

THE PLATFORM

Adopted by the Democratic National Convention Held in Chicago.

Following is the platform adopted by the democratic national convention:

The democratic party of the Union, through its representatives in national convention assembled, recognizes that as a nation grows older new issues are born of time and progress and old issues perish. But the fundamental principles of the democracy, approved by the united voices of the people, remain, and will ever remain, as the best and only security for the continuation of free government.

The preservation of personal rights, the equality of all citizens before the law, and the supremacy of the federal government within the limits of the constitution will ever form the true basis of our liberties, and can never be surrendered without destroying that balance of rights and powers which enables a continent developed in peace and social order, to be maintained by means of local self-government.

But it is indispensable for the practical application and enforcement of these fundamental principles that the government should not always be controlled by one political party. Frequent changes of administration is as necessary as constant recourse to the popular will, otherwise abuses grow, and the government, instead of being carried on for the general welfare, becomes an instrumentality for imposing heavy burdens upon the many who are governed for the benefit of the few who govern. Public servants thus become arbitrary rulers.

This is now the condition of the country. Hence a change is demanded. The republican party, so far as principle is concerned, is a remnant; in practice, it is an organization for enriching those who control its machinery. The frauds and jobbery which have been brought to light in every department of the government are sufficient to have called for a reform within the republican party; yet these in authority, made reckless by the possession of power, have succumbed to its corrupting influence, and have placed in nomination a ticket against which the independent portion of the party are in open revolt.

Therefore a change is demanded. Such a change was alike necessary in 1876, but the will of the people was then defeated by a fraud which can never be forgotten nor condoned. Again, in 1888, the change demanded by the people was defeated by the lavish use of money contributed by unscrupulous contractors and shameless jobbers who had bargained for unlawful profits or for higher office.

The republican party, during its illegal, its stolen and its fraudulent government, has steadily decayed in moral character and political capacity. Its platform promises are now a list of its past failures. It demands the restoration of our navy. It has squandered hundreds of millions to create a navy that does not exist.

It calls upon congress to remove the burden under which American shipping has been depressed. It imposed and has continued these burdens. It professes the policy of reserving the public lands for small holdings by actual settlers. It has given away the people's heritage till now a few railroads and non-resident aliens, individual and corporate, possess a larger acre than that of all our farms between the two seas.

It professes a preference for free institutions. It organized and tried to legalize a control of state elections by federal troops. It professes a desire to elevate labor. It has subjected American workmen to the competition of convict and imported contract labor.

It professes gratitude to all who were disabled or died in the war, leaving widows and orphans. It left to a democratic house of representatives the first effort to equalize both bounties and pensions. It professes a pledge to correct the irregularities of our tariff. It created and has continued them. Its own tariff commission confesses the need of more than twenty per cent reduction. Its congress gave a reduction of less than four per cent.

It professes the protection of American manufacturers. It has subjected them to an increasing flood of manufactured goods and a hopeless competition with manufacturing nations, not one of which taxes raw material. It professes to protect all American industries. It has impoverished many to subsidize a few.

It professes the protection of American labor. It has depleted the returns of American agriculture—an industry followed by half our people. It professes the equality of all men before the law. Attempting to fix the status of colored citizens, the acts of its congress were overruled by the decisions of its courts.

It "accepts anew the duty of leading in the work of progress and reform." Its caught criminals are permitted to escape through contrived delays or by actual connivance in the prosecution. It is bedeviled with corruption, outbreathing exposures no longer shocked its moral sense. Its honest members, its independent journalists, no longer maintain a successful contest for authority in its councils, or a veto upon bad nominations.

That change is necessary is proved by an existing surplus of more than \$100,000,000, which has yearly been collected from a suffering people. Unnecessary taxation is unjust taxation. We denounce the republican party for having failed to relieve the people from crushing war taxes which have paralyzed business, crippled industry, and deprived labor of employment and just reward.

