

The Nebraska Independent

Consolidation of THE WEALTH MAKERS and LINCOLN INDEPENDENT.

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LET EVERY ONE TURN OUT.

The Reform Press Association will meet in Dallas, Texas, on Feb. 22d. Every populist editor in the state of Nebraska has a duty to perform and that duty is to be at Dallas when the Reform Press Association is called to order.

Victory is in sight in this state and in the nation. Let us make sure of it. Come, every one of you come.

Big silver meeting at Raymond Saturday night. Good speakers. Be sure and attend.

Why don't some farmer announce himself as a candidate for office in the republican party, or are there no farmers in it?

You can't say "as good as wheat" any more, for wheat is no good at all in these gold standard days. It don't pay the cost of raising.

The right to issue money is a function of the government and not a function of the banks, and for that the populist will fight till he dies.

The populists of Minnesota will run a special train from St. Paul to St. Louis, on July 22, to carry the crowds who will attend the populist national convention.

We hear a great deal these days about republican and populist candidates for the presidency, but where are the democratic candidates? Won't some one trot one out?

What troubles a great many honest men about the financial question is optimism. The only remedy for it is a good populist paper taken regularly and paid for.

You might as well try to coax an earthquake with a bun" as to try to get Allen, Butler, Holcomb, or Taubeneck to abandon the essential principles of this reform movement.

BRAD SLAUGHTER gave all the editors of the Nebraska Press Association an annual pass, on the Lincoln street car lines. Has Brad got his eye on some future legislation?

J. STERLING MORTON can use that historic instrument with which Samson slew his thousands, more continuously and with less effect than any other man in the United States.

PROF. TAUSIG says: "The appreciation of gold is the general fall of prices. The two are not related as cause and effect, they are simply two names for one and the same thing."

DONNELLY'S paper now has 15,000 circulation, and he asks the populists of that state to put up the money and buy a press. They will do it, too. The pops up there mean to win next fall.

EVERY national republican leader is a coward. Not one of them dare to state fairly and honestly his position on the money question. Cowards never led an army to victory and never will.

The new commander of the Spanish troops in Cuba seems to be no more successful in whipping the Cuban's than the old one. When men fight for liberty they are usually pretty hard to whip.

The dailies are now rejoicing over the "flood of gold." The rhetoric of the expression is on a "parity" with its truth. Do they mean that the metal is melted and flooding the country like an overflowing river?

The Chicago Sentinel can come down as gracefully when it is beaten that all the ill feeling is banished from the minds of those who contested with it. The Topeka Advocate and Southern Mercury didn't know how to do the graceful so well. They are somewhat more awkward, but they get there just the same.

THE UNREASONING MULTITUDE

Mr. Carl Snyder, whoever he is this writer knoweth not, says in the February Review of Reviews in describing the awful "flood" of gold which he says is pouring out of the mines of the world that:

"At the present time \$27 will buy the same supplies which cost \$100 in 1870. In other words, the cost is hardly a fourth what it was a quarter of a century ago, while the price of gold is the same today as then, the same as in 1849—the same as it has been for more than half a century. All other values have fallen; this alone stands."

That the writer himself does not believe a word of the whole statement is proved by half a dozen passages in the same article. The intention is to juggle with the word "price" in the above sentence, but the idea conveyed is that the value of gold never varies, that it is always and every where the same. That no reasoning human being believes that statement and that he does not believe it himself is abundantly proved by the following statement on page 172.

"Will it be possible for our monetary system to survive the addition of such an overwhelming flood? Our present system was framed to meet exactly the opposite conditions which now present themselves. Its author had in view a scarcity, not a glut of gold."

If the value of gold is not affected by an "overwhelming flood" or by a stringent scarcity why should not "the monetary systems survive?"

A note of hand, a bond or any obligation made payable in dollars is now practically an agreement to deliver on a certain date named in the paper so many grains of gold. Is there any sane or reasonable human being who will say that the hardship of payment may not be increased or diminished by an "overwhelming flood" or an overwhelming scarcity of gold?

