

THE NATIONAL GRANGE

Appeals to the United States Senators
to Pass the Washburne-Hatch
Anti-Option Bill.

ALL OF THE FARMERS FAVOR IT,

**But Are Too Poor to Maintain a Lobby
to Fight the Attorneys of the
Grain Gamblers.**

OFFICE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE,
514 F STREET,
WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 10, '02.

To United States Senators:

GENTLEMEN:—The great mass of our people believe that gambling in farm products should be prohibited by national legislation. The farmers are practically a unit upon the subject, and we believe that our wishes should be favorably considered. We know that the few people who are making millions out of commissions upon fictitious sales are opposed to such legislation. We also know that it is possible for them to secure the assistance of bankers and other business men who are either directly or indirectly making money out of these gambling operations. We also know that the opponents of such legislation are abundantly able to hire the shrewdest attorneys to represent them—while we speak for men whose aggregate wealth may be great, but who are scattered in their humble homes all over our vast domain—men who are struggling to secure the means to care for and educate their families and satisfy the demands of the tax gatherer—men who cannot afford to contribute their scant earnings to maintain at Washington, at great expense, able attorneys to plead their cause, and we therefore take this method of making their wishes known, and of asking you to use your influence and vote to secure the early passage of the Washburne-Hatch bill, in order that business may adjust itself to new conditions before the new crop is ready to be placed on the market. The solicitude manifested for the farmers' interests by the opponents of the bill is perhaps commendable, but should not be allowed too much weight when we consider that the farmers are practically unanimous in favor of the measure, and will accept the results cheerfully, knowing that, if in its practical working it is not satisfactory, it can be modified or repealed.

Very respectfully yours,
J. H. BRIGHAM,
LEONARD RHONE,
JOHN FRIMBLE,
Legislative Committee.

There is no doubt that a large number of our farmer subscribers will compete for this premium. All lists sent in by persons who wish to compete for this premium, should be marked, "For hog premium."

A NUMBER of valuable communications have been crowded over till next week.

CONGRESSMAN Kem remained in Lincoln till after the organization of the house, and then returned to Washington to look after the interest of his constituents.

THE Ohio populist state committee held a meeting at Columbus January 2. It was decided to push the organization of the Industrial legion. Next year's state convention was set for Columbus, July 4.

ROSEWATER is a ranting anti-monopolist just now. People pay little attention to the rantings of a man who helped elect corporation tools, and then curses them for serving the corporations after they are elected.

THE State Journal should have waited a few days before approving the demorepublican deal of last Friday. It will have hard work in backing around into a position where it can consistently assail the new deal consummated on Wednesday.

THE ALLIANCE-INDEPENDENT would have preferred to see the democrats and republicans complete the organization of the senate. We believe such a result would have redounded more to the glory of the new party than the plan finally adopted. The people will find out when it comes to passing a railroad bill that Mattes, North and Babcock belong to the corporations. Still as the combination was made solely for the purpose of getting the senate organized, and as the republicans had already sought to adopt the same plan, we do not see that they can consistently criticize.

Hold Your Ground.

EDITOR ALLIANCE-INDEPENDENT:—The article entitled "hold your ground" has more good advice in it, and if carried out will bring better results and do more good for the new party than anything that has appeared in the columns of your paper for many a day. In fact the ideas and principles set forth in it lie at the bottom of our movement. We must not stop now and allow all the great and good things we have done to drift away from us and be lost to our party, for our will enemy will soon claim the honor of having done what the independent has done. The people must be acting for their own interests, they are now pushing the good bill along.

FIELD NOTES

The Cozad Citizen and Lexington Clipper are to be combined. We presume the new paper will be called the Citizen-Clipper.

When Church Howe was asked, the other day, when the republicans were going to caucus, he fixed the questioner with one of those gazes which Church always carries around with him, and said, "the best thing the republican party could do would be not to caucus at all. It should hold a protracted meeting."

