

# What the Democratic Party Stands For In 1908

Concise Analysis of Its Declaration of Principles by James A. Edgerton.

By JAMES A. EDGERTON.

**T**HE chief questions on which the Democratic platform takes clearly defined and distinct issue with the Republican declaration of principles may be briefly stated thus:

The removal of the tariff from trust products.

The physical valuation of railroads as a basis for rates.

The abolition of labor injunctions and jury trial for indirect contempt of court.

The rights of the states as opposed to the encroachment of the federal government.

Publicity of campaign contributions.

Economy of government expenses and curtailment of officeholders.

Emergency currency issued by the government instead of by the banks and the insurance of bank depositors.

The enforcement of the criminal law against trust officials.

Curtailed of the power of the speaker of the house.

Opposition to the use by the president of official patronage to nominate his successor.

Independence of Philippine Islands.

Popular election of senators.

An income tax.

Opposition to Asiatic immigration, including the Japanese.

There are a few minor issues, but these indicate the chief lines on which the present battle of the ballots will be fought.

On the surface the two platforms are much alike, but, more closely examined, the differences are apparent. While they are not very deep nor fundamental differences, they are sufficiently marked to make one of the prettiest fights the country has yet witnessed.

In all candor both platforms are effective documents and as a whole are the most radical ever adopted by either party. The Republican instrument perhaps excels in literary form and the Democratic in boldness of expression and in being a more human and vital utterance.

The Republicans sidestep several propositions and pass over others gingerly, like walking on eggs, while the Democrats "talk right out in meeting" on them all.

It is noteworthy that the three issues submitted by the friends of Senator La Follette—viz, physical valuation of railroads, publicity of campaign expenditures and popular election of senators—which were joyously turned down by a vote of about 8 to 1 in the Chicago convention, are all included in the Denver instrument.

It is also worthy of notice that the Republican injunction plank suited neither side and called down the criticism of both capital and labor, while the Democratic pronouncement on the same subject is even more vigorously denounced by the Wall street patriots, but has the enthusiastic support of Samuel Gompers and most of his co-workers in the ranks of organized labor.

## New Campaign Element.

This is distinctly a new element in a presidential campaign, the American Federation of Labor never before having declared openly for any candidate. It is unquestionably the most important factor in the fight and has the politicians of both parties guessing.

More in detail the declarations of the two parties on the various questions discussed are as follows:

On the tariff the Democracy favors immediate revision, placing all trust products on the free list, also print paper, pulp, lumber, timber and logs; material reduction of duties on the necessities of life and on all articles of American manufacture sold more cheaply abroad than at home—a general reduction all along the line practically to a revenue basis.

The Republicans declare for a revision after the next president is inaugurated. No indication is given of the line on which such revision will be made except that it will follow the present policy of protection.

On the labor and injunction issue the Democrats oppose emphatically any discrimination against labor in injunctions, asking for rigid impartiality and protest against the issuance of injunctions during strikes that would not issue were no industrial dispute involved.

The most important pronouncement under this head is in favor of trial by jury in all cases of contempt not in the presence of the court.

The Republican platform contents itself with a plank reiterating the present law and with a general recital of its labor legislation and a pledge for more laws in the same line.

Both platforms declare in varying terms for an employers' liability law and an eight hour day, and both hint at child labor legislation. The Democrats favor a separate department of labor, including a bureau of mines, while the Republicans demand the bureau of mines alone.

On the railroad question the Democracy declares boldly for physical valuation which would squeeze water from stocks, demands that roads be prohibited from owning any business

that brings them into competition with shippers and favors increasing the powers of the interstate commerce commission not only over railroads, but over telegraphs and telephones.

The Republicans approve the present rate law in a general way, but ask for an amendment that will permit traffic agreements, provided they are made public, are not between competing lines and are under the control of the commission.

Both platforms approve the prosecution of rebates and discriminations.

## Handling the Trusts.

On the question of trusts the Democrats declare for the enforcement of the criminal law against guilty trust officials, demand a law preventing duplicate lists of directors on competing corporations, favor a federal license system for interstate trusts and propose a law compelling all corporations to sell on equal terms in all parts of the country.

The Republicans favor greater supervision and control over interstate corporations and increased publicity in their affairs, speaking a good word for legitimate associations of business men, farmers and wage earners.

