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..THE DENVER CONFERENCE..

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

OFFICERS.

Chairman, J. A. Edgerton, Colo.
Vice Chairman, Milton Park, Texas.
Secretary, J. H. Calderhead, Montana.
Assistant Secretary, C. Q. De France, Nebraska.
Temporary organization made permanent after report of committee on organization and rules was adopted.

COMMITTEES.

On conference organization and rules—
T. H. Tibbles, Nebraska.
Dr. R. H. Reemelin, Ohio.
J. H. Ferriss, Illinois.
On resolutions—
Wm. V. Allen, chairman.
J. S. Felter, Illinois.
J. M. Mallett, Texas.
Dr. R. H. Reemelin, Ohio.
Frank W. Owers, Colorado.
H. B. Hewitt, Kansas.
W. A. Poynter, Nebraska.
On registration—
The secretaries, ex-officio.
Frank Madden, Colorado.
On national organization—
The four conference officers.

The conference of populists called to meet at Denver by J. A. Edgerton assembled at the St. James hotel at 2 p. m., July 27, according to the call. The large hall attached to the hotel was used as a place of meeting. The meeting was called to order and prayer was offered by Rev. Mr. Jordan of Denver, after which Mr. Edgerton made a short address in which he stated that the object of the meeting was to devise ways and means by which the two branches of the party could be united as well as other reform organizations having the same objects in view. He was followed by Milton Park of Texas, treasurer of the allied people's party, who spoke in the same vein.

A song, the words and music of which were both written for the occasion, entitled "The Old Guard," was sung by Miss A. M. Smith, who had a most beautiful soprano voice. The singing and the song was received with a round of cheers and hand-clapping. The words were by J. A. Edgerton, and the music, which will be printed at some future time, was by L. Du Pri. The song follows:

THE OLD GUARD

A health to the old guard boys,
A health to the brave old guard,
Who dared to march in the ranks of truth,
In times when the way was hard.
Who bravely stood for the people's cause,
And made that cause their own,
In days before it had won applause,
In days when they stood alone.

A health to the old guard boys,
A health to the brave old guard,
Who gave their time and their life and means,
With hope of no reward.
Who battled long 'gainst Mammon's might,
Like veterans true and tried,
Who dared to fight for the love of right,
'Tho they fought on the losing side.

A health to the old guard boys,
A health to the brave old guard,
Who little knew how much we owe,
To these warriors battle-scarred;
But when the fight is won at last,
The world will place each name,
Away up high for future's eye,
On the deathless roll of fame.

Mr. Edgerton in his speech said a misapprehension had been entertained by some in regard to the meeting from the fact that some of the daily press had declared that it was in opposition to Bryan. He thought that the meeting would be a distinct advantage to the Bryan democrats as it would give notice to the reorganizers that they would never get any help from the million or more of populists in the United States that had

supported Bryan and the Kansas City platform.

Milton Park said he was in hearty sympathy with the movement, but he was dead against any fusion. Senator Allen then made quite an extended address which was received with repeated applause, especially those parts of it in which he expressed his belief that the populist party and populist principles would eventually control this government.

The remainder of the afternoon was taken up with reading letters from populists, Bryan democrats and others who could not attend. These letters

came from all over the country, which goes to show that there are living, fighting populists in every state and territory in the Union.

A committee of three on organization, composed of T. H. Tibbles, Nebraska; Dr. R. H. Reemelin, Ohio, and J. H. Ferriss, Illinois, was appointed. Dr. Reemelin is chairman of the association of democratic clubs of the state of Ohio.

St. James Hotel, Denver, July 27, 7 p. m.—The Denver conference is on full blast. A noticeable feature is the hearty good feeling. Mid-rovers and

fusionists join hands and chat over their past differences—differences only upon what was the proper party policy, and never over the economic reforms demanded.

Tibbles, Edmisten and I reached here an hour late on B. & M. train No. 3. Senator and Mrs. Allen were already here, as was also J. W. Cutright of the Lincoln Evening News staff. Governor Poynter and L. A. Beltzer came in over the U. P. somewhat later, as did also A. F. Parsons and Lucien Stebbins, of North Platte.

The mid-road committee was set to meet at 10 a. m., but a telegram was received from Chairman Jo Parker saying he could not come. Milton Park of Dallas, Tex., treasurer of that committee and editor of the Southern Mercury, was on hand, as was also James H. Ferriss, editor of the *Jobet* (Ill.) Daily News (only populist daily in existence), but they decided to postpone their meeting until another day.

Secretary J. A. Edgerton had arranged for a conference session at 2 p. m., so after chatting with the different delegates present, Tibbles and I visited the city park. Really, Lincoln ought to try Denver's plan—a free park; no offensive gate-keepers demanding a nickel or dime of each poor person who seeks admittance.

