

ing. Our business men are strong executives, strong organizers. In every way possible our federal government should co-operate in this important matter. Anyone who has had opportunity to study and observe first hand Germany's course in this respect must realize that the policy of co-operation between government and business has in comparatively few instances made them a leading competitor for the commerce of the world. It should be remembered that they are doing this on a national scale and with large units of business, while the democrats would have us believe that we should do it with small units of business, which would be controlled not by the national government, but by forty-nine state sovereignties. Such a policy is utterly out of keeping with the progress of the times and gives our great commercial rivals in Europe, hungry for international markets, golden opportunities of which they are rapidly taking advantage.

Conservation

The national resources of the nation must be promptly developed and generally used to support the people's needs, but we can not safely allow them to be wasted, exploited, monopolized or controlled against the general good. We heartily favor the policy of conservation and we pledge our party to protect the national forests without hindering their legitimate use for the benefit of all the people. Agricultural lands in the national forests are for and should remain open to the genuine settler. Conservation will not retard legitimate development. The honest settler must receive his patent promptly without hindrance, rules or delays.

We believe that the remaining forests, coal and oil lands, water power sites and other natural resources, still in state or national control (except agricultural lands) are more likely to be wisely conserved and utilized for the general welfare if held in the public hands.

In order that consumers and producers, managers and workmen now and hereafter need not pay toll to private monopolies of power and raw material, we demand that such resources shall be retained by the state or nation, and opened to immediate use under laws which will encourage development and make to the people a moderate return for benefits concurred.

In particular we pledge ourselves to require reasonable compensation to the public for water power rights hereafter granted by the public. We pledge legislation to lease the public grazing lands under equitable provisions now pending which will increase the production of the food for people and thoroughly safeguard the rights of the actual homemaker. National resources whose conservation is necessary for the national welfare should be owned or controlled by the nation.

Good Roads

We recognize the vital importance of good roads, and we pledge our party to foster their extension in every proper way and we favor the early construction of national highways. We also favor the extension of the rural free delivery service.

Alaska

The coal and other national resources of Alaska should be opened to development at once. They are owned by the people of the United States and are safe from monopoly, waste, or destruction only while so owned. We demand that they shall neither be sold nor given away, except under the homestead law, but while held in government ownership shall be opened to use promptly upon liberal terms requiring immediate development. Thus the benefit of cheap fuel accrue to the government

of the United States and to the people of Alaska and the Pacific coast the settlement of extensive agricultural lands will be hastened; the extermination of the salmon will be prevented and the just and wise development of Alaskan resources will take the place of private extortion or monopoly in transportation shall be prevented by the prompt acquisition, construction of improvement by the government of such railroads, harbor or other facilities for transportation as the welfare of the people may demand.

We promise the people of the territory of Alaska the same measure of local self-government that was given to other American territories, and that federal officials appointed there shall be qualified by previous bona fide residence in the territory.

Waterways

The rivers of the United States are the natural arteries of this continent. We demand that they shall be open to traffic as indispensable parts of a great nation-wide system of transportation, in which the Panama canal will be the central line, thus enabling the whole interior of the United States to share with the Atlantic and Pacific seaboard in the benefits derived from the canals. It is a national obligation to develop our rivers, especially the Mississippi and its tributaries, without delay, under a comprehensive general plan covering each river system from its source to its mouth, designed to secure its highest usefulness for navigation, irrigation, domestic supply and the prevention of floods. We pledge our party to the immediate preparation of such a plan which should be made and carried out in close and friendly co-operation between the nation, the states and the cities affected. Under such a plan the destructive floods of the Mississippi and other streams, which represent a great and needless loss to the nation, would be controlled by forest conservation and water storage at the head waters, and by levees below.

Water power enough to transform the industrial operations of whole states would be developed; adequate water power for water terminals would be provided; transportation by river would revive and the railroads would be compelled to co-operate with the boat lines as with each other. The equipment, organization and experience acquired in constructing the Panama canal zone would be available for construction of the gulf deep waterway and other portions of this great work and should be utilized by the nation in co-operation with the various states, at the lowest net cost to the people.

Panama Canal

The Panama canal, built and paid for by the American people, must be used primarily for their benefit. We demand that the canal shall be so operated as to break the transportation monopoly now held and misused by the transcontinental railroads by maintaining sea competition with them; that ships directly or indirectly owned or controlled by American railroad corporations shall not be permitted to use the canal and that American ships engaged in coastwise trade shall pay no tolls.

The progressive party shall favor legislation having for its aim the development of friendship and commerce between the United States and Latin-American states.

The Tariff

We believe in a protective tariff which shall equalize conditions of competition between the United States and foreign countries, both for the farmers and the manufacturers, which shall entertain for labor an adequate standard of living.

