

Monetary League

Another of the many circles
Developing in Society—Headed
In The Right Direction.

Prof. E. A. Ross of the University of Nebraska, in his lectures before the summer school class in sociology this year, pointed out the tendency of modern society to form within the greater circle a large number of smaller ones, each having a specific object, and members the individuals of which each devotes such time as he chooses to the various circles of which he is a part.

Prof. Ross while giving credit for his painstaking analysis in "Economic Foundations of Society," nevertheless objected to Loria's conception of society as being like unto a bundle of sticks, each representing a class having economic interests antagonistic to all the others, loosely tied together by the ribbon of organized government.

Society, as viewed by Prof. Ross, is not a crowd or mob of persons, but is the relation—the interaction the action and reaction—of individuals with and upon each other. A given individual may at a given time be a member of many different groups or circles. He may be a republican in politics; a Mason or Odd Fellow in secret orders; a Methodist in religion; an A. O. U. W. for purposes of insurance; and so on. If society, argues Prof. Ross, is simply an aggregation of human beings, and a man "belongs" to several different groups or circles, what portion of his physical body is due to each? The absurdity of this is at once apparent. It is evident that the man devotes to each group so much of his time as he chooses; so much of his power as inclination or circumstances may permit; and that it is his relation with other group members—his action upon them, their reaction upon him, the interaction between and among them—that goes to make up the group or circle—and not the physical bodies of the members.

One of the latest groups being organized is the United States Monetary League, with headquarters at Denver. Its specific object, as will be seen, is part of the demands of the people's party. At first blush this league would seem an unnecessary addition to the numerous groups and circles already in existence; but a little thought will show that there is a field for it.

Having but the single demand for reform in our monetary laws, the United States Monetary League can devote its energies to educating the people more thoroughly upon the all-important money question. Its members can vote this year for Watson, Swallow, or any opposition ticket to Roosevelt-Parker plutocracy, and in the future they can take a prominent part in the coalition of the forces opposed to such plutocracy. As is well said in the ad-

dress following: "We have been grossly deceived by the democratic party, and our honor and manhood demand that we should protest by voting populist, liberty party, prohibition or any opposition ticket.

This is the sensible position to take. While The Independent would be glad to see every member of that league vote the people's party ticket, it is not insistent. It will be content with such votes as come to Watson and Tibbles—if none go to either Roosevelt or Parker—because it is impossible to protest against Parker by voting for Roosevelt, or vice versa, inasmuch as the same plutocratic interests are behind both of these candidates.

Roosevelt will this year receive many democratic votes, and Parker many republican votes, because of the mistaken notion that an effective "protest" can thus be registered. But, as was well said by a correspondent of The Independent some weeks ago, "It is foolish to take the other bad egg because we object to the one our party offers us. The proper way is to reject both."

A vote for Watson and Tibbles will not be "thrown away." Plutocracy cares little whether Parker or Roosevelt be the victor—but two million votes for gallant Tom Watson would scare plutocracy worse than anything since the famous "hurry-up call" in 1896.

The league says in its address: "That 'Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty' is plainer and more in evidence today than when first uttered is self-evident. In a republic each citizen is in theory, and more or less in fact, a part of the governing force through and by the ballot and moral influences, therefore, it is incumbent upon each, through organized or individual effort, to do his or her part in making known to our fellow citizens on important occasions and from time to time, the causes creating a demand for action in the public welfare, to the end that those agreeing in the truth and justice of such course may be induced to act in harmony therewith for the general good.

A national election is near at hand, the candidates all nominated, several parties represented. Behold the conditions: The two old parties, Republican and Democrat, so in the lead and the people so party blind that voting for the other candidates will be entirely ineffectual except as a protest. But let us rise up as a great groundswell and make this protest. We have been grossly deceived by the Democratic party, and our honor and manhood demand that we should protest by voting populist, liberty party, prohibition or any opposition ticket."

Populist Conventions MINNESOTA.

