

1903, unanimously approved the work of the Denver conference, and resolved to call both committees to meet at St. Louis, February 22, 1904, to fix the time and place of holding a national convention of the people's party. The Associated press dispatches, under a Memphis date line, December 11, say that Chairman Parker has issued his call for the committee meeting; and it is probable Chairman Butler will follow in a short time. (The Parker call appears elsewhere in this paper.)

The Denver conference officers were constituted the officers of a committee on organization, to act in conjunction and harmony with the Parker and Butler committees in building up the people's party. Chairman Edgerton, of this committee, has held a number of state conferences, which have resulted in a great revival of populist interest. And the enrollment of the Old Guard of Populism is along a line of work which the Denver conference organization committee can do in the way of supplementing what has been done by both the Butler and Parker committees. At the national convention, of course, with the selection of a new national committee, and complete union of the two wings, the work of all three will be merged into one.

The "mid-road" national convention, held at Cincinnati, May 10, 1900, adopted a plan of organization, which had been worked out by Editor J. J. Streeter of the Vineland (N. J.) Independent, and which provided that—

"All delegate conventions of the people's party for making nominations and platforms are hereby abolished, and instead thereof, nominations for office, platforms and amendments thereto shall be made by direct vote at the people's party primaries of the political subdivisions affected thereby."

For some reason not wholly clear to me, however, the adoption of the plan was all there was to it. It was never carried out and put in effect so that delegate conventions could be abolished. Recognizing this fact, such "mid-roads" as Milton Park, James H. Ferriss, Col. J. S. Felter, and J. M. Mallett, present at the Denver conference, and the subsequent committee meeting, assented to the St. Louis meeting for the purpose of calling a national delegate convention. But Wharton Barker and Mr. Streeter oppose the work of the Denver conference, alleging that it is a violation of the Cincinnati plan. Technically this is true from a "mid-road" point of view; but practically, a convention seems to be unavoidable, if the two wings of the people's party are to be actually united. The "mid-road" wing has no organization built upon the Cincinnati plan; and the "fusion" wing has never adopted a similar one.

Personally, I am heartily in favor of the Cincinnati plan—or something essentially like it. But I cannot see that with the limited time before us, and still more limited resources, it is within the realm of possibilities to effect an organization so thorough as to permit our nominating candidates

## Dr. Shoop's Rheumatic Cure

Costs Nothing if it Fails.

Any honest person who suffers from Rheumatism is welcome to this offer. For years I searched everywhere to find a specific for Rheumatism. For nearly 30 years I worked to this end. At last, in Germany, my search was rewarded. I found a costly chemical that did not disappoint me as other Rheumatic prescriptions had disappointed physicians everywhere.

I do not mean that Dr. Shoop's Rheumatic Cure can turn bony joints into flesh again. That is impossible. But it will drive from the blood the poison that causes pain and swelling, and then that is the end of Rheumatism. I know this so well that I will furnish for a full month my Rheumatic Cure on trial. I cannot cure all cases within a month. It would be unreasonable to expect that. But most cases will yield within 30 days. This trial treatment will convince you that Dr. Shoop's Rheumatic Cure is a power against Rheumatism—a potent force against disease, that is irresistible.

My offer is made to convince you of my faith. My faith is but the outcome of experience—of actual knowledge. I KNOW what I can do. And I know this so well that I will furnish my remedy on trial. Simply write me a postal for my book on Rheumatism. I will then arrange with a druggist in your vicinity so that you can secure six bottles of Dr. Shoop's Rheumatic Cure to make the test. You may take it a full month on trial. If it succeeds, the cost to you is \$5.50. If it fails, the loss is mine and mine alone. It will be left entirely to you. I mean that exactly. If you say the trial is not satisfactory I don't expect a penny from you.

I have no samples. Any mere sample that can affect chronic Rheumatism must be drugged to the verge of danger. I use no such drugs, for it is dangerous to take them. You must get the disease out of the blood. My remedy does that even in the most difficult, obstinate cases. It has cured the oldest cases that I ever met, and in all of my experience, in all of my 2,000 tests, I never found another remedy that would cure one chronic case in ten.

