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# Illinois Party Platforms 1914

WITH

SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHIES OF AVAILABLE  
MATERIAL ON FILE IN THE LEGISLATIVE  
REFERENCE BUREAU, RELATING TO  
THE SUBJECTS ENUMERATED  
THEREIN.



**Legislative Reference Bureau**

**STATE OF ILLINOIS**

**FINLEY F. BELL, Secretary**

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# Illinois Party Platforms 1914

LEGISLATIVE  
OF THE  
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
26 OCT 1914

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SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHIES OF AVAILABLE  
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## Legislative Reference Bureau

STATE OF ILLINOIS

FINLEY F. BELL, Secretary

## FOREWORD

The Legislative Reference Bureau was created by the Forty-eighth General Assembly for the purpose of furnishing the members of the Legislature information on legislative topics and has collected several thousand books and pamphlets dealing with economic and sociological matters, Statutes of the various States, State documents, Court Reports, reports and proceedings of conferences of public bodies, associations, etc., magazine articles, bibliographies, digests and newspaper clippings bearing on legislation. The Bureau is non-political in its organization and methods and its services are gratuitous. It suggests no legislation and furthers no special interests, excepting the furnishing of data for the General Assembly. This pamphlet is published for the purpose of acquainting the several candidates and public as well, with the information collated by this Bureau for their use. The list of references is selected and does not include all the material on hand, being only the most important and up to date matter relating to Illinois issues.

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New Jersey .....	1912
New York .....	1912
Ohio .....	1912
West Virginia .....	1911-1912
Wisconsin .....	1912

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Michigan .....	1909
Minnesota .....	1912
Missouri .....	1909
Nebraska .....	1913



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## ILLINOIS DEMOCRATIC STATE PLATFORM 1914.

Adopted at Democratic State Convention of Illinois held in Armory at Springfield, Illinois, Sept. 18, 1914.

The Democratic Party of Illinois, represented in its State Convention, congratulates the nation upon the incomparable record achieved by Democracy under the inspiring leadership of President Wilson.

Within the brief period of eighteen months, the Democratic national administration has taken up and triumphantly dealt with a varied, complex and portentous series of problems, situations and conditions without parallel since the nation was born.

"Lest we forget" let us recall to mind a few of them:

1—A situation in Mexico inherited from a Republican predecessor, inviting international complications, commercial and industrial disturbance, and war.

2—Long-standing demand ignored by Republican administration, for an income tax law.

3—Public need of, and public demand for, consistent tariff downward revision, unheeded by Republican administrations.

4—Imperatively needed currency legislation, long promised but never provided by Republican administrations.

5—An inextricable muddle of legislation and prosecution directed against the evil practices of "big business," all made ineffective and inconclusive, but damaging to honest business, by Republican effort to placate sentiment without hurting special interests.

6—Tremendous and unexpected problems, born of Europe's war conflagration, which interrupted and unhinged industrial production, commerce, finance, and ocean transportation throughout the world.

Mark the results, all achieved within less than half a presidential term:

1—The Mexican situation dealt with in a spirit of firmness, with justice, and without bluster, that has won the world's admiration, forestalled war, conserved American blood and treasure, fended off international complications, and set the oppressed Mexican people well on the road to a new era of peace, order and general welfare.

2—An equitable income tax law enacted and put into effect.

3—The tariff revised downward for the benefit of all people, not for a few favored special interests.

4—A currency law that meets with practically universal approval enacted and now in process of being put into effect.

5—Anti-trust laws enforced with an eye single to ending bad practices, not merely for the sham-battle purpose of "making a record," and new legislation to correct obscurities and inconsistencies in old anti-trust laws, on the eve of enactment.

6—Dollar diplomacy abolished, and the doctrine of human rights substituted therefor.

7—An insidious lobby driven out of Congress.

8—The Panama Canal completed.

9—Steps taken to open up the great natural treasure house of Alaska; the Alaskan railway authorized and the survey thereof begun.

10—Popular election of United States Senators made effective.

11—Two great railway strikes averted by arbitration, and the Colorado coal strike settled.

12—Destruction of the telephone and telegraph trusts.

13—Parcels post service extended and made cheaper.

14—Reduction of express rates and charges.

15—The elimination of the postal service deficit.

16—Since obtaining control of the lower house of Congress three years ago, the enactment by the Democratic party of more labor legislation, asked for by the men who work, than was enacted during all previous Republican administrations.

17—Every problem, situation or condition arising from the European war promptly, firmly and patriotically met; the country rescued from a financial crisis, and probably a crash, by quick executive and legislative action; war insurance for American cargoes provided to open up foreign trade; legislative action taken that makes the hope of an American merchant marine an immediate realization.

Thanks to President Wilson, and to his loyal support by the Democratic party, we are at peace with all the world while the nations of Europe are engaged in destructive war; we have laid the foundation for bringing peace to the warring nations; our industrial, commercial and financial structure is sound; the opportunity to take first place in finance, in commercial and industrial development, and in the trade of the whole world is at our feet.