A Spartan band of old time populists convened upon the evening of Friday, September 23, at the Nicollet hotel at Minneapolis. While the attendance was not large, it was representative, there being delegates present from seven of the nine congressional districts of the state. A large number of letters had been received from populists from all parts of the state regretting their inability to be present, but pledging their support to any action taken to keep up the fight. Among those present and participating in the proceedings, were S. M. Owen, editor of the Farm, Stock & Home, and Major J. M. Bowler, who was very prominent in the Hearst fight within the democratic party of Minnesota and who was chosen chairman of the democratic state convention held at Duruth last spring. After some discussion it was decided to place a full electoral ticket in the field. The work of selecting eleven electors to represent Watson and Tibbles upon the state ticket was speedily disposed of. The convention decided to make a fight for the electoral ticket, but concluded that conditions hardly warranted the nomination of a state ticket. No attempt was made to endorse the nominees of any other party. Victor E. Lawson was re-elected chairman of the state committee for two years. Thomas J. Meighen was elected vice chairman, and will have the immediate work of this campaign in his charge.

Mr. Owen promised favorable mention of the ticket and convention in his journal which has a circulation of 40,000 in the state. A prominent Bryan democrat present said the city (Minneapolis) was full of populists who would vote for Watson, and that he was glad that the door through which they had left the party was open for their return.

Reports were received of a number of legislative and county tickets having been placed in nomination in the western part of the state.

After the adjournment of the formal meeting there was a pleasant reunion of those present, a number of whom had not attended a populist state meeting for many years. Though not a large gathering the meeting was an inspiration to all those present, and a large increase of interest in the cause may be looked for. Look out for Minnesota's vote for Watson and Tibbles his fall, and for a great revival before 1908!

VICTOR LAWSON,
Willmar, Minn.

ILLINOIS.

Editor Independent: The people's party of Marion county in convention here nominated a full ticket, and appointed delegates to the senatorial and representative convention at Odin.

The county central committee was re-organized by the election of Gilbert Williams chairman and I. E. Hodges secretary. Endorsed the action of the national and state conventions at Springfield, Ill., July 4 and August 31, 1904, including the platforms adopted by those conventions.

Mr. Van Tine, chairman of the state central committee was present and made us a very interesting speech.

GILBERT WILLIAMS,
J. E. HODGES, Secretary, Chairman.

PHELPS COUNTY, NEB
The Phelps county convention held

BETTER THAN SPANKING.

Spanking does not cure children of urine difficulties. If it did there would be few children that would do it. There is a constitutional cause for this. Mrs. M. Summers, Box 160, Notre Dame Ind., will send her home treatment to any mother. She asks no money. Write her today if your children trouble you in this way. Don't blame the child. The sciences are it can't help it.

Saturday, Sept. 24, was the largest convention in years. The old guard was out in full force and harmony prevailed.

Hon. J. S. Johnson was renominated for representative by acclamation. C. J. Beedle was renominated for county attorney. Many Bryan democrats were present and seemed well pleased at the outcome. The fur will fly from now on until election day.

L. C. BARR.

Holdrege, Neb.

Single Taxers for Watson and Tibbles

Editor Independent: I have just read Mr. E. O. Bailey's letter in The Independent and I wish to say that the same thoughts expressed in his letter are the ones that I have been using while talking to the radical people here. It is significant of single taxers, that although thousands of miles separate them, they are so firmly agreed upon the fundamentals of their philosophy that they invariably reach the same conclusions on any subject. I thoroughly agree with him that in this campaign the democratic party should be defeated, because it is now in the hands of the plutocrats. If it is defeated the radicals will certainly control the party in 1908.

We are now in an industrial depression which will continue for several years. The cry, in all the campaigns since I have noticed politics, "single national, state or municipal, has been republicanism and prosperity, democracy and the soup houses. We shall see the soup house doing business at the old stand this winter. Shall the republicans say "I told you so" or shall we let them explain how it is that the party which brings all the prosperity has brought us the soup houses. If the republican ticket is elected, that delusion will be exposed and will no longer be a stock argument to catch votes, while if the democrats are elected and shoulder the responsibilities of republican misdoings, it will set back all reforms twenty-five years. If Roosevelt is elected he will continue with his imperialistic policies and this coupled with a business depression will make his administration so obnoxious that the people will not only be ready but anxious for a change.

If Parker is snowed under there will be no hope for the so-called "conservatives" in 1908. The radicals (the real conservatives) will be in control and will unite on a ticket which will for the first time truly represent the will of the people. They tell us that imperialism is the big issue in this campaign, and that we must either endorse it by not voting for Parker or oppose it by voting for him. While I admit that imperialism is a great danger, I do not believe that Roosevelt can go so far that a radical administration following his could not undo everything that he had done. So I do not fear on this score. What is needed most at this time is a real test of protection. If it can stand the test of twelve years it will have demonstrated that it is a correct theory, but to change now when it is just beginning to show that it is a false and unnatural theory would be the height of folly.