The trouble about this matter is that there are multitudes of unreasoning human beings in these United States who have votes, and who, when told that the value of gold never varies, that the value of all other things may rise and fall, but gold, whether there are "floods" of it or dearths of it, is like God himself, without variation or shadow of turning, believe it, and vote to make themselves slaves.

The only thing that stands in the way of populist success is blind, unreasoning ignorance. The voters are uncooled by the gold brick writers of the great magazines and never stop to think that the said writers are the paid attorneys of the power that absorbs, year after year their hard earnings.

Aside from this whole article is false and deceptive. If there was such a "flood of gold" as Mr. Snyder describes, prices would rise. Instead of that they are constantly falling.

THE CAT IS OUT OF THE BAG

There has been no assertion of the goldite speakers and writers that has done more harm than the claim that wages have constantly risen since 1880 while the price of products of labor have as constantly fallen. The goldites had to support them in this statement the U. S. census report and Munhall's tables. While every economist knew that the theory that prices could fall constantly for a period of years and wages as constantly rise was just as ridiculous as to say that every ounce of metal added to a pound weight made it that much lighter, yet here were always these statistics and Munhall's tables to meet.

Senator Jones in his great speech replied to the assertion by saying that when we estimated what labor received in this country we must divide the wages per capita, among all the laborers, the unemployed as well as employed, and that we must also include the agricultural laborers, whose rate of wages was not included in those tables at all. He did not attack the statistics as unreliable.

It now turns out that the Englishman whom the republicans put in charge of the census of 1890 "fixed" the wages returns so they are not only unreliable, but on this point are wholly false. Prof. H. L. Bliss in the December number of the Journal of Economics shows up this fraud completely. It appears that in the census of 1880, only the real wage earners were included, but in the census of 1890 the salaries of superintendents, owners, agents, stockholders and scientists employed in and about the great mills and factories were all included. This of course raised the rate of wages enormously.

The superintendent of the great Amoskeag cotton mills at Manchester, N. H., was once showing the writer of this over those immense works. In answer to a question about the rate of wages he replied:

"Oh, we pay them pretty well. There is one," pointing to the chief chemist, "we pay him \$25.00 per day, "and there is another," pointing to a skilled draughtsman and artist who made and enlarged the patterns for prints, "we pay him \$16.00 per day. Besides that we have two or three employees in Boston and New York whom we also pay from \$5,000 to \$8,000 a year.

In Porter's census, all these high priced officials, agents, artists and professional men, were put in as wage workers. No wonder that the statistics show that wages rose while the product of labor fell.

THE OMAHA BEE AT IT.

Now that the Omaha Bee has gone into straight lying, or rather into the business of printing old lies, it is making a good job of it. Hear it: "After years of

effort to put silver dollars in circulation, less than \$60,000,000 are being used as currency."

It is impossible to conceive what the editor thought he could accomplish by writing or printing such an audacious or unbelievable lie as that. Before the people had any press of their own, there might have been something accomplished by printing such falsehoods when there was no way of denying them, but now it only brings contempt upon the paper that prints them. There is scarcely a man in the state so ignorant as not to know there is over \$500,000,000 of silver in constant circulation, in silver dollars and in silver certificates. It is about all the money there is in circulation. The bankers lock up the greenbacks and the gold.

A PHIL ARMOUR SCHEME.

Some one asks the INDEPENDENT how much better the greenbacks are when there is \$100,000,000 of gold in the treasury than they are now with only about \$40,000,000 there? Would they be any better with \$200,000,000 there than with \$30,000,000? They certainly would be better, for as the currency is contracted just so much by every dollar locked up in the reserve, the remaining dollars left in circulation will be that much "better," using the word in the goldite way. But according to the populist idea they are that much "worse." The whole idea of the gold reserve is to contract the currency. Its effect, and its only effect, is to further lower prices. Of course \$200,000,000 locked up can do no one any good, except the owners of money and paper calling for money. Every dollar locked up increases the value of what they own. They are getting the government to play the same game that Phil Armour played when he locked up all the pork and took four or five million dollars from those who had promised to deliver to him pork, as they could get it only by buying it from him.

