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THE MODERN DRUGGISTS - PENDLETON



TUESDAY, JULY 1, 1902.

CONSTRUCTION OF PLATFORMS.

Political platforms are of interest, particularly so when issues are not well defined or are passing through evolutionary stages and the method of giving expression to them is without common understanding and acceptance. At the present time the platform making of the democrats of the various states is going on and considerable interest, among republicans as well as democrats, centers upon the work. The state conventions will make earnest endeavors to formulate the policy of the party upon new issues in the hope that the party's attractions and promises may equal if not excel those of the republican organization and at the same time be along different lines.

The democrats in congress have accomplished little in the work of developing new issues and popularizing them before the people, so the field is left free and fallow to the state conventions, and on what they may accomplish in this line largely depends the failure or success of the party as an implement of good in the hands of the people. The task of hewing out new planks is not to be accomplished without arduous labor and much self-sacrifice of the highest order. Platforms to be effective must stand on something besides empty phrases and platitudes. If their is neither sincerity nor earnestness behind those who make them the structures will not give support to the cause for which they were erected.

It behooves democrats to get to work in true democratic spirit and feeling with the desire to serve the country uppermost and with a determination to bring to the front that old democratic principle of "equal rights." If every democratic platform was made up of "equal rights" planks and the spirit of the organization truly reflected the platform, giving no room for doubt on this point, victory would most likely perch on the banner of democracy, for if a party would earnestly and ably wage this battle for men, regardless of race, color or previous condition of servitude, guaranteeing equality of opportunity to all men by denying to the few privileges, there could be no doubt of the result.

Recently in Illinois the democrats in state convention could not agree upon the planks offered by the respective factions, the phrasing of the platform planks being interpreted differently by each. One faction was in favor of adopting a platform declaring adherence "to the fundamental principles of the democratic party as laid down in the declaration of independence, the constitution of the United States and our last national convention." The majority of the convention refused to accept this declaration and amended it by substituting "past conventions" instead of the last convention.

Another strong faction was opposed to making any declaration at all concerning the Philippines, but finally the convention agreed to declare: "We are opposed to the British system of colonization, by means of which powerful, selfish interests are enabled to employ the resources of the people to enslave inferior races and to enrich themselves. We are in favor of true American expansion, such as under democratic control has been achieved in the past, and by means of which vast territories have

been dedicated forever to equality and freedom. We, therefore, denounce the various measures adopted by the republicans for the government of the Philippines as monopolistic and autocratic and dangerous to liberty at home as well as liberty abroad."

The simple words "equal rights" would cover democratic needs far better than all this verbiage, provided the democratic party in Illinois really believes in "equal rights" for all men.

Down in Tennessee the democratic state convention so declared: "We demand that this government at once announce to the people of the Philippines that when peace is restored they shall be allowed to establish a government of their own, and that when such stable government is established they shall be given their independence."

A straight out declaration for equal rights to all men, with sincerity behind it, would signify more, even to Tennessee democrats, than this doubtful and meaningless phrasing.

The Kansas democrats declared as follows: "We indorse the position taken by the democratic members of the national congress with regard to the duty of the government of the United States toward the Philippine islands and their people."

This declaration is empty because the democrats of the national congress have neither chart nor compass in the Philippine fog. A clean, clear declaration for equal rights, with meaning behind it, would secure the support and endorsement of the democrats of Kansas to a much greater extent.

The Oregon democrats said: "We believe that the true policy is to prepare the people of these islands (the Philippines) for self government as speedily as possible, and when so prepared to grant them independence, retaining such coaling stations and ports as may be necessary to protect those islands from foreign interference and to maintain our trade relations in the Orient."

This declaration was without point or meaning. A declaration for equal rights for all men would have met the needs of democracy even better and with more result.

The South Carolina democrats declared: "The Filipinos cannot be citizens without endangering our civilization; they cannot be subjects without imperiling our form of government, and we are not willing to surrender our civilization or to convert the republic into an empire, we favor an immediate declaration of the nation's purpose to give the Filipinos, first, a stable form of government; second, independence, and, third, protection from outside interference."

As far as words go this declaration can hardly be improved on, but an earnest forceful declaration for equal rights would have been far better than these eloquent terms. The fact of the matter is, there are few democrats who have the force of democratic conviction behind them. They hide their intention in a multitude of phrases. They even fool themselves more than they fool the voters. If the democratic craft is to be manned by democrats and kept afloat by the aid of democratic support, it must set sail for the harbor of equal rights, for the port of equality of opportunity for all men, without devious ways or doubtful methods of procedure.