Returning at noon we had lunch and then Secretary Edgerton turned over to me his whole batch of correspondence to arrange for reading later at the session. I waded through a stack of letters nearly a foot high, laid flat—and missed the opening of the session. Tibbles will tell about that. These letters came from every state except one or two of the southern states. There was even a letter from the Isle of Pines, W. I.—a Missourian temporarily there. Following is a list of the writers—126 in all.

W. J. Hicks, Ashford, Ala.
A. H. Noon, Nogales, Ariz.
D. B. Huffman, Minnie, Ark.
J. T. Carson, Minnie, Ark.
Burdette Cornell, 1003 K st., Sacramento, Cal.
E. T. Walker, Pagosa Springs, Colo.
James Flannigan, Morgan County Herald, Ft. Morgan, Colo.
E. O. Bailey, Central City, Colo.
Horace G. Clark, Sup. Ct., Denver.
Jos. N. Stephens, Denver, Colo.
T. L. Thomas, Forestville, Conn.
I. D. Chamberlain, Washington, D. C., Lock box 304.
Alex Kent, Washington, D. C., 26 T street, N. W.
E. M. Blake, bureau of labor, Washington, D. C.
Geo. H. Shibley, Washington, D. C., 38 Bliss bldg.
Mark Foster, Washington, D. C.
Jas. H. Ferriss, editor News, Joliet, Ill.
Eugene Smith, 184 Laclede, Chicago.
Geo. A. Mawman, 1410 Ashland blk., Chicago, Ill.
L. F. Post, editor The Public, Chicago.
C. S. Darrow, 1202 Ashland Ct., Chicago, Ill.
F. M. Dove, Joliet, Ill.
Fannie R. Dove, Joliet, Ill.
O. A. Canfield, 1355 Harvard, Chicago.
Flavius J. Van Vorhis, Indianapolis, Ind.
Sam'l W. Williams, Vincennes, Ind.
Brose S. Horne, Marion, Ind.
John Medert, Independence, Ind., 123 Bancroft ave.
Thos Marshall, Selma, Ind.
Dr. I. D. Burdick, Ft. Gibson, I. T.
W. H. Robb, editor American, Creston, Ia.
J. B. Weaver, Welsh, La.
J. R. Norman, Albia, Ia.
F. C. Johnson, editor "Better Way," Minneapolis, Kas.
H. B. Hewitt, Stafford, Kas.
James Boyd, editor "Mirror," Kensington, Kas.
Jno W. Breidenthal, Kansas City, Kas.
Geo. F. Fullenwider, editor Industrial Advocate, El Dorado, Kas.
H. N. Gaines, editor Farmers' Advocate, Topeka, Kas.
Jno T. Little, Olathe, Kas.
A. F. Allen, Vinland, Kas.
Jno M. Kellogg, Fall River, Kas.
Percy Daniels, Girard, Kas.

AN ADDRESS

Report of Committee on Resolutions Adopted at Denver Conference, July 28, 1903

The manifest political unrest which everywhere appears in the nation, demonstrates the dissatisfaction of the American people with the present management of government and argues the necessity of the reform forces coming together in united action at the ballot box to obtain proper legislation, whereby the right of the people to self-government may be had for themselves and their posterity; therefore, we, the Populists of the United States, having this day at the City of Denver, Colorado, united our forces, with the distinct understanding that all past differences as to policy shall be and now are permanently settled, and experience having demonstrated the futility of any attempt to secure the enactment of our principles through either the Republican or Democratic Party, we believe the time is now at hand when the united Peoples' Party should declare itself emphatically opposed to any affiliation with either of those parties and unqualifiedly in favor of independent national political action.

Our fundamental principles are known of all Populists and are nowhere better stated than in that immortal document enunciated at Omaha, July 4, 1892. However, for the benefit of the uninformed, we declare our unyielding adherence to the demands for (a) a money, whether stamped on gold, silver or paper, to be coined and issued exclusively by the government and made a full legal tender for all debts, both public and private; (b) a system of transportation, and the transmission of intelligence, owned by the public and operated by government at cost of service; (c) land for use rather than for speculation, and abolition of alien ownership of land; (d) American ships for American foreign commerce, without a cent of subsidy.

And as an open door for all economic reforms, we urge the rule of the people through the optional referendum and initiative and the recall of derelict officials.

Confident in the justice of the principles here set forth, firmly convinced that their triumph in government would be for the best interests of all the people, we call upon the patriotic citizens of this country to join with us in bringing about their enactment into law. With these principles firmly established, equal justice would prevail, special privileges would be eliminated, and ours would be, as patriots everywhere desire, a government of the people, for the people, by the people.

WILLIAM V. ALLEN,
J. S. FELTER,
J. M. MALLET,
DR. R. H. REEMELIN,
W. A. POYNTER,
FRANK W. OWERS,
H. B. HEWITT.