

Political Handbill

"J.R. Brinkley's Platform. The Governor of the People." From his 1930 Kansas gubernatorial campaign. Brinkley registered too late to have his name listed on the official ballot, forcing him to run as a write-in candidate.

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J. R. BRINKLEY'S PLATFORM

J. R. Brinkley entered the race as an independent candidate for Governor too late to have his name entered on the official ballot. When you vote for J. R. Brinkley, you must write his name on the blank line underneath the names of the other candidates for Governor, and put the cross mark in the square as follows:

J. R. Brinkley ☒

The Governor of the People

I appreciate the fact that the welfare of the laboring people of Kansas is indelibly bound up with their ability to obtain continuous employment at fair wages and under favorable working conditions; and I believe that the State of Kansas, as a matter of business policy, should insist that in any project by the State, preference should be given for materials, products, supplies, provisions and all other articles produced, manufactured, made or grown within the State of Kansas, and that all work performed by or on behalf of the State or any political subdivision thereof should be done by citizens of this State.

Furthermore, I realize that a law is unjustifiable which prohibits strikes and lockouts without at the same time providing adequate machinery for their settlement, and that such a law should be removed from the Statute Books, and I pledge my every effort for the repeal of the Industrial Court Law.

Furthermore, I favor the establishment of the Department of Labor under the control of a Commissioner of Labor who shall have the same qualifications as provided under the present law.

Furthermore, I am opposed to profit being derived from the misfortunes of injured workers of this State, and I favor the establishment of a State Compensation Fund to be administered at cost and the payment of compensation for occupational disease.

Furthermore, I am in favor of having the Workmen's Compensation Law to cover occupational diseases to provide for the payment of compensation during the full period of disability, and to make the payment adequate to sustain the injured workman and his dependents and prevent them from becoming the subjects of charity.

Furthermore, while every thinking man rightly believes that the inmates of our penal institutions should be compelled to perform some productive work, yet I believe the distribution of the products of such labor should be confined to the use of our State institutions, and under no circumstances should such products be offered for sale on the open market. I will advocate such legislation, and legislation that will prohibit the sale of convict-made goods of other states within the bounds of Kansas.

I furthermore promise the people of this State that if I am elected Governor of this State that one of the first things I will set in motion will be a movement to provide the poor people of this State with the purest and best of medicines, absolutely free of cost to those desiring, and at cost to those who can afford it. These free medicines will be available in every drug store in the State, thereby materially increasing the drug business amongst the prescription druggists where it rightfully belongs making it possible for the poor sick to receive proper medical attention before it is too late.

Furthermore, to provide the best medical and surgical attention to the poor wherever and whenever indicated. This plan will not conflict with the physicians and hospitals of the State, because they feel they are asked to do more free work than they should, and it will relieve them of much expense, and it will place the distribution of pure drugs through the retail druggists of the State where they rightfully belong.

I will work for the ratification of the Federal Child Labor Amendment.

I will promote child clinics, and boys and girls health clubs in every county of the State, and these will be conducted in such a manner that they will attract the children to them and maintain the interests and co-operation of the parents.

I am heartily in favor of free school books and believe that the State should furnish the children with their school books free of charge. I believe that there is a lot of waste in the school book business, and I realize that many children are deprived of a proper education because of the present cost to the fathers and mothers who do not have enough to feed the hungry mouths of their little ones and provide them with proper clothing, the cost of school books is a tragedy.

Furthermore, I am in favor of re-establishing the Department of Labor and Industry as it existed prior to 1921, increasing the scope of the work of this department to cover surveys of the natural resources and industrial possibilities of this State and hasten their development. I favor the re-enactment of this law as it existed prior to 1921 in order that the health and well-being of the women and wage-earners of our State can again be properly safeguarded.

I furthermore promise to work for the lowering of taxes and the adjustment of the affairs of State with equal rights for all, and if I am your Governor, you, the people of this great State of Kansas, will be heard, and the doors of my office will be open to you, and I shall work for the uplift of the down-trodden and bend every effort to alleviate the suffering of our people and promote happiness and good health within the confines of our great State.

When God made Kansas, He blessed her with everything but lakes. It is an indisputable fact that there is an increased rainfall where natural or artificial lakes and rivers abound. I believe the present tax on cigarettes, if properly collected and impounded, would soon be sufficient to build lakes in every county in the State. I am sure that every cigarette smoker would be willing to pay one cent additional tax. Picture a beautiful lake in every county in this State with motor boats, stocked with fish, surrounded by trees where our own Kansas folks could enjoy themselves during the summer without the added expense of going away for vacation comforts. Besides the increased rainfall would enormously increase the productivity of the State and any investment in these lakes, regardless of the source of revenue, would in a few years increase property and crop values to where the cost of the lakes would be insignificant. Besides, the migratory birds would be attracted to them, and the health of the people would be increased, and our beautiful Sunshine State in the Heart of the Nation would be considered the healthiest, wealthiest, and most desirable State in the Union. Talk about your Florida's and California's, they would not be in it.

If I am elected Governor, I will stand squarely behind the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen who are opposed to the long train bill. I am in favor of short trains, as they will give many deserving men work. Besides these trains are an unnecessary hazard, and endanger the lives of the trainmen and drag many men who have adopted railroading as their life vocation of a respectable livelihood. I do not believe in car limit, but I believe in feet limit.

I believe the State should have enough pride to provide pensions for old age and those who are blind and unable to earn a livelihood, and I believe there is a more humane way of taking care of our worthy poor than by the disgrace of the county poor farm.

I am opposed to the Basic Science Law, as I believe it denies many worthy men and women who desire to practice the healing art other than by the A. M. A. methods their constitutional rights, and whether I am Governor or not, I will always be opposed to this bill. You may investigate the various States where the Basic Science law is in effect and you will find that the M. D.'s always pass, but for some strange reason the chiropractors and osteopaths and other druggists dealers fail, regardless of their education. The law is a clever scheme on the part of the M. D.'s to keep out competition and is not operating in justice to those who practice contrary to allopathic ways.

I am opposed to corporation farming and believe that it would be unjust to the farmer, and I will use all means at my command to combat it.

My platform is for the great masses of the people for their betterment and to remove from their necks a yoke that has been hung about them by clever political manipulators; and I want to reiterate that if I am your Governor, I will devote my entire time to the administration of State affairs in behalf of all the people of the State—no privileged few will dominate, but all the people shall have a voice. Your letters to me as Governor will be given wide publicity over the radio, through the press just as I am doing in the Open Forum at 6:45 to 7:30 a. m., 12:30 to 1:30 p. m., 5:15 to 6:00 p. m. each week day.

If you believe in my principles and platform, I appreciate your earnest support because your enemies and mine will use every means at their command to defeat this kind of a platform, because it is not a political platform; and I want to assure you that whether I am elected Governor or not, I shall continue to endeavor to render service to you in the future as I have in the past.

Sincerely yours,

J. R. Brinkley ☒



J. R. and Mrs. Brinkley and son John Richard III.