

democrats also to revolt. Then let us suppose that spontaneously and naturally out of this situation a third party should spring into existence. It is only under similar circumstances that successful third parties ever do appear. Those were the circumstances that gave birth to the republican party in the national politics of the fifties, and to the populist party in the western and southern politics of the nineties. Suppose, then, that these things should happen, what part would the paper organization prematurely projected at Denver play? It is not difficult to predict with an almost absolute certainty of verification.

The paper organization would welcome the revolt, saying: "Come along with us," "We are the original Jacobs," "We date back to the Omaha platform," etc., "Don't set up for yourselves, but join us." But the revolt would not join them—not unless they happen to be very different from all the political revolters of the past under similar circumstances. They would not take the paper organization seriously, and instead of joining it they would rush into the formation of an entirely new party. This might be very inconsiderate on their part, but it is what they would do; and it would be the natural thing to do, if the wave of revolt were really produced by an upheaval of sentiment among the common people. Then what? Would the paper organization dissolve and go into the new and spontaneous movement? Most of the rank and file would, perhaps, and so would such of its leaders as were at once intelligent and disinterested. But the paper organization would be kept up, on plutocratic money, by grafters and their dupes; its remnant of managers and managers would raise a hue and cry for loyalty to the brave organization that had stood up for righteousness in the discouraging days of small things; and, mere skeleton though it would be, it would be utilized by the old parties as a club with which to demoralize and beat back their really dangerous enemy. This prophecy of future possibilities is based upon the evidence of past experience.

Under no circumstances can the Denver organization rise above the grade of a side party; and a real fight between democracy and plutocracy furnishes opportunity for the designing and more astute among the leaders of side parties to put them into the service of plutocracy as guerrillas to make confusion among the commons. It would have been the part of wisdom had the Denver conference adopted a different policy. It would have served its cause better by recommending a suspension of organized action, and fostering among those it represented that virtue of patience, in which reformers are extraordinarily deficient, but which is as necessary in political warfare as the virtue of perseverance with which they are abundantly supplied.

The Minneapolis Journal's cartoonist tried his hand at picturing "Harmony in the Populist Party." An old, long-whiskered farmer sitting on a dry-goods box, bow in hand playing a "harmony" on his "reform" whiskers, which he uses in place of a violin. The music rack is labelled "Omaha Platform." Hat, "Pop Party."

PAUL DIXON PLEASED.

The united people's party. That sounds good.

Part of the work of the organization committee appointed at Denver will be to bring populist harmony in the states where there are conflicting committees. This will be easy work now.

Populists probably would never have reunited had conditions remained the same. The bulk of the western populists were thoroughly convinced that the democratic party had been captured by patriotic and progressive men, while the southern populists knew, or thought they knew, that the nomination of Bryan and the adoption of the Chicago platform by the democratic convention was merely a politicians' trick. But conditions have changed and there is no hope now, even among western populists, that reform will be obtained through the democratic party.

The Denver conference was attended chiefly by former fusionists. They got back squarely into the middle-of-the-road. So far as we have seen their views published, they are still confident they did the right thing in 1896 and 1900. They get into the middle-of-the-road now because they believe in populist principles and there is no place else for a man so believing to go.—Missouri World (pop.), Chillicothe.

The conference at Denver has been held and the straight populists and mid-roadsers kissed and made up. A manifesto has been issued to the people, but no action has been as yet determined with regard to the forma-

tion of a new party, although such a course was strongly urged by Senator Allen and others.—H. T. Wilson, in Gage County Herald (pop.), Beatrice, Neb., July 31.

HENRI WATTERSON TICKLED.

The two divisions of the populists are now supposed to be united, and their first act is to resolve that experience has "demonstrated the futility of any attempt to secure the enactment of our principles, either through the republican or democratic parties," wherefore the time has arrived when the "united people's party should declare itself emphatically opposed to any affiliation with either of these parties." The skies are brightening for the democratic party when it has so far got back to its old moorings that a populist tweedledee no longer recognizes a democrat as tweedledum.—Louisville (Ky.) Courier Journal.

Theodore P. Rynder, editor of the Erie (Pa.) Echo, printed the Associated press report containing the address.

"EVERYONE PLEASED."

Contrary to the popular impression, the populist party is not dead. It so announced at Denver, adding that the factions within the party had decided to bury the hatchet, sever relations with the democrats, and renew their fight on a platform demanding the issuance of all money by the government, government ownership of railroads, telephones, and telegraphs, and "land for use rather than speculation." Everyone is pleased by the decision of the united people's party to flock by itself. Democratic editors assure it that its determination inspires feelings of the profoundest gratitude, while such republican comment as we have been able to find on the Denver pronouncement expresses the comforting reflection that such strength as the populists have will be drawn from the democrats. But no one believes that it makes much difference what the populists decide to do. They no longer figure in the political equation.—Public Opinion (plutocrat), New York.