Ninety per cent of the single taxers of Philadelphia are for Watson. But it does not look as though they will get a chance to vote for him. So far we have not heard of any nominations for electors and without electors there will be no people's party ticket for president. Is there a populist organization in Pennsylvania and if so what are they doing?

WM. RYAN, Secretary
Central Single Tax Club,
Philadelphia, Pa.

From Maryland

Editor Independent: Hurrah for Watson and Tibbles! Excuse me for being thus enthused by the incidents which have transpired during the past three months, the reason for which you will perceive in a statement of the following facts:

I was deputy organizer one year for the Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union, that grand old school where thousands learned to be populists, and I was elected twice and served that organization as state lecturer.

I made the first public speech ever made in this state in favor of organizing the people's party. I was the first candidate ever nominated and run on a people's party ticket in this state. I organized a number of people's party clubs, and we had a respectable party organization in each of several counties, until fusion and the advent in our midst of two socialist humbug preachers, who got control of our party and disbanded it in a few months. Since then I have lain on my oars and had nothing to do with politics, except to talk our principles when a chance presented, and to hope and

pray that I might live to see another people's party ticket in the field. I have always been a Watson man since he declared for the people's party.

While this reference to my doings may look somewhat egotistical, I only make it in order to ask if what I have done in this line entitles me to be enrolled among the Old Guard, and to request such enrollment provided you think my name worthy a place among them.

We had a small conference recently where former republicans, democrats and prohibitionists were represented, now all solid populists, and it was decided to proceed at once in all honorable efforts to put our ticket in the field, so honest men may have the privilege of voting in opposition to Roosevelt anarchy and Parker oligarchy, vote against the two old Wall street plutocratic parties headed by Roosevelt and Parker respectively.

But recent legislatures have done their worst to destroy all reform movements in this state, and we are required to obtain 500 voters, petitioners, who will go before a justice or notary and swear that they intend to vote our ticket, in order to get on the official ballot. There are many who are dissatisfied with Roosevelt's attitude in regard to many things. There are many more who are bitterly opposed to Parker because they know him to be a mere tool of Wall street, standing on a republican platform with a democratic name. And there are many others, formerly Bryan democrats, who will not follow that once great leader into the enemy's camp. They have lost confidence in Bryan since he has "about faced" and surrendered to the enemies of our country, and is now kneeling down to the plutocratic element of this country and begging for permission to serve them during the present campaign, a privilege which they are inclined to refuse.

These three classes here are willing to vote our ticket if they find it on the official ballot, but under present circumstances they prefer doing so without declaring their intentions to the world. So you see we are likely to have up hill work in getting on the official ballot. But we are encouraged to believe that if we get there this time, the vote will be so large that it will not require petitioning again.

COL. FRANK H. JONES,
Baltimore, Md.

H. R. PALMER, M. D., diseases of ear, eye, nose and throat. Glasses fitted. Office 1319 O st., over Riggs Drug Store, Lincoln, Neb.

An Important Question

Editor Independent: Will you allow me a little space in your excellent paper, that I may speak a few words to Bryan democrats?

The groundwork of what I have to say I will put in a question. My question is this: Can a man—pure, out-and-out Bryan democrat vote the Parker-Hill-Wall street ticket and not in that act besmirch his garments and singe his conscience?

Can a true disciple of Bryan, a man who is full of the genuine spirit of Bryanism, now turn around and vote the Parker ticket without making a somersault that will belittle him?

I, for one, can not do it. I venerate Bryan. I honor and revere the man for his noble past, for his true and heroic defense of true Jeffersonian democracy, and I will follow him anywhere that he does not lead into places where my moral principles and my manhood must sustain a fatal loss. Bryan could easily lead me into the populist camp, but into the Parker camp, never. When Bryan steps over into the Parker camp and declares his intention to vote the Parker ticket, then Bryan and I must part company, politically. Bryan democrats who will not follow Bryan into the Parker-Hill-Wall street camp, are as thick as English sparrows in a spring morning.

There is somewhere in that good old Book a passage like this: "How can two walk together except they are agreed?" I hope Mr. Bryan will give us an exposition of that passage and tell us how he can "walk together" with men leading in a political party whose platform and principles are as widely separate from Mr. Bryan's platform of principles, as the poles are separate. For myself I am for the man above the dollar.

REV. W. M. KAIN,
Ashtabula, Ohio.

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