

THE PEOPLE'S PILOT.

BY F. D. CRAIG, (Lessee.)

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Congressional Convention.

Pursuant to instruction from the State Central Committee, I hereby call a convention of the People's Party of the Tenth Congressional District of Indiana to meet at Rensselaer at one o'clock sharp, on Saturday, July 16, 1896, to elect delegates and two alternates to the People's Party National convention to be held at St. Louis, Mo., July 22, 1896, said Congressional Convention to be composed of delegates, one delegate from each township and one additional delegate for each fifty and major fraction thereof of the votes cast for Dr. Robinson for secretary of state, which will entitle the several counties to delegates as follows: Warren 13, Tippecanoe 16, White 16, Benton 12, Newton 13, Jasper 24, Lake 15, Porter 15, La Porte 24.

The several county chairmen are requested to at once assemble county conventions to select delegates as above. Counties that are unorganized will meet in mass convention and besides naming delegates perfect organization.

Arrangements have been made for half fare rates on the Monon and a large popular gathering is assured as speakers of national reputation will address the people in the afternoon and evening on the Free Coinage of Silver and Money Question. Hon. H. S. P. Ashby of Texas has been engaged and no pains should be spared to make this inaugural event in the campaign of this district productive of great good. Half rates good going on Wednesday and Thursday and returning on Saturday.

F. D. CRAIG, Chairman.

Newton County People's Party Convention.

Voters of the People's Party of Newton County will meet in mass convention at Goodland, Ind., July 10 at 2 o'clock p. m. for the purpose of selecting delegates to the district convention to be held at Rensselaer July 16, 1896. Newton County is entitled to 13 delegates. Also at same time and place elect nominees for county ticket.

The reasons for taking this course are these: Hon. H. S. P. Ashby of Texas will speak in Goodland at night of July 10. It will be a busy time of year among farmers and one meeting is sufficient for above business if it be a little to one side of the county. It will pay to go a little out of the way to hear one of the finest orators in the land tell us something about what is the matter with us, to attend to the Congressional business and to nominate a county ticket all in one day. Let the opera house be crowded.

JOHN PRATT, Chairman.

GEO. A. CUMMINGS, Secretary.

Dates for "Stump" Ashby.

The following dates have been arranged for Hon. H. S. P. Ashby of Texas:

Friday, July 10, night, Goodland.
Saturday, July 11, afternoon De Motte, night, Wheatfield.
Monday, July 13, afternoon Laporte, night, Michigan City.
Tuesday, July 14, afternoon, Chesterport, night, Valparaiso.
Wednesday, July 15, afternoon, Crown Point, night, Hammond.
Thursday, July 16, afternoon, Rensselaer, night, Remington.
Friday, July 17, afternoon, Delphi, night, Logansport.
Saturday, July 18, afternoon, Monticello, night, La Fayette.

"A Harmless Bolt."

Under the heading of "A Harmless Bolt" the Republican says that Utah, Montana and Nevada have each two electoral votes. Every school boy knows that the constitution of the United States provides that the number of electoral votes of each state shall equal the number of senators and representatives of each state; and further that the constitution provides that each state shall be entitled to two senators and at least one representative. Therefore no state can have less than three electoral votes. The editor of the Republican should study the speeches of McKinley less and the constitution of his country more.

VERITAS.

Party Not in It. During the last year or two the money question has been voted on in Congress a number of times, and on every occasion there has been shown an utter disregard of party obligations. There is something about these money questions exceedingly disintegrating to political party organizations. Such discordant elements as Sherman and Cleveland, under the influence of this power solvent, come together like two drops of water. As snow melts under the summer sun so party discipline dissolves in the presence of money. This has been demonstrated over and over again.

These money questions are invariably questions of money getting. They are questions between the money makers and the money grabbers, between those who earn money and those who get money without earning. The United States government of late more than ever before is arrayed on the side of the money getters and against the earners of money; party has little to do with it. Whatever the money power demands finds ready support from both parties.—Civic Review.

Fountain Park Assembly camp meeting will be held this year July 17th to 27th at their beautiful Park grounds near Remington, Ind. A splendid programme is assured.

GRANDPA'S HAT.

