

# The Independent.

Vol. XV.

LINCOLN NEB., JANUARY 14, 1904.

No. 84.

## Editorial Correspondence

Mr. Tibbles in the Effete East—Indiana Populists Rallying—First Day on Wall Street

(As was announced two weeks ago, Mr. Tibbles is making a trip through the east, partly on pleasure bent, but chiefly to get in touch with populists in other parts of the United States and to learn by personal contact with them how they feel over the political outlook for 1904; and incidentally to give independent readers the benefit of his trip in a series of editorial letters.

His first stop was at Indianapolis, where he met a number of old-time populist workers and they held a sort of informal meeting "for the good of the order." Those present gave him a list of names for enrollment in the Old Guard of Populism, assuring him that each and every man is a time-tried populist. I have counted the whole 127 as members this week, but immediately on receipt of the list, I sent them the Old Guard prospectus, and trust that each one will fill out the enrollment blank and return to me, in order that we may maintain, as far as possible, uniformity in the manner of enrollment. Indiana is the logical center for this Old Guard enrollment, being in the Central division under the Cincinnati plan, and now stands at the head of the list as far as membership is concerned—although Nebraska, Missouri, Texas, Arkansas and Tennessee have shown the greatest amount of interest in the enrollment thus far. Mr. Tibbles' correspondence follows.—Associate Editor.)

### INDIANA MEETING.

Indianapolis, Ind., Jan. 6, 1904.—(Editorial Correspondence.)—The postponement from the holidays to the week following, of the arrival of the editor in Indianapolis interfered greatly with the attendance at a conference he proposed to hold with Indiana populists; but nevertheless it was the largest meeting of populists that has been held in Indianapolis for several years. Seven out of the thirteen congressional districts were represented by their district chairmen and three by letter. The old-time populist enthusiasm was shown by every one present. Several addresses were made which were full of fire and vim. There was no disagreement. It reminded one of the old farmers alliance in Nebraska. Every one present had come all the way over the trail, or for a greater part of it.

The plan adopted was to push the enrollment of the Old Guard of Populism in every county and precinct in the state as far as possible. The great need of the populists in Indiana just at present is a paper circulating generally among the populists all over the state. It was the opinion of the best informed men present that if the conference had been held during the holidays, when low railroad rates prevailed and they could have found any means to advertise it, that it would have been one of the largest meetings of populists ever held in the state. It was frequently remarked at the meeting that there are not less than 100,000 voters in the state at the present time, who are in thorough accord with the Denver conference and the principles there promulgated; or, as it was sometimes put, in accordance with the address which was issued by the Indiana populists last September and which was printed in The Independent.

There will be a persistent effort to get the populist national convention at Indianapolis. A committee appointed at the meeting is already at work to get rates, halls and other conveniences, and they will appear at the meeting of the national committees at St. Louis with a very tempting offer and a bustling committee to urge the claims of Indianapolis.

The following resolutions were passed by the conference:

"Resolved, That we hereby urgently request Chairman Butler to call a meeting of the populist national committee to meet at St. Louis on February 22; and if he fails to do so immediately, we request Vice Chairman J. H. Edmisten to call the committee."

"Resolved, That we request all populists of this state, who can do so, to attend the meeting of the

national committees to be held at St. Louis on February 22, to the end that all the elements may be brought together for harmonious action at the coming election."

All the district chairmen present pledged themselves to press the enrollment of the Old Guard of Populism as rapidly as possible, and to send the names to Secretary De France, so that even before the St. Louis meeting of the national committees (February 22) there would be ready to hand over to the proper authorities the names of men in every part of the state—known to be honorable populists—with whom communication could immediately be had.

When Indiana polled thirty or forty thousand votes and there were committees in every county, it was an easy matter to get information to the rank and file. Now that the old records have disappeared, it is difficult and this makes the enrollment of the Old Guard a necessity before any real work can be done. The populists of Indiana are still populists; and besides that, there are thousands of Bryan democrats ready to leave their party the moment the Gorman-Cleveland wing get into the saddle.

The men who attended the conference are among the most substantial citizens of the state. Of course the majority of them are farmers; but among them many other professions and lines of business were represented. One of the most earnest among them was a railroad contractor, who employs hundreds of men—and he talks populism to them all the time. It was the opinion of all those present that this conference will give a great impetus to populism all over the state. Many times it was remarked that there are thousands of men in

Indiana who are simply waiting for some one to start a movement and who are anxious to fall into line and fight like a wild cat until the polls close.

