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## Washington Letter.

BY TAVENNER.

Washington, June 18.

"I am through with it." So spoke Senator Dolliver of Iowa. He meant that he would never again raise his voice, either in the Senate of the United States or from the stump, in defense of excessive protection.

"I do not propose," declared Dolliver, "that the remaining years of my life shall be given up in dull consent to the success of all these conspiracies (Conspiracies in the Payne-Aldrich bill). I intend to fight as a Republican for a free market on this continent."

In other words, the mighty Dolliver, for years an ardent protectionist, is conscience stricken. For years he has implored the people to believe in protection. Suddenly he stops and looks about him. He beholds the work of his own voice. The people are crying out at the increased prices that have accompanied the system of protection.

Dolliver himself declares that the special interests have got control of the government, and that the many are being outrageously robbed by the few. His eyes opened, he is appalled at the magnitude of the sins that protection have visited upon Republic and people.

The experience of the United States with protection is not new or peculiar to this country. Germany boasts of its high protective tariff, and even while it boasts the German masses are turning to socialism by hundreds of thousands. Italy, one of the most highly protected nations of Europe, is pauperizing its people that a few men may become multi-millionaires. Wherever high protection has been worked out, the best that could be said of it was that it benefited one out of ten.

Seeing that the very life of the Republic is endangered by the conditions which have followed protection, Dolliver is courageous enough to say: "I am through with it." That is why his speech will live in history, because he said: "I am through with it."

The philosophy of the Iowan, in itself, was not new, any more than were his statements that Congress, in passing the Payne-Aldrich bill, was dominated by the tariff trusts. Democrats have told the same story time and again. Dolliver merely indorsed the Democratic view point which is that excessive protection robs the many for the few.

Senators regard the Dolliver speech as the most impressive oratory the senate has listened to in many years. It will take rank among the foremost examples of American elocution.

## Our Lincoln Letter

Lincoln, Nebr., June 21.—(Special Correspondence)—Some republican newspapers and orators are going about the state seeking to make political capital by comparing the expenditures of the democratic legislature of 1909 with the expenditures of the republican legislature of 1907. Democrats will welcome that sort of comparison, together with all the facts relative thereto. In 1907 Governor Sheldon vetoed appropriation bills amounting to \$209,000 for new buildings at the institutions located in Kearney, Omaha, Beatrice and Hastings. His excuse was that he wanted to keep the expense within the revenue. At the time he vetoed these appropriations the feeble-minded wards of the state at Beatrice were sleeping two in a cot, were crowded into an attic never meant for human habitation, were sleeping in basements, and were herded together more like animals than like afflicted humans. When Governor Sheldon, on the plea of economy, vetoed a bill to enlarge the Norfolk asylum, there were scores of insane patients in the county jails of the state, held there because the insane hospitals were crowded to the point of being absolutely unsafe, both physically and morally. The Kearney institute was in such bad repair that the property was fast falling to pieces. Yet, in order to make a record for economy, the afflicted wards of the state were deprived of decent shelter, and many were forced to remain in county jails pending vacancies in some of the overcrowded institutions.

The legislature of 1909 was compelled to provide for these unfortunates—a provision that should have been dictated by common humanity two years before instead of being sidetracked by petty politics. Governor Shallenberger and the legislature realized that Nebraska is a growing state, and that it should care for its unfortunates in a humane manner. For that reason the legislature appropriated the money to build necessary buildings and to repair buildings left to go to rack and ruin by a republican administration. The legislature of 1909 also appropriated \$300,000 more for educational purposes than the legislature of 1907.

Deduct from the total appropriations of 1909 the amount appropriated for new buildings which should have been cared for by the legislature of 1907, and the \$300,000 appropriated for education, and the total appropriations of 1909 are actually less than the appropriations of 1907. This, too, in face of the fact that the state is growing and the demands upon her increasing at the same rate.

Yes, indeed. The democratic party in Nebraska will gladly welcome a comparison of its fiscal record with that of the Sheldon administration.

Warden Smith's latest report shows that the state penitentiary is now practically self-sustaining. In May it came within \$112.00 of paying its own way, and would have paid it had it not been for the increased price of coal of \$350.00 brought on by the strike.

Under motion made by Governor

Shallenberger the tax levy has been reduced three-quarters of a mill, while at the same time the assessed value of the railroads have been materially increased.

As a result of legislation enacted by the legislature of 1909 the state treasurer will be enriched during the biennium by upwards of \$130,000 by the corporation law alone. During the first two years this corporation tax will bring into the treasury enough money to pay for the new buildings now under construction at several of the state institutions—buildings that should, in all decency, have been erected two or four years ago.

"What will Mr. Bryan do at the state convention? That is a question that seems to bother some people. It would seem that Mr. Bryan will seek to have the initiative and referendum endorsed rather than inject a county option plank. By the initiative and referendum, which is generally favored, he can achieve the same results without danger of dividing the party upon a matter that has no place in politics. The writer does not believe that Mr. Bryan is yet ready to inject the county option idea into the convention and take chances on a division in the ranks, when by another route the people may secure exactly the same thing.

## Primary Election Proclamation

Governor Shallenberger has issued the following primary election proclamation:

By virtue of the authority in me vested and in accordance with the provisions of Section 1776, Chapter 26, Compiled Statutes of Nebraska, 1909, I, Ashton C. Shallenberger, governor of the state of Nebraska, do hereby direct that a primary election be held at the regular polling place in each precinct throughout the state, as by law provided, on the third Tuesday of August, A. D. 1910.

