

# GENERAL J. B. WEAVER

Addresses a Letter to the Friends of Reform Throughout the United States—What the Young Party Has Done.

## ATERNAL FEELINGS AWAKENED.

Democrats Will Give Us Wild-Cat Banks—Let the Plutocratic Robbers Beware—The Work of Education Must Go On.

DES MOINES, Ia., Nov. 16.—[To Hon. H. E. Taubeneck, Chairman National Committee People's Party.]—My Dear Sir: I wish by this method to briefly address through you the friends of reform throughout the Union.

### WHAT WE HAVE DONE.

Unaided by money, our grand young party has made an enviable record and achieved several surprising successes at the polls. We are but little behind the republican party in the number of states carried. As a result of the late election we will doubtless hold the balance of power in the senate of the United States, have doubled the number of our adherents in the house of representatives, secured control of a number of state governments, hold the balance of power in a majority of the states of the Union and have succeeded in arousing a spirit of political independence among the new states which cannot be disregarded in the future.

### SECTIONALISM WIPED OUT.

Not being formed on sectional lines, our party in a single campaign, has gained a large and influential following in every state in the south. This gives promise of good government in that section of the union—a thing the republican party has failed to do after thirty years of almost uninterrupted rule—and gives promise, too, of correcting wrongs which may exist through the people of the respective states, instead of attempting to do so by influences from without.

We have awakened fraternal feelings in all sections, and as an earnest of our good will toward the south, the grand people of Kansas, a state containing more Union soldiers than any other, elected a one-armed ex-confederate soldier of the people's party to represent the state at large in congress.

### THE REPUBLICAN PARTY ALMOST ANNULLED.

The country is to be congratulated upon the fact that the leaders of one of the heretofore great parties have been abandoned and overthrown by the people and their organization well-nigh annihilated. I believe the former adherents of that party free to align themselves with the great anti-monopoly and industrial movement.

### THE DEMOCRATS AT SEA.

The secession of the other party to power is the result of reaction and not, I am sure, of the deliberate judgment of the American people. The national leaders of the triumphant party are without any well defined policy except that of contemptuous regard for every element of reform within the ranks of their own party and among the people at large. The new administration will ignore the three great contentions of modern times relating to land, money and transportation and will not attempt to solve either. In fact, the whole force of the new regime will be exerted to prevent reform in these important matters. The urgent demand of the people for the free coinage of silver is to be disdainfully ignored and new obstacles will doubtless be interposed to further restrict the use of the white metal. In contempt of the doctrine of Andrew Jackson European aristocrats are to be permitted to dictate our financial policy.

### WILD CAT BANKS.

One of the most valuable results of the late civil war—that of uniform legal tender currency issued by the government—is to be sacrificed and abandoned, and a serious attempt will be made to force the people to return to the fraudulent system of the state bank issues which existed prior to the war, which periodically swindled the industrial classes of the fruits of their toil. This is to be sprung upon the people by a sudden stroke of policy by leaders who have carefully kept their motives concealed from the public. The crime is to be enacted into law between elections and before the people can have time to pass upon the question by the selection of representatives chosen for the purpose. That this is

### THE DELIBERATE PLAN

is shown by the clause in the democratic platform which calls for the repeal of the law imposing a tax upon the circulation of state banks. It is confirmed by the fact that M. Coe, chairman of the executive committee of the American Bankers' association, together with a large number of New York bankers, publicly gave in their support to the democratic ticket only a few days before the election. The situation gives additional importance to

### THE GREAT QUESTION

which a few have comprehended—for a score of years, namely: Shall the currency of the country be a legal tender issue and its volume controlled by the government, or shall it be non-legal tender issued and controlled by banking corporations?

The issues pressing for solution are simply tremendous and the situation portentous. Our party has not made its advent too soon.

