

REPUBLICAN NATIONAL PLATFORM

For President, Theodore Roosevelt of New York. For Vice-President, Charles W. Fairbanks of Indiana.

The platform adopted by the Republican national convention, after reciting the birth of the Republican party fifty years ago, congratulates the Republicans upon the work since then accomplished, particularly since 1897; in its recent achievements having added luster even to the traditions of the party which carried the government through the storms of the civil war. It then proceeds:

"We then found the country after four years of Democratic rule in evil plight, oppressed with misfortune and doubtful of the future. Public credit had been lowered, the revenues were declining, the debt was growing, the administration's attitude toward Spain was feeble and mortifying, the standard of values was threatened and uncertain, labor was unemployed, business was sunk in the depression which had succeeded the panic of 1903, hope was faint and confidence was gone. We met these unhappy conditions vigorously, effectively and at once. We replaced a Democratic tariff law, based on free trade principles and garnished with sectional protection, by a consistent protective tariff, and industry, freed from oppression and stimulated by the encouragement of wise laws, has expanded to a degree never before known, has conquered new markets and has created a volume of exports which has surpassed imagination.

Return of Prosperity.

"Under the Dingley tariff labor has been fully employed; wages have risen, and all industries have revived and prospered. We firmly established the gold standard which was then menaced with destruction. Confidence returned to business and with confidence an unexampled prosperity. For deficient revenues, supplemented by improvident issues of bonds, we gave the country an income which produced a large surplus and which enabled us only four years after the Spanish war had closed to remove over one hundred millions of annual war taxes, reduce the public debt, and lower the interest charges of the government. The public credit, which had been so lowered that in time of peace a Democratic administration made large loans at extravagant rates of interest in order to pay current expenditures, rose under Republican administration to its highest point and enabled us to borrow at 2 per cent. even in time of war.

Fought a War with Spain.

"We refused to palter longer with the miseries of Cuba. We fought a quick and victorious war with Spain. We set Cuba free, governed the island for three years, and then gave it to the Cuban people, with order restored, with ample revenues, with education and public health established, free from debt and connected with the United States by wise provisions for our mutual interests. We have organized the government of Porto Rico, and its people now enjoy peace, freedom, order and prosperity.

"In the Philippines we have suppressed insurrection, established order and given to life and property a security never known there before. We have organized civil government, made it effective and strong in administration and have conferred upon the people of those islands the largest civil liberty they have ever enjoyed. By our possession of the Philippines we were en-

abled to take prompt and effective action in the relief of the legations at Peking and a decisive part in preventing the partition and the preserving of the integrity of China.

The Panama Canal.

"The possession of a route for an isthmian canal, so long the dream of American statesmanship, is now an accomplished fact. The great work of connecting the Pacific and Atlantic oceans by a canal is at last begun and it is due to the Republican party. We have passed laws which will bring the arid lands of the United States within the area of cultivation. We have reorganized the army and put it in the highest state of efficiency. We have passed laws for the improvement and support of the militia. We have pushed forward the building of the navy, the defense and the protection of our honor and our interests.

"Our administration of the great departments of the government has been honest and efficient, and wherever wrongdoing has been discovered the Republican administration has not hesitated to probe the evil and bring offenders to justice without regard to party or political ties.

Laws Fearlessly Enforced.

"Laws enacted by the Republican party which the Democratic party failed to enforce and which were intended for the protection of the public against the unjust discrimination or the illegal encroachment of vast aggregation of capital have been fearlessly enforced by a Republican president and new laws insuring reasonable publicity as to the operation of great corporations and providing additional remedies for the prevention or discrimination in freight rates have been passed by a Republican congress.

"In this record of achievement during the past eight years may be read the pledges which the Republican party has fulfilled. We propose to continue these policies and we declare our constant adherence to the following principles.

Policy of Protection.

"Protection which guards and develops our industries is a cardinal policy of the Republican party. The measure of protection should always at least equal the difference in the cost of production at home and abroad. We insist upon the maintenance of the principles of protection, and, therefore, rates of duty should be readjusted only when conditions have so changed that the public interest demands their alteration, but this work cannot safely be committed to any other hands than those of the Republican party.

"To intrust it to the Democratic party is to invite disaster. Whether, as in 1892, the Democratic party declared the protective tariff unconstitutional, or whether it demands tariff reform or tariff revision, its real object is always the destruction of the protective system. However specious the name, the purpose is ever the same. A Democratic tariff has always been followed by business adversity; a Republican tariff by business prosperity. To a Republican congress and a Republican president this great question can be safely intrusted. When the only free trade country among the great nations agitates a return to protection the chief protective country should not falter in maintaining it.

Extension of Foreign Markets.

"We have extended widely our foreign markets and we believe in the adoption of all practicable methods for their further extension, including commercial reciprocity wherever reciprocal arrangements can be effected consistent with the principles of protec-

tion and without injury to American agriculture, American labor, or any American industry."

