

and sub-division of divisions by sevens and series of sevens, and bears no relation to the other plan which seeks to organize from the precinct upwards in the natural order in harmony with party organization as recognized by the laws of this and most other states. Two weeks ago Mr. Streeter disclaimed all knowledge of the authorship of the plan you call the "Cincinnati Plan," as you will see by the Vineland Independent of the 6th inst.

I wish you would have an organizer appointed for Michigan to have authority to wake the Old Guard up and place them on duty, or at least to bring the two factional state committees together.

I would be in favor of direct nominations if we can organize sufficiently to make such procedure satisfactory, but do not believe it advisable this time. An old-fashioned national convention, such as we had at Omaha in 1892 and St. Louis in 1896, with the disturbing element out, as it will be this time, is needed to bring zealous populists of old out of the woods. With a double delegation from each state having the two factions, and a half vote to each such delegate, there will be no trouble regarding fusion.

I have no definite choice of candidates or possible candidates, and do not believe it is right to confine our choice to a few. I do not hesitate to say that I would trust any leading fusion populist to do right as fully as any anti-fusion populist. The proof of the pudding is in the eating, and we have had that proof of loyalty to principle from Butler, Allen and a host of others who later followed Bryan. I thank the fusionists for taking the leading part for reorganization on independent lines, and am sure that they are as sincere as the most zealous mid-roadsers against co-operation. Most of us were co-operators in 1896, and populists who do the least to reorganize at home are the loudest in innuendoes and backbiting. JAMES E. McBRIDE, Grand Rapids, Mich.

Ira B. Bodenhamer, Caddo, Mo.: "Enroll my name as one of the Old Guard. I am a true populist and expect to be as long as I live."

N. J. Belton, Simsboro, La.: "Yes, I want my name enrolled in the list of the Old Guard Populists. I have been in the fight from the start and expect to remain there while I live. The second fusion campaign "done up" our organization in Louisiana, but the material is still here; and there are hopeful signs of a revival. Comparatively few have gone back to the old parties. I believe that most of them are ripe for reorganization and a new and united independent fight for populism, and may God speed the day and bless the cause."

E. Dencon, Norman, Mo.: "Please send me blank lists to enroll what populists we have in this county. Find \$1 to help bear expenses. Yours for straight populism and no change in platform."

T. M. Henderson, Paris, Tex.: "I am greatly encouraged, hoping every populist will join the Old Guard of Populism and wishing you great success."

J. N. Towery, Piney, Ky.: "While I would prefer a direct vote of our people, if our forces were not so much shattered on account of past blunders in 1896, yet I think the time too short for us to organize our forces (I mean the populist party) in time to nominate candidates for president and vice president by direct vote of the party. I think it would be impracticable at this late day. It seems to me a delegate convention is a necessity. I would love to hear from other reformers in the party—such men as J. S. Felter, Milton Park, W. M. Howard, A. C. Barton, Jo A. Farker, Marion Butler, and all who have the cause of populism at heart. Our national committee will soon meet. I hope then the matter will be duly discussed and a wise decision reached. We cannot afford to make any more blunders. There are more people today indorsing populist principles than ever before."

E. H. Hotchkiss, Seattle, Wash.: "Enroll me as one of the populist army. I believe its cause is right. I have cast my ballot twice for Weaver and will always vote for populist principles whenever I can. I hope to live to see a populist government throughout this country."

S. M. Massengill, Enville, Tenn.: "Nothing does me more good than to be a populist and to attend our populist meetings. I love to read the many good letters published in our populist papers. But at the present my eyes won't permit me to read. It does me good to know I am one among the many of the boys that are fighting for my rights."

Dan H. Goodrich, Geneva, Neb.: "I

want to be enrolled as one of the Old Guard. I send a list of names that I think are still true blue populists."

R. C. Best, Bladen, Neb.: "Count me one of the Old Guard populists as I have been in the party since it commenced."

Jay W. Forrest, Albany, N. Y.: "I shall try and attend the meeting to be held in St. Louis on the 22nd of February. Enclosed please find one dollar toward helping to spread the gospel of equal rights to all and special privileges to none."

Aug. Centner, Cincinnati, O.: "The true Bryanites are with us. It matters not who we nominate. We must not wait for their disappointment, but go on and prepare a refuge for them. Say what you may, the Bryanites are strong in their faith. I joined them in 1896. They still hope against hope, that the principles of the Chicago platform will prevail. Be easy with them. Their eyes will open as the weeks roll by."

F. J. S. Robinson, Cloverland, Ind.: "I do not think it feasible or advisable to attempt to nominate by referendum this year. Not feasible, because a large and enthusiastic convention will enthuse and inspire confidence in the rank and file. Especially at this time of convergence of the ways. I do not think anything would so firmly reunite the factions as an eye to eye, and heart to heart hand shake. A reunion of hearts and hands. I do not share in the fear that an effort will be made to fuse with any old party; and should such be attempted it would be so mercilessly rebuked that our reunion would be all the stronger, and better therefore. For certainly any element that would now desire fusion with an old party will vote an old party ticket anyway and the people's party must rid itself of such to merit or win the confidence of the people whose votes they must have to succeed."

