

STATE PLATFORM

Adopted by the People's Party, at
Oregon City, On March 16, 1892.

PLATFO
Preamble: "AN INJURY TO ONE IS THE CO
CRIME OF ALL."
1. We demand a national currency, issued by
the general government only, a full legal tender
for all debts, public and private, and that with-
out the use of banking corporations, be distrib-
uted direct to the people at not to exceed two
per cent tax, as set forth in the sub-treasury of
the Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union,
and at the St. Louis conference, and land loans,
or some better system; also by payments in
discharge of the government's obligations for
public improvements.
2. We demand the free and unlimited coinage of
silver, and we denounce the practice of the
government buying and storing bullion.
3. That the medium of exchange or currency
be based upon the weight and law making
power of the country, and that we demand that
the amount of the circulating medium be speed-
ily increased to not less than \$50 per capita.
4. We demand that postal savings banks be es-
tablished by the government for the safe de-
posit of the earnings of the people and to facili-
tate exchanges.
5. The land, including all the natural sources
of wealth, is the heritage of all the people, and
should not be monopolized for speculation pur-
poses, and alien ownership of the same should be
prohibited. All lands now held by railroads and
other corporations, in excess of their actual
needs, and all lands now owned by railroads,
should be reclaimed by the government and held for
actual settlers only, and that any settlers who
may have acquired lands of such corporations be
protected in their rights to their homes and in
the sums paid to such corporations.
6. Transportation being a means of exchange
and a public necessity, the government should
own and operate the railroads in the interests
of the people; and until such ownership can be
acquired, we demand the abolition of the rail-
road commission and the establishment of a
maximum rate law within the state, and that
the present rates be reduced one-third.
7. The telegraph and telephone, like the post-
office system, being a necessity for the trans-
mission of news, should be owned by the gov-
ernment in the interest of the people.
8. We demand that all money asked and appro-
priated for the improvement of the Columbia
river be spent in building and operating a rail-
road parallel with the river, said road to be
owned by the government and run at cost.
9. We demand that all national revenue shall be
raised by a 2 per cent tax on money loaned by
the government, and a graduated property tax.
No exemption for such property tax, except
where the person claiming such exemp-
tion, should give in a corresponding taxable
credit.
10. WHEREAS, The working people are en-
tirely under the thumb of the plutocracy, which
compels one portion of them to work too many
hours, and thereby increasing the army of the
unemployed; therefore,
RESOLVED, That we demand that our legisla-
ture pass a law defining eight hours as a legal
day's work in factories, mines, shops and
public works. And also that we recognize the
Knights of Labor in their controversy with the
Rochester Clothing Company.
11. That we are unshakably opposed to the Pink-
ertons, or like organizations, ever entering our
state.
12. That alcohol, in any form, shall be sold only
by state agents, said goods to be pure and sold
at cost, without profit to the agents, and shall
not be drunk within the building nor within
sixty feet of the place where delivered nor in
any place of resort, and that the saloon license,
the saloon in society and the saloon in
politics. That the national government shall
not license the sale of any alcoholic sub-
stance in any states legally prohibiting the
same thereof, and that it shall not interfere
with such prohibitory laws.
13. RESOLVED, That we affirm our unqualified
adherence to the doctrine of equal rights to all
special privileges to none, and that we will
never cease our efforts till every citizen shall
stand before the law equal in intellectual,
moral and civil privileges.
14. We demand the passage of a law which
will prevent the immigration of Chinese to the
United States.
15. We demand that the state publish the
school books and sell the same to the people at
cost.
16. That county officials be paid a stipulated
salary.
17. We object to the government having any-
thing to do with the Nicaragua canal, unless it
owns and operates the same at cost.
18. RESOLVED, That we are in favor of elect-
ing all officers by a direct vote of the people.
19. We demand that the government issue
legal tender notes and pay the union soldiers
between the price of the depreciated money in
which he was paid in gold.

NEWS AND NOTES

Leading Topics of the Day In-
partially Discussed.

WORTH READING.

The First President Elected Under
Ballot Reform This Year.

THE CHANCE OF THE PEOPLE'S PARTY.

