

NEBRASKA POPULISTS
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only. We demand that the power of this commission be determined in the courts at once and if the courts hold that this commission has no power to fix rates then we demand that the constitution be further amended so that unquestionably this commission shall have power to fix freight rates. We condemn the republican party for giving the people an amendment that is doubtful and uncertain after the bitter experiences of the

people to get freight reduction. We are in favor of a comprehensive direct primary law under which party candidates for all offices shall be nominated by the direct vote of the people. We favor such a law because under the convention system the corporations and designing politicians too often have dictated nominations and entirely thwarted the will of the people. The primary law may not always work perfectly but it will work better than the convention system. It should be so improved from time to time so that the will of the people through it will be best expressed.

We favor the amendment of the present primary law so that every voter will be able to record a secret vote and not be humiliated by the

law's impertinence in being compelled to state his party affiliations before casting his vote. We favor an amendment permitting each political party to call a mass party county convention prior to the primary election for the purpose of promulgation of a platform and electing a county central committee, and the election of delegates to state convention.

We denounce the assertions that republicanism leads to economy and cite the people the facts that under a few years of republican rule our taxes have more than doubled upon the same property.

NEBRASKA REPUBLICAN CONVENTION

The Nebraska republican convention met at Lincoln, September 24. Governor George L. Sheldon was chosen chairman of the convention. A resolution endorsing William H. Taft for the republican presidential nomination was adopted by a vote of 34 to 19. The following platform was adopted:

As the representatives of the republicans of Nebraska, in state convention assembled, we again commend the inspiring character and undaunted leadership of Theodore Roosevelt. We especially endorse what he has accomplished, with the support of a republican congress, toward subjecting the overweening railroads engaged in interstate commerce to the regulating arm of the government and in curbing the rapacity of the lawless trusts by forcing them to desist from their criminal practices. These policies have our unqualified approval and in order that no backward step be taken, we will insist that his successor be a man whose record pledges a continuance of the distinctive policies of the Roosevelt administration.

While not presuming to forestall the action of any future convention we express the belief that the republicans of Nebraska recognize in the Hon. William H. Taft of Ohio one whose personal character and whose long public service mark him as pre-eminently the man under whose leadership these policies would be perpetuated. We endorse the present state administration. State affairs are being conducted with integrity and business sagacity. Our public institutions are being neither injured by parsimony nor scandalized by profligacy. The state's credit is high, and its long standing debt is being rapidly extinguished and will soon be paid. Its public school funds are growing enormously and being wisely invested in interest bearing securities.

We commend our republican delegation in congress for their faithful representation of the interests of the people of Nebraska. We especially commend the last legislature for faithfully fulfilling republican pledges made to the people. It was a record of legislative fidelity without precedent in Nebraska.

The platform pledges of political parties mean something only when read in the light of the record of achievement. It is our rare privilege to call attention anew to the platform promulgated by Nebraska republicans a year ago, whose every promise has been carried out in scrupulous good faith. The republicans promised the people of this state the following reforms:

1. A state wide direct primary.
2. Abolition of the free pass evil.
3. Comprehensive powers for the state railway commission.
4. More equitable rates for transportation of passengers and freight.
5. Equal taxation of railroad property for city purposes.
6. Abolition of fellow servant law and full employer's liability.
7. A pure food and dairy law.
8. Rigid economy in appropriations.

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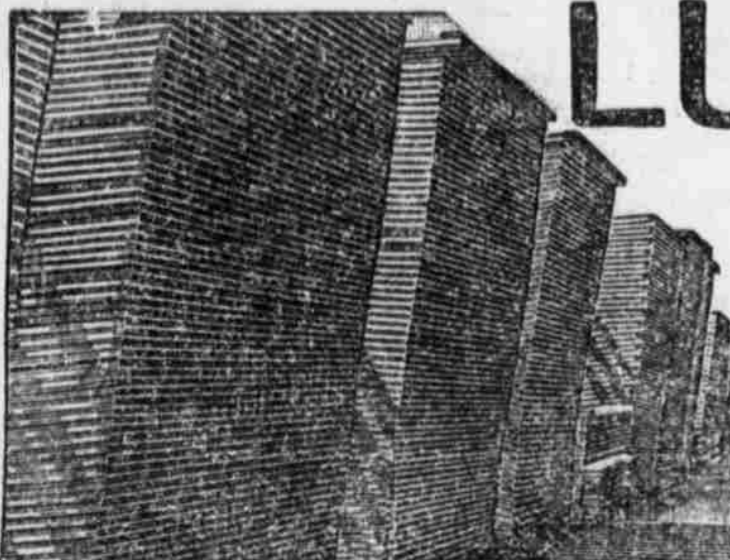
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