### THREE FUNCTIONS OF GOVERNMENT.

Its mission is to restore to our government its original and only legitimate function, which has been well nigh lost by non-use, that of securing to all of its citizens, the weak as well

as the mighty, the unmolested enjoyment of their inalienable rights.

### LABOR AND CAPITAL.

This cannot be accomplished until the relations between labor and its creature, capital, are so adjusted to cause each to respect the domain of the other. The forces are now on a war footing whereas under humane laws they would naturally dwell together in perfect peace. The repressive policy now fully inaugurated in this country, will not work well in the closing year of the nineteenth century. It is the fatal blunder of weak leaders, who fail to comprehend the spirit of the age and the growth of independence among the people. It denies to labor the rights to organize, relies upon the military arm to sustain corporate pretensions and when labor organizations defend themselves against armed mercenaries it adjudges the members thereof to be guilty of treason.

### LET ROBBERERS BEWARE.

Let those who rob by law and oppress their fellows to gratify their thirst for power beware how they trifle with an awakened people. The violent political storm of 1888 and 1892 which first swept the democratic and then the republican party from power in spite of the weight of patronage which they carried signify a turbulent condition of the political atmosphere which plainly foreshadows an approaching crisis. It were better that we be not hastened by the enactment of measures which savor of usurpation and the extension of class privileges.

### WE MUST EDUCATE.

I sincerely trust that the work of organization and education may now be pushed with energy throughout all the states. The field is ours and we must occupy it without delay.

Fraternally yours,  
J. B. WEAVER.

### A Campaign to be Proud of.

Another political contest is ended. Not as much outward show as in former years but much more effective work. The grand old party has gone. Too proud and arrogant to listen to the murmurings of discontent that went up from a burdened people, they have accomplished their own ruin. The worthy, earnest appeal of the people has been cast aside, the beck and nod of Wall street and rich manufacturers have been given careful attention. A large campaign fund was supposed to be equivalent to a large majority at the polls, therefore favors were granted where large returns could be expected in campaign funds. This practice has bred corruption indescribable. In their last effort the g. o. p. have exhibited wonderful persistence and ingenuity. Every device and method that an active mind could suggest has been resorted to; boodle galore, railroad passes in abundance; press and mail facilities unlimited; and in addition to this, private letters and circulars to all classes of persons were sent out earnestly pleading for support. Considering this, and the fact that the independent party had no boodle, no passes, no typewriter, stationary nor stamps, it is surprising that we gained the victory we did in this county. Every independent should feel proud of this victory and also proud that the party is now proof against bribery, against railroad influence and the sophistries and platitudes of monopoly. —Minden Workman.

### Stand By Your Cause.

We call upon every people's party man to stand firm in defense of the great political advantage we have gained, and to press forward to the victory that is now in sight. The next battle is for the control of the congress to be elected in 1894. Let us now stand together—north, south, east and west—for our families and firesides, and against monopoly and plutocracy. We must win. We shall win. Let none falter or turn aside, but let us all keep straight ahead in the middle of the road. Never mind the toil and expense it involves upon us. Our children will receive the heritage of an equal chance in the race of life.—Table Rock Courier.

### They Are Slaves.

United States Senator Stewart says: "The New York newspapers are the abject slaves and creatures of the money power which is exercised through the bankers who control gold. There are a dozen banks in New York which shape the politics of the New York newspapers and which have heretofore dominated the finances of the country. These banks have European partners whose interest is that all debts contracted with the banks should be paid in the dearest money possible. When the big banks yell for gold, the little banks yell for gold. Word is passed to their customers, the merchants, to yell for gold, and they respond. If the newspapers fail to join in the chorus, the merchant shuts off his advertising and the newspapers are done for. There never was more abject slavery although it is indirect and imperceptible.—Ex.

