

The Independent.

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ILLINOIS POPULISTS

Select National Delegation - Endorse
Denver Conference - News From
Other States. ❖ ❖ ❖ ❖ ❖

Under the call of State Chairman Hopp, the conference at Springfield, June 1, was designated as a meeting of the state committee, but as all populists were invited to attend, it was, in fact, rather a mass convention to select 36 delegates to the national convention.

We quote from the Joliet News of June 2:

"The state committee met at Springfield yesterday to select the delegates for the national convention to be held there July 4, and were in session all day. Joseph A. Hopp, of Chicago, chairman, presided. Colonel Felter had nearly everything in shape for the July convention. A. C. Barton remained over this week to help in the work. Headquarters for the national committees were established and Messrs. Parker and Edmisten will be in charge.

"It is proposed to assist in the celebration of the Fourth and some of the best speakers will probably take part in ceremonies at the tomb of Lincoln."

The following delegates were selected: (Those marked "O. G." were previously enrolled in the Old Guard of Populism; invitations have been sent the others.—D.)

Joseph Hopp, Chicago.
Col. J. S. Felter, Springfield.
A. C. Van Tine, Flora. (O. G.)
Dr. F. B. Bullard, Mount Pulaski.
James H. Ferriss, Joliet. (O. G.)
John Tate, Blackburn.
J. F. Watkins, Chicago.
N. G. Huff, Salem. (O. G.)
Phil Roessler, Shelbyville. (O. G.)
A. D. Shafer, Peoria.
M. W. Greer, Rushville.
Samuel Frederick, Chicago.
A. C. Barton, Danville. (O. G.)
Henry Balster, Bethalto.
N. Rosenthal, Chicago.
J. H. Smith, Petersburg.
E. Kennedy, Du Quoin.
James Routt, Loami. (O. G.)
W. S. Bale, Petersburg.
Richard Standley, Jacksonville.
Silas Walker, Mercer.
F. W. Weston, Chicago.
D. H. Welch, Winchester. (O. G.)
J. M. Danforth, Chicago.
A. C. Crosswell, Streator.
Jacob Hess, Pittsfield.
W. C. Gullett, Marietta. (O. G.)
Jacob Cosad, Farina.
John Shepherd, Danville.
John Ward, Owanecco.
A. F. Heninger, R. F. D., Edinburg.
Phillip Ebert, Rosemond.
Earl Richardson, Peoria.
Lorenzo Elliott, Farina.
Robert L. Caldwell, Jacksonville.
C. N. Sapp, Farina.

Resolutions indorsing previous acts of the national committee seeking a reunion promulgated at Denver and St. Louis were indorsed. Action was taken providing for a national headquarters at Springfield until after the adjournment of the national convention. Among those present from other states were National Chairman J. A. Parker of Kentucky and Judge Samuel Williams of Indiana. The populists of Illinois are fully alive to the responsibility resting upon them and send their greetings to the populists of the nation, assuring them that everything possible will be done to make their visit to this state one of pleasure. The following address was issued:

TO THE VOTERS.

The people's party again presents a united front in the state of Illinois, and in every state of the Union. There are no differences of opinion upon matters of party policy, and there are no trades or any trafficking contemplated with any other political party. It is in the middle of the road.

The party membership is herewith congratulated upon their loyalty and fortitude, and upon the good reputation and exemplary character maintained for their organization. While united, opposing parties are torn by discussion apparently in every section of the Union. The outlook for the prosperity of the people's party seems better than for many years.

Time has worn away prejudice, there is a better understanding of our measures, and the people generally

believe in their wisdom and practicability. It is merely a question of organization, and we therefore urge all of our faith to use their best exertions in an effort to make this year of 1904, a turning point in American history.

The oppression of the producer is world wide. The machinery turning cut a grist so furiously for the trusts, monopolies and specially favored classes, must be reversed, and the people, as a whole, given equal privileges in their efforts to obtain a livelihood and a competence.

Our measures for relief are again recited briefly:

First—We demand that congress alone shall coin and issue money and in volume sufficient for the demands of industry and commerce. This should be done without the intervention of banks of issue.

Second—The government ownership of public utilities—more fairly distributing profits, checking corruption and political domination.

Third—The abolition of alien ownership of land, and the monopoly of land.

Fourth—Initiative and referendum, and,

Fifth—We favor all measures that will make prosperity, culture and happiness more widespread, and lift up the oppressed and downcast, in our belief that the greater the prosperity of the farmer, the miner and workingman, the greater the government and the more exalted the nation.

J. S. FELTER.
A. C. VAN TINE.
JAMES H. FERRISS.

No instructions were given the delegation, but the trend of sentiment in Illinois may be gathered from the following editorial by James H. Ferriss in his paper, the Joliet News:

PARTING OF THE WAYS.

From the best information populists can glean it is merely a question of physical strength between the adherents of Bryan and the adherents of Cleveland. The strongest will stay inside and do business at the old stand. The other will go out through the windows. It is a war of extermination.

Through the south and west their adherents are both active and outspoken. A Bryan man has more respect for a republican or a populist than for a "traitorous Clevelandite,"

and, vice versa, ditto for a "populistic Eryanite." The populist thus has inside and heartfelt information coming and a-going.

At Dallas, Mr. Bryan said: "It is not more democrats the party needs, but better democrats." Hearst said in his famous interview that he would abide by the decision of the true democrats, but added a tail to the tale, not usually printed, that deserters and traitors were not included or considered.

