

# The Nebraska Independent.

The Wealth Makers and Lincoln Independent Consolidated.

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NO. 40.

## THE HEAD BOODLER.

He Visits the Omaha Corporations And Goes for More Boodle.

## THE FARMERS TO BE ROBBED

Churchill Joins the Eastern Extortionists to Down Nebraska.

## Twelve Thousand Farmers Hot on His Trail.

Churchill and his gang of thieves having been prevented by Gov. Holcomb and Warden Leidigh from further robbery of the penitentiary looked for other opportunities to fill their pockets. They concluded that they would go in with the rich insurance companies of the east and down the farmers mutual insurance organization. They see a big haul in that game. But that sort of thing is a little too rank for the average republican editor to endure, especially in the beginning of a presidential campaign, consequently the Evening News has some remarks to make on that subject, and makes them as follows:

When attorney General Churchill returns from his pilgrimage to Washington he is very liable to hear something drop in the immediate vicinity of his flamboyant boom for reelection. It is recorded that the attorney general, just prior to leaving for Washington, rendered an oral opinion on the points involved in the controversy between the old line companies and Farmers' Mutual Insurance company, and that opinion was to the effect that the Mutuals could do business in Nebraska and were doing so strictly within the law. But, lo, upon arriving in Omaha, the general's mind underwent a sudden change. In fact, it was a case of lightning like transmigration that occurred within the portals of the attorney general's dome of thought. Colonel Churchill is generally regarded as a weak sister in the sacred temple of politics, and it is figured out down here by those who love him not, that when the emissaries of the old line companies, Harry Brome and others, came at him with the proposition that if he expected to get the Douglas county delegation for renomination he had better decide against the Farmers' Mutual, he promptly got in line and reversed his former decision. Colonel Churchill knew that Mayor Broatch desired to be governor and wants the Douglas county delegation to be all his own, and knowing this, his gelatin vertebrae at once assumed the rigidity of molasses, and he gave expression to the decision against the Farmers' Mutual.

In placating the old line sharks, however, Attorney General Churchill aroused the animosities of the twelve thousand and some odd farmers who hold policies in the Farmers' Mutual and other mutuals and they are now mounting his frame and tearing down his political fences with that cheerful abandon that marks the acts of the Nebraska farmer when some venal corporation treads on his corns. If the attorney general, when he returns, will put his ear to the ground, he may hear the rumble and grumble and roar of the approaching storm.

Auditor Eugene Moore has granted a certificate to the Nebraska Farmers' Mutual Insurance company, giving it permission to continue business until the supreme court passes upon the questions raised in the recent suit brought by a representative of the old line companies to prevent the Farmers' Mutual from issuing policies in this state. Consequently, Attorney General Churchill's recent decision against the Farmers' Mutual will not preclude the company from doing business at the old stand until the supreme court passes upon the points involved in the controversy. President Woods stated today that the suit was instituted at the instigation of the old line companies, who are envious of the Farmers' Mutual, because the latter is doing a greater amount of business in Nebraska. He believes that the supreme court will decide that the company has kept strictly within the requirements of the Nebraska insurance law and can continue to do business as heretofore.

## MONEY IN CIRCULATION.

What the Great Republican Senator Plumb said About It.

Let us see therefore, how much money is available for actual use among the people. From the total of \$1,560,000,000 arrived at as above, must be first deducted an average of \$260,000,000 which the treasury always keeps on hand, and about which something has heretofore been said in the debate on this bill. That leaves as the maximum which by any possibility can be used \$1,300,000,000.

There ought, in fairness, to be deducted from this \$150,000,000, error in estimate of gold in the country, which would reduce the money outside the treasury to \$1,150,000,000. From this is to be subtracted the \$700,000,000 kept as a reserve (in the banks,) as before computed. Leaving a balance of but \$550,000,000 which is available for delivery or other use in the transactions of the business of all the people, or a trifle over \$8 per capita. But the force of my argument is not materially weakened by conceding the gold coin to be as estimated by the treasury department, which would leave in actual circulation \$700,000,000. In order to make up this amount all doubt must be resolved in favor of the treasury and again

people, both the doubt as to the lost and destroyed notes and that as to the gold supply. If I were deciding this case upon what I consider the best evidence, I would be bound to say that I believed the money in actual circulation did not much, if at all, exceed \$500,000,000.—As quoted in appendix to Congressional Record, page 304 volume 25 part 3. Special session 1893.

## WHAT IS THE MATTER?

Something Wrong Somewhere—What is it?

EDITOR NEBRASKA INDEPENDENT:—Midst the growls and kicks of the people at the present time, it is amusing to hear the remarks made by first one and then another. "Hard times" says one? "Yep, can't be any better times until McKinley is elected president." Another says, "not until Cleveland brings on a war with England over Cuba and Venezuela." Another says, "Hard times is an epidemic disease similar to smallpox. It comes and it goes and no man knoweth whether it cometh or whether it goeth. Yet it leaves a scar." Another says, "it is a failure of crops. When you have nothing to sell you have no money." Another says, "it don't seem to make any difference how much you have to sell you get no money for all you may have, and to sell, it wears yourself out to get it to market." Eye says, "its Adam drinking too much beer." A politician says, "its a gold basis." Another says "its the dishonest dollar." Another says, "lack of confidence." Another "its too much confidence in the banks. So much so that Canada and South America is being glutted with bankers and United States gold."

A banker says, "the basis is not broad enough, give us more bonds." The borrower says, "its too much usury." The real estate man says, "its because of the calamity howlers. Stand up for Nebraska." The homesteader says, "its the cut throat mortgage, down with the land sharks." Others say, "for God's sake whatever it is give us a change."

W. F. WRIGHT.

## An Open Note to Luther F. Ludden.

VERDON, NEB., March 2, 1896.

EDITOR NEBRASKA INDEPENDENT:—Will you please let me have room enough in your paper to enquire of Luther F. Ludden what he means by saying in the Semi-Weekly State Journal of February 28, that the number of farms mortgaged (as shown by the census of 1890) in Ohio was 53,830 and the amount was \$70,744,771 and that Nebraska had 43,991 farms that carry an encumbrance and are encumbered for \$47,678,132.

Neither statement is correct. The number of mortgages on Ohio farms was 119,730 and the amount \$134,107,705, while the number on farms in Nebraska was 107,175 and the amount was \$90,506,958. Perhaps you can explain what you mean and make it plain even to a populist.

I am a buckeye by birth, but a tree planter by acclimation and am ready to stand up for Nebraska at all times and under all circumstances if I do not have to do violence to the map of veracity.

I have before me an abstract of the eleventh census and I see so far as lots are concerned you are very nearly correct in regard to Nebraska. But there are four things you left out and I will mention only one; that is the per cent of increase for the decade 1880 to 1890. In Ohio it was 43.48 percent. In Nebraska it was 38.01 per cent. If this meets your eye and you will kindly explain through THE INDEPENDENT or Journal or both, you will oblige, Yours for more light.

GEO. WATKINS.

## Our Hebrew Brother.

The Jews of America, backed as a race by their foreign money power, as well as by their genius, are rapidly under the gold-standard, absorbing trade and, in a growing degree, dominating or intimidating the metropolitan press. The Jew in Europe is said to command the bourse, the press, and the telegraph. With these three factors, plus the major part of the gold, as a basis of western credit and mortgage, they more and more rule the carnal universe. This country, since silver demonetization, whereby the Jew and his "