The populists, at the conference in Denver this week, resolved that all factions within the party should "bury the hatchet," and present a "united front."—James H. Barry, in The Star, San Francisco, Cal.

"MIGHT YET ACCOMPLISH MUCH GOOD."

A few of the old line pops met at Denver last week and reaffirmed their allegiance to the "fundamental principles." Many of the principles advocated by the populists are now endorsed by a majority of the members of every party. Among these might be mentioned the election of United States senators by direct vote, municipal ownership, against alien ownership of land, fallibility of courts, against the subsidizing of foreign ships, postal savings banks and a reformation of tariff schedules. These are not all embodied in laws and a reform party might yet accomplish much good and not necessarily antagonize the present or any other "do right" administration.—Dow Busenbark, in Eskridge (Kas.) Star.

Wahlquist Bros., in the Adams County Democrat, Hastings, Neb., is issue of the 31st, said: "The effort to unite all factions of the populists seems to have been successful, in Denver, this week. The conference was not large, but enthusiastic. The following resolutions were adopted:" (Quoting the address.)

"SOMETHING DOING."

There is, after all, to be a third party in the field next year. For a time it looked as if the side issues had all been abandoned, and the voters in 1904 would be called on to choose between the two old organizations. The simple question would be, Should the republicans remain in power, upon the promise to hold things level, or the democrats be commissioned to set things to right in their own way? Some people hailed the prospect with pleasure and thought it a good sign, while others took the opposite view.

But the agitators for new things have by no means been quieted. They are as vocal as ever, and, what is more, are now led by a man who in the matter of criticising established order, regardless of what that order may be or where the responsibility may lie, has no superior in our affairs. This man is ex-Senator William V. Allen of Nebraska, for a long time one of Mr. Bryan's lieutenants, and by long odds his warmest eulogist. As a leader Mr. Allen is wholly unconventional and knows not fatigue, and there will be something doing wherever his banner flies. Men who flock

to his standard will be assured of work enough to satisfy the utmost cravings of their nature.

Does this movement argue that these friends of Mr. Bryan have no hope of seeing him take independent action next year, or are they encouraged to feel that they are preparing the way for him? Evidently they are not in the humor for another alliance with the democracy. The rising tide of what is termed Clevelandism in that party shows them that their influence has waned in that quarter. And so they have either parted company with Mr. Bryan and resigned themselves to the feeling that he is going his own gait regardless of their wishes, or else, expecting that in time he, too, will reject the return of the eastern wing of the democracy to power, they are getting a following ready for him.

The appeal of these men is made in the name of reform—a comprehensive word. The trouble now is not the low price of farm products, nor the scarcity of money, nor the alleged tyranny of the courts. But, as these men read the story, the times generally are out of joint, and a new party is necessary to hold the country together and save American institutions. And so they respectfully offer their services.—Washington Star.

Edward Clayson, sr., editor of The Patriarch, Seattle, Wash., used the Associated press dispatches containing the address. He says editorially: "We view the name of United States Senator Allen in the populist conference with suspicion. He will have to go on probation a while longer in the mind of The Patriarch." Why? Can there be any doubt as to his populism? Has Mr. Clayson himself served sufficient "probation?"

A RIGHT TO PROTEST.

Colonel Bryan's protest against the pronouncement of the reunited populists shows what kind of thanks the populists have to expect for coming to the rescue of the democrats when the latter were almost extinct as a party in the western states. Had there been no fusion in Nebraska the democratic vote in 1896 and the years immediately succeeding would have been so ridiculously small as to put the selection of a presidential candidate from this state completely out of question. Of the 116,000 votes polled by Mr. Bryan in Nebraska not over 40,000 were contributed by the democrats, yet he intimates that the populists are the debtors in the alliance. When the populists go it alone, as they say they will, the paucity of the democratic following will be uncovered. Colonel Bryan has a right to protest.—Omaha Bee (rep.).

At the Denver conference of populists it was generally agreed to not affiliate with any old party. The only effect that agreement will have will be to give a certificate of character to those professional reformers who made anti-fusion an excuse to get close to the overflow from Uncle Mark Hanna's frying-pan.—C. D. Casper, in Butler County Press (dem.), David City, Neb.

JUST WHAT IT HAS.

