

Campaign Funds

Shall the work stop?
Will you help us?

Joliet, Ill., Sept. 10.—Editor Independent: Permit me to quote from an editorial on page 11, your issue of the 8th instant:

"Mr. Watson said while here that he was surprised that so many persons in different states were writing for help to him or the national committee. That is turning things the other end to. The people in the different states must help the committee. In populist campaigning funds must come from the people and not from the national committee. The way to do in every state is to go right ahead, put tickets in the field and do the work of the campaign. Then for the encouragement of the others, report to the committee what has been done and let them send it out. This is all that can be expected of the national committee."

Why limit your remarks to the present national committee? Is it something sui generis—something which may not "happen" again? Of course, I understand your position and appreciate your kindness in penning the paragraph quoted.

Headquarters should in truth be headquarters, where full reports of whatever is being done in the various states should be sent without delay. Ample clerical assistance should be employed so that prompt reply could be made to every inquiry—even those of minor importance. Every facility should be afforded for quick work, for rapid communication when occasion requires. All this takes money.

Where is the money to come from? Manifestly either from the plain people themselves—or some dirty deal must be entered into with one or both the old plutocratic parties, whereby our committee shall receive second-hand some of the loot which Tom Taggart or Cortelyou "fries from the trusts." I have faith to believe that our people do not desire us to accept any portion of the corruption funds now held by Taggart and Cortelyou. None of this has been offered us—probably none will be—because we have not assumed an attitude which would invite such an offer. But it might come. What do our people say? If the opportunity comes, shall we stultify ourselves—or shall we keep the movement clean?

I still believe I knew what the unanimous verdict of populists would be. Yet thousands of those who would howl the loudest about the infamy of accepting aid from either of the old parties have not contributed a single red cent toward keeping the work going. Think of our position here: Clamorous letters from every part of the union asking for literature. Want 500 copies of the platform here; 1,000

copies of Watson's speech there; must have this and that at once.

We ought to have \$5,000 a week here from now on to take advantage of the effect produced by Mr. Watson's Lincoln, Cooper Union, and Atlanta speeches. We need to organize a people's party club in each of ten thousand election precincts—or at least one such club in the 2,700 counties. For this the printer's bill alone is a big item; and postage a bigger one. Mr. Watson's Cooper Union speech ought to have a million circulation. We could make it that, if we had even enough postage to write all the populists whose names we now have, advising them that it can be had at \$2 per thousand. But it would cost \$500 to buy postal cards to write each person once—saying nothing of the labor, printing, addressing, etc. And our total receipts the past three weeks have been less than enough to buy the postal cards.

Five thousand dollars a week, you say, is a large sum of money for a populist national campaign? Well, there are 2,700 counties in the United States—a few more than that—and it would about be equivalent to spending \$2 a week in a county campaign. There will be eight more Saturdays before election—\$40,000. Not a whit too much. And who will pay it?

Well, if the million men who voted for Weaver in 1892 would contribute four cents apiece, it would settle the bill. My judgment is that a good many of our populist brethren are like that southern Nebraska Methodist whose experience meeting speech was ever this: "I'm glad salvation's free." Perhaps, however, I misjudge them. Probably they have never fully understood the need for helping out the national committee. But it is a fact that—except in rare cases of very old and indigent men—his populism is hardly skin deep, who can not and will not contribute at least a dollar. We have thousands of well-to-do farmers who are amply able to afford \$100 each; many thousands more who could give \$50 or \$20 or \$10, or \$5.

Mr. Editor, you, our candidate for vice president, wield a trenchant pen. Can't you say something in The Independent that will convince our populist brethren that we are now losing the opportunity of our lives to build up a strong organization—simply because our people have forgotten their old Alliance habit of contributing liberally and have contracted the old party habit of letting the candidates foot the bills—or compelling their committees to enter into questionable transactions to get funds?

Yours for the success of populism.
CHAS. Q. DE FRANCE, Sec.

Is it Safe?

If the democratic managers bring Bryan into this state to answer Tom Watson, the populist candidate, there will be an end to apathy in this part of the country. Watson demonstrated in his recent Cooper Union speech that he has great qualities as a campaign orator. He not only stirred the audience to fervid enthusiasm, but he sent a thrill through the democratic party in the entire state. It was suddenly made plain to them that there was an appreciable populist party in New York, a sufficient number of old Bryanites to make the task of carrying the state for Parker much more difficult than it had appeared to be. Suppose there should be 20,000 votes cast for Watson, where would the democratic majority be then?