The democracy pledges itself to purify the administration from corruption, to restore economy, to revive respect of law to reduce taxation to the lowest limit consistent with due regard to the preservation of the nation to its creditors and pensioners. Knowing full well, however, that legislation affecting the occupations of the people should be cautious and conservative in method, not in advance of public opinion, but responsive to its demands, the democratic party is pledged to revise the tariff in a spirit of fairness to all interests. But in making reduction in taxes it is not proposed to injure any domestic industries, but rather to promote their healthy growth. From the foundation of this government taxes collected by the custom house have been the chief source of federal revenue. Such they must continue to be. Moreover, many industries have come to rely upon legislation for success; full continuance, so that any change of law must be at every step respectful of the labor and capital thus involved. The process of reform must be subject in its execution to the plain dictate of justice.

duty in the wars of the republic, and for the payment of such pensions as may be granted from time to time grant to such soldiers, a like fund for the soldiers having been already provided; and any surplus should be paid into the treasury.

We favor an American continental policy, based upon more intimate commercial and political relations with the fifteen sister republics of North, Central and South America, but entangling alliance with none. We believe in honest money, the gold and silver coinage of the constitution, and a circulation medium convertible into such money without loss. Asserting the equality of all men before the law, we hold that it is the duty of the government in its dealings with the people to mete out equal and exact justice to citizens of whatever nativity, race, color, or persuasion—religious or political.

We believe in a free ballot and a fair count, and we call to the memory of the people the noble struggle of the democrats in the Forty-fifth and Forty-sixth congresses, by which a reluctant republican congress was compelled to assent to legislation making everywhere illegal the presence of troops at the polls, as the conclusive proof that a democratic administration will preserve liberty with order.

The selection of federal officers for the territories should be restricted to citizens previously resident therein. We oppose sumptuary laws which vex the citizen and interfere with individual liberty; we favor honest civil service reform, and the compensation of all United States officers by fixed salaries; the separation of church and state; and the diffusion of free education by common schools, so that every child in the land may be taught the rights and duties of citizenship.

While we favor all legislation which will tend to the equitable distribution of property, to the prevention of monopoly, and to the strict enforcement of individual rights against corporate abuses, we hold that the welfare of society depends upon a scrupulous regard for the rights of property as defined by law. We believe that labor is best rewarded where it is freest and most enlightened. It should therefore be fostered and cherished. We favor the repeal of all laws restricting the free action of labor, and the enactment of laws by which labor organizations may be incorporated, and of all such legislation as will tend to enlighten the people as to the true relations of capital and labor.

We believe that the public lands ought, as far as possible, to be held in trust for actual settlers; that all unearned lands heretofore improvidently granted to railroad corporations by the action of the republican party should be restored to the public domain; and that no more grants of land shall be made to corporations or individuals, or allowed to fall into the ownership of alien absenteees. We are opposed to all propositions which upon any pretext would convert the general government into a machine for collecting taxes to be distributed among the states, or the citizens thereof.

In reaffirming the declaration of the democratic platform of 1876, that "the liberal principles embodied by Jefferson in the Declaration of Independence and sanctioned in the constitution which makes our the land of liberty and the asylum of the oppressed of every nation, have ever been cardinal principles in the democratic faith"; we, nevertheless, do not sanction the transportation of foreign labor, or the admission of servile races, unfitted by habits, training, religion or kindred for absorption into the great body of our people, or for the citizenship which our laws confer. American civilization demands that against the importation of such races, and against the sale of our shores to such races, we should be vigilant.

The democratic party insists that it is the duty of this government to protect with equal fidelity and vigilance the rights of its citizens, native and naturalized, at home and abroad, and to the end that this protection may be assured United States papers of naturalization, issued by courts of competent jurisdiction, must be respected by the executive and legislative departments of our own government, and by all foreign powers.

It is an imperative duty of this government to efficiently protect all the rights of persons and property of every American citizen in foreign lands and demand and enforce full reparation for any evasion thereof. An American citizen is only responsible to his own government for any act done in his own country, or under her flag, and can only be tried therefor on her own soil and according to her laws, and no power exists in this government to expatriate an American citizen, or to try in any foreign land for any such act.

