

Lincoln Independent.
The Official Populist Paper.

\$1.00 PER YEAR IN ADVANCE

ISSUED EVERY FRIDAY.

HENRY HUCKINS, Publisher.

FRIDAY, NOV. 29, 1895.

Entered at the post office of Lincoln, Neb., as second class mail matter.

TO POPULISTS.

We have now been publishing the INDEPENDENT, weekly, in this city, four months. During this time our circulation has steadily increased but most of it has gone on the books and no pay for it. This we cannot afford to do in justice to our selves and to our paper. Two duties now devolve upon you:

First, pay up your subscription. Second, take off your coat and roll up a good circulation in your neighborhood.

We are loading up for 1896. Let us hear from you.

In prosperous times, public spirit is not needed in a community. In hard times the poor and middle class have to furnish it.

OUTSIDE the cities of Omaha and Lincoln, the populist party has the majority vote of the state. And still the party is dying?

THE days of the straddle platforms and non-committal candidates are forever ended. Let us all thank God and take courage.

J. M. SPENCER, editor of the Alvord, Texas, Budget, a hitherto democratic paper, has said good bye old party and has come with his paper into the populist party.

GET in line for '96. Those promised good times which will never come under the present money system, will be a great help to you in getting votes, but you must be at work.

THE bond holding, usury taking class greatly rejoice over their recent victories, but in the words of Isaiah "your covenants with death shall be dissembled and your agreement with hell shall not stand."

A DEMOCRATIC contemporary remarks that, "the pops still have faith. There is nothing else in sight for them to have." Granting that, we can still give the poor old democratic party cards and spades, and then some.

THERE is one set of men in almost every city and county in the west who levy and collect taxes and govern. The people have been used to it so long they like it, even if the taxes are enormous, and so they vote to perpetuate the plan.

THE New York Times is all owned in England, the New York Herald is edited by cable from Paris, the New York World is owned by a Jew and so the editorial opinions of these great dailies is always and ever in the interest of the American workmen.

THE Sioux City Tribune says that ninety-two on joint ballot is what the republicans have in the Iowa legislature. It forgot to add that as soon as that fact was ascertained the railroads raised their rates all over the state about ten per cent.

THERE isn't one man to imitate Simon Peter when he threw up his hands and quit after Christ's crucifixion, started off and said, "I go a fishing," in the whole populist party. Not a soldier in it enlisted for 90 days. They didn't even enroll for three years. They put their names down on the muster roll to fight while life lasted, or win. Any one who counted on anything else will be badly fooled.

In the last campaign, the populists had to fight one republican party, two democratic parties, one prohibition party, all the railroads, all the banks, the A. F. A., the flesh and the devil. Single handed and alone, it fought them all, with a campaign fund of less than \$800 and made a gain in votes and officers elected. Who wouldn't be proud of such a party? Hurrah for the brave, belligerent pops! Three cheers and a tiger!

The practical purpose of the present times consists in moderating the inordinate importance attached to the mere increase of production, and fixing attention on improved distribution and a larger remuneration of labor as the two desiderata.—John Stewart Mill. That is populism pure and simple and strongly stated.

ABOUT TAXATION.

Mr. David A. Wells is writing a series of articles in one of the economic journals on taxation. It is to be hoped that he will be able to enlighten the people a little on that subject, but his first article gives poor promise of it. The whole subject can be summed up in a very few words. Labor pays all taxes, that is, in this country. In the "effete monarchies" of the old world it doesn't pay quite all, for they have an income tax. A good deal of that tax is not paid by labor.

In this country if a poor man has only five cents, he is taxed. If he buys a loaf of bread with it, into the price of that loaf is added the tax on the farm where the wheat grew, the mill that ground it, the railroad that transported it, the building and oven in which it was baked, the horse and wagon that hauled it along the streets and the grocers building in which it was sold. There is a great deal of difference in the cost of the material and labor in a loaf of bread and what the starving man pays for it. A good deal of that difference is taxes.

You can't tax a railroad any more than you can tax the man in the moon. Put a hundred thousand dollars taxes on one of them and they will raise their tariffs just that much. It comes out of the consumer and producer after all.

