

Headquarters of

Democratic State Campaign Committee

HENRY B. HINES, Chairman.

OLD INN, Louisville, Ky. Oct. 24th, 1907

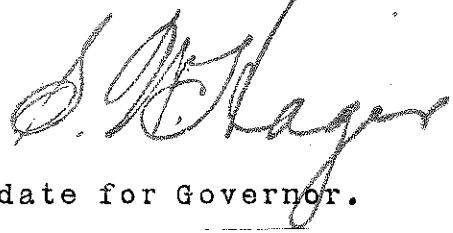
My dear Sir:-

As the campaign for State offices, to be filled by the people at the polls on Tuesday, November the 5th next, draws to a close, and the voters must shortly decide whether Democratic or Republican officials shall control the affairs of government for the next four years, I deem it but proper to address you personally regarding this serious and important public matter, knowing that you are vitally interested, as are all good citizens, in the character and policy of your State administration.

That the Republican ticket of this year is absolutely without an honest issue, and is relying wholly upon misrepresentation, deception and falsehoods for success, has, I think been made clear as the campaign progressed and developed. As Bradley, with false charges and insincere promises, deceived Kentuckians in 1895, so the Republicans hope to deceive them this year. The blight and misfortune brought upon our State by Bradley and Taylor from 1896 to 1900 is within the memory of all. Not only did they not redeem a single promise or make good a single charge, but their record was full of military rule, crime and bloodshed. Under Democratic Administration, from 1900 to the present time, you have seen Kentucky grow and prosper as never before in its history. I am enclosing to you a brief comparison of Administrations, taken from State records, and ask you if the record of our Administration does not entitle us to your earnest support. Also to remind you that the Republican candidates of this campaign are not greater than their party, and that they stand for what Bradley and Taylor stood for from 1896 to 1900.

In the light of these facts, may I not ask for your support for myself and those associated with me on the Democratic ticket? May I not call upon you to work from now until the day of election in the interest of our ticket, and to use every honorable means to secure its success? We confidently rely upon you as a patriotic citizen and shall be very grateful for your aid. The outlook for Democratic success was never brighter, and we want your help to bring to the official count an old-time Democratic majority.

Very sincerely yours,


Democratic Candidate for Governor.

To the Voters of Kentucky

**Gaze upon this Record of Republican Administration of Public Affairs,
From 1896 to 1900:**

Raised the tax rate in 1896 from 42½ cents to 52½ cents for the four years, to fall at its close to 47½ cents. Notwithstanding this, left in 1900 a bonded and floating debt of over two millions of dollars for Democratic officials to meet, with only \$363,334.51 in the public Treasury.

Appropriated to public institutions, for their betterment, during the four years only \$186,909.41, retiring in 1900 with no new departure along this line, and with the institutions in deplorable condition, and under an antiquated system of management.

Established a record within the first few months of 1896 of placing the military power above the civil power, true to their instincts of radical hate and Southern Republicanism. Continued this policy throughout the four years of the Bradley administration, and during the short time the unspeakable Taylor was at the head of affairs, using soldiers to prevent the General Assembly from electing a United States Senator in 1896; soldiers at the polls in 1899 in Louisville, and at Frankfort in 1900 to disperse the Legislature. Such brazen violation of the Constitution by officials sworn to enforce its provisions encouraged their followers to lawlessness, resulting in the cruel assassination of William Goebel.

Gave the common schools during the four years an average per capita of only \$2.35. In 1899, in desperate effort to make campaign material, "padded" the per capita to \$2.70, and left a deficit in and debt upon the School Fund of \$277,000.00, which had to be paid by Democratic officials.

Republican legislators opposed, and Kentucky's only Republican Governor vetoed, the Democratic Railroad Rate Law, delaying operation of this splendid law for several years, and thereby delaying reduction of freight rates to the shippers of the State.

Made a nullity of the franchise taxation Statutes of the Commonwealth, not bringing corporate interests to pay their just proportion of the burden of taxation, and thereby leaving that burden to fall more heavily upon the individual taxpayer. An evidence of this is given in the records of the assessment for the last year of their administration, 1899, of the railroads. The total valuation placed by them upon railroad property for franchise tax purposes that year was \$12,306,681.00, on which valuation they collected only \$64,610.07 in taxes.

Assisted, through members in Legislature, in delaying adoption of the uniform text book law, a Democratic platform measure, thereby continuing for several years the high prices charged for school books by the trusts, and enabling them to dispose of a greater number of books at the expense of the taxpayers by preventing the adoption of a uniform system.

