

# Financing a Party of the People.

A statement published in the *Platform and Constitution of the National Party: Party Founded October 3-4, 1917: Platform Revised and Constitution Adopted March 6-7-8, 1918: Principles, Spirit, and Aims.* (Chicago, IL: National Headquarters, the National Party, 1918), pg. 19.

The National Party is a party of the people, for the people, and by the people. It is essentially and fundamentally democratic.

The National Party is built from the bottom upward; not from the top downward. And because this is true it can never be betrayed by any little coterie of rich men.

The National Party asks each active member to contribute in accordance with his means, but not less than \$2.00 per year. These fees constitute the financial backbone of the party. In politics, "they who pay the piper call the tune." Parties serve and obey those who finance them. The National Party is bound to serve those who finance it — the rank and file of its membership.

Of the amount subscribed by each member, one dollar is devoted to the national treasury, the rest going to the state organization. Thus, John Jones subscribes two dollars a year to the party; one dollar goes to the national headquarters to pay for general organization work, speakers, and so on. The other dollar remains in the state, as a contribution to the funds of his county, legislative, congressional, and state organizations. Additional contributions will be divided with the state organizations.

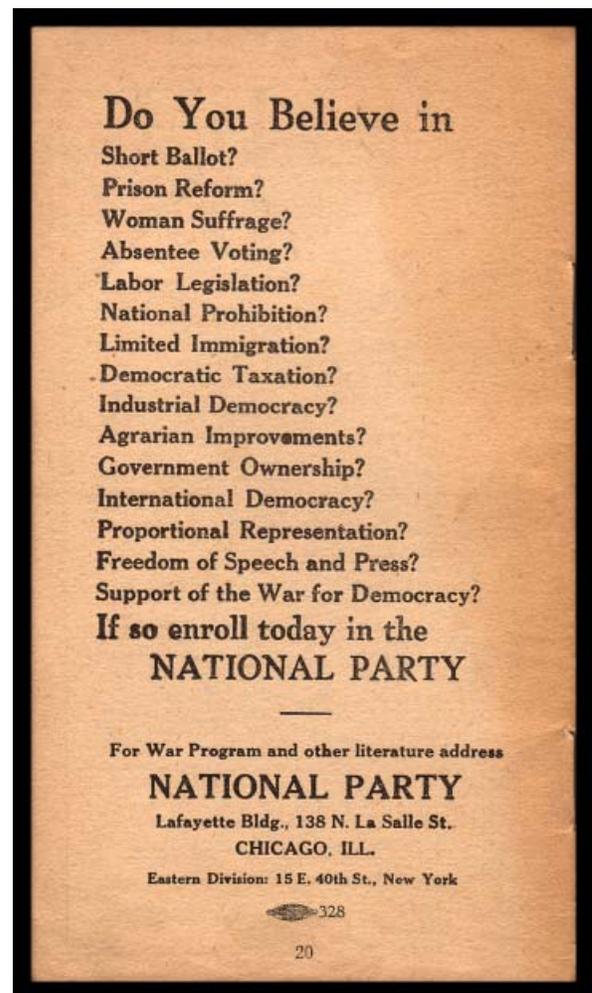
In this manner we will be able to build up strong organizations in county, state legislative, and congressional districts, with necessary funds to carry on educational work and contest elections.

In the National Party we shall have a mighty engine to serve the cause of real democracy. With it we shall wage a war of extermination on the liquor traffic; on political oligarchy and despotism; on economic privilege and injustice; and upon all those evil

forces which burden the people and create conditions for war.

But to do this we must have members, membership dues, and additional contributions.

Let us have the aid of every forward-looking man and woman, who has the welfare of America and its people at heart, in this great work for the common good.



*Edited by Tim Davenport. Graphic from back cover of aforementioned pamphlet. Published by 1000 Flowers Publishing, Corvallis, OR, 2005. • Free reproduction permitted.*