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WORDS OF WISDOM.

Are We Prepared to Commit Ourselves in Favor of Convertible Paper Currency?

Judge T. L. Nugent, the populist candidate for governor of Texas in the campaign of 1892, contributed a lucid and exceedingly able article to a recent issue of the Southern Mercury, from which we clip the following luminous passage:

"The people's party at once organized upon the lines thus laid down, and has been fighting the battles of labor ever since. In the first campaign it polled over 1,000,000 votes, to which it added 600,000 within the two years following. It is safe to say that it could to-day poll more than 2,000,000 votes. More than this, it is growing with unexampled rapidity. All of this has been accomplished on the Omaha platform, and yet there are populists who would, in the campaign of 1896, eliminate from that platform the land and transportation planks and leave the party standing on a single financial issue. And why is this? The silver question, the answer is, will be the pivotal one—the 'storm center' of the campaign. I do not doubt the sincerity or patriotism of these people, but the unwisdom of the course suggested, in my judgment can hardly be expressed in adequate language. Suppose we make a money platform only; will it be a straight declaration in favor of scientific money or inconvertible paper? If so, can we hope for the support of silver democrats and republicans, all of whom to a man want gold, or gold and silver, as a basis for the issuance of paper promises to pay—credit money only? Are we prepared to commit ourselves in favor of convertible paper currency, by uniting with the silver democrats and republicans in the coming campaign? If so a platform declaration for scientific money, or inconvertible money will be misleading. If we declare for convertible paper, what sense will there be in maintaining a separate party organization? Convertible paper and free coinage of silver measure the extent of reform as advocated by Gen. Warner and his bimetallic league; and, if our platform should go no farther, it would be foolish not to disband our organizations and go en masse into the movement to elect Mr. Sibley. Indeed, if we fall below the demand for scientific money, or at least inconvertible paper, in our declaration for financial reform, then, with land and transportation eliminated, our party will have no excuse for existence. If we must take the tag-end of financial reform, it will be cheaper to do so in the so-called silver party. If, however, we are not prepared to sacrifice our views on the money question, there is nothing to do but make an honest, comprehensive financial declaration, leaving the silver party to take its own course. But suppose we declare in favor of scientific money, or an inconvertible paper currency, as I think we out to do, what then? Shall we fuse with the silver party? Would this not be to abandon our principles? Can the outcome of such a fusion, if successful, be anything but the double standard and convertible paper? If so, what do we gain by thus saying one thing and doing another? And will not such juggling for success lose us the respect of all fair minded men? We cannot afford thus to pattern after the old party methods. But if we should succeed in winning the fight with the aid of the silver party, in favor of convertible paper based on gold and silver, what becomes of the party? It must either disband or reorganize upon a platform embodying other issues, and when we undertake to reorganize, who can predict the result? Will we succeed in uniting the scattered labor forces? The financial one will practically release every populist from his allegiance to the party, and if the men who place greatest stress upon the land and transportation questions, find themselves thus set adrift, who shall say that they will ever return to the fold?"

who are engineering the silver party movement are not populists, and have no sympathy with the people's party, except in so far as it may be made a cat's paw to pull the silver chestnuts out of the fire. Populists are all free silver men, but they know that to dwarf the great reform movement down to the financial policy advocated by Gen. Warner and his associates would only make it contemptible. The problem of how to bring about a more equitable distribution of the country's wealth is the one which the people's party has undertaken to solve, in the interest of labor. Free silver is good as far as it goes, but it will not solve this problem. It may quicken the productive forces, but it will leave undisturbed all of the conditions which give rise to the undue concentration of wealth. Until these conditions are removed labor cannot reap that which it produces, and the mission of the people's party will remain unaccomplished. It is well to bear in mind that there is only one party thoroughly united in favor of free silver, and that one is the people's party. The so-called silver party may prove to us a veritable Trojan horse if we are not careful."

THE CAMPAIGN OF 1896.

All Free Silver Men Will Have to Find a Home in the People's Party Banks.

Under the caption, "Will there be a Silver Issue in 1896?" the Globe-Democrat says:

"In the conventions, yes! At the polls, no! Both republican and democratic free coiners will make their threatened 'demonstration' in the national conventions. There is no room for doubt on this point. In both conventions they will be beaten. This point also can safely be considered settled. From this time onward to the conventions the republicans will have no trouble with the question, for when the league at Cleveland muzzled the delegates from the mining states all chance for a disturbance in the republican ranks on the question this year ended. In the convention the crushing process will be substituted for the muzzling, and the silver 'incident,' in its present stage, so far as it concerns the republican party, will be closed."

