

The Independent.

Vol. XV.

LINCOLN NEB., AUGUST 27, 1903.

No. 14.

POPULIST STATE CONVENTION

Judge Sullivan Renominated by Acclamation Unanimously at Grand Island

THE DENVER CONFERENCE REPUDIATED

Resolution to Commend the Work of That Conference Side-Trackd "Until Next Year."

THE TICKET—A WINNER
 Supreme Judge—
JOHN J. SULLIVAN,
 Columbus.
 Regents State University—
WILLIAM A. JONES,
 Hastings.
ERNEST O. WEBER,
 Valparaiso.

Promptly at 8 o'clock Chairman Weber called the convention to order, immediately at the close of two numbers by the Harrison band. The call was read by Secretary Farris. Governor Poynter placed in nomination for temporary chairman, A. F. Parsons of North Platte. Hon. O. S. Whitford of Arlington presented the name of Judge George A. Magney. Chairman Weber called Bayard H. Paine and C. Q. De France to assist the secretary.

Upon roll call, which was by some supposed to be a test of strength for and against the Denver conference, Parsons (who was at the conference) won by a vote of 308 to 282, having 25 counties to Magney's 15, which included the 100 votes of Douglas.

In his address Temporary Chairman Parsons adverted to the work of the Denver conference and assured the delegates that if they could all have been there, there would now be no question of for and against. Upon motion Secretary Farris was continued as secretary. Then a motion to make the temporary organization permanent (after the list of credentials had by motion been adopted), and C. W. Stewart of Hastings moved the appointment of a committee on resolutions. Pending the chair's selection of this committee, Governor Poynter moved that the convention proceed to nominate candidates for supreme judge and regents. This carried; and T. H. Tibbles placed in nomination Chief Justice John J. Sullivan. The nomination was made by acclamation unanimously. It was then decided that the convention secretary should immediately telegraph Judge Sullivan at Columbus of the convention's action and ask his acceptance. The telegram was sent about 8:45.

Then a short wrangle ensued as to whether a telegram should be sent the democratic convention in session at Columbus, notifying it of Judge Sullivan's nomination. This resulted in sending the telegram at 9 p. m.

Adams county then presented as candidate for regent the name of Prof. William A. Jones, the well-known educator who was formerly in charge of the state school for the blind at Nebraska City. His nomination was made by acclamation unanimously. The name of Dr. Ernest O. Weber of Saunders county was then presented. He received the same treatment as Prof. Jones—and the work was done, except to make a platform, and talk over the Denver conference, which both friends and foes knew must be reached.

The chair announced as committee on resolutions: First district, T. H. Tibbles; Second, George A. Magney; Third, W. H. Woodruff; Fourth, F. M. Howard; Fifth, C. W. Stewart (chairman); Sixth, W. L. Hand; M. F. Harrington and W. A. Poynter, at large. The committee retired and in a short time presented the following platform, which was adopted by a rising vote:

"We, the people's independent party of Nebraska, in convention assembled, hereby reaffirm our allegiance to the principles of the people's party as expressed in its national platforms, but we realize that the election this year involves no national politics; it does,

however, involve the right of the people to have the supreme court of the state kept free from the control of any evil influence. The republican state convention was controlled by the public service corporations and the nominee was selected months in advance by the railroad interests. We protest against the domination by corporate interests of the court which finally determines the right of the citizen to his life, his liberty, his property and the redress of his wrongs and we declare it to be the duty of all good citizens to prevent these selfish interests from subverting our highest judicial tribunal. A judge of our supreme court should be honest, impartial and learned in the law. Our present chief justice, Hon. John J. Sullivan, possesses all these qualities in an eminent degree and his valuable services entitle him to an indorsement by the people and we invite all persons regardless of political affiliations to unite with us in securing his re-election.

"The people's party has always been an advocate of higher education and pledges its nominees to advance the interests of the state university and especially the school of agriculture in which so many farmers sons are receiving scientific instruction in Nebraska's greatest industry and we confidently commend our nominees for regents to the favorable consideration of all the people."

Calls being made for a speech by M. F. Harrington, he addressed the convention at some length, going into the question of the new revenue law and railroad taxation extensively. He was cheered loudly as he made point after point against the present administration and its extravagant methods.