Write me and I will send you the book. Try my remedy for a month, for I can't harm you anyway. If it fails the loss is mine.  
Address Dr. Shoop, Box 980, Racine, Wis.  
Mild cases not chronic are often cured by one or two bottles. At all druggists.

for president and vice president by direct vote. With nearly a million populists now affiliated with and participating in the democratic, prohibition, socialist and other primaries, neither the Butler nor the Parker organization know where these populists are with sufficient exactness to warrant a nomination by the Cincinnati plan.

But the ultimate purpose of the Old Guard of Populism, as I view it, is to put in practical operation eventually this much neglected Cincinnati plan. I feel sure it cannot be done in time for the presidential nomination next year, and that a delegate convention in 1904 is a necessary evil. But there is no reason why, with a large enrollment of populists, built upon the modern library card index system, the new national committee cannot take the Old Guard of Populism for the foundation upon which to build the perfected "Streeter" organization.

As an aid to the national committee in its work next year, the card index with its list of the Old Guard will prove invaluable—worth many times the effort made in building it up.

On Saturday, December 5, 1903, I sent out 960 circular letters containing the prospectus of the Old Guard of Populism. These were sent as a test to discover if there is any life among the populists of America. The plan was explained fully. It was shown that if done at all, the work must be made to pay its own way by voluntary contributions of those who enroll—because none of the three committees have any funds to work with.

The results to date warrant belief that the Old Guard of Populism can be built up rapidly, and that the contributions will pay the expenses and perhaps leave something to turn over to the national committee. Although the 960 circular letters were mailed late Saturday evening, the following Monday forenoon brought replies from Indiana, Kansas and Colorado—and each day's mail brings replies from a greater distance.

The 960 letters, sent as a test, were addressed to those who took part in the Denver conference or sent letters of regret—about 140 in all; to the "fusion" people's party national committee; to the state members of the Denver conference organization committee; and some 600 to populists who, within the past year, have had communications printed in the Missouri World, Southern Mercury, The Independent and other populist papers—names I had collected by means of the library card index plan. Classified by states, the 960 were as follows: Alabama 17, Alaska 1, Arizona 5, Arkansas 30, California 15, Colorado 35, Connecticut 7, Delaware 3, District of Columbia 7, Florida 10, Georgia 22, Idaho 7, Illinois 37, Indiana 34, Indian Territory 9, Iowa 21, Kansas 43, Kentucky 19, Louisiana 12, Maine 5, Maryland 7, Massachusetts 8, Michigan 21, Minnesota 9, Mississippi 6, Missouri 67, Montana 10, Nebraska 171, Nevada 1, New Hampshire 4, New Jersey 10, New Mexico 8, New York 19, North Carolina 12, North Dakota 5, Ohio 18, Oklahoma 17, Oregon 22, Pennsylvania 15, South Dakota 11, Tennessee 18, Texas 116, Utah 3, Vermont 4, Virginia 6, Washington 12, West Virginia 11, Wisconsin 6, Wyoming 3.

It will be noted that every state and territory—except South Carolina and Rhode Island—is represented in this list.

### COMMENDATIONS.

What others think of the plan may be shown by the following excerpts from letters received:

Hon. J. H. Calderhead, Helena, Mont.—state auditor, and secretary of the Denver conference organization committee: "I most heartily approve of the plan. Enclosed find check for \$5. Also a list of populists in this state, covering nearly every county. From these men you can secure the names necessary to enlarge the list."

Hon. Samuel W. Williams, Vincennes, Ind.—organizer for Central division under the "Streeter" plan: "I fully approve your plan of enrollment and urge every populist in the land to give you prompt and active assistance in the work. Conditions are ripe for populism to come again and we must keep our lamps trimmed and burning. I suggest that you write to our very efficient state chairman, Hon. F. J. S. Robinson, Cloverland, Clay county, Ind., on the subject. I feel sure that he will aid you. I enclose you \$1 as a contribution to your expense fund."

