

AN AMERICAN PARTY.

Patriotic Citizens of Chicago Form The Independent American Citizens' Party.

Declaration of Principles, Platform and Resolutions Adopted at a Mass Convention Held in Central Music Hall.

We believe the time has come when all who love our nation and its institutions and are true to its flag, in order to be faithful to their obligations as citizens, must take concerted action as a free and independent voting phalanx in the arena of politics...

We believe that a crisis is upon us which threatens the overthrow of popular government; that a military ecclesiasticism such as marked the medieval ages, supported by the imperialism of dishonestly acquired wealth, has gained control of our political machinery...

Our flag, too, is dishonored at home and abroad and our institutions are attacked, our legislative bodies are corrupted, our courts of justice are intimidated and used to clear the guilty and condemn the righteous...

ONLY TRUE AMERICANS WANTED. We believe the time has come when in order to meet the danger that threatens our institutions America should be ruled by those who by birth or honest adoption have become citizens and that none but those whose allegiance and devotion to our institutions, constitution and flag are paramount to all other human claims upon them should be trusted on guard.

We recognize the fact that there is an awakening abroad among honest citizens born of the spirit of patriotism which demands attention. Protection for American institutions, for the nation's flag and honor and for its educational system has become a living issue during the last few years...

We believe the time has come when the American citizen who is true to the vital principles which underlie our system of government must break away from the political bossism and corrupting intrigue which control the two old parties in national, state and municipal politics...

We believe that partisan politics is undermining our institutions to such an extent that the virtue and morality by which only popular government can subsist are no longer known quantities among party leaders. This, the very foundation of American liberty, is disappearing and the great governmental machine destined by the patriot fathers as a means by which our free and humane institutions should be perpetuated from generation to generation is being turned into an engine for their destruction...

HOODWINKED BY BAD PROMISES. We believe that honest citizens, men who desire to perpetuate a government of the people, by the people and for the people, have been grossly deceived and hoodwinked from time to time by cunningly designed platforms and fair promises made by party leaders and manipulators...

We believe that the time has come when, in justice to ourselves as true and independent American citizens and out of regard to the fathers of our institutions and with respect to the graves of the heroes who laid down their lives to protect them and preserve

us a nation and an unsullied flag, we should arise in our might as one man, casting off the chains of partisanship, and rebuke and punish the political wire-pullers, the treacherous ring bosses and professional hoodlums who run the partisan machines of both the democratic and republican parties for their criminal dishonesty, in the conducting of public affairs. And, further, that the parties which they have corrupted and demoralized should be relegated back into that oblivion from which they have sprung at the people's command. They have become the tools of a foreign and un-American balance of power which openly avows its purpose to be the overthrow of our liberties, and hence have ceased to be virtuous and moral channels through which the true citizen can exercise his franchise without the moral taint of treason. Furthermore, they have become instruments by which their respective bosses have by corrupt means perpetuated their power for official aggrandizement and dishonest gain. In them the people have been blindly led to endorse administrations and leaders who have betrayed the sacred trusts bestowed upon them, and who have catered to a dangerous and unconstitutional controlling power in whose interests legislation has taken place, to the neglect and damage of the true citizen.

WE BELIEVE THAT TO LONGER SUFFER WITHOUT ORGANIZED PROTEST POLITICAL SCYOPHANTS TO REWARD THEMSELVES FOR THEIR TREASON TO OUR INSTITUTIONS BY THE DISHONEST SPOILS OF OFFICE WOULD BE TO ENDANGER OUR SELF-RESPECT AND DESTROY OUR AMERICAN MANHOOD. Our knowledge of partisan machine political maladministration compels us to either oppose and stand on guard or become partakers with the political criminals whose business is treason against the people's rights and liberties.

We believe the present to be the right time and Cook county the right place in which to raise a standard representing faith in American institutions, purity in municipal, state and national government and protection to the magna charta of American independence among the people, that they may gather about American principles and help to bring success to honest issues by exercising their voting franchise for the election of honest representative men, whose love of country is greater than their partisanship, men who are pledged to stand by our institutions and the principles which they involve, such men as would rat or suffer defeat than gain victory at the expense of liberty and by conniving at treason, men who are Americans by birth or honest adoption and whose franchise can neither be bought nor sold, representatives who will represent the American people and not a foreign prince.

We believe no standard will be more acceptable to the great mass of true American citizens who have in response to the call of patriotism thrown off partisan shackles and hoodwinks than that which bears a name which expresses the independence of the American voter, and that is the Independent American citizen's party.

Platform. CIVIL SERVICE. Civil service reform should be extended to all grades of public service—town, city, county, state and nation. Fitness and not partisan or sectarian service should be the essential tests, fidelity, efficiency and true Americanism the only sure tenure of office. The spoils system, by which lucrative offices are doled out as a reward for un-American and ecclesiastical support to political parties, is a dangerous enemy to our institutions and good government.

