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ATHENA, AUGUST 14 1896.

FOR PRESIDENT:
WILLIAM J. BRYAN,
OF NEBRASKA.

FOR VICE PRESIDENT:
ARTHUR SEWALL,
OF MAINE.

"No Crown of Thorns,
No Cross of Gold."

AN IMPENDING CRISIS.

The San Francisco Chronicle has become one of the loudest calamity howlers in the nation, and sees the direct destruction awaiting the nation and all our free institutions in case McKinley is defeated. It draws this picture of the situation:

"The Bryan democrats and Watson populists are forcing an issue upon the country which is not unlikely to transcend, in its importance, those of the currency and tariff. It is an issue of public safety from the misrule of fanatics. In this canvass the responsible and sober men of whatever politics are gradually getting on one side; and on the other are all the wild-eyed cranks who wish an enacting clause put to their fads and their empirical schemes for making the idle man happy and rich. The cave of Adullam had in it every one that was in distress, every one that was in debt, and every one that was discontented, but the cave of populists-democracy, besides all these, has gathered in every one that is insane and every one who has a grudge against public order and every one who has a new political philosophy. The Altgelds and Tillmans of the Chicago convention are now re-enforced by the 'Cyclone' Davises, 'Calamity' Wellers, and 'General Coxey's'."

"It is men like these who would feel vindicated and put in a position to assert themselves in the affairs of government if the Chicago or the Chicago and St. Louis ticket should be elected. Washington would be full of them on the 4th of March. Altgeld would be there—a promising candidate for a seat in the cabinet—to demand legislation against federal authority over mobs. Tillman would be there with a bill for a national gin dispensary, patterned after his state barrooms in South Carolina. Peffer would be there to work the harassed farmers out of debt by putting a government blanket mortgage over their entire holdings. Weaver would be on hand to ask for silver monometallism. Henry George will be in the lobbies of congress proclaiming the silver tax. The 'cyclones' the 'calamities' and the commonweal 'generals' would mass for an attack upon the supreme court, while the followers of all their schemes for government paternalism, free homes, direct legislation through the referendum, a price-of-labor gauge for salaries, and heaven knows what else, would create a political pandemonium the like of which no country ever saw before except France in the days of Jacobin excesses. Four years of the rule of such men would strain the safeguards of this nation to the snapping point and justify Henry George's jubilant prophecy of the struggle wider, deeper, and bitterer than that over chattel slavery."

Were there any foundation for assertions as these the outlook would be somewhat gloomy; but there is no likelihood of Bryan calling around him as his advisors such men as Altgeld, Tillman and Peffer. He has nothing in common with them. He is not beholding to them for his nomination, nor will he be indebted to them for his election. Admitting,

however, for the sake of argument, that Bryan may heed the counsel of common people of the country, and may per chance call some horney-fisted son of toil into his official household, then compare the influence that will surround McKinley, in case of his election, and judge which will be most closely allied to the interest and welfare of the masses. Judging from those who are most ardently advocating McKinley's election, he will choose his advisors from among the plutocracy of the nation. Such men as Hanna, Platt, Quay, Spreckels, Huntington and the Vanderbilts, the representatives of the railroad, and manufacturing corporations, the syndicates and trust whose purposes is to make themselves richer and the masses poorer. What effect would four years of rule of this nation by the corporations have upon the common people? What kind of schemes for government paternalism would be engendered under their dictation? What favoritism would be extended to the classes that have already grown rich from the paternalism of government beneficence? McKinley is mortgaged soul and body to these influences; his nomination was secured through their influence, and his election can only result through their aid. Four years of their rule through him will indeed strain the safeguards of this nation to the snapping point, and will bind the common people in a more complete bond of servitude than were the southern slaves prior to Lincoln's emancipation proclamation.

