

SINGLE TERM, TARIFF REDUCTION AND TRUST CURBS PLEDGED IN PLATFORM

National Democratic Planks Reaffirm "Rule of the People" and Declare for Federal Aids to Flood Districts, State's Rights, Alaska Development and Evolution on Broad But Safe Principles of Jefferson.

BALTIMORE, July 2.—The platform of the Democratic party as presented by the committee to the convention is as follows:

Representation of the People.
We, the representatives of the Democratic party of the United States, in National convention assembled, reaffirm our devotion to the principles of Democratic government formulated by Thomas Jefferson and enforced by a long and illustrious line of Democratic Presidents.

Tariff Reform.
We declare it to be a fundamental principle of the Democratic party that the Federal Government under the Constitution has no right or power to impose or collect tariff duties except for the purpose of revenue, and we understand that the collection of such taxes shall be limited to the necessities of government, honestly and economically administered.

The high Republican tariff is the principal cause of the unequal distribution of wealth; it is a system of taxation which makes the rich richer and the poor poorer; under its operations the American farmer and laboring man are the chief sufferers; it raises the cost of the necessities of life to them, but does not protect their product or wage. The farmer sells largely in free markets and buys almost entirely in the protected markets. In the most highly protected industries, such as cotton and wool, steel and iron, the wages of laborers are the lowest paid in any of our industries.

We denounce the Republican stand on the subject, and assert that American wages are established under competitive conditions, and not by the tariff.

Downward Revision.
We favor the immediate downward revision of the existing high, and in many cases, prohibitive tariff duties, insisting that the revision be made promptly and upon the necessities of life. Articles entering into competition with the trust-controlled products and articles of American origin which are sold abroad at a price cheaper than at home should be put upon the free list.

We recognize that our system of tariff taxation is intimately connected with the business of the country and we favor the ultimate attainment of the principles we advocate by legislation that will not injure or destroy legitimate industry.

We denounce the action of President Taft in vetoing the bills to reduce the tariff in the cotton, wool, metals and chemicals schedules and the farm products bill, all of which were designed to give immediate relief to the masses from the exactions of the trusts.

The Republican party, while promising tariff revision, has shown by the tariff legislation that such revision is not to be in the interest and to the benefit of the people. The tariff has been faithless to its pledges of 1908, it should no longer enjoy the confidence of the Nation. We appeal to the American people to support us in our demand for a tariff for revenue only.

High Cost of Living.
The high cost of living is a serious problem in every American home. The Republican party, in its platform, attempts to escape from responsibility for present conditions by a tariff. We take issue with them on this subject and charge that excessive prices result in a large measure from the high tariff laws enacted and maintained by the Republican party and from trusts and commercial conspiracies fostered and encouraged by such laws, and we assert that no substantial relief can be secured for the people until impost duties on the necessities of life are materially reduced and those criminal conspiracies broken.

Anti Trust Law.
A private monopoly is indefensible and intolerable. We therefore favor the vigorous enforcement of the criminal, as well as the civil law, against trusts and trusts and demand enactment of such additional legislation as may be necessary to make it impossible for a private monopoly to exist in the United States. We favor the declaration by law of the conditions upon which corporations shall be permitted to engage in interstate trade, including stockholders, the president of holding companies, of interlocking directors, of stock watering, of discrimination in price and control of any corporation as to make it a menace to competitive conditions.

We condemn the action of the Republican Administration in its compromise with the Standard Oil Company and with the tobacco trust, and its failure to invoke the criminal provisions of the anti-trust laws against those corporations after the court declared that from the undisputed facts in the record they had violated the criminal provisions of the law. We regard the Sherman anti-trust law as having received a judicial construction depriving it of much of its efficacy, and we favor the enactment of legislation which will restore to the statute the strength of which it is deprived by such interpretation.

Rights of the States.
We believe in the preservation and maintenance in their full strength and integrity of the three co-ordinate branches of the Federal Government—the executive, the legislative and the judicial—each keeping within its own bounds and not encroaching upon the just powers of each of the others. Believing that the most efficient results under our system of government are to be attained by the full exercise by the states of their reserved sovereign powers, we denounce as usurpation the efforts of our opponents to deprive the states of any of their reserved powers, and to enlarge and magnify by indirect means the powers of the Federal Government.