There will undoubtedly be a large delegation of Indiana populists at the meeting of the national committees at St. Louis on February 22.—T.

### AN OLD POP IN WALL STREET.

He Strikes a New Scheme to Discredit and Destroy Thousands of Silver Dollars.

New York, Jan. 9, 1904.—(Editorial Correspondence.)—Here is an old pop in Wall street. The streets are full of snow and the overburdened horses are straining and pulling at loads that no decent man would place upon them; while the humanity, if it can be called such, rushes, crowds and jams along the narrow sidewalks as if the devil himself was after them. Mammon and Moloch rule. The devil and hisimps boss the job.

I saw a newspaper man who was waiting and watching for some of the great moguls to come out of an office. I opened a conversation with him, telling him I was a wild and woolly old pop from Nebraska. He asked if the populists were as wild about silver out there as ever. I said to him that his information was lacking or he never would have asked if the populists were wild after silver. What the populists wanted was more money and they didn't care what it was made of. That was a new idea to him and he was very much astonished. I said to him that the republicans having given us more money than the pops demanded, we were all prosperous out in Nebraska, and that I had made money enough to

come down to New York, which would have been impossible for any Nebraska farmer when Wall street was demanding dear money and stopping the coinage of silver.

He said: "I will put you onto a little scheme of the magnates of Wall street; that is, if you consider the bankers, Wall street as well as the big trust magnates." He handed me a silver dollar and asked: "Do you think that a good dollar?" I said it was. He said: "It won't pass anywhere down town here." "Why?" "Do you see that little scratch on it? A scratched silver dollar won't go anywhere down town here and there are thousands of them." I gave him a paper dollar for it and tried at three places and no one would take it. I explained to them that a silver dollar was standard money of the United States and legal tender for all debts, public and private, except where otherwise stipulated in the contract. It was no go. None of them would have it. Here is a little Wall street scheme that I struck as soon as I landed in town. There is money in it or they wouldn't be scratching thousands of silver dollars and then refuse to take them. I am going to look that thing up. That is the first thing that an old pop "got onto" when he walked down the street.—T.

### THE LAND OF CLIFF DWELLERS.

How the People Who Always Vote the Plutocratic Ticket Straight Live in the Provinces Down by the Sea.

New York, Jan. 11, 1904.—(Editorial Correspondence.)—The people who live out on the broad plains west of the Missouri and who move about unconfined in unlimited space, can have no idea how the people live in this city, where tens of thousands are crowded together on a space that would not make a decent cabbage patch for a Nebraska farmer. Some of those who have seen the cliff dwellings of the ancient people out in Colorado may have some idea of the mode of existence here, but the ordinary Nebraska farmer can have no conception of it. The people here are cliff dwellers. Each family has a few caves, most of them as far from the ground as the highest of the cliff dwellers, into which the sun never penetrates with the exception of the front cave, if the cliff is on the north side of the street, or in the rear cave if it is situated on the south side. They have some improvements over the old cliff dwellers of Colorado. The dwellers along the canons had ladders upon which they climbed to their caves, here they have stairways up which they wearily toil. The door at the bottom is always locked. The one seeking entrance pushes a button which rings a bell in the particular cave he wishes to visit. The dweller in that cave, no matter how far up he may be, if he desires to admit the visitor, pushes another button and the door down on the level earth opens of itself and in walks the caller. Then he begins his weary ascent and finally arrives at the particular cave that he wishes to enter. What they call streets are simply canons in which there exists a constant turmoil and a roar like that of the coming of a cyclone.

Of course people spending their lives in such an environment cannot be expected to be normal or be able to think in a normal way, and that being the case, they adopt for themselves a new god and live lives so far from those of men and women who come in constant contact with God and nature, that they can have nothing in common. Here with very few exceptions they all worship the god Mammon. The ideals that go toward making the wholesome living and thinking that we find on the farms in Nebraska have no place in such an existence.

The expression on the faces of the people is different from that in the west. They all seem to be hard driven, and a set and almost expressionless face is seen on almost every one of them. The way they rush along the streets one would think that the

## INDIANA POPULISTS

Special List of Old Guards Sent in by Editor Tibbles.