It is now but a little over 120 years since our forefathers declared themselves independent of the British crown. There is not today a lover of liberty to be found anywhere but must admit that this declaration marks an epoch in the dawn of popular governments now strewn so plentifully all over the world, now is there a despot, however fond of absolute dominion, who will gainsay that humanity everywhere was benefited by the manly determination on the part of our ancestors. But let us review, says the Tomahawk, the events in their natural order of passage. The present century began in our land amid peace and freedom and comparative equality. The economic differences between individuals and families were slight. Nearly every head of a household owned the ground where his house was firmly set. There were few paupers, none from lack of work they were capable of doing. The poor, while many, were all increasing their goods. A few were wealthy. None were rich. There were no cities like New York, Philadelphia, Chicago or Boston, with their herds of miserable and hopeless humanity suffering not because there is no wealth, but because of its unequal distribution. The picture in the present is deeply accentuated and forceful poverty. We Americans of today are poor, our masters are rich. We must work, they work us. We are the millions, they are the millionaires. The word millionaire may be variously defined. At one time it meant the man who had a million dollars or property he could sell for a million dollars. But a little reflection reveals the fact that property has value solely because others want it, perhaps millions; these millions make the millionaire of today. With this idea uppermost contemplate with horror the distinction of multi-millionaire! Let poverty muse and reflect and find consolation if it can. We all know, too, that every competent statistician estimates that the United States produces not less than eight billion dollars worth of new wealth every year, and that at least 70 per cent goes to pay interest, rent or profits. Labor gets two billions a year, idleness gets six. This is a monstrous condition from the fact that a land that is a paradise for the idle can scarcely fail to become an inferno for the toiler. Now by noting closely the characteristics of the idling capitalist land-owning, employing class, we find the one popularity marks them all—the power to live on somebody else, and the desire to live more luxuriously on somebody else intensified. The people of the west and south have awakened to this truth. Will the millions of

the east ever find it out? The campaign of education now under way, and which will intensify as time progresses, will make of the year 1896 a memorable one. Those who cry loudest for prosperity are the sharers of dividends, profits and rents. But it is not this longed for prosperity that the laboring man, mechanic, miner or farmer needs so much as a new order of things. He stands in need of justice, independence, equal rights, social, financial, legal as well as political. Fears are entertained that this century may not end in peace because the workingmen seem in no submissive mood, but will the century end in peace if reforms sweeps every thing before it? May not the sweeping changes now contemplated precipitate disorders just as violent from the other side? We think that there is here food for reflection. The masters of today can buy mercenaries to shed blood. It can and will end in peace if the idling class is checked in its onward march, rather than overthrown, and if our citizenship is prepared by the educational campaign of 1896 for the decisive victory of 1900. The Charybdis of the angry millions threatens on one side, the Scylla of the defiant millionaires on the other. But the diabolism of a French revolution can not take possession of the American heart. The United States, even in such a crisis, will see something better.

A NUMBER of Wasco county sheep raisers have been arrested and taken to Portland, where they will be required to answer in Judge Bellingers court to a charge of having herded their flocks upon the Cascade forest reserve. Information was filed against the sheepmen by Henry Failing, chairman of the Portland water commission. It is claimed by the informants against the sheep men that they have been herding their sheep on the Bull Run reserve, the source from which Portland obtains its water supply, and also that the herders set fire to the timber, which may do no end of damage. The outcome of these arrests will probably result in enforcing the law preventing the herding or grazing of stock anywhere on the Cascade timber reserve, and in consequence the stock business of Wasco and Crook counties will be diminished at least one third, for without the use of the Cascade mountains for summer pasturage one-third the sheep raisers in these two counties will have to go out of business.

There is little sense and much less justice in depriving the sheepmen of the use of summer ranges in the Cascades, since their flocks grazing in the mountains are more benefit than detriment to growing timber, as they eat out the underbrush and give the larger timber an opportunity to grow. As to the claim that sheep men kindle forest fires, it is absurd. They dread forest fires more than any one else, for there is danger of burning up their entire flocks, hence they are cautious about setting them out.

It is but just that the Bull Run reserve be protected from the encroachment of flocks, since it is desirable that the metropolis of the state should have a perfectly pure water supply, but the remainder of the forest reserve should be thrown open to the stock raisers of Eastern Oregon, and we trust that the Oregon delegation in congress will exert their energies to securing such an order.

Oregon Notes.
There will be tons of wild plums and huckleberries in the Coquille mountains this season.

The amount collected for school tax in Coos county during the year ending April 6, 1896, was \$11,587.69.

The organization of a labor exchange has been effected in Coquille and an application for a charter has been made.

Fred Hulian, a lad of 14, died at Bly, Klamath county, Saturday, from the effects of injuries received by a fall from a horse.

Among those mentioned as candidates for the vacant county judgeship of Lincoln county are: Hon. J. O. Stearns, of Waldport; Professor George Breithers, of Toledo; R. A. Bensell, of Newport; J. S. Booth, of Yaquina City; William Alexander, of Toledo; O. B. Crono, of Toledo.

While driving a header wagon on a farm near Dufur, Wednesday, John Green, by some mishap, overturned the wagon and was caught under the edge of the heavy bed, the entire weight of the wagon and heavy bed striking his right leg, breaking the bone between the knee and hip. He was taken to Dufur for treatment and placed under the care of a doctor. The bone was badly crushed and it will necessarily confine Mr. Green to the house for several months.