There was a young man in Me., That died of a horrible pe., Some fruit he enveloped. That was not quite developed. In the quiet churchyard he was le.

The above is intended to be read when you can find nothing else to do. It should be taken on a full stomach. On about the same plan is the following beautiful ditty:

There once was a statesman named Church: That was caught in a terrible lurch: Quoth he once while speaking: "The old ship is leaking."

And immediately dropped off the perch. All of which has been proven by the lapse of time to have been eminently correct.

If, in about a week you should hear a low, swishing sound, like unto the escaping of a large amount of gas, do not be alarmed. It will merely be the collapsing of about thirty-seven punctured senatorial booms.

The republicans have had only about forty corporate organizations working on independent members during the past week. The path trodden by the average legislator is not one of roses by any means.

The present session of the legislature promises a large and juicy sensation. It will be the impeachment of the Hon. Thomas Majors by the Hon. Edward Rosewater. Then across the street in front of the Capitol building, should be put the inscription: "Open at all hours, the popular comedy of Dog eat Dog; do not fail to see it."

A deep bass voice and a hickory shirt. A beautiful whisker to see. Through which the soft breezes caressingly. A large senatorial beak.

A G. A. R. badge on his lapel. Forty corporate tags in a grip. Was the way that a Nemaha statesman was made Ere he playfully dropped in the soup.

tionary, pocket knives, towels, soap, combs, brushes and other articles too numerous to mention for the use of the members, officers and committees of the two houses. All this has been done without a shadow of legal authority. The statutes name among the secretary of state's duties the following:

"To furnish the legislature and the officers thereof all necessary fuel and stationery when so directed by resolution of the legislature or either branch thereof."

But Mr. Allen did not wait until the legislature convened, much less resolved. He did just as other secretaries have done before him: purchased these supplies from certain favored individuals, had them brought to the state house and placed his "O. K." on the bills before the legislature had even met.

No sooner did the legislature meet than the first installment of those supplies was distributed among the members.

It is high time to put a period to this kind of business. The legislature doesn't need a guardian, especially a self-appointed one.

This manner of doing business has in the past been a great source of extravagance as well as corruption. If each house were left to order its own supplies, a great deal more economy would be practiced. No member would dare offer a resolution ordering a supply of hair brushes, soap, towels and pen knives. They are neither "stationery" nor "fuel." But as it is, an officious secretary of state purchases a large quantity of these things, and the members take and use them without ever stopping to inquire into the matter.

Then after the legislative mill gets to grinding, a committee on accounts and expenditures is appointed. Presently the bills begin to come in with the secretary of state's "O. K." at the bottom. These bills are for long lists of articles at stated prices. The task of going through them is tedious and disagreeable.

"What's the use, anyway," says the committeeman, whose pockets are well stored with theatre tickets: "this is all right; the secretary of state says it's all right and he ought to know. What do I know about prices of such things? Besides the stuff has been bought and distributed and paid for, and I suppose it'll have to be used. I vote to allow the bill."

If perchance some member of the committee raises a "kicker," or proposes an investigation, he is quickly "seen" by the parties interested in the bill, and if he is open to "influence," his objections are never heard of again.

Thus a vast quantity of supplies are used and paid for by every legislature. None of the members care whether the prices charged are reasonable, or whether the goods delivered are of the quality the bills allow. Now, under

Notes From the Battle Field.

LINCOLN, Jan. 3.—The tug of war is coming on. Legislators, representatives and place hunters have been holding caucuses ever since last Saturday evening. New combinations are being fixed up hourly, and one man's boom will inflate awhile, then another's.

The situation changed hourly yesterday afternoon and last evening. No man dared to put out a prediction without attaching a string that would make it easy to pull it in.

It is said the independents have not considered the matter of supporting either Bryan or McKeighan in their caucus.

