

## A UNION OF FORCES

Mr. Houston Discusses Present Conditions and Outlines a Plan for Future Action

Editor Independent: Every one who has been like myself a member of the people's party since its organization is exceedingly anxious, and desirous that now, at this supreme crisis, it should do that which is right, and at the same time most expedient from a political point of view.

### PRESENT CONDITIONS.

The democratic party is in a state of absolute chaos. A most bitter contest is going on between the two factions for the control of the organization, with the chances largely in favor of the reorganizers. There can be no harmonious agreement as to platform or nominations.

The republican party is more or less divided on the questions of revision of the tariff, of trusts, and insular policy.

The people's party as to organization is in a moribund condition. "Fusionists" and "middle-of-the-roaders" have been fighting each other and with a bitterness highly reprehensible. Some have gone back to the democratic party; some to the republican party, and others further on to the socialists. We have been betrayed by prominent leaders in each faction, and hope is dying out in the ranks.

The labor organizations which have heretofore divided their vote between the old parties have been slowly coming to the conclusion that the ballot may prove more effective than the strike in righting wrongs. In my own state for the first time the miners made some nominations for congress and the state legislature.

The socialist taking advantage of the lull in populist preaching, pushed to the front the principles they hold in common with the populists and so largely increased their vote.

Now in the midst of all this unrest, agitation, and struggle populist principles have triumphed and are triumphing.

We demanded the free coinage of silver and its addition to the currency. The financial leaders hooted at the idea, but still went on with the coinage of silver until on the 1st day of October, 1902, the treasury report counted as cash \$506,545,711.20 in silver, and this silver dollar the bullion value of which is only 33 1-3 cents is on a parity with the gold dollar all the world over.

We demanded "more money and less misery" and the bankers, in council met at New Orleans last month, took up the populist cry in spite of the fact that the United States leads as a gold producing country, and is coining about \$3,000,000 of silver every month.

We predicted the trusts, and the

# Head

Hurt So Badly Was Nearly Crazy.

Had no Sleep—Could Hardly Lie Down.

Dr. Miles' Nervine Permanently Cured Me.

"A year ago I suffered from extreme nervous stomach trouble. I was afraid of everything, could not bear to hear singing or music and reading or hearing of a death nearly brought on my own. I could not sleep or hardly lie down, the back of my head hurt me so badly I nearly went crazy. My shoulders hurt and the least thing I did would bring on an attack of extreme nervousness. There were times when I would have a lump in my throat and my mouth would be so dry I could hardly speak. I was in despair until I began to take Dr. Miles' Restorative Nervine. I have taken in all twelve bottles and consider myself permanently cured. My home doctor has since remarked on my healthy appearance and said he wished he could say his medicine helped me. He knows it was Dr. Miles' Nervine. We are never without the Anti-Pain Pills and consider your medicines household remedies. I cannot say enough for the Nervine, because in addition to my own case my daughter, who was out of school for a long time because of St. Vitus' dance, was completely cured by eight bottles. She is now feeling fine and going to school every day. We thank you for your kindness and will never stop singing the praises of Dr. Miles' Restorative Nervine."—Mrs. C. E. Ring, Lima, O.

All druggists sell and guarantee first bottle Dr. Miles' Remedies. Send for free booklet on Nervous and Heart Diseases. Address Dr. Miles Medical Co., Elkhart, Ind.

trusts have come, which far from the purpose of their creators establish the practicability and advisability of government ownership of certain industries.

We demanded government ownership of railroads and coal mines. The brains of the country have conceded the one as the best repressive measure as to trusts, and the best means of protection to the people against the tyranny of corporate power—while as to the other Hill of New York with his hand upon the public pulse fished that plank from the fore-front of the populist platform to make it a winning measure in the democratic platform of that great state. Had the mercury fallen on the first of November last to the freezing point it would have won. The Post of Cincinnati during the late anthracite coal strike said, "This struggle is making whole regiments of populists."

In brief, the whole trend of public sentiment, not only as to municipalities, but also as to the nation at large, is toward "public ownership of public utilities"—toward the separation of the state and the individual and which is the heart's core of populist doctrine.

In view of these conditions very briefly stated there is great encouragement to the populists to organize and take the field.

### HOW TO DO IT.

First, we must bring about complete harmony at home. We cannot send out any invitations to strangers until we have set our own house in order. To this end we must hold an experience meeting with a love feast in view—must forget all the mean things, whether true or not, we have said about each other, and throw them behind our backs—must proclaim a general amnesty and invite the vilest sinner to return. Each must meet the other in the spirit of largest concession, and everything be done to revive the spirit of 1892 when nearly two millions of honest votes were cast for General Weaver.

Having put ourselves in this frame of mind and spirit the work of organization, in my opinion, should be initiated by a joint call, signed by the chairman of the national executive committees of the two factions of our party, for a meeting not only of the committees, but of populists generally who are willing to help by thought or act in the organization of the party, and further let it be indicated by this call that representatives of labor organizations, Bryan democrats, so-called, socialists and others who wish to co-operate with the populists in this movement will not be excluded.

At this meeting a plan of organization, full, thorough, and complete, should be outlined, determined upon and carried into effect as far as possible. In addition to this the policy and purpose of the party should be determined as far as is in the power of such a meeting and this policy and purpose should be made known and recommended by a strong address to all populists and members of other organizations who may or are likely to co-operate with us.

Now, if this letter is not already too long, I want to make a few suggestions both as to the organization and policy of the party.