This country has never had a well defined and executed foreign policy, save under democratic administration; that policy has ever been in regard to foreign nations, so long as they do not act detrimental to the interests of the country or hurtful to our citizens, to let them alone; that as the result of this policy we recall the acquisition of Louisiana, Florida, California, and of the adjacent Mexican territory by purchase alone; and contrast these grand acquisitions of democratic statesmanship with the purchase of Alaska, the sole fruit of a republican administration of nearly a quarter of a century.

The federal government should care for and improve the Mississippi river and other great waterways of the republic, so as to secure for the interior states easy and cheap transportation to tidewater. Under a long period of democratic rule and policy our merchant marine was overruled, and on the point of outstripping, that of Great Britain. Under twenty years of republican rule and policy, our commerce has been left to decay, and almost has the American flag been swept off the high seas.

Instead of the republican party's British policy we demand for the people of the United States an American policy. Under democratic rule and policy, our merchant sailors, during the wars, and stripes in every port, successfully searched out a market for the varied products of American industry. Under a quarter century of republican rule and policy, despite our manifest advantage over all other nations in ship-paid labor, favorable climates and teeming soils; despite freedom of trade among all these United States; despite their population by the foremost races of men and an annual immigration of the young, thrifty and adventurous of all nations; despite our removal here from the inherited burdens of land and industry in old-world monarchies—their costly war navies, their vast tax-consuming, non-producing standing armies; despite twenty years of peace—the republican rule and policy have managed to surrender to Great Britain, along with our commerce, the control of the markets of the world.

Instead of the republican party's British policy, we demand in behalf of the American democracy an American policy. Instead of the republican party's discredited scheme and false pretense of friendship for American labor, expressed by imposing taxes, we demand in behalf of the democracy, freedom for American labor by reducing taxes, to the end that the United States may compete with unhindered powers for the primacy among nations in all the arts of peace and fruits of liberty.

With profound regret we have been apprised by the venerable statesman, through whose person was struck that blow at the vital principle of republics (acquiescence in the will of the majority), that he cannot permit us again to place in his hands the leadership of the democratic hosts, for the reason that the achievement of reforms in the administration of the federal government is an undertaking now too heavy for his age and failing strength. Rejoicing that his life has been prolonged until the general judgment of our fellow-countrymen is united in the wish that that wrong were righted in his person, for the democracy of the United States, we offer him in his withdrawal from public cares, not only our respectful sympathy and esteem, but also our best homage.

With this statement of the hopes, principles and purposes of the democratic party, the great issue of reform and change in administration is submitted to the people in calm confidence that the popular voice will pronounce in favor of new men, and new and more favorable conditions for the growth of industry, the extension of trade, the employment and due reward of labor and capital, and the general welfare of the whole country.

What Was Accomplished by the National Body Which Has Recently Adjourned.

The first session of the forty-eighth congress adjourned on the 7th. It has extended over a period of seven months and four days, although the actual working time will not exceed 165 days. In that time there have been introduced in the senate, 2,387 bills and 97 joint resolutions, in the house, 7,507 bills and 234 resolutions.

Of these sixty-six senate bills and ten senate resolutions have passed both houses and became laws by executive approbation, and six bills and two joint resolutions were indefinitely postponed and six bills laid upon the table. In the house fourteen bills and three joint resolutions were postponed indefinitely.

A majority of the measures introduced in both houses related to matters not of general importance, such as bills for private relief and pensions, erection of public buildings, bridging rivers and other improvements only of local interest. The following measures passed both houses and were signed by the president in addition to regular annual appropriation bills and river and harbor bills.

Bills to reduce rate postage on newspapers and other periodical publications second class when sent by others than publishers, or newspapers to 1 cent for each four ounces. To provide civil government for Alaska. To extend duration of court of commissioners to Alabama claims until December, 1888.

To prevent and punish counterfeiting in the United States of bonds or other securities of foreign governments. To grant fifteen days leave of absence, with pay, each year to letter carriers. To authorize the secretary of war to offer a reward of \$25,000 for the rescue of the Greely Arctic exploring party.

To establish a bureau of labor statistics. To make all public roads and highways post-roads. To authorize legislatures of Illinois, Arkansas, Louisiana and Tennessee to sell or lease certain land appropriated for school purposes. To remove certain burdens from American merchants marine.