It had been thought that the tremen-
dous "Farmers' Alliance" wave of
1890 was subsiding, and that the Peo-
ple's party, which has grown out of
that movement, would make very lit-
tle trouble for the old parties in the
presidential, congressional and state
elections of this year. But the fate of
the Bland bill has given the third
party move just the fresh impetus that
it could most have desired. The prin-
cipal part of the platform of the Peo-
ple's party is the monetary and finan-
cial article it contains, and the cardinal
article of that creed reads as follows:
"We demand free and unlimited coinage
of silver." The new party that swept
several southern and western states
in 1890 is not going to lose the
opportunity that Mr. Bland's defeat
gives it to enter the field this summer
with a radical and unequivocal plat-
form, and to attempt to capture the
electoral vote of several states. If the
logic of its position will further com-
pel the democratic party to adopt a
delphic silver plank at Chicago that
will mean everything and nothing, and
if it crown it all Mr. Cleveland—
whose anti-silver message was the
strongest and ablest state paper of his
entire administration—should be the
nominee, it is hard to see what excuse
great masses of men in several western
and southern states could find to support
either the democrats or the republic-
ans. But the republican position will
have the merit of distinctness, while
the democrats seem now condemned to
awkward ambiguities on the coinage
question until election day. Such men
as President Polk, of the Farmers' Al-
liance, Mr. Weaver, of Iowa, and Mr.
Donnelly, of Minnesota, will not be re-
luctant to utilize this chance for ag-
gression.

THE COUNTRY'S INTERNAL PROGRESS.

This country is so vast in its extent
and in its interests that few people are
placed at a vantage ground which
would make it possible for them to per-
ceive and realize the great internal
movements and changes that are add-
ing new chapters to the story of our
national development. But secretary
Noble, of the department of the inter-
ior, might from his pose of outlook
tell a strangely fascinating story of
what he has seen within the past few
weeks. Particularly interesting would
be his report of the speed with which
the allotment of lands to Indians is
progressing, accompanied by the open-
ing of large tracts of excellent land to
settlement by white pioneers. Never
before has the administration of Indian
affairs been half so comprehensive;
and it is not impossible that the revo-
lutionary improvements that have been
made in the treatment of the aborigines
may be accounted in history as the
most creditable of the achievements of
the Harrisonian period. Under Mr.
Noble's supervision the general land
office and the various other concerns of
the great portfolio of the interior have
had prosperous management. The
furlongs that have brought the pension
office under congressional investiga-
tion affect minor questions, and no se-
rious discredit has been thrown upon
the general operations of that bureau.
The country at large is entering upon
a marvelous period of internal devel-
opment.

MR. RUSK'S DEPARTMENT.

While Mr. Chaplin, who is the
English minister of agriculture, is
busying himself with socialistic pro-
jects for the distribution of the land
among the farm laborers, Mr. Rusk,
the first incumbent of our new Ameri-
can department of agriculture, has
conceived of his mission as one chiefly
of education and scientific inquiry.
The department is really accomplish-
ing a great work. Its statistical bu-
reau grows more and more valuable to
the producing interests of the country.
Its experimental stations are working
out hundreds of local problems in dif-
ferent parts of the land. Its horticul-
turists, pomologists, entomologists, bot-
anists, chemists and microscopists are
making discoveries and disseminating
information such as no farmer or group
of farmers could possibly ascertain un-
aided; and this new knowledge is of in-
calculable economic value. The for-
estry bureau and the "animal indus-
try" bureau are branches of the de-
partment that have the utmost impor-
tance, and that involve subjects requir-
ing attentive governmental supervi-
sion. There has been much discus-
sion of the abstract question whether,
since agriculture, as a great economic

THE SITUATION.

It Looks the Most Important
Since 1860.

PEOPLE'S PARTY PROS-
PECTS.

The Demand for Free Silver Coinage
Strong in the South.

The failure of the silver coinage bill
in the house of representatives has given
a tremendous boom to People's party
prospects. Anything, indeed, more
auspicious for the success of that party
in November could not have happened.
The demand for free silver coinage,
while strong in the west, is still stronger
throughout the south, and from the be-
ginning of the People's party movement,
the southern Farmers' Alliance have
served explicit notice on the Democratic
party that if the present Democratic
house failed to pass the silver bill they
would desert it in November, and vote
in a body for the candidates of the new
party. The only argument by which a
portion of the membership of the south-
ern Alliances has been hitherto kept
back from committing itself outright to
the People's party has been the promise
that the Democratic house would heed
their demands.

We do not believe that there is an Al-
liance man in the south today who has
not definitively made up his mind to
vote for the candidates nominated at
Omaha. Even if the Democratic na-
tional convention, terrified by the situa-
tion, should take the back track and in-
sert a silver plank in the national plat-
form, it would be of no avail. After the
action of the house no promise the con-
vention might make would command
any confidence, and indeed would only
make the situation of the Democracy
more desperate by alienating its gold
standard constituency in the north and
east, which is all that is now left of it.

In fact, the probabilities are altogether
that the Wall street wing, having now
won the battle, will strengthen its grip
and by the nomination of Cleveland bar
the door against the possible return of
the disgraced southern.
What does this mean practically? It
means that the People's party in Novem-
ber will probably carry five southern
states, being the two Carolinas, Georgia,
Mississippi and Arkansas, and possibly
seven, if the southern Alliance congress-
men may be believed. In the north the
new party has all along been likely to
carry Kansas and Nebraska and the two
Dakotas, but in the silver states of Mon-
tana and Colorado its prospects of suc-
cess are at least 50 per cent. better than
before the defeat of the silver bill. That
is to say, there is now a reasonable prob-
ability that the People's party in No-
vember may carry from nine to thirteen
states.