What page in the history of the American presidency carries a record comparable with this?

And the achieving of it has been marked by a breadth of vision, a firmness of purpose and a personal dignity and simplicity that place the name of Woodrow Wilson on the honor roll of American presidents, alongside those of Washington, Jefferson and Lincoln.

In the light of this nation's need of further constructive legislation and administration along the lines of the record already made, we believe public interest demands that Woodrow Wilson be re-elected president of the United States, and we now pledge to him the support of the Democratic party of Illinois for renomination and re-election in 1916.

We commend the Democratic representatives of Illinois in the National House and Senate for their unfaltering support of the president, and we bespeak for them hearty approval at the polls in November.

To uphold the hands of the president by electing men to Congress upon whom we can rely, is the first duty of patriotic citizens

in these trying times. We commend this thought to the consideration of all citizens of Illinois, regardless of party affiliations.

To President Wilson (after March 4, next) we pledge without reservation the support of another Senator from Illinois, Roger C. Sullivan, whose frank and common sense appeal to the people has made him the Democratic nominee for United States Senator. For his ability, for his breadth of mind, for his ripe experience and strength of character, we offer him to the voters of the state, regardless of party, as one in every way fitted to give Illinois representation again in the United States Senate commensurate with her rank in the sisterhood of states.

As the simplest and most effective method of dealing adequately with questions affected by state constitutional restrictions—woman suffrage, revenue reform, the initiative and referendum, the "short ballot" remedy for expensive and complex primary and general elections, multiplicity of taxing bodies and overlapping of governmental functions in Chicago and Cook County, a larger measure of home rule for municipalities, minority representation in the General Assembly, and many other questions—we favor and recommend provision by the next General Assembly for a constitutional convention, or

The Democratic party advocates, and will endeavor to bring about, an amendment to the present state constitution by striking from Section 2, Article 14 of said constitution (known as the amending clause) the words: "The General Assembly shall have no power to propose amendments to more than one article of the constitution at the same session, nor to the same article oftener than once in four years."

If said amendment be passed by the next Legislature it can be submitted to the people for approval or disapproval by popular vote in November, 1916, and if it can be approved by the people, as we are confident it will be, the present constitution can be amended freely and quickly to meet all the demands of modern progress. If a new constitutional convention be thereafter adopted, (and it cannot be adopted under the provisions of the present constitution until long after November, 1916,) this amendment to the present constitution will probably be incorporated therein. If a new constitution is not adopted, this amendment will enable the Legislature, from time to time, to propose any and all amendments to the present constitution which may be demanded by the people.

The so-called amending clause of the present constitution renders the amendment of the constitution most difficult of attainment. It has acted as a rigid collar around the throat of the growing State of Illinois, and prevented that constitution from responding to the demands of modern progress.

We reaffirm our belief that the constitution of this state should provide for the initiation of legislation by the people themselves, and for a popular vote by referendum upon legislation passed by the Legislature, upon a demand therefor by a reasonable percentage of the people. We make the reservation that in the enactment of a referendum amendment to the constitution or initiative and referendum laws, no part of the state be discriminated against.

We favor the abolition of the State Board of Equalization in the interests of fair play in taxation and equity and justice and efficiency in the assessment of taxable property, and we favor the substitution for the State Board of Equalization, when defunct and out of existence, of a tax commission, clothed with adequate power to properly classify the various forms of property and to bring into the light property which is now hidden and to assess all property at a just and equitable valuation which now escapes taxation, the said commission to be appointed by the Governor with the consent and approval of the Senate.

We endorse the splendid State administration of the Democratic Governor, Edward F. Dunne, for its efficiency, its economy, its statesmanship, its honesty, its steadfast adherence to sound and progressive principles, and we congratulate Governor Dunne and the people of our State upon the great success he has achieved in the redemption of almost all of his platform pledges, made previous to his triumphant election two years ago.

We are proud of the record made by the Democratic State administration.

It has ratified the amendment to the federal constitution providing for the election of United States Senators by the direct vote of the people.

It has created a public utilities act under which a commission has complete and absolute control of the great public utilities of the State, and is enforcing rules and regulations for the thorough protection of the people.

It has placed upon the statute books an act permitting every city in the State of Illinois to own or operate or lease public utilities of any and all descriptions.

It has authorized the employment of convicts in building public roads, and pursuant to this act such convicts are now being generously utilized in upbuilding the State highways.

It has authorized the founding of an epileptic colony for the care of these unfortunates.

It has authorized the rotation of names upon the ballot for all State officers.

It has created a Legislative Reference Bureau for the collection of data on economic and sociological subjects for the purpose of furnishing complete information to the people and to members of the Legislature upon all legislative topics.