On the financial question the Democratic platform declares for an emergency currency issued and controlled by the federal government and loaned to national and state banks. More important still, it favors the insurance of bank depositors.

It attacks the Republican law passed by the last congress on the ground that it lays the bank currency of the country at the mercy of Wall street manipulation.

The Republicans approve this emergency legislation, but give no definite assurance of further currency laws other than to indicate that a commission is at work on the problem.

Both platforms declare for postal savings banks, but the Democrats denounce the Republican plan as tending to carry all deposits to Wall street.

## Independence For the Philippines.

Regarding the Philippines, the Democracy says that imperialism has been a costly mistake and insists on the independence of the islands as soon as a stable government can be formed, this government protecting them against outside aggression until they are made neutral territory, also reserving naval and coaling stations.

The Republican platform congratulates the country that insurrection is ended in the Philippines and that progress is being made toward education and home rule. It also favors free trade with the islands except on sugar and tobacco. No policy for the future is outlined.

The Democrats demand territorial government for Alaska and Porto Rico and the extension of American land laws to Hawaii.

The Republicans go no further in this direction than to demand citizenship for Porto Ricans.

Both platforms favor an increased merchant marine, but the Democrats oppose a ship subsidy. The Republicans imply that they are for a ship subsidy without stating it directly.

The Democracy advocates the organization of all national public health agencies into a national bureau, which shall look after sanitary conditions in factories, mines, tenements, child labor and kindred subjects.

The Republicans promise legislation to further the work of the public health agencies, but say nothing of uniting them under one bureau.

There are a number of issues treated in the Democratic platform that are omitted from that of the Republicans entirely. Briefly stated, these are as follows:

Publicity of campaign contributions and expenditures is demanded in the Denver declaration; reference is made to the exposures of contributions to the Republican fund brought out in the insurance investigation, also to the charge of E. H. Harriman that at the solicitation of President Roosevelt he raised a quarter of a million dollars for the Republican campaign in New York state. The Democrats promise a law preventing any corporation from contributing to political funds or any individual from contributing above a certain amount.

The Republicans by an overwhelming majority refused to adopt the La Follette publicity plank, but since the convention adjourned Mr. Taft has promised that a complete statement of receipts and expenditures shall be made according to the New York law. This will be published after election.

The Democracy insists on the rights of the states to regulate corporations and commerce within their own borders and opposes the centralization policy of the present administration.

The Republicans naturally say nothing on this head.

## Economy In Government.

The Denver platform attacks the present congress for appropriating over \$1,000,000,000 and creating a deficit of \$90,000,000. It insists on economy in government.

The Chicago platform is silent as to economy.

As one of the items of extravagance

It is charged by the Denver platform that the present administration has added nearly 24,000 officials in a year at an annual cost of over \$16,000,000. During the entire Roosevelt administration nearly 100,000 new offices have been created, exclusive of commissions, as against 10,000 under both the Cleveland and McKinley regimes. The additional Roosevelt officials cost yearly \$70,000,000 annually as against \$6,000,000 for those of his two predecessors. This is denounced as an effort to perpetuate power by creating an army of retainers.

The Chicago instrument says nothing on this subject.

The Democracy charges that Secretary Taft's nomination was forced by the misuse of patronage, a thing utterly repugnant to free government. Of course the Republicans have nothing to say on this head.

The Democrats insist on the protection of American citizens abroad, whether native born or naturalized, demands the amendment of all treaties which would prevent our citizens traveling in any land and has a word to say for Americans manufacturing under foreign patents.

In this form the Republican document has nothing to say on the subject.

The Denver platform demands the popular election of United States senators.

The Republican convention refused to enforce this plank by an overwhelming majority.

The Democratic declaration favors an income tax and promises a constitutional amendment to make this possible.

The Republican platform is silent on this head, notwithstanding the fact that President Roosevelt had recommended both an income and an inheritance tax.

The Denver instrument takes a bold stand against Japanese immigration. The Chicago platform has nothing to say specifically as to Japanese immigration.

The Democrats attack the system which makes it possible for the speaker of the house of representatives to control the legislation of that body. They demand that this popular branch of the national legislature be placed again under the control of the people's representatives. The Republicans are silent on this subject.

There are a number of policies urged by both platforms, but in varying language.

## Favored by Both Parties.

The conserving of natural resources, preventing waste of timber, reforestation, reclaiming arid lands and the improvement of waterways and harbors are urged in both documents.

