

MR. THOMPSON A POPULIST.

Why should republicans be asked or expected to vote for a legislative ticket that is pledged to support a man for the United States senate who would sign a contract disavowing all allegiance to the republican party and denying vital republican principles.

The candidates and their friends say that unless good republicans vote for this ticket, the democrats will be elected to the legislature and there will be a reapportionment and all sorts of attendant fatalities. Nothing is worse for a party than unworthy success.

If treason to the party is rewarded by the highest gift of office in the state, republicanism in Nebraska is better dead than alive. Mr. Thompson signed his name to the following agreement, and by that act severed his connection with the republican party forever. Republicanism today means holding on to the Philippines until peace is established there. Mr. Thompson ranges himself with Mr. Bryan. Republicanism means sound money; Mr. Thompson says: "I will oppose the retirement of the greenbacks and the issuing of currency by banks, and will favor an increased use of silver as money. Republicanism means orderly government; Mr. Thompson says, "I will oppose government by injunction," and, finally, "If elected, I will remain out of republican caucuses." Here is the agreement, sworn to by fourteen members of the legislature. There is occasionally a man who will swear to a lie. It is impossible to believe that there are fourteen men willing to swear to the same lie:

THE AGREEMENT.

"I, D. E. Thompson, pledge the fusion members of the Nebraska legislature my solemn word of honor that if by their votes I am elected to the U. S. senate, I will do as follows:

First—I will oppose the policy of imperialism and entangling alliances with other nations.

Second—I will oppose any increase in our regular army.

Third—I will oppose the retirement of the greenbacks and the issuance of currency by banks and will favor an increase in the use of silver as money.

Fourth—I will oppose government by injunction, and favor an income tax.

Fifth—If elected, I will remain out of republican caucuses.

(Signed.) D. E. THOMPSON.

SENATOR SMITH'S STATEMENT.

State of Nebraska, Antelope County, ss. J. F. S. Smith being duly sworn deposes and says, that he resides in the county of Antelope, state of Nebraska, and has so resided there for the last sixteen years. That he was elected as a member of the senate of Nebraska legislature for 1898. That on the day Senator Hayward was elected United States senator by the state legislature of Nebraska, and after he had been nominated by republican caucus, this affiant was importuned to vote for D. E. Thompson for United States senator, and was told that Thompson had agreed to support various principles of the fusion party, and as evidence he was shown a paper signed by D. E. Thompson in which he substantially agreed to pretty much all of the principles of the fusion party, and in which he pledged his solemn word and honor to the fusion members of the legislature that if elected United States senator by their votes he would oppose the policy of imperialism and entangling alliances with other nations. That he would oppose any increase in the regular army. That he would oppose the retirement of the greenbacks and the issuing of currency by banks, and would favor an increased use of silver as money. That he would oppose government by in-

junction and favor an income tax; and, if elected, that he would remain out of the republican caucus.

That substantially a copy of said paper so signed by the said D. E. Thompson and circulated among the fusion members of the Nebraska legislature at said time with a view to get them to vote for him for United States senator, is hereto attached, marked "Exhibit A," and made a part of this affidavit. (Signed)

J. F. S. SMITH.

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 29th day of May, 1900.

C. W. PRIESTLEY, Notary Public.

SWEARS TO THE SIGNATURE.

State of Nebraska, Lancaster county, ss. I, E. E. Hairgrove, being first duly sworn, depose and say that I am a resident of Sutton, Clay county, Nebraska, and have been a resident of said county and city for the twelve years last past. That I am personally acquainted with D. E. Thompson of Lancaster county, Nebraska, having known him for about five years. I further state that during the early part of 1899, I was in Lancaster county, taking a part in the campaign for the election of United States senator to succeed Hon. W. V. Allen.

I further state that on the morning of the day on which Hon. M. L. Hayward was elected, in the Lindell hotel I had a conversation with one Benton Maret, which said conversation was in substance as follows:

Mr. Maret asked me how I would like D. E. Thompson for United States senator. I replied: "I do not like him for United States senator or anything else," to which he replied, "D. E. Thompson will be elected this morning. The fusion members of the legislature are going to vote for him and that together with the Lancaster delegation will give him a sufficient number of votes to be elected United States senator."

