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### CATCHING BIG BASS.

How the Black Basses are caught in Southern California.  
"It is interesting to watch San Diegans catch black bass," says a traveler. "First, they bait a rainbow hook with a bit of worm, and catch a minnow. Then they bait the minnow on a larger hook, and dash with it to capture a smelt. When they get the smelt they take their heavy consulting tackle, place the smelt on the hook, and go to angling for a halibut or sea bass. After they get their halibut or sea bass, and the bigger either is the better, they bait it on a hook which is as big as a small anchor with only one fluke. This hook is attached to a line a quarter of an inch in diameter. When all is ready the fisherman whisks the big hook with the halibut on it several times around his head, and then gives it a toss out into the water. Away it sails thirty or forty feet.

"Say, for instance, that this black bass fishing is being done from the long dock at San Diego. San Diego bay is about the best place for this fishing along the coast, although the fish are plentiful at other places. After the baited end of the line is cast the other end is coiled on the dock, and an empty keg or quarter barrel, or something like that, is tied to it. Then the fisherman gets in his rowboat, taking a harpoon with him, and waits for a bite. Seems queer, here in the east, doesn't it, to go out after black bass? The trouble is, you see, that the black bass of those southern California waters weigh from three hundred to one thousand pounds, and it wouldn't be much use to go out after them with fly tackle and an eight-ounce rod. That's what I said. Thousand pounds. And it's true, every word of it. It isn't often one as large as that is taken, but they have been, and will be again. I helped kill one once that weighed six hundred pounds. It took over five hours to do it, but that was nothing extraordinary. For a two hundred pounder will give his captors a good three hours' fight any time.

"Sometimes one of these monster bass will be ready at hand when the halibut or sea bass bait goes sailing through the air and lands with a splash in the water, and will seize it immediately, but more frequently there is more or less of a wait for the big fish to bite. When he takes the bait, true to bass nature, away he goes with a rush. Instantly as many persons on the dock as can get a hold on the line seize it and slacken the tremendous fellow's pace if they can. If he doesn't happen to be too big they can generally fetch him to, but that is a rare occurrence. Usually the line whizzes through their fingers at a rate that makes more than one of those having hold of the line drop it quickly to save their hands from blistering. The shore end of the line is soon reached, and it is dropped, for those handling it would be pulled head first off the dock if they held it. Then the empty keg or barrel plunges overboard, and the water chase is on. The fishermen in the boat follow the barrel as it is towed swiftly over the surface, and if the fish is a particularly large one it frequently happens that there will be a long, stern chase of the barrel before the boat overtakes it, that being the object of the men in the boat.

### ARE BIRDS GUIDED BY STARS?

An Attempt to Solve the Great Mystery of Bird Migration.

In an article on "Birds of Passage" the Chautauquan says if one desires an explanation for the great mystery of bird migration, there being nothing else that will answer, he will have to accept the theory of hereditary knowledge, a knowledge of the unfailing stars. The Great Bear and Orion appeared at the same time in our region, even when the divisions of land and water were very different than they are today. That the stars are the guides for birds agrees with the fact that they fly at remarkable heights, often above the clouds, and that wanderers lose their way when they stray into clouds and mists.

On starlight nights straggling birds are seldom noticed. When the sky is overcast, when the night is dark, but especially when a fine rain is falling, multitudes of traveling birds are heard. Then they call often, doubtless for the purpose of keeping track each other; and often, great numbers of them bound against the windows of light-houses. Thus Galtke has observed that on October 25, 1892, from ten o'clock at night till the next morning golden-crowned wrens bumped like snowflakes against the lighthouse of Heligoland, and that on the following day golden-crowned wrens sat on every square foot of Heligoland.

Toward the end of the summer, along into the fall, it was not a rare occurrence to see, through the light of street lamps, birds flying over inland cities. The experienced observer recognizes by its call the curlew and the strand-snip, sea-swallow and seagull, occasionally hears even the flap of their wings. But no bird is visible in the darkness. On dark nights no stars appear; then it is that the straggling bird loses his way. The stars are the most plausible guides to birds in their migrations. But only the future can tell us whether they really serve in that capacity.

"It is immaterial, in my judgment, whether the sheep grower receives any benefit from the tariff or not. . . . Whether he does or does not I am for free wool."—Extract from speech of William J. Bryan in the House of Representatives when the Wilson bill was under consideration.

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# REPUBLICAN PLATFORM.

