THE SHAWNEE DEMANDS

Legislative Demands:

1. The initiative and referendum with the right of recall as adopted and applied in the state of Oregon.
2. A blanket primary for the nomination of every officer in the state of Oklahoma [by which each voter may vote for a single candidate, and the candidate with the most votes wins].
3. The power of the civil authorities shall never be [taken over] by the military authorities.
4. That the state may engage in any industry or enterprise.
5. That the common law relieving the employer from liability [for] employees injured through the carelessness of a fellow [employee] be [done away with], and suitable laws be passed by the first legislature protecting employees under such conditions.
6. The right of action to recover damages for injury or death shall never be [done away with], and the amount recoverable shall never be subject to [a time limit].
7. Not more than eight hours shall constitute a day's work in all underground mines and on all works carried on by the state, county, or municipal government, and the legislature shall pass suitable laws to provide for the health and safety of employees in factories, mills, smelters, mines and on railroads.
8. That there shall be three commissioners elected by the people to regulate and maintain rates for railroads, insurance, telegraph, express companies, telephone and pipelines, and all other corporations.
9. Education [to be required by law] and free textbooks printed by the state.
10. That there shall be established and maintained the office of chief mine inspector, who shall be elected by the people. The neglect or failure of a mine owner, or mine lessee to comply with the laws and state regulations in regard to mines, or the orders of the inspector of the mines made under and in pursuance thereof [sic], shall render such mine owner, or mine lessee, responsible for damages to the life, health, or person of employees or other persons resulting from such neglect or failure.
11. Sanitary inspection of shops and homes.
12. A commissioner of labor to be elected by the people.
13. A commissioner of agriculture to be elected by the people.
14. We demand a liberal homestead and exemption law.

15. The Constitutional Convention shall define who shall constitute the returning board until otherwise provided by law.
16. We demand a corporate tax commission of three elected by the people, who shall have full power to inspect all accounts, vouchers, and books at any time, and put the true [estimate of worth] on all stocks, bonds, property, receipts, and money values, so that all corporations shall be assessed by the [properly] elected assessors.

Prohibitive Demands:

1. The employment of children under sixteen years of age in mines, mills, and factories.
2. The contracting of convict labor.
3. The labor of convicts outside of prison walls, except on public roads, under direct control of the state.
4. The political and commercial control of employees.
5. Railroads from owning coal lands or leasing any kind of mines directly or indirectly.
6. Any corporation from transacting business in the state without first [getting] a charter under the laws of the state.
7. All gambling in farm products be prohibited in the constitution.
8. The legislature shall not have the power to grant an [irreversible] franchise.

Source:

Oklahoma State Federation of Labor. (1906). *Official proceedings of the fourth annual convention of the Oklahoma State Federation of Labor.* 4-7.