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THE STANDPAT PLATFORM

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1904. During those four years the republican party was in power and the failure of that party to reform the abuses that have grown up under individualism is responsible for the rapid growth of socialism. Even today the republican party is encouraging the socialistic idea by its defense of private monopolies. Instead of exterminating monopolies, it only asks for regulation, and experience has shown that monopolies regulate the government instead of being regulated by the government. When a republican presents an economic argument in favor of monopoly in industry, he goes more than half way in the defense of socialism, for the socialist makes the same argument but insists that the benefits of monopoly shall be enjoyed by the whole country. The democratic party, instead of tending toward socialism, is the chief defender of individualism in the United States, for it insists upon the restoration of competition and upon the protection of competition as a regulation force in industry. It is the democratic party that insists upon equality of opportunity and upon the guaranty to each individual of the results of his labor, and it is the republican party that has permitted the door of opportunity to be closed and converted business into an immense lottery system under which a few draw capital prizes in the form of swollen fortunes while the many see their prospects of independence decreasing.

Equally false is the statement that the democratic party believes in government ownership and the republican party in regulation. The democratic party insists upon regulation and the republican party, dominated by predatory corporations, will not consent even to effective regulation. The president himself, and even Secretary Taft, has pointed out that government ownership must be expected if regulation is not permitted, and yet even this threat does not stir the republican leaders to a successful resistance to corporate influences.

The newspaper men, supported by a message from the president, tried to secure the passage of a law putting wood pulp and print paper on the free list. They not only failed, but the platform makes no mention of this specific reform. If the president and all the republican newspapers can not get a specific promise of tariff reduction, what hope is there of tariff reform at the hands of the republican leaders?

The platform as written is indubitable proof that the republican party does not expect to give the country any real reform. The platform is, in fact, a contract, signed and sealed, between the republican party and the exploiting interests, guaranteeing that nothing shall be done to free the people from graft and extortion; it is an admission that the money to carry on the campaign is to be drawn from the "system" and that means that the "system" will be in control after the election. The "system" is run on business principles and when it puts up its money to carry an election, it is sure to be quite careful about the security taken.



REPUBLICANS DECEIVING LABOR

The anti-injunction plank of the republican platform, as finally adopted, is a transparent fraud. It is possible that the members of the committee were buncoed by some trust lawyer—that is the only charitable view that can be taken of it. Those who advocated the plank claimed to be doing it as a concession to the wage earners, and yet if one will read the plank he will see that it is in fact an announcement that the republican party is unalterably opposed to the

laboring man's position. The plank reads as follows: "The republican party will uphold at all times the authority and integrity of the courts, state and federal, and will ever insist that their powers to enforce their processes and to protect life, liberty and property shall be preserved inviolate. We believe, however, that the rules of procedure in federal court, with respect to the issuance of a writ of injunction, should be more accurately defined by the statute; that no injunction or temporary restraining order should be issued without notice, except where irreparable injury would result from delay, in which case a speedy hearing thereafter should be granted."

It will be seen that the plank begins with an unnecessary eulogy of the courts. Nobody is opposed to upholding at all times the authority and integrity of the courts. Nobody is objecting to the enforcement of their processes or to their exercise of their powers to protect life, liberty and property. The plank assumes that somebody is attacking the courts and that the courts are in danger of losing support or of having their powers weakened. There is no attack upon the courts and there is no thought anywhere of interfering with any legitimate function of the court. The republican convention puts up a man of straw and then proceeds to demolish it; it suspects an unholy assault upon the judiciary and its righteous indignation at once finds expression in a boastful assertion of its innocence of participation in any such suspected assault. This part of the plank was written to give assurance to the people who are opposed to the laboring man's plea. And now let us proceed to that part of the plank which was intended as a sop to the laboring man. It says: "We believe, however, that the rules of procedure in the federal court with respect to the issuance of a writ of injunction should be more accurately defined by the statute." (Just what that definition shall be is not stated.) "That no injunction or temporary restraining order should be issued without notice, EXCEPT WHERE IRREPARABLE INJURY WOULD RESULT FROM DELAY, in which case a speedy hearing thereafter should be granted." Note the words in capitals (EXCEPT WHERE IRREPARABLE INJURY WOULD RESULT FROM DELAY), and compare this exception with the federal statute on the subject and you will find that under the law AS IT NOW EXISTS the court is not empowered to grant a temporary restraining order EXCEPT "THERE APPEARS TO BE DANGER OF IRREPARABLE INJURY FROM DELAY." It will be seen that the man who wrote the injunction plank copied the statute almost word for word and made the exception as broad as the statute. If the convention had been frank in the statement of its position it would have quoted the present statute and said that it was in favor of enforcing the law JUST AS IT IS. It would have said, "whereas, at present, a court or judge may grant a temporary restraining order 'if there appears to be danger of irreparable injury from delay,' therefore be it resolved that we are opposed to changing it."

