

TO WAVE OLD GLORY.

Chairman Hanna Names October 31 Flag Day for Loyal Republicans.

DUTY OF PATRIOTIC CITIZENS.

Recognition of the Fact that the Party is Fighting for National Honor.

One does not have to go very far to seek the reason for the profuse display of the national emblem in this campaign. It can be found in the Chicago platform. The spontaneity of its selection as the appropriate badge of sound-money champions is wonderfully significant.

This tacit recognition of the fact that the flag is the one suitable emblem of the issues for which our party is contending is something new in our American politics.

Recognizing this fact, Chairman Hanna of the national committee suggests that October 31, the Saturday before election, be observed as "flag day" in every city and town, on which day every person who intends to vote for sound money and national prosperity shall display the national flag from his home and his place of business.

Remember the day—Saturday, October 31.—Chicago Times-Herald.

THE FARMERS' TOOLS.

Efficiency of Agricultural Implements Greatly Increased Since 1873.

The silver advocates have had so many of their pet theories absolutely demolished by collision with hard facts that they are now resorting to delusion and representation in hope of breaking the force of the various exposures they are meeting.

In a speech at the Central Music hall on September 21, the Saturday before election, attempting to answer the arguments presented by Carl Schurz in an address in the same hall earlier in the campaign, speaking of the decline in wheat, said: "The truth is that there has been scarcely any improvement in machinery for raising and harvesting wheat in the last twenty years."

Such a statement is a severe reflection either upon the inventive genius of American manufacturers and the progressive spirit of American farmers or upon the sincerity of Gov. Algeid himself.

The truth is that the greatest improvements in farm implements and machinery that have marked the latter half of the Nineteenth century have been made since 1873. Not only has the retail price of all classes of implements used on the farm been very much reduced during that time, but the efficiency of the machinery itself has been even more enormously increased.

To entirely overthrow this last perversion of truth with which the silver men are trying to bolster up a losing cause, retail prices of some of the principal farm machinery have been secured from leading manufacturers showing the cost to the farmer in 1873 and the cost in 1896. As the wheat crop begins with the plow, take the following statement from the three Chilled Plow works of South Hero, Ind., and see how the cost of plows has been reduced.