These goldites have contracts binding governments, states and individuals to deliver money. What money they don't own themselves, they are getting the government to lock up. So when the day of delivery comes, the parties who have promised to deliver money have to come to these goldite conspirators and pay whatever the said conspirators demand to get it. If they demand 100 bushels of wheat for twenty-five dollars, this man who has promised to deliver dollars, is helpless. He must accede to the demand. As no one can create money except the government, to carry out their plan, they got the government to stop making money at all by repeal of the Sherman act, and now they are trying to get it to lock up a large part of what is left. A good many idiots call that scheme "sound finance" and "good statesmanship."

DISSIMULATION AND DECEIT.

The duplicity, the hypocrisy, the unlimited lying of the gold standard writers, some of them scholars, professors in the great universities, some of them editors of great literary magazines or weekly papers, make us sometimes almost despair.

Last week the New York Nation in an editorial condemning corruption in our public men, in our city, state, and national government, all of which was true, was written for another purpose and had another effect upon the reader altogether. There was as much corruption and hypocrisy in that article as in any half dozen public men in the United States, possibly excluding Sherman, Cleveland, Carlisle & Co.

The object of that editorial was not to condemn corruption in public men, but to give currency to a lie. It had these two sentences in it and the whole article was written for the sole purpose of putting them there. It asked: "Why have we so many tons of silver stored at Washington? Why is it not made to circulate among the impoverished people?"

Now the editor of the Nation knows that there is not a dollar, let alone tons of silver, save the seigniorage, in Washington not in circulation among the people by means of silver certificates.

That is the same lie that John Sherman enunciated in the senate when Senator Teller rose and said that the statement of the senator from Ohio was false, and that he (Sherman) knew that it was false when he uttered it.

It is almost enough, when one sees these things, to make one despair of humanity.

THURSTON'S BRAVERY.

Last Monday the State Journal had printed in the center of its first page in pica French old style the following extract from the speech of John U. P. Thurston on the Monroe doctrine:

Sir, believing that the honor of my country is involved; that the hour calls for the highest expression of loyalty and patriotism; calmly confident of the verdict of posterity; reverently calling God to witness the sincerity of my purpose; I shall vote for it, not as an affront to any other nation, but to uphold the dignity of my own. I shall vote for it in this time of profound tranquility, convinced that peace with honor can be preserved. But, sir, I would vote for it just as surely were we already standing in the awful shadow of declared war. I would vote for it were the shells of British battle ships bursting above the dome of the nation's capitol. I would vote for it and would maintain it, at all hazards and at any cost, with the last dollar—with the last man. Yes, though it might preface the coming of a mighty conflict, whose conclusion should leave me without a son, as the last great contest left me without a sire. For unlimited bombast that para-

graph is perhaps not excelled in the whole range of the English language.

The fun of it however, is in the last sentence. It will be seen that Thurston, on the proposition of going to war, takes exactly the same position as that taken by the late lamented Artemus Ward, who, rather than see the Union destroyed was willing that all of his wife's relations should be drafted into the army.

"Yes, though it preface the coming of a mighty conflict says Thurston, "whose conclusion should leave me without a son as the last great contest left me without a sire."

Johnny is willing to sacrifice a father and a son, but his own tender carcass he does not offer.

SENATORIAL PREVARICATION

Perhaps some innocent voter may imagine that the Associated Press and the goldite editors are the biggest liars on earth and, especially the editors, the greatest economic idiots; but he will give up both points when he reads the following from the speech of Senator Gray of Delaware, delivered on January 29th The senator said:

"We have now silver bullion and silver dollars piled up in the Treasury vaults which is not demanded for circulation. All attempts to force a larger circulation of silver have proved abortive. The fact is that we to-day have a redundant circulating medium—gold, silver, greenbacks, treasury notes, and bank notes, all interchangeable and of equal purchasing power—aggregating somewhere near \$1,500,000,000 or \$1,600,000,000."

