

fundamental questions of social welfare and public policy. To secure this end, it pledges itself to provide:

1—That when an act passed under the police power of the state is held unconstitutional under the state constitution by the courts, the people, after an ample interval for deliberation, shall have an opportunity to vote on the question whether they desire the act to become law, notwithstanding such decision.

2—That every decision of the highest appellate court of the state declaring an act of the legislature unconstitutional on the ground of its violation of the federal constitution shall be subject to the same review by the supreme court of the United States as now accorded to decisions sustaining such legislation.

Administration of Justice

The progressive party, in order to secure to the people a better administration of justice and by that means to bring about a more general respect for the law and the courts, pledges itself to work unceasingly for the reform of legal procedure and judicial methods.

We believe that the issuance of injunctions in cases arising out of labor disputes should be prohibited when such injunctions would not apply when no labor disputes existed.

We also believe that a person cited

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for contempt in labor disputes, except when such contempt was committed in the actual presence of the court or so near there as to interfere with the proper administration of justice, should have a right to trial by jury.

Social and Industrial Justice

The supreme duty of the nation is the conservation of human resources through an enlarged measure of social and industrial justice. We pledge ourselves to work unceasingly in state and nation for:

Effective legislation looking to the prevention of industrial accidents, occupational disease, overwork, involuntary employment and other injurious effects incident to modern industry.

The fixing of minimum safety and health standards for the various occupations and the exercise of the public authority on state and nation, including the federal control of interstate commerce and the taxing power to maintain such standards.

The prohibition of child labor. Minimum wage standards for working women, to provide a "living wage" in all industrial occupations.

The general prohibition of night work for women and the establishment of an eight hour day for women and young persons.

One day's rest in seven for all wage-workers.

The eight hour day in continuous twenty-four hour industries.

The abolition of the convict contract labor system, substituting a system of prison production for governmental consumption only and the application of prisoners' earnings to the support of their dependent families.

Publicity as to wages, hours and conditions of labor; full reports upon industrial accidents and diseases and the opening of public inspection of all tallies, weights, measures and check systems on labor products.

Department of Labor

We pledge our party to establish a department of labor with a seat in the cabinet and with wide jurisdiction over matters affecting the conditions of labor and living.

Country Life

The development and prosperity of country life are as important to the people who live in the cities as they are to the farmers. Increase of the prosperity on the farm will favorably affect the cost of living and promote the interests of all who dwell in the country and all who depend upon its products for clothing, shelter and food.

We pledge our party to foster the development of agricultural credit and co-operation, the teaching of agriculture in schools, agricultural college extension, the use of mechanical power on the farm and to re-establish the country life commission, thus directly promoting the welfare of the farmers and bringing the benefits of better farming, better business and better living within their reach.

High Cost of Living

The high cost of living is due partly to the world-wide and partly to local causes: partly to national and partly to artificial causes. The measures proposed in this platform on various subjects such as the tariff, the trusts and conservation will, of themselves, remove the artificial causes. There will remain other elements, such as the tendency to leave the country for the city, waste, extravagance, bad system of taxation, poor methods of raising crops and bad business methods in marketing crops. To remedy these conditions requires the fullest information, and, based on this information, effective

government supervision and control to remove all the artificial causes. We pledge ourselves to such full and immediate inquiry and to immediate action to deal with every need inquiry discloses.

Health

We favor the union of all the existing agencies of the federal government dealing with the public health into a single national health service, without discrimination against or for any one set of therapeutic methods, school of medicine or school of healing, with such additional powers as may be necessary to enable it to perform efficiently such duties in the protection of the public from preventable diseases as may be properly undertaken by the federal authorities, including the executing of existing laws regarding pure food, quarantine and hygienic subjects; the promotion of appropriate action for the improvement of vital statistics and the extension of the registration of such statistics and co-operation with the health activities of the various states and cities of the nation.

Control of the Trusts

We believe that true popular government, justice and prosperity go hand in hand, and so believing, it is our purpose to secure that large measure of general prosperity which is the fruit of legitimate and honest business, fostered by equal justice and by sound progressive laws.

We demand that the test of true prosperity shall be the benefit concentrated thereby on all citizens, not confined to individuals or class, and that the test of corporate efficiency shall be the ability better to serve the public, and that those who profit by the control of business affairs shall justify that profit and that control by sharing with the public the fruits thereof.

We therefore demand a strong national regulation of interstate corporations. The corporation is an essential part of modern business. The concentration of modern business in some degree is both inevitable and necessary for national and international business efficiency. But the existing concentration of vast wealth under a corporate system, unguarded and uncontrolled by the nation, has placed in the hands of a few men enormous, irresponsible power over the daily life of the citizen—a power insufferable in a free government and certain of abuse.

This power has been abused in monopoly of national resources, in stock watering, in unfair competition and unfair privileges, and finally in sinister influences on the public agencies of state and nation. We do not fear commercial power, but we insist that it shall be exercised openly, under publicity, supervision and regulation of the most efficient sort, which will preserve its good while eradicating and preventing its evils.

To that end we urge the establishment of a strong federal administrative commission of high standing, which shall maintain permanent active supervision over industrial corporations engaged in interstate commerce, or such of them as are of public importance, doing for them what the government now does for the national banks, and what is now done for the railroads by the interstate commerce commission.

Such a commission must enforce the complete publicity of those corporate transactions which are of public interest; must attack unfair competition, false capitalization and special privilege and by continuous trained watchfulness, guard and keep open equally to all, the highways of American commerce. Thus the business man will have certain knowledge of the law, and will be able to conduct his business easily in

conformity therewith; the investor will find security for his capital; dividends will be rendered more certain and the savings will be drawn naturally and safely into the channels of trade.

Under such a system of constructive regulation, legitimate business, freed from confusion, uncertainty and fruitless litigation, will develop normally in response to the energy and enterprise of the American business man.

Patents

We pledge ourselves to the enactment of a patent law which will make it impossible for patents to be suppressed or used against the public welfare in the interests of injurious monopolies.

Interstate Commerce Commission

We pledge our party to secure to the interstate commerce commission the power to value the physical property of railroads. In order that the power of the commission to protect the people may not be impaired or destroyed we demand the abolition of the commerce court.

Currency

We believe there exists imperative need of prompt legislation for the improvement of our national currency system. We believe the present method of issuing notes through private agencies is harmful and unscientific. The issue of currency is fundamentally a government function, and the system should have as basic principles soundness and elasticity. The control should be lodged with the government and should be protected from domination or manipulation by Wall street or any other special interests.

We are opposed to the so-called Aldrich currency bill because its provisions would place our currency and credit system in private hands, not subject to effective public control.

Commercial Development

The time has come when the federal government should co-operate with manufacturers and producers in extending our foreign commerce. To this end we demand adequate appropriations by congress, and the appointment of diplomatic and consular officers solely with a view to their special fitness and worth, and not in consideration of political expediency.

It is imperative to the welfare of our people that we enlarge and extend our foreign commerce. We are pre-eminently fitted to do this because as a people we have developed high skill in the art of manufactur-

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