It has created an Efficiency and Economy Committee that has been assiduously engaged in devising methods for the consolidations of State departments and commissions and procuring retrenchments of expenses.

It is building an entirely new State hospital to relieve the overcrowded conditions of the other asylums or State hospitals with all possible speed and despatch.

It has placed upon the statute books the first practical road-making law in the State of Illinois, and is vigorously engaged in the upbuilding of the roads of the state.

It has enacted a law requiring the semi-monthly payment of wages and salaries by all corporations in the state.

It has abolished the frauds and scandals in the fish and game department, and consolidated these departments so as to give sufficient fish and game protection.

It has enacted an excellent workmen's compensation act, which provides for definite reward to injured employees.

It has amended the Mechanic's Lien law so as to give a sub-contractor a lien on a building for labor and material furnished.

It has enacted laws providing for greater safety in mining operations, and has further developed the establishment of rescue stations to relieve miners from the dangers incident to that great industry.

It has enacted a law permitting the organization of corporations for loaning money by wage assignment and limiting the rate of interest or compensation therefor.

It has placed upon the statute books a law which requires the owners of coal mines, mills and foundries and other work-shops to maintain sanitary washrooms, convenient to the place of employment, for the use of employees, and passed many other laws in the interest of the whole people.

It has moreover changed the whole course of treatment for the wards of the state. In the penal institutions, reform and not vengeance has been the watchword.

Under the Democratic administration in the charitable institutions of the state extensive building operations are now in progress, which will provide adequate room for the patients and proper accommodations for the employees.

It has humanized and civilized the state institutions of Illinois by abolishing corporal punishment in all those institutions having to do with the care and training of children; by abolishing all mechanical restraint and all brutality in the handling of the patients in the state hospitals, and by adopting and instituting the eight hour system for the benefit of the employees.

We demand of the next session of the General Assembly the re-apportionment of the state into Congressional, Senatorial and Judicial Districts that will correct the inequalities and injustices of existing partisan Republican apportionments.

It is a well established rule of common law that interest upon or other accretions to a trust fund follow the trust. Public funds are trust funds. Therefore all accretions and earnings or profits upon public funds, whether in the form of interest on bank deposits or otherwise, belong by right to the people for whom such public funds are held in trust, and every resource of the law should be employed to compel all officers charged with the care of public funds to account for and cover into the public treasury all accretions to and earnings or profits on such funds. We demand immediate legislation to facilitate enforcement of this simple rule of common law and common honesty.

We favor immediate revision by the General Assembly of all civil service laws now on the statute books to the end that the deficiencies, ambiguities and absurdities of such laws be corrected; and we favor extension of the revised civil service laws so as to make them applicable to the employees of the Sanitary District of Chicago,

the clerk and bailiff of the Municipal Court of Chicago and the Election Commission of Chicago. We favor the extension of the civil service system and authority to all the offices connected with the Municipal Courts and the county government of Cook County.

We demand immediate legislation that will provide effective governmental supervision and control of all persons, firms or corporations conducting a bank or holding themselves out to the public as bankers, within the State of Illinois.

We favor the immediate legislation to provide for the election of all judicial officers at a time when no other officers are to be elected.

We renew our demand for the passage of an adequate corrupt practices act.

Establishment of a merchant marine, the restoration of the United States to its rightful place among the maritime nations and the up-building of our foreign trade go hand in hand. Our candidate for United States Senator has taken an advanced position on these issues and we hereby heartily endorse his views and incorporate them as part of this platform.

Federal aid for the building of good roads has also been advocated by our Senatorial candidate. We pledge him the support of the party in his fight to obtain it.

## REPUBLICAN PLATFORM.

Adopted by Republican State Convention at Peoria, September 18, 1914.

The Republican party in Illinois, assembled by their representatives in State convention more than a half a century after its first great historic victory inspired and led by Abraham Lincoln, appeals to the awakened intelligence and experience of the people applied to the present Democratic administration, and in memory of the matchless achievements of the Republican party and its present fitness and capacity rightly to meet and solve all issues before the American people, asks the election of its candidates and the approval of its policies. We send our greetings to the republicans of every state and all others in accord with them, with the assurance that the state of Lincoln, Grant and Logan will be redeemed from the Democratic party and restored to the traditions and principles that have always made the Republican party the only safe, creative and Progressive party of the country capable of successfully preserving, developing and applying such principles as will restore prosperity, promote social justice and secure civil liberty under the regulation of the wise and just laws.

The Republican party appeals to all who believe in its principles and its ability properly and well to administer the government of the country, to unite in its support and elect its candidates to the end that its governmental principles may be substituted for the unquiet, sectional and destructive experiments and legislation of the Democratic party which elected its president in 1912 by a minority lacking nearly one and one-half million votes of a popular majority. The division of those opposed to the Democratic party not only continues it in power, with its demonstrated incapacity and unfitness to govern the country, but promotes control by such minorities as hinder and weaken the rule of the people.