Harrison the recipient of an offer from a baroness Magalloway.

Benjamin H. Harrison was offered \$10,000 by a certain New York paper to write for it a gossip letter of not less than 100 words each day from the reporters' gallery in the republican national convention. There are thousands of honest, sober, industrious laboring men engaged in producing wealth in this country who would gladly bind themselves to their masters during the remainder of their natural lives if their masters would agree to secure them in the possession of a job which would average them \$300 per year.

Put these two facts together and then consider some other things in connection with them.

Ten thousand dollars at the above rate would hire a man to grub, plow, hustle lumber, shovel coal, or do any other "unskilled" labor—which, by the way, is always cheaper than "skilled" labor, though it is the humble mudsill upon which the latter depends for its support—thirty-three years and four months, at the end of which time the unskilled laborer, if he had not died sooner, would be ready to fill a pauper's grave.

Ten thousand dollars will buy, and pay cash for, one of the finest 160-acre farms in the grandest agricultural state in the Union; it will buy and pay cash for two stores better than the average stores of the country; it will buy, and pay cash for, ten of the average blacksmith, wagonmaker or carpenter shops of the country. At 6 per cent interest \$10,000 will produce an annual income, without the slightest exertion on the part of its owner, as great as two of our unskilled laboring men can earn in the production of wealth by a hard year's work and be just as fresh at the opening of its second year as it was at the beginning of its first.

But what is perhaps more suggestive, \$10,000 would have hired one hundred better, brighter and brainier men than Ben Harrison, either of whom would have sent better "copy" to the paper employing him than Harrison could.

Then who or what is Benjamin Harrison, that he should be thus favored above other men?

Physically he is a little, short, pudgy fellow, a good deal after the style of "Punch" in Punch and Judy, gray bearded and gray haired and over 60 years old.

Mentally he is cunning enough to "keep his plate right side up when it rains porridge" and to espouse the best paying side of any question in which he may be interested. It goes without the saying, since he has never produced a dollar's worth of wealth in his life and is a corporation lawyer ever ready to defend corporate interests, right or wrong, that he is a plutocrat of the plutocrats; that he is not a multi-millionaire comes, not because he is troubled with the least qualms of conscience about the morality of the business of appropriating to his own use the wealth created by the working bees in the industrial hive, but solely because his cunning falls short of the degree necessary to make the opportunity of its acquirement a perfectly safe one.

Strange as it may seem in a country where the majority is said to rule and where the humble producers outnumber the leeches in the proportion of a hundred to one, this cold-blooded parasite, who glories in the ability of capital to crush the life out of labor organizations, has been general in the army, governor, United States senator, and president of the United States by virtue of votes cast by men whom and whose calling he holds in utter contempt, and it is because of the hope that the notoriety he has thus gained may be made to redound to his private gain that a plutocratic paper made him the offer noted above.

Such men and such papers fit representatives of a Christian (?) civilization of the dark ages chiefly in the fact that it has transferred the right of man to possess himself of his neighbor's property from his physical to his mental ability to do so. However, the day is not far distant when theft, whether accomplished at the end of a gun-barrel or the end of a contract, will be recognized for what it really is. Then the history of such men as Harrison and such offers as the above will be objects of a great curiosity and wonderment as the strangest relics of an earlier barbarism now is.

Fallen! Fallen!

Populists are sometimes twitted with being a set of financial ne'er do wells, who, having miserably failed to get rich themselves, naturally grumble at the fellows who have been luckier.

Now the shoe is on the other foot. The Republican party, that tremendous machine controlled by the Money Power, will soon put a candidate in the field, Maj. McKinley, who failed in business a year or two ago, and came out of the catastrophe owing \$100,000 more than he had cash to meet.

A number of wealthy manufacturers kindly made up a pony purse to put the major out of debt. These men, together with others of the same class, have been furnishing funds to help Mr. McKinley secure the nomination for the presidency—as Senator Wm. Chandler boldly charged some time ago.

Soon we shall have the humiliating spectacle of a bankrupt candidate who is to cure hard times, and whose nomination has practically been bought by a set of men who expect to be greatly benefited by the particular kind of legislation of which said candidate is the avowed champion.