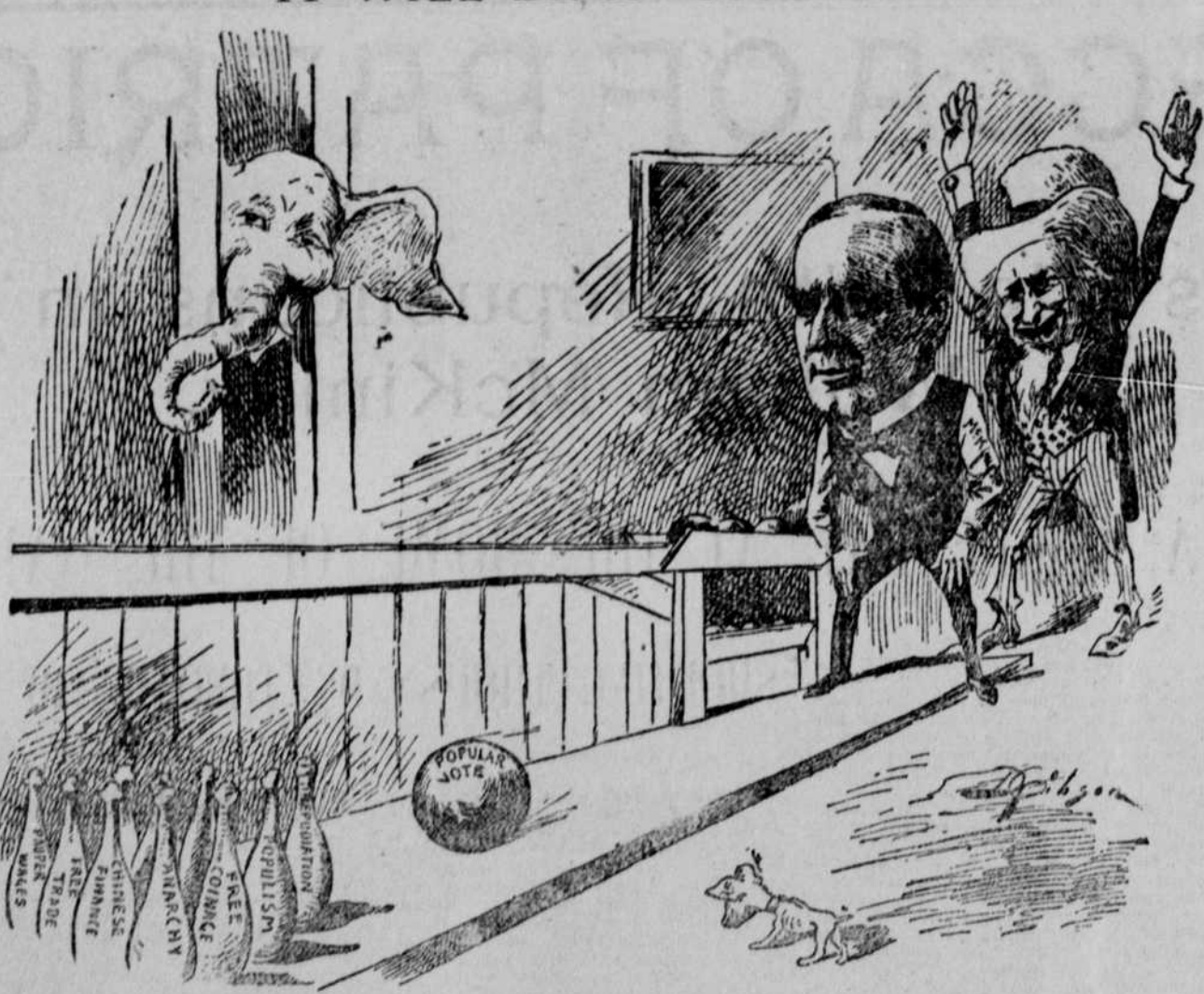
"We manufacture plows alone and in the year 1873 chilled plows of the numbers 30 and 40 were the leading patterns. At the same time and for the same purposes are accordingly based on them: In 1873 the retail price of the No. 30 was \$10.00.

In 1873 the retail price of the No. 40 was \$12.00. The same plow now retail at 30 cents each, and the No. 40 at 35 cents each. For these plows in 1873 retail at \$10.00 each, now retail at \$2.00 each. A similar statement can be made for all other classes of plows in 1873 retail at \$1.00 each, now retail at 25 cents each.

The construction and quality of the plows are far better than in 1873."

D. M. Osborne and Company of Auburn, N. Y., the great manufacturers of harvesting machinery, quote from their

IT WILL BE A "STRIKE."



—Cincinnati Times and Star.

THE FARMERS' FRIEND

A Comparison Between the Policy of the Republican and Democratic Parties.

LEGISLATED FOR AGRICULTURE

John M. Stahl Tells Why the Farmer Should Stand by His Friends.

John M. Stahl, a practical Illinois farmer, and a land owner in Missouri, Kansas and Nebraska, who is the editor of the Farmers' Call, Quincy, and also secretary of the Farmers' National Congress, is a man who has made his way from poverty to affluence, by the use of his own head and hands.

In a recent interview he discusses the relation of the American farmer to the two great political parties and points out the fact that in legislation the Republican party has always kept the interests of agriculture in view. He says: "It must be said to the credit of the farmers of the United States that they have never asked for more at the hands of Congress or lesser legislative bodies than they were ready to have granted to others, or for legislation that they did not believe would be of benefit to all the people. No exception to this is furnished by the tariff, which has been the most persistent political question in our history. No other question has been so important in so many campaigns. The second act passed by the Congress of the United States was a tariff act. The bill was introduced and discussed before Gen. Washington was inaugurated President and the bill was enacted into law two months before the passage of the law creating a treasury department. Tariff for protection and tariff for revenue, ad valorem duties and specific duties, etc., were thoroughly discussed while the first tariff bill was pending; and there have been few years since in which these questions did not engage the lively attention of the American people. It was inevitable, therefore, that the tariff should have the frequent consideration of a representative agricultural body meeting to discuss proposed legislation and to recommend to the favorable consideration of legislative bodies such measures as are deemed worthy of that recommendation. Such a body is the Farmers' National Congress and at its last annual meeting it adopted the following resolution:

Resolved, that we demand the same measure of protection for agricultural industries that is given to other industries. At the meeting referred to there were delegates from states in which are more than four-fifths of the farmers of the country, from California to Florida and from North Dakota to Texas. The resolution was adopted without one dissenting vote. As the honorable gentleman who has been master of the National Grange for eight years past and many other prominent officials of the Grange were present as delegates, the resolution may justly be taken as expressing the sentiments of the Grange also. Certainly the Farmers' National Congress, being composed of farmers, should not have demanded less; and, as it is non-political and unpartisan, it could not consistently say more. Similar resolutions have been adopted at previous meetings.

Whereas, it is an established principle with both of the great political parties that a tariff on imported goods adequate to meet the expenses of the government should be levied; therefore, Resolved, that we demand the same measure of protection for agricultural industries that is given to other industries. At the meeting referred to there were delegates from states in which are more than four-fifths of the farmers of the country, from California to Florida and from North Dakota to Texas. The resolution was adopted without one dissenting vote. As the honorable gentleman who has been master of the National Grange for eight years past and many other prominent officials of the Grange were present as delegates, the resolution may justly be taken as expressing the sentiments of the Grange also. Certainly the Farmers' National Congress, being composed of farmers, should not have demanded less; and, as it is non-political and unpartisan, it could not consistently say more. Similar resolutions have been adopted at previous meetings.

Protection Under McKinley Law. The McKinley law gave to agricultural industries the same measure of protection that it gave to other industries. Horses, hay, potatoes, onions, eggs, barley, fruits, wool and other products of our farms, the producers of which derive a direct benefit from a protective tariff on those articles, were given just and satisfactory protection; and thus the McKinley law met the proper wishes and the just and reasonable demands of the farmers. As soon as they had the power, Democrats hastened to remove the duties on farm products or to reduce them altogether; and the Wilson law does not give the same measure of protection to agricultural industries that it gives to other industries. Wood is a striking example of this. The McKinley law gave it proper protection, and while that law was in effect only a very short time, it

was in effect long enough to show that under its operation the production of wool would rapidly increase to the ultimate benefit of the entire community. The Democrats hastened to put wool on the free list, while retaining a substantial duty on the product of the mill and the mine. In 1885 there were in the United States 42,599,079 sheep, valued at \$90,040,980; in 1893 there were 47,273,553 sheep, valued at \$125,909,264; in 1896 there were 48,298,782 sheep, valued at \$65,167,735. Under the McKinley law the value of our sheep increased \$35,268,895; the Wilson law has taken from the value of our sheep \$60,741,529, or very nearly one-half. Under the Wilson law the importation of wool has doubled and the price of the domestic product has been halved. The McKinley law gave to wool and other farm products the just and equal protection demanded by farmers, and for steamship lines sufficient protection, and discriminating against the farmer, singled out wool growing as the one considerable industry to feel the full force of a disastrous free trade policy.

Reciprocity. At its annual meeting in 1890 the Farmers' National Congress passed a resolution in favor of reciprocity; and that it yet favors reciprocity is shown by the following resolution at its last meeting: Resolved, that the Farmers' National Congress has listened with profound interest to the able and instructive address of Senor Francisco Javier Yanes of Venezuela on the Commercial Relations of American Republics. Resolved, that to secure reciprocal trade with the United States, and to give American republics, this congress favors legislation for reciprocity, commercial treaties and for steamship lines sufficient to answer all the purposes of such trade.

The benefits to our agriculture from fair reciprocal arrangements were so apparent that the resolutions were adopted by a practically unanimous vote, though in the congress were delegates of all shades of political belief. The peculiar relation of reciprocity to agriculture appears from a reading of the reciprocity resolutions of the McKinley law. That with a view to secure reciprocal trade with countries producing the following articles, and for this purpose, on and after the first day of January, 1892, whenever, and so often as the President shall be satisfied that the government of any country producing and exporting to the United States any of the following articles, which in view of the free production of such sugar, molasses, coffee, tea and hides into the United States may be reciprocally unequal or unequal, he shall have the power and authority, by and with the approval of the Senate, to suspend, by proclamation, the duty to be levied on such articles to the free introduction of such sugar, molasses, coffee, tea and hides into the United States, for such time as he shall deem just, etc.

