many are ordering one or two or perhaps a dozen copies sent to their friends. 'Coin' is under no necessity for any rich man like Senator Cameron to purchase 10,000 copies for the people. The Pennsylvanians are doing their own buying and paying for their own books. It interests and amuses me to see the gold monometallists circulating these reports and abusing rich men for using their money in such a dangerous manner."

"But they are unjust to their own friends and supporters. They slander the rich men and ought to be more charitable at home in their own circles. 'Coin' will circulate just as well without any family quarrels or false accusations among the millionaires who seem to be suspicious of each other. The books go to New England on New England orders; to the South on orders from that section, and to New York upon orders from every city in that state. We have no need for a big campaign fund for silver to send this literature out to the people. They are eager to get it and are buying it for themselves."

NO FUND IN EXISTANCE.

"And gentlemen, if any of you are able to run down and corner that \$250,000 silver fund I should like to be informed. I have never found such a fund behind silver, and when I wanted to publish 'Coin's Financial School' I made pretty diligent search for the backers of silver who had the money to push such a campaign and help to arouse the people. I could not find them in Colorado or any silver state. I had a written contract with an Ogden (Utah) banker to whom I had loaned money time and again, in which he agreed to loan me \$5,000 on safe securities worth four times that amount. I was never to draw more than \$2,000 at a time. I got \$1,000 of that money and he went back on his contract and left me in the lurch. I have no faith in any man who has money subscribing to a fund for a silver campaign, and these reports are used by the gold men to create the impression that it is not a sincere conviction with

"How do you account for such lack of interest?"

"It is very simple. As I said, the bullion men are bankers, and they are in reality with the bankers of the East on this question. They may talk silver at home to be with the people, but they are not putting up any money for the cause. They are today buying up Denver, and they have already gathered in a good share of it since the hard times began. They are prospering by this depression."

"But it is reported they have subscribed liberally to 'Coin' and helped to circulate your books."

TRIED TO BORROW MONEY.

"Not the silver miners and bullion men. I can give you my own experience in an effort to secure money in Denver. A year ago, when I was bringing out 'Coin's Financial School,' I needed money, and went to Den-

ver to borrow \$10,000. I had 640 acres of land in the suburbs of Pueblo and had bankers' certificates that it had a cash value of \$20,000. I had paid \$37,000 cash for it, and there was not a dollar's incumbrance on the property, and I wanted to borrow \$10,000 on it. I thought it would be an easy matter, especially in Denver, where the rich silver bullion-owners and bankers lived, and I went to Dennis Sheedy, president of the Globe Smelter and vice-president of the Colorado National Bank. I presented my proposition to him and offered to give a first mortgage on my property and pay whatever interest he should fix on the money. I proposed to leave it all to him and put up \$20,000 worth of property for \$10,000 in money. But my property had no rental value, and Mr. Sheedy declined to loan me any money on any property that did not have a rental value equivalent to the interest. I took my proposition to other smelters and bankers, with the same result. They all knew that I needed the money in my business, which was publishing silver literature. Now, after such an experience it is ridiculous to talk about these men subscribing hundreds of thousands of dollars for a silver campaign."

As Mr. Thomas says in his letter: 'Those who can give, bluntly and almost rudely refuse to do so, while those who cannot give need not be troubled with needless importunities.' The silver campaign is not pushed by money. It is the cause of the people, and it has a sentiment behind it that is stronger than any created by money."

"Well, I see that Don Cameron is with you, and has ordered 10,000 books for circulation in Pennsylvania."

"Another canard, pure and simple. Senator Cameron has done nothing of the kind. He did send a list of the members of the Pennsylvania Legislature and an order for one copy of 'Coin's Financial School' to be sent to each of them. That called for about three hundred and fifty copies, I think."

NOT BOOMED BY RICH MEN.

"My friends, the good men are too generous in their efforts to boom 'Coin.' Nobody and no organization is buying the books by thousands for circulation. The news companies and book dealers are handling it in every state in the union, and thousands of people are sending us letters every day ordering single copies, while a good many are ordering one or two or perhaps a dozen copies sent to their friends. 'Coin' is under no necessity for any rich man like Senator Cameron to purchase 10,000 copies for the people. The Pennsylvanians are doing their own buying and paying for their own books. It interests and amuses me to see the gold monometallists circulating these reports and abusing rich men for using their money in such a dangerous manner."

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