

THE ALLIANCE-INDEPENDENT
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STAND UP FOR NEBRASKA AND GIVE US AN IOWA FROIGHT RATE.
THE ONLY SAFE BANKING SYSTEM IS A SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT BANKS.
INDEPENDENTS OF THE HOUSE, GET TOGETHER, AND STAY TOGETHER HEREAFTER.

INDEPENDENT MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE, GET TOGETHER, STAND TOGETHER AND VICTORY IS YOURS.
THE WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE HAS ELECTED MITCHELL A GOLD-BUG DEMOCRAT TO THE UNITED STATES SENATE.

HENRY CABOT LODGE THE FATHER OF THE FORCE BILL HAS BEEN ELECTED UNITED STATES SENATOR FROM MASSACHUSETTS.
SOME OF THE LEGISLATIVE INVESTIGATIONS APPEAR TO CONSIST MAINLY OF WIND. IT TAKES WORK TO MAKE THAT KIND OF THING SUCCEED.

IF THE DEPOSITORS IN ALL THE BANKS SHOULD CALL FOR THEIR DEPOSITS IN ONE DAY EVERY BANK IN THE CITY WOULD BE BURSTED.
INDEPENDENTS OF NEBRASKA, WRITE TO YOUR MEMBERS AT LINCOLN AND TELL THEM TO STAND TOGETHER, FIRST, LAST AND ALL THE TIME.

A STATE CONFERENCE OF MISSOURI POPULISTS HAS BEEN CALLED TO MEET AT SEDALIA, FEB. 22. THE MOVEMENT SEEMS STRONGER THAN OVER DOWN THERE.
THE JOURNAL REPORTED REPRESENTATIVE DIMMICK AS VOTING FOR PADDOCK ON LAST FRIDAY. HE SAYS HE NEVER VOTED FOR PADDOCK AND WHAT IS MORE, HE NEVER WILL.

A GOOD MANY PEOPLE IN LINCOLN HAVE HAD THEIR EYES OPENED TO THE BEAUTIES OF THE NATIONAL BANKING SYSTEM. HEREAFTER THEY WON'T BE SO READY TO CRY CRANK WHEN GOVERNMENT BANKING IS PROPOSED.
THE NORTH DAKOTA INDEPENDENT IS ONE OF THE BEST EXCHANGES THAT COMES TO THIS OFFICE. IT IS ALWAYS FULL OF MEAT. OUR SOUTH DAKOTA EXCHANGES WOULD HELP THEIR CAUSE IN THAT STATE BY FOLLOWING THE PATTERN IT SETS.

A MEMBER OF THE NEW YORK SENATE HAS INTRODUCED A BILL PROVIDING FOR BONDING THE STATE FOR \$10,000,000 FOR ROAD IMPROVEMENT. THE NEW YORK TRIBUNE OBJECTS TO THE MEASURE ON THE GROUND THAT THE FARMERS ARE NOT YET EDUCATED UP TO IT.

THE GOLD STANDARD ADVOCATES HAVE DISCOVERED ANOTHER OBJECTION TO PAPER MONEY. WORN BILLS ARE FOUND TO BE THE HIDING PLACE OF VARIOUS DISEASE GERMS. CONGRESSMAN OUTWALT HAD AN OLD BILL EXAMINED AND FOUND IN IT 19,000 GERMS OF VARIOUS KINDS OF DISEASES. HE DOESN'T SAY WHETHER HE ACTUALLY COUNTED THEM OR NOT. BUT OF THIS WE MAY REST ASSURED: HE DIDN'T FIND ANY GOLDBUGS AMONG THE GERMS. THEY HAVE A GREAT ANTI-PATHY TO PAPER MONEY.

FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS THE TAXPAYERS OF NEBRASKA HAVE BEEN PUTTING UP SEVERAL THOUSAND DOLLARS PER ANNUM TO MAINTAIN THE STATE MILITIA. WHAT HAVE THEY EVER GOT IN RETURN FOR THIS MONEY? IT IS TRUE GOV. THAYER, BRIGADIER GENERAL COLBY AND A FEW OTHERS HAVE GOT A LITTLE CHEAP MILITARY GLORY OUT OF IT, BUT WHAT SUBSTANTIAL BENEFIT HAS THE STATE EVER RECEIVED? IS THERE ANY GOOD REASON FOR MAINTAINING THIS EXPENSIVE LUXURY? IF THERE IS SOMEBODY OUGHT TO POINT IT OUT WITHOUT DELAY. IF NOT, THE LEGISLATURE SHOULD BY ALL MEANS FORGET TO MAKE AN APPROPRIATION FOR THAT PURPOSE THIS WINTER.

THE CONTEST CASES.
On Friday, January 27th, a parliamentary battle occurred in the house of representatives which was unfortunate in its character and consequences. It began with a complete surprise and ended with a complete defeat of the independents by the republicans.

We will give the facts briefly as gathered by personal observation and conversation with the speaker, and a number of members.
There were nine seats contested. They were the seats of seven republicans from Omaha and of Newberry and Irwin, independents. A committee had been appointed which had spent some two weeks in examining evidence on these cases. The committee was about ready to report. What they would have reported is unknown.

On Thursday night the republicans caucused and decided on a plan of action. On Friday morning they came into the house prepared to act. Their plan was to steal a march on their opponents. Their first move was to create a great deal of disorder in the house. Members were standing up all over the house bustling around, talking, etc. In the midst of the confusion, McKeeson sat up the following resolution and moved its adoption:

"I move that the hearing of all contest cases now pending before the house be indefinitely postponed."
The clerk read it in his loud monotonous voice which is difficult to understand at the best. Just at that moment a republican went up to the speaker to hold a little private conversation. Hence he did not hear the resolution. Nobody else paid any attention to it. Nobody asked to have it re-read. The speaker rose and called for the vote. A strong chorus of "aye" arose from the republican side. A few "noes" were heard on the other side. Nobody called for a division. The speaker declared it carried. The speaker says most emphatically that up to that time he had no idea what was in the resolution.

Just after the vote had been declared Mr. Barry secured the attention of the speaker, and demanded a reconsideration. He said he had been on the floor trying to get recognition before the vote was declared. By this time the independents began to wake up. Rhodes, a leading member of the committee on contests, wanted to know what was the nature of the resolution. Soon the truth dawned upon the independents. Then began the conflict that raged all the balance of the day to win back the battle that had been lost. Barry raised a point of order that the resolution was out of order because the resolution was out of order because the resolution had been passed. Barry then moved a reconsideration. After a good deal of skirmishing this was got before the house. Then Rhodes raised the point that the resolution was out of order because it conflicted with the statutes which require that the house "shall hear and determine all contests." The speaker took plenty of time to consider and investigate that point and finally ruled the point well taken. Then John C. Watson appealed from the decision. A motion to table the appeal was made and lost.

Barry raised the point of order that the members whose seats were contested had no right to vote. The speaker ruled against this point because it was made after roll-call had begun. Rhodes and Barry both raised points of order when the names of contestees were called, but the speaker ruled against them.

Though we have no reason to question speaker Gaffin's good intentions, we believe he erred in this decision. An objection to contestees voting was certainly in order at any time, and ought to have been sustained. The best parliamentary authorities sustain this view of the case.

However this may be, the independents were defeated at every turn although they exhausted every parliamentary weapon at their command. The republicans carried all their points even to the discharge of the committee having charge of the contest cases.

The matter at issue from first to last was the right of contestants to have their cases heard and determined. It was the denial of this right to the independent state candidates two years ago that was so severely denounced by the independents. In this case there was only one course that independents could consistently follow: To stand by the principle for which they fought two years ago regardless of consequences. Nearly all of them did this and thus put their party on record.

Why did they not succeed? This brings us to the unfortunate feature of the conflict. On every vote enough independents voted with the republicans to defeat their party. On the half dozen test votes several independents voted part of the time with their party and part of the time with the republicans.