At the close of Mr. Harrington's speech, C. Q. De France asked permission to present the following resolution, which he read and then moved its adoption:

"Whereas, On the 18th day of June, 1903, a call was made by Hon. J. A. Edgerton, secretary of the national committee of the people's party, for an unofficial and informal conference of reformers for the purpose of ascertaining if there is room in the United States for a party to provide a political home for all those who are not Mark Hanna republicans, Grover Cleveland democrats, or Karl Marx socialists; and

"Whereas, Such conference met in the city of Denver, Colo., on the 27th day of July, 1903, remaining in session two days, having in attendance some fifty persons from eleven different states and territories, and with letters of encouragement and commendation from over a hundred others representing almost every state in the Union; and

"Whereas, At such conference the following address was adopted: (Quoting address.) and

"Whereas, At such conference a committee on organization was appointed, composed of the following persons: J. A. Edgerton, chairman, box 445, Denver, Colo.; Milton Park, vice chairman, Dallas, Tex.; J. H. Calderhead, secretary, Helena, Mont.; C. Q. De France, assistant secretary, Lincoln, Neb.; J. S. Felter, treasurer, Springfield, Ill., such committee on organization being empowered to select and appoint a member thereof for each state and territory in the Union, with instructions and power to act in harmony with (but not to supersede or displace) the national committees of the people's party and allied people's party; and

"Whereas, At a meeting of the national committees of the people's party and the allied people's party, held jointly in the city of Denver, Colo., on the 29th day of July, whereat all members of both committees were present in person or represented by proxy, the work of said Denver conference was

unanimously approved, both as to the address and committee on organization; therefore, be it

"Resolved by the people's independent party of Nebraska, in its fourteenth annual convention assembled, That our hearty indorsement is hereby given to the work performed by said Denver conference, heretofore outlined."

And until after the midnight hour the battle raged, Messrs. Tibbles, Poynter, Edmisten, Eager, De France, Crimison, and Albert being among those who spoke in favor of adoption; while Messrs. Gilbert, Beltzer, Bowen, Stewart, Howard, Mullen, Lyman and others opposed it. Finally Mr. Harrington administered the "knock-out drops" which settled the fate of the resolution: he moved as a substitute that it be referred to the next populist state convention held for the purpose of electing delegates to the national convention, and upon roll call the substitute carried by a vote of 358½ to 144½, the counties being as follows:

	Yes.	No.
Adams	17	..
Antelope	11	..
Boone	12	..
Buffalo	15	..
Cedar	13	..
Clay	14	..
Custer	17	..
Dawson	12	..
Douglas	100	..
Fillmore	16	..
Furnas	11	..
Garfield	3	..
Gosper	6	..
Greeley	8	..
Hall	7½	7½
Hamilton	14	..
Harlan	9	..
Hoit	16	..
Howard	10	1
Lancaster	2	32
Lincoln	9	9
Loup	1	1
Merrick	9	9
Otoe	12	18
Platte	5	12
Folk	14	..
Saunders	21	..

Seward	16	..
Sherman	6	..
Stanton	7	..
Thayer	14	..
Thomas	2	..
Thurston	6	..
Valley	8	..
Washington	12	..
Webster	11	..
York	12	5

STATE COMMITTEE.
 The following state committee was selected. The committee after midnight met and re-elected Chairman Weber and Secretary Farris for the coming year:

- Adams, Dr. J. N. Lyman, Hastings.
- Antelope, A. H. Bohanan, Elgin.
- Boone, Jas. T. Brady, Albion.
- Boyd, C. J. Coffee, Spencer.
- Buffalo, R. A. Emory, Kearney.
- Butler, A. M. Walling, David City.
- Cedar, John H. Felber, Hartington.
- Cherry, A. M. Morrisey, Valentine.
- Clay, Theo. Griess, Clay Center.
- Colfax, W. H. Carleton, Leigh.
- Custer, J. R. Dean, Broken Bow.
- Dawson, Chas. McCabe, Lexington.
- Douglas, J. J. Points, Omaha.
- Furnas, C. W. Evans, Beaver City.
- Garfield, W. I. Grant, Burwell.
- Gosper, B. L. Chambers, Elwood.
- Greeley, Ccn. P. H. Barry, Greeley.
- Hall, B. H. Paine, Grand Island.
- Hamilton, F. M. Howard, Aurora.
- Harlan, Frank I. Webber, Oxford.
- Holt, A. F. Mullen, O'Neill.
- Howard, C. B. Manuel, St. Paul.
- Kearney, Louis C. Paulson, Minden.
- Keya Paha, Chas. Lear, Springview.
- Lincoln, A. F. Parsons, North Platte.
- Loup, R. S. Scofield, Taylor.
- Merrick, J. E. Dorsheimer, Cent. City.
- Platte, W. A. Way, Columbus.
- Folk, F. H. Ball, Osceola.
- Saunders, C. M. Lemar, Wahoo.
- Seward, Dr. H. B. Cummins, Seward.
- Sherman, John W. Long, Loup City.
- Stanton, W. H. Woodruff, Stanton.
- Thayer, M. C. Dill, Belvidere.
- Thomas, J. H. Edmisten, Thedford.
- Thurston, Herman Freese, Pender.
- Valley, Geo. M. Petty, No. Loup.
- Washington, C. B. Sprague, Blair.
- Webster, Dr. Rob. Damerell, Red Cloud.
- York, E. A. Gilbert, York.

KANSAS CONFERENCE

Chairman Edgerton Calls Meeting of Reformers at Topeka, September 17.

Denver, Colo., Aug. 20, 1903.

There is hereby called a state conference of populists and other reformers to meet in the city of Topeka, at 10 a. m., on Thursday, September 17. Suitable hall and headquarters will be secured and announced later. This meeting will be similar in character to the Denver conference. There will be no walls about it. It is hoped that prominent men from every county in the state will be present.

It becomes more and more apparent that the reactionary element will control the next national democratic convention. This makes it necessary for all those who sincerely believe in the reform cause to prepare for independent political action. To leave this until the conventions have acted next year would be putting it off until too late. We must be organized in advance, we must act now.

Kansas has always been at the forefront in every humanitarian move-

ment and I am certain it will be in the forefront of this revival of the reform cause.

The object of the meeting is to prepare for the thorough organization of the state, to appoint state and county organizers, to take steps to strengthen the state press, to advise as to the proper policy for the future, to relight the old populist camp-fires, to rekindle the old enthusiasm and to go whatever else may be necessary to put Kansas back into the reform ranks to stay.

We want the presence of honest and earnest people. There is little room in a reform movement for the mere political trimmer and trickster. We need men and women who have the intelligence to discern a principle and who have the courage to follow it.

J. A. EDGERTON,
 Chairman National Organization Populist Committee.
 Box 445, Denver, Colo.
 (Kansas reform press please copy.)

MICHIGAN POPULISTS

Mr. Vincent Pleased With the Success of the Denver Conference

Editor Independent: I am much gratified to learn that the Denver conference proved so successful, and that so much harmon and good will exists among the populists throughout the whole country, consequent on the harmonious action of said conference. I fully agree with what you say in your issue of the 13th inst. on editorial pages 8 and 9 in the articles entitled "The Reason Why We Did It" and "Mr. Bryan's Protest." I have favored more or less a "co-operation" or, as some say, "fusion" by the populists with democrats when a political principle could be gained and made a leading factor in subsequent legislation, where the best interests of the people could be the better subserved. But I have never advocated or indorsed the so-called "fusion" for the purpose of electing any set of men to office for the sake of the emoluments of such offices, regardless of the political principles involved. When co-operation

or fusion was honestly and fairly carried out a great amount of good was thus obtained, as it placed in office a set of men who fearlessly advocated our reform principles of government both in and out of our legislative halls.

Co-operation sent a large number of the people's reformers to both halls of congress as well as in the state legislatures. It placed such men as Weaver, Allen, Weller, Rice, Farel, Simpson, Davis, Jones, Watson, Towne and others into congress where the sides of the people as against the plutocrats were presented at all times whenever the occasion occurred.

Let me ask where are these representatives of the people now? Not one of them can be found in any capacity where he can stand up as the people's champion. The "flat" went out from the plutocratic caverns of Wall street "that no more people's agitators should be allowed to be elected to seats in either house of congress, or elsewhere." This is one of the main reasons why we are left without representation in congress to fight the battles of the people as was the case from the advent of Weaver to the exit of Allen from the halls of congress.