The record of the Democratic party since it assumed the powers of government March 4, 1913, is one of broken promises and faith betrayed. Its pledges have been kept neither when in office nor can they be relied upon during the campaign.

## REPUBLICAN EXTRAVAGANCE.

It denounced appropriations made by the Republican congresses as a profligate waste of public funds, the cause of high taxes, and demanded a return to simplicity and economy, which were claimed as a democratic virtue. In power in both houses of congress and in the office of president, the most Democratic party has been the most extravagant and wasteful in the history of our country. New offices have been created as partisan spoils, needless appropriations passed, and under the guise of internal improvements the most lavish and useless river and harbor bill ever framed has passed the house, the objects of



whose expenditure in large part are grossly sectional and the result of shameless bargaining for local interests having no relation to the general welfare. We condemn it and the reprehensible practices that create it, and demand that logrolling and pork barrel methods of looting the treasury be permanently abandoned and such appropriations be based upon the systematic needs of waterways and coast improvements and expended so as to be a public benefit instead of a local favoritism.

Instead of lowering taxes by simplicity and economy, the appropriations of the Democratic party exceed by nearly one hundred million dollars those of any preceding Republican congress. With government expenditures in excess of revenue receipts by many millions, Democratic promises of economy are broken and that party is now devising new tax laws to impose additional burdens on the people, rather than a retrenchment in its profligate waste of constantly dwindling revenue under existing laws.

### HIGH COST OF LIVING.

The Republican protective tariff was falsely charged with the high cost of living and with burdening the American farmer and laboring man. Under the free trade legislation of the Democratic party the farmer's product has been cheapened in his hands and the American workman has seen our pay-rolls diminished or destroyed so that the loss of employment has crippled the purchasing power of his toil and the high cost of living has become higher, with nothing lower except the ability of all to transact business and earn a living.

### FEDERAL CIVIL SERVICE.

The Democratic party pledged itself honestly and rightly to enforce the civil service laws of the United States. It has debased the service, violated the letter and spirit of existing laws, refused to place offices created under new laws under civil service and returned to the abandoned and reactionary practice that to the victor belongs the spoils.

It denounced the Republican principle of protection to American labor and industries as unconstitutional, and declared for free trade in most of the articles, the like of which we have the ability to produce in our country sufficient for our own need, and for a tariff for revenue only on the remainder of such articles. Its revision of the tariff in the Act of Oct. 3d, 1913, is a sectional measure discriminating against the farmers' products of the North and West and the products of the Pacific coast, and against the laboring men and manufacturers of the entire country by removing the protective barriers that gave them the just advantage of our markets and our wage scales and equalized the difference in wages at home and abroad. It pledged itself to destroy no legitimate industry. By freelisting sugar it has destroyed the cane sugar and crippled the beet sugar industry so that neither can be restored except by promptly returning to a Republican protective duty on sugar, which alone gave us \$50,000,000 of revenue

annually and imposed no burden on the people. As a source of revenue, the Democratic tariff act is a self-confessed failure. From it a deficit would have resulted under ordinary conditions; the war in Europe has only hastened the appearance of a deficit which is a natural result of the Democratic party's tariff act, and a normal symptom that invariably marks its attempts to govern the country. A treasury deficit of more than \$100,000,000 is now apparent. Instead of meeting it by prudent economy and a wise reduction of appropriations, war taxes are proposed when we are at peace, leading to additional burdens on the people. The necessity for this tax is not created mainly by the European war. While the decrease of revenue from duties is partly due to reduced imports, it is more largely caused by a reduction in duties, by lowering rates on some or entirely freelisting other articles. The Democratic party is not responsible for our reduced imports since the war began, but the loss of revenue on imports since the war is directly chargeable to that party. In view of this, we declare that Republican protective tariff law is better than additional and excessive taxation of the American people.

#### COLOMBIAN TREATY.

The Democratic party has presented to the United States senate a proposed treaty with Colombia that apologizes for and expresses regrets for our recognition of the independence of the Republic of Panama, our treaty by which we acquired the Canal Zone from the new republic, and binds the American people to pay Colombia \$25,000,000 damages. Nothing but a concurring vote of the United States senate is now lacking for this national humiliation. We oppose the ratification of the proposed treaty, and arraign the Democratic party for its betrayal of the honor and interests of the American people embodied in the measure and declare against its ratification of such proposed treaty.

#### THE TARIFF.

The Republican party of Illinois declares its settled faith in an allegiance to the principle of protection as absolutely essential to the maintenance of living wages for the workmen of our country and the foundation of American agricultural and industrial independence and prosperity. A protective tariff taxes foreign products competitive with our own when imported. It gives our markets to our producers and creates American payrolls with the American standard of wages for our workmen. It diffuses its benefits throughout our entire country, so that our common strength arises from the strength of each, and keeps control of prices in our hands at home, instead of surrendering it to foreign countries. It is national and not section in its benefits and not only develops and maintains our industries, but produces the larger part of our public revenues by placing the burden on the foreign producer as the price of selling his merchandise in our markets. We recall with especial satisfaction at this time that no protective tariff of the Republican party since the close of the Civil war

has failed to produce sufficient revenue to defray the expenses of the government.