At said primary election candidates for the following offices shall be nominated, to be voted on at the general November, A. D. 1910, election:

- One governor.
- One lieutenant governor.
- One secretary of state.
- One auditor of public accounts.
- One treasurer.
- One superintendent of public instruction.
- One attorney general.
- One commissioner of public lands and buildings.
- One railway commissioner.
- One congressman First congressional district.
- One congressman Second congressional district.
- One congressman Third congressional district.
- One congressman Fourth congressional district.
- One congressman Fifth congressional district.
- One congressman Sixth congressional district.
- State senators from each senatorial district.

Members of the legislature for each representative district.

An expression of preference for United States Senator.

Also for or against a proposed amendment to section 1 article 7 of the Constitution of Nebraska, defining the qualification of electors.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the great seal of the state of Nebraska.

Done at Lincoln this 14th day of June, A. D. 1910.

ASHTON C. SHALLENBERGER,  
GEORGE C. JUNKIN, Secretary of State.  
ADDISON WAIT, Deputy.

## Appeal to Democrats

It is generally believed that the next House of Representatives at Washington will be Democratic if there is united and harmonious effort on the part of Democrats everywhere.

The National Democratic Congressional Committee is charged with much responsibility in furnishing a campaign book and other literature, directing speakers, and doing the general work of organization. We need your active support especially in a financial way. Please send to the National Democratic Congressional Committee, Washington, D. C., a check at once as we are greatly in need of funds to push our work, and must depend upon Democrats to furnish them. Our Committee is sustained by voluntary contributions. We are reliably informed that the Republican Committee is already generously supplied with money. Will you not aid us at once?

JAMES T. LLOYD, Chairman.  
JOSEPH E. RANDELL,  
Chairman Finance Committee.

## The Referendum

(Scottsbluff Star.)

If the next Nebraska legislature is at all responsive to the wishes of the people it is supposed to represent, it will submit to the voters a constitutional amendment providing for legislation by popular initiative and referendum. Once the question is submitted, there is no doubt that it will carry; and once in operation there is no doubt that the referendum principle will be successfully employed by the people and with good results. In the half dozen states where the plan has been adopted it has worked admirably.

The referendum means merely that a state legislature must submit to a vote of the people for approval before they become laws; and the initiative

means that the voters may initiate measures themselves without waiting for the legislature to propose them. This system has been in operation in Oregon for eight or ten years; it is one of the features of the government of Switzerland; and it is successful wherever tried.

It is bound to come in Nebraska, and in every other state. Its coming will put the legislative lobbyists out of business, and deprive the crooked legislator of his graft. And it will do more than anything else to educate the mass of the voters to an intelligent understanding of public questions, because people become interested and study questions that they have to vote on.

## Democratic State Convention

The democratic electors of the State of Nebraska, are hereby called to meet in delegate convention in the city of Grand Island, Tuesday, July 26th, 1910 at 3 o'clock p. m. for the purpose of drafting a democratic state platform, the election of a democratic state platform committee, and the transaction of any other business which may properly come before the convention.

The representation in said convention will be based upon the vote cast for presidential electors in 1908, and each county will be entitled to one delegate for each 150 votes, or major fraction thereof, cast at said presidential election, giving the several counties representation as follows:

Adams.....16	Jefferson.....12
Antelope.....10	Johnson.....8
Banner.....1	Kearney.....8
Blaine.....1	Keith.....8
Boone.....11	Keya Paha.....2
Box Butte.....5	Kimball.....1
Boyd.....6	Knox.....14
Brown.....4	Lincoln.....8
Buffalo.....17	Logan.....1
Burlingame.....8	Loup.....1
Cass.....16	McPherson.....1
Cedar.....12	Merrick.....7
Chase.....2	Morrill.....7
Cherry.....5	Nance.....5
Cheyenne.....5	Nemaha.....11
Clay.....13	Nicolai.....8
Colfax.....8	Osage.....2
Cuming.....11	Otoe.....16
Custer.....19	Pawnee.....7
Dakota.....5	Perkins.....8
Dawes.....5	Phelps.....7
Dawson.....13	Pierce.....7
Deuel.....3	Platte.....17
Dodge.....7	Polk.....8
Douglas.....104	Red Willow.....9
Dundy.....3	Richardson.....18
Fillmore.....19	Rock.....2
Franklin.....9	Saline.....15
Frontier.....6	Sarpy.....7
Furness.....11	Saunder.....16
Gage.....21	Scottsbluff.....14
Garden.....3	Seward.....5
Gardner.....2	Sheridan.....5
Gosper.....4	Sherman.....6
Grant.....1	Sioux.....3
Greeley.....1	Stanton.....5
Hall.....15	Thomas.....11
Hamilton.....11	Thurston.....5
Harlan.....8	Valley.....7
Hayes.....8	Washington.....10
Hitchcock.....4	Wayne.....7
Holt.....12	Webster.....9
Hooker.....3	Wheeler.....2
Howard.....10	York.....14

Total.....895

It is recommended by the state committee that no proxies be recognized by the state convention, but that the delegates actually present from each county be authorized to cast the full number of votes to which the county is entitled under this call.

At a meeting of the democratic state committee, held June 4, 1910, the following resolution was adopted, and same is recommended to the attention of all of the county and legislative committees:

Resolved, That it is the sense of the state committee that all democratic legislative candidates should file an acceptance of "statement No. one" of the so-called "Oregon plan."

J. C. Byrnes, Chairman.  
LEO MATTHEWS, Secretary.

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