On the question of grazing of public lands, which is of great importance throughout the west, the Democrats take sharp issue with the administration, demanding that the control of the grazing privileges be left to the states.

In a general way both platforms favor building up the navy.

Both favor the civil service.

Both speak a good word for a liberal pension policy.

Both promise separate statehood for New Mexico and Arizona.

Both have a word to say for the farmer, the Republicans commending the work of the agricultural department in a general way, the Democrats favoring agricultural and mechanical schools. Against the Chicago proclamation for extending free rural delivery and aid for good roads, the Denver document pledges aid in the building of post roads.

Both parties urge the speedy completion of the Panama canal.

Both have a good word to say for peace and arbitration.

The Republicans have two planks to which the Democrats make no reference, that recounting the friendship of the G. O. P. to the negro and that commending the holding of a centenary of Abraham Lincoln's birth.

In a general way it must be said that the Democratic platform is more specific, more outspoken and more radical than the Republican document. The Chicago instrument is more rhetorical and, it must be admitted, more boastful. A large part of it is given up to preamble and conclusion. Its silence on several of "my policies" is marked.

## Has "More Heart Throbs."

The Democrats, on the other hand, cover the field and handle each issue in a frank manner. Samuel Gompers has said that there are more heart throbs in the Democratic platform.

On one subject the Denver pronouncement is silent, the government ownership of railroads. That, however, is not directly in issue in this campaign, although the Republicans went out of their way to condemn it.

In the admirably brief introduction and closing of the Denver platform the constant note sounded is that of the people's government. "Shall the people rule?" is the overshadowing issue," it says in one place. In drawing the contrast between the two parties it uses this language:

"The Democratic party stands for democracy; the Republican party has drawn to itself all that is aristocratic and plutocratic. The Democratic party is the champion of civil rights and opportunities to all; the Republican party is the party of privilege and price of the present administration.

The Republicans naturally say nothing on this head.

The Denver platform attacks the present congress for appropriating over \$1,000,000,000 and creating a deficit of \$90,000,000. It insists on economy in government.

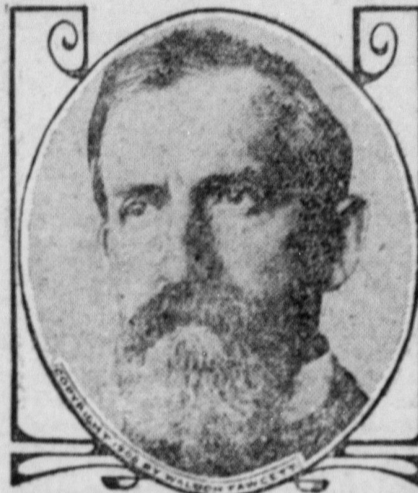
The Chicago platform is silent as to economy.

As one of the items of extravagance

## John W. Kern

The Hoosier Statesman Who Runs on the Ticket With William J. Bryan—His Record, His Family and His Party Service.

INDIANA has the vice presidency now, and it was with the view of keeping the office in possession of the Hoosier State that the national Democratic convention at Denver named John Worth Kern of Indianapolis to run on the national ticket of the party with William Jennings Bryan of Nebraska. Of course that was not the only reason for the choice. There were many others, and good ones, too, but the leaders thought it would be a good thing to make an appeal to state pride in Mr. Kern's commonwealth by naming him to run for the office now held by that other eminent Indiana statesman, Charles W. Fairbanks. Some surprise has been expressed at the nomination of Mr.



JOHN W. KERN AND HIS HOME.

Kern for vice-president in view of the fact that he was twice a candidate for governor of Indiana and was twice defeated, but in these campaigns, although defeated, he each time ran about 12,000 ahead of his ticket, and his record made him the leading Democrat of his state.