The rates of custom duties is a practical matter to be governed from time to time by conditions of production and markets; the un-deviating principle is the protection of American labor, agriculture and industries. To that end we favor a tariff commission to gather correct information so accurately to apply tariff rates to meet changing conditions and not to base such legislation on the lack of knowledge and the loose conjecture that guided the Democratic party in passing the Wilson-Underwood tariff act.

#### STATE ADMINISTRATION.

The Democratic administration in this state came into power after a campaign of charges against the Republican administration, every one of which has been proven false, and upon pledges and promises, not one of which has been proven false.

The charge was made that the tax rate of thirty-five cents fixed by the last Republican administration was excessive. The first tax rate levied for state purposes by the present Democratic administration was fixed at seventy cents; double the highest rate ever raised and expended by the Republican administration.

The charge was made that Republican appropriations of \$29,000,000 were extravagant. The first appropriations made for state purposes by the Democratic administration aggregate \$38,000,000 an increase of \$9,000,000.

#### STATE CIVIL SERVICE.

The charge was made that the Republican state civil service law and its administration were a "fake." Since the inauguration of the Democratic administration, this law has been assailed in the Illinois courts by the Democratic attorney general; it has been attacked by a Democratic legislature through amendments weakening its force and diminishing its authority; and its integrity has been violated and its administration perverted to political and partisan purposes through the machinery of the Dental Civil Service commission itself, resulting in diminished efficiency and economy in the management of all state institutions and departments of the state government.

The charge was made that Republican officials were incompetent to discharge their duties. The record of the Democratic administration shows an increased cost and a steady deterioration of service in every branch of the state government. This fact has been so notorious and so firmly fixed in the public mind that it is deemed unnecessary to point out specific instances to add to the overwhelming evidence of the lack of qualification of Democratic state officials, both elective and appointive, to meet the responsibilities or perform the duties of the various departments of the state government.

To bring to an end the wastefulness, extravagance and inefficiency which have characterized the present Democratic administration; to give to the people of Illinois an honest and effective administration

of the state government, and to restore to the conduct of public affairs the efficiency and economy of Republican administration, we call upon the voters of Illinois to rally to the support of the Republican candidates so that this great task, of such vital interest to the people of Illinois, may be accomplished.

The Republican party pledges itself if restored to power, to work for the following reforms, which it believes to be of paramount importance in the legislative and administrative work of the state:

The enactment of a comprehensive corrupt practices Act applicable to all public offices.

The extension of civil service principles to all branches of the state service.

A comprehensive reform of our state revenue system to the end that the burdens of taxation may be justly and equitably distributed.

#### WOMAN SUFFRAGE.

The granting of unlimited suffrage to women voters.

#### STATE CONSTITUTION.

The amendment or revision of the state constitution to the end that much needed reforms which are prevented, hampered or delayed by the restrictive provision of the present state constitution may be obtained most easily, most quickly and most completely.

We re-affirm the platform adopted by the Republican State convention in 1910 and the platform of the Republican National convention of 1912 in reference to trust and private monopolies.

The Illinois Farmers' institute has always been a non-partisan non-political organization for the advancement of farm life and farming.

The Republican party views with regret any attempt to hamper its work or lessen its usefulness and pledges to restore it to its former place and to keep it unhampered and free from political domination or control.

## ILLINOIS PROGRESSIVE PARTY PLATFORM.

Adopted by Progressive State Convention at Urbana, Sept. 18, 1914.

The Progressive party of Illinois, again assembled in state convention affirms anew the program of social justice, of economic progress and of fair and "permanent prosperity" which the party gave to the country in 1912.

We meet at a crucial moment. The "old parties" offer the state two senatorial candidates smirched by franchise grabbing and the taint of legislative conspiracy or corruption. The fact summons the citizenship of Illinois, irrespective of party, to the support of Raymond Robins for United States senator for the effective destruction of the political tradition that has made Loricmerism a national disgrace.

Back of the standards of the reactionary leaders of the Republicans and Democrats is a host of other candidates whose defeat the Progressives of Illinois hereby pledge themselves to achieve. We enthusiastically pledge our loyalty to the congressional, legislative and county nominees of the Progressive party, asking in their behalf the support of all citizens who wish to eradicate bossism and dishonesty from public office.

### FACE VITAL ISSUES.

In nation and state supreme issues confront us.

Nationally, the European war confronts us. Its disorganization of the world's commerce, its revelation of our own lack of a merchant marine should come as a summons to American commercial and agricultural enterprise and as a vital proof of the need of sound economic legislation.

