

A North Dakota Platform

Melvin A. Hildreth of Fargo, N. D., is one of the democratic nominees for congress. He has issued to the people of his state the following statement:

Having been selected as one of the candidates for congress on the democratic ticket at the last primary election, I want the people of this state to know exactly where I stand on some of the questions of the hour.

1—I am opposed to all kinds of business graft and political graft, whether it be in the city office, county, state or nation.

2—I am opposed to mixing business up with politics. No man can serve two masters; therefore no public servant can combine business with the performance of his public duty.

3—I am opposed to giving away the property that belongs to the nation to favored corporations, and to the special interests. I believe that the natural resources of this nation should be held by the general government for the benefit of all our people.

4—I favor the revision of the tariff downward, giving suitable protection to the interests of labor, to place higher duties upon luxuries than on the necessities of life.

5—I am opposed to the politics of this state being controlled by a man who has been branded in the courts as a criminal. I believe in the rule of the people.

6—Corporations are entitled to a

square deal. Public officers should see that they get a fair deal, but corporations ought not to choose servants who always decide in their favor as to what a square deal is.

7—I believe in economy. A city, county, state or nation should live within its income. What we need today is to practice downright business principles in the affairs of government; see that every dollar of public money is paid out for value received.

8—I am opposed to all trusts, monopolies and illegal combinations and believe that the people should vote directly for United States senators. They should have the right to select those officers without their being tied up to special interests, who contribute large sums of money to elect them and then defeat the will of the people.

9—I am in favor of an income tax so that wealth may contribute a fair share to the support of the government.

10—I am opposed to all ship subsidies. They rob the many for the benefit of the few.

Keeping in mind those cardinal principles, I invite my fellow citizens to support me for member of congress and if elected to that high position I will give my vote and support for such measures as shall be in the interest of the many as against the special privileges of the few.

Very respectfully yours,
MELVIN A. HILDRETH.

scandals are started and—let's leave the sequel to the reader.

Will the people rule? Education can do great things. Many new means of informing the masses are being set into motion. The non-subsidized magazines (like The Commoner) are doing good work. The universities, if the big business interests are kept from restricting the freedom of teaching, will be a powerful force in furnishing information that will solidify the majority. In addition to these there are hundreds of clubs, social and civic centers, public lecture courses and debating societies that are making some headway for popular rule. Great leaders like LaFollette, Bryan, Dolliver, Folk, Cummins, Gaynor and many others are pulling us toward the right goal.

Education is necessary; organization is vital. What is needed most at the present time is organization, namely, a new party. Insurgent republicans and progressive democrats are fighting for the same cause only under different banners, and because of the different banners they are often betrayed into fighting each other. As long as they do that, the special interests are happy. Isn't it about time that we tied the two banners together and sounded the call for war?

J. J. PETTIJOHN.
Madison, Wisconsin.

THE CASUS BELLI

One day a Scotch and English boy who were fighting, were separated by their respective mothers with difficulty, the Scotch boy, though the smaller, being far more pugnacious. "What garred ye ficht a big laddie like that for?" said the mother as she wiped the blood from his nose. "And I'll fight him again," said the boy, "if he says Scotsmen wear kilts because their feet are too big to get into trousers!"—Argonaut.

FELLOW FEELING

Knicker—"Does his auto smoke?"
Bocker—"Yes; but he hates to make it stop till after he is married."
—Harper's Bazar.

SHAFROTH OF COLORADO

(With abject apologies to Rudyard Kipling.)

"What are they yelling for in there?" asked the man outside.

"They are nominatin' Shafroth," the man on guard replied.

"Why do they make so blamed much noise?" then asked the man outside.

"It's just the democratic way," the man on guard replied.

For they're namin' Honest Johnny; they have heard the people call. They tried their best to beat him, but no longer can they stall.

His name will head the ticket, and he'll lead the hosts this fall, For they're namin' Honest Johnny in the mornin'.

"Whose is that high-pitched voice I hear?" then asked the man outside.

"It's Tully Scott that's talking now," the man on guard replied.

"Why does he shout so loud and long?" then asked the man outside.

"He's layin' down the law, you bet," the man on guard replied.

They are namin' Honest Johnny, for the men in there well know That he's the only man they've got who stands the slightest show, And democracy without him at the polls would get a blow, So they're namin' Honest Johnny in the mornin'.

