Silver Republican Party

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# Silver Republican Party

* *The Silver Republican Party was a United States political party in the 1890s.*
* *Silver Republican strength was concentrated in the Western states where silver mining was an important industry.*
* *After 1900, the Silver Republican Party was on the decline and most of its members rejoined the Republican Party.*

The Silver Republican Party was a United States political party in the 1890s. It was so named because it split from the Republican Party over the issues of free silver (effectively, expansionary monetary policy) and bimetallism. The main Republican Party supported the gold standard. Silver Republican strength was concentrated in the Western states where silver mining was an important industry. A leading spokesman in the House of Representatives was Willis Sweet of Idaho. Silver Republicans were elected to the Congress from several Western states. In 1896, Silver Republicans supported Democratic presidential nominee William Jennings Bryan over William McKinley. After 1900, the Silver Republican Party was on the decline and most of its members rejoined the Republican Party. However, some such as Senator Fred Dubois of Idaho and former Secretary of the Interior Henry M. Teller of Colorado joined the Democratic Party.

# Noted Silver Republicans

* *William Morris Stewart – Senator from Nevada*
* *- Representative from Idaho*
* *Thomas Kearns – Senator from Utah*
* *John P. Jones – Senator from Nevada*
* *Frank J. Cannon – Senator from Utah*
* *Lee Mantle – Senator from Montana*
* *Fred Dubois – Senator from Idaho*

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Thomas Kearns – Senator from Utah

John P. Jones – Senator from Nevada

Lee Mantle – Senator from Montana

Richard F. Pettigrew – Senator from South Dakota

John F. Shafroth – Representative from Colorado, later Governor and Senator

Willis Sweet. - Representative from Idaho

William Morris Stewart – Senator from Nevada

Henry M. Teller – Senator and Secretary of the Interior from Colorado

Edgar Wilson – Representative from Idaho

# See also

* *Silver Party*
* *National Democratic Party, The party of gold supporters who left the Democratic Party in 1896*

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Silver Party

# Further reading

* *Urban Populism and Free Silver in Montana: A Narrative of Ideology in Political Action (University of Montana Press, 1970).*
* *"Silver, discontent, and conspiracy: The ideology of the Western Republican revolt of 1890-1901."*
* *"The Silver Republicans in the Election of 1896."*
* *"The Story of Silver Politics in Idaho, 1892-1902."*

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