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A CALIFORNIA PLATFORM

Judge John E. Raker, democratic nominee for congress in the First California district, and opposing Representative Englebright, present standpat congressman, has issued the following statement of his position:

Altman, Calif., August 31.—This government should not be a business asset of the favor-seeking corporations. It must be the people's government, and be administered in all departments according to the Jefferson maxim, "equal rights to all, special privileges to none."

"That people must rule," is the living issue which presents itself in all public questions now under discussion.

That such is the primary issue has become perfectly clear. The course of national legislation in the past shows that gross abuse of power by the "machine" has emphasized the fact that the people do not rule, but that the "machine," the "system," has ruled and does rule. This is wrong. This is usurpation of power. It is a control of the government by the corporations and trusts, instead of a control of the corporations and trusts by the government. And so long as this exists, just so long will the people be deprived of their rights.

I am, therefore, in favor of:

1. A progressive, honest and economical government.
2. An end of all official graft.
3. An honest revision of the tariff downward.
4. A fair and equitable banking and currency law, (not a great central bank controlled by Wall Street).
5. Conservation of our natural, national and state resources, and a progressive upbuilding policy, honestly and economically enforced—that we control our natural resources and use them now—in the present—but still control them so the future use of them will be saved for the people of this nation. Keep them from the hands of the few.
6. Controlling the trusts, and preventing monopoly.
7. Reciprocity for a progressive purpose, and not for retaliation.
8. A genuine control of railroads, freight and passage rates.
9. A just and genuine control of railway discrimination between cities and towns.
10. Controlling over-capitalization of stocks and bonds of railroads and of industrial monopolies.
11. Physical valuation of railways as a basis of fair rates and fares.
12. A parcels post, and a genuine postal savings bank act, and that it be constituted so as

to keep the deposited money in the community where it is established.

13. Proper control of the gigantic gambling in stocks and bonds and in agricultural products.

14. A progressive inheritance tax on large and gigantic estates, and an income tax.

15. Permanent system of development of our national waterways and of national good roads.

16. A national law for publication of campaign funds before all elections, and a sound corrupt practices act.

17. Election of United States senators by direct vote of the people, and an amendment of the constitution of the United States for that purpose.

18. Congress providing its own rules, and that the speaker should not be the ruler of the house, but that the house itself should rule to the end that honest, just and proper legislation may be enacted.

19. Honest, fair, just and proper legislation on behalf of labor—labor must be dealt with in a spirit of fairness.

20. An exclusion law excluding from the United States and territories all Asiatics except certified merchants, students and travelers.

There are many questions presented in the above. I have thus stated them so there can be no misunderstanding as to my position on the important questions now confronting the people of this nation.

It is true that those now demanding the principal attention of our people are: Corporation control of our elections, monopoly of our necessities of life, domination by special privilege corporations of our legislation, and conservation of our national resources.

I believe in individual and national success and prosperity. Merit should be rewarded. I have no quarrel with corporations. They are necessary and should be encouraged for the purposes for which they are formed. Corporations being formed for the purpose of serving the general welfare should not partake of the freeman's political rights. It is no part of their business to run the government or to attempt to run it; and when they do, they are stepping beyond their legitimate functions and should be stopped.

The Aldrich-Payne tariff law is a violation of the first principles of this government. It is so arranged that it gives to the already wealthy and takes from the needy. It should be revised, and revised downward. The beneficiaries of the tariff should not be given this task.

Progressive constructive legislation should be had at all times, and I am unalterably opposed to "unobstructive" or "destructive" legislation, just because it is "obstructive" and "destructive."

If elected I would deem it my duty to do the best within me for the entire nation. When I could be of special service to this state or to my district it would be one of my pleasures, if within my power so to do, if not in conflict with duties to the nation. No task would be too burdensome to thus perform for this district, or the state, or any part of the state.

The rivers and harbors of this district need material and efficient improvement, and special care and attention, and the national government should be prompt and liberal for such common good.

We have no desert lands in this state when water is applied. With an abundance of water going to waste and not restrained, and an empire of land lying idle, every effort should be made to put the water on the land and utilize it. This can and should be done. No man is doing his whole duty unless he bends his every energy to that end.