On nearly every vote, Newberry, Kruse, and Elder voted with the republicans. Part of the time several other independents voted with the republicans. While we have no disposition to question the loyalty of these independents, we have no apologies to offer for

their course. They no doubt had reasons which seemed good and sufficient to them, but it seems to us that the importance of unity, harmony, and mutual confidence among the independents should have over-weighed all personal or individual reasons. Independent members should learn a lesson from their political opponents. When questions of a partisan character come up a republican is never known to desert his party. The integrity of the party rises above all personal considerations. Until independents learn this lesson, their party will always be weak and unable to cope with its shrewd and well organized adversary.

In the conflict above described, the democrats took very little part except to vote solidly with the independents at all times. Since Friday the republicans have put on a bold front. They claim they have the independents disorganized, and that they will have no trouble in electing a United Senator. These claims are no doubt made for effect; but they contain a valuable lesson for every independent, and especially for those who voted with the republicans on Friday. They can now see what was the ultimate aim of the republicans, namely to create dissensions, suspicion, discouragement in the independent ranks.

There is but one right course for the independents to pursue in this matter, and that is to get together, to forget the past, to restore confidence, and present a solid front to the enemy.

The course pursued by the republicans was characteristic of that party. They saw an opportunity to gain a party advantage, and they seized it regardless of the rights contestants. They would not even give their case a hearing. Such a course was outrageous, un-American, cowardly. If such a policy prevails, how are election frauds to be exposed and men who were defrauded of their rights to get justice? The action of the republicans in this matter cannot be too severely condemned.

A COWARDLY TRIKESPER.

Of all the men directly or indirectly implicated in the Capital National bank scandal, none have acted in a more cowardly or contemptible manner than Attorney General Hastings. In another column of this paper will be found the opinion handed down by him on Jan. 26. Considered entirely apart from his previous course in this matter that opinion sounds fair, and worthy of its official source. But how does it look when considered in connection with his own past record?

It should be remembered that the attorney general is a state officer who has taken oath to support the constitution of Nebraska and to faithfully perform the duties of his office. He is the legal adviser, prosecutor and defender of the state. He is expected to jealously guard the rights of the state, to advise the legislature and the other state officers on points of law, and as far as lies in his power to see that the laws of the state are faithfully executed. Among his duties is that of approving bonds offered by banks which apply for deposits of state funds. A few days ago Hastings was called upon for the first time to perform this duty. How does the manner in which he performed it tally with the opinion he hands down? He says:

Ex-Treasurer Hill's official bond, as well as the law, required him to turn over to his successor in office the money in his hands received as such treasurer. The turning over to his successor an evidence of indebtedness held by him against the Capital National bank, was not a substantial compliance with the terms of the statute and his bond would be still held liable."

He says he is informed that Hill did not turn over the actual cash to Bartley, and hence he is still liable under his bond for the money supposed to be deposited in the Capital National.

Now Mr. Hastings must have known how this transfer was made two weeks ago as well as now. He knows that it has been customary for the state treasurer to turn over certificates of deposit instead of cash to their successors. He knew this had been done, and that it was contrary to law when he approved the bond of the Capital National. He knows very well that state officers, and himself included, have been in the habit of ignoring statutes passed for their direction. Why did he not as the state's legal prosecutor see that Hill complied with the law in transferring the office to his successor?

Then he goes on to propose some excellent amendments to the law in the way of safe-guards. He thinks the sureties should be required to swear to their financial soundness; that false swearing in such cases should be made a criminal offense; that the amount which may be placed in any bank should be limited, and that sureties should be others than the main officers of the bank giving the bond.

These are all excellent safe-guards. But did they just now "suggest themselves" to Mr. Hastings? He is a member of a board of three state officers whose duty it is to approve or reject all such bonds offered. How did he perform that duty two weeks ago? In approving the bond offered by the Capital National bank he violated everything he here proposes. He approved the bond signed by the president and cashier of the bank alone, and that

without requiring them to make oath, and they would not have made oath to their financial soundness at all if Crouse had not demanded it. He approved a bond for putting a maximum of \$350,000 of state funds in a bank having a capital stock of \$300,000, which he must have known was in a very unsafe condition. And he advised the governor that the bond was all right and worthy of approval. The governor, attorney-general and secretary of state had full power and authority to demand a bond in accordance with the wise safe-guards now suggested by Hastings. Why did they not do so?