To such a depth of degradation has the party of Lincoln fallen!—Nevada Director.

THE FIRST GUN.

HON. FRANK BURKITT OPENS CAMPAIGN IN ARKANSAS.

Finance, Transportation and Land the Three Great Distinctive Principles of the People's Party—History of the Party.

The following are extracts taken from the speech of Hon. Frank Burkitt, ex-candidate of the people's party for governor of Mississippi in 1895. The speech was delivered at Hardy, Ark., May 30, 1896.

Fellow Citizens: When four thousand men own more than half the property of a nation of seventy millions; when two men are the proprietors of 14,000,000 acres of land, when corporations and foreign syndicates have been given or permitted to grab land enough in this country if in a body to make four such states as Arkansas; when fifty-two per cent of our entire population are tenants; when of 2,277 heads of families in ward 1 in the city of New York only 13 own their homes unencumbered; when heartless millionaires like Pullman exercise the power to reduce arbitrarily the wages of their employes three times in one year, at the same time declaring the usual dividends; when federal judges at the bidding of corporations enjoin men from doing what they never contemplated, and imprison them for failure or refusal to commit the crime charged; when the same tools of plutocracy attempt to compel workmen to submit to the exaction of railway magnates or be punished for refusing to work; when the President of the United States will at the behest of soulless corporations invade a sovereign state over the protest of a governor and in defiance of the constitution and law of the land; when a servile congress farms out the right to issue, expand and contract the currency of a great nation at will and pleasure of 3,756 national bankers; when an incompetent and corrupt secretary of the treasury dickers in secret with the old clients and partners of the president in the sale of bonds at a price that enables the purchasers to reap a profit of millions of dollars; when a supreme court solemnly declares that the rich and powerful may escape taxation, while the products of farm, mine and factory do not yield a sufficient profit to the producers to decently feed, clothe and educate their children; when soup houses are regarded as necessary institutions in our cities, when the highways of this, the greatest nation on earth, are thronged by 2,000,000 human beings, who, like the Son of Man, are homeless and homeless, with not where to lay their heads, I assume that you will agree with me that there is something wrong in this country.

To right the wrongs from which people suffer, after earnest, prayerful efforts to induce the democratic and republican party leaders to cease to foster monopoly and adopt as a policy "the greatest good to the greatest number," many good and true men, more patriotic than putrid, feeling that nothing would be done by either of the old parties to restore to the country much needed prosperity, resolved upon the organization of a new party which would embody in its declaration of principles the republicanism of Jefferson and Lincoln and the democracy of Jackson and Calhoun, and they christened it with the identical name which Jackson's party assumed in 1828—"The People's Party."

We hear democratic speakers often boast that Thomas Jefferson was the founder of the democratic party. Permit me to say, for the benefit of the young men of the country, that Thomas Jefferson died years before there ever was a party organized in America bearing the name of democrat. It is true that Jefferson laid down certain great and fundamental principles of government, which were afterwards adopted by the democratic party under the leadership of Andrew Jackson, but in truth and fact Jefferson's party was called the republican party, and it is a fact of history that Abraham Lincoln and his followers claimed—and with more reason and greater consistency than the modern democracy—to be the disciples of Jefferson. A resume of political parties in the earlier days of the republic discloses the interesting fact that the people's party of today was organized under precisely the same conditions, and for precisely the same purposes, that called the democratic party into existence, as I have already stated, years after the demise of the author of the first declaration of American independence. So if principles rather than name can properly fix political status, the middle-of-the-road populist is the truest democrat in the land, if Jefferson and Jackson were democrats, and judged by the same standard the honest populist is the purest republican in America today, if Lincoln was a republican.

In the earliest days of the republic there were Shylocks as now, and the grasping greed of the money devil was almost as arrogant and aggressive under the administration of Washington as of Grover Cleveland. Always taking advantage of the misfortune of mankind, the money leeches seek to fasten themselves upon a people impoverished by war, and hence the patriot fathers of the revolution became the victims of these scavengers of civilization, and suffered in part the same outrages which we now endure.