The populists hold their convention two days ahead of the democrats and the Illinois delegation at Springfield yesterday were unanimously in favor of selecting candidates with the highest degree of ability and the largest amount of sense. The best men in fact for great emergencies. If the democrats throw out the right party there is a possibility of such a shaking up politically, such a realignment of all parties as this generation has never seen.

The Bryan element seems determined upon progress, reform, better democrats. It is a radical element farther away from Clevelandism than it is from any other political factor. Cleveland conservatism is not alone conservative. It could find all the conservatism in the republican camp its appetite craves, but it is determined to wipe out this Bryanism, this menace to conservatism. It is a war to the knife, and the knife to the hilt. The war is perfectly natural and proper—and desirable.

MISSOURI.

Missouri has been in many ways the banner state in pushing the Old Guard enrollment. The Independent is pleased to see the following call made, and urges all the Old Guard to be on hand at St. Louis, July 2, and take part in selecting 37 delegates to Springfield and in nominating a state ticket. The call follows:

A mass convention of the people's party of the state of Missouri is hereby called to convene at the St. James hotel, in the City of St. Louis, Saturday, July 2, 1904, for the purpose of electing delegates to the national convention of said party, nominating candidates for governor and the other state officers to be elected next November, and transacting such other business as may properly come before the convention. Those attending from

Old Guard Meeting

The enrolled members of The Old Guard of Populism of Nebraska are requested to meet at the Eng hotel, Fremont, Neb., June 21, 1904, at 2 o'clock p. m., for the purpose of electing a chairman and a secretary of The Old Guard, arranging for further organization, and to indulge in an hour or two of good fellowship.

CHARLES Q. DEFRANCE,

National Organizer.

The Vanguard of Populism.

Believing in the justice of the fundamental principles of populism as enunciated in the Omaha platform of 1892, the Denver conference address of 1903, and the St. Louis address of Feb. 22-24, 1904; and desiring the enactment of those principles into law and an honest enforcement of the same, I hereby promise to pay, on or before the first day of August, A. D., 1904, to the order of

The Treasurer of the National Committee of the People's Party of the United States,

The sum of _____ Dollars,

my contribution, as a member of The Vanguard of Populism, to help carry on the battle for economic freedom.

Name _____ Postoffice _____

Election Precinct _____ County _____

State _____

any county will be entitled to cast the full vote of that county on the basis of one vote and one additional vote for every 100 votes cast in such county for Weaver for president in 1892. Bear in mind that this is a mass convention and any member of the people's party of this state will have a right to take part in its proceedings. It is hoped that many will attend and that those who cannot will see that others do.

By order of the state central committee of the people's party.
J. S. CANTRELL, Secretary.
J. H. HILLIS, Chairman.

PENNSYLVANIA.

Chairman Thompson of the mid-readers has issued the following call: To Pennsylvania Populists: At a conference of both wings of the populists of Pennsylvania held for the purpose of the selection of delegates to the national convention, to meet in Springfield, Ill., on July 4, 1904, it was resolved that there are no divisions in the ranks of the Old Guard of the Keystone state; and that there should be a full delegation in attendance at Springfield, Ill. It was further resolved that John H. Stevenson, Esq., of Pittsburg, Pa., be authorized to issue credentials to all delegates chosen by the several districts, and it is earnestly desired that the populists throughout the state will at once make it a duty to send Mr. Stevenson (opposite the Park building), 5th ave., Pittsburg, Pa., the names of those who will attend as delegates.

It is very important that prompt action be taken in this matter. The World's Fair excursions can be used for transportation from points in Pennsylvania. R. A. THOMPSON, Chairman People's Party State Com. Indiana, Pa.

Editor Independent: Massachusetts populists with state committee will meet in Boston, Tuesday, June 14, at corner of Washington and Essex streets, to take action on electing delegates to Springfield July 4. Any New England delegate can hear of railroad rate by addressing E. Gerry Brown, Brockton, Mass.

E. GERRY BROWN,
National Committeeman.
Brockton, Mass.

HEADQUARTERS OPENED.

Editor Independent: Please say in next issue that the national headquarters will be opened up at the St. Nicholas hotel at Springfield, June 28, and remain open until July 7, with Jo A. Parker and J. H. Edmisten in charge.

All desiring information about hotel and boarding house accommodations will direct their letter to A. C. Barton, St. Nicholas Hotel, Springfield, Ill., who will give the matter prompt attention.

COL. J. S. FELTER.
Springfield, Ill.

GEORGIA.

Hurrah for Georgia! Read Chairman McKnight's call, Old Guard of Georgia, and see how many will be at Atlanta the 25th:

As the late state chairman of the populist party of Georgia, at the request of a number of the party, I call a mass convention of the populists of Georgia to meet in Atlanta, at the Cannon house, on June 25, at 10 o'clock a. m., for the purpose of organizing the state and electing delegates to the national convention to meet in Springfield, Ill., July 4, 1904.

S. J. McKNIGHT.
Dalton, Ga.

WASHINGTON.

That grand old populist, Edward Clayton, sr., editor of The Patriarch, Seattle, is opposed to the do-nothing-just-wait-and-see policy of National Committeeman Winsor and State Chairman Van Pierson of his state. These worthies are trying the Hamilton county, Nebraska, plan; but Editor Clayton will none of it.

So he takes the bit in his teeth—or the bull by the horns—whichever metaphor is most apt—and calls a