

confidence and support of the people it must return to the support of principles and measures demanded by the increasing sense of moral responsibility in business and political life which the people recognize; and believing that in Hennepin county, and Minnesota generally, the time has come for a movement which shall give expression to and assist in bringing to fulfillment this sentiment in our community, we do organize ourselves as the Progressive Republican League of Hennepin County, Minnesota, and do hereby announce the following declaration of principles.

This clause is followed by demands for reduction of protection to differences in the cost of production at home and abroad; denunciation of the influence of Big Business interests in the Republican party of Minnesota; demands for conservation of natural resources for "the benefit of the whole people rather than of the privileged few;" "extension of the principles of democratic government by the adoption of the initiative, referendum and recall in local and State governments;" county option liquor law; primary election system to apply to all State officials and United States Senators; the income tax amendment; election of Senators by direct vote of the people; and civil service merit laws. In its tariff clause this platform reads:

Affirming our belief in the policy of a protective tariff, we hold that this policy has been converted by greed and selfishness, in many instances, into a prohibitive tariff, that eliminates competition and fosters monopoly to such an extent that the owners of the protected industries by unlawful combinations have been enabled to control legislation, rob the consumers and oppress labor. We believe that the so-called Aldrich-Payne tariff bill was not an honest attempt to redeem party pledges, and declare most emphatically that the time has now arrived for the Republican party to shake off the domination of the direct beneficiaries of the present tariff; to remove the duties upon large numbers of articles where the cost of production in the United States is less than that of Europe, and to reduce all others to rates that will fairly compensate the American manufacturer for the difference in the cost of production. We favor the creation of a genuine tariff commission, with full power to ascertain the cost and conditions of production both at home and abroad, and to make public the facts ascertained.

Following is its declaration in full on conservation:

We favor the enactment by congress of laws for the conservation of our natural resources, the basis of which shall be the benefit of the whole people rather than of the privileged few, providing among other things for leasing instead of giving away for a nominal consideration all mineral lands on payment of fair royalties; leasing or licensing the use of streams for power or irrigation purposes only when fair compensation is received and ample supervisory powers retained; for the sale of timber on public lands at its fair value in such manner as to husband the supply for present and future gen-

erations of our people. We emphatically indorse the conservation policies of Roosevelt, Garfield, Pinchot and Glavis, and commend them personally for their loyalty to the interests of the people and their unflagging devotion to duty.

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Bryan in Nebraska Politics.

In a statement made public at Lincoln on the 5th, William J. Bryan said: "I am not a candidate for any office; I desire nothing at the hands of my co-workers. They have already rewarded me, and I am indebted to them for whatever influence I may have." He gave notice in the same statement of his intention to oppose the liquor interests through county option measures (p. 52), consideration of this subject having been forced upon the Democratic party in Nebraska, "not by the advocates of county option but by the opponents of it." In explanation of this he is quoted by the dispatches as saying:

If I had had the hearty co-operation of the two Democratic candidates for governor, Governor Shallenberger and Mayor Dahlman, and the support of the World-Herald, the property of Congressman Hitchcock, one of the candidates for the United States Senate, the special session would have been called before this, the initiative and referendum would have been submitted, and we would be ready to challenge the Republicans to defend their national measures.

His own county convention at Lincoln on the 9th, is reported to have been dominated by Mr. Bryan, who made a strong speech against the liquor interest combination, and, as chairman of the committee on resolutions, carried through a platform demanding a plank in the State platform committing the Democratic party of Nebraska to county option. The State convention, at which Mr. Bryan is to head the delegation from his own county, will meet at Grand Island on the 26th.

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Progressive Democracy in New York.

The meeting place of the Democratic conference of July 4th (p. 492) having been changed from Syracuse to Albany, about 70 persons attended from 14 counties of the State. Frederick C. Leubuscher, the temporary chairman, in stating the object of the conference, explained:

The Democratic machine in this State is influenced by beneficiaries of special privilege and is not progressive. The Connors leadership, now happily ended, was both a tragedy and a comedy. While the Dix leadership is more respectable, yet it was largely brought about by what is known as the "Wall Street crowd", consisting of the recipients of the bounties of traction and telephone interests. The State convention is only a few months distant; but the organization does not present a constructive programme. Its professions of confidence in the coming campaign are founded entirely on the dissatisfaction of the people with Republican dishonesty