We insist on the full exercise of all the powers of the Government, both state and National, to protect the people from injustice at the hands of those who seek to make the Government a private asset in business. There is no twilight zone between the Nation and the state, in which exploiting interests can take refuge from both. It is necessary that the Government shall exercise the powers reserved to it, but we insist that Federal remedies for the regulation of interstate commerce should be added to and not substituted for state remedies.

Income Tax and Popular Vote.
We congratulate the country upon the triumph of two important reforms demanded in the last National platform—namely, the amendment to the Federal Constitution authorizing an income tax and the amendment providing for the popular election of Senators—and we call upon the people of all the states to rally to the support of the pending propositions for further ratification. We note with gratification the unanimous sentiment in favor of publicity, before the election, of campaign contributions, a measure demanded in our National platform of 1908 and at that time opposed by the Republican party, and we commend the Democratic House of Representatives for extending the doctrine of publicity to recommendations of candidates for office. We favor the ownership and control of newspapers and to the expenditures made and in behalf of those who aspire to Federal nomination, and we point for additional justification for this legislation to the enormous expenditures of money in behalf of the President and

his predecessors in the recent contest of the Republican nomination for President.

Presidential Primaries.
The movement towards more popular government should be promoted through legislation in each state which will permit the expression of the preference of the electors for National candidates at Presidential primaries.

We direct that the National committee incorporate in the call for the next nominating convention a requirement that all expressions of preference for Presidential candidates shall be given and the selection of delegates and alternates made through a primary election conducted by the party organization in each state where such expression and election are not provided for by state law. Committeemen who are hereafter to constitute the membership of the Democratic National committee and whose election is not provided for by law shall be chosen in each state at such primary elections and the service and authority of committeemen, however chosen, shall begin immediately upon the receipt of their credentials respectively.

Campaign Contributions.
We pledge the Democratic party to the enactment of a law prohibiting any corporation from contributing to a campaign fund and any individual from contributing any amount above a reasonable maximum.

Terms of President.
We favor a single Presidential term and to that end urge the adoption of an amendment to the Constitution making the President eligible for re-election, and we pledge the candidate of this convention to this principle.

Democratic Congress.
At this time, when the Republican party, after a generation of unprincipled and unscrupulous rule, has returned to power in its control of the Federal Government, is rent into factions, it is opportune to point to the record of accomplishments of the Democratic House of Representatives in the Sixty-second Congress. We endorse its action and we challenge comparison of its record with that of any Congress which has been controlled by our opponents.

We call attention of the patriotic citizens of our country to its record of efficiency, economy and constructive legislation.

It has, among other achievements, revised the rules of the House of Representatives, so as to give to the Representatives of the American people freedom of speech under action in advocating proposing and perfecting remedial legislation.

It has passed bills for the relief of the people and the development of our country. It has endeavored to revise the tariff laws downward in the interest of the consuming masses and thus to reduce the high cost of living. It has proposed an amendment to the Federal Constitution providing for the election of United States Senators by direct vote of the people.

It has secured the admission of Arizona and New Mexico as two sovereign states.

It has required the publicity of campaign expenses both before and after election and fixed the limit on election expenses of United States Senators and Representatives. It has also passed a bill to prevent the abuse of the writ of injunction. It has passed a bill establishing an eight-hour day for workmen on all National public work.

It has passed a resolution which forced the President to take immediate action in the Russian treaty. And it has passed the great supply bills which lessen waste and extravagance and which reduce the annual cost of the Government by many millions of dollars.

We approve the measure reported by the Democratic leaders in the House of Representatives to create a central bureau of national defense which will determine a definite naval program with a view to increased efficiency and economy. The party that proclaimed itself the champion of the Monroe doctrine and was sponsor for the new Navy will continue faithfully to observe the Constitutional requirements to provide for the defense of the United States against foreign aggression.

Carriers.
We favor the efficient supervision and rate regulation of railroads, express companies, telegraph and telephone lines engaged in interstate commerce. To this end we recommend the valuation of railroads, express companies, telegraph and telephone lines by the physical value of the property, the original cost, the cost of reproduction, and any element of value which will render the valuation fair and just.