Taxes won't stay where you put them. They pass on until they reach the laborer and producer and then they have to come.

Taxes and interest is what is eating the life out of this nation. Both ought to be cut right in two in the middle. The only way to do it is to double wages and the price of products. The only way that can be done is to double the quantity of money. That will do it.

WHICH IS RIGHT?

The Milwaukee Sentinel says: As a railroad attorney, Mr. Thurston was faithful to his employer, but now that he has been retained by the people he proposes to be equally faithful to them and to use the knowledge and experience gained in his former position for their benefit.

The St. Louis Republic says: Senator Thurston will be in a better position to do the present owners of the Union Pacific a service than was General Sullivant Thurston.

Five to one that the Republic wins. The day Thurston goes back on the Union Pacific and favors the people, John Sherman will vote for the free coinage of silver.

INSUPERABLE IDIOTCY.

If the populist party is ever to succeed, some of its leading papers must stop printing such insufferable nonsense as fills their columns. Take the following from the Chicago Weekly Sentinel for an instance.

Interest has made every millionaire, every monopoly, every combine and trust. We are paying at least \$500,000 interest for every man, woman and child in the Republic every year.

Now any one who knows anything, knows that such statements are wholly false or in the language of the street, simple rot. The great millionaires of this country, such as the Rockefellers, the Goulds, the Vanderbilts, Stanfords, did not make their enormous fortune by interest. They were permitted to gather them by class legislation and the decisions of venal courts. Commodore Vanderbilt perhaps never collected \$100,000 of interest in all his life. They were accumulated through special privileges granted by law. They got them by the violation of the principle laid down by the Farmer's Alliance: "Equal rights for all, special privileges for none."

To say that each man, woman and child in the United States annually pays \$350.00 dollars in interest, is like the prattle of a child or the drivings of an idiot. No man of brains has ever estimated the total debt of the United States, both public and private, at more than \$35,000,000,000. There are 65,000,000 men, women and children in the United States and to say they pay twenty-one billion seven hundred and fifty million dollars a year in interest, which would be \$350.00 each, is to say that all the debt of the United States draw interest at the rate of 62 per cent.

It is to be wondered at that the people's party poll but few votes in Chicago when its leading paper constantly prints such driveling idiocy. For Heaven's sake, if you have any sympathy at all for oppressed and down trodden of the land, don't aid our gold bug oppressors by printing such rot as that.

Those fool bankers in Omaha who were forced to go out of business Monday for lack of sufficient "sound money" to do business with, are waiting for a rise in prices or "a little life in business" under a gold standard, so that they can pay off their depositors. Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to the depositors.

We should like brief communications from our friends throughout the state.

GET us up a club of four yearly subscribers and receive this paper free until January 1, 1897.

THE city of St. Paul is overburdened with its public debt of \$8,025,100. But the people up there like the situation, and they are voting to continue it.

MR. G. C. HALL gives a new form for the definition of value and a very good one. "Value is a relative term used to indicate the fluctuations of supply and demand."

THE trust has shut down all of the sugar refineries in Philadelphia, and 2000 men are thrown out of work. But they like it and will vote for it again the first chance they get.

IF 100,000 workmen in the United States had their wages raised and all the rest were driven to idleness, the magazine economists would call that a general rise in wages.

ALL the dailies in the western cities from St. Paul to Galveston are trying to galvanize them into life. But the citizens don't want it. They have just voted to keep on the down hill road.

AFTER the votes were counted the State Journal acknowledges that the "official canvass shows that the pops showed shrewdness" in nominating Maxwell. Before the election it had a different opinion.

THE enormous human skeletons found in the rocks near Mentone, while they knock Arch Bishop Usher's chronology into smithereens, prove that other statement in the Bible, that, "there were giants in those days," to be true.

THESE magazine economists say that "interest is a reward for abstinence," i. e. one is paid so much for waiting to gratify his wants. Indeed! How much abstinence do the Vanderbilts and Rothschilds endure waiting for their quarterly payments of interest?

