

Issue of great and far reaching importance. We are coming to be more and more a people governed by our courts. The courts are the bulwarks of our liberties as well as the harbor to which special privilege flees in every storm, and the instrumentalities through which it asserts, with growing arrogance, its power to defy the people's legislatures and the people's executives. There never was a time when the necessity for keeping courts, invested with or asserting extraordinary powers, on a plane above suspicion of reproach, presented itself more forcibly than it does now.

We urge the people of this commonwealth to take this question home with them. We urge upon them that the issue in this state election is one, not of party or platform, but of men.

We urge all Nebraskans in voting for supreme judges and for regents to lay aside party prejudice and ties. We hope no democrat will vote for a candidate for either of these offices merely because the candidate is a democrat, and that no republican will vote for such a candidate because he is a republican.

We urge each and every voter of all parties to vote for the man when he goes to the ballot box this fall, and not for the party label.

Resolved, That we urge the democratic members of congress, and those from Nebraska especially, to use their best efforts to secure as speedy a completion as possible of the government ditch project now but partly completed in western Nebraska, assuring those settlers who have homesteaded lands under said project that the government will keep good faith with them, and that right soon.

NEBRASKA POPULIST PLATFORM

At the Nebraska populist convention, held at Lincoln, July 27, the following platform was adopted:

We, the representatives of the people's independent party in state convention assembled, adopt the following resolutions as expressing the principles of our party and invite the consideration of the voters.

We favor a non-partisan judiciary and educational election law and regret that our supreme court found it necessary to annul the law of the recent legislature looking to that end. And further we condemn the republican state organization for its over-zealous manner in instituting a suit for the overthrow of this law, so generally demanded by the people.

We believe the people have a right to rule by majorities and demand a constitutional amendment permitting the direct legislation by the people, national, state and municipal, known as the initiative and referendum.

We commend the recent legislature for the enactment of the law known as the depositors' guaranty law; the action of those who by a trick of law have placed the Nebraska statute in the federal court without giving the state courts an opportunity of first passing on this purely domestic matter is to be condemned.

It is with feelings of pride that we call attention of the public to the following beneficial laws of the recent legislature: The law permitting a direct vote on United States senators; the physical valuation of railroads; the daylight saloon law and the many other acts which were passed by the vote of a fusion majority in house and senate.

We commend Governor Shallenberger for the faithful discharge of the duties of his office; also the attitude of those representatives in congress who have stood with the interests of the west in the reduction of the tariff.

We favor the principle of county

option and reiterate the position of our party as taken on this question in the campaign of 1908.

The Nebraska supreme court as now composed is almost solidly republican and the people's party of the state would commend to the voters our nominees on the state ticket, in order that the court may be divided more equally, and that decisions of that body may be divided more equally, and that decisions of that body may be received with more favor and confidence by the taxpayers and voters generally.

NEBRASKA REPUBLICAN PLATFORM

Concerning the platform adopted by the Nebraska republicans at Lincoln, July 27, the Lincoln correspondent for the Omaha World-Herald says:

With a convention hopelessly at sea on the tariff question, the republicans of Nebraska adopted a platform containing a strictly stand-pat plank on this question. In length it is the briefest portion of the platform and in subject matter it is so framed as to be of service whichever way the cat happens to jump.

It is a plank which is taken by the friends of Senator Burkett to be a satisfactory indorsement and by his enemies to be a studied slight. It is a plank which neither takes a stand on any particular schedule nor upon any phase of the bill in its varied and multiform transformations. It is a plank which gives the president the privilege of either signing or vetoing the bill, as he pleases, and pledges the party to be satisfied with it in any event.

The platform takes up a type-written page to explain how last year's republican defeat is really a victory, and then takes up the tariff question in the following language:

We approve, commend and unqualifiedly indorse the stand taken by President Taft in the matter of tariff revision. We are counting on him to see to it that the party's platform promise of revision is redeemed by the enactment of a tariff bill acceptable to the people and we would approve the exercise of his veto on any bill that does not conform to his construction of the platform pledge, which he has said means "revision downward within the limits of the protective principle." We look to our senators and representatives in congress to sustain the president in this position, and we commend them for their efforts in support of the party's pledges and the president's policies.

We approve and indorse the Brown resolutions adopted by congress submitting to the several states for their action a proposed constitutional amendment empowering the federal government to levy and collect taxes on incomes.

A paragraph is devoted to a recital of what are insisted upon as the copy-righted achievements of the republican party, most of these being laws of the 1907 session of the legislature, from which is omitted the primary law entirely. The respects of the convention are paid to the 1909 session as follows:

"We commend the consistent course pursued by the republican minority in the last legislature in resisting with energy and ability the unwise and unconstitutional measures of the democratic majority."

A strong effort was made on the part of the bank guaranty adherents to have this coupled up with an endorsement of the guaranty law, but the banker members of this convention, as of the last, won out. The following denunciation of the non-partisan judiciary law is made:

We point with pride to the records of the judges who for many years have been elevated to the bench in this state as republicans, but who as

Judges have known neither political favoritism nor political partisanship, but have fearlessly and impartially declared the law and held the scales of justice even between rich and poor, high and low, republican, democratic, populists, prohibitionists and socialists alike. We denounce the eleventh hour pretense of devotion to the idea of non-partisanship for three months and ruthlessly legislating republicans out of office by the wholesale in order to make room for democratic office seekers. If the passing of their so-called non-partisan judiciary act was intended to charge by innuendo that republican judges are not to be trusted to perform their official duties without political bias, according to their oaths of office, we resent the imputation. I will be-

comes the democrats to prate about a non-partisan judiciary when the record shows, that when they had elected two of the supreme judges a few years ago, they left no stone unturned to elect the third and make the court consist wholly of their own partisan judges.

What is here said with reference to the administration of the courts applies likewise to the administration of the state university. This noble institution has grown and prospered under the efficient management of regents elected as republicans free from the intrusion of political partisanship or the application of political contests in sharp contrast with the time when under a fusion board whose management was notoriously partisan.

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