"Think of the enormous economy in the one factor of transportation, which enters into the price today of every article of common use and common necessity. At the commencement of this period, or a little before, corn was burned as it was taken from the fields over the western prairies. Today it is sold for only a little, 6 or 9 cents, less than it is sold on the coast line of the country and at the port of New York."

That is the way the goldite senators talk. THE INDEPENDENT will leave it to any old farmer in the state if that don't beat Annin or the State Journal. If Senator Gray knows of any silver dollars that won't circulate in his state let him send them out here, and we will be profoundly grateful to be shown how Nebraska corn can be laid down in New York at a freight charge of six or seven cents a bushel.

Bye and bye the people will find out that a good many senators are common, every-day liars, and nothing else.

COMING TO THEIR SENSES.

At last there is beginning to appear some sound political economy in the great quarterly scientific journals, a thing that is very encouraging. Prof. Willard Fisher has an essay in the Journal of Political Economy which completely demolishes the claim that 95 per cent of the business of the country is done with checks, drafts and other credit devices. The article shows long, hard study and much patient investigation. From the comptroller's reports, bank statements and other reliable sources, he finds that the amount of credit paper passing through the banks in a year is about \$15,000,000,000. Then taking the amount of money of every kind in circulation at one billion, and estimating that it changes hands about three times a week, which is a very low estimate, he finds that the cash transactions just about equal the credit business. His conclusion is in these words: "The cash and credit exchanges of our country, instead of standing as 1 to 10, stand in the ratio of 1 to 1."

The claim so often made upon the floor of the senate that as civilization advances, less and less money per capita is needed and less used, Prof. Fisher utterly denies and closes his article with these words: "That recent years are seeing the field of credit money slowly contracted is pretty well proved."

TWO WHIPPED CURS.

Last Monday the Board of Public Lands and Buildings had a meeting—had several of them in fact, some open and some secret. The result of it all was that the theiving curs who had planned to rob the tax payers of this state through their illegal appointment of a superintendent of the penitentiary, of thousands of dollars, stuck their tails between their legs, yelped, whined, and finally gave up the whole thing as a bad job and quit.

Churchill and Russell agreed to pay the bills which Warden Leidigh had made to maintain the convicts for the five or six months during the time these were being boddied were trying to get their itching fingers on the money appropriated by the legislature to maintain the prison.

The only thing that saved the tax payers was the brave fight made by a populist governor and a populist warden. When a pop undertakes to defend the people against public thieves, he makes things lively for them as Churchill and Russell have found out. No two "yellow dogs" ever got a more complete wallowing than these two at the hands of Holcomb and Leidigh, and honest men of all parties and all creeds rejoice over the victory.

BANKER YATES' BLASPHEMY.

Recent statistical tables show a general decline of prices since January 1, 1891, of 14.72 per cent, that is if \$100 would buy a certain amount of goods January 1, 1891, \$85.29 would buy the same amount January 1, 1896. But farm products have fallen in far greater proportion than that. The general level of prices has been somewhat kept up by

the rise in articles controlled by trusts, like coal oil and cotton seed oil, which have risen in price, notwithstanding a fall everywhere else of 8.22 per cent. In farm products \$59.59 will now buy as much wheat, corn, oats, rye, and flour as \$100 would buy January 1, 1891. Yet Mr. Henry Yates tells us that gold is a stable standard—a standard without a shadow of turning, and will stand comparison with the character of Jesus Christ, which is a blasphemy uttered in a Y. M. C. A. building without a protest.

TOM REED ON SILVER.