The Democratic Platform.

The platform which has been heralded to the people of these United States by the Democratic party in convention assembled, on which it is predicted the brilliant Bryan will be swept to victory by a tidal wave is as follows:

We, the democrats of the United States, in national convention assembled, do reaffirm our allegiance to those great essential principles of justice and liberty upon which our institutions are founded, and which the Democratic party has maintained from Jefferson's time to our own—freedom of speech, freedom of the press, freedom of conscience, the preservation of personal rights, the equality of all citizens before the law, and the faithful observance of constitutional limitations.

Recognizing that the money question is paramount to all others at this time, we invite attention to the fact that the federal constitution names silver and gold together as the money metals of the United States, and that the first coinage law passed by congress under the constitution made the silver dollar the unit of value and admitted gold to free coinage, at a ratio measured by the silver dollar unit.

We declare that the act of 1873 demonetizing silver without the knowledge or approval of the American people has resulted in the appreciation of gold and a corresponding fall in the prices of commodities produced by the people; a heavy increase in the burden of taxation, and of all debts, public and private; the enrichment of the money-lending classes at home and abroad; paralysis of industries and impoverishment of the people.

We are unalterably opposed to the single gold standard, which has looked fast the prosperity of an industrious people in the paralysis of hard times. Gold monometallism is a British policy, founded upon British greed for gain and power, and its general adoption has brought other nations into financial servitude to London. It is not only un-American, but anti-American, and it can be fastened upon the United States only by the stifling of that indomitable spirit and love of liberty which proclaimed our political independence in 1776 and won it in the war of the Revolution.

We demand the immediate restoration of the free and unlimited coinage of gold and silver at the present legal ratio of 16 to 1, without waiting for the aid or consent of any other nation. We demand that the standard silver dollar shall be a full legal tender, equally with gold, for all debts, public and private, and we favor such legislation as will prevent the demonetization of any kind of legal tender money by private contract.

We are opposed to the policy and practice of surrendering to holders of obligations of the United States any property reserved by law to the government of redeeming such obligations in either silver coin or gold coin.

We are opposed to the issuing of interest bearing bonds of the United States in time of peace, and condemn trafficking with banking syndicates which, in exchange for bonds at an enormous profit to themselves, supply the federal

treasury with gold to maintain a policy of gold monometallism.

Congress alone has power to coin and issue money and President Jackson declared that this power could not be delegated to corporations or individuals. We therefore demand that the power to issue notes be taken from the banks and that all paper shall be issued directly by the treasury department. We hold that tariff duties should be levied solely for the purpose of revenue and that taxation should be limited by the needs of the government, honestly and economically administered. We denounce as disturbing to business the republican threat to restore the McKinley law, which has twice been condemned by the people in national elections, and which, enacted under the false plea of protection to home industry, proved a prolific breeder of trusts and monopolies, enriching the few at the expense of the many, restricted trade and deprived the producers of the great American staples of access to their natural markets. Until the money question is settled, we are opposed to any agitation for further changes in our tariff laws except such as are necessary to make the deficit in revenue, caused by the adverse decision of the supreme court as to the income tax.

There would have been no deficit in the federal revenue during the last two years but for the annulment by the supreme court of the income tax law, placed upon the statute books by a democratic congress. The objection to an income tax, which the supreme court decided in the constitution after it had laid hidden for a hundred years, must be removed, to the end that accumulated wealth may be made to bear its just share of the burden of the government. We, therefore, favor an amendment to the federal constitution that will permit the levy of an income tax. We hold that the efficient way of protecting American labor is to prevent the importation of foreign pauper labor to compete with the home market, and that the value of the home market to our American farmers and artisans is greatly reduced by a vicious monetary system which depresses the prices of their product below the cost of production, and thus deprives them of the means of satisfying their needs. We denounce the profligate waste of the money wrung from the people by oppressive taxation and lavish appropriations of recent republican congresses, which have kept taxes high, while the laborer that pays them is unemployed, and products of the people are depressed in price until they no longer repay the cost of production. We demand a return to that simplicity and economy which best befits a democratic government, and a reduction in the number of useless offices, the salaries of which drain the substance of the people. Confiding in the justice of our cause and the necessity of its success at the polls, we submit the foregoing declaration of principles and purposes to the considerate judgment of the American people. We invite the support of all citizens who approve them and who desire to have them made effective through legislation for the relief of the people and the restoration of the country's prosperity.

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