To establish a bureau of animal industry and prevent the exportation of diseased cattle and swine, and the exportation of pneumo-pneumonia and other contagious diseases among domestic animals. To make it felony for any person to personate any officer or employee of the United States, or under authority of the United States or an department thereof. To repeal the test oath act of 1862.

To authorize the fitting out of an expedition for the relief of Lieut. Greely and party in the arctic seas. To limit the time in which prosecutions may be begun against persons for violation of internal revenue laws to three years. To relieve from the charge of desertion certain soldiers of the late war who, after having served faithfully until the close of the war, were not inured in service against the United States.

To provide for the disposal of abandoned military reservations. To recognize a corps of judge advocates of the army. To establish a bureau of navigation in the treasury department. The following measures have been incorporated in regular appropriation bills and become laws:

To appoint a commission to visit the several countries of Central and South America to collect information as to the best mode of securing more intimate international and commercial relations between those countries and the United States. To provide that hereafter all estimates of appropriations and estimates of deficiencies in the appropriations intended for consideration of congress shall be transmitted to congress through the secretary of the treasury, and in no other manner.

To provide that the number of deputy collectors of the internal revenue, gaugers, store-keepers and clerks employed in the internal revenue service shall not be increased. To create a board of pension appeals to be appointed by the secretary of the interior. To provide for the appointment of a scientific commission which may, in the name of the United States government, conduct a national conference of scientists in Philadelphia in the autumn of 1884.

To authorize the president in case of threatened or actual epidemic, to use the unexpended balance of appropriation not to exceed \$100,000 in aid of the state and local boards or his discretion in preventing and suppressing the spread of the same and maintaining quarantine at points of danger. To admit to the government hospital for insane inmates of the soldier's home who are now or may hereafter become insane.

To provide that it shall not be lawful for the head of any executive department or any bureau, branch or office of the government to cause to be printed, nor for the public printer to print, any document or matter of any character whatever, except that which may be authorized by law to be administered the public business, nor for any bureau officer to embrace in his annual or other report to be printed any matter not directly pertaining to the duties of his office as prescribed by law.

To provide for the appointment of a Missouri river commission with powers and duties similar to those of the Mississippi river commission. To appropriate \$3,750,000 to pay rebate tax on tobacco.

Does Murder Out? It is the declaration of a Chicago detective locally famous, that no more than one murder in ten ever comes out. "Think over the recent known cases," he says. "Can you recall one in which the life wasn't taken with shot or blade?" In other words, the means of killing were such that there could not possibly be any concealment of the crime itself, though the criminal might escape. He held that to prove beyond doubt that the commonest form of premeditated murder—by poisoning—is practiced to a dreadful extent without detection. About the only murders that do come out, he thinks, are those sudden, unplanned ones that arise from passion. "It may not be a pleasant thing to think of," he remarks, "but it can't be denied that any cool, intelligent person can murder a member of his family by using a poison that doesn't produce violent symptoms, and run very slight risk of being caught at it. It is my firm conviction that only a small percentage of the murders are distinguished from ordinary deaths."

ESPERANCE. Sweet the hour of Hope-born pleasure In the halls of Beauty bright, When no thought hath time to measure, Half its vision of delight; And the heart is all a-blissing, And each fancy is a star, While we long for the caressing, Of the coming joys afar.

On the brow are wreaths of roses, Fresh and dewy from the dale; Ah! what innocence reposes, In her heart as in the vale. Sleeps the morning in its brightness, Glad the hour when pure thoughts rise— Full of joy and airy lightness— Full of soulful melodies.

Happy hour—and happy waking— Could we hence more purely live!— While above each brow, were breaking Dewy stars that fragrance give! Many mourn their meed of joy— Life to them is a barren isle— All their pleasures, grief's alloy, And sad the hour when they smile!

What is Time to hearts of sorrow? It but hides itself in flowers! Let us sorrow no grief to-morrow On the Altar of the Hours! What is Life, when wreathed with Beauty? 'Tis a bubbling Fount of Joy!— And we hail each coming duty, Thanking Heaven for such employ.