If democracy does not include all men it is not what it pretends to be, and in pretension and masquerading its cause is and should be hopeless. The hope of the democracy lies in

the direction of it becoming the PARTY OF THE MAN, the party of equal rights. There is no middle ground in this fight and there is no room for trimmers!

HEN STORY WITH MORAL.

There was once a Hen who sat down and wept bitterly.

"Why these Tears?" asked her Friends, observing her Grief.

"Alas!" answered the Hen. "I weep because I have a Daughter and I fear lest some Masculine creature will snatch her away from me and Marry her."

"It seems to me," replied her Friends, "that if that is all that has gotten you Woody that you are borrowing Trouble, for our Experience teaches us that it takes Talent and Industry to get Rid of a Daughter, but that Keeping one is a Lead Pipe Cinch that is Dead Easy."

"I am not unreasonable," continued the Hen. "I know a Mother's Duty is to sacrifice herself for her Child, and I shall not object to my Daughter marrying after a while when she is Thirty-Five or Forty if she finds Some One who is Rich, Handsome, Intelligent and of irreproachable Moral Character."

"To the Pines," cried her friends, as they gave her the Laugh. "Do you not know that every year there is a Fresh Crop of Spring Chickens, and that no one wants a Stringy Old Pullet when the market is full of Young Birds?"

Now, Mrs. Hen's Daughter was a Pretty and Attractive Young Creature and it was not long before a number of eligible Roosters began sidestepping around her way, but every time one came within Telephoning Distance Mrs. Hen handed out a Furthest North Gaze that sent his Affections down from Fever heat to below Normal.

Mrs. Hen was one of those Mothers who are afflicted with the Chaperone Habit, and everywhere that Mary went Mama was sure to go. She followed her to Balls, where she did the Shadow Detective act, and every time a Young Rooster would get the Pullet out under the Palms, and would begin to warm up to his Work of describing Love in a Flat to her, and telling her what size Nest Egg he had in the Bank, Mrs. Hen would loom up on the scene and drag her Daughter back under her wing into the Ball Room.

Mrs. Hen also considered it a Mother's Place to entertain her Daughter's Company, and when a Fly Cock came on an Evening to Call she invariably Roosted on one of the Parlor Chairs, while she inquired concerning his Habits of life and his Religious Views, and regaled him on the latest Scrap in the Hen Clubs.

Likewise Mrs. Hen did not consider it Proper for a Young Female to attend places of Amusement alone with a Masculine Creature, and so when the Rooster invited the Pullet to go to the Theater with him, or to have a Feed, he found he was up against it Good and Hard, and that he had to stake out places for Three.

This does not suit us," said the Roosters, to one another, "for if we had wanted Mother's Company we would have Flagged her down in the First Place, and while we do not mind Scratching around for Lobster and Champagne for the Pullet, we do not Propose to Grub Stake the whole Hen Family," and thereupon they passed up the Pullet in favor of

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the Young Female who could play a Lone Hand.

The Chaperone Idea is a Babe of a Theory. Mother's continual presence works like a Small-pox sign in Quarantining a House against Visits from Masculine Creatures, and it was not Long before the Pullet found that she was Side Tracked at a Way Station with Nothing Doing. Mother's Job was a Sinicure, for Nobody came to see the Pullet. When she went to Parties she merely Papered the Walls, and she began to grow Crow Feet around her Eyes, straining them looking for the Husband that never came.

At last even Mrs. Hen began to perceive that her Daughter was one of those Females destined to Forever perch upon the Parent Roost and devote their lives to College Settlements and Browning, but instead of being Overjoyed at this she went about Lamenting her Cruel Fate with many Tears.

"Why do you Weep?" again inquired her Friends, seeing her Distress.

"Alas!" said the Hen, "I weep because all the other Pullets in our set have gotten good Husbands, while my Daughter has Gotten Left."

"Ha!" cried her Friends, "when she was young you wept for fear she would Marry, and now that she is Old you weep for Fear she won't Marry. It appears that nothing will satisfy you, and we apprehend that this is a just judgment on you for not knowing enough to pull off a Good Thing when you had the Chance."

Moral: This fable teaches that too much mother makes Mary an old maid.—Dorothy Dix in American and Journal.

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