MONEY. Money should consist of gold, silver and greenbacks. All paper money should be issued by the government directly to the people in the form of national greenbacks and certificates of deposits issued from a system of postal savings banks, in sums of \$10 and upward, thus giving the people the same advantages now conferred by the government upon national banks. All moneys issued by the United States should be a full legal tender for all debts, both public and private. The purchasing or debt-paying powers of any dollar coined or issued by the United States should be made and kept the equivalent of that of any other dollar so coined or issued.

The issuing of interest-bearing bonds should be discontinued and bonds that are now out should be paid as fast as possible, and thus a system which increases the burdens of the people in the interests of the non-producing money owners be annulled in the interest of the investors of capital in commercial enterprises and industries.

IMMIGRATION. Our immigration law should be so changed and immigration restricted that it will protect our citizen laborers from the evil influence and unequal competition of pauper and criminal labor, which, through the instrumentality of European propagandist societies and the subtle assistance of their ecclesiastical agents here, are rapidly supplementing our free and enlightened American citizens in every line of industry, and by their illiteracy and the superstitious, un-American influence which control them are becoming a menace to our liberal institutions.

TRUSTS AND MONOPOLIES. The concentration of wealth in the hands of the few means the impoverishment of the many, and as a consequence their enslavement; therefore, the vigorous prosecution and abolition of all trusts now existing in violation of state and United States statutes is demanded, and the further suppression of all trusts and combines, such as the sugar trust, the cordage trust, oil trust, the whisky trust, etc., which are designed to enrich the few at the expense of the many, and which are in their nature and results contrary to the spirit and genius of our national institutions, laws and government.

TARIFF. A tariff for protection, honestly administered, is necessary for the encouragement of our infant industries. That the calamitous

financial results occasioned by the frequent partisan agitation and changes in the tariff may be avoided, there should be appointed a non-partisan commission on tariff composed of representatives from the different branches of business and labor, whose duty it shall be to regularly recommend to congress such changes in tariff laws as will preserve and protect the people in contentment and prosperity; and maintain the government, and thus take out of partisan politics this economic question which has no proper place there.

PUBLIC FUNDS. Public funds, secured from the taxes and burdens bearing the heaviest upon the common people, are being diverted from their legitimate purposes and used for the corruption of political partisan voters and political machine organizations. By strong legislative action we should demand of our public officers, who are entrusted with the public funds, an honest and scrupulous care of the people's money and compel them to pay into the public treasury every dollar of interest earned on all such public funds. That all religious and sectarian conflicts between our citizens may be avoided and public funds be properly applied there should be no appropriation whatsoever of any public funds to any sectarian institution of any kind whatsoever, and all church property should bear its just proportions of taxation.

THE LABOR ISSUE. Labor existed prior to capital, and is therefore independent of capital. The conflict between labor and capital will be closed only when labor emancipates itself from the rule of professional agitation and machine politicians. Capital and labor are absolutely necessary to each other. The rights of each will ultimately be best served by an honest ballot, and not by the aid of the bayonet. Capital is the fruit of labor, and its surest safeguard is in the loyalty of labor to its fruits. There should be a system of effective legislation which will insure by arbitration the rights of labor and capital alike and secure justice to employer and employee.

UNITED STATES SENATORS. In order to conserve the rights of the people and insure a continuation of a government based upon the "Vox populi, vox Dei" sovereignty of the people and keep them in direct touch with the legislative department of government, United States senators should be elected by the direct vote of the people.

PUBLIC EDUCATION. As the quality of a republican form of government is either good or bad according to the intelligence of its people we demand that all nations, state and municipal non-sectarian public schools and institutions of learning shall be protected from all sectarian interference, and that no sectarian school or institute of learning shall at any time nor under any circumstances receive public money for their support, nor shall any sectarian school or institution of education be at any time declared a public school for the purpose of drawing public moneys.

PUBLIC CHARITIES. We demand that all institutions of charity which receive public moneys must be non-sectarian and under the complete control of the nation or state, and that no sectarian institution of charity shall receive support by grants of public money or land or their equivalents.

CITIZENSHIP. No foreigner coming to this country should become a citizen until he has had a continuous residence of not less than five years in the country, and has foreworn his former allegiance to prince or potentate who claim temporal sovereignty, he be a civil or ecclesiastical sovereign, nor shall such naturalized foreigner be permitted to exercise the voting franchise until he can read in the legal language of the country the Constitution of the United States, the Declaration of Independence, and the Constitution of the state in which he resides.

COUNTY AND CITY. The Independent American citizen's party pledges itself that if its nominees are elected the gambling dens and cesspools of vice which have been permitted to run riot under the reign of both parties when in power, in defiance of law and public morality, will be suppressed so far as it lies in the power of the county officials so to do. We believe a law should be passed which would compel the recognition by the mayor and chief of police of the complaint of any ten reputable citizens who at any time may charge that unlawful business of a criminal nature, demoralizing character is being carried on within the city limits, and which would, in case the said officials, refuse or neglect to investigate according to law such charges and if sustained shall take measures to abate such unlawful and criminal business be sufficient ground for an action in impeachment of either or both of said city officials.