Shadowy shapes of strangest power Steal away our fainting breath; Hope bids be bold, and brave the hour,— Face forbidding fear and death. Soon sweep sweet angels to our side, Beaming bright as morning sun; Robed in rich raiment, like a bride, Hope and Death are joined in one.

—[Luther G. Riggs in Chicago Sun.] Your Own Sister and Someone Else's Sister. Many young men are always very ready to accept invitations to other people's home circles. They are very much more attentive to other people's sisters than their own. A young man should be found in his home, and spend sufficient time there for his influence to tell upon the family and for him to cultivate many dispositions that will be a blessing to him in years to come.

Many young men are like crows; they come back to their nest to roost, and at the dawn of day they haste to other fields. Young men, don't waste your strength and your influence and your brains in somebody's company when you ought to be in your family circle, in the house of your father and mother. I think it is a duty and obligation that you should be attentive to the requirements and needs of your sisters. Why not sometimes take your sister out? take her for a walk? Why not sometimes take her to a concert? Why not sometimes bring home presents and give them to her? Why, when you come home, should you be sullen, and silent and morose, as though somebody had been treading on your corns all day? Why not come home and tell those who have been shut up all day some of the incidents that have happened during the day, and be bright, and merry and cheerful, and so contribute your share to the family joy, and you will have it all back again in sister's love.

A Way to Grow Wise. After reading a book, or an article, or an item of information from any reliable source, before turning your attention to other things, give two or three minutes quiet thought to the subject that has just been presented to your mind; see how much you can remember concerning it; and if there were any new ideas, instructive facts, or points of especial interest that impressed you as you read, force yourself to recall them. It may be a little troublesome at first until your mind gets under control and learns to obey your will, but the very effort to think it all out will engrave the facts deeply upon the memory, so deeply that they will not be effaced by the rushing in of a new and different set of ideas; whereas, if the matter be given no further consideration at all, the impressions you have received will fade away so entirely that within a few weeks you will be totally unable to remember more than a dim outline of them.

Form the good habit, then, of always reviewing what has just been read. It exercises and disciplines the mental faculties, strengthens the memory, and teaches concentration of thought. You will soon learn, in this way, to think and reason intelligently, to separate and classify different kinds of information; and in time the mind, instead of being a lumber room in which the various contents are thrown together in careless confusion and disorder, will become a store-house where each special class or item of knowledge, neatly labeled, has its own particular place and is ready for use the instant there is need of it.

Bill Arr on Life Partners. I sat in my piazza ruminating over the scene and I wondered that there were so many happy matings as there seem to be. Partners for life ought to be congenial and harmonious in so many things. When men make a partnership in business they can't get along well if they are unlike in disposition or in moral principle or in business ways and habits. They can dissolve and separate at pleasure and try another man. A man and his wife ought to be alike in most everything. It is said that folks like their opposite, their counterparts, and so they do in some respects. A man with blue eyes goes mighty high distracted over a woman with hazel eyes. I did, and I'm distracted yet whenever I look into them. But in mental qualities and emotional qualities, and tastes and habits and principles and the like they ought to class together. Indeed, it is better for them to have the same politics and the same religion. And so I have observed that the happiest unions, as a general thing, are those where the high contracting parties have known each other for a long time, and have assimilated from their youth in thought and feeling.

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C. D. PHELPS. Range: Republican Valley, four miles west of Culbertson, south side of Republican. Stock branded "161" and "7-L." P. O. Address, Culbertson, Neb.

THE TURNIP BRAND. Ranch 2 miles north of McCook. Stock branded on left hip, and a few double-crosses on left side. C. D. ERICANBRACK.

W. J. WILSON. Stock brand—circle on left shoulder; also dewlap and a crop and under half crop on left ear, and a crop and under bit in the right. Ranch on the Republican. Post-office, Max, Dundy county, Nebraska.

STOKES & TROTH. P. O. Address, Carrio, Hayes county, Nebraska. Range: Red Willow, above Carrio. Stock branded as above. Also run the lazy 7 brand.

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