The Democratic party through extravagance in state and nation has made it more difficult for us to meet this crisis. Nationally it has framed the biggest appropriations that the country has known. The Democratic chairman of the House appropriations committee has publicly accused his Democratic colleagues of "piling up public expenditures until the Democratic party is becoming the laughing stock of the country." In the Illinois legislature the Democrats, through a Republican chairman of the House appropriations committee, have surpassed all records for extravagance, despite their personal and platform pledges for economy, by doubling the rate of taxation.

### ECONOMY DEMANDED.

We demand a reduction in state appropriations.

We protest now against further consideration of the Democratic proposal to pay \$25,000,000 to Colombia to salve the pride of a country which tried to hold up the building of the world's water way known as the Panama Canal.

Twenty years ago less than one-fourth of the breadwinners of this country worked for a wage paid by others. Now, over one-half of the breadwinners work for wages and 7,000,000 women and 2,000,000 children are enrolled in the armies of industry. Half a million men hungered in our greatest cities last winter. The whole condition proves that it is not enough for the government to regulate relations between business enterprises; it must, within wise limitations, not only control the strong but help the weak.

#### ASSEMBLY CRITICIZED.

In the state the need for sound progress and sane reform is as great as that need in Congress. The last general assembly of Illinois was controlled by a reactionary bi-partisan combine of Republicans and Democrats. Under this leadership it killed the the initiative and referendum bill, a measure overwhelmingly demanded by vote of the people, it killed the resolution to submit to popular vote the proposal for a constitutional convention; it killed the bill to permit cities to have nonpartisan elections.

The same bipartisan combination, its Republican wing led by Senator Lawrence Y. Sherman, elected to the all-powerful position of speaker of the house a Sullivan Democrat. It killed the resolution to free the house from secret domination of the speaker; it killed the bill to limit the hours of women working in factories; it killed the bill for one day's rest in seven.

For all these reforms the Progressive members of the legislature fought, just as they alone unitedly voted for woman suffrage, which was opposed by Democratic and Republican reactionaries alike.

Finally, we emphasize the fact that the Progressive party program, in both national and state legislatures, has been blocked and crippled by the corrupt and shameless abuse of the systems of political machinery controlled by the rings of the two old parties.

#### REFORMS ARE PLEDGED.

In view of these conditions, be it therefore

Resolved, That the Progressives of Illinois declare the trust legislation of the Sixty-third Congress inadequate, and pledge their candidates for the federal Senate and House of Representatives to labor and to vote for the creation of a comprehensive and powerful trade commission, as planned in the Murdock bills;

Resolved, That we also pledge these candidates to work and to vote for the immediate creation of a permanent, expert, non-partisan tariff commission to advise congress upon all tariff changes, especially those rendered wise by the great economic consequences of the European war.

#### CONGRESS HELD LAX.

Resolved, That we pass vigorous criticism upon the Democratic majority in the Sixty-third Congress for its refusal to legislate for the prohibition of child labor, for the investigation of the need for social insurance and for the creation of a federal employment bureau; and that our party hereby pledges its candidates for

the two houses of Congress to legislate to these ends and for other legislation to meet the increasing needs and opportunities of the farmer and the wage worker.

Resolved, That we pledge these candidates to work for a powerful navy, adequate to the strategic requirements of a sea-board protection and best gained by a naval program of not less than three battleships a year until such time as the great powers of the world can be federated into an international court with international police to preserve the principle of arbitration of disputes between nations; and that our members of Congress be instructed to aid international disarmament by every means in their power in the interests of the larger well-being of mankind.

### NEEDS OF ILLINOIS.

In view of the conditions in Illinois, as set forth above, be it also

Resolved, That a constitutional convention to revise the archaic state constitution of 1870 is the greatest need of Illinois today.

Resolved, That the complete enfranchisement of women, the initiative, referendum and recall, the short ballot and minority representation all cry for a constitutional convention, and that we pledge all of our legislative candidates to work for it.

Resolved, That we hereby especially and expressly pledge our nominees to work for the initiative and referendum.

Resolved, That we pledge our state candidates to work and to vote for such house rules as may limit the powers of the speaker exclusively to those of presiding officer; to vote to elect the committee on rules from the floor of the house, and to confer upon that committee the power either to select or to nominate for confirmation by the house all standing committees.

Resolved, That we further pledge our members of the legislature to require and provide for the prompt appraisal of the property values of the statewide utility combinations, notably the McKinley traction system and the so-called "Insull group," to show what difference there be, if any, between capitalization and actual value.

Resolved, That we pledge the Progressive legislators to throw all their strength to strengthen the merit system in the civil service against the reactionary attacks made upon it by the Democrats in the last few years, and to extend civil service to Cook County, the Chicago sanitary district and the Chicago Municipal courts.