First, as of prime importance, a populist paper should be put in the hands of as many voters as possible of all parties. If in no other way a fund should be created by some means and this distributed among leading populist papers to be expended in sending papers to lists of voters, the names and addresses of whom must be supplied by the various sub-committees in every state. The press is the greatest of all agencies for making votes.

Secondly, as to policy, let it be plainly indicated that populists have given up all hope of accomplishing any lasting reform through co-operation or fusion with either of the old parties on a national ticket. It is evident that the drift of the democratic leaders of the south is toward an alliance with the democrats of the northeastern and central states, which will result in the nomination for president of Cleveland—yes, even Cleveland, or some one representing him, as Olney. This would give the populists the opportunity to declare again for a union of the south and west against the plutocratic east, which so unified the Jeffersonian democrats of the south and the Lincoln republicans of the west in the Weaver campaign. In order to avail ourselves of this coming situation it must be understood before hand—yes, now—that the populists, while asking the assistance of all the lovers of their country, are still in the field for a straight fight against the money power. Under such a banner I believe it is possible for the people's party to regain the position it held in 1892 and

finally to triumph.

A. C. HOUSTON.

Pickaway, W. Va.

The smallest school apportionment warrant ever sent into Webster county by the fusionists was \$3,385. Mickey carried the county this year. And the warrant this December is \$2,556.90. This cuts off \$828.10 which could be used in adding another month of school in 23 districts. Assuming that each stay-at-home populist shucked 30 bushels of corn in the time it would have taken him to go and vote, and allowing 3 cents a bushel, this slump in the apportionment wipes out the earnings of 920 stay-at-homes.

## A Decade of American Finance

Jay Cooke has contributed an article, entitled "A Decade of American Finance," to the North American Review. The first part treats of the history of the national banking business, and the second tells the story of the struggles to build the Northern Pacific railroad. Says Mr. Cooke: "The government gave to the Northern Pacific Railroad company 47,360,000 acres of land, 12,800 acres per mile of railroad in Wisconsin and Minnesota, and 25,000 acres per mile in Dakota, Montana, Idaho, and Washington. The sales of these lands ought practically to have paid for the construction of the railroad which earned them." Yet today that road claims it has "invested" the sum of \$66,252 per mile of line and in the fiscal year ended June 30, 1900, drew from the shippers and passengers who used it over thirty million dollars gross earnings in order to secure a "fair return" upon the capital "invested"—capital, which, according to Mr. Cooke, was given to the road by a foolish congress pretending to represent a still more foolish people.

It will be a great shock to some republican historians to know that Mr. Cooke virtually admits that there was a "crime of '73." He is by no means a "free silver lunatic"—in fact, is opposed to free silver now, but he says: "The question of the continuance of the silver on the old basis might have been appropriately discussed when silver was demonetized in 1873. . . . This left the currency of the country without a silver dollar (Be careful, Mr. Cooke, or the head of the Lincoln Daily Star's drivel department will get you!) and lessened by about one-half the money which the people used and depended on to pay their debts with. Had the title of the bill indicated that it proposed to legislate the silver dollar out of the United States, it could never have passed.

"The enormous discoveries of gold in our country and in other parts of the world have filled the vacuum of legal tenders. Otherwise this wanton and foolish destruction of the legal tender character of the silver dollar would have been disastrous indeed. The immediate effect of it was to destroy or lessen the ability of the debtor to discharge both foreign and domestic debts. Fortunate indeed it was for the country that the wiping out of so large a portion of our legal tenders was supplemented by gold discoveries."

Republican "redemption" by Dietrich and "rescue" by Mickey means a loss of \$806.83 in Seward county. Her last school apportionment warrant is that much smaller than the smallest one ever sent her by fusion state officers.

### Congressman Stark Approves

Editor Independent: While I always see much to commend in each issue of The Independent, I want to especially commend your article in the 4th inst. issue on "Unions and Militia." It is patriotic and sensible in a marked degree and it is a matter of congratulation that a newspaper of my state makes the clearest statement of a correct militia policy that has come under my observation.

W. L. STARK.

House of Representatives, Washington, D. C., Dec. 7, 1902.

Back in 1897 Jefferson county gave a small plurality for Judge Sullivan, and the fusionists succeeded in capturing part of the county offices. Then they began to get apathetic, so that by this years "our man Mickey" lacked but little of carrying the county by 500. Jefferson county's smallest apportionment warrant under fusion state administration was \$4,423.76, or exactly \$1,021.71 more than the one for this December. That would pay a month's salary for thirty \$35 teachers. Republican incompetency comes high—but they rather like it down in Jefferson.

## Don't Die of Consumption

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Who Write

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positive and certain cure for the deadly consumption has at last been discovered. It remained for a great physician of Michigan to find the only known cure for consumption, after almost a life's work spent in experimenting and study. Consumptives who have returned from the west—come home to die because they thought nothing could be done for them—have tried this new discovery and are now well and strong.

If you are afflicted, do not fail to send at once to Dr. D. P. Yonkerman, 1316 Shakespeare Bldg., Kalamazoo, Mich., for a free trial package of this remedy, proofs and testimonials from hundreds of cured patients; it costs nothing. The doctor does not ask anyone to take his word or anyone else's, as he sends a trial package free and a few days' use will show you how easily and quickly you can be cured. Delay is dangerous. There is no time to lose when the death hand of consumption is tightening its clutch upon you. Write today.



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