Although in effect only a short time, the reciprocity arrangement made under the McKinley law demonstrated the great benefit that reciprocity would be to our agricultural interests. Space will permit of the citation of only one case in point: Our production of wheat so far exceeds our needs, while the exportation of Russian and Argentine has increased so that it is of the highest importance to our farmers that our wheat markets be enlarged. The ability of reciprocity to do this is shown by our flour trade with Cuba. In less than four years under a reciprocity arrangement this trade increased 480 per cent., while in the first year after the arrangement was terminated it decreased 42 per cent. All the reciprocity arrangements would have been of much benefit to our agricultural interests; and the Democrats hastened to terminate them.

Home or Foreign Sugar, Which? Each year we send abroad more than \$100,000,000 for sugar. All doubt of our possessing the soil and climate over a sufficient area to produce from our own sugar we now import, has been removed. Our natural advantages for the production of beet sugar are such that, notwithstanding the higher wages paid here, and the fact that the cost of raising sugar is here produced at home, not only that which has been given by their best sugar industries by France and Germany by means of bounties, exemption of land from taxation, etc., would undoubtedly rapidly build up our sugar production. The McKinley law, by means of a bounty, gave to our best sugar industry the encouragement that the history of the industry in Germany and France has shown to be wise and fully advantageous to the nation. Under the operation of the McKinley law our production of beet sugar rapidly increased. Here are the figures:

Table with 2 columns: Year and Production. 1891: 17,000,000 lbs. 1892: 17,000,000 lbs. 1893: 17,000,000 lbs. 1894: 17,000,000 lbs. 1895: 17,000,000 lbs. 1896: 17,000,000 lbs.

Had the McKinley law bounties been continued, it is probable that we had not only the four thousand million pounds of sugar we now consume, but the increased consumption due to our increased population. It is probable that we had had legislation in our history that has shown a greater lack of business sense than the repeal of the sugar bounties, and certainly few other legislative measures in our history that have done so much to injure our agricultural interests as a greater injury to the country by greater ultimate material loss. To produce four thousand million pounds of beet sugar would require one million acres of land and the

wages paid to farm and factory labor would amount to \$75,000,000 per annum. Land and labor now devoted to crops of small profit and of which we produce an excess, like wheat, would be put to a more profitable use. The \$75,000,000 per annum would swell our domestic commerce by at least four times that amount. If we had produced our own sugar instead of gold having been exported during the past three years an export that has widely hurt our industries and business—gold would have been imported for the more than one hundred million dollars of gold or its equivalent sent abroad each year for sugar would have been kept at home.

Home or Foreign Wool, Which?

All these advantages—the use of land, the employment of labor, the increase of domestic commerce and of our circulating medium, the retention of gold—would follow also from a production of the 250,000,000 pounds of wool that we annually import under the Wilson law; a production that would come from the steady and continued aid of the Government as was given by the McKinley law. Surely, it is needless to say, has been and is, in favor of reciprocity, just protection to wool and other farm products, and such reasonable encouragement of our wool-growing industry as other countries have found profitable. In contrast with what Mr. Bryan said about tariff on wool is what Mr. McKinley said introducing his tariff bill into the House: "If there is any one industry which appeals with more force than another for defensive protection, it is wool, and no class of citizens should be more clearly and more liberally assisted, where it can properly be done, than to the million farmers who own sheep in the United States."

This shows Mr. McKinley's regard for the interests of agriculture, and Mr. McKinley, Mr. Bryan, also, may be judged by his utterances on the same subject. Republicans and Trusts. Farmers have been consistently and persistently opposed to trusts. This hostility has been exaggerated in the vociferous and sweeping denunciations of trusts by the Populists. The farmers of this country are well aware that there are more trusts that, while nearly and quite controlling the production and sale of certain articles to their own and their profit, have nevertheless, by reason of the economies of the aggregation of capital, the employment of best talent in directing, and of producing and handling large quantities, made the price of the articles to the consumers less than they were before and probably less than they would be if the trusts were not in existence. Nevertheless, the farmers of this country believe that in principle underlying trusts are wrong, and that the aggregate trusts are a serious injury to business and wield a power that will present to human nature a temptation too strong to resist, except in a few cases, to use that power to subvert parties and legislative bodies, for improper ends; in short, that the trust is an enemy to the people and a menace to the free government of this country. The farmers believe that in principle underlying trusts are wrong, and that the aggregate trusts are a serious injury to business and wield a power that will present to human nature a temptation too strong to resist, except in a few cases, to use that power to subvert parties and legislative bodies, for improper ends; in short, that the trust is an enemy to the people and a menace to the free government of this country.