"Who are those men now sneaking out?" then asked the man outside.

"Oh that's the double-crossing gang," the man on guard replied.

"What was their scheme, I'd like to know?" then asked the man outside.

"In secret they were after John," the man on guard replied.

They are namin' Honest Johnny, and some hearts are filled with gloom,

For all their hopes of party splits have now gone up the flume; They can wrap their shrouds around 'em and can crawl back to their tomb,

For they're namin' Honest Johnny in the mornin'.

—Denver Post.

Knicker—"Bread is to be sold by weight."
Bocker—"Then my wife can make us rich."—New York Sun.

Disgusted Fisherman (emptying his bait into the stream)—"Hanged if I'll wait on you any longer. Here! Help yourselves."—Life.

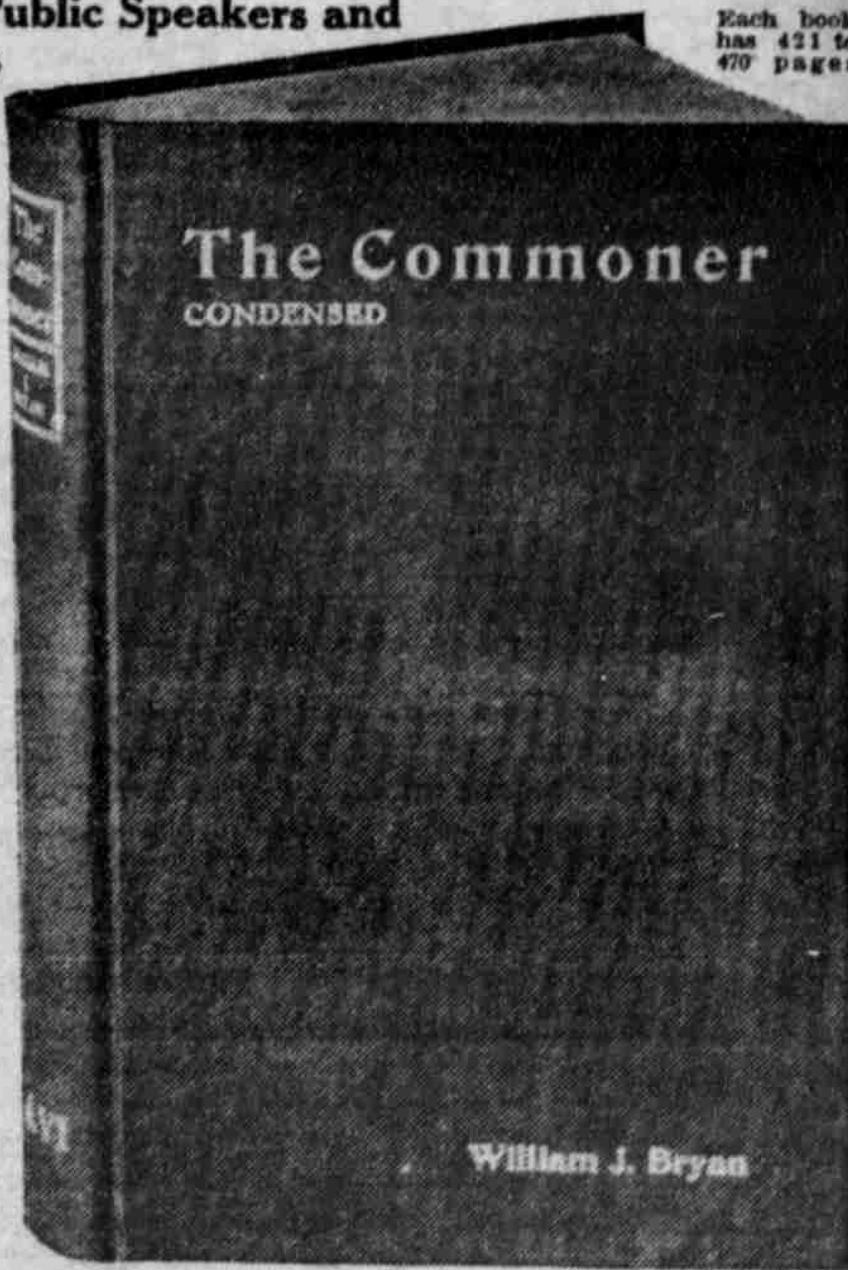
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