C. H. Pirtle was the popular choice of the senate caucus for secretary of the senate. This was given out and remained uncontradicted. It was a secret caucus and consequently extremely difficult for the average mortal in the flesh and out of the independent party to get the original entries.

The decree of the court positively annuls the old certificate held by Kruse and seats Chester Norton, which will make one vote less for the independents.

Partial reports from an independent caucus say that there were forty members in the caucus, that the race for speakership laid between Elder of Clay and Irvin of Platt and Nance, Elder receiving seventeen votes while Irvin received fourteen. The same authority says that Edmunsen of Dawson held a good lead for the clerkship. Another says that they were all favorable to Gaffin of Saunders, with the exception of those who refused to be converted to a new belief. Still another that Elder has been offered the United States senatorship if he would lend his aid in the organization.

Republicans expect to organize the house at all events. They have not agreed on a speaker, but yesterday John Watson's boom was mounting the ladder, his friends claiming the assistance of two democratic votes at least. John Jensen, R. H. Oakley and others and backed by strong claims by their admirers.

The display of two years ago, with smashing of doors hand to hand combats and presence of uniformed soldiers, is not an improbability. Rumors of attempts, by independents, to seat Kruse and east Norton were circulated. The report that the corridors and halls were to be filled with deputies was current. When Secretary Allen calls the house to order at 12 o'clock today the excitement will begin and a great crowd will be there to enjoy the combat.

Has the Papers.

VERDIGRE, Neb., Jan. 3.—Matt Daugherty arrived from Niobrara last night with the certificate of election of Chester Norton. Van Camp was snatched away by a prearranged plan.

All books, papers, letters and transactions pertaining to the office of treasurer, shall be open to the inspection of a committee of the legislative assembly or either branch thereof, to examine and settle all accounts and count all moneys." (Chapter 83, Art. IV, Sec. 3, Statutes of 1887.)

The duty of the treasurer to give all desired information to such a committee is clearly and unequivocally expressed in section two of the same article defining the duties of the treasurer as follows:

Seventh.—To give information in writing to either house of the legislative assembly whenever required on any subject connected with the treasury, or touching any duty of the office.

Ex-treasurer Hill should not be allowed to escape investigation. To compel observance of the law for the future is but half the duty of the legislature. Hill should be made to answer for his maladministration of the office during the past four years. He should be forced to tell what use he has made of the public funds, especially the permanent school fund, and a most determined effort should be made to recover the moneys lost through his failure to obey the law.

The law requiring treasurers to deposit all public funds in banks at not less than 3 per cent interest will hereafter apply to the state treasurer as well as county treasurers. The house should take hold of the matter with a firm hand and see that the law is obeyed to the letter, and that without delay.

There is an old law in the statute books requiring the treasurer to publish a monthly statement in some newspaper published at the capital to be designated by the governor. (See Chap. 83, Art. XIII, Sec. 2.) This law has been regularly ignored for years. The legislature should see that it is hereafter observed and provide an appropriation for the purpose.

It might be well for the committee which investigates the treasurer's office to find out by what authority or under what pretext Ex-treasurer Hill has paid out large sums of money on warrants bearing forged endorsements on the back.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

It is currently reported that ten members of the grand jury which lately indicted the asylum thieves voted to indict John C. Allen along with the rest. If Mr. Allen is an honest man, he will demand an investigation of his office by a legislative committee. He ought to know that he rests under a dark suspicion, that can only be removed (if at all) by such an investigation. It is not likely however that he will ask for an investigation. Law-breakers seldom court investigations. But the invitation is not necessary.

Adams County Farmers' Alliance will meet in Hastings on Saturday Jan. 14, 1893, at 10 a. m. This will be a called meeting of the order, and all true members of the alliance are earnestly requested to be in attendance. Matters of vital interest will come up for consideration. M. B. FOOT, Sec'y.

ABOUT NEBRASKA.

Newsp Notes About Nebraska Places and People.

Scarlet fever is still haunting the town of Osceola.