Hon. Milton Park, Dallas, Tex.—editor Southern Mercury, treasurer allied people's party national committee, and vice chairman of the Denver conference committee: "I heartily endorse your plan and wish you the fullest success in your effort to line up the Old Guard. . . . Here are ten names of 'heart of oak' populists. Send them some of your cards with

your instructions and they will give you a push."

Hon. John A. Barker, Franklin, Neb.—editor The Franklin Sentinel, and chairman county committee: "I am in hearty accord with the movement you have inaugurated and I trust that you will meet with the success which you so richly deserve. Push the fighting and never permit yourself to engage in a retrograde movement—and you will have tens of thousands of patriotic followers. I am most assuredly as strong in the faith as ever, and more than ever before do I realize the justice, aye, the necessity of enacting populist principles into law for the preservation of our free institutions."

Hon. A. Norelius, Kiron, Ia.—member state committee for Tenth district: "I ask every populist who has the cause at heart to enroll in this glorious plan, and let us go into the fight with muscle and brain until the victory is won. I enclose draft for \$1 to help defray expenses."

Hon. Jacob Florea, Kirksville, Mo.: "I think we will soon see the silver lining—the dark clouds seem to be dispersing. I believe we have more voters than ever before—all we need is another boom, with no more fusion forever."

R. T. Short, Putnam, Tex.—secretary Putnam populist club: "I hasten to enroll in the Old Guard (God bless them). I am an old Peter Cooper greenbacker and have been under the banner ever since in some shape or name; and expect to live out my few remaining days contending for the right against might."

J. S. Jones, Inka, Ill.: "I am still in the reform movement—a populist from principle. I began in 1875, and if the principles were good then they are good now and I have never doubted or been discouraged in the least. I am always glad to hear from the 'boys in the trenches.'"

E. B. Whitmore, Rochester, N. Y.: "I reach my hand across the states for a long and hearty shake. The populist principles are right and I hold to them as I do the truths of mathematics. . . . Here in the suburbs of Wall street, we may not be able to do much in the cause of right, for a powerful subsidized, venal and debased daily press is constantly pouring out polluted streams to degrade and mislead its readers. You may count on me always for doing what little I can for right and justice."

Hon. Wharton Barker, Philadelphia, Pa.—candidate ("mid-road") people's party for president in 1900: "The Old Guard plan you propose is good as a support to the adopted party plan, but it cannot be put in the place of the one that has sanction of the Cincinnati convention. . . . You may put my name on the roll of the Old Guard. I enclose \$1 for postage and printing fund; also a copy of 'The Great Issues.' . . . I have no doubt a majority of the American people now accept as sound the doctrine populists stand for, and that immediate and aggressive action on the line of the Cincinnati plan of organization will make the people's party second in the race next year, and under some conditions first. . . . One hundred patriotic, able and resolute minute men made the great revolution of 1776; a like body can put the Cincinnati plan of organization in working order; and the one thousand you propose to call 'The Old Guard' can carry the plan to perfection in 120,000 voting districts, long before July 4, 1904. We should fight next year, of course, for principles; but let us also fight for victory. Let us elect a president and congress that will give us again a government of the people."

W. D. Wilson, Booneville, Ark.: "We are doing nothing here, though once we were in good working shape. I hope your efforts will again arouse the Old Guard."

Col. J. S. Felter, Springfield, Ill., in a private letter, answering a communication of mine written him prior to the sending out of the Old Guard letters, says that while he seriously doubts the wisdom of agitating the question of dispensing with nominating conventions, he gives hearty approval of the plan to build up a good working file of names for use by the national committee in the next campaign.

J. A. Wright, Lebanon, Kas.: "Cleveland and Clevelandism have captured the democratic party and gone with it. Hanna is sure to Hannaize the republican party with the boodle \$35 mark from head to foot, and all the votes between those two dangerous political mill stones ought to cement their political interests rapidly for business. I see nothing better than populism so far."

