

Lincoln Independent
The Official Populist Paper.

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H. E. HUCKINS, Publisher.

FRIDAY, OCT. 11, 1895.

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People's Independent State Ticket.
For Supreme Judge,
SAMUEL MAXWELL.
Regents State University,
JAS. H. BAYSTON,
ELIA W. PEATTIE.

The People's Independent County Ticket.

For District Judge:
A. S. TIBBETTS,
H. F. ROSE,
J. C. MCNERNEY.
For Clerk of District Court:
ELIAS BAKER.
For Sheriff:
FRED MILLER.
For Treasurer:

For County Clerk:
GEORGE H. WALTERS.

For County Judge:
GEORGE W. BERGE.

For County Superintendent:
JOHN G. SEIDELL.

For Coroner:
L. W. LOWRY.

For County Commissioner:
R. E. RICHARDSON
Assessors:

First Ward,
T. E. CONNELLY.

Third Ward,
C. G. BULLOCK.

Fourth Ward:
C. A. COOK.

Fifth Ward,
A. C. SHERICK.

Sixth Ward,
J. W. EMBERSON.

Seventh Ward,
W. T. ROLOFSON.

For Constables:
JOHN MEANOR,
J. V. TRAVIS,
WILLIAM CHINN.

For Justice of the Peace:
S. B. IAMS,
GEORGE W. BLAKE.

NOTICE.

This paper will not advocate any doctrine not contained in the Omaha platform. Communications on economic themes advocating theories not contained in that platform cannot be published in the INDEPENDENT.

SEND us brief communications about the party work in your county. We want to learn how the party is dying out.

In New York City the Platt republicans and the state democrats have nominated a fusion ticket for city and county officers. It is an effort to beat Tamany Hall, Crocker and Hill.

The republican papers are full of threats against every man of their party who dares to vote for a non-partisan judiciary this year, and he is told that if he dares to do it, he shall never have any pie, no, never.

THERE is more sound political economy in the Nebraska F. A. and I. U. than any other paper that comes to this office and it is all written by a woman. That is the sort of a "new woman" that will do some good in the world.

The State Journal tries to make a point because a populist could not name all the candidates on the state and county tickets. There is probably not 25 republicans in the whole county outside of the candidates and the unsuccessful aspirants who can, oh hand, name the offices to be filled, let alone the candidates.

The republican leaders believe that they will capture the Kentucky legislature. The gold bug democrats will vote with them to elect members of the legislature and beat Joe Blackburn and free silver. It is said they have received such orders from Washington. No fight will be made on Hardin for governor.

The economists foretold with scientific accuracy what would follow a contraction of the currency by the disuse of silver as a primary money, just as scientists in another field foretold, years in advance, the result of the destruction of our forests in the drying up of springs and streams and failure of crops. In neither case would the people listen to them until distress drove them into want and misery. Experience is a dear school but some people will learn in no other.

HOW TO ABOLISH RENT AND INTEREST.

The distress in this and in all countries, is caused almost wholly by debts and taxes. The interest on debts, state, national, county, municipal, railroads and private, is more than all we can produce, by labor after enough has been retained by the workers to barely maintain existence. The statisticians and economists are all practically agreed upon that. The final result is inevitable if present conditions continue. All property will be owned by a very few and the remainder of us will become serfs or paupers. These debts at the present price of commodities can never be paid.

The gold standard leaders never want them to be paid. They want to make the conditions so that they never can be paid. Especially do they want a permanent national debt, so they can sit down, clip coupons and live on interest forever.

The question is how shall we relieve ourselves of this oppression and extortion? Shall we begin by inaugurating a resolution, overthrow our constitution and present form of government and try to form a new government based on entirely different principles, or shall we try to do it by the constitutional methods laid down in the Omaha platform? To abolish all interest and rent is to overthrow our whole form of government. It is the destruction of the value of all private property for anything that one cannot consume or hire out has, and can have no value. Any serious attempt to do such a thing would be resisted by force of arms. No sane man can doubt that, who will reflect for a single instant. Does the populist party want to go into this or any other campaign to solicit votes with such propositions as these? Had we not much better better stick to the Omaha platform? The binding planks of that platform are statesmanlike. They are constitutional and if enacted into law will bring the required relief. Will it not be better for the party, better for us as individuals, better for the children who come after us to seek relief in a constitutional way, than to try to produce an upheaval in society that will destroy all existing forms of government? The Omaha platform if enacted into law will almost wholly abolish interest and rents and do it without any upheaval in society.