I stated to him that he knew that was not true, or words to that effect, to which he replied by taking from his pocket two papers, one of which purported to be an agreement by the fusion members of the legislature to vote for D. E. Thompson for United States senator, upon certain conditions. This paper purported to be signed by the members of the legislature, as to whether it was their signatures or not I am unable to say, but to the best of my knowledge it was.

The other agreement was signed by Mr. D. E. Thompson. I am well acquainted with the signature of D. E. Thompson and know that the signature to that paper was the signature of D. E. Thompson. This paper signed by Mr. Thompson in substance promised that if he was elected by the fusion members of the legislature that he would oppose the policy of imperialism and entangling alliances with other nations; that he would oppose any increase in the regular army, and that he would oppose the retiring of greenbacks. My recollection also is of the paper signed by Mr. D. E. Thompson that he promised and agreed to keep out of republican caucuses if elected to the United States senate.

Mr. Maret in conversation with me at that time informed me that the fusionists and the Lancaster delegation had been holding a conference nearly all night and that the Lancaster delegation would not be in representative hall at the time of the commencement of the calling of the roll on vote for United States senator and that the fusion members would vote for D. E. Thompson, and Mr. Maret at that time offered to bet me \$50 or any amount that I should name, that D. E. Thompson would be elected.

I further state that after Senator Hayward was elected, in a conversation with Mr. Maret he informed me that had it not been for one member of the Lancaster delegation, and also one fusion member, D. E. Thompson would have been elected. (Signed)

E. E. HAIRGROVE.

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 5th day of June, 1900.

C. C. MARLAY, Notary Public.

REPRESENTATIVE MORRISON.

State of Nebraska, Thayer county, ss. J. R. Morrison, being first duly sworn on oath says, that he is a resident of Thayer county, Nebraska, and that he has resided there for the past forty years. That he was elected as a member of the house of representatives of the Nebraska legislature for 1899; that on the morning after the republican members of said legislature

had voted for M. L. Hayward for United States senator, this affiant was importuned to vote for D. E. Thompson for United States senator, and was told that said Thompson would support various principles advocated by the fusion parties. In support of this argument he was shown a paper signed by D. E. Thompson in which he agreed if elected to the United States senate by the aid of fusion votes, that he would keep out of republican caucuses, oppose the policy of imperialism and agreed to support various other principles contended for by the fusion party.

On the said morning before the joint session of the legislature at which M. L. Hayward was elected United States senator, nearly all fusion members of the legislature had congregated in the board of transportation rooms in the capitol building to consider the advisability of voting for said D. E. Thompson for United States senator and the matter was discussed by various people and members, and this said paper was circulated among some of the members of the fusion party, including myself, for the purpose of convincing them that said Thompson was willing to support certain of the fusion principles in order to obtain the fusion votes for United States senator.

Affiant says that it was urged by some that it might be better to help elect a man who would accept some important fusion principles than to permit the republicans to succeed in electing the republican caucus nominee who was pledged to oppose all the principles advocated by the fusion parties, but the proposition to throw the solid fusion vote to D. E. Thompson for United States senator was not accepted. (Signed)

J. R. MORRISON.

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 8th day of May, 1900.

LOUIS HOMPES, Notary Public.

REPRESENTATIVE FULLER.

State of Nebraska, Seward county, ss. George W. Fuller, being first duly sworn, on his oath says, that he resides in Seward county, Nebraska, and has resided in said county for the past thirty-one years; that he was elected as a member of the house of representatives of the Nebraska legislature for the year 1899.

Affiant says that after the contest for United States senator in said session of the legislature had continued for a long time and the republican caucus had agreed to support M. L. Hayward for United States senator, it was urged by some that it would be better to cast the votes of the fusion members of said body for some republican who had proposed in return for such votes to support some important principles advocated by the democratic and populist parties, than to permit the republicans to succeed in uniting on M. L. Hayward who was understood to oppose all the principles of the fusion forces.

On the morning after the republican caucus had agreed to elect said M. L. Hayward United States senator, the fusion members of the legislature met for conference in the board of transportation room in the capitol building to consider a proposition to vote for D. E. Thompson for United States senator, and this affiant and the other fusion members were urged to vote for him for United States senator and were told that he would support nearly all of the fusion principles.

