

House Roll 171

This measure is foredoomed to defeat—mark that down. The railroads have so willed it. It will have a few republican votes in the house, and it ought to have 24 fusion votes there. Every railroad republican will vote against it—or dodge.

The principle involved in House Roll 171 is right and the bill ought to pass—and would pass if the legislature were not so overwhelmingly under railroad influence. It simply gives to the citizens of Omaha their constitutional right to assess and tax all property (not specifically exempt) within the jurisdiction of the city for CITY purposes.

The assessment, levy and collection of taxes in the city of Omaha for CITY purposes have nothing in the world to do with state or county taxes in Douglas county or elsewhere. The enactment of House Roll 171 will not in the slightest degree affect the amount of school taxes paid by the railroads in any other portion of the state. But its enactment will compel the railroads to contribute their proportionate share toward maintaining city government in Omaha, which they do not now do—and that is why they are trying to deceive the people by pretending that the bill is an Omaha scheme to rob the country school districts. It is nothing of the kind. It is simply applying the principle of home rule to municipal taxation.

Do not be deceived by the railroad

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S. B. Hams, Attorney

the District Court in and for Lancaster county, Nebraska. Luther Batten, Plaintiff, vs. John Young, Mrs. John Young, his wife, first name unknown, E. R. Young, first name unknown, Mrs. E. R. Young, first name unknown, E. R. Rayburn first name unknown, and Mrs. E. R. Rayburn, first name unknown, defendants.

NOTICE TO NON-RESIDENT DEFENDANTS

The defendants John Young, Mrs. John Young his wife, first name unknown, E. R. Young, first name unknown, Mrs. E. R. Young, his wife, first name unknown, E. R. Rayburn first name unknown and Mrs. E. R. Rayburn his wife first name unknown, non-residents and defendants in said cause will each take notice that the plaintiff, Luther Batten on February 11th 1903 filed his amended petition against said defendants and each and all of them in the District court of Lancaster county, Nebraska the object and prayer of said petition being to have title to the real estate described as north (N 1/4) of southwest quarter (S. W. 1/4) of section (8) township eleven (11) range eight (8) Lancaster county Nebraska, quieted in said Luther Batten, to have the cloud cast on plaintiffs title by the claims of said defendants and each and all of them removed and to have them each and all forever barred from asserting any claim against said lands and to have the record title of said John Young cancelled as against said plaintiff. You are required to answer said petition on or before Monday the 23d day of March, 1903.

LUTHER BATTEN Plaintiff.

Notice of Special Meeting

Notice is hereby given that a special meeting of the stockholders of the National Manufacturing Company, a manufacturing corporation organized under the laws of the state of Nebraska doing business at 1340 to 1354 N street in the city of Lincoln, Lancaster county, Nebraska, is called to meet at the office of said manufacturing corporation at 6 p. m. Monday, March 16th, 1903, for the purpose of electing a board of directors for the ensuing year.

J. H. RING, President.
C. M. RING, Secretary.
Dated February 11, 1903

cry of "distribution." There is no such thing as "distribution" in the matter of city taxes—and there ought not to be. Let us illustrate: Suppose the Omaha terminals of the Union Pacific to be worth ten million dollars, and the remaining property, including the line to the west end of the state, to be worth twenty-five millions. The terminals would be worth but little if it were not for the 467 miles of road and the branches extending out in the state; but these, on the other hand, would be worth but little without terminals SOMEWHERE—say at Omaha. Accordingly, the whole railroad is assumed to be worth \$35,000,000 (these figures are arbitrary and simply for illustration), and in order to even up matters, the total value is divided by the total number of miles of "line" (that is, exclusive of side and double tracks), which gives a per mileage valuation. Then for state and county taxation a mile of "line" in Dawson county is held to be worth the same as a mile in Omaha, Douglas county. This is the "distribution," and it applies only to state and county taxes, because state and county government alone cover every foot of the railroad in the state.

Property owners in Omaha (and in any other incorporated city) pay state, county and city taxes; property owners outside of an incorporated city, state and county—but not city taxes. Wherever the railroad runs through an incorporated city or village, only the number of miles within that city or village are taxed for city or village purposes. Outside of that the mileage pays no city taxes.

Now, the "distribution" idea is equitable for state and county taxation, because whatever of the ten million dollar terminals escape state and county taxation in Douglas, will be caught in some other county. But this is not true of city taxes, for three-fourths or more of the entire 467 miles of Union Pacific lies wholly outside of any city or village. Applying the "distribution" idea to Omaha city taxes, robs Omaha, but helps no other portion of the state. It is no benefit to any taxpayer whatsoever—except the Union Pacific railroad, and other railroads entering Omaha.