"The democracy, though, will not get off so easily. Taking all the silver states together the silverite democrats outnumber the other sort of democrats, but the other sort have the brains, the discipline and the courage. These qualities beat mere numbers in politics, war and wherever else they come in conflict. In all the western and southern states, which hold conventions to nominate state officers, there will be a fight between the two democratic elements, and some of the states which have no officers to nominate may get up conventions to fight on silver and nothing else. These wrangles and this great expenditure of energy will hurt the democracy for the time, and perhaps for the whole campaign, but it will have no effect on the national convention. In the convention the silverite democrats will easily be beaten as they were in 1888 and 1892; a straddling platform will be framed and a man will be put up for president who will, if elected, veto every silver bill that gets within his reach."

"But what will the free silver republicans and democrats do when their parties turn them down in the conventions? They will do as they did in previous presidential years. Some will suik and others will bluster, but all, or nearly all, will vote the ticket. A free silver democrat can gain nothing by voting for an anti-silver republican; a 16 to 1 republican will not help his cause by steering out from the republican Scylla and getting swallowed up in the democratic Charybdis. There will be a free silver party, of course—that is, there will be if that Sibley-Stewart-Jones coterie of cranks hangs together until next year, and there will be a populist party, but these cabals will have no more effect on the politics in the conditions which will prevail next year than will the prohibitionists, the women suffragists or the single taxers. In order to make his vote count and to keep up a living connection with things the republican and the democrat will have to vote with one or the other of the two parties which will stand on the same side of the vital question of the day, and he will be exceedingly likely to stick to his own."

The Globe-Democrat is undoubtedly correct as to its forecast of the action of the national conventions of the twin frauds. But the wish is father to the thought, so far as the forecast of the result at the polls is concerned. All the free silver men will be found in the ranks of the people's party when the proper time comes, and their united vote will win the day.

Silver Knights.

At Alexandria, Va., on June 19, Judge Norton granted a charter to a stock company to be called the supreme temple of the Silver Knights of America. The general objects are stated to be to establish a secret society for the purpose of seeking to secure in a legal way the free coinage of silver in the United States and to make silver a legal tender for all debts and to collect and expend money for that purpose. The capital stock is \$100,000, and the shares are \$100 each. M. B. Harlow is the legal agent; W. M. Stewart, of Carson City, Nev., is president; James L. Pait, vice president; Oliver C. Sabine, secretary; James A. B. Richard, treasurer, and S. S. Yoder, director-general.

Chance for Populists.

If there is any bottom to free-silver democrats in Kentucky, and if they are not the worst sort of cravens, willing to be run over, spit upon and kicked at will by the insolent goldite slaves of Cleveland and Rothschilds, the populists of that state should be able to do some business this year. We shall see how it works. If the defeated silver faction will join the populists they can elect a large number of members of the legislature and either control or have the balance of power in that body. It is possible that this may be the result.—Nonconformist.

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FIVE FACTS. THE Great Rock Island Route! Cheap Outing Excursions. First—For the National Educational Meeting at Denver, opening July 5th, the rate will be one fare plus \$2.50 for round trip. Tickets good to return and time up to and including Sept. 1st. Second—The regular Tourist Car to California via Kansas City runs once a week, and leaves Chicago every Thursday at 6 p.m., Kansas City at 10.50 a.m. every Friday. Tickets based on second class rate, and car runs on fastest trains, and known as the Phillips-Rock Island Tourist Excursion. Car arrives at Colorado Springs Saturday, 7.35 a.m. Third—Home-Seeker's Excursions to Texas and New Mexico. Next one June 11th. Rate, one fare for round trip. Tickets good twenty days. Fourth—For Mexico City the Rock Island runs a through sleeper from Kansas City daily at 8.30 p.m. via Topeka, McFarland, Wichita and Fort Worth and Austin to San Antonio. Two routes from there are—International R. R. to Laredo, and Mexican National to the City of Mexico; Southern Pacific and Mexican International via Spoford and Eagle Pass to City of Mexico. Connections are also made at Fort Worth via the Texas Pacific to El Paso, and over the Mexican Central to City of Mexico. Fifth—Send to address below for a Souvenir called the "Tourist Teacher," that gives much information to tourists. Sent free. JOHN SEBASTIAN, G. F. A., Chicago.

HO FOR THE SAN LUIS VALLEY. Now is your time to see the great San Luis Valley, Colo., the great garden spot of the West. The Great Rock Island Route will run excursions on May 21st and June 11th from Lincoln by way of Denver, Pueblo and Salida, over the D. & R. G. into the great San Luis Valley to Alamosa, Colo. One fare for the round trip. All persons desiring to go should write us for particulars.

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Good News! Governor Larrabee's great work, "The Railroad Question," is now issued in paper covers. It is the standard authority on the subject and has just been adopted as a text book by Vassar College. Every reformer should have a copy. Price, cloth \$1.50; paper covers, 50c. Address, WEALTH MAKERS PUB. CO., Lincoln, Neb. Who has tried Mr. Kittinger's process for making cheese at home, advertised in this issue? He offers to refund the money to every one who fails while following his process—a very liberal offer.

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