## Full Text of the Declaration of Principles.

The Republicans of the United States, assembled by their representatives in national convention, appealing for popular and historical justification of their claims to the matchless achievements of 30 years of Republican rule, earnestly and confidently address themselves to the awakened intelligence, experience and conscience of their countrymen in the following declaration of facts and principles:

For the first time since the civil war the American people have witnessed the calamitous consequences of full and unrestricted Democratic control of the government. It has been a record of unparalleled incapacity, dishonor and disaster. In administrative management it has ruthlessly sacrificed indispensable revenue, entailed an increasing deficit, asked ordinary current expenses with borrowed money, piled up the public debt by \$262,000,000 in time of peace, forced an adverse balance of trade, kept perpetual menace hanging over the redemption fund, pawned American credit to alien syndicates and reversed all the measures and results of successful Republican rule. In the broad effect of its policy it has precipitated panic, blighted industry and trade with prolonged depression, closed factories, reduced work and wages, halted enterprise and crippled American production while stimulating foreign production for the American market. Every consideration of public safety and individual interest demands that the government shall be rescued from the hands of those who have shown themselves incapable to conduct it without disaster at home and dishonor abroad, and shall be restored to the party which for 30 years administered it with unequalled success and prosperity; and in this connection we heartily endorse the wisdom, patriotism and success of the administration of President Harrison.

### THE TARIFF.

We renew and emphasize our allegiance to the policy of protection as the bulwark of American industrial independence and the foundation of American development and prosperity. This true American policy taxes foreign products and encourages home industry and puts the burden of revenue on foreign goods; it secures the American market for the American producer; it upholds the American standard of wages for the American workman; it puts the factory by the side of the farm, and makes the American farmer less dependent on foreign demand and price; it diffuses general thrift, and founds the strength of all on the strength of each. In its reasonable application it is just, fair and impartial, equally opposed to foreign control and domestic monopoly; to sectional discrimination and individual favoritism. We denounce the present democratic tariff as sectional, injurious to public credit and destructive to business enterprise. We demand such equitable tariff on foreign imports which come into competition with American products as will not only furnish adequate revenue for the necessary expenses of the government, but will protect American labor from the degradation to the wage level of other lands.

We are not pledged to any particular schedules. The question of rates is a practical question to be governed by conditions of the time and of production. The ruling and uncompromising principle is the protection and development of American labor and industry. The country demands a right settlement and then it waits rest.

### ON RECIPROcity.

We believe the repeal of the reciprocity arrangements negotiated by the last Republican administration was a national calamity and we demand their renewal and extension on such terms as will equalize our trade with other nations, remove restrictions which now obstruct the sale of American products in ports of other countries, and secure enlarged markets for the products of our farms, forests and factories.

Protection and reciprocity are two measures of Republican policy, and go hand in hand. Democratic rule has recklessly struck down both, and both must be re-established; protection for what we produce; free admission for the necessities of life which we do not produce; reciprocal agreement of mutual interests which gain open markets to return for our own markets to others. Protection builds up domestic industry and trade, and secures our own market for ourselves; reciprocity builds up foreign trade and holds an outlet for our exports.

### SUGAR.

We condemn the present administration for not keeping faith with the sugar producers of this country. The Republican party favors such protection as will lead to the production on American soil of all sugar which American people use and for which they pay other countries more than \$100,000,000 annually.

### WOOL AND WOOLENS.

To all our products, to those of mine and field as well as those of the shop and factory; to hemp, to wool, to the product of the great industry husbandry, as well as to finished woens of the mill, we promise most ample protection.

### MERCHANT MARINE.

We favor restoring the early American policy of discriminating duties for the upbuilding of our merchant marine and the protection of our shipping interests in the foreign carrying trade, to American ships—the product of American labor employed in American shipyards, sailing under the Stars and Stripes, and manned, officered and owned by Americans—may regain the carrying of our foreign commerce.

### FINANCIAL PLAN.

The republican party is unreservedly for sound money. It caused the enactment of the law providing for the resumption of specie payments in 1873; since then every dollar has been as good as gold.

We are unalterably opposed to every measure calculated to debase our currency or impair the credit of our country.

We are, therefore, opposed to the free coinage of silver, except by international agreement with the leading commercial nations of the world, which we pledge ourselves to promote, and until such an agreement can be obtained, the existing gold standard must be preserved. All of our silver and paper currency now in circulation must be maintained at a parity with gold, and we favor all measures designed to maintain inviolable the obligations of the United States and all our money, whether coin or paper, at the present standard—the standard of the most enlightened nations of the earth.