DR. SCHEISSER, the German expert, estimates the gold now in sight in the South African Rand district at \$1,650,000,000, if mined to a depth of 1,200 feet. If that much gold is thrown into the circulation of the world in the next five years, we shall see the gold bugs beaten at their own game.

IF the money lenders would only remember that when wages are reduced to the bare expenses of living (both urban and agricultural) that the rent of capital producers vanishes, as well as the interest on money invested in all productive enterprises, they might be persuaded that perpetual contraction is not even to their interest.

SENATOR STEWART, who for years and years has fought the gold bugs and the banks with the ferocity of a Bengal tiger, is commented upon by the Wealth-Makers as follows:

The Silver Knight, otherwise known as Senator Stewart, is doing a very manly, cowardly, silly thing in insinuating base motives in and Wall street control of the men who withstand his effort to mold anew the people's party. Stewart is determined to make free silver the main platform, the dominant idea of the party.

Then it winds up by calling Senator Stewart "base and contemptible." That finishes the Old Man of the Mountains. He will lie down and die the moment he sees that.

MR. PRESTON, director of the U. S. Mint, should be branded on the forehead "liar" and turned out of office. He says that "in order to maintain the reserve the government has been compelled to borrow \$162,000,000 in gold within the past two years." There is not a man of ordinary intelligence in the United States who does not know that that gold was borrowed and paid out to pay the expenses of the government, there being a constant deficit reported every month by the secretary of the treasury. For monumental lying Preston beats Satan himself.

THEY said there was an "intrinsic" value in a worsted mill plant in Bradford, England. It was discovered that worsted goods soon became glossy by wear. A Yankee invented a method whereby this defect could be remedied. The Johnny Bull wouldn't change his mill, and the French and the Yankees took all the trade. Johnny Bull was "busted." By some sort of attraction, which these gold bug economists better explain pretty soon. The Frenchman and the Yankee drew all the "intrinsic" value out of the Bradford mill, even though the Atlantic ocean or British Channel intervened. The old mill was there, but the "intrinsic" value was gone.

Pay \$1 now and receive this paper until January 1, 1897.

In a land of "over production" why should there be such loud appeals for charity? Class legislation robs one class and makes them paupers to make millionaires of another. Then these millionaires bestow a few dollars of their stolen wealth in charity and are held up by a fawning public as shining lights of christian philanthropy. How much we lack of civilization!

THEY are going to hang a desperado named Gay, at Helena, Montana, for killing about half a dozen men. Now that is contrary to the teachings of the Magazine economists who all say that too many workmen has caused the present low prices and misery. Gay was only trying to bring back the good times by killing off a few. If the Magazine theories are true, he ought to be given a medal, instead of being hung.

TOM WATSON, in the last edition of his paper remarks that "the socialists in Baltimore and thereabouts raised a most tremendous racket during the recent campaign and polled three hundred and odd votes. This for socialists, was doing remarkably well. Generally the socialist is a person who makes so much noise about "platforms" and "principles" that he forgets all about voting."

ONE of the speakers, an Iowa gold bug, in the Trans-Mississippi congress said that, "if cheaper money was good, then the cheaper the better. Let us make dollars worth only one cent." Well, if dear money is good, the dearer the better. Let us make a dollar, worth a million cents, so it will take all the property in the United States to pay interest for day. Then prosperity would come sure.

THE Nineteenth Century says that the aggregate quotation of the Witwatersrand gold mining shares has risen from £30,000,000 to £150,000,000 since last autumn. The question is: How did the British gold bugs manage to crowd \$150,000,000 worth of "intrinsic" into some gold mining shares in so short a time? Did the South African mining boomers take the "intrinsic" from the Dark Continent and plant it in the London brokers offices?

THE wages of agricultural laborers throughout England was 50 per cent higher during the half century after the Black Death destroyed one third of the people, says Rogers in his six centuries of work and wages. That was a direct proof of the quantity theory of money. The money didn't die, but remained in circulation and a greater per capita circulation raised the wages of workmen. There is but two ways to raise wages. One is to kill off some of the workmen. The other is to increase the number of dollars. The wage earners seem to like the former method the best. That is the reason they vote for it.