I am opposed to the system of which Cannon, or Cannonism, is but a representative, a symbol. No man who holds the views of parliamentary procedure or national policy of Cannon should be speaker of the house of representatives.

And I would consider that I held a commission from the people of this district to vote against any man with such views, and if elected would vote for a speaker who is in favor of the house providing its own rules and methods of procedure, which should be free from domination by its speaker.

The will of the people would be my guide. This is a government of the people, for the people, and by the people. The people can be trusted.

I have no special claim upon the people of this district for their suffrage. I have no "ax" to grind. Having an abiding faith in our institutions and form of government, and holding the views I do, I would consider it a high privilege and right to participate in its affairs, believing that I would not abuse the confidence

of this people. Having been a resident of this district for thirty years, I feel I know their wants and needs.

The matters and things here presented are for the purpose of making my position clear to the public, with a firm belief in the same, and with a free and full promise to carry the same into effect as far as it may be in my power and ability so to do.

JOHN E. RADER.

WHO'S WHO?

From the Kansas City Star, rep.: Under the direction of the republican campaign handbook, which instructs the stump speakers that the Bristow charges against Aldrich is "a tempest in a teapot," here is what you may expect to hear when the spellbinders reach that delicate point in the full, free and open discussion of the issues:

"And now, my fellow citizens, let us turn our attention briefly to the rubber schedule. (Laughter.) Ah, I see you have heard of the rubber schedule before. (More laughter.) What about the rubber schedule? Simply this! Senator Bristow of Kansas has charged that Senator Aldrich manipulated that schedule to enrich himself and his friends.

"Who is this man Bristow? What did Bristow ever do for the party, my friends! A man who was greatly honored, my fellow citizens; by the grand old party he now seeks to disrupt. But when he was placed in a position of trust, what did he do? He was a disturber of party harmony from the beginning. He sent some of our most valiant party leaders to prison and drove others from public life—that's the kind of a republican Bristow has been, my fellow citizens, and he is still trying to disrupt the party that has honored him by electing him to the senate. (Expressions of indignation from the assemblage.)

"Do you believe the charges of such a man as that my republican friends, against a statesman like Nelson W. Aldrich? (Cheers and cries of 'that's it!') Why, my fellow citizens, every page of our party's history, every statute enacted by congress for forty years is illuminated by the handiwork of this constructive statesman. The night has never been too dark or the day too stormy for the party to command Nelson W. Aldrich and it has always found him ready to serve his friends and the interest of his party.

"My fellow citizens, this is the greatest country on earth. The sun that shines upon Old Glory, the breezes that ripple its folds, testify to that fact. It is the land of the free and the home of the brave, and, my friends (takes a sup of water), over its sunny prairies, along its rippling streams, through its shady dells and in its rich, fertile valleys its prosperity is due to the wisdom, the patriotism and the courage of such grand statesmen of our grand old republican party, as Nelson W. Aldrich.

"Having completely refuted the foolish charges of this man Bristow, I now turn to the glorious record of our party's achievement and first I will take up the homestead act and free schools." (Loud laughter from the audience and shuffling of feet as half the crowd walks out.)

NOT NECESSARILY SO

Mr. George Harvey, editor of the North American Review, charged that Theodore Roosevelt said that if a national election were to be held this year he (Roosevelt) would undoubtedly be the republican candidate and would be elected. Mr. Roosevelt denies that he made any such statement.

Mr. Harvey replies: "It would be unseemly for me to engage in a controversy with Mr. Roosevelt—in a controversy involving a question of veracity. That which I wrote, of course, is true."

It is now a question of veracity. Mr. Harvey may have the consolation of knowing that public men can not always remember everything they have said. Mr. Roosevelt may console himself with the thought that though Mr. Harvey put into print a particular statement, this does not necessarily give that particular statement the character of a fact. Mr. Harvey has been writing for many years, and sometimes his friends have suspected that as a historian he is a dreamer of dreams.

The American Homestead, a monthly farm journal of national scope, will be sent to all Commoner subscribers, without additional cost, who renew their subscriptions during the month of October. Take advantage of this offer at once, and send in your renewal.