Senator Chandler who is a warm supporter of Tom Reed for president recently wrote a letter defining Reed's position on silver. It is as follows:

"He is not willing to agree to the unlimited coinage of silver at the present ratio by the United States alone; but he is opposed to the gold monometalism of Cleveland and Carlisle, and in favor of Republican bimetalism, to be secured by the most feasible means and with the least possible delay, so that gold and silver, admitted to unlimited coinage at an agreed ratio, shall together constitute the standard money of the world's values."

That is to say: "I am in favor of and opposed to, regarding with friendly disposition, to thus hinder, destroy, defeat the opus operatum, remembering my opsinathy. I am still friendly and in opposition—Yours truly, Tom Reed."

The United States marshalls are after the half naked, half starved frontier settlers in Boyd county again for cutting timber on public lands; and they brag that they will have 200 of them in jail in a short time. There was never a more inhuman piece of work inaugurated on this continent. This gang of goldite marshalls are simply after fees. Their conduct in arresting these shivering wretches for taking a load of wood from the public lands to warm their wives and children, even if the charge could be proved, is on a level with the tyrannies of the old feudal lords of 500 years ago, but when the arrests are made for the sole purpose of getting fees, as has been proven in many cases in the past, the villains who do it deserve the warmest berth in sheol.

The York Times being incompetent to argue the money question, says "If everybody would unite with everybody else to rotten egg the first fellow who proposed any legislation in regard to money, it would put a stop to a whole lot of useless and damaging talk." Now don't throw up the sponge that way. Write about overproduction, intrinsic value, Peffer's whiskers, or Jerry Simpson's socks. Never show the white feather. Bull it through and earn your money.

The Associated Press liars sent out a dispatch to the whole western circuit to the effect that the bimetallic national convention would be held on July 2. A lot of populist editors believed it, and straightway went after our national committee tooth and toe nail, among them the Utah Democrat. When will these editors learn to take the advice of the INDEPENDENT and believe nothing in the Associated Press until they have some proof that it is true.

MANY of the farmers in Norway have telephones in their houses. The government owns the telegraph and telephone lines there. Must the United States forever tag at the tail end of civilization for the benefit of the gold bugs. Every civilized government on earth, including Japan, owns the telegraph and telephone lines, while the United States is yoked with the pig-tailed Chinese. Gold-bugism is barbarism and nothing else.

The Dispatch, "the only democratic paper in Chicago," is acting as if it were going to turn populist out and out. During the few weeks that the Chicago Times wrote populism before the Harrison boys sold out, it increased its circulation from about 40,000 to over 100,000. The Dispatch seems inclined to try the same thing. There is money in it. Either the goldites will have to buy it or it will get a big circulation.

ANY sort of stuff called money that has to be redeemed in some other kind of money before it can legally pay a debt is a fraud, and as for the INDEPENDENT, it will have nothing to do with it. The only concession it will make to men who advocate paper money redeemable in gold, silver, or anything else before it can pay our debts, is to give them the privileges of voting the populist ticket.

JANUARY 29th the great coal carrying roads of Pennsylvania held a meeting formed a pool to hold for fifteen years, and regulated the amount each should haul. The next thing the price of anthracite was advanced 35 cents a ton, and thirty-two mines were closed. There is old party government for you. If you like it, all you have to do is to keep on voting the old party tickets.

The "flood of gold" that all the hiring writers in the magazines are shouting about, comes from working low grade ores which could not be worked at all if gold had not so greatly appreciated. Besides, half of it is pure, unadulterated lying, anyhow.

You must keep Japanese goods, made with cheap silver out with a tariff, says the gold bug republican. A tariff of 100

per cent would not equalize exchange. How would you like to sell wheat, beef, and pork in Liverpool at present prices and then pay one hundred per cent more for your goods than you do now? That would bring prosperity wouldn't it? That is the stuff republican idiots talk.

In my judgment there is a determined effort being made in this country to create a great national debt, and in that it has got the assistance of the public authorities. It is as determined as it was that the Sherman law should be repealed. They intend to create a great debt of a thousand, fifteen hundred, or two thousand million dollars if they can.—Senator Teller.

