

public ownership, but takes up the battle of organized labor.

Fourth, the further fact, that notwithstanding all the powers of capitalism are being used to crush him, he is going ahead picking up nearly every delegate, until it looks like he will have ninety per cent of the delegates to the democratic convention.

Is it not possible that this triumphant advance is the result of those meritorious qualities referred to by Mr. Watson, in his dedicating his "Jefferson" to Mr. Hearst, "because he has consecrated his wealth, talent and energies to the improvement of the conditions under which the masses live; because he has shown an earnest, fearless and consistent course in the cause of the weak and oppressed; because he is today working with splendid ability along the same line which Mr. Jefferson marked out a hundred years ago, I dedicate this book to William Randolph Hearst."

I do not think we should condemn Mr. Watson because he has recognized the splendid worth of Mr. Hearst and the magnificent and effective work of his powerful newspapers. Mr. Wat-

son does not mean to say that he will endorse the democratic party. He will undoubtedly stand with the rest of us at Springfield, urging the adoption of the club system and the nomination of a straight ticket whether Mr. Hearst is nominated or not. Our indorsement of Mr. Hearst would weaken rather than strengthen him. I do not think he asks it or will ask it. But he has never misrepresented or abused us and our principles, and on the other hand has spread them by far more effectively than we have done ourselves, and we should recognize this splendid service by at least treating him with respect, and granting him the sincerity he has shown by his whole life's work, which we can do without sacrificing a single principle, or pursuing any other course than the one we have already marked out—"in the middle of the road." If Mr. Hearst is nominated our vote will be very small; if he is defeated it will be large. But if he is elected president of the United States, while his hands will be tied, our own principles will get a wonderful advance at his hands, even though he be elected without our votes. JO A. PARKER.

### VANGUARD OF POPULISM

Chairman F. T. Fulcher of the Williamson county, Texas, populists, has called a citizens' mass meeting to be held at Taylor, July 9, to nominate a county ticket.

Secretary W. R. Buckner of the Tarrant county, Texas, executive committee has called a convention to be held in Fort Worth, April 23.

An "Old Guard" tells the Southern Mercury that Nacogdoches, Texas, populists will hold a meeting May 7 to decide whether they shall participate in the democratic primaries. "Old Guard" is "erninst."

Owen Miller, ex-chairman of the people's party for Coryell county, Tex., has called a mass meeting to be held at Gatesville, April 27.

J. O. Staff, editor of the Journal-News and chairman people's party of Hamilton, Tex., has called a county convention to be held at Hamilton, April 30. Precinct meetings will be held April 23.

E. N. Barrows, county chairman, has called the Parker county, Texas, populists to meet at Weatherford, April 23.

P. J. Waldrep, chairman people's party of Polk county, Texas, has called a mass meeting at Livingston for April 23.

Cloverland, Ind., April 28, 1904.—Editor Independent: The Occidental hotel, Indianapolis, burned down yesterday, therefore our state conference will be held at Hotel English, April 28.—State Chairman.

J. A. Mallory has called the populist executive committee of Upson county, Ga., to meet May 3 in Thomaston.

KENTUCKY STATE CONVENTION. The people's party voters of Kentucky, regardless of past differences, are hereby called to meet in mass convention at Germania Hall, near the corner of First and Jefferson, Louisville, Ky., on Saturday, July 1, 1904, at 10 o'clock a. m., to select delegates to the national convention at Springfield, Ill., July 4, and to nominate 13 electors for the state of Kentucky at the coming national election. The delegates selected will go on from

Louisville to Springfield in a body. All persons who are in favor of independent political action on behalf of the reform and labor forces without regard to past differences, will be entitled to affiliate with this convention, and members of the united labor party are also eligible.

The people's party represents the intelligent efforts of the farmers and wage-workers of the land to secure just legislation, and offers a home for every honest citizen who wants better conditions for those who toil. It is the outspoken friend and champion of organized labor, and solicits the aid and support of those members of labor unions who realize that the ballot is at last the great weapon of defense against the aggressions of organized capital.

It is not necessary to select delegates in the counties, but it is better for each county to hold a meeting and select persons to come to represent it, as otherwise none may come. The Enterprise Hotel, at 242 East Market st., will be headquarters during the convention.

W. B. BRIDGEFORD, Chm. April 12, 1904.

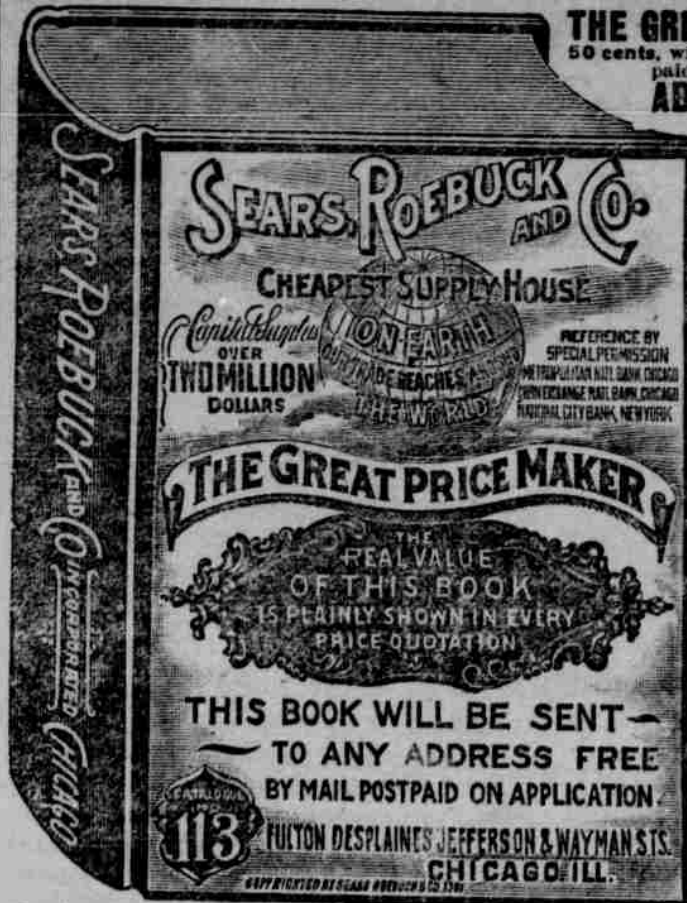
TEXAS. By authority vested in me as chairman of the executive committee of the people's party of Texas, and in conformity to the request of the state executive committee, precinct conventions are hereby called throughout the state to be held at any time before April 20 prox., to select representatives to county conventions to be held on or before April 27; to select delegates to congressional conventions to be held on or before May 10, and delegates to the state convention to be held in the city of Dallas, June 15, prox., at which time and place delegates will be chosen to the people's party national convention to be held at Springfield, Ill., July 4, 1904.

In precincts, counties or districts where from any cause the regular party officials fail to issue calls for said conventions, any populist is authorized to issue call for convention, and arrange for delegates to the several conventions. Notice of meetings and names of delegates should be forwarded promptly to me at Dallas. MILTON PARK, State Chairman.

SIXTEENTH TEXAS. By virtue of authority vested in me as chairman of the people's party of this, the Sixteenth congressional district of Texas, I hereby call a congressional convention to convene in Abilene, Tuesday, 1 p. m., May 10, 1904, for the purpose of nominating a candidate for congress and electing a congressional chairman and attending to any other business that may come before the convention. JOHN W. BAKER, Chairman People's Party Sixteenth Congressional Dist. of Texas.

SIXTH KANSAS. There will be a delegate convention of the people's party of the Sixth congressional district of Kansas, at Colby, Kas., May 25, 1904, at 10 a. m., for the nomination of a candidate for congress and such other business as may properly come before the convention. All who are opposed to congressmen boodling in postal matters and all other grafts, trusts and combines to fleece the taxpayer and producer, are invited to participate in the primaries

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which should be held not earlier than May 1 or later than May 15.

Basis of representation: One for each county and one for each 200 votes cast for governor two years ago, which gives the 22 counties representation as follows:

- Cheyenne 2, Ellis 7, Gove 2, Jewell 9, Logan 2, Norton 5, Phillips 7, Rooks 4, Sheridan 3, Smith 8, Trego 5, Decatur 5, Ellsworth 5, Graham 4, Lincoln 6, Mitchell 7, Osborne 5, Rawlins 4, Russell 5, Sherman 2, Thomas 3, Wallace 2.

FRED J. CLOSE, Chairman.

COLORADO POPULISTS. What are the populists of Colorado going to do? The constituted leaders of the party seem disposed to sit still and see what the republicans are going to do, then if the nominations suit them to still sit still and do nothing, letting the party organization go to pieces. If the republican convention does not do the right thing from the populist leaders' point of view, then it seems to be the program of the populists to once more turn in and help the democrats defeat the republican ticket if possible.

From our point of view this is all wrong. By such a course the populists would have everything to lose and nothing to gain. The party organization should no longer be prostituted as trading stock in the hands of a few designing men who have not the true interests of the party at heart. We want no more fusion nor hobnobbing with the old parties. The people's party leaders ought to call a state convention early in the year, select 29 strong delegates to the national convention at Springfield, nominate the best state ticket they can find, adopt an honest platform and push the organization of the party in the state regardless of the actions or wishes of either of the old parties.

If the present leaders of the party in Colorado don't want to do this and get in line with the new national organization, they ought to step down and out and turn the party organization over to others who have the interests of the party at heart and who will push the work of organization in an energetic manner. It is high time the "dead" ones were weeded out.—James Flannigan, in Herald, Ft. Morgan, Colo.

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### "CUTTING THE GORDIAN KNOT"

"Cutting the Gordian Knot" is the title of a paper-bound, pocket-size book of some 117 pages from the pen of Gen. Percy Daniels, former lieutenant governor of Kansas. No attempt will be made here to review the book; but suffice it to say that its first object is to present arguments in support of a graduated property tax, and incidentally to give some good advice to the populists of the Sunflower state—to which, unfortunately, they gave but little heed. Chapter V., entitled "The Grip of a Great Corporation" relates some history about railroad assessments in Kansas under populist administration, and is interesting reading at this time for Nebraskans who are watching the out-

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