In support of this argument this affiant was shown a written proposition from D. E. Thompson in which he agreed, if elected to the United States senate by the assistance of the fusion votes in the legislature, that he would remain out of republican caucuses in the United States senate and that he would oppose the policy of imperialism, would oppose the retirement of the greenbacks, and made certain concessions in favor of the increased use of silver as money and agreed to support other principles advocated by the fusion parties.

This paper was circulated among the fusion members including this affiant at said meeting on the morning before the joint session at which M. L. Hayward was elected United States senator, for the purpose of convincing them that D. E. Thompson was willing to work for the accomplishment of certain fusion principles, in order to obtain the fusion votes for United States senator. (Signed)

GEO. W. FULLER.

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 2nd day of May, A. D., 1900.

J. J. THOMAS, Notary Public.

REPRESENTATIVE GROSVENOR.

State of Nebraska, Hamilton county, ss. J. H. Grosvenor being duly sworn, deposes and says, that he resides in the county of Hamilton and state of Nebraska and has so resided for the last twenty seven years; that he was elected as a member of the house of representatives of the Nebraska legislature for the twenty-sixth session at the general election in 1898.

That on the day Senator Hayward was elected United States senator by the state legislature of Nebraska, and after he had been nominated by the republican caucus, this affiant was importuned to vote for D. E. Thompson for United States senator, and was told that Thompson, if elected, would support various principles of the fusion party, and as an evidence of such agreement he was shown a paper signed by D. E. Thompson in which he substantially agreed to support many of the vital and important principles of the fusion parties, and in which he pledged himself that if elected United States senator by their votes he would oppose the policy of imperialism and entangling alliances with other nations. That he would oppose increasing the regular army. That he would oppose the retirement of the greenback. That he would favor an increased use of silver as money. That he would oppose government by injunction and would favor an income tax law. That if elected by the aid of fusion votes he would stay out of the republican caucus. (Signed)

J. H. GROSVENOR.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 7th day of June, 1900.

FRED JEFFRIES, Clerk District Court.

SENATOR HOWARD.

State of Nebraska, Hamilton county, ss. F. M. Howard being duly sworn deposes and says, that he resides in the county of Hamilton and state of Nebraska and has so resided there for the last eleven years; that he was elected as a member of the senate of the Nebraska legislature for the twenty-sixth session at the general election in 1898.

That on the day Senator Hayward was elected United States senator by the state legislature of Nebraska, and after he had been nominated by the republican caucus, this affiant was importuned to vote for D. E. Thompson for United States senator, and was told that Thompson had agreed to support various principles of the fusion party, and as an evidence of such agreement he was shown a paper signed by D. E. Thompson in which he substantially agreed to support many of the vital and important principles of the fusion parties, and in which he pledged himself that if elected United States senator by their votes he would oppose the policy of imperialism and entangling alliances with other nations. That he would oppose increasing the regular army. That he would oppose the retirement of the greenback. That he would favor an increased use of silver as money. That he would oppose government by injunction and would favor an income tax law. That if elected by the aid of fusion votes he would stay out of the republican caucus. (Signed)

F. M. HOWARD.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 7th day of June, 1900.

J. H. GROSVENOR, Notary Public.

REPRESENTATIVE GRELL.

State of Nebraska, Sarpy county, ss. Claus Grell, being first duly sworn on oath says, that he is a resident of Sarpy county, Nebraska; that he has resided there for the past seventeen years; that he was elected a member of the house of representatives of the Nebraska legislature for 1896, and was re-elected to said legislature for 1899; that on the morning after the republican members for the said session of 1899 had made M. L. Hayward the republican caucus nominee for United States senator, this affiant was asked to vote for D. E. Thompson for United States senator and was told that said Thompson would support a number of the principles advocated by the fusion parties. In support of this argument he was shown a paper signed "D. E. Thompson" which stated that if elected to the United States senate by the aid of fusion votes he would refuse to go into republican caucuses, would oppose the policy of imperialism and agreed to support various other principles contended for by the fusion parties. On the said morning before the joint session of the legisla-