Who Forfeits Land Grants? For some years the farmers of the country have been demanding that the grants of lands to aid in the construction of certain railroads, should be declared forfeited where the conditions of the grants had not been complied with. The Fifty-first Congress—the first Congress Republican in both branches since the demands for the annulment of these grants had been made—at its first session enacted a law. That there is hereby forfeited to the United States, and the United States hereby resumes the title thereto, all lands heretofore granted to any state, territory or to aid in the construction of a railroad opposite to and coterminous with the portion of any such railroad, the construction of which was required by the act, and all such lands are declared to be a part of the public domain.

This law should have much weight with the farmer in determining what ticket he will vote, for, aside from restoring considerable areas of the public domain to the profit of the national treasury, it showed that a Republican Congress did not fear to enact righteous laws for the people and against some of the most powerful corporations in the country—in marked contrast to the subservience to trusts and corporations of the Democratic Congress that we have had since.

Who Opened Foreign Markets?

For some years certain European nations—one of which, at least, while preaching free trade, practiced the protection of certain farm products to the extent of prohibitory decrees—had excluded our animals, products and live animals for their markets and had subjected them to vexatious and profit-destroying regulations, because it was alleged, they were frequently unwholesome or diseased. Our farmers were well aware that this was a matter of great moment to them. The Fifty-first Congress, that did so much for the farmer, made most inspection laws that fully met the wishes of our stock-raisers, and that, being faithfully administered by Secretary Rusk, accomplished all that was expected of them. It is unfortunate that by his own utterances and actions the present secretary of agriculture should have shown a different attitude toward those laws. In determining which ticket he shall vote, the farmer will certainly compare the department of agriculture under Secretary Rusk with it under his successor, and will be well advised to select agriculture by insulting organized farmers, and who has made the truly remarkable record of not missing even one opportunity to show, along with his total lack of sympathy for the farmer, not only his complete ignorance of our agricultural interests, but either an utter incapacity or a completely successful imposition to learn.

10 to 1 Not Wanted.

The currency plank of the Chicago platform certainly does not express the sentiments of the National Grange, and at its last annual meeting, in Atlanta, Ga., October 10-16, 1895, the Farmers' National congress voted down all of the 10 to 1 free silver coinage resolutions presented, and adopted resolutions in which it declared that it was emphatically in favor of the use of both gold and silver as the money of ultimate redemption and was in favor of the free coinage of silver by international agreement at a ratio to be agreed upon. It is but justice to the Democratic party to say that, until recently, through its long career, it was friendly to agriculture. As long as it was inspired by Jefferson and Jackson it had a jealous regard for our agricultural interest, but it has drifted away from its old course; it has been so seriously misled by the trusts, and while thousands and hundreds of thousands of Democrats are the friends of the farmer, the present Democratic party, as an organization to elect such a man to the office of secretary of the treasury, is as concerned with the welfare of our agricultural industries; and of even greater weight with the American farmer is the fact that the financial integrity that most underlies the welfare of the industry and which is essential to the honor and glory of all nations.

Who Expects Rural Mail Delivery?

In the debate on the postoffice appropriation bill the Hon. March said: "The results from experiments in villages indicated, as Mr. Wainmaker foresaw, that they would, the practicability of free daily delivery of mail, and he secured from the Fifty-second Congress an appropriation for experiments in free mail delivery to farmers, and an appropriation for this purpose was made by the Fifty-third Congress at Wash. sessions. The language of the appropriations was mandatory, but both Mr. Bissell and Mr. Wilson have refused to expend these appropriations. The mail has become a very important factor in prosperity, welfare and enjoyment of the people. In a multitude of the Republican and Democratic administrations toward rural mail service and the efforts made to improve it, the farmer will find excellent aid in deciding for which party to vote.

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