### INDIANA SPECIAL ENROLLMENT.

At a meeting of T. H. Tibbles, editor of The Independent, with a number of Indiana populists, held in Indianapolis, January 6, 1904, the following names were handed in for enrollment in the Old Guard of Populism. Those present vouched for each and every one of them as a true and tried populist. I have enrolled them specially and sent each one a prospectus, hoping to have the enrollment blank filled and returned to me as soon as possible, in order to maintain uniformity in the method of keeping the list.—De France.

Marion County—Col. Leroy Templeton, Ruckle and 19th; William Patterson, 520 East Ohio; Josiah Willets, 533 Blake; Frank Davis, 710 Rhode Island; Mr. Wells, 516 North New Jersey; Moses Thompson, West Michigan; Alex Smith, North Indianapolis; Geo. W. Schofield, Sangster ave.; Capt. C. W. Brouse, Law Building; and Arthur Schofield, Martindale ave., Indianapolis.

Henry County—Rufus Davis and G. R. Marshall, Moreland; Isaiah Teeter, Blountville.

Delaware County—Sam Drago, A. W. Ross, Muncie; Geo. Chalfant, Selma; Thos. Recce, Jonathan Cline, Windsor; Wm. Propps, Martin Brandt, David Babb, Eaton.

Putnam County—Dr. H. Morrison, Dr. A. T. Keightley, L. B. Snider, Robert Williamson, James Job, Conrad Job, Joseph Cline, Ezra Cline, Wm. Food, Thomas Rule, David Knell, Cloverdale; Bovert Huffman, Van Huffman, Calvin Plummer, Anthony Plummer, Reelsville; Robert Talbot, Brick Chapel; W. S. Walsh, Fincastle.

Park County—David Shirk, Silverwood; John Randolph, Marshall.

Vermillion County—Joshua Whittington, Smith Samuels, Joseph Mitchell, Cayuga.

Marshall County—Judge John Bender, Plymouth.

Jennings County—Joseph R. Williams, North Vernon.

Madison County—Dr. Hubbard, Anderson.

Vigo County—M. C. Rankin, Terre Haute.

Vanderberg County—Pat H. Carroll, Evansville.

Bartholemew County—Hon. W. C. Everoad, Columbus.

Fountain County—Thomas N. Lief, Atica; W. W. Luke, J. W. Dicken, Homer Osborn, Schuyler La Tourette, Covington; J. H. Van Sickle, John Pavey, Cates; J. M. Cory, Kingman; M. F. Wooley, Wallace; N. Whitehall, Wm. Taylor, Newton; Geo. A. Gallo-way, Fountain; F. Z. Helms, Aylesworth; A. La Baw, Veedersburg; F. S. Campbell, Ambrose Crane, James H. Crane, J. N. Campbell, John La Baw, M. Bowling, Stone Bluff.

Boone County—J. H. Caldwell, S. W. Coulson, Homer Dale, Wm. O. Campbell, J. D. Alexander, John A. Farron, C. C. Padgett, J. T. Padgett, Chas. H. Padgett, C. Campbell, Samuel Vandever, James Vandever, Oliver Proctor, Wid Vay Max, Arthur A. Caldwell, D. D. Cohee, Wm. Hazelrigg, James Bowen, C. T. Warren, Al Murray, Lebanon; D. H. Schockley, Stephen Dale, Jamestown; A. S. Campbell, Terhune, R. F. D. 32; Frank Blond, Jollett; S. V. Titus, W. H. Robey, Thorntown; Jacob Steelsmith, Sharron; John Barnett, Sheridan; Benj. Wing, Kirkland.

Jefferson County—Thomas McDonald, Isaac Williams, Tillman Williams, Thos. J. Lindley, Thos. Hammond, Foltz.

Ripley County—B. F. Spencer, Versailles; Thos. E. Wilson, Osgood.

Martin County—Thos. W. Force, Loogootee.

Johnson County—Wm. F. Poik, Frankita; Martin B. Kindle, Trafalgar; Wm. Meyers, Rocklane.

Shelby County—Noah Milleson, Shelbyville; Wm. DeMott, Boggsstown.

Hancock County—Samuel Walker, Geo. Walker, Charlottesville; Elmer Leary, Greenfield.

Carroll County—Joseph Ganna, Frazier Thomas, Delphi.

Clinton County—Taylor Frazier, John W. George, Frankfort.

Grant County—Joshua Strange, Arcana.