Albin Perkins, box 984, Mt. Grove, Mo.: "I am a populist—dyed-in-the-wool—which cannot be washed out or faded by republican grafters or gold-bug-democratic-pollywogs. Was sixty-seven years old yesterday, and never have voted for a man for president that was elected. Cast my first presidential vote for John C. Bell in 1860; voted for one democrat prior to '96. The remainder of the time I have voted for reform, both state and national. But in county affairs I mixed unless we had a greenbacker or populist ticket; if we did, then there was no mixing. I never voted for a republican for an office above a county office. I voted for Weaver, and in 1896 and 1900 for Bryan, because I had nothing else to vote for; but I did not vote for his running mate, Sewell, in 1896."

D. C. McCain, Grandview, Mo.: "I am one of the Old Guard and have nothing to do with democratic primaries. Before the war I was an old line whig. I was named after DeWitt Clinton of New York, who was the father of internal improvements, and I stick to that idea yet. There are some of the Old Guard scattered over the county, but I am too old to get around. I am seventy-six this next spring in April, but am not too old to know right from wrong."

C. Shotwell, Cambridge, Neb.: "Yes, indeed, I want to join the ranks of the noble Old Guard of Populism, and shall esteem it quite an honor to fight for the grand principles which it represents. I most heartily approve of the work of the Denver conference. It is just what I thought should have been done long ago."

J. A. Neal, Horatio, Ark.: "Enclosed find \$1 for expenses enrolling the Old Guard of Populism. I was one of the first to enlist. Have been a subscriber to the Missouri World for ten years and don't want to miss a copy. It has the right sound. Keep up the fight. Cheer up the boys in the ditches; shell the woods! Let finance, land and transportation be our ammunition and victory is ours."

D. H. Welch, Winchester, Ill.: "As I see the names of the Old Guard enrolling as a pledge to our cause and principles, it nerves me still stronger for the battle that we are now lining up for. Not for battle alone, but for the good of our country and the common people, that we may have prosperity in reality. Not as a mere promise or lie to get votes, to get in office, to play boodler. The people to some extent at least are getting tired of that game of boodling and selling their rights. I think the time is coming when it will be put to an end. Not any too soon can that time come for the good of our country and her people."

J. H. McConnell, Princeton, RFD3, Ky.: "I had about concluded that populism or the organization was gone. There is too much discord. I tried hard last year to get Marion Butler and Jo Parker to agree and

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THE NEBRASKA INDEPENDENT.

Annual Statement of the Herman Bros. Co. of the City of Lincoln, Lancaster County Nebraska, at the Close of Business November 30, 1903

LIABILITIES:

Capital Stock paid in	\$177,000 00
Notes and bills payable	94,880 49
Sinking fund	863 22
Undivided profits	10,082 44
	\$282,826 15

JOBGING HOUSE:

Mdse. on hand, cash value	\$112,541 80
Bills and accounts receivable	116,500 00
Furniture, Fixtures, Tools, sample trucks, etc.	2,650 00
	\$231,691 80

FACTORY:

Mdse. on hand	\$ 24,891 31
Machinery, Fixtures, Tools, etc.	4,315 12
	\$29,206 43

BEATRICE STORE:

Mdse. on hand Dec 31, 1903	\$14,828 90
Fixtures, etc.	1,000 00
Bills receivable	650 00
Cash on hand	677 38
Less taxes & bills owing	\$ 276 00
	\$ 401 38

Investment Dec. 31, 1903. \$ 16,880 28
Remitted to Herman Bros. Co. in December. 5,600 00
Less Mdse received in December. 853 36

\$ 5,746 64
Less estimated profits in Dec. 700 00

\$ 5,046 64

Investment November 30, 1903. \$ 21,926 92

State of California } ss.
Los Angeles County }
Adolph Herman, President of Herman Brothers Company, being duly sworn says that the above and foregoing is a true and correct statement of the resources and liabilities of Herman Brothers Company at the close of business November 30th, 1903.

ADOLPH HERMAN,
Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 18th day of January, 1904.

N. A. Alspaen,
Notary Public.
Commission expires July 23d, 1905.

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call a council at some time and place, but failed. If we could get our committee and all reform committees to meet together and call a convention at some time we might be able to accomplish something. I see no hope of relief from either of the old parties. But they can fool the people."

L. C. Shinn, Shinnston, W. Va.: "God bless you in your patriotic work of enrolling the Old Guards; it is bound to do much good to our cause, the great hope of our republic."

G. W. Ferbrache, Sutherland, Neb., sends 61 names and 25 cents to help on expenses.

M. L. Pyatt, Vermillion, Mont.: "You may count me with the Old Guard, and I will try to keep up any dues that may fall to me in trying to get the people's party started in the right way. I am in favor of referendum in presidential nominations if it can be arranged soon enough; but would not be very particular as to that, so we can get the thing moving along the line of true populism. Nearly every man in our vicinity is ready now to form and work for reform."

H. M. McCuiston, Paris, Tex.: "I

am 56 years old; a native Texan; a farmer; had the old democratic party good-bye in 1892. Agitation is education. The Old Guard must be teachers. Perhaps it was they the poet had in mind when he wrote: "Though men deserve, they may not win success; the brave will honor the brave vanquished none the less."

J. W. Reisinger, York, Neb.: "Enclosed I send you \$1 on subscription. I have been a regular reader of your paper for seven years and hope to read it seven more."