Then again Hastings thinks the law should be amended to require the treasurer to publish a statement regarding these deposits, etc., every three months. There is already on the statute book a law requiring the treasurer to publish a monthly statement of the treasury, (see page 707 Revised Statutes of 1887). Why has Hastings allowed this law to be utterly ignored during the two years past?

The truth is that Hastings himself has been guilty of malfeasance in office for which he is subject to impeachment by the legislature. And now to shield himself from exposure and punishment, he hands down an opinion and tries to make a scape-goat of Ex-treasurer Hill. But he cannot escape. The people are aroused and they will be hood-winked no longer. In handing down that opinion Hastings simply wrote himself down as a cowardly trickster.

KEM A VIOTOR.

During the past campaign in the sixth district Whitehead assailed Kem repeatedly for his position on what is known as the Pickler bill. Kem defended himself successfully, and he has followed up his victory at the polls with a victory over Mr. Pickler in the house. The parts of the bill to which Mr. Kem objected were those that "threw down the bars" and placed non-residents on an equality with the men who have become actual settlers. These objectionable features have now been stricken out and the bill has passed the house. The main provision of the bill is as follows:

"That if trees, seeds or cuttings were in good faith planted as provided by law, and the same and the land upon which so planted were thereafter in good faith cultivated as provided by law, for at least eight years by a person qualified to make entry, and who has a subsisting entry under the timber culture laws, final proof may be made without regard to number of trees that may have been then growing on the land."

GENTLEMEN of the committee appointed to investigate the cruel modes of punishment in vogue at the penitentiary, you should make haste to bring in a report for the abolition of all such barbarous and inhuman methods. You should consider that ere many weeks roll by, C. W. Mosher and Bill Dorgan, the inventors of these cruelties, will be assigned to cells in that institution. Gaily decked out in the regulation stripes they will fall in line and march to the shops to perform the daily task of convicts. Now suppose one of these gentlemen should be assigned to the task of making barrels. His facilities for such work have never been developed. He has spent his days in corrupting legislators, falsifying bank books, and getting away with other people's money. He has never learned how to make barrels. Now suppose he should not get the hoops just as tight as the boss thought they should be, (as convict Powell is said to have done.) Then suppose he should have his hands tied together across his back, a rope placed around his neck and tied to his wrists so as to hold his hands high up on his back, and so that pulling down on the rope would choke him. And then suppose that he should further be tied with a rope to the wall or ceiling so that he could not lie down, and should be compelled to endure such punishment for seventy-two hours at a stretch. And suppose further that he should be found dead in that situation, (as poor Powell was) it would create a terrible scandal wouldn't it? Make haste gentlemen of the legislature, and abolish these horrible cruelties before either of these "genial, approachable, large hearted gentlemen" do the stripes.

THE LINCOLN CALL SAYS:

The penitentiary contract brings those who handle it to the wall. The failure of the Capital National bank can be traced directly to this fact, that the president of the bank was the prison labor contractor. W. H. B. Stout went to the wall through the same channel. He was prospering until he became the contractor for prison labor, and to-day he is penniless without a home or the means of a living.

How sad! Indeed it is enough to make a crocodile weep to think how this horrible contract is dragging the great "Napoleons of finance" down to financial ruin. This thing ought to be stopped at once. The legislature should organize a posse, get out a search warrant, and go after this contract without delay. When it is captured it should be burned at the stake without the formality of a trial. It has wrought enough wreck and ruin.

OUR HOG OFFER.

Remember that the person sending in the largest list of subscribers by March 1st will get a fine Berkshire hog worth \$20. It is not too late to begin work for this.

MOSHER A CANDIDATE

(Continued from First Page.)