The belief is expressed that it is the duty of the Republican party to uphold the gold standard and the integrity and value of our national currency; favors legislation which will encourage and build up the American merchant marine; declares it to be the fixed policy of the Republican party to maintain a powerful navy; approves the attitude of President Roosevelt and congress in regard to the exclusion of Chinese labor; renews former declarations in favor of civil service laws; believes in making ample provision for soldiers and sailors of the United States; favors arbitration; and with regard to the protection of American citizens in foreign lands says:

Protection of Citizens Abroad.

"We commend the vigorous efforts made by the administration to protect American citizens in foreign lands and pledge ourselves to insist upon the just and equal protection of all our citizens abroad. It is the unquestioned duty of the government to procure for all our citizens, without distinction, the rights of travel and sojourn in friendly countries and we declare ourselves in favor of all proper efforts tending to that end.

"Our great interests and our growing commerce in the Orient render the condition of China of high importance to the United States. We cordially commend the policy pursued in that direction by the administration of President McKinley and President Roosevelt.

"We favor such congressional action as shall determine whether by special discriminations the elective franchise in any state has been unconstitutionally limited, and, if such is the case, we demand that representation in congress and in the electoral colleges shall be proportionately reduced as directed by the constitution of the United States.

As to Combinations.

"Combinations of capital and of labor are the results of the economic movement of the age, but neither must be permitted to infringe upon the rights and interests of the people. Such combinations, when lawfully formed for lawful purposes, are alike entitled to the protection of the laws, but both are subject to the laws and neither can be permitted to break them."

Reference is made to the assassination of William McKinley, whose death was mourned by the entire nation.

President Roosevelt is commended for the clear head, brave heart and earnest patriotism which he possesses, as is evidenced by his inestimable services to the country by bringing about a settlement of the coal strike; his upholding of the *Megro* Doctrine in the complicated Venezuela question, and his prompt and vigorous action in Panama, and closes thus:

"He has continued the policy of President McKinley in the Orient and our position in China, signalized by our recent commercial treaty with that empire, has never been so high. He secured the tribunal by which the vexed and perilous question of the Alaskan boundary was finally settled. His administration has been throughout vigorous and honorable, high-minded and patriotic. We commend it without reservation to the considerate judgment of the American people."

The country residence of Rudyard Kipling, near Brattleboro, Vt., has been sold at last. Mr. Kipling offered it many years ago.

THE DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL PLATFORM.

For President, Alton B. Parker of New York. For Vice-President, Henry G. Davis of West Virginia.

St. Louis, July 9.—Following is the platform adopted by the Democratic national convention:

"The Democratic party of the United States, in national convention assembled, declares its devotion to the essential principles of the Democratic faith which brings it together in party communion."

The platform then says that under these principles local self-government and national unity and prosperity were established, and declares that "the application of these fundamental principles to the living issues of the day constitutes the first step toward the assured peace and safety of our nation." An enumeration of these fundamentals is given and declared to be the doctrines that Democracy has established.

"We favor the enactment and administration of laws giving labor and capital impartially their just rights. * * * Each has its rights, but the rights of labor are certainly no less 'vested,' no less 'sacred' and no less 'inalienable' than the rights of capital.

"Constitutional guarantees are violated whenever any citizen is denied the right to labor, acquire and enjoy property or reside where interest or inclination may determine. Any denial thereof by individuals, organizations, or governments should be summarily rebuked and punished.

"We deny the right of any executive to disregard or suspend any constitutional privilege or limitation. Obedience to the laws and respect for their requirements are alike the supreme duty of the citizen and the official. The military should be used only to support and to maintain the law. We unqualifiedly condemn its employment for the summary banishment of citizens without trial, or for the control of elections. We approve the measure which passed the United States senate in 1866, but which a Republican congress has ever since refused to enact, relating to contempts in federal courts, and providing for trial by jury in cases of direct contempt."

Liberal grants for improved waterways and strict economy and honesty in national administration are approved, and declared to be obtainable only by a change of administration.

"We favor the nomination and election of a president trained in the ways of the constitution, who shall set his face sternly against executive usurpation of legislative and judicial functions, whether that usurpation be voted under the guise of executive construction of existing laws, or whether it take refuge in the tyrants' pleas of necessity or superior wisdom.

"We favor the preservation, insofar as we can, of an open door for the world's commerce in the Orient, without unnecessary entanglement in Oriental and European affairs, and without arbitrary, unlimited, irresponsible and absolute government anywhere within our jurisdiction. We oppose, as fervently as did George Washington himself, an indefinite, irresponsible, discretionary and vague absolutism, and a policy of colonial exploitation, no matter where or by whom invoked or exercised; we believe with Thomas Jefferson and John Adams that no government has a right to make one set of laws for those 'at home' and another and a different set of laws, absolute in their character, for those 'in the colonies'. All men under the American

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