In 1796 congress under the influence of Alexander Hamilton passed the United States bank bill, which conferred upon the incorporators similar powers and privileges as those now enjoyed by the national bankers. The charter of the bank was for twenty years, just as the present national banks, but there was no clause in the bill as in the national bank charters, reserving to congress the power to

charter of the U. S. bank at will and pleasure. In that day and time the courts held more tenaciously to the doctrine of "vested rights" than now, and statesmen as well as the people recognized the fact that the bank was a fixture until 1816. Jefferson was an uncompromising enemy to the bank and he declared "banks of issue are more dangerous to the liberties of the people than standing armies." He proclaimed the doctrine that the right to issue money must be taken from the bank and restored to the government (the people) to whom it belonged, and he proposed that when the government should stand in need of money it should issue its own bills of credit (treasury notes, greenbacks), bottomed on taxes. Although Mr. Jefferson recognized the fact that the act of 1796 conferred upon the U. S. bank the power to control the currency of the country until 1816, he knew it was necessary to educate the people to secure its overthrow and to this task he set himself, and in the year 1800 he organized his party, which he called the republican party. In that day nominating conventions were not the fashion. A man declared himself a candidate for the presidency as one of "the boys" would do now, who wished to be constable of his beat, and he wrote a letter to some friend avowing his principles, which served the purpose of the latter day convention platform. Mr. Jefferson's letter set forth conspicuously two planks: The first was opposition to the U. S. bank—uncompromising hostility to the idea of congress farming out the right to individuals or soulless corporations to control the currency of the country, and the second was opposition to federal interference in the local affairs of the states. On his declaration of principles Jefferson was elected president in 1800 and again in 1804 as a republican. Madison was elected his successor in 1808 on the same platform and again in 1812. But the war of 1812 having afflicted the country and produced much financial embarrassment, the money sharks took advantage of the situation to importune congress to re-charter the bank, which was done in 1816 and Madison in defiance of his pledges, approved the bill, which act rendered him almost as despicable in the eyes of the people as the present occupant of the White House.

Realizing that the country had been duped by the money-changers and betrayed by their representatives, the people were disgusted and ceased to agitate the financial question for a time. Monroe was elected twice, without opposition, but in the campaign of 1824 the bank question again became a leading issue. Four candidates for president entered the race. John Quincy Adams, the federalist, and a U. S. bank advocate was one, Henry Clay, who represented that wing of the old party of Jefferson that had made friends with the bank was another, and Andrew Jackson, representing Jefferson's ideas on the question of banks of issue and state rights was another. Wm. H. Crawford, of Georgia, was I believe, the fourth candidate.

It will be observed that the republican or Jeffersonian party had divided on the money question just as the democratic party is now divided on the same question. There was no election by the people, and the choice of a president was relegated to the lower house of congress. In the contest the friends of Adams and Clay, under the influence of the bank combined, and Jackson, the real representative of the Jeffersonian policy was defeated. Adams, the federalist, became president, and Clay, whose position was analogous to the gold-bug democrat of the present day, was made secretary of state, and thus it was the "bargain intrigue and corruption" charge, which prevented "Harry of the West" from ever being president, originated.

Mark you, fellow citizens, no democratic party had up to that time sprung into existence. The party of Jefferson (who died July 4, 1826) was still called the republican party. Adams served his term of office and old Nick Biddle, president of the bank, was the power behind the throne. Senators and congressmen were seduced and corrupted by the liberality of the bank in lending money and other methods so well known among financiers. An era of corruption never surpassed, perhaps, until the infamous national banking system under which we suffer, held high carnival, dictated the policy of the government and robbed the people unmercifully. But the end came, for in 1828 Jackson again took the field as a candidate for president, and allow me to say that he did not call himself a democrat nor his party the democratic party. He was elected as "The People's" candidate on a platform of principles practically the same as those promulgated at Omaha in the second declaration of independence, July 4, 1892. I hold in my hand a photographic copy of the ticket voted in Ohio in 1828. It is headed people's (not democratic) ticket. It has for its motto, "Gratitude, glory, patriotism," and its candidates, for president, Andrew Jackson; for vice president, John C. Calhoun. And I affirm, fellow citizens, here and now, that up to that time there was no organized party in this country known as the democratic party. In this campaign of 1828 the name of Locofoco democrats was given in derision to Jackson's followers, just as the name populist or poplite has been given to the members of the people's party by our enemies. Afterwards the name democrat was accepted and adopted by the Jackson party, just as we have accepted the name populist, but "Old Hickory" was first elected as a people's party man under precisely the same conditions and for precisely the same purposes that inspired honest, patriotic members of both the old parties to assemble at Omaha, Neb., on independence day, 1892.