Hill, Allen and Hastings had absolutely ignored it while they deliberately pocketed the interest on those funds. Rather extraordinary proceeding, wasn't it?
The probabilities are that the new law would have been entirely ignored if it had not been for the desire on the part of Hill and Bartley to unload the responsibility for that deposit in the Capital National.

ROSEWATER AND CROUNSE.

On January 26, Mr. E. Rosewater visited Lincoln in his capacity as "pilot" of the republican party. While here he called on Governor Crouse to give that official the benefit of his valuable advice. They talked over the Capital National bank failure. The fact that Governor Boyd had refused to approve the bond offered by the bank was alluded to. Both agreed that Crouse was in a very embarrassing situation. Then they talked over the best way to get out of the scrape. Rosewater advised the governor to lay the blame on Allen and Hastings who had induced him to approve the bond. He said: "That is the only way to clear your skirts." Crouse replied that he wouldn't do it. "I didn't want the governorship any way" he said. "Do you think I resigned a \$5,000 position at Washington to run for governor because I wanted it? No indeed. You told me if I would run for governor, you would make me senator, and now I want you to fulfill your pledge."

After the conversation Mr. Rosewater stated the above facts to a prominent democrat, and added that he would see Crouse in h— before he would help put Tom Majors and his thieving gang in the saddle at Lincoln. THE ALLIANCE-INDEPENDENT can vouch for the correctness of the above facts.
KNOWN AT WASHINGTON.
Mr. Crouse probably has good reasons for refusing to throw the blame on Allen and Hastings. There is no doubt that the shaky condition of the Capital National has been well-known in political circles at Washington. A prominent republican politician, who visits Washington frequently, has a brother in Lincoln. Several months ago on his return from a trip to Washington he told his brother to beware of the Capital National. He said the shaky condition of the bank was known to treasury officials.

Now Mr. Crouse was at that time holding the position of assistant treasury of the United States and must have been familiar with the condition of the Capital National especially since he hailed from Nebraska. There can in fact be no reason to doubt that Crouse was well posted in the matter, and he is therefore as guilty as Allen and Hastings.

A HOSPITAL BANK.

As further proof that the condition of the Capital National was well known at Washington, may be cited the fact that it was in the list of "hospital banks." In the State Journal of January 24th appeared the following:

Speaking of the bank Mr. Griffith said it had been what he called one of his "hospital banks," and had been examined every six months instead of once a year. It was at the examiner's request that the dividend was passed at the end of the last quarter, and he had also required them to charge off off \$30,000 of surplus last year to strengthen the bank's condition.

Mr. Griffith is bank examiner appointed by the general government at Washington. "Hospital banks" are those whose soundness is doubtful, and which require a great deal of watchful care. The condition of the Capital National could therefore have been no secret at Washington, and Crouse must have been familiar with it.

CROUNSE'S MESSAGE.

On Saturday the 28th, the spirit moved Governor Crouse, and he issued a message to the House of Representatives giving them considerable information which the members already possessed. Among other things he said:

"As I am advised, the late state treasurer, J. E. Hill, made a transfer of the funds in his custody to his successor, the present incumbent, on January 14, 1893. These funds included three certificates of deposit from the Capital National bank at Lincoln—one for \$35,357.85, bearing date January 6, 1893; one for \$150,000, bearing date of January 6, 1893; and one for \$100,000, bearing date January 6, 1893. The certificates were turned over to Treasurer Bartley as representing \$285,357.85 state money."

After stating the provisions of the law he proceeds as follows:
"In conformity with this law, the Capital National bank presented a bond in the sum of \$700,000, which would entitle it to an aggregate deposit of \$350,000. This bond drawn in accordance with the act referred to, bearing the signature of the bank and that of C. W. Mosher and R. C. Outcalt, and approved by the attorney general and secretary of state, was presented to me on 14th day of January, 1893, by the secretary of state, for my approval.