THE populist press of this state is fighting a conflict such as has never been fought by the press since printing was invented. It is at the Valley Forge of the conflict now, but although starving, ragged and unpaid, it will, like the patriots who followed Washington, march on to victory in the next campaign. Only send us a few supplies to hold the forces together for the winter, then when the spring campaign opens, you will see such a fight as you never saw before. Please pay at least part of your over due subscription.

THE bureau of statistics reports a shrinkage in exports of over \$100,000,000 for the year. That is a shrinkage in value of exports, not in the amount. It takes a very large pile of wheat, oats, corn, cotton, beef and pork to amount to \$100,000,000 in value at the present prices. That shrinkage in the value of exports means the shipment of that much more gold out of this country to pay foreign interest, or an issue of bonds to that amount.

THE speeches made in the Trans-Mississippi congress were not at all on the lines that the populists discuss the money question. The nearest approach to it was the ten minute address made by the man who beat, by a few votes, Life Pence. This talk of how much silver is mined and how much gold is coined seems all rubbish to a populist. What he wants to know, is how much money there is in circulation. He believes with Prof. Walker that, "the thing that does money duty is the money thing," and he don't care a tinker's curse what that "thing" is, so it has full legal tender power. The populists, backed by every scientist in the world, believe that, as the quantity of money increases prices will rise, and that each rise in prices reduces the weight of interest and taxes.

Send us news from your county in brief.

PROF. BARBER'S VIEWS.

The courteous reply of Prof. Barber to Mr. Roach's letter asking what "value is," is given below. From the standpoint of such economists as Francis A. Walker, A. J. Warner, Prof. Allard, Sir Morton Frewen, John P. Jones and others of the like way of thinking, there is scarcely a sentence without an error, while John Sherman and J. Sterling Morton would agree with every line of it. Without in any way indicating what the errors may be the INDEPENDENT asks some of its subscribers to point out what they deem to be errors, and it will take pleasure in printing such communications. The Professor's letter is as follows:

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA,
Department of Latin,
George E. Barber, Professor.

LINCOLN, NEB., Nov. 19, 1895.
MR. G. R. ROACH, City:

MY DEAR SIR—You have raised a question that it is a great deal easier to ask than it is to answer. You will never get a clear idea of "value" from anyone's definition. You will have to study it out. The word has so many phases that it eludes strict definition. It is only when it is applied in a given case that its strict meaning can be given.

However in economics there are some general things that may be said about it. Political economists tell us that value depends upon three things:

1st. The degree of desirability of an article, which depends largely upon the ratio of supply and demand.

2nd. The amount of labor embodied in it.

3rd. The cost of reproducing it. The increase or decrease in the value of any commodity will be found to be, generally speaking, due to the changed operation of one or more of these principles. The value of some things depends upon all three of the above principles, others upon one or more of them. For instance the price of wheat for a series of years will depend mainly upon 2 and 3, but its price in a given year will be decided chiefly by No. 1.

A piece of gold, whether the government stamp is on it or not, depends upon all three pretty uniformly, for its value.

The note of an individual, or of a government as a greenback for instance, does not cost an appreciable amount of labor, and the cost of reproducing it is almost nothing. Hence their value does not depend on 2 or 3. It does depend upon one, because there is some writing or printing upon them, that makes people want them. Their desirability consists in the fact that with them one can get certain things promised upon them. If the risks of getting what they promise increase, the desirability diminishes and the value decreases.

In general decrease the degree of desirability of a commodity which may be done by changing the relation of supply to demand, or continue to put less labor into it, or acquire the ability to reproduce it at less cost, and you will surely reduce its value and vice versa. Of course, value or price of a commodity, is what it will bring in some other commodity, and it is in this sense that I have been using the term.

Now probably I have not given you any light on the subject above what you already have, but the question is so complicated that a letter will not let one get into the subject very deep.

Very Respectfully,
G. E. BARBER.

