

**UCKY POPULISTS**

**National Committeeman Crenshaw Speaks For His State—Will not Follow a Cleveland Reorganizer**

Editor Independent: In reply to yours of the 16th inst. will say I received the Henry George Edition of The Independent, and read it with a great deal of interest and found it to contain a vast amount of wholesome doctrine as well as useful information. I wish it could have a larger circulation in Kentucky, as our people need education along the lines that are taught by The Independent.

You ask some very pertinent questions in your circular letter, and I am glad that some one is trying to keep alive the organization that accomplished to much good in putting before the people some real reforms and opened their eyes to the avarice and greed of the money power. The great principles and truths that were taught by the people's party were as seed planted in the minds and hearts of the people that have taken root and will bear its fruit in future generations. The populist organization has gone down in Kentucky. In a few counties they still maintain a kind of independence, but as a rule they affiliate with the older parties. You ask "what caused this loss?" The answer is plain: the reorganization of the democratic party on true democratic lines at Chicago in 1896 and Kansas City in 1900. The populists of this state felt then, and feel now, that they can follow the leadership of W. J. Bryan without a sacrifice of any very important principle. Eighty per cent of the party became followers of Bryan. Fifteen per cent went back into the republican party and about five per cent became socialists.

If the democrats adopt a platform along the lines of '96 and 1900 and nominate men in sympathy with the platform the populists will vote with them. But if the "reorganizers" get control of the convention and make a platform in the interest of trusts and money combines, and place a reorganizer of the Cleveland type at the head of the ticket, then all populists and democrats with populist tendencies will bolt, or revolt, and act independently. If the populists have an organization sufficient to form a nucleus it is more than probable that the disaffected element would rally around that nucleus and try and build a party of sufficient strength to carry enough states to hold the balance of power and throw the election into the house of representatives, as we tried to do in 1892.

The democrats everywhere are declaring for municipal ownership of public utilities, and the populists as a rule are satisfied to give that a trial before the ownership of railroads by the government. Our people are not sufficiently educated on the single tax question to have any definite or fixed ideas along that line, and I hardly think it advisable to adopt that plank in full until the people understand it better. If the democrats force us to take independent action next year, I would dislike very much to see our populist people encumber themselves with too many new and untried reforms.

Do not understand me to oppose the single tax system, for I do not. I think it a great idea and if practicable and feasible there is plenty of time to put it into the platform of a great political party. But I do not believe it has been sufficiently tried in a small way to demonstrate that it is practicable for a great nation like this. A short platform covering a few of the most important issues, clear cut and distinct, from the oldisms of the past should be the policy of the populist party. If the break comes next year, as I believe it will, who will be the Joshua to lead us to the land of promise? This question is important. Keep your eye out for him. R. C. CRENSHAW, Hopkinsville, Ky. R.F.D. 4.

**Filipino Patriotism**

Editor Independent: The Nebraska Independent of April 23, 1903, quotes from a recent issue of the Manila American an interesting account of a play lately suppressed by the United States Philippine commission. This play, which was produced at the Rizal theatre, Manila, appears to have been a purely Filipino production, its title being, in English, "I Am Not Dead," and referring to the spirit of Filipino patriotism. The heroine is a young woman representing "Filipina Libre," the villain being an American soldier. At the climax of the play, the sun of the crushed Filipino republic rises to the zenith and the band plays "Aguinaldo's March," which is immediately followed by the rendition of "The Star

Spangled Banner," in accordance with a "law" of the Philippine commission that, whenever the former music is played, the latter shall be also. The account adds that the play, including "Aguinaldo's March," was always received with rapturous applause by the Filipino audience, while "The Star Spangled Banner" was heard in silence, if not with groans and hisses.

What a gratifying illustration this incident affords of the Filipino devotion to American sovereignty, of which we have heard so much from the administration press.

Lord Brougham, in his valedictory to the English people, declared that the chief cause of the slow progress of civilization is found in the unwillingness to profit by the experience of mankind. The suppression of the play in question is an illustration of the truth of his statement. The administration could hardly have adopted a course better calculated to intensify Filipino hostility to American sovereignty. The little Americans who have been running this government since 1896 doubtless imagine themselves big enough to extinguish the fires of Filipino patriotism by such tyrannical acts as this, but they will learn as all other tyrants in history have learned that patriotism is like truth, of which the poet says: "Truth crushed to earth shall rise again;

The eternal years of God are hers." As for the "Aguinaldo March" versus "The Star Spangled Banner," how beautiful a plan it is to endear the foreign invader to the Filipinos by associating with one of their national songs another national song which represents to them all that they have been taught to hate! If this is not statesmanship, what is it?

But what has become of the "personal liberty" of which President McKinley, President Roosevelt, et al., have prated so much? Neither the Taft commission nor any other unconstitutional body of men, neither the congress nor the president, nor any other constitutional authority has any more right to require the rendition of "The Star Spangled Banner" in the Philippine islands than they would have to compel the playing of "God Save the Queen" in Washington, D. C. The so-called "law" requiring it is simply another of the long series of unconstitutional, un-American, despotic acts which have from the outset characterized our seizure and occupation of the Philippine archipelago.