**Then look upon this Record of Democratic Administration of Public Affairs,
From 1900 to 1908:**

Confronted with a bonded and floating debt of over two millions of dollars in 1900, the Democratic officials have met and paid it upon a tax rate of fifty cents. Every obligation has been met, and June 30, last, there was in public Treasury \$294,242.98. There will be on deposit at close of this administration \$1,250,000.00.

Total appropriations to public institutions during seven and one-half years of Democratic rule reach in round numbers \$2,700,000.00. Every institution has been modernized and is being operated under most approved system, and a new Capitol provided for.

Found the Military of the State practically merged into an armed mob when they came into power in 1900, as result of its conduct by Bradley and Taylor. Gathered up the broken fragments of the organization and gradually put it upon an honorable and efficient basis. Have followed, to the letter, the provision of the Constitution that "The Militia shall, in all cases, and at all times be under strict subordination to the civil power." This has been the Democratic idea of the use of the military power in Kentucky in contradistinction to the Republican idea as illustrated and enforced by Bradley and Taylor. Is Willson a better man than his party?

The average per capita for common schools has been raised to \$3.22½, with a record per capita for this year of \$3.40, which is not "padded" for a single cent. All debts of the School Fund are paid, and State Normal Schools have been established.

Democratic legislators enacted the Railroad Rate law, a Democratic platform measure, and under its operation thousands of dollars have been saved to the shippers of the State. The Republicans this year feared to give opposition to the author of this law.

The Franchise tax law has been put into full operation under Democratic administration, though not with a view of oppressing but of bringing all to bear their proportion of taxation. For the truth of this statement look at the records of the Auditor's Department for 1906. That year, the railroad corporations paid taxes on a valuation of \$24,910,262.00, or \$124,551.30 in taxes. Compare these figures with those in the parallel column.

Democratic legislators adopted a uniform text book law, a Goebel platform measure of 1899, thereby bringing to the fathers of the Commonwealth a uniform and better system of school books and at less cost than they had before that time been compelled to pay the school book trust. This law enables the family to use the books until they are worn out.

The deficit in management of the two State prisons, from 1895 to 1898 inclusive, the period of Republican control, was \$273,112.07. They thus spent more money in excess of income of the prisons in the three years of their regime than the Democratic party will spend in 1907 in paying salaries of all State officials, Circuit Judges, and in maintaining the State Fair, Normal Schools, and Pure Food Station. The excess over these payments is \$5,911.07.

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During the four years the Agricultural Department of the State Government was operated only to pay salaries of its officials. The farmers got absolutely no benefits from it, the then Commissioner turning back into the Treasury money appropriated for the benefit of the farmer. The Labor Inspection branch of the Department was an absolute nullity, nothing being done to benefit the condition of the working men in workshop, mill or mine.

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Expended for public printing and binding during the four years the sum of \$184,724.25, or an average per year of \$46,181.06. The party is now making Democratic expenditure for this purpose a campaign issue. Gaze upon the Democratic record in the parallel column of this pamphlet.

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Republican Governor and Auditor dropped efforts to collect the big Kentucky War Claim, after investigating it. Later, after he had retired from office, the Republican Governor sought employment as an attorney to assist in making the collection. Look to the parallel column for what the Democratic administration accomplished in this matter.

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During Republican four years their management of the Insurance Department of the State turned into the public Treasury in taxes \$496,367.66, and in surplus \$29,582.41. The office was but seldom heard of in the insurance world, and no new innovations marked its operation.

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Destroyed, through their conduct of affairs, the confidence of investors, causing much capital to be withdrawn from the State, and leaving such chaotic conditions in 1900 that Democratic officials found an enormous task before them in restoring former conditions.

From a deficit shown each year in the management of the State prisons, they have been brought to pay a profit in their operation. This profit from December, 1904, to August, 1907, was \$2,669.44. Democratic officials have made most advantageous contracts in history of the prisons, the Frankfort prison showing an excess of income over expenditures for the month of July last of \$6,821.23. While accomplishing these things the prisons have been modernized.

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In no department has Democratic management accomplished more than in the Agricultural Bureau. Farmers' Institutes, a State Fair, a Labor Bureau, expert lecturers, a Forestry Department and one of Immigration, are interesting farmers in every section, and the farmer is having more money devoted to his welfare than ever before in the history of the State. The Labor Bureau branch has accomplished much for life and health of the laboring classes.

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Democratic administration has expended for public printing in eight years the sum of \$348,905.27, or an average of \$43,613.15. Compare these figures with those in the opposite column and you will find an excess per year under Republican administration of \$2,567.91.

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A Democratic Governor pressed to collection the Kentucky War Claim, amounting to \$1,323,000.00, and secured its collection for a smaller percentage than is shown to have been paid by any other State in the Union for a similar service. He didn't employ his predecessor to assist in making the collection.