And House Roll 171 seeks to abolish the injustice by repealing that portion of the Omaha charter which was forced in there by railroad dictation. But as railroad dictation put it there, it will keep it there. Don't forget that.

The same arguments that are urged on behalf of Omaha apply to every other city or village in the state. For city purposes only the local authorities should be given power to assess railroad property within the jurisdiction, wholly regardless of any state board or distribution theories. House Roll 171, of course, could not cover the whole field because it amends simply the Omaha charter. The Lincoln charter should be similarly amended. And the laws governing the incorporation of all other cities should be treated likewise.

Populist and democratic members of the legislature should make no mistake in voting on House Roll 171.

Free Delivery Abuses

An incident has come to light which has every appearance of an abuse of the rural free delivery. Something like two years ago, so The Independent is informed, the patrons along rural route No. 2, from Lincoln, were required to buy and set in place "approved" boxes, for which they paid something like a dollar apiece. These are of tin and they shield the contents from rain and snow perfectly. The driver can easily reach them and deposit and collect mail without dismounting. The lid opens, say, toward the north.

But a short time since the patrons along this route were served with this notice:

OFFICIAL BUSINESS, POSTOFFICE DEPARTMENT, RURAL FREE DELIVERY SERVICE
Mr. Charles Schweiger, Route No. 2, Lincoln P. O. Neb. Statecmfw Lincoln, Neb.

Sir: Patrons of rural free delivery routes are required to provide mail boxes approved by the postoffice department, so located on the route that the carrier can easily reach them to deposit and collect mail without dismounting from his conveyance. Approved boxes are protected by act of congress. In compliance with Order No. 739, of postmaster general, **THIS MAIL BOX HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND FOUND UNSUITABLE. IT IS HEREBY CONDEMNED.**

If, within 30 days from this date, you have not provided an approved box, your mail will be held at the postoffice to be called for.

A list of approved boxes may be found in the hands of either the post-

master or carrier. (Signed)
L. A. THOMPSON,
Special Agent.

January 20, 1903.

Not a word of explanation why the old box is condemned. It is simply "unsuitable," doubtless because a certain republican newspaper in Lincoln has "suitable" mail boxes to sell. Of course, there are some sixteen "approved" boxes, but the inquirer generally finds that the box par excellence is to be found only at the State Journal office. The lid opens west. The box costs \$2. But if the victim of route inspectors and special agents feels like paying \$4 for a year's subscription to that purveyor of political putridity, he will be presented with this "approved" mail box—one that will pass muster under the eagle eye of Mr. Thompson—"free gratis." By the way, isn't that violating one of Mr. Madden's commandments? Isn't it extending circulation by giving premiums which are the main incentive to subscribing?

Horse and Horse

At a meeting of the populist executive state committee in Lincoln, January 19, a resolution was passed that "the people's independent party of the state of Nebraska act independent of all other political parties." Well, the pops have not been "acting" very much in conjunction with the democrats, and they ought certainly to be allowed to do something aside from voting the republican prosperity-let-well-enough-alone-railroad state ticket.—W. S. Goldie, in Wayne Democrat. It's about six of one and half a dozen of the other, Mr. Goldie. Democrats taught them the trick of voting the republican ticket as a protest.

Not At All

In 1892 Sarpy county had 94.19 miles of railroad assessed at \$606,713, while in 1902 she had 98.40 miles which was assessed at \$581,679, over twenty-five thousand less. This is one of the things our legislature is called on to regulate.—J. C. Miller, in Springfield (Neb.) Monitor.

That issue was thrashed over in the campaign last fall, Bro. Miller, and the people decided they didn't want higher railroad assessments. Auditor Weston, who helped make the condition referred to, was elected by the largest majority of any of the state officers.

Worship of the Trusts

Hail! Anthracite,
Most high and lordly trust.
To thee we bend our knee
And grovel in the dust;
For thou are powerful,
Long hours for thee we toil,
Hail also thy twin brother,

Standard Oil,
Who sits enthroned
And grips us by the neck,
Compelling us to shell out
Money by the peck.

A pair of greedy monsters,
These twin brothers,
Who hold us in their clutch;
And yet we know of others
That have a tariff graft
On every workman,
Who grinds and sweats
To pay them all he can
From week to week,
And year to year,
Without one dollar left
His soul to cheer.