### AS TO PENSIONS.

The veterans of the Union armies deserve and should receive fair treatment and generous recognition. Whenever practicable they should be given preference in the matter of employment and they are entitled to the enactment of such laws as are best calculated to secure the fulfillment of pledges made to them in the dark days of the country's peril. We denounce the practice in the pension bureau, so recklessly and unjustly carried on by the present administration, of reducing pensions and arbitrarily dropping names from the rolls as deserving the severest condemnation of the American people.

### OUR FOREIGN POLICY.

Our foreign policy should be at all times firm, vigorous and dignified, and all our interests in the western hemisphere carefully watched and guarded. The Hawaiian islands should be controlled by the United States, and no foreign power should be permitted to interfere with them; the Nicaragua canal should be built, owned and operated by the United States; and by the purchase of the Danish islands we should secure a proper and much needed station in the West Indies.

The massacres in Armenia have aroused the deep sympathy and just indignation of the American people, and we believe the United States should exercise all the influence it can properly exert to bring these atrocities to an end. In Turkey American residents have been exposed to the gravest dangers and American property destroyed. There and everywhere American citizens and American property must be absolutely protected at all hazards and at any cost.

### MONROE DOCTRINE.

We reassert the Monroe doctrine in its fullest extent and we reaffirm the right of the United States to give the doctrine effect by responding to the appeals of any American state or friendly intervention in case of European encroachment.

We shall not be interfered and shall not interfere with the existing possessions of any European power in this hemisphere, but those possessions must not, on any pretext, be extended. We hope to look forward to the eventual withdrawal of European powers from this hemisphere and to the ultimate union of all English speaking parts of the continent by free consent of its inhabitants.

### CUBAN RESOLUTION.

From the hour of achieving their own independence, the people of the United States have regarded with sympathy the struggles of other American people to free themselves from European domination. We watch with deep and abiding interest the heroic battle of the Cuban patriots against Spanish oppression; and our best wishes go out for the full success of their determined contest for

liberty. The government of Spain having lost control of Cuba and being unable to protect the property or lives of resident American citizens or to comply with its treaty obligations, we believe the government of the United States should actively use its influence and good offices to restore peace and give independence to the island.

### THE NAVY.

The peace and security of the republic and the maintenance of its rightful influence among the nations of the earth demand a naval power commensurate with its position and responsibility. We, therefore, favor continued enlargement of the navy and complete system of harbor and seacoast defenses.

### FOREIGN IMMIGRATION.

For the protection of the quality of our American citizenship and of wages of our workmen against the fatal competition of low priced labor, we demand that the immigration laws be thoroughly enforced and so extended as to exclude from entrance to the United States those who can neither read nor write.

### CIVIL SERVICE.

The civil service law was placed on the statute books by the republican party, which has always sustained it, and we renew our repeated declarations that it shall be thoroughly and honestly enforced and extended wherever practicable.

### FREE BALLOT.

We demand that every citizen of the United States shall be allowed to cast a free and unrestricted ballot, and such ballot shall be counted and returned as cast.

### LYNCHING.

We proclaim our unqualified condemnation of the uncivilized and barbarous practice known as the lynching or killing of human beings suspected or charged with crime, without process of law.

### NATIONAL ARBITRATION.

We favor the creation of a national board of arbitration to settle and adjust the differences which may arise between employers and employed engaged in interstate commerce.

### HOMESTEADS.

We believe in the immediate return to the free homestead policy of the Republican party, and urge the passage by congress of the satisfactory free homestead measure which has already passed the house and is now pending in the senate.

### TERRITORIES.

We favor the admission of the remaining territories at the earliest practicable date, having due regard to the interest of the territories and the United States. All federal officers appointed for territories should be selected from bona fide residents thereof, and the right of self-government should be secured as far as practicable. We believe the citizens of Alaska should have representation in the congress of the United States to the end that needed legislation may be intelligently enacted.

### TEMPERANCE.

We sympathize with all wise and legitimate efforts to lessen and prevent the evils of intemperance and promote morality.

### RIGHTS OF WOMEN.

The Republican party is mindful of the rights of women. Protection of American industries includes equal opportunities, equal pay for equal work and protection to the home. We favor the admission of women to wider spheres of usefulness and welcome their co-operation in rescuing the country from Democratic and Populist mismanagement and misuse.

Such are the principles and policies of the republican party. By those principles we will abide, and these policies we will put into execution. We ask for them the considerate judgment of the American people. Confident alike in the history of our great party and in the justice of our cause we present our platform and our candidates in the full assurance that the election will bring victory to the Republican party and prosperity to the people of the United States.

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