In 1868 John Sherman wrote a letter in which he said: "The people are prosperous and out of debt." If they were out of debt they didn't have any interest to pay. No man and no government will have to pay interest if they are out of debt. Let some of these men who criticize the editor of this paper just stop and think if that is not true. The constitutional way to abolish interest is to pay off the debts and do business on a cash basis. But under the present conditions the Shylocks and usurers have us in a condition and intend to keep us there so we can never pay our debts. The Omaha platform provides a constitutional way to change that that condition and make it possible and comparatively easy to pay our debts and stop interest.

It would take but a short time to stop this awful interest drain that hangs like a dark cloud all over this state if wheat was \$1, corn 50 cents a bushel and beef and pork 10 cents a pound, and wages \$3 a day. The farmers would pay off their debts and stop interest.

They would buy so much goods the merchants would soon pay off their debts, and stop interest. That is the way to abolish interest. That is constitutional, that is according to the Omaha platform. Increase the circulating medium to \$50 per capita and the thing is done.

Isn't it better to advocate sound economic doctrines like that than to go howling around about wild, impracticable schemes that disgust and drive away from us all conservative and thinking men?

By the same process rent would be almost wholly abolished, men would not be living in rented houses then. They would own their own houses as they always have when the price of product of labor is high. It is only when prices fall, that land goes into the hands of the few. The writer knows a man who bought 160 acres of land on one year's time at \$40 per acre, ten per cent interest, sowed it all to wheat, raised 40 bushels of fall wheat to the acre, sold the wheat for a little over \$2 per bushel, paid for the farm, built him a house out of that one crop in one year's time, and stopped paying rent and interest forever. That is the way and the only way to abolish interest and rent.

Stick to the Omaha platform and let the dreamers, dream and build their New Jerusalems.

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ly overthrow by means of the supreme court of the state, no honest man can deny after a little investigation. It is a matter of very grave concern to many patriotic members of the bar, who in private often express themselves plainly upon the subject.

The danger to free institutions through the decisions of this court is a thousand times greater than from anything that the communists may do or say.

This court is overturning by its decisions the theory and practice of the law that has stood the tests of sound reason and good judgment of all those learned in the law for the last 400 years, and the result will be, that the whole state, including the legislative and executive branches, will become helpless before it and the corporations that put it in power and keep it there.

No supreme court or court of appeals ever before undertook to reverse the decisions of lower courts and finally dispose of cases in the manner that this court does. It has always been the province of juries to decide upon the facts. The court instructs the jury as to the law, but the jury must hear the evidence and decide what the facts are.

Where it appears to a judge that the verdict of a jury is not supported by the evidence, or is clearly in opposition to it, he may set the verdict aside and order a new trial, but the facts must still be left to a jury and not to any judge.

Appeals from the lower courts were made upon points of law, where the judge was in error in his decisions or in his instructions to the jury. The verdict of the jury upon the facts has always been final. No appeal can be taken from that.

Many decisions of the supreme court in the last few years go toward overthrowing this long established practice and it assumes the power granted in the constitution and statutes to the jury alone. It decides upon the facts of the case. Especially is this so where railroad corporations are interested. If a passenger is injured by a refusal to stop the train long enough for the person to alight in safety and the case is tried before a jury and they find the railroad corporation guilty of criminal negligence upon the evidence submitted to them and assess damages as the facts in their judgment warrant, all the railroad has to do is to appeal the case, take it to the supreme court where the corporation judges relieve them of all responsibility. They do not remand it for a new trial and have another jury sit and hear evidence and assess the damages as has been the custom since the foundation of the government. They decide it themselves. There are many such cases on record.

Here is a revolution almost as great as was ever effected in a government at one time. The people may elect every other judge in the state. They may be just and fair judges, but they are helpless as long as the supreme court is controlled by the railroad corporations. The railroads can kill their passengers, they can refuse to whistle at crossings, they can charge extortionate rates, they can do anything they please and all the judges and juries in the whole state outside of the supreme court are helpless under this system. It is in effect the handing of every citizen and his property over to the tender mercies of the railroads for final disposal as they see fit. There has never been such an outrage committed on free government since free governments existed.

There is no use for the legislature to pass laws to protect citizens and their property, this court will not fail to declare them unconstitutional. If the governor or other executive officer tries to defend the people, they will issue an injunction. If some of their pets rob the state treasury they will decide that it is not a crime but a mistake of judgment.

They and they alone are the government. They have eliminated juries from our system of administering justice and sit as supreme as the Czar of Russia. Let us elect Samuel Maxwell and put at least one check upon them.

