

would compel a reduction of wages, prevent adequate service or do injustice to legitimate investments.

We heartily approve the laws prohibiting the pass and the rebate and we favor any further necessary legislation to restrain, correct and prevent such abuses.

We favor such legislation as will increase the power of the interstate commerce commission, giving to it the initiative with reference to rates and transportation charges put into effect by the railroad companies, and permitting the interstate commerce commission on its own initiative to declare a rate illegal and as being more than should be charged for such service. The present law relating thereto is inadequate by reason of the fact that the interstate commerce commission is without power to fix or investigate a rate until complaint has been made to it by the shipper.

We further declare in favor of a law providing that all agreements of traffic or other associations of railway agents affecting interstate rates, service or classification shall be unlawful unless filed with and approved by the interstate commerce commission.

We favor the enactment of a law giving to the interstate commerce commission the power to inspect proposed railroad tariff rates or schedules before they shall take effect and if they be found to be unreasonable to initiate an adjustment thereof.

#### TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE

We pledge the democratic party to the enactment of a law to regulate, under the jurisdiction of the interstate commerce commission, the rates and services of telegraph and telephone companies engaged in the transmission of messages between the states.

#### BANKING

The panic of 1907, coming without any legitimate excuse when the republican party had for a decade been in complete control of the federal government furnishes additional proof that it is either unwilling or incompetent to protect the interests of the general public. It has so linked the country to Wall Street that the sins of the speculators are visited upon the whole people. While refusing to rescue the wealth producers from spoliation at the hands of the stock gamblers, and speculators in farm products, it has deposited treasury funds, without interest and without competition in favorite banks. It has used an emergency for which it is largely responsible to force through congress a bill changing the basis of bank currency and inviting market manipulation and has failed to give to the fifteen million depositors of the country protection in their savings.

We believe that insofar as the needs of commerce require an emergency currency, such currency should be issued and controlled by the federal government and loaned on adequate security to national and state banks. We pledge ourselves to legislation under which the national banks shall be required to establish a guarantee fund for the prompt payment of the depositors of any insolvent national bank, under an equitable system which shall be available to all state banking institutions wishing to use it.

We favor a postal savings bank if the guaranteed bank can not be secured and believe that it should be so constituted as to keep the deposited money in the communities where the depositors live. But we condemn the policy of the republican party in proposing postal savings banks under a plan of conduct by which they will aggregate the deposits of the rural communities and redeposit the same while under government charge in the banks of Wall Street, thus depleting the circulating medium of the producing regions and unjustly favoring the speculative markets.

#### LABOR AND INJUNCTIONS

The courts of justice are the bulwark of our liberties and we yield to none in our purpose to maintain their dignity. Our party has given to the bench a long line of distinguished judges who have added to the respect and confidence in which this department must be jealously maintained. We resent the attempt of the republican party to raise a false issue respecting the judiciary. It is an unjust reflection upon a great body of our citizens to assume that they lack respect for the courts. It is the function of the courts to interpret the laws which the people create, and if the laws appear to work economic, social or political injustice, it is our duty to change them. The only basis upon which the integrity of our courts can stand is that of unswerving justice and pro-

tection of life, personal liberty and property. If judicial processes may be abused, we should guard them against abuse.

Experience has proved the necessity of a modification of the present law, relating to injunctions and we reiterate the pledge of our national platforms of 1896 and 1904 in favor of the measure which passed the United States senate in 1896, but which a republican congress has ever since refused to enact, relating to contempt in federal courts and providing for trial by jury in cases of indirect contempt.

Questions of judicial practice have arisen especially in connection with industrial disputes. We believe that the parties to all judicial proceedings should be treated with rigid impartiality and that injunctions should not be issued in any cases in which injunctions would not issue if no industrial dispute were involved.

The expanding organization of industry makes it essential that there should be no abridgement of the right of wage earners and producers to organize for the protection of wages and the improvement of labor conditions to the end that such labor organizations and their members should not be regarded as illegal combinations in restraint of trade.

We favor the eight hour day on all government work.

We pledge the democratic party to the enactment of a law by congress as far as the federal jurisdiction extends for a general employers' liability act covering injury to body or loss of life of employes.

We pledge the democratic party to the enactment of a law creating a department of labor, represented separately in the president's cabinet, in which department shall be included the subject of mines and mining.