But, by the way, who is this Aguinaldo, the march in whose honor is so popular with the Filipinos at their national theatre? Surely, he cannot be Aguinaldo the bribe-taker, who sold out his people to the Spaniards, the coward, the renegade, the murderer, the man who never represented more than a small portion of a single tribe, the man who was so despised and hated by the Filipinos themselves that the administration, out of the kindness of its heart, kept under guard after he should have been released, lest, if he appeared unprotected on the streets of Manila, he would be mobbed by his own countrymen. Surely he cannot be this Aguinaldo? JOHN SAMPSON, Washington, D. C.

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**Hearst For President**

The Unionist (union labor) of Norfolk, Va., says that at the recent 8th annual convention of the Virginia state federation of labor in Richmond, that body practically indorsed William Randolph Hearst for president in the following resolutions:

"Whereas, The Virginia state federation of labor, in eighth annual convention assembled, feel and know how much better it is to build a memorial of one's own immortality while one is still upon the earth, instead of under it, and to fashion warm hearts and tender recollections of grateful human beings than to have them built of cold and senseless marble by money ground from the poor during a penurious and cruel mortal existence, and,

"Whereas, The worth of a nation in the end is the worth of the individuals composing it; and,

"Whereas, The Honorable William Randolph Hearst, congressman from the Eleventh district of New York, has by years of faithful adherence to

the principles of right against might; by years of devotion to the cause of the workingman as against the greedy and crushing power of illegal corporate oppression and monopolistic tyranny; by years of fearless and open and honest warfare against all forms of modern, political and commercial serfdom, and by the free and generous expenditure of time and energy toward the accomplishment of a system of government of the people, for the people, and by the people, not overlooking meanwhile the essential importance, the just prerogative and right of the workingmen to organize themselves into an association, the aim and purposes of which are the mutual protection and promotion of their needs and interests; therefore, he it

"Resolved, That the Virginia state federation of labor, in eighth annual convention assembled, do heartily and deeply appreciate the masterful and successful efforts which the Honorable William Randolph Hearst has effected for the welfare of his fellow countrymen of the United States of America; and be it further

"Resolved, That past events have made it plain that the Hon. William Randolph Hearst is in no wise antagonistic to wealth acquired through honest, legal and legitimate channels; and be it

"Resolved, That we do hereby go upon record as acknowledging with the liveliest sense of gratification the course which William Randolph Hearst has seen fit to adopt and pursue, and this body regards it as a privilege to commend to all lovers of human liberty, all workers in the ranks of organized labor, all advocates of equal rights to all and special privileges to none, all hewers and delvers who toil for another's selfish gain; and be it

"Resolved, That William Randolph Hearst has made friends of the workingman and organized labor simply because he has been a friend of the workingman and organized labor; a friend, not of any anarchistic rabble, but a friend of the noble army of brain and brawn toilers of whom all true Americans are justly proud."

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Rosewater's attacks on the board of assessment are simply ridiculous. He knew that the railroads considered Mickey "our man" for it was so announced in the Bee nine days before his nomination. He knew that Auditor Weston was a defender of the low taxation of the railroads and that his record insured that he would continue the policy that he had inaugurated the year before. Yet the Bee advocated the election of these men, well knowing what they would do. These attacks are worse than childish. They are extremely silly. He makes himself the laughing stock of the whole state. The Pender Times remarks that "if Rosewater had done by Mickey and Weston what he did for Majors, W. H. Thompson would have been governor and Charles Q. De France auditor." If Rosewater had really wished to make the railroads pay their just share of the taxes he would have supported the men whom he knew would raise their assessments. But he supported those whom he knew would not do it. Rosewater's sham will not fool even a mullet head.

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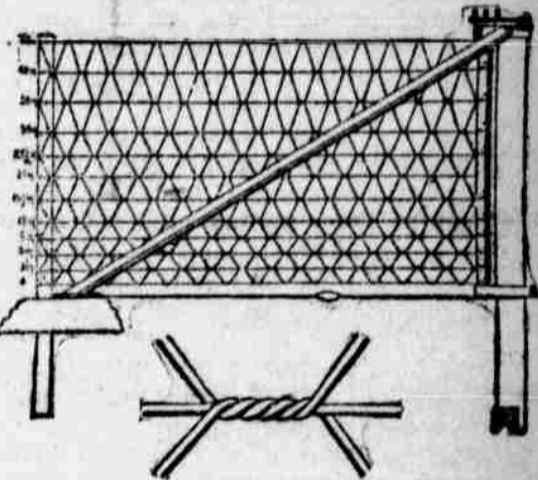
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It is rumored that King Edward of England contemplates a visit to the United States next year on the occasion of the St. Louis exposition.