UNOUT LEAVES. In the use which the writer has been privileged to make of the State University library he has made a very important discovery. There are a good many standard works on political economy on its shelves. The binding in many cases worn and shabby. Part of the work will show the marks of use and in the remainder the leaves have never been cut. What is strange of all, hidden in the uncut leaves, which have never been read by, or taught to the students, lie the great fundamental truths on which the basis of prosperity of any people rests. Has this all been mere chance? In all the years that the University has been established and supported by taxes, has never a student been told to read what

the great philosophers and scholars have said about money and its functions? Has no student ever been taught the quantitative theory of the purchasing power of money as laid down by every economist? The following extracts were taken from between uncut leaves of the volumes used in the library of the State University.

There is plenty of evidence to prove that an inconvertible paper money, if carefully limited in quantity, can retain its full value. Such was the case with the Bank of England notes for several years after the suspension of specie payments in 1797, and such is the case with present notes of the Bank of France. (Money and the mechanism of exchange by W. Stanley Jevons, M. A. F. R. S. Prof. of political economy, Manchester, England, pp. 231-25.)

If the population and wealth of a country increases, prices will decline unless a greater amount of money is brought into circulation. (Manual of Political Economy by R. E. Con. Henry Sawett, M. A. C. L. F. R. S. and Prof. of political economy in the University of Cambridge, Eng. p. 46.) A general rise or fall in prices means that the standard of value is altered. * * * The only result would be that the terms of contracts would be altered. * * * The quantity of money ought to increase or decrease as the commerce of a country increases or decreases.—Ibid. pp. 409-10.

DON'T ABUSE THE MINISTERS.

THE INDEPENDENT wants to enter its solemn protest against the general denunciation of the church and ministers which some papers are constantly engaged in. In the first place it is extremely bad policy and in the second place it is unjust. There are plutocratic, money-lending preachers, whom the INDEPENDENT despises, but there are thousands of others who are honest, God-fearing men. They are not to be blamed because they know nothing of civil government or political economy. They have never read a book on either of those subjects and know no more about them than nursing babies.

Examine their libraries and nothing will be found but Calvin's or Watson's institutes, textual commentaries on the bible, works on moral philosophy, on the will, on the final perseverance of the saints, on falling from grace and the like. They could not if they tried preach useful sermons on the subjects that engage the attention of the statesmen and politicians. Let them alone. Through the fear of hell or hope of heaven they hold in check the savage propensities of thousands of men. It is only when they openly throw their influence in favor of the oppressor and extortioner that they ought to be denounced.

The populist party in some sections have lost a great many votes by indiscriminate denunciations of the churches and ministers. Many of the preachers are good fellows, can tell a good story and know a good horse when they see it. So don't get angry at them and abuse them because they don't know anything about the science of political economy.

As a writer on love and "soul mates" the editor of the Plattsmouth News is commending himself to all the young ladies in the state. The editor of the INDEPENDENT does not look upon that as fair competition in journalism. We older fellows can't compete. How can we, who have to keep one eye all the time on penitentiary, electric lighting and other schemes of republican ring thievery, have time to concoct such sentences as this:

No soul is complete in itself. Somewhere in the world there is to be found the other half of your soul, the half that will make you a rounded, perfect man or woman. Today you may not find it, tomorrow you may not find it, but some day and some time your soul will find its mate.

It is only republican editors who have no thieves among their populist opponents to watch, who can find time to concoct that sort of editorials.

We have been criticised by some because we oppose the total abolition of interest and some of our opponents accuse us therefore of favoring usury. Not at all. The Omaha platform doesn't demand the total abolition of interest, but on the contrary fixes a rate at which the borrower shall secure money. We are not for the total abolition of interest because we do not believe the populist party, or any other party, can revolutionize the whole government, commercial and social system. Neither do we want a condition where every man can borrow all the money he takes a notion to. That would make money so plentiful one would hardly pick it up in the streets and it would cost \$10 to buy a square meal. Every man would be in debt and paying interest under such a condition. What we do want, however, is government issue of money in sufficient quantities to do the business of the country on a cash basis.

We want it issued by the government, without the intervention of banks and in sufficient quantity to raise the price of labor and labor's products to living figures so that every man can get out of debt and owe no man a cent. This we consider good populist doctrine and good common sense.

Twenty-five cents till January 1



MRS. ELIA W. PEATTIE.

When Mrs. Peattie's name was announced in the state convention as a candidate for regent of the State University, some one from the far away frontiers of the state arose and asked if she were a populist. This writer took that as a direct insult to the whole sex. There is not a respectable woman living who is not a populist. They are all home builders, and that is the chief aim of the populist party. While it is true that all women and especially all mothers are populists, it is also true that there are very many thousand women who have not education enough to know it. But that is not the fault of the women. It is the fault of the schools and colleges and our long established system of education. Mrs. Peattie is not of that class. She found out that she was a populist years ago.