### A Primer Essay on Bonds.

Is this a bond? It is a bond. Why is it called a bond? It is called a bond because it means bondage. Where did the bond come from? It was given by our good Uncle Samuel. Is the bond a nice thing to have around the house? No, it should be locked up in a big safe. Do poor folks have lots of these bonds? No, my dear, they are made only for rich folks. Rich folks hold them and poor folks work and pay them. Why do poor folks work and pay them? Because they are fools. How did the man get the bond? He got the bond of the United States. What did he give for the bond? He gave a hundred small dollars for the bond. What does he get for it? He gets a hundred big dollars for it. Does the nice bond pay a tax? No, it does not pay a tax. Why does not Uncle Sam pay for the bonds? Damweno.—Chicago Free Trader.

Special rates given members of the People's party at the Jennings hotel, Omaha, Neb., Ninth and Harney Sts. 131

### Frightful Accident at a Democratic Ratification.

FAYETTEVILLE, Ark., Nov. 17.—The democrats of Mountain View held a ratification last night. A quantity of powder and fireworks were stored in the school house in which the speaking was held. The house was packed. The explosives were accidentally ignited, wrecking the building and burying the occupants in the ruins. The debris took fire and it was with the utmost difficulty that the rescuers subdued the flames. Four persons were killed and fifteen injured, some fatally.

### Lion at Large in Missouri.

St. JOSEPH, Mo., Nov. 17.—Some time ago a monster lion escaped from a travelling show which was exhibiting at Mound City and took to the hills. Since that time he has created a reign of terror in that section and has killed a number of head of sheep, hogs and calves. Organized parties are now seeking to kill the beast.

### Cyclone in Illinois.

REDDUD, Ill., Nov. 17.—Early this morning a cyclone swept over this village destroying thirty-five houses, killing one boy and injuring fifteen other persons. Two churches, the town hall, jail and newspaper offices are among the buildings leveled. The storm came from the south, accompanied by a heavy rain and swept a path 200 yards wide through the town. The wires are down in every direction, so that it is impossible to ascertain the full extent of the damage. There will be much suffering among the homeless victims.

### Various Ties That Bind.

I apprehend there are some people now in the Republican party who would be in the People's party if there were more broadcloth and silk hats in the latter.

Most of us have too much deference for wealth independent of other considerations. Business considerations influence many, more than does conviction.

I know some men of whom one would expect better things who find more satisfaction in having the president of a bank or some prominent lawyer-politician give them a pat on the shoulder than they would in standing by manly conviction when such a manly stand deprives them of the patronizing, hypocritical, obsequious attention of the rich and influential. Vanity and excessive love of approbation are the predominating influences with such men. They feed on flattery and adulation, and strange to say, are often unconscious of their weakness.

Heaven pity such men! Whether preachers, lawyers, physicians, business men, or laborers; verily they get their reward.

Courageous devotion to conviction always wins respect.

Social ties hold many men in party lines. Selfish ties hold legions.

Almost infinite are the motives and forces which prompt men to affiliate.

Intelligence, motives and purpose determines strength and duration of affiliations.

In society, as in nature, no organization is fixed and unchangeable. Unchangeable fixation would be everlasting deadness.

Organization is a primary law in nature. The universe and the planets were evolved from chaos by systematic monadic organization, and concentration of particles—individual units conjoined. This law prevails in the animal and vegetable kingdoms, and is prominently and beautifully illustrated in the formation of minerals. It is natural to organize. Individual isolation is decay, and eventually dissolution. Existence, vital strength and potent action depend upon sagacious organization. It is right to organize. It is wisdom. It is strength. Organize!

But all organizations are inevitably and invariably subject to aggregation, disintegration, and eventually to dissolution.

Political organizations are not exceptions to the rule.

Don't contend against the inevitable changes demanded as a sequence to perpetual evolution and advancing civilization.

New things are only new in formation.—Topeka Advocate and Tribune.