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During four years of administration of the State Insurance Department by the Democratic officials there was turned into the public Treasury in taxes the sum of \$968,176.71, and in surplus the sum of \$74,285.82. The Kentucky Commissioner has been a leader among similar officials of the several States in proposing legislation.

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Public confidence has been fully restored in Kentucky under Democratic administration. This is best evidenced by the showing of the records as to the amount of money being invested. In last four years corporations with total capital of \$215,061,920.00 organized in Kentucky.



The people of Kentucky know full well the position of the Democratic party upon the trust question, an evil strongly presenting itself just at this time. They should know that Augustus E. Willson, the Republican gubernatorial nominee, is the employed attorney of the American Tobacco Co., the most iniquitous trust to-day, not excepting even the Standard Oil Company. Should a trust lawyer be your Governor?

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**Some Things for the Kentucky Voter to
Carefully Consider before Casting
His Vote in November.**

RECORD OF TWO PARTIES IN KENTUCKY.

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1900-1908

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DEMOCRATIC

Campaign Hand-Book

1907

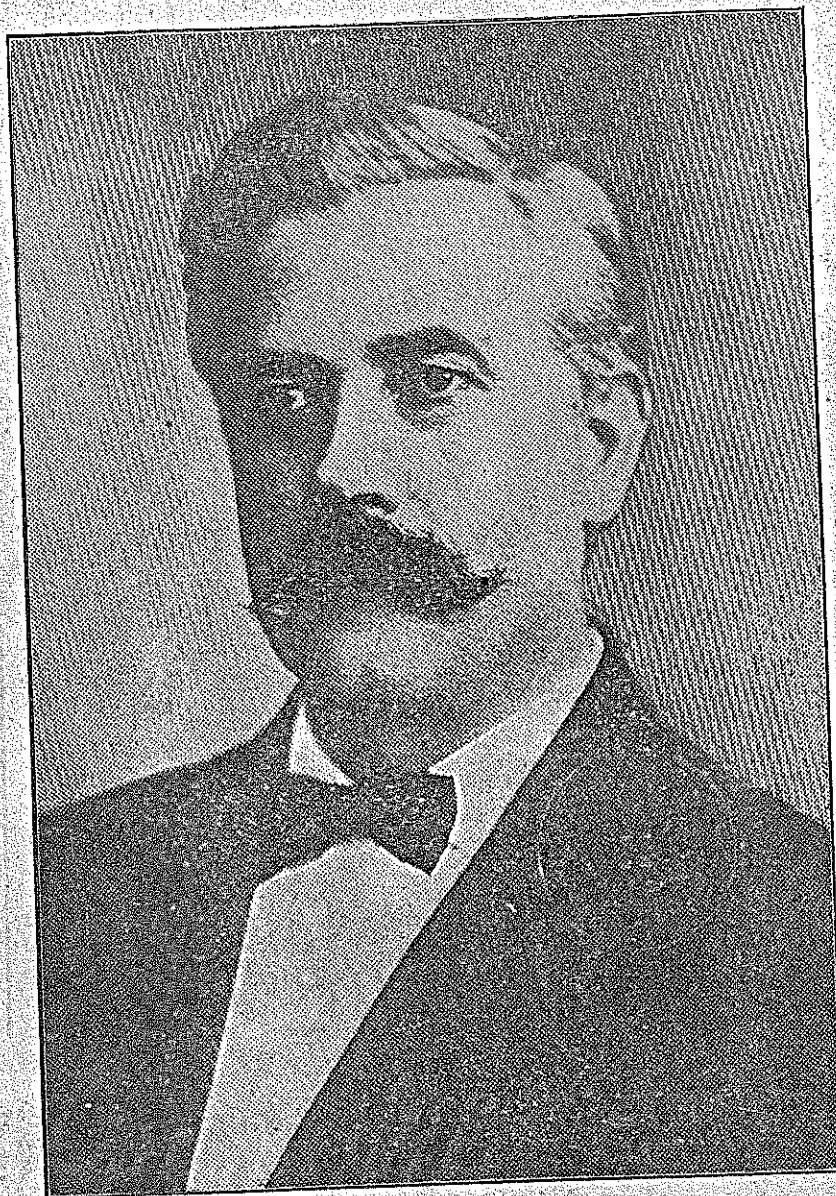
Giving an account of party stewardship in Kentucky for
eight years, and affording a contrast with
disastrous Republican rule preceding.



ISSUED BY AUTHORITY OF THE

Democratic State Campaign Committee.

HENRY B. HINES, Chairman.



HON. S. W. HAGER

Of Boyd County

DEMOCRACY'S CANDIDATE FOR GOVERNOR