

WEALTH MAKERS



IN THE SWEAT OF THY FACE THOU EAT BREAD IF ANY WILL NOT WORK NEITHER LET HIM EAT

WHAT ABOUT OUR PLATFORM?

We have kept open for four months a department in this corner for our subscribers to express their convictions regarding the best men to name as standard bearers. We think in the short time intervening between now and convention it will be best to devote what space we have to a discussion of our platform. What demands shall we place in it? What reforms shall we champion?

We want in brief form the judgment of those who have formed clear opinions and convictions and who wish to state their views. In order to use all fairly who have sent in communications giving their views of desirable candidates we will state that we have now on hand letters from a number which give choices, letters which we cannot now publish.

R. L. Miller, editor of the *Leop Valley Alliance*, writes us favoring Mayor Weir for governor, J. N. Gaffin for lieutenant governor, J. H. Powers for treasurer, Chancellor Canfield for U. S. senator, Kem for congress. He says, "Shun Bryan."

L. S. Caldwell, Captain of the Industrial Legion of Nemaha county writes favoring Barney Johnston for governor.

W. H. Harris of Madison wants John H. Powers either for governor or U. S. senator. He also strongly endorses Hon. W. A. Poynter of Boone county for a position on the state ticket.

A Populist at Humphrey wants Mayor Weir for governor, John H. Powers for treasurer, Warwick Saunders for secretary of state and W. L. Greene for attorney general.

A. B. C. of Sargent wants Judge Holcomb of Broken Bow for governor and Jos. W. Edgerton of Grand Island for lieutenant governor.

H. A. Lambert of Auburn wants Barney Johnston for governor.

Jas. Brooks of Stanton names Schneider of Logan for governor, Gaffin of Saunders for lieutenant governor, Dale for secretary of state, Captain Hatfield of Antelope for treasurer, Reagan of Adams for attorney general, H. B. Miller of Wayne for commissioner of public lands and buildings.

J. M. Kiser of Kearney favors Gaffin for governor, as most available. He strongly opposes Weir's nomination.

Mr. Powers' Idea regarding Our State.

Editor WEALTH MAKERS:
Yours of June 28th at hand. In regard to suggestions for platform I would favor the adoption of the Omaha platform with the money plan stated a little more clearly and simply. A distinct recognition of the rights and duty of Equal Suffrage; a clearly expressed determination to make the railroads within the state serve the true interests of the people of the state; also an explicit declaration in favor of temperance and of promoting it in the most effective and equitable way, both by legal enactment, and by the influence of public opinion, secured by general and explicit education on the subject, enforced by law.

A distinct pledge to economy in the transaction of all the legislative and judicial business of the state is needed. Let us also pledge to construct and construe the laws of the state, that the laborer shall be protected rather than capital, and moral words shall be fostered rather than money worth.

J. H. POWERS.

Suggestions to Perfect Our Platform.
TUPPER, Neb., July 12, 1894.

Editor WEALTH MAKERS:
In criticism I would say of the People's platform that it should contain a definite recognition of the laborer's right to labor. Yet further, it should recognize the right of the laborer to enjoy the fruits of his labor by proposing measures to destroy a monopoly, that which makes rent, interest, and profit such efficient instruments to extort from him his wealth. Monopoly is established so long as natural resources and machinery of production are subject to private ownership. The manifest remedy is to vest such ownership in the commonwealth.

The initiative and referendum should also be incorporated in the platform. This however is included in the former, since it is but nationalizing the monopoly of law-making and political power, which now ignores the people. But while we are to have a representation

of government let it be proportional, otherwise it is a humbug.
Yours for justice,
W. B. HECKMAN.

Opinions Regarding the State Platform.

Editor WEALTH MAKERS:
The state platform should be as brief and pointed as it is possible to make it. A long drawn out series of resolutions, or varying a great field, while they may be right in themselves, and each one embody a grand truth or a much needed reform, is not the best for a political platform. Each plank in the platform should be clear out, concise, unequivocal and so plain that the "wayfaring man," though he be long blinded by old party associations, "need not err therein."

Of course our national platform stands until a national convention shall change or amend it. Our first state plank should declare our allegiance to the Omaha declaration of principles.

The position taken by the dominant party as well as by a majority of the minority party in Congress should be clearly pointed out and emphatically condemned.

The impossibility of any relief to the country coming through either of the parties should be shown since they are both controlled by the same influence.

In state matters demand an honest administration of affairs and that business should be done in a business-like way. In a preamble to this demand show in as pointed, concise a manner as possible the condition of state business under the mal-administration of the Republican party for years past. Make this a campaign for a revolution from the shipboard, outrageous manner in which business has been done at the state capital, whereby thousands of dollars have been lost to the taxpayers, and their burdens correspondingly increased.