### CHICAGO HOME RULE.

Resolved, That this convention recommend that the general assembly give to the City of Chicago the power to regulate the public utility trust within its borders, without prejudice, however, to what may prove to be the sound policy for the control of similar utilities in the smaller cities.

Resolved, That we favor reform in the methods of legal procedure, so that technical requirements shall not unreasonably delay the suitor's demand for relief.

Resolved, We demand the passage of an entirely new drainage

act, simple, direct and concise in its provision and equally protective of the rights of property owners and of those requiring organized drainage.

#### NONPARTISAN BENCH.

Resolved, That we favor the enactment of a law, subject to the referendum of the people, providing for the nonpartisan nomination and election of all county, municipal and judicial officers.

Resolved, That in addition to the foregoing we pledge our party and its representatives to bring into actual legislative effect these further principles from our platform of 1912:

Rural credit for farmers.

Living wage standards for women to be established by wage boards.

Eight-hour day for women industrial workers.

Secret primaries.

Abolition of contract labor in prisons.

#### TO PROTECT WORKERS.

Creation of standards for compensation for death and injury in industry.

A system of social insurance especially adapted to American conditions.

Continuation schools for industrial education of youth.

State supervision of private banks.

"Blue sky" law to protect the public from fictitious stocks and bonds.

More experiment stations and agricultural contests.

Abolition of state board of equalization and creation of an apportionment tax commission.

Finally, be it resolved, That the state committee be and hereby is instructed immediately to require of all Progressive candidates for Congress or the general assembly a signed pledge to support the measures introduced in fulfillment of the program herein set forth, or to declare publicly and in writing those which they propose to oppose.



## ILLINOIS SOCIALIST PARTY PLATFORM.

Adopted at Socialist State Convention held at Chicago, Sept.  
18, 1914.

"The Socialist Party of the State of Illinois, a part of the Socialist Party of the United States, and affiliated with the Socialist organizations throughout the world, stands for the right of all people to enjoy life, to have liberty and to attain happiness.

"As a result of the private and corporate ownership of the means of making a living the great mass of humanity is oppressed, robbed and denied its common rights.

"The interest of the owning class is opposed to that of the working class. Better wages, better working conditions, better living conditions, mean less rent, less interest and less profits.

"Through the control of the judiciary, legislative and administrative bodies by the owning class the rights of property and profits are defended and made of the highest importance. Through the same means the working class is kept in subjection. Witness the oppression of the Woolen Mill operatives in Lawrence, Massachusetts; the shooting of men, women and children in the coal field of West Virginia; the assaults, deportations, and breaking of the strike in the Calumet District of Michigan; the unspeakable outrages and awful slaughter in Ludlow, Colorado.

"This is the same treatment that the working class of Illinois must expect in future conflicts with the owning class until the workers shall secure control of the law making, law enforcing and law deciding bodies.

### SUPPORT ORGANIZED LABOR.

"The Socialist Party recognizes the great benefits secured and maintained through labor organizations and pledges its support to organized labor in all its contests with the Capitalist class to improve conditions.

"We, however, call the union workers' attention to the fact that although organized labor can increase wages and raise the standard of the workers' life it cannot solve the great problem of unemployment and cannot secure to the worker his full share of the social wealth produced. Unions fight to better the conditions of the labor market. Socialists propose to abolish the labor market by making the workers joint owners of the social means of production and distribution, by the election of Socialists to office, and through them instituting the municipal, state and national ownership of industries.

"The Socialist Party is the organized expression of the working class on the political field and its elective and appointive officials have

in the past, do now and will in the future place the rights of workers first and foremost.

"As measures to advance these aims the Socialist Party of Illinois pledges itself and its officials to the following immediate demands:

#### STATE PROGRAM.

1. Old age pensions.
2. State life, disability, and fire insurance.
3. Public ownership of all water power.
4. State ownership and operation of transportation, with provision for municipal ownership and operation.
5. Public ownership and operation of telephone communication with provision for municipal ownership and operation.
6. An adequate cooperative association law.

#### CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION.

7. A constitutional convention providing for (a) the initiative, referendum and proportional representation; (b) complete woman suffrage; (c) home rule for cities; (d) amendment of the Illinois State Constitution by a majority of the voters voting thereon.

8. The abolition of all private employment agencies, and the further development of the Illinois Free Employment Offices.

9. Relief by the State and municipalities for the unemployed by the improvement of highways and other public works.

10. Legislation, curbing the use of injunctions; providing for jury trials in all proceedings for contempt of court growing out of labor disputes; and protecting workers and their families in time of industrial conflict; and to prohibit by law the employment and use of privately hired police, detectives, and gunmen in industrial disputes.

11. The compulsory publication of the fact that a strike is in progress whenever men are solicited to take the place of striking workers.

#### LIMITATION ON INHERITANCE.

12. Modification of the law of this state, with reference to inheritance and wills, limiting inheritance exclusively to heirs and the amount which direct and collateral heirs may receive as follows: Widows not to exceed \$100,000, direct heirs not to exceed \$50,000, collateral heirs not to exceed \$25,000. All the remainder of the deceased's estate to become the property of the state.