We favor such legislation as will effectively prohibit the railroads, express, telegraph and telephone companies from engaging in business which places them into competition with their shippers or patrons, also legislation preventing the over-issue of stocks and bonds by interstate railroads, express companies, telegraph and telephone lines, and legislation which will assure such reduction in transportation rates as conditions will permit, care being taken to avoid reduction of rates which would compel a reduction of wages, prevent adequate service or do injustice to legitimate investments.

Banking Legislation.
We oppose the so-called Aldrich bill or the establishment of a central bank, and we believe the progress of the country will be largely freed from panics and consequent unemployment and business depression by such a systematic revision of our banking laws as will render temporary relief in localities where such relief is needed, with protection from control or domination by what is known as the "money trust."

Banks exist for the accommodation of the public and not for the control of business. All legislation on the subject of banking and currency has for its purpose the securing of those accommodations on terms of absolute security to the public and of complete protection from the misuse of the power that wealth gives to those who possess it.

We condemn the present methods of depositing Government funds in a few favored banks, largely situated in or controlled by Wall street, in return for political favors, and we pledge our party to providing by law for their deposit by competitive bidding, in the banking institutions of the country. National and state, without discrimination as to locality, upon approved securities, and subject to call by the Government.

Rural Credits.
Of equal importance with the question of currency reform is the question

of rural credits of agricultural finance. Therefore we recommend that an investigation of agricultural credit societies in foreign countries be made, so that it may be ascertained whether a system of rural credits may be devised suitable to conditions in the United States; and we also favor legislation permitting National banks to loan a reasonable proportion of their funds on real estate security.

We recognize the value of vocational education, and urge Federal appropriations for such training and extension of teaching in agriculture in co-operation with the several states.

Waterways.
We renew the declaration in our last platform relating to the conservation of our natural resources and the development of our waterways. The present devastation of the lower Mississippi Valley accentuated the movement for the regulation of river flow by additional bank and levee protection below, and the diversion, storage and control of the flood waters above, and their utilization for beneficial purposes in the reclamation of arid and swamp lands and the development of water-power, instead of permitting the floods to continue as heretofore, agents of destruction. We hold that the control of the Mississippi is a National problem. The conservation of the depth of its water for the purpose of navigation, the building of levees to maintain the integrity of its channel and the prevention of the overflow of the land and its consequent destruction, resulting in interruption of interstate commerce, the disorganization of mail service and the enormous loss of life and property, impose an obligation which alone can be discharged by the Federal Government.

To maintain an adequate depth of water the entire year and thereby encourage water transportation, is a consummation which demands the attention and an issue National in its character. It calls for prompt action on the part of Congress, and the Democratic party pledges itself to the enactment of legislation leading to that end.

We favor the co-operation of the United States and the respective states in plans for the conservation and development of all waterways with a view of co-ordinating plans for channel improvement with plans for drainage of swamp and lowland lands, and to this end we favor the appropriation by the Federal Government of sufficient funds to make surveys of such lands, for development plans for draining the same, and to supervise the work of construction.

We favor the adoption of a liberal and comprehensive plan for the development and improvement of our inland waterways with economy and efficiency, so as to permit their navigation by vessels of standard draft.

Post Roads.
We favor National aid to state and local authority in the construction and maintenance of post roads.

Rights of Labor.
We repeat our declarations of the platform of 1908 as follows: The courts of justice are the bulwark of our liberties, and we yield to none in our purpose to maintain their integrity. Our party has given to the bench a long line of distinguished justices who have added to the respect and confidence in which the department must be jealously maintained.

We resent the attempt of the Republican party to raise a false issue respecting the judicial department, in which department shall be included the subject of mines and mining. We pledge the Democratic party, as far as the Federal jurisdiction extends, to an employee's compensation law providing adequate indemnity for injury to body or loss of life.

We believe in the conservation and the development for the use of all the people of the natural resources of the country. Our forests, our sources of water supply, our arable and our mineral lands and our navigable streams and all the other material resources with which our country has been so lavishly endowed, constitute the foundation of our National wealth. Such additional legislation as may be necessary to prevent their being wasted or absorbed by special or privileged interests should be enacted, and the policy of their conservation should be rigidly adhered to.

The public domain should be administered and disposed of with due regard to the general welfare. Reservations should be limited to the purposes which they purport to serve, and not extended to include land wholly unsuited therefor. The unnecessary withdrawal from sale and settlement of enormous tracts of public land upon which trees grow never existed and cannot be promoted tends only to retard development, create discontent and bring reproach upon the policy of conservation.