This should comprise the body of the platform. Supplementary resolutions commending our members of Congress, should be formulated condemning federal interference with state law in the tying up of our railroad bill expressing sympathy with organized labor, and inviting men of every shade of political opinion wishing these reforms embodied into law to join with us, the only party which stands emphatically pledged to their enactment. Many new issues and new reforms can wait. An energetic, aggressive campaign, making money the all-absorbing national issue, and honest business methods in the transaction of state business, the paramount state issue, with clean, able men for candidates, and we must win.

W. A. POYNTER.

A Letter From Senator Allen.
WASHINGTON, D. C., July 7, 1894.

Hon. D. Clem Deaver, Chairman State Central Committee, Omaha, Neb.
My Dear Sir and Friend:

I am daily in receipt of letters from various parts of Nebraska, asking me to speak. To accept these invitations would consume my entire time between now and the day of election, thus depriving me of the opportunity of visiting my family, attending to necessary private business, and obtaining some much needed rest on my return home. I think advisable to decline to speak at any place other than those places assigned by the State Central Committee for to do otherwise would entirely disarrange the programme you may desire to present for the fall campaign.

I hope I will not be put in the field before the middle of September, and then I will expect to remain daily until the day of election. With the work I have had for the last year, and will continue to have until the close of this session of Congress, you will readily see that that is about all I can consistently do.

I wish you would be kind enough to publish in *THE WEALTH MAKERS* and in such other papers as you may have access to over your official signature, that I will not speak except under the direction of the State Central Committee, and that I cannot enter the field before the middle of September. Please let me know what you do in this respect as early as possible.
Very Truly Yours,
W. B. ALLEN

Allen to speak during the campaign should write to the secretary of the state central committee. Applications will be kept on file and turned over to the new committee chosen at the state convention.—**Editor WEALTH MAKERS.**

Concerning the Meiklejohn Campaign Boogie.

WINSIDE, Neb., July 14, 1894.
Editor WEALTH MAKERS:

Will you kindly publish the following epistle. It sounds a little fishy to me, in view of the fact that there are some such nice men mixed in or connected with the matter. The story runs after this fashion: Two years ago there was a man by the name of Meiklejohn, running for congress, a very nice man, I am told, or was while living. I have recently learned of his death (politically). His object in running was to get the office. There is a little matter of \$5,000 a year connected with it. Now to make the thing doubly sure the managers thought it would be necessary to place a little boogie where it would do the most good. Of course Meiklejohn would not countenance anything of the kind, hence the managers must look after it.

In a bank parlor in the town of Wayne, Mr. A and B met. Mr. C dropped in. Some time after Mr. C met Mr. B. Mr. B says to Mr. C: I wish you would tell Mr. A that I left \$100 at the Jackson saloon, and the Indian money is in good hands. We get the Indian vote at \$20 per head straight, that is all understood.

(Say that's the modern way to purify a party within a party, don't you think?)

Why I think this fishy: Mr. A is a good church member and if placing boogie is one of the qualifications for the sweet bye and bye there will be but few Populists there. As the story goes, we have sat on the street corner and talked anarchy until we are short on boogie. Hence we must use our reasoning faculties instead of boogie. Say, is there not a law to place men behind the bars for such work? If so I send 'em. It can't be done too soon.
Respectfully yours,
H. B. MILLER

Keith County Convention Action.

OGALLALA, Neb., July 15, 1894.
Editor WEALTH MAKERS:

I hear a good deal of talk about fusion, but all the talk out this way, comes from the Democrats. I have failed so far to find an Independent in Keith county who is in favor of fusion with either of the old parties on any candidate. We look at it in the light of a temporary success at the price of principle and we do not think it will justify our party to pay the price. While we give credit to W. J. Bryan for the many stand he has taken on the question of silver at 16 to 1, we know that there are other reforms that are just as necessary, and we do not favor nominating any person who we do not know is square in the middle of the road.

The People's Independent party held their county convention at this place yesterday, the 14th, and elected delegates to the state and congressional conventions, elected a full delegation of committeemen with Ed. Baker as chairman. A Populist club was organized and expect to hold meetings each Friday evening at the court house until after election next fall, if not longer. I herewith enclose copy of resolutions passed unanimously at the county convention hoping you may give it space in your valuable paper.