In the campaign of 1890 the editor of THE INDEPENDENT was offered and accepted a position on the World-Herald editorial staff. When he arrived at the office he was shown to a room in which there were two desks. At the other sat a bright eyed little woman making her fingers fly, with lightning like speed over the keys of a type writer. At one side lay a pile of type written manuscript, to which she was adding sheet after sheet with astonishing rapidity. She didn't even look up. The confusion of the entrance into the room and the loud talk just outside the door, she didn't seem to mind at all. She was at work earning her daily bread and trying to help pay off the mortgage on as cultured and happy a home as exists in the state of Nebraska, in which she is training three children, two boys and a girl, who will be an honor to this state by and by.

As month after month wore away and the daily grist of newspaper work was turned out, sitting there side by side, we grew to have great respect for that little woman. In the first place she had thoroughly explored that vast field of political knowledge necessary to any editorial writer on a great daily. She knew parties and their history. She could have written on the spur of the moment, without the aid of encyclopedias or biographical dictionaries, an abridgment of a thousand men prominent in politics or literature in this country and in Europe, and it would have contained a correct epitome of their life work.

Here endurance and ability to work was always a wonder to us. She did more newspaper work than any man in Omaha, and that only seemed her recreation. The daily grind of newspaper work done, she turned with the freshness of the day dawn lark to the fields of pure literature, and from a joyous heart and a clear intellect poured forth those literary gems in song and story that have delighted the critics of Boston and New York, and the whole United States.

One of these gems of pure literature, printed in the 400,000 edition of the Cosmopolitan magazine has made more populist votes in the eastern states than all other reform literature put together. She collaborated with the editor of THE INDEPENDENT in writing the "American Peasant." She gave the book its name and all those those exquisitely charming passages which it contains she wrote. The book was written before the Omaha convention and is still on the lists of every publisher of a reform library. All this would seem to be enough

work for one woman, but it is scarcely half of what she has done. From the newspaper office and type writer she hastened home to her children, and any one calling in the evening would find her with the needle in her hand instead of the pen, sewing, darning and mending and helping the children with their lessons. And that did not finish the days work. After the children were put to bed and kissed good night, she was off down town to attend some benevolent organization where her happy face and cheerful voice gave hope and courage to many a despairing cause.

This is but a very imperfect sketch, hastily written, of one of the populist candidates for regent of the State University in which over 500 girls are being educated. That she will be elected no one seriously doubts. She ought to be chosen by an unanimous vote of the whole citizenship of Nebraska. It would be no honor to her, but it would honor the state.

ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS REWARD.

The editor of the INDEPENDENT will pay to Hon. C. H. Gere one hundred dollars in gold, silver certificates, national bank notes, Sherman treasury notes or silver dollars as he, the said Gere may elect, provided the said Hon. C. H. Gere will point out the statute that authorizes the secretary of the treasury or any sub-treasurer of the United States to redeem silver dollars or silver certificates in gold or evidence to prove that is the policy or practice of the secretary of the treasury to redeem them in gold. If it is true that silver dollars are redeemable in gold, as so often asserted by Mr. Gere in the State Journal, it will be worth more than \$100, to the editor of the INDEPENDENT to know it, and he will gladly pay \$100 reward to be shown the statute that authorizes it. He believes that the silver dollar is at par with gold because it is a legal tender for all debts public and private except it is otherwise provided in the contract and for no other reason.

RESULT OF POPULISM.

The land is blessed with new ideas. As broad or broader than the oceans. That heat like restless, surging seas. Against the rocks of time-worn notions. —Col. Bixby, in Daily Drift.

In a letter to THE INDEPENDENT Judge D. T. Welty says: "I will do what I can to get your paper before the people out here as it has the right ring to it. Continue to send me a copy as I want the state politics."

The delinquent tax list for Lancaster county this year covers eleven pages of the Journal, seven columns to the page put up in fine type. This is further evidence of the fulfillment of John Sherman's celebrated prophecy that the repeal of the Sherman act would bring prosperity within ten days. Who can doubt the wisdom of it now?

A REPUBLICAN and a pop got into an argument on lower O street Saturday. The republican being beaten in the argument lost his temper and struck out with his fist. The pop only replied, "Whether your argument is good or not, certainly your manners are very striking," after which the republican folded his mouth, unfolded his fists and walked away. All of which goes to prove that the gold standard low prices, bankruptcies, failures, poor business and general poverty are great blessings for which all the people should be truly thankful.