S. A. Black, Manhattan, Kas.: "I am, if possible, stronger in the faith than ever, fully believing in the justice of the fundamental principles of populism. You may count on me as a

## Forget You Ever Had It.

Catarrh, the Most Odious of All Diseases Stamped Out, Root and Branch.

Catarrh is the most foul and offensive disease that afflicts the human race. Any one with social ambitions had better renounce them if he has a bad case of catarrh, for his presence, if tolerated at all, will be endured under protest. The foul and sickening breath, the watery eyes, the hawking and spitting and fetid discharge at the nose make the unfortunate sufferer the most avoided of human beings.

Stuart's Catarrh Tablets are the hope and relief of catarrh victims all over the world. They go direct to the root of the disease and thoroughly eradicate it from the human system. They cleanse and purify the blood of all catarrhal poisons and under their influence all impurities are carried off. The blood becomes pure, the eye brightens, the head is cleared, the breath becomes sweet, the lost sense of smell is restored, the discharges cease and the sufferer again feels that he has something to live for. He is again a man among men and can meet his fellow beings with satisfaction and pleasure.

The following letter from a St. Louis lawyer is only one of thousands received praising the merits and curative powers of Stuart's Catarrh Tablets. Read what he says:

"I suffered from catarrh for fifteen years. It would be worse at certain seasons than others, but never failed to annoy me and cause me more or less misery during that period. About a year ago I got so bad that I thought of abandoning my practice. I was a nuisance to myself and all who came near me. My condition was very humiliating and especially so in the court room. I had tried, I thought, every known remedy; all kinds of balms, ointments, inhalers, sprays, etc., till I thought I had completed the list. I was finally told of Stuart's Catarrh Tablets by a friend who took pity on me and, as a drowning man will catch at a straw, I got some and began taking them. I began to improve from the first day and I kept up the good work you may rest assured. In six weeks I was as free from catarrh as the day I was born, but to make assurance doubly sure, I continued the treatment for six weeks longer.

"I have had no trace of catarrh in my system since. I am entirely free from the odious disease and feel like a new man. I write this letter unsolicited for the benefit of fellow-sufferers and you may give it as widespread publicity as you wish."

Stuart's Catarrh Tablets are for sale by all druggists at 50 cts. a box.

member of the Old Guard of Populism."

Dr. W. P. Brooks, Cook, Neb.: "The principles of populism are right and just. If enacted into law—or, rather, if the scoundrels could be made to practice them—the ills that are suffered would soon end. I am ready, as I ever have been, to do what I can to better conditions. . . . Command me, and in any way that I can I will do the best in my power. . . . Will give 50 of my books, 'Sixteen to One—Escaped Criminals to One Conviction,' which might be sold for 75 cents a piece and put into a campaign fund." (Dr. Brooks' book handles the liquor problem in a rational way, looking to the abolition of drunkenness by removing the real cause—poverty and its concomitant, immense wealth.)

Abel D. Chase, Ardmore, Ind. Ty.: "The creed suits me, and I will with pleasure do anything I am capable of doing to advance the principles of populism."

L. L. Lawrence, New Burnside, Ill., says he is one of the greenbackers of 1876 who stuck to the party until it was fused to death; that he assisted at the birth of the people's party and kept the faith until it, too, was fused to death. Then he went to the socialists and voted for Debs. But he does not say he wants the "collective ownership of the means of production and distribution," so it is likely he will return to populism.

One Napoleon Bonaparte McCormick, a "for revenue only" politician out in Smith county, Kas., at one time attached to the people's party there, recently went down to Topeka and had himself "interviewed" by a reporter for the Topeka Capital. In this "interview," N. B. said: "The populist party is dead, except in a few localities like Smith county." This aroused the ire of our friend, J. A. Wright, until recently editor of the Lebanon Journal, who wrote the Capital a caustic letter in which he told a little inside history of Napoleon's attempt to sell himself in 1900 to the republican state committee for \$500. Mr. Wright concludes that the people's party in