Resolved, That the People's Independent party of Keith county, in convention assembled, still believing in the principles as set forth in the National Platform adopted at Omaha July 4th, 1892, do, at this time, reiterate its words of wisdom and commend to all men who are honestly seeking for truth, to carefully examine the preamble and platform as there adopted. We point with pride to the list of patriots in both houses of congress, sent there by the People's Independent party, we believe they have proven true to their trust and have faithfully far as in their power carried out the principles of the platform on which they were elected. Believing we do that this government can only be a free government while built on the love of the whole people, we therefore deny the right of special legislation in the interest of the few, and have only to point to the present social and economic condition of this country (made so through class legislation by both the Democratic and Republican parties) to prove that such is the case.
In addition to those resolutions stated in

our national platform, we deem it wise to call the attention of our State legislators and of congress to the urgent need of legislation in the interest of irrigation, especially in the west, and as a convention demand that there be steps taken looking immediately to an early law being passed aiding the western states lying in the arid region of a system of irrigation.
We deplore at this time the condition of the laboring classes brought about by legislation of the old parties and recommend that the remedy easiest obtained giving justice to employer and employe alike, is compulsory arbitration.

We call the attention of our legislators in Congress to the imperfect condition of our emigration laws, and urge them to enact laws that will more perfectly protect our laboring classes from the encroachments of foreign pauper labor.

**JAMES H. BARRETT,
ED BAKER,
F. E. DAVIS.**

County Conventions.

Editor WEALTH MAKERS:
It will be conceded by most reformers that our present caucus system of electing delegates to conventions and making nominations is largely to blame for the corruption existing in the old parties. It will also be conceded that any new party coming to the front that conducts its conventions in the old way would soon fall into the hands of those who make office hunting a business and thus the office and boogie hunting gang, that now controls both old parties would soon control the new.

The most telling argument of the old party bosses against a new party is that as soon as the new party gets into power it loses sight of its principles and soon becomes the willing tool of those who run the party for the money they make. To carry out the principles and prevent the capture of the Populist party by the professional politician should become the ruling object of those who have at heart the good of the whole people.

There is but a small minority of the voters of the old parties even that oppose the principles of the Populists. If these voters were fully persuaded that we as Populists could enact our principles into law, they would soon vote our ticket.

Populist conventions started a few things that ought to become the established precedents of the party. First, that the office should seek the man. Second, all nominees should be pledged in open convention to carry out the principles of the party. To illustrate: we believe every nominee of a congressional convention should be pledged to labor for government ownership of all railroads, telegraphs, telephones, and for the passage of Mr. Kem's banking bill or a better one. We should keep in mind that the professional place-hunter does not like to be pledged to anything. Third, the naming of delegates to the different conventions should be kept as close as possible to the people or the delegates to the state and congressional conventions should be scattered over the different counties according to the votes polled in the different townships.

Buffalo county has a plan that accomplishes this purpose that we believe should be adopted by every county convention held in the state. The plan is as follows:

After a county convention is organized the committees on credentials, platform, etc., are appointed. The next move should be, or in Buffalo county would be, to appoint a committee of one from each township to divide the county into delegate districts, the delegates from each township to name one member of this committee.

This committee would proceed to divide the county as follows: A township that polled 100 votes for Holcomb would become a delegate district and entitled to one delegate in the state convention. A township that polled 75 votes and another that polled 40 would form another delegate district and be entitled to one delegate in the state convention. A township polling 130 votes and another polling 75 votes would form a delegate district and be entitled to two delegates in the state convention. The same may be said of the delegates to the congressional and senatorial conventions.

In the division it is impossible to get the exact 100 votes in each delegate district, but by always having a few more than the one hundred votes in each delegate district the number of delegate districts in the county might be one or

two short of the number of delegates the county would be entitled to in the state convention. This deficiency can be made good by electing a delegate or two at large.

After this committee reports and report adopted the next move in the county convention would be that the delegates from each delegate district get together and name the man or men they wish to have represent the district in the state convention, also name the men to represent the county in the congressional and senatorial conventions.

After the delegates are thus named they are reported to the county conventions and names taken down. Then the move should be that the delegates named by the different delegate districts be elected to represent the county in the state and other conventions. Thus the delegates to each convention can all be elected by one aye vote of the county convention.

We simply give these moves to illustrate the principle. The division of a county into delegate districts and the moves in the conventions can be varied to suit the different circumstances.

This plan carried out in the cities would give the wards that polled the most votes at the last election the most delegates in the conventions.

This plan effectually prevents the professional political wire puller and a few expert parliamentarians from naming all the delegates to be sent from a county. This plan locates the delegates where the most votes were polled. Delegates so elected would represent the different shades of opinion in a county and these delegates would know the wishes of the voters they would represent. To adopt this plan might be a little trouble the first time; but once adopted we do not believe a county would ever again use the methods of the old parties. You old hayseed Populists, try this plan and see how it works.
Yours for the cause,
JOHN STEBBINS.