The public land laws should be administered in a spirit of the broadest liberality towards the settler exhibiting a bona fide purpose to comply therewith, to the end that the invitation of this Government to the land-

less should be as attractive as possible, and the plain provisions of the forest reserve act permitting homestead entries to be made within the National forests, should not be nullified by administrative regulations which amount to a withdrawal of great areas of the same from settlement.

Immediate action should be taken by Congress to make available the vast and valuable coal deposits of Alaska under conditions that will be a perfect guaranty against their falling into the hands of monopolizing corporations, associations or interests.

We rejoice in the inheritance of mineral resources unequalled in extent, variety or value, and in the development of a mining industry unequalled in its magnitude and importance. And we pledge ourselves to the extension of the work of the Bureau of Mines in every way appropriate for national legislation, with a view of safe-guarding the lives of miners, lessening the waste of essential resources and promoting the economic development of mining, which, along with agriculture, must in the future, even more than in the past, serve as the very foundation of our national prosperity and welfare and our international commerce.

Agriculture.
We believe in encouraging the development of a modern system of agriculture and a systematic effort to improve the conditions of trade in farm products so as to benefit both the consumers and producers. And as an efficient means to this end we favor the enactment by Congress of legislation that will suppress the pernicious practice of gambling in agricultural prod-

ucts by organized exchanges or otherwise.

Merchant Marine.
We believe in fostering by Constitutional regulation of commerce, the growth of a merchant marine which shall develop and strengthen the commercial ties which bind us to our sister republics of the South, but without imposing additional burdens upon the people and without bounties or subsidies from the public treasury.

We urge upon Congress the speedy enactment of laws for the greater security of life and property at sea and we favor the repeal of all laws and the abrogation of so much of our treaties with other nations as provide for the arrest and imprisonment of seamen charged with desertion or with violation of their contract of service. Such laws and treaties are un-American and violate the spirit if not the letter, of the Constitution of the United States.

We favor the exemption from tolls of American ships engaged in coastwise trade passing through the Panama Canal. We also favor legislation forbidding the use of the Panama canal by ships owned by or controlled by railroad carriers engaged in transportation competitive with the canal.

Food and Health.
We reaffirm our previous declarations advocating the union and strengthening of the various governmental agencies relating to pure foods, guaranteeing vital statistics and public health. Thus united, and administered without partiality or discrimination against any school of medicine or system of healing, they would constitute a health service not subordinated to any commercial or financial interests but devoted exclusively to the conservation of human life and efficiency. Moreover, this health service should cooperate with the health agencies of our various states and cities without interference with their prerogatives or with the freedom of individuals to employ such medical or hygienic aid as they may see fit.

Civil Service Law.
The law pertaining to the civil service should be honestly and rigidly enforced, to the end that merit shall be the basis of service rendered to a political party; and we favor a reorganization of the civil service, with adequate compensation commensurate with the character of work performed, for all officers and employees; we also favor the extension to all classes of civil service employees of the benefits of the provisions of the employers' liability law. We also recognize the right of direct petition to Congress by employees for the redress of grievances.

Law Reform.
We recognize the urgent need of reform in the civil and criminal law in the United States and we recommend the enactment of such legislation and the promotion of such measures as will rid the present legal system of the delays, expense and uncertainty attendant to the system as now administered.

The Philippines.
We reaffirm the position, thrice announced by the Democracy in National convention assembled, against a policy of imperialism and colonial exploitation in the Philippines or elsewhere. We condemn the experiment in imperialism as an inexhaustible blunder which has involved us in enormous expense, brought us weakness instead of strength, and laid our nation open to the charge of abandonment of the fundamental doctrine of self-government.

We favor an immediate declaration of the Nation's purpose to recognize the independence of the Philippine Islands as soon as a stable government can be established, such independence to be guaranteed by us until the neutralization of the islands can be secured by treaty with other powers. In recognizing the independence of the Philippines our Government should re-

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MEN WHO DRAFTED DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM AT BALTIMORE.



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT—TOM J. WALSH, SECRETARY OF COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS; WILLIAM J. BRYAN, GOVERNOR FOSS, SENATOR A. O'GORMAN AND SENATOR ATLEE POMERENE.