The Kerns came originally from Germany, but that was a good while ago—considerably over a hundred years. Adam Kern, great-grandfather of the vice presidential candidate, was born in the fatherland. He came to America before the Revolution. Mr. Kern's father and grandfather were born in Virginia, and the former, in obedience to the sentiment that westward the sway of empire takes its way, moved to Indiana and became one of the pioneers of the commonwealth. That was in 1836. John Worth Kern was



WILLIAM COOPER KERN AND JOHN W. KERN, JR.

born at Alto, Howard county, Dec. 20, 1849. When he was five years old his father, Dr. Jacob Kern, removed to Warren county, Ia., and remained ten years. When the Democratic statesman was in his early teens his mother died and his father took him and his sister back to their old home in Indiana. It was about this time that young John began attending the State Normal school in Kokomo, riding on horseback ten miles each way every day. He began teaching school himself as soon as he was old enough, and with money earned in this way he went to the University of Michigan and took a course in law, being graduated in 1869. He hung out his shingle in Kokomo as soon as he was of age, and he was only twenty-one when he was first nominated for the state legislature. He was not successful in that canvass, but in 1878 was elected city attorney of Kokomo and held the office for six years. In 1884 he was chosen official reporter of the state supreme court and to discharge the duties of the post removed to Indianapolis, which he has since made

his home. In 1892 he was elected a member of the state senate, serving four years, and from 1897 to 1901 he served as city attorney of Indianapolis. His first nomination for governor of Indiana was in 1900, when he ran against William T. Durbin and was



MISS KERN AND MISS JULIA KERN.

defeated, and in 1904 he was defeated by Governor Hanly.

Mr. Kern has a reputation not only as an eloquent speaker, but as a lawyer who understands constitutional questions. He received the complimentary vote of his party for the United States senatorship in 1905. Mr. Kern belongs to the Knights of Pythias and the Order of Elks and is a thirty-second degree Mason. He is president of the Commercial club of Indianapolis and belongs to the University and Century clubs. He is not wealthy, but has enjoyed a comfortable income from his law practice. He and Mr. Bryan have been close friends for over a dozen years, and Mr. Kern delivered many eloquent speeches in behalf of the election of the Nebraskan to the presidency in the two campaigns in which he ran for the office before.

The Kern home is a hospitable looking mansion at 1386 North Pennsylvania street, Indianapolis, and as the Kerns have long been prominent in the

society of the Indiana capital the residence of the vice presidential nominee has become known as a social center. The family consists of Mrs. Kern, a daughter, Miss Julia, about twenty-three, and two sons, John Worth Kern, Jr., aged eight, and the baby of the family, William Cooper Kern, aged four. Mr. Kern has been twice married, and Miss Kern is a daughter of the first wife. The present Mrs. Kern is prominent in the civic life of Indianapolis and is a leading member of the Women's council. She divides her attention between her children and philanthropic work, kindergarten education appealing especially to her interest. She is a woman of much personal charm and has a large circle of admirers.

## KITCHEN HINTS.

Turpentine will remove tar from any kind of fabric.

Scale or crust can be prevented in a teakettle by keeping a marble in the kettle.

A few drops of lemon juice added to scrambled eggs while cooking will improve them.

A little milk added to the water in which silver is washed will help to keep it bright.

If salt is sprinkled over the range before frying is commenced, there will be no disagreeable odor if the fat splatters over.

Household brushes last much longer if washed regularly. Remember that they should never be allowed to rest on the bristles.

Never throw away small quantities of gravy, sauce, etc., if they are perfectly sweet. They all come in for making stews, soups or gravies.

When boiling milk put two tablespoonfuls of water in the pan first and let it boil. Milk boiled in this way will never burn to the bottom of the saucepan.

To mend a crack on the inside of a range use a filling made of equal parts of wood ashes and common salt moistened with water. This will prove hard and lasting.

If soot falls upon the carpet or rug, do not attempt to sweep until it has been covered thickly with dry salt. It can then be swept up properly, and not a stain or smear will be left.

A suspected sample of ground coffee may be tested in this way: Place a teaspoonful of the coffee in a wine-glass containing water. If a part floats and a part sinks, it is adulterated.

**\$1.19**

**Special Sale**

ON

**Men's**

GOOD HEAVY

**Working Shoes**

DON'T MISS IT, AT

**YEAGER'S SHOE STORE,**

BELLEFONTE, PA.

**Look in Our Windows**

And see the finest line of framed pictures ever brought into our city, ranging in price from 10c to \$1.25 Then a glimpse inside and you will see very pretty pastels, water colors, plain and colored, etc. Slaughter sale of other people's Pictures left over 30 days. These pictures are suited for any room in the house or club.

GIVE US A CALL AND BE CONVINCED.

**E. J. ECKENROTH.**

BUSH ARCADE, BELLEFONTE, PA.