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TERMS

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THE DEMOCRATIC TICKET.

W. J. Bryan's Views as Expressed in the Commoner.

"I shall vote for Parker and Davis, the nominees of the democratic national convention, and shall do so for the following reasons:

First—Because the democratic ticket stands for opposition to imperialism, while the republican ticket stands for an imperialistic policy. On this question, which was the paramount issue in 1900, and which must remain an important issue so long as an attempt is made to hold colonies under the American flag—on this issue the convention was unanimous, the platform emphatic, and I have no doubt that the candidate will carry out the platform.

Second—Mr. Roosevelt is injecting the race issue into American politics, and this issue, if it becomes national, will make it impossible to consider economic questions that demand solution. The election of the democratic ticket will put a quietus upon this attempt and permit the race question to work itself out without the bitterness which Mr. Roosevelt's conduct has engendered.

Third—Mr. Roosevelt stands for the spirit of war. His friends present him as a man of blood and iron. He believes in strenuousness and inculcates a love for war like things. The democratic ticket stands for peace, for reason and for arbitration rather than for force, conquest and bluster.

Fourth—The democratic platform declares in favor of the reduction of the standing army, and as this plank was unanimously adopted there is reason to believe that a democratic success on this subject would bring some advantage to the people.

For these four reasons I feel justified in supporting the ticket, but I shall not misrepresent the situation, or appeal for votes for the ticket upon false grounds. A democratic victory will mean very little, if any, progress on economic questions so long as the party is under the control of the Wall street element. On the money question Mr. Parker is as thoroughly committed to the side of the financiers as Mr. Roosevelt. If he does not go as far as the republicans would in retiring silver dollars, in establishing branch banks, in enlarging the powers of the national banks, and in the substitution of an asset currency for the present currency, it will be because he is restrained by the democrats in the house and senate. Nothing good can be expected of him on the money question.

On the trust question the democratic platform is very much better than the republican platform, but the nomination of Judge Parker virtually nullifies the anti-trust plank. Unless in his letter of acceptance he commits himself to attempt anti-trust legislation we need not expect him to pursue a different course from that pursued by Roosevelt.

So far as the labor questions are concerned we must await Judge Parker's letter before we shall know whether the laboring man has anything to expect from his action. The labor plank as pre-

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pared by Judge Parker's friends on the sub-committee was a straddling, meaningless plank. In the full committee planks were adopted in favor of arbitration, the eight-hour day, and against government by injunction; also a plank on the Colorado situation. If Judge Parker is silent or ambiguous on these subjects it will mean that the financial influence back of him will not permit him to take the labor side on these disputed questions.

On the tariff question some little progress may be hoped for, but the Parker men on the committee were nearly all in favor of a very conservative tariff plank, and it remains to be seen whether Judge Parker will carry out the positive and definite plank which was submitted by the full committee. This is the situation.

Judge Parker stands for enough things that are good to justify me in giving him my vote, but as I have tried to point out for several months, the triumph of the Wall street element of the party denies to the contrary any hope or relief on economic questions. I have nothing to take back, I have nothing to withdraw of the things that I have said against the methods pursued to advance his candidacy. It was a plain and deliberate attempt to deceive the party. The New York platform was vague and meaningless and purposely so, because the advocates of Judge Parker were trying to secure votes from among the people who would have opposed his views had they known them. If he had sent to the Albany convention the telegram that he sent to the St. Louis convention he would have had very few instructed delegates from the south, and no possible chance for the nomination. But he and his managers adroitly and purposely concealed his position until the delegates had been corralled and the nomination assured. Then his friends attempted to secure a gold plank, which was overwhelmingly defeated in the committee. After the party had rejoiced over the harmony secured by the omission of the question, and after he had secured the nomination, he injected his views upon the subject at a time when he could not be taken from the ticket without great demoralization. The nomination was secured, therefore, by crooked and indefensible meth-

ods, but the democrat who loves his country has to make his decisions upon conditions as he finds them, not upon conditions as he would like to have them.

After having stated that I shall support the ticket, and after having given my reason for so doing, I think it due to the democrats of the nation to say that while the fight on economic questions is postponed, it is not abandoned. As soon as the election is over I shall, with the help of those who believe as I do, undertake to organize for the campaign of 1908, the object being to marshal the friends of popular government within the democratic party to the support of a radical and progressive policy to make the democratic party an efficient means in the hands of the people for securing relief from the plutocratic element that controls the republican party and for the time being is in control of the democratic party. This plan of organization will be elaborated soon. It is only mentioned at this time that the readers of The Commoner may know that the contest for economic and political reform will begin again as soon as the polls close, and be continued until success is achieved."

The republicans and g. o. p. sheets all over the country four and eight years ago jumped on to Bryan as the demo-pop and popocrat while he was leader of the hosts, and praised the gold democrats for having the courage of their convictions in bolting. Now they will be saying that Bryan is a fine fellow and has the courage of his convictions. Anything with them, like with the Chicago Chronicle, to be praising the minority side to widen a breach in the party or when caught with the words in your mouth to switch clear and clean to the other side.

The Gordon Journal says H. G. Lyon is threatening to start a second paper in that town with J. W. Burleigh as side partner, and hoots at the idea. We don't know about Lyon, but as to Burleigh we think quite loud that he prefers to make himself quite scarce in this section of Nebraska. Let's drop the curtain.—Star-Journal.

The Gordon Journal says that there is a possibility of a new pa-

per being started in Gordon, with Mr. Lyon, formerly of Gordon, and Burleigh, our own lamented Burleigh in charge. This makes one think of the camel on the Pike—"Holy Moses!"—Ainsworth Star-Journal.

Watson and Tibbets are the candidates of the peoples party. They may get a few nibbles in Nebraska.

Big Storms Coming.

Washington, D. C.—Devastating storms in greater number and more severe than the country has seen in the past ten years are predicted for the United States during August, September and October by W. T. Forster, an unofficial forecaster of this city.

These storms, he says, will be tropical hurricanes and transcontinental cyclones. The hurricanes will come from the south and southwest of the Gulf of Mexico, while the transcontinental storms will arise west of the Mississippi valley.—Ex.

Low Rates to Boston, Mass.,

Via the North-western Line. Excursion tickets will be sold August 11, 12 and 13, limited by extension to return until September 30, inclusive, on account of G. A. R. Encampment. Apply to agents Chicago & North-western R'y. 274

The Best Opportunity This Year for an Eastern Trip.

The Nebraska "Grand Army Special." Through tourist sleepers and free chair cars. Solid train—no change—Omaha to Boston, via "The Northwestern Line," August 13th, 8 p. m. Tickets less than half fare. Liberal limits. Stopovers returning at Niagara Falls, Buffalo, Detroit, Chicago, or THE ST. LOUIS EXPOSITION. This splendid service is available to the general public. For information, illustrated booklet, etc., address nearest railroad agent, or J. A. KUHN, A. & F. & P.A., C. & N.W. R'y., Omaha, Neb.

F. A. Freeland, a surveyor of Imperial, Nebr., is stopping at the Chicago House in Valentine, Neb., and will survey homesteads and do private surveying. He claims to have had 12 years experience in surveying and engineering. 244

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