PROF. WILLARD FISHER says in Harvards Journal of Political Economy for July p. 314 that, "it is unfair to count that a check dispenses with the use of money. Money passes to the exchange for which the check was given—passes just as really as if the check did not intervene." Now let the gold bug journals repeat a few times more that the 95 per cent of the business is done with checks and we don't require money any more.

"Half a century ago" says an English writer, "every thinker predicted that the one grand evil of democracy would be meanness (stinginess) that it would display an ignorant impatience of taxation, and that it would refuse supplies necessary to the dignity, or at least to the visible greatness of the state." But instead of that, the ignorances voted upon themselves, according to the U. S. census reports in 1890, \$1,047,000 of taxes for the support of the state and national government alone; to say nothing of municipal, county and other taxes.

375 pairs of Women's and Misses shoes sizes 1 to 3 1/2. Worth from \$7.00 to \$8.00 for \$1.25. Ten days sale, U. S. Shoe Co., 1010 O Street.

SILVER WINS AGAIN.

Hon. John L. Webster is for Cleveland, Carlisle and Bonds.

OMAHA, Nov. 28.—Yesterday the Trans-Mississippi congress elected W. J. Bryan president for the next year. There was a great deal of complimenting done—the incoming and outgoing officers receiving a full quota.

The congress went at the business of asking, by resolution, for millions of appropriations. During all the time since their first introduction, no one had seemed to trouble himself to inquire where the money was to come from and that subject was not mentioned.

A resolution asking for an appropriation from congress for a big exposition at Omaha went through with a whoop at the final session to-day. Then Salt Lake was selected for the next meeting place and finally the silver question was taken up. J. L. Webster and W. J. Bryan were chosen as the representatives of the two sides and they apportioned out the time to the various speakers. Bryan was loudly applauded in his opening five minutes' speech.

After others had spoken Webster took the floor for forty minutes. He denied that gold had appreciated in value, paid a glowing tribute to President Cleveland and endorsed the issue of \$162,000,000 of bonds. Then he wound up by reading from Carlisle's recent speech to the bankers and paid a compliment to the patriotism, statesmanship and great ability of the secretary of the treasury. In referring to those advocating free silver he was free with epithets, and the words "lunatics," "financial madness," were the most important ones in his peroration.

Bryan had only fourteen minutes to reply and he proceeded to make the fur fly, amid the storms of applause for that length of time. Then the vote was taken and there was an overwhelming majority for the free and unlimited coinage of silver.

Likes it Very Much.

BEAVER CITY, Nov. 25.
HENRY HUCKINS, Publisher Lincoln Independent.

DEAR SIR—Enclosed find \$1.00 to pay for one year subscription from date. I like your paper very much. Yours,

JAMES CAMERON.

Rev. Hall Defines Value.

NEBRASKA CITY, Nov. 25, 95.
EDITOR LINCOLN INDEPENDENT: In your paper of Nov. 22, I was interested by your correspondence with the faculty of our University relative to value. I have never given much attention to the question "what value is?" but if I were called upon to define the term I would say first; it is a relative term used to indicate the fluctuations and of demand supply. It is quite commonly and very erroneously confused with utility and worth. An old curio having neither beauty nor use may be exceedingly valuable because exceedingly rare. On the other hand things having great utility and beauty may be extremely without value because abundant. I used to reside on the bank of the Columbia river. Its clear limpid water was very beautiful and very useful but it had no value whatever. Where the supply is equal to, or greater than the demand there is no value. Applying this principle to the currency, money would not cease to be useful if it should lose its value, but it would no longer draw interest. Theatre tickets are always issued in quantities equal to or greater than the demand and per se, have no value, however useful they may be as passes to the performance.

Money is useful as a means of converting one or more forms of wealth into one or a thousand other forms of wealth, and vice versa. Its usefulness is not affected by value save as its use is impaired thereby. Value in money does not enhance its usefulness.

Respectfully,

G. C. HALL.

Go To—

P. J. STEPNEY'S
Old Reliable O. K. Barber Shop.

CORNER 14th and T Sts.
All work Satisfactory to Ladies Children and all Tonsorial train. No pets, all strangers to us.

We have been at our present location for six years, which is proof of our standing and the character of our work. We have strictly one price.