Our opponents of both the old parties, while virtually admitting the identity

of our position with that of Jefferson and Jackson on the financial question, usually ignore the land plank and pour out their vitals of wrath upon government ownership of the means of transportation and communication. That they have little or nothing to say in criticism of the populist on the land question I attribute in part to the fact that the doctrine we preach was first proclaimed by Jefferson and is therefore older than the democratic party, and because of its popularity with the masses, was championed by democratic press and orators whenever there was a chance to secure political advantage in their contention with the republican party from '68 to '84, and in part to the fear that the party's record on this subject vital to the homeless majority of our people, would not bear close inspection.

Answering the assertion, ridicule and abuse of the tools of plutocracy who denounce the transportation plank of our platform, populists maintain that the principle is as old as the government itself.

It may be found in the declaration of the founders of the republic, that public highways are and shall be the property of the people. Navigable streams could not be owned in whole or in part by individuals, corporations, or by states even, but should forever remain the property of the general government.

Railroads are nothing more nor less than public highways, and to permit private ownership is a dangerous innovation on the doctrine so clearly, as I conceive, laid down in the case of dirt roads and navigable streams.

A Word to the Church.

Bishop Potter, of the Episcopal church, at the dedication of Grace chapel, in New York city, recently, made use of these strong words:

The growth of wealth and luxury, wicked, wasteful and wanton, as before God I declare that luxury to be, has been matched step by step by a deepening and deadening poverty which has left whole neighborhoods of people practically without hope and without aspiration. At such a time, for the church of God to sit still and be content with theories of its duty outlawed by time and long ago demonstrated to be grotesquely inadequate to the demands of a living situation, this is to deserve the scorn of men and the curse of God! Take my word for it, men and brethren, unless you and I and all those who have any gift or stewardship of talents, or means, of whatever sort, are willing to get up out of our sloth and ease and selfish dilettantism of service and get down among the people who are battling amid their poverty and ignorance—young girls for their chastity, young men for their better ideal of righteousness, old and young alike for one clear ray of the immortal courage and the immortal hope—then verily the church in its stately splendor, its apostolic orders, its venerable ritual, its decorous and dignified conventions, is revealed as simply a monstrous and insolent impertinence.

The Court.

I Am the great Supreme Court.
The Boss of all America.
I've got a dead cinch, see?
There's no disputing me—not much.
I interpret the law. I interpret it any way I please and all you can do is—roar.
Who said congress?
What do I care for Congress?
Congress ain't in it alongside of me. Let 'em make laws—I'll smash 'em. I can take a law made by congress for the good of the people and read it backwards, upside down, inside out, and interpret it so its own mother would not recognize it.

I play few favorites—mighty few.
Corporations and Plutocrats
Are my particular pets, and you bet I see that their interests are protected. That's what I'm here for—see?
The people be d—d. I am the only silk-gowned, white-wigged high mucky-muck this side the big puddle, and don't you forget it.—Kansas.

The gold bug democrats will not likely bolt the Chicago convention with a great blow of trumpets, when that body endorses free silver, but they will quietly vote the republican ticket, and when the election returns come in, will say, "didn't we tell you so?"

A Mistake.

"Perhaps the populists would accomplish more if they would drop the gold bug for the present and devote their energies to the chinich bug."—New York Press.

There you are all wrong. The chinich bug works only in patches; and it does not touch the potatoes, or the cattle, or the pigs, or the chickens, or the horses; but the gold bug devours them all. And then everybody says, "Good!" if we kill the chinich bugs, but there would be a terrible uproar if we killed the gold bugs. And certain kinds of weather produce spores that fasten on the chinich bugs and destroy them by the millions; but there is nothing that seems to have any effect on the gold bugs—they are as salubrious as bed bugs and as procreative. If we put corrosive sublimate on a gold bug, the daily papers of the whole country would shriek as if we had run a lancet into their vital parts; and the army and navy and the courts would all be put into operation to defend him.

