

PROGRESS of POPULISM

Ohio Petitions Filed

Aside from New York, and perhaps Maryland and West Virginia, the Ohio statutes impose the heaviest burden upon third parties.

The national committee had every confidence in the ability of Dr. R. H. Reemeln, secretary of the state committee, and felt that he would not fail to secure the necessary petition.

Four of the strongest Bryan democratic papers in Pennsylvania are supporting Watson and Tibbles. These are the Commonwealth of Rochester; John-town Democrat; and the Sentinel and the Call of Easton.

T. W. Ray of Nashville, Ga., writes the Saturday News that "the prospects for populism were never brighter in these parts. It seems to have taken on new life and every populist is well pleased with our national ticket."

A letter from Hon. F. J. S. Robinson, state chairman, Cloverland, Ind., says that the populists of the Fifth Indiana congressional district held their convention on the 23d ult., and nominated Hon. L. L. Johnson of Clay county for congress.

Dr. R. S. Davis of Kjrby, W. Va., some days ago sent to national headquarters a list of voters pledged to support Watson and Tibbles.

The Saturday News is doing a big work in the way of organizing people's party clubs. Hon. J. F. Henson of Alev, Henderson county, Tex., writes the News that the populists of his county met on the 8th inst. and organized a big populist club with R. I. Willis, chairman, and himself secretary.

A letter from Jacob Florea, Kirksville, Mo., chairman of the people's party committee in Adair county, and member of the state committee, announces the sad news of the death of his father, W. R. Florea, Lafayette, Lewis county.

Chairman Florea was one of the first men to enroll in the old guard of populism when I began the work last December. Reference to his individual card in the files shows that it was made out on the 11th day of December, 1903, and that Mr. Florea sent in a list of names of the other populists, among whom was his father living in Lewis county.

It has been said that the people's party movement needs more young men. This is doubtless true. It needs more men of all ages. But there is a sort of halo surrounding those members of the old guard who began voting for economic freedom away back in the days of Peter Cooner and who have kept the faith ever since.

Another old guard of populism has gone the way of all the earth. But the good they do lives after them, and the

good that has been done by Mr. Florea will live through all eternity.

Press dispatches from Olympia, Wash., state that Edward Clayson, sr., editor of the Patriarch, Seattle, appeared before the secretary of state at the eleventh hour and filed with that officer the necessary petition entitling the people's party of the state of Washington to an official place on the ballot.

Owing to the lukewarmness of some of the state committee of Washington, Mr. Clayson advises that the petition for putting on a state ticket failed to secure the necessary signatures. There is, however, considerable feeling against Turner, the democratic nominee, who was formerly a populist or claimed to be—and deserted the party in its hour of need; and it is quite likely that a good many populists will even up matters by voting for the republican candidate in order to beat Mr. Turner.

National Committeeman George Howie of Manchester, N. H., has sent to the national headquarters a copy of receipt signed by Edward N. Pearson, secretary of state, showing that on the 7th day of October Mr. Howie filed with him nomination papers of the people's party candidates.

If the people's party had an energetic worker like Mr. Howie in every state, it would be possible to say today that Watson and Tibbles electors are in the field in every state in the union. Unfortunately, such men as Mr. Howie are rather hard to find; and the result will be that in one or two states there will be no Watson and Tibbles electoral ticket on the ballot.

In a letter to Secretary De France, Jesse M. Adams, editor of the Pioneer Exponent, Comanche, Texas, says:

"Things are looking brighter for the party here in Texas. In this district Colonel Mallet is making an active campaign for congress, and will poll a big vote. We will elect the populist ticket in Comanche county, and will return a majority for every man on the ticket from Watson down. This county is nominally populist, and some

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of the present county officers are populists. I have been publishing one of Watson's speeches each week for the past three weeks, and it is doing good too. None of the democrats here are in love with Parker."

The Pioneer Exponent is one of the oldest and strongest populist papers in Texas. During all the years of discouragement Mr. Adams has kept the people's party flag flying at his masthead, and now views with great satisfaction the revival of populism going on all over the United States. If one can judge of populist activity by the mail coming in, however, Texas must take second place, and allow Tennessee to stand in front as being the most active state in the union today for populism. Although there are signs of great activity in Texas, yet the receipts of mail from Tennessee at headquarters are something remarkable. Hardly a day goes by that from 75 to 200 letters and cards are received from that state. And strange to say there is not a populist paper in the state. The Independent, the Missouri World, and the Southern Mercury, each have a large circulation there, and the Knoxville Independent is doing great work in behalf of Watson and Tibbles, but it is classed as an organ of organized labor rather than an exponent of populism.

CHAS. Q. DE FRANCE.

Tibbles in Idaho

Hon. Thos. H. Tibbles, candidate for vice president on the people's party ticket, spoke in Mountain Home, Idaho, Friday evening, October 16, to the largest audience that has assembled in the city this year—every seat in

the theatre being filled. The crowd was larger than at any republican or democratic meeting. While a large part of the audience were ladies, they vote in Idaho the same as the men. The democratic party in Idaho is running the old populist traitor, Senator Heitfeld for governor, and Mr. Tibbles paid particular attention to him. Heitfeld takes Parker, the gold standard, Belmont and was great against the democratic party in the eastern part of the state is split in twain and part so in the west, which, mind you, is 500 miles further west, over the Mormon question. Heitfeld is getting his money this time from Helen Gould. The Oregon Short Line has passed in the hands of Rockefeller and Co. along with the Union Pacific, it is natural that Gould money should begin to appear in politics in Idaho.

Many prominent men here assure that if the populist campaign had been started here six weeks ago, the party would likely have carried the state. There are a great many Nebraska populists in Idaho, and the along with thousands of others, have only been waiting to find a political home. A travelling man who has recently made a tour of the state said that from his talk with business men he felt sure that if a good organization was effected in the state, the populists would carry it two years from now. But few Idaho democrats to take Parker and Wall street while all the old populists are still here.

Mountain Home, Idaho, Oct. 16, 1904. Help build up the people's party by subscribing for the national paper—The Independent—5 months for 25 cents.

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