Primarily, the benefit of any tariff should be disclosed in the pay envelope of the laborer. We declare that

no industry deserves protection which is unfair to labor or which is operating in violation of federal law. We believe that the presumption is always in favor of the consuming public.

We demand tariff revision downward because the present tariff is unjust to the people of the United States. Fair dealing toward the people requires an immediate downward revision of these schedules wherein duties are shown to be unjust or excessive.

We pledge ourselves to the establishment of a non-partisan scientific tariff commission, reporting both to the president and to either branch of congress, which shall report first the costs of production, efficiency of labor, capitalization, industrial organization and efficiency and the general competitive position in this country and abroad of industries seeking protection from congress; second, as to the revenue-producing power of the tariff and its relation to the resources of government, and third, as to the effect of the tariff on prices, operations of middlemen and on the purchasing power of the consumer.

We believe that this commission should have plenary powers to elicit information and for this purpose to prescribe a uniform system of accounting for the great protected industries. The work of the commission should not prevent the immediate adoption of acts reducing these schedules generally recognized as excessive.

We condemn the Payne-Aldrich bill as unjust to the people. The republican organization is in the hands of those who have broken pledges and can not again be trusted to keep the promises of necessary downward revision.

The democratic party is committed to the destruction of the protective system through a tariff for revenue only, a policy which would inevitably produce widespread industrial and commercial disaster.

We demand the immediate repeal of the Canadian reciprocity act.

Inheritance and Income Tax

We believe in a graduated inheritance tax as a national means of equalizing the obligations of holders of property to the government and we hereby pledge our party to enact such a federal law as will tax large inheritances, returning to the states an equitable percentage of all amounts collected. We favor the ratification of the pending amendment to the constitution giving the government power to levy an income tax.

Peace and National Defense

The progressive party deplors the survival in our civilization of the barbaric system of warfare among nations with its enormous waste of resources, even in time of peace and the consequent imperishment of the life of the toiling masses. We pledge the party to use its best endeavors to substitute judicial and other peaceful means of settling international difficulties.

We favor an international agreement for the limitation of naval forces. Pending such an agreement, and as the best means of preserving peace, we pledge ourselves to maintain for the present, the policy of building two battleships a year.

Treaty Rights

We pledge our party to protect the rights of American citizenship at home and abroad. No treaty should receive the sanction of our government which discriminates between American citizens because of birthplace, race or religion or that does not recognize the absolute right of expatriation.

The Immigrant

Through the establishment of industrial standards we propose to

secure to the able-bodied immigrant to his native fellow workers, a large share of American opportunity. We denounce the fatal policy of indifference and neglect which has left our foreign population to become the prey of chance and cupidity. We favor governmental action to encourage the distribution of immigrants away from the congested cities, to rigidly supervise all present agencies dealing with them and to promote their assimilation, education and advancement.

Pensions

We pledge ourselves to a wise and just policy of pensioning American soldiers and sailors and the widows and children of the federal government, and we approve the policy of the southern states in granting pensions to the ex-confederate soldiers and sailors and their widows and children.

Parcels Post

We pledge our party to the immediate creation of a parcels post, with rates proportionate to distance and service.

Civil Service

We condemn the violations of the civil service law under the present administration, including the coercion and assessment of subordinate employes and the president's refusal to punish such violation after a finding of guilty by his own commission; his distribution of patronage among subservient congressmen, while withholding it from those who refuse support of administration measures; his withdrawal of nominations from the senate until political support for himself was secured, and the open use of the offices toward those who solicited for his renomination.

To eradicate these abuses we demand not only the enforcement of the civil service act in letter and spirit, but also legislation that will bring under the competitive system postmasters, collectors, marshals and other non-political officers as well as the enactment of an equitable retirement law, and we insist on continuous service during good behavior and efficiency.

Government Business Organization

We pledge our party to readjustment of the business methods of the national government and a proper coordination of the federal bureaus, which will increase the economy and efficiency in the government service, prevent duplications and securing better results to the tax payers for every dollar expended.

Governmental Supervision Over Investments

The people of the United States are swindled out of many millions of dollars every year through worthless investments. The plain people, the wage-earner and the men and women with small savings have no way of knowing the merit of concerns sending out highly colored prospectuses offering stock for sale, prospectuses that make big returns seem certain, and fortunes easily within grasp.

We hold it to be the duty of the government to protect its people from this kind of piracy. We therefore demand wise, careful thought-out legislation that will give us such governmental supervision over this matter as will furnish to the people of the United States this much-needed protection, and we pledge ourselves thereto.

Conclusion

On these principles and on the recognized desirability of uniting the progressive forces of the nation into an organization which shall unequivocally promote the progressive spirit and policy we appeal for the support of all American citizens without regard to previous political affiliations.