Chinich bugs, indeed! Why, they are quiet, pleasant and harmless little chaps compared with the gold bugs. If we could get clear of the gold bugs the chinich bugs would not bother us.—Representative.

We now fear that it will require an X ray to find that silver party.



CROPS OF INDIANA.

U. S. Bureau, Indianapolis.

Occasional rains and warm weather continued. Too much rain has fallen in localities of the central and southern portion; it prevented cultivation of corn, caused wheat to sprout in shock and lodged oats. Corn continued to grow rapidly; in some fields it is tasseling. Oats are an excellent crop; it has headed, and is turning. Potatoes are in fine condition. Tobacco is doing splendidly. Gardens are in fine condition, and vegetables are growing rapidly; beans have been planted, and some are coming up. Melons and fruit are plentiful; peaches and apples are falling much. The blackberry crop is immense. The wheat and rye harvest and haying continued; wheat and rye are nearly all in shock, and thrashing has begun. A fine crop of timothy is being cut, and clover is being cut and housed. Pasturage is in fine condition. Chinich bugs are still doing damage to corn.

NORTHERN PORTION.

Lake county—Corn looks well, and is being weeded and cultivated; oats heavy, and many pieces badly lodged and being cut for hay; wheat and rye poor; potatoes fine; pastures good. Porter, LaPorte, St. Joseph and Elkhart counties—Except in a few localities, wheat and rye harvest about completed, and much in shock; rust did not damage wheat as much as was expected; condition of oats continues fine; corn in excellent shape, and week has been more favorable for its cultivation; hay making has begun; fine early potatoes in market; much oats has headed out; raspberry crop of fine quality; fruit continues good. Steuben, DeKalb and Noble counties—Wheat, rye and hay harvest in full blast; oats are headed, and some turning; wheat of better quality than was first expected; corn is fine, and weather has been favorable. Kosciusko and Marshall counties—Wheat harvest about completed, and thrashing and hay making will be general next week; quality of wheat only fair corn and potatoes never better gardens in fine shape. Pulaski and Fulton counties—Wheat harvest in progress, and potatoes were never better; gardens in fine shape; fine timothy is being cut; some wheat being thrashed, and is poor; rye only fair; corn is growing nicely; considerable millet being sown in Fulton county. Whitley and Allen counties—Favorable week, with some rain; wheat harvest in progress, and quality seems only fair; oats fine, but rank in localities; corn very fine; meadows generally good, and clover is being cut; fruit continues good; potatoes excellent. Adams and Wells counties—Rains have retarded farm work and hay making; oats very tall, but vigorous, and some is badly laid by rains; farmers cutting wheat and hay when opportunity offers; ground very soft; meadows in good shape; fly and rust have injured quality of wheat; potatoes excellent; corn doing well, but cultivation retarded by wet weather. Miami, Cass and Carroll counties—Rains have hindered wheat harvest somewhat, but most of it is completed, and thrashing will be general next week—quality poor, but some is better than expected; oats, hay and all grasses fine; corn is growing very fast, and has been kept remarkably clean; in some localities rye thrashing has begun; gardens fine, and stock doing well. Benton county—Wheat is generally all harvested, and a quality good in localities; heavy rains have laid meadows and oats, some of which have raised; corn, potatoes and gardens in fine condition. Grant county—Wheat harvest about completed, rye same—quality of grain is generally good; oats are the finest in years; meadows good; corn excellent. Jay county—Rains have retarded farm work in localities, nevertheless the wheat and hay harvest is on whenever opportunity offers; rye harvested; oats look well.

H. A. HUSTON, Director.

It is not developing very plainly where Warner, Bryan and Patterson are trying to lead the people's party. They were smart enough, however, to have some of our guns spiked at a time when they ought to have been in action.

Voting for a promise of free silver is not voting for free silver. Remember the democratic party has defeated ten free silver measures and is not in the habit of redeeming its promises. The people's party is the only party that means what it says.