There is large amount of unhusked corn in Hitchcock county.

The building record in Columbus for 1892 exceeds \$75,000.

A young married woman of Union has become violently insane.

Hastings is howling for a larger hotel and she will have one in the spring.

The rumor has been started again that Omaha will have a union depot some time.

Julius Madinajski of Snyder has become insane, supposedly as the result of too much alcohol.

Sportemen have taken advantage of the cold and snow to kill off all the quail in Otoe county.

A hotel war is on at Sergeant and grub is practically free at the tables of the two contending hostleries.

L. G. Stewart of Fillmore county has invented a machine for picking corn that has been pronounced a success.

Minnie Foster of Fairmont was taken to Omaha on the charge of selling nose paint without a government license.

Plattsmouth is besieged by an Uncle Tom's Cabin troupe. Trouble comes to all, but not always so deep as this.

The roller mill at Niobrara is run by artesian water from a well 600 feet deep. It cost \$3,500 to strike the lead.

The Hartington Nonpareil-Democrat has gone the way, but in its place appears the Leader which has come to stay.

Willie Nelson of Saunders county captured a live opossum, the first "bird" of the kind ever found in Nebraska.

The South Omaha Tribune says that their electric lights are getting so dim that the people hunt for them with candles.

A German named Carl Sauchen, living near Ewing, has become violently insane. He is a bachelor, and this should be a horrible warning.

Evangelist Hoopengartner whooped it up at Lyons, and seventy-five sinners registered a determination to quit their sins and be saved.

J. A. Malone recently moved a house from Lexington to Cozad. The job took eighteen days and the pulling was done by two traction engines.

Miss Jennie White was voted the most popular teacher in the Grand Island school and received a gold watch for a Christmas present.

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OUR BOOK LIST.

... party service should all have due weight, but all such considerations must (if necessary) be held of secondary importance. There is not an independent member in either house that can dispute this proposition:

At least a dozen independents can be named, any one of whom is qualified, deserving and in every way worthy of support as a candidate for the United States senate.

Perhaps instead of a dozen we could as safely say one thousand, but let a dozen suffice for the argument. The main question for every independent who holds the great and sacred right to cast a vote for senator in the coming contest, should be this:

How to elect some one of these men, not how to elect a certain one.

THE ALLIANCE-INDEPENDENT has no preferred candidate. But above all things at the present time, we want to see some true and worthy independent elected to the United States senate. If such a man shall be elected, no matter who he may be, we will throw our hat as high as and man in Nebraska. But we should feel that we had done less than our duty if we failed to warn the independent members against any strife over candidates or any undue devotion to any particular candidate which may endanger success.

Some Political History.

Speaking of the meeting of Populists at Indianapolis holiday week, the Non-conformist gives the following interesting facts regarding one of the speakers: Not the least interesting of the speeches made was that of Judge Gregg of Dearborn county, who was delegated by the greenback convention held in this city in 1876 to go to Cincinnati and ask of Governor Allen, of Ohio, if he would take the nomination for presidency on that ticket, since he had carried his state on that direct issue. The democratic convention was then on in St. Louis, and it was to decide whether Tilden, the representative of Wall Street, should head that party or a representative of the greenback idea, and for the sake of forcing that contest in the democratic party did Allen decline. When Peter Cooper was nominated he accepted only on the condition that Allen would not. This was an interesting bit of reminiscence that is worthy of extensive elaboration. It was in that St. Louis convention that the democratic party made its choice, where Dorshimer before the body tore a greenback to shreds and trampled it beneath his feet, and Tilden was nominated.

In former times it was incumbent on the bridegroom to place a sum of money in a purse on the wedding night and present it to the bride. Afterward this was done the following morning, and the gift was called the dowry. Another phase of the same thing existed in Cumberland, where the bridegroom provided himself with gold and crown pieces. At the words "With all my worldly goods I thee endow," he gave the money into a handkerchief. The bride held out.

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