### Onward.

There are people who think or pretend to think that the world makes little real advancement; that history is simply repeated over and over again; that we travel around in a little circle, creating only to see our creations tumble. Wendell Phillips used to talk eloquently of the forgotten arts, as if the world with its present magnificent civilization was but little in advance of the brilliant civilization that had preceded ours. To a degree this view of the world's progress or lack of progress is correct. Valuable arts have been lost; and while we surpass our predecessors in some directions they surpassed us in others. But in many respects—and particulars that are most interesting to mankind—the world has made and is making progress which nothing has been able or ever will be able permanently to impede. We are marching onward to a broader liberty and to a more universal recognition of justice between man and man. The world during all the centuries that were marked by a fiendish inhumanity to man—by tyranny and bloodshed and assassination—was longing for and pushing toward the freedom and self-government which was established on this continent over a hundred years ago. The men who settled this country and the men who established this republic were men in whom all the protestations against wrong and tyranny had seemingly centered and they were men who themselves had suffered oppression to such a degree that their courage and loyalty to justice and humanity gave birth to the immortal sentiment: "Give me liberty or give me death." We might as well attempt to turn the

sun from its course or wave back the waters of the mighty waterfall with a motion of the hand as to attempt to blot out popular government, born on the battle-fields that were crimson with the blood of such men. The time will never come when popular government shall cease to exist where the American flag to-day casts its shadow of protection and authority. —Farmers' Voice.

### AMONG OUR EXCHANGES

Mr. McKinley presented his Bill to the American people but not having received value therefore, they repudiated the treacherous, traitorous thing and relegated its advocates to political oblivion.—Alma Reporter.

Alliance men, get to work and see to it that before the New Year dawns, your alliance is in good running order. If our meetings had not been neglected our state would have been wholly controlled by the people's party the coming year. Get to work immediately and let each one consider it a personal duty. —Alma Reporter.

And now it is the proper thing for republicans to predict the death of the independent movement. Yes, we predict that which we wish, but the fulfillment does not always gratify our hopes. Whatever party is in power will ever be worried by the evil genius of a third party so long as they do not legislate for the whole people.—Ponca Gazette.

We must go to work now with a will to carry Nebraska for the people's party next fall. The republicans will be disheartened and disorganized and our success is certain if we put forth the necessary effort to secure it.—Franklin Press.

The Lincoln asylum ring has another two year's lease on the pocketbooks of Nebraska's citizens. The old saying is that if you wish to see a man kick his horse, it did not hold true in this instance, but the rogues were given a chance to continue the bleeding process.—Oakland Times.

The independent party is too young to yield to the apparent discouragements that have fallen it. For years and years the old abolition party met with constant rebuffs and its darkest period was just before the great rebellion. Its principles proved to be the leaven which finally leavened the whole lump and gave to the accursed traffic in human chattels a fatal blow.

Paste it in your hat. Proclaim it from the house top. Paint it by the wayside. Print it in the paper. Post, proclaim, paint and print that the railroads in Nebraska charged two hundred and thirteen dollars to haul a fifteen ton car of canned goods four hundred and sixteen miles and that the same service is rendered in Iowa for seventy-eight dollars.—Stockville Faber

Every sub-alliance should now put on new life. The busy season will soon be over, and the long winter evenings are at hand. Get together and plan for a vigorous winter's work. Arrange programs, give entertainments, enlist the young people, circulate literature, remember that the farmers' alliance is a school of political economy, and a school where everyone can be at once both pupil and teacher.

### Valuable Aids.

Chairman (Campaign committee)—Yes, we need some good writers for our literary bureau. Have you had any experience at campaign literature?

Applicant—No, sir. I am a writer of summer hotel advertisements.

Chairman—Glorious! Take that desk there along-side of the gentleman who used to figure up newspaper circulations.

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### The Only Test.

Sister—What! Do you mean to say you have engaged yourself to that Belle Blondie, and intend to bring the horrid thing into the family? Brother—Horrid thing! I heard you tell her you loved her dearly! Sister—Huh! You never heard me tell any one else so.

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