Hail! loveliest sugar trust,
Thou sweetest one of all.
Oh, what a great necessity;
Yet at thy feet we fall.
Our little children beg
For one sweet lump,
From day to day.
While we poor workmen
Slave and pinch and sermp.
This sugar bill to pay.
Hail! glorious tariff,
Mighty trusts' prosperity,
Full dinner pail;
To each and every one
"Must we stand pat,"
And cry, All Hail!

A. S. HEMENWAY,
Dekalb Junction, N. Y.

The Wahoo Wasp, after a year's trial, will change from 4-column, 16 page, form to a seven-column quarto. Most of its subscribers prefer the blanket form.

"Highly proper that the farmers should fight the devil with his own fire and organize trusts of their own," is the comment of W. J. Waite of the Geneva Gazette, on the grain growers' association.

Editor Walrath of the Osceola Democrat got even with his "esteemed contemporary," the Record, last week by exposing the Frank Harrison "editorial" scheme, which the Record bit at.

Riggs, The... Drug Cutter.

has moved to 1321 O street. Reduced rent makes it possible to still further cut the prices of drugs.

- Peruna.....64c
- Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets 64c
- Stuart's Catarrh Cure.....79c
- Miles' Remedies.....79c
- Pinkham Compound.....64c
- Ayers' Sarsaparilla.....79c
- Hood's Sarsaparilla.....74c
- Paine's Celery Compound..74c
- S. S. S.....64c
- Vinol.....\$1.00
- Shoop's Remedies.....\$1.00
- Kilmer's Swamp Root.....64c
- Scott's Emulsion.....64c
- Pierce's Remedies.....64c
- Malted Milk.....74c
- Hospital Size.....\$2.99
- Danderine.....74c
- Herpicide.....69c
- Penard's Hair Tonic.....79c
- Chamberlain's Cough Syrup.....19c
- Piso's Consumption Cure.....19c
- Omega Oil.....19c
- St. Jacob's Oil.....19c
- Temptation Tonic.....64c
- Anti Phlogistine.....39c
- Liebig's Extract.....19c
- Cuticura Soap.....19c
- Packer's Tar Soap.....19c
- Lablach Face Powder.....39c
- Pozzoni Face Powder.....39c
- Swandown Face Powder.....15c
- Mistletoe Cream.....19c
- Rubifoam.....19c
- Pinaud's Vegetol.....19c
- 7 5 cent Cigars.....25c
- 4 10-cent Cigars.....25c
- Any brand.

OUR OWN PREPARATIONS. We guarantee these.

- Riggs' Celery and Sarsaparilla.....64c
- Riggs' Kidney Cure.....64c
- Riggs' Tasteless Cod Liver Oil.....64c
- Riggs' Emulsion Cod Liver Oil.....64c
- Riggs' Pure Cod Liver Oil.....64c
- Riggs' Castoria—Pitcher's Formula.....13c
- Riggs' Tropical Fig Syrup.....19c
- Riggs' Hive Syrup.....19c
- Riggs' Soothing Syrup.....19c
- Riggs' Dandruff Cure.....74c
- Riggs' Hair Restorer.....74c
- Riggs' Beef Iron and Wine.....79c
- Riggs' Cough Cure.....19c
- Riggs' Liquid Smoke.....59c
- Riggs' Dyspepsia Tablets.....64c
- Riggs' Trilby Headache Cure.....19c
- Riggs' Catarrh Tablets.....39c
- Riggs' Cascara Tablets.....19c
- Riggs' Pile Cure.....39c
- Riggs' Eczema Cure.....19c
- Riggs' Formaldehyde.....19c

RIGGS... The... Cut Rater.
New Location **1321 O STREET.**
Lincoln, Nebraska.

The York Teller, which has supported the populist ticket in good times and evil, comes out flat-footed for the democrats. With the Kansas City platform as guide, men loyal to those principles to lead, every populist in the union should join the Teller editor and march into the democratic ranks to stay.—Adams County Democrat.

Frank was a silver republican in 1896, and as his cardinal plank was 16 to 1, of course he never was a thorough-paced populist. Where he affiliates is wholly his affair, but there are a good many thousand fusion populists who will not follow him.

W. R. Hampton, attorney, Harrisburg, Neb.: I am now 75 years old, but have never, since Peter Cooper was a candidate for president, voted for a republican for that office. I am what you may call a greenbacker, or, in other words, I am in favor of free coinage of both gold and silver, supplying the deficiency with government notes to keep prices of all products steady. There never was a legal tender dollar of gold or silver except as the fiat of government made it so. We should do away with the national banks, which are double-interest leeches.