

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

and mistakes, national and local. The Republican politicians are generally considered to be the lackeys of the corporations, but in this State at least the interests buy the Democratic politicians more cheaply. Governor Hughes, in his efforts to bring about some reform, is supported by a majority of the Republican legislators, but opposed by practically all the Democratic. . . . We progressive Democrats are not here representing any interests except fundamental democracy, or any men except the whole people. Each one of us has come at his own expense and has no axes to grind. It would hurt the influence which we hope to exert if we advocate the nomination of any man for governor. As I conceive it, our function is to declare what we believe to be Jeffersonian principles and measures in the light of modern conditions, and to picture the kind of man that would best represent such principles and measures, but not to suggest any name or means. What is the best machinery for you to employ is for you to determine—whether the selection of a committee to confer with the State convention, or the formation of a permanent body, or both.

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The conference chose A. J. Elias of Buffalo for permanent chairman, and perfected a permanent organization under the name of "Progressive Democracy," with headquarters at 4 Monroe street, Albany, and Frederick Cyrus Leubuscher, Leonard Tuttle and William Lustgarten, as chairman, organizer and secretary, respectively. A committee of 15 was appointed to confer with all Democratic bodies of the State for the purpose of securing the adoption of the platform and the nomination of fit candidates. The following address of the conference to the people embodies the platform:

The Democratic organization in New York State does not represent the Democratic voters. Progressive Democrats will vote only for candidates who embody real democracy; but progressive Democrats have no representation inside the organization. Conservative Democrats have formed a Democratic League which has shown its ignorance and contempt of the people's wishes by presenting to the legislature a fraudulent primary reform bill which would leave the political control in the hands of the bosses and of the interests they represent. A combination of the Democratic machine and the Democratic League will not voluntarily write a platform and nominate a ticket that progressive democrats can support. What then shall the majority of Democrats do? They cannot support Hearst, because he is a Republican on the issues of protection, ship subsidies and imperialism. The secret of Hearst's power is that he stands for some progressive reforms that the people desire. These reforms are democratic, and the Democratic ticket and the Democratic platform must embody them. Then progressive Democrats will support their party.

We know that we voice the real Democratic sentiment when we demand: (1) Direct nominations, applicable throughout the State to all elective offices so as to abolish nominating conventions; (2) the initiative, referendum and recall—the people's rule; (3) home rule for municipalities and counties,

including power to own and operate public utilities if voted for by the people; (4) home rule for cities and counties in taxation, so that each city and county shall have complete jurisdiction over the method of raising its own local revenue; (5) the adoption of the Constitutional amendment giving the Federal government power to impose an income tax; (6) the development of the water power, forests and other natural resources of the State under public ownership and control; (7) pending the acquisition of power to elect U. S. Senators by direct votes the nomination by the Democratic State convention this year of a candidate for United States Senator for whom Democratic legislators shall be pledged to vote; (8) candidates for Congress who oppose the tariff as a fraud and a sham, and who will work for the largest possible extension of the free list; re-nominations to be refused to the "Cannon" Democrats from New York.

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Convention of the National Educational Association.

The 48th annual convention of the National Educational Association (vol. xii, pp. 685, 697), the only important educational organization in the United States, was distinguished by the election of a woman, Ella Flagg Young, as president. This convention met in Boston on the 6th. A strong movement of women teachers (supported by men, and including the State Superintendent of Schools of Illinois), in favor of the election of Mrs. Young, was under way when the committee on nominations assembled. She was proposed for president in the committee, but was defeated 28 to 19 by Z. X. Snyder, principal of the Colorado State Normal School. In the majority report of the committee her name appeared as a candidate for one of the vice-presidencies, but she declined this through R. M. Hitch, a Chicago public school principal. On the floor of the convention Katherine D. Blake of New York presented a minority report (without precedent in the history of the association), naming Mrs. Young for president, and the minority report was adopted by 617 to 376.

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Ella Flagg Young (p. 540), the first woman president of the National Educational Association, also the first woman superintendent of public schools in any large city (vol. xii, pp. 745, 756), and president of the Illinois Teachers' Association (p. 15), stands in the first rank of educators, a place to which she has risen, step by step, from a primary school teacher in the Chicago public schools, in an almost unbroken service of nearly fifty years. The significance of Mrs. Young's election was emphasized by her inaugural speech in which she said:

I am aware that in one year the president may not accomplish great changes, but may be the conservator of all that is good in the educational work done and may see to it that there are no backward steps. There are many things to do now. Chief