This means that no president is likely
to be elected by the people, and that if
the house of representatives shall elect a
republican president that ever went into
office.
But will the house of representatives
necessarily elect the Democratic candi-
date? Supposing the solid south—the
stronghold of Democracy—shall have re-
pudiated the Democratic candidate by
strong popular majorities, will the south-
ern Democratic congressmen who want
to be re-elected vote to make president
the candidate condemned by their con-
stituents? Will they be so self sacrific-
ing?
Do you ask whom they will then vote
for? Well, the constitution restricts their
choice to the three presidential candi-
dates who received the largest electoral
vote. They will thus have to elect either
a Republican, a Democrat whom their
own constituents have rejected, or the
People's party candidate, whom their
constituents have voted for. Figure out
for yourselves what they may possibly
conclude to do.
The fact is, the coming presidential
contest, when the press and the people
begin to realize its realities and possi-
bilities, is going to be the most interest-
ing since 1860, as it will be the most criti-
cal in its political consequences.
The Republican party is already split
to the base, and is kept standing only by
the hitherto solid opposition of the Dem-
ocracy.
Now that the disruption of the Democ-
racy has come a general disintegration
and rearrangement of political forces is
inevitable. In that rearrangement we
shall find the capitalistic and antipopu-
lar wings of the two old parties uniting
to form a party of opposition, while the
popular and progressive wings of both
will unite with the movement now
known as the People's party to form the
party of progress which shall build the
new nation.
It is good to be alive in these days and
to have a part in these things.—New Na-
tion.

The People's Opportunity.

Distrust, apprehension and alarm per-
vades the public mind, and confusion,
consternation and chaos reign supreme
in political circles. Even among the
most astute politicians and statesmen,
whose long experience and wisdom have
given them a reputation for political
sagacity, not one of them today could
be found who would risk that reputation
on the expression of a definite opinion as
to what will be the status of political
parties three months from this date.
The acknowledged leaders of the two
old political parties appear to be utterly
at sea, without chart or compass.—L. L.
Polk.

THE PEOPLE'S PARTY AT OMAHA.

The uncertain quantity in the polit-
ical situation this year will be the new
People's party, representing the Farm-
ers' Alliance movement and various
allied industrial and labor reform ele-
ments. The party is the successor of
the old greenback party and of the var-
ious third party political movements
which, under different names, have en-
listed the support of the same group of
leaders. Among the men who will be
conspicuous in the People's party move-
ment this year are President L.
L. Polk, of the Farmers' Alliance, Mr.
Ignatius Donnelly, of Minnesota, and
Mr. James B. Weaver, of Iowa. The
national convention will be held in the
city of Omaha, Neb., on July 4. Each
congressional district in the United
States is entitled to send four dele-
gates, and each state to send eight dele-
gates at large, making a total dele-
gate body of 1776. The failure of the
democratic house to pass a silver bill
is expected to very greatly strengthen
the Farmers' Alliance movement and
People's party in the south and south-
west. The next annual session of the
Supreme Council of the Farmers' Al-
liance and Industrial Union will not be
held until after the election in Novem-
ber.

In California.

The People's party of Los Angeles
county, Cal., held a convention at Los
Angeles and endorsed the St. Louis plat-
form. The convention was a large and
harmonious one. Delegates were pres-
ent from the Farmers' Alliance, Citi-
zens' Alliance, Knights of Labor, Wom-
an's Suffrage association and Veterans'
Alliance. The rumor that a fusion would
be made with the Democrats in Los An-
geles county was denounced as without
foundation.

The Third Party in Iowa.

The Iowa state convention for the
election of delegates at large to the na-
tional convention at Omaha, July 4, will
be held at Des Moines on the afternoon
of June 7. The district convention for
the choice of district delegates to the
national convention will be held in the
same city in the forenoon of the same
day.

Farmers' Alliance in Pennsylvania.

The fourteen branches of the Farmers'
Alliance in Berks county held a con-
vention at Jacksonwald, with 100
delegates present, and among other
business transacted resolutions were
passed demanding from all county
officials the more economic management
of county affairs, demanding free text
books, declaring that the telephone and
telegraph should be operated by the
government, and asking their repre-
sentatives to support the anti-emption bill.

GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.

Some of the Advantages of Public Own-
ership Explained by Professor Ely.

Labor in Holland.

Not Enough Left to "Fuss."

After Livingston.

Missouri Convention.

It is reported that the Farmers' Al-
liance of Alabama will go in for the third
party heartily and nominate a full state
ticket.

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