HARRISON refuses to be a candidate for president. He says: "There never has been an hour since I left the white house that I have felt a wish to return to it." It is refreshing to know that one goldite is so ashamed of his work, that he proposes to hide his shame in private life. A good many more will do the same thing after the next election.

It turns out that Mr. Poor, of Kentucky, whom the Associated Press liars informed the public was a populist, is not a populist at all, and never claimed to be one, so the populist party is entirely relieved from any responsibility in the factional fight in Kentucky. The one populist in the legislature is keeping straight in the middle of the road.

GORMAN, HARRIS, and Morgan are concocting what they call a compromise scheme to retire the greenbacks and treasury notes and issue silver certificates in place of them. That, they say, will make a market for \$500,000,000 of silver, and will please the gold men. Crittenden peace commissions won't work now any better than they did in 1861.

KANSAS republicans have always been represented in the United States' Senate by free silver men until they sent Gold Bug Baker there. Ingalls and Plumb were both for free silver. The redeemers who redeemed Kansas redeemed out a gold bug while they talked free silver. That's the way they always do.

PUT up a tariff high enough to keep Japanese goods out and where would your revenue come from? From bonds. A prohibitive tariff means no revenue from customs duties. A deficit in the revenue means bonds, bonds, bonds. That is the wisdom of these goldite high tariff redeemers.

The official reports show that the currency has been contracted \$110,000,000 in the last two years. Now they are going to contract it \$100,000,000 more and lock it up in the treasury reserve vaults. There will be another fall in prices and that is all there is of it.

To the question why so many republican newspapers failed, the Nebraska Press Association, which held its annual session in Lincoln last week, unanimously replied that it was because the ready print and paper houses always sent their goods C. O. D.

A GOLD BUG Lincoln weekly is advertising that it will pay \$2.50 and send free its paper to any one getting up a club of five. Some sort of a cash payment has to be made to get men in this part of the country to read gold bug rot.

SENATOR PEPPER.

A Writer Who Thinks Him a Master of Political Strategy.

Some weeks ago there was printed in THE INDEPENDENT a character sketch of Senator Peffer from the pen of Bright Eyes. Last week another sketch appeared in the New York Independent, the old conservative, cultured, orthodox religious paper of that city, from the pen of Janet Jennings, taking exactly the same view of the populist senator. The first two paragraphs of her article are as follows:

Senator Peffer is the mildest mannered man in the senate. No other senator is possessed of such unobtrusive tenacity of purpose as this Kansas populist. He has, also, the courage of conviction, and never goes a long way round to get at things, but makes a short cut and calls a spade a spade. On the first day of the session Senator Peffer introduced a bill providing for the "proper disposition" of senators who die while congress is in session—in other words, statesmen who fall at the post of duty. The outlook for Mr. Peffer's good intentions were not promising. Apparently the bill received no attention, beyond a broad and very general smile of amusement—in effect, the cold shoulder of discouragement. A man of less sanguine temperament would have given it up, gone his way, and let the dead bury their dead. Not so Senator Peffer. I do not pretend to say how he managed it, but manage it he did—probably by strategy, the populist weapon; and a formidable weapon it is bound to be, too, as both republicans and democrats already realize. Under less clever tactics such a bill, in its very nature, must have been buried at the bottom of the calendar, below the possibility of resurrection. But Senator Peffer led the calendar with his bill, actually got it at the top before the senate was aware of what he was about.

And then?—well, every day for four consecutive weeks, when the clock struck two, the vice president, rising with a gravity becoming the situation, would tap his gavel solemnly and say: "The hour of two o'clock having arrived, the chair lays before the senate the unfinished business; the clerk will read." Here the clerk, also with a gravity becoming the

hour of two o'clock having arrived, the chair lays before the senate the unfinished business; the clerk will read." Here the clerk, also with a gravity becoming the