That address to the people issued from Denver, really seem to have the ring of old-time populism.—Norfolk (Neb.) News (rep.).

The Semi-Weekly Times-Democrat, New Orleans, of the 31st, contained the full Associated press reports—horribly mangled as to names, a feature of the southern end of the Associated press.

NEBRASKA COMMENTS.

Aside from comments of Nebraska papers printed elsewhere the following is a condensed summary of what a number of the country papers said:

Progress (pop.) Holdrege: Associated press report with address in full.

Democrat, Hastings: If the dispatches quote ex-Senator Allen correctly, it only proves how easily men of Mr. Allen's prominence go astray. He is quoted as saying in Denver last week that beyond doubt Mr. Cleveland will be the democratic candidate for president in 1904 and that he will be elected. It just beats the band how much men know at times, and their information seems to be exclusive. We understand that Mr. Allen was accompanied to Denver by ex-Governor Poynter and perhaps between them they have concluded that Mr. Cleveland is necessary to the success of future Allen-Poynter plans whatever they may be. It may be well for real democrats to bear in mind the Allen-Poynter prophecy. 1904 is not so far distant, and it may develop that these gentlemen have been talking through their hats.

The Western Newspaper Union

ready print report contained the address in full, with the annoying typographical error "July 4, 1898," instead of 1892—an error due to the Associated press.

Leader (pop.), Trenton; the address in full.

New Era-Standard (pop.), Kearney: Leading populists from nearly every state in the union met at Denver on July 27 for the purpose of organizing and mapping out a line of campaign. The impression had been given out that the object of this conference was to organize a new political party. Not so. Populists are not tired of their platform—there is no reason to change their principles. So this meeting had for its purpose concentration of forces and united action. A committee was appointed to prepare an address to the people. The greatest enthusiasm and the best feeling prevailed. The "Old Guard" of populism were there ready for the fray. The committee appointed to draft an address prepared one with great care. It will be found in full on the sixth page of this paper. Read it carefully, and you will see that the principles are populist from beginning to end.

Clipper-Citizen (pop.), Lexington: Last week a conference of populists was held at Denver, the object being to reunite the factions of the people's independent party and agree upon some line of action. The meeting was harmonious as a whole. The conference adopted the following address to the people, as its expression of principle. (Quoting in full.)

Democrat (pop.), Osceola: The populist conference held at Denver, Colo., last week did just about what every right thinking member of the people's independent party believed would be done. The attendance was all that could be expected upon such a short notice and very nearly every western and many of the southern states were represented. Besides preparing for an organization to carry on the work from now until next February, when the national convention will be decided upon, the conference appointed a committee, whose business it was to prepare an address to the public. The report and the address we print here in full. It has the right ring and every voter in the party should fall in line with its sentiments.

Beacon (pop.), Broken Bow: Every good populist enjoys a feeling of relief that the cloud of fusion has at last rolled away. For seven years we have been groping in darkness, and disintegrating in numbers. Now our party is as separate and distinct as other parties, and pledged to perpetual abandonment of fusion. The way is now clear for a forward movement. The bugle sounds the call and there is no longer any occasion for hesitation. Every man who has been a populist, fall in line, and we'll win a sweeping victory in both county and state this fall.

Democrat, Crete: The Denver meeting was attended by a few of the has-beens and their labors brought forth a very small squeak. It would have been more in harmony with the fitness of things, had they adjourned and advised the waiting brethren to take sides as suited their tastes best. The time is not ripe for another departure.

Courier (pop.), Minden: Many people, including a greater part of the republican press, are ill advised, as to the object of the Denver conference. It was conceived and based upon an intuitive conception of future political conditions. It was not intended to supervise methods for present political action, but was merely a prelude to the 1904 campaign and national in its character. The committees appointed are to act in conjunction with present national committees for a thorough organization. There seems to be a desire to revive populist principles and to meet this desire was the object of a populist conference. Fusion in national affairs was disapproved. And the Bee, Star and Journal construe it to mean that all populists are enjoined from voting for Judge Sullivan should he be the nominee of the two parties in this state. They would like to have it that way, then they would have a sure thing of putting their railroad man, Barnes, on the supreme bench, but their aspirations will not be gratified. Every true populist will vote for Sullivan rather than Barnes and in doing so are not violating or sacrificing any populist principle.

Headlight (pop.), Stromsburg; a condensed abstract of the address, with economic demands in full.

THE OMAHA PLATFORM.

The pops got together in their conference at Denver and fell back on the Omaha platform as their rallying point. They insist on money made by the stamp of the government legal tender, no matter what the material, gold, silver or paper; on government

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