#### THE PHILIPPINES

We condemn the experiment in imperialism as an inexcusable blunder which has involved us in enormous expense, brought us weakness instead of strength, and laid our nation open to the charge of abandoning a fundamental doctrine of self-government. We favor an immediate declaration of the nation's purpose to recognize the independence of the Philippine islands as soon as a stable government can be established, such independence to be guaranteed by us as we guarantee the independence of Cuba until the neutralization of the islands can be secured by treaty with other powers. In recognizing the independence of the Philippines our government should retain such land as may be necessary for coaling stations and naval bases.

#### WATERWAYS

Water furnishes the cheaper means of transportation and the national government having the control of navigable waters should improve them to their fullest capacity. We earnestly favor the immediate adoption of a liberal and comprehensive plan for improving every water course in the union which is justified by the needs of commerce and to secure that end we favor, when practicable, the connection of the Great Lakes with the navigable rivers and with the Gulf through the Mississippi river and the navigable rivers with each other by artificial canals, with a view to perfecting a system of inland waterways to be navigated by vessels of standard draught.

We favor the co-ordination of the various services of the government connected with waterways in one service for the purpose of aiding in the completion of such a system of inland waterways; and we favor the creation of a fund ample for continuous work, which shall be conducted under the direction of a commission of experts to be authorized by law.

#### MERCHANT MARINE

We believe in the upbuilding of the American merchant marine without new or additional burdens upon the people and without bounties from the public treasury.

#### THE NAVY

The constitutional provision that a navy shall be provided and maintained means an adequate navy, and we believe that the interests of this country would be best served by having a navy sufficient to defend the coasts of this country and protect American citizens wherever their rights may be in jeopardy.

#### PROTECTION OF AMERICAN CITIZENS

We pledge ourselves to insist upon the just and lawful protection of our citizens at home and abroad and to use all proper methods to secure for them whether native born or naturalized and without distinction of race or creed,

the equal protection of the law and the enjoyment of all rights and privileges open to them under our treaties; and if, under existing treaties the right of travel and sojourn is denied to American citizens or recognition is withheld from American passports by any countries on the ground of race or creed we favor prompt negotiations with the governments of such countries to secure the removal of these unjust discriminations.

We demand that all over the world a duly authenticated passport issued by the government of the United States to an American citizen shall be proof of the fact that he is an American citizen and shall entitle him to the treatment due him as such.

#### FOREIGN PATENTS

We believe that where an American citizen holding a patent in a foreign country is compelled to manufacture under his patent within a certain time, similar restrictions should be applied in this country to the citizens or subjects of such a country.

#### CIVIL SERVICE

The law pertaining to the civil service should be honestly and rigidly enforced to the end that merit and ability shall be the standard of appointment and promotion rather than services rendered to a political party.

#### PENSIONS

We favor a generous pension policy, both as a matter of justice to the surviving veterans and their dependents, and because it tends to relieve the country of the necessity of maintaining a large standing army.

#### HEALTH BUREAU

We advocate the organization of all existing national public health agencies into a national bureau of public health with such power over sanitary conditions connected with factories, mines, tenements, child labor, and such other subjects as are properly within the jurisdiction of the federal government and do not interfere with the power of the states controlling public health agencies.

#### AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL EDUCATION

The democratic party favors the extension of agricultural, mechanical and industrial education. We therefore favor the establishment of district agricultural experiment stations and secondary agricultural and mechanical colleges in the several states.

#### OKLAHOMA

We welcome Oklahoma to the sisterhood of states and heartily congratulate her upon the auspicious beginning of a great career.

#### ARIZONA AND NEW MEXICO

The national democratic party has for the last sixteen years labored for the admission of Arizona and New Mexico as separate states of the federal union, and recognizing that each possesses every qualification successfully to maintain separate state governments, we favor the immediate admission of these territories as separate states.

#### ALASKA AND PORTO RICO

We demand for the people of Alaska and Porto Rico the full enjoyment of the rights and privileges of a territorial form of government and that the officials appointed to administer the government of all our territories and the District of Columbia should be thoroughly qualified by previous bona fide residence.

#### HAWAII

We favor the application of the principles of the land laws of the United States to our newly acquired territory, Hawaii, to the end that the public lands of that territory may be held and utilized for the benefit of bona fide homesteaders.

#### POST ROADS

We favor federal aid to state and local authorities in the construction and maintenance of post roads.

#### NATURAL RESOURCES

We repeat the demand for internal development, and for the conservation of our natural resources, contained in previous platforms, the enforcement of which Mr. Roosevelt has vainly sought from a reluctant party; and to that end we insist upon the preservation, protection and replacement of needed forests, the preservation of the public domain for homeseekers, the pro-