The men who are responsible for the language of the injunction plank may have fooled the rest of the committee and they may have fooled the convention, but they can not fool the laboring men or the voters in general. The injunction plank has not even the value of a gold-plated brick for the plating is brass, as well as the interior of the brick.

The plank as prepared in advance of the convention by Mr. Taft's friends and given out on Tuesday reads as follows: "We declare for such amendments of the statutes of procedure in the federal courts with respect to the use of the writ of injunction as will, on the one hand prevent the summary issue of such orders without proper consideration, and on the other, will preserve undiminished the power of the courts to enforce their process, to the end that justice may be done at all times and to all parties."

It will be noticed that in this plank the declaration in favor of amendments comes first and the declaration in favor of preserving undiminished the power of the courts to enforce their processes comes afterwards. In the plank, as adopted by the convention, the declaration in favor of the courts comes first and the discussion of a change in the law comes afterwards. It will also be noticed that in the first draft of the platform the pledge is that the power of the courts "to enforce their process" shall be preserved. In the plank adopted by the convention this promise is enlarged and elaborated. In the original platform amendments are favored. In the platform adopted by the convention there is no suggestion of an amendment, they only ask for a more accurate defini-

tion of the rules of procedure. In the original plank the aim of the party was to "prevent the summary issue of such orders without proper consideration," whereas in the plank adopted in the convention an exception is inserted that nullifies the promise because the exception leaves the subject just as it found it.

If the demand of the laboring man is unreasonable, why did not the convention say so? Why did it resort to deception? The republican party will find that an honest course would have been safer than the dishonest course pursued.

The fraud which the convention attempted will not mislead anyone because there is time enough between now and election for everyone to find out the facts.

Secretary Taft is known as the father of government by injunction and his speeches in Oklahoma last year gave conclusive proof of his adherence to the position taken by him on the bench. He is still in favor of the use of the writ of injunction in labor cases and he is opposed to trial by jury.

In a speech delivered in New York last winter he said, in response to questions, that the law ought to be so amended as to give a hearing before the injunction was granted and even consented that the hearing for contempt should be before a different judge from the one who granted the injunction, but when he came to prepare a plank for the convention he did not go as far as he went in his speech. The plank that went before the convention as his plank was so weak that it amounted to nothing, but it was even then too strong for the convention and the convention adopted a plank which not only does not grant any concessions to the laboring man but really emphasizes the position taken by large corporate employers by hurling anathema at those who are suspected of a desire to modify the law relating to injunctions. This is the treatment received by the wage earners from the national convention of the republican party. If this is the position of the party before the election, what reason has the laboring man to hope that the party will do better after election?



DEMOCRATIC CONVENTIONS

COLORADO

The democratic state convention for Colorado met at Glenwood Springs, June 16. Former Governor Alva Adams was elected national committeeman. The delegates chosen are Charles J. Hughes, Jr., ex-Governor Charles S. Thomas, Mrs. Mary C. Bradford, Elmer F. Beckwith, Henry M. Limberger, Christian Kaiser, J. U. Virgil, W. E. Jones, F. R. McAliny, Frank A. Wheeler.

The platform concludes, as follows: "Resolved, That in William J. Bryan the democracy of Colorado recognizes a true patriot, a wise, fearless and conservative statesman, and a thoroughly honest man. In the White House or out of it no machine controls him, no boss dictates to him, no special privilege interest can coerce him. His independence, his ability, his exalted patriotism, his stainless character appeals to the people of the nation. Therefore we instruct the delegates elected by this convention to cast their votes for W. J. Bryan for president and continue to so cast them while his name shall be before the convention as a candidate."

MISSISSIPPI

Following is an Associated Press dispatch: Jackson, Miss., June 17.—The democratic state convention which met here instructed the delegates named to represent the state at the national convention to vote first and last for the selection of W. J. Bryan as candidate for president. The delegates selected to attend the national convention follow: Senator A. J. McLaurin, Brandon; Representative John Sharp Williams, Yazoo City; Governor E. F. Noel, Jackson; ex-Governor J. K. Vardaman, Jackson; ex-Governor Lowery K. Jackson; ex-Governor Longino, Jackson.

TENNESSEE

Following is an Associated Press dispatch: Nashville, Tenn., June 17.—The state democratic convention which met here to select the delegates to the national convention at Denver completed its work and adjourned late this afternoon. The delegates are: L. D. Tyson of Knox county, G. D. Fitzhugh, Shelby county, and United States Senators James B. Frazier and Robert L. Taylor. The delegation is instructed to vote as a unit for the nomination of W. J. Bryan for president, John A. Johnson of Minnesota being commended for vice president.