In order to satisfy myself of the sufficiency of the bond, I interrogated Mr. Secretary Allen quite fully concerning the financial standing of the bank. Mr. Allen expressed no doubt of the absolute solvency of the concern, and I am assured that Treasurer Bartley, after full and careful inquiry and examination into its standing, had reached a like conclusion. Still, although not required by the law referred to, or by the form set out in the act, and notwithstanding the approval of the bond by the attorney

general and by the secretary of the state, I decided, as an additional precaution, to exact of Mr. Mosher and Mr. Outcalt an oath as to their individual ability as sureties, and they qualified accordingly in the amounts of \$500,000, and \$250,000 respectively. After they had complied with this demand I did not feel justified in further withholding my approval.

Next he tells the members that he never found out the real condition of the Capital National till it failed! Further he says:

"I am credibly informed that further investigation and examination of the records will disclose the fact that State Treasurer Bartley has been imposed on and that the certificates of deposit that were turned over to him by his predecessor in office were fraudulent evidences of money on deposit which had no existence.

It is impossible at this time to ascertain whether the failure of this bank will involve the state in any loss. The assets, however, of over \$900,000, as represented by the books, together with the assessments for which the stockholders are liable, furnish a reasonable guaranty that the state's loss should not be great ultimately.

It remains for the legislature to act as it deems best to ascertain the exact condition of the bank and to fix the responsibility of the parties involved in the transaction. It is an open question whether the bondsmen of ex-Treasurer Hill were released when he passed over to his successor the fraudulent certificates of deposit, and whether the new treasurer assumed any responsibility by reason of his acceptance of the same.

He closes by recommending a thorough investigation of the matter, and suggests that the law be amended as recommended by the attorney general.

HILL A SCAPE-GOAT.

From the above it appears evident that the men who approved the bond have determined to clear their skirts by making a scape-goat of ex-Treasurer Hill. Mr. Hill realizes the situation, and to say that he is angry is putting it very mild. He thinks his co-conspirators are playing the coward, and talks significantly about a day that is coming.

THE EVIDENCES OF

A CONSPIRACY

on the part of state officers is very strong. These evidences may be summed up as follows:

1. All the state officers involved must have been acquainted with the unsafe condition of the Capital National.

Hill of course knew it. Bartley shows that he knew it by his action in securing a bond from Mosher and Outcalt under the new law before he would accept the certificate of deposit from Hill.

Allen and Hastings must have known it because (1) they are officers of other banks in Lincoln, (2) as state officers, they have acted with Hill in ignoring the law regarding the investment of the permanent school fund, and must have known almost as much about the condition of the treasury as Hill himself; (3) because they are parts of the republican machine, and of course familiar with what are called the "inside facts" of politics.

Crouse must have known it for he was a prominent official in the treasury at Washington. His course in regard to the approval of the bond shows that he knew there was something wrong.

2. These five men all acted in collusion to deprive the state of any other security than the bond of Mosher and Outcalt for the money deposited in the Capital National bank.

The haste with which the Capital National's bond was approved and all the circumstances connected with it shows that these men acted together with a full understanding of the situation. Crouse is the only possible exception. The others had been arranging this matter for nearly two weeks before the inauguration of the governor.

These men may offer plausible explanations and write learned messages, but the facts above stated will not down. They are a part of the record. They have gone into history. These men may escape punishment. They may escape the measure of obloquy which they deserve. But those who carefully and impartially investigate the matter will be convinced that these men deliberately conspired to use their official positions against the welfare of the state.

IN OUR NEXT ISSUE will appear a book review by George Howard Gibson, and an article on "optio-dealing" by J. C. Morriese one of the leading grain dealers of the west. These will be able articles and well worth reading. The editorial discussion of Nebraska's industries as affected by high rates will will also be continued.

THE Chicago Sentinel discusses the Pacific railroad bond question in a very interesting article which concludes as follows:

On the sly we will tell you what ought to be done: The government ought to declare the charters forfeited; seize every acre of land left; take possession of the roads—and hang the thieves who have been systematically plundering the government on the one hand, and the people on the other for the last thirty years.

Ripans Tabules banish pain and prolong life. Your druggist will supply them, if asked.