13. Improvement of the Public School System, and the passage of a law to authorize the educational bodies of this state to make every school a social center and furnish free text books and free meals to all who attend the public schools.

14. The enactment of a corrupt practices act to prevent excessive expenditures and corruption in elections.

15. Establishment of a more comprehensive merit system for all state and county employes.
16. An act guaranteeing the right of picketing in labor disputes.

STAND ON OUR RECORD.

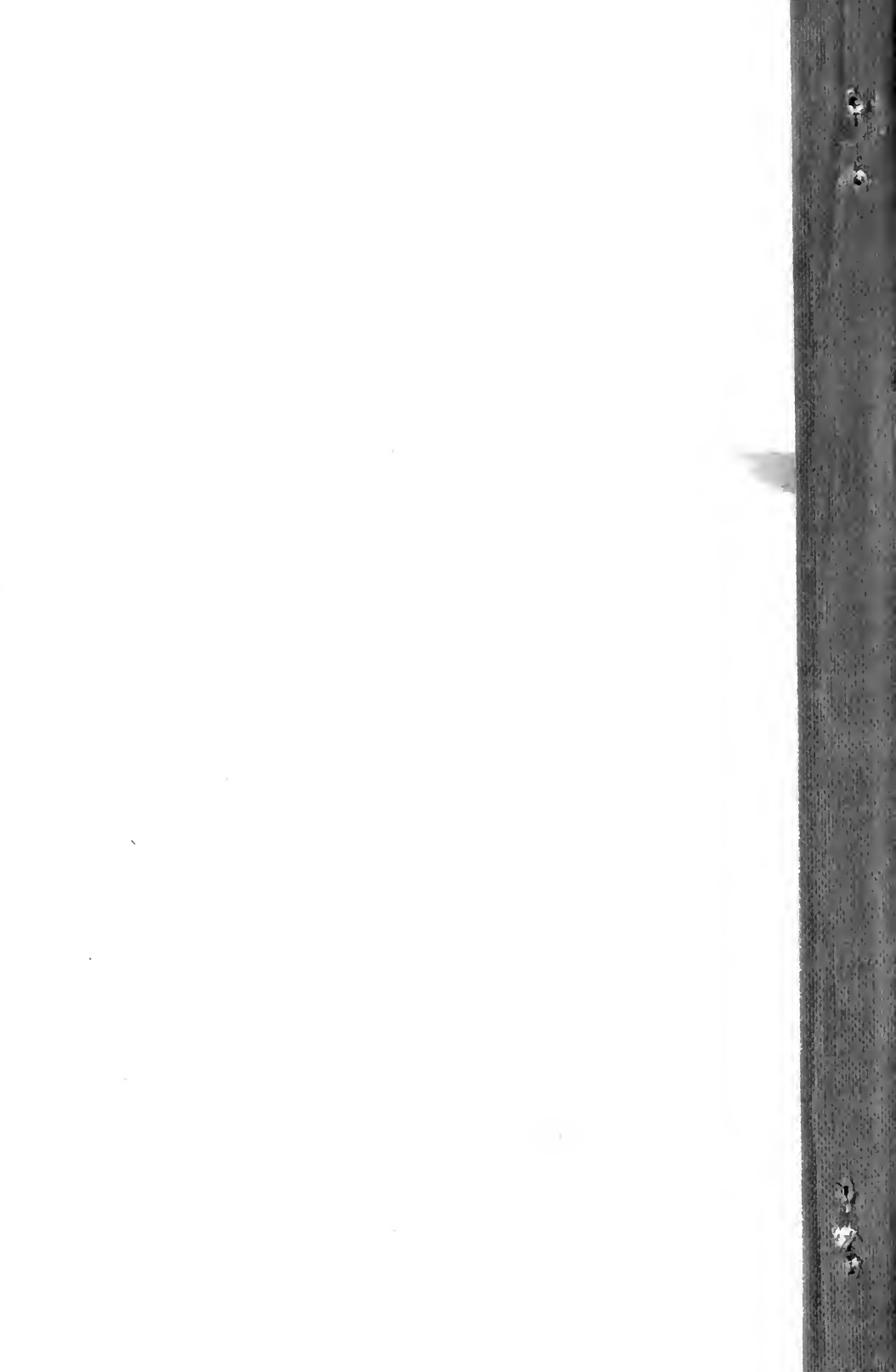
In conclusion, we emphasize the fact that the Socialist Party platform is not merely a list of empty promises like old party platforms. Official reports prove that the four Socialists elected to the Illinois Legislature two years ago did all in their power to carry out the Socialist platform. They introduced forty-five bills for the improvement of the conditions of the working class. These bills were defeated by Republican, Democratic and Progressive politicians who represent capitalist interests.













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