Whereas, It is a fact that at several of the state conventions of the democratic party there have been resolutions adopted denouncing all secret political orders, and especially the American Protective Association, and thereby in fact declaring that they were opposed to all patriotic orders; and,

Whereas, The populist party in convention assembled has also at different times and places, by resolutions or otherwise, declared itself opposed to such organizations as above mentioned; and,

Whereas, Several leaders of the republican party have by public utterances expressed themselves as opposed to such organizations; and,

Whereas, No political party, up to date, has in any way shown a disposition to defend such patriotic associations by word or act; be it therefore,

Resolved, That we, the Independent American citizens party in convention assembled, hereby indorse any and all patriotic associations, political or otherwise, which have any or all of the following sentiments embodied in their declaration of principles, to-wit:

Protection to our constitution and laws.

Protection of the stars and stripes. Protection to the free public school system of our nation; radical revision of the naturalization laws; restriction of emigration; absolute separation of church and state; no public funds for sectarian purposes and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be mailed by our secretary to each of the patriotic newspapers throughout the entire United States.

"No more cunning diot was ever devised against the freedom, the happiness, and the virtue of mankind, than Romanism."—Gladstone.

A CHALLENGE From Walter Sims to the Republican and Democratic Parties for a Joint Debate.

CHICAGO, Ill., Sept. 12.—Walter C. Kelley, Esq., Chairman Independent American Citizens' Party: Dear Sir—In pursuance of my offer made at the convention held this evening at Central Music Hall, you are hereby authorized to issue, in my name, this challenge to public discussion between representatives of the democratic and republican parties and myself regarding their attitude in the past and present towards American institutions.

We charge that both parties have been and still are controlled by foreign ecclesiasticism to the damage of our institutions.

That both parties have paid out public monies to this power as a reward for its political support. That both parties are cognizant that an ecclesiasticism is abroad in our country for the subjection of our institutions to its own. That both parties have gone beyond the permit of the Constitution of the United States in the recognition of such un-American and foreign power.

That neither party dare come out and avow its intentions to stand by the Constitution and refuse to grant more public monies for sectarian purposes.

That neither party dare advocate the taxation of church property, which is constitutional.

That neither party dare demand the opening to public official inspection of all institutions in which people are either confined or educated.

That neither party dare declare in favor of so changing our naturalization laws as to compel all foreigners to forswear their allegiance to any prince or potentate, be he civil or ecclesiastical, who claims temporal sovereignty, and that every such foreigner shall be able to read the Constitution before being permitted to vote.

You will please extend, through the proper committees of the respective parties, an invitation to meet me and discuss these charges through their representatives at Central Music Hall. The republicans on Saturday evening, September 22, and the democrats on Saturday evening, September 29. The hall will be free to them, without cost, and their representatives shall have half the time on each evening. I will open the discussion. I remain, yours for Americanism, WALTER SIMS.

ROME'S SENTIMENTS.

"The state has no right to educate; and when the state undertakes the work of educating, it is usurping the power of the church."—Bishop—McQuaid

Protestantism has not, and never can have any rights where Catholicity is triumphant.—Catholic Review.

"We are purely and simply Catholics, and profess an unreserved allegiance to the church, which takes precedence of, and gives rule to, our allegiance to the state."—Catholic World.

"Catholic votes should be cast solidly for the democracy at the next election. It is the only possible hope to break down the school system."—Toledo Catholic Review.

"The Roman Catholics of the United States owe no allegiance to any principle of the government, which is condemned by the church or pope."—Tablet.

"I frankly confess that the Catholics stand before this country as the enemies of the public schools."—Father Phelan of St. Louis.

Rev. J. Hogan, of Kansas City, Mo., says: "That the sacraments are to be refused to Catholics unworthy of the name, who in the education of their children patronize the public schools."—Judges of Faith, page 103.

"Let the public school system go to where it came from—the Devil."—Freeman's Journal.

"It will be a glorious day for the Catholics of this country when under the blows of justice and morality our school system will be shattered to pieces. Until then modern paganism will triumph."—Cincinnati Catholic Telegraph.

Pamphlet.

Extracts from United States Congressional Record, containing address of Hon. W. S. Linton and discussion in congress upon sectarian appropriations of national money to Indian education, and the vote thereon; also remarks made respecting a requirement to teach the English language in New Mexico after admission to statehood, and two separate votes rejecting such a requirement.

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Change of Time.

On and after Sunday, April 29th, the Missouri Pacific trains for Kansas City, St. Louis, etc., will leave depot at 15th and Webster streets at 9:00 a. m. and 9:30 p. m. Trains will arrive at 6:00 a. m. and 6:55 p. m. Nebraska Local leaves daily, except Sunday, at 5:10 p. m.; arrives 9:20 a. m.

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The public schools have produced nothing but a Godless generation of thieves and blackguards.—Priest Schaur.

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I would as soon administer sacrament to a dog as to Catholics who send their children to public schools.—Father Walker.

"Do you believe this country will ever become Catholic? Is changed to the question: How soon do you think it will come to pass? Soon, very soon, we reply, if statistics be true."—Catholic World.

Here is a specimen of Roman Catholic morality as told by the pope: 'A lie told for the purpose of misleading the enemies of the Catholic church, is not regarded as a lie by almighty God.'

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