County papers please copy.

P.S.—Every county convention would have to have the official vote of the county to figure from. Friend Gibson, the above plan is much quicker than to elect the delegates by ballot and prevent the towns from imposing their picked tools on the county precincts. Thus in your county. The out lying townships would name their own delegates and the city could only get delegates according to the votes polled for Holcomb. I think this would in a great measure down your city wire puller. I know in our county these fellows stand around the wall with nothing to do. The expression of their faces is very amusing, but they dare not kick.
J. S.

Cut off Special Privileges.

Editor WEALTH MAKERS:
Capital and labor are essential, the one to the other. United they stand, divided they fall. The two should, and eventually must, merge into complete marriage and become one. It is impossible for our industrial conditions to become stable, and permanently prosperous with wealth and labor antagonistic. So long as labor is possessed and controlled by the workers, and capital possessed and controlled by the capitalists jealousy, strife, and strikes will be perpetuated.

The capitalists strive to capture labor. Labor will not be captured. It says, "Give me liberty or give me death!" and to surrender itself to the will of rapacious capitalists means really worse than death. Life under suitable conditions is worth living, but better die than be consigned to and immured in a living tomb of wretchedness, towards the gaping entrance of which the hard-pressed sons of toil now see themselves driven.

Which then shall it be? The laborers take capital, or the capitalists take labor? Common sense can readily give the correct answer, for no one can concede any more the right of property in man.

A medium course between the two would be to permit the capitalists to keep their ill-gotten wealth, but strip them of their franchises, and privileges. Pay for their plants, machinery, factories, railroads and lines of transportation enough to pension and keep them and their children the rest of their days. Thus let us, the people, go literally into the business of support, and maintenance. A

now self-supporting when corporations, companies, cliques, and pools do so much for us?

If God helps those who help themselves, the sooner we begin the better, to produce and provide for ourselves all the requirements of life. Then we may live at actual cost. Whereas, while others produce for us we pay cost of our own lying and theirs too, and a big bonus (called profits) besides to enable them to swell and grow rich. The fact is, we, the people of the United States, are fools, and are just beginning to find it out, and to "see ourselves as others see us."

The monopolists well know that we are fools, but they keep still, and sap blood from the people while they can. They know it won't last always, for they can't fool the people all the time. Once the public begins to see, they catch on right lively, and they are doing that just now.

Franchises, special privileges, vested rights, and all their concomitant evils are the bane of this century.

Royalty, aristocracy, empty nobility, and sham titles with the vicious doctrine of primogeniture, all had their day. Once the great bauble was punctured the people of the past discerned the hollowness within, and the empty show had to go.

In this country has sprung up an aristocracy of wealth wrung from the people. In its nature it is one of the worst demons that ever clutched a people in its grasp. The only way to wring its neck is to cut through its source of supply and nourishment, and sever the franchises and monopolies. While both are bad enough, yet which have we reason to fear most, and from which have we suffered most, the capitalists wielding monopoly, or the anarchist with his dynamite?
INDEX.

Keep the Farmer in Congress.

Editor WEALTH MAKERS:
At the close of the war it is said Congress was composed of one hundred and eighty-nine bankers, ninety-nine lawyers, seventeen manufacturers, seven physicians, one farmer, and one mechanic.

Here is representation for whom? And whether have we drifted under its ascendancy? If we ever have a government of the people it is my humble opinion that our representation will have to be largely changed. If the farmer, the mechanic, the day laborer, have so little respect for themselves, that they shrink from electing their own class to congress, how can they expect any other class to respect them? Is it not true that the farmer is looked upon by the class who now administer government, as a kind of voting machine which they expect to manipulate for their own benefit. And as for the day laborer if he votes for them he can have work at what price they see fit to give him, if not he is turned out to starve, subsist on charity, be imprisoned or shot, very much as the caprice of our "Republican Monarchy" dictates.

We have succeeded in electing a few farmers to congress, let us keep what we have got, and get what more we can. I would ask the voters of the sixth district if they want a lawyer to represent them.

What is the matter with the representative we have got and have had in Congress the past four years? Has he not been faithful? Has not his voice and vote always been recorded in the interest of his constituents? A lawyer may be more eloquent than the average farmer, but it is not eloquence that is going to win the battle; it is solid votes, and nothing else.

Farmers of the Sixth please let me hear from you. Do you produce one of your own class to congress? Are you content, or only fit to be handled, and guided by a politician gully out?

A Deed
to spend your money in the South. If you do not do this, you will be a failure.