But will it be safe to bring Bryan here to offset Watson? Can Bryan be depended upon to help Parker more than he would hurt him? Would he not be likely to rouse Watson to more fiery effort than he would otherwise put forth? These are possibilities which, as the country editor would say are "calculated to give pause" to Mr. Taggart and his associates.—New York Globe.

The Coming Revolt

Editor Independent: The action of the recent Texas democratic convention in endorsing the bunco game of the New York World and St. Louis Post-Dispatch organ of the reorganizers in working for the nomination of Judge Parker is sufficient evidence that things must be pretty bad in Texas.

We are today far on the path of a new movement, destined to take place, in which lawless privileges will be brought to bay before the outraged sentiment of the electorate.

The evidences of the coming revolt are on every hand. Witness the numerous magazine articles dealing in a popular way with the various phases of labor troubles and on political and financial alliances for the subverting

of every moral and ethical law in the interest of "business" or mammon. The actions of such political pirates as Hopkins of Illinois and Taggart of Indiana working in the interest of the reorganizers will bring its retribution. Evidences are not wanting in the republican party that its membership is awakening. Look at the plucky fight of Robert La Follette against administration senators and representatives of railroad and other corporate interests in the struggle for just taxation and obedience to the law. The "respectables" of the republican and reorganized democracy will not hesitate to help one another to down La Follette of Wisconsin, Bryan of Nebraska, Johnson of Ohio and Folk in Missouri, either separately or all together. "Come ye out from amongst them," and be ye separate saith the Lord," is still good advice to the aforesaid named gentlemen and their followers. And so we here today will by wisdom and lofty belief in absolute truth and justice build a foundation for a glorious superstructure, and into the towers thereof the bells of populism renewed will again proclaim liberty throughout the land and to all the inhabitants thereof.

F. FORRESTER.

St. Louis, Mo.

Suppose

Suppose Watson were elected president, what would happen? In the first place we would have a thoroughly honest man in the white house. This is a fact conceded by Mr. Watson's political foes as well as by his political friends and it is more than the republicans can say of every candidate put up by their party for the last twenty years. We would have a president of unquestioned ability. Mr. Watson has shown himself a man of parts. He is not only a brilliant orator, but he has demonstrated his possession of the qualities of statesmanship. We would have a president who is personally unselfish. Mr. Watson is

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devoted to principles rather than to advancement of his individual interest. He is a broad minded man. We would have a president that would not change his policies every other day to suit the sugar trust, or some other great trust, which would put up a big campaign fund. He would be a president of the people, for the people and by the people. Special privileges to none would be the policy of Thomas Watson. Also death to imperialism and expansion by force, and a free and independent government to the Filipinos, W. M. LAKIN. Aurora, Neb.

The Gold Brick Telegram

This populist, or Bryan vote is a problem that the democrats are unable to solve. If Bryan and his platforms were right, then Parker and his gold brick telegram are all wrong. The man who honestly supported Bryan must either have changed his views or he can not honestly support Parker. The democratic candidate for president who twice endorsed Bryan and his platform must have changed his mind or he is a contemptible politician, who makes his political views suit the situation as he finds it at a given time. But the all important consideration to David B. Hill and his associates who are trying to elect Parker is not a matter of principle, but a

question of votes. That the gold brick telegram has called back many gold democrats who refused to vote for Bryan in 1896 and some of the very few who again opposed him in 1900 must be admitted, and is it not equally true that it has repelled the men who believed in Bryan's principles and who are now in exactly the same position that the gold democrats were in 1896? —Springfield (Mass.) Union.



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NOTICE PROBATE OF FOREIGN WILL, Estate No. 1906 of James W. Baker, deceased, late of Delaware County, Pennsylvania, in County Court of Lancaster County, Nebraska. The State of Nebraska. To all persons interested in said estate, take notice that a petition has been filed for probate of the will and codicil thereto of said deceased, with authenticated copy and record of proceedings thereon by the Court of Probate of Delaware County, Pennsylvania, as a foreign will which has been set for hearing herein on September 29, 1904, at 9 o'clock A. M. Dated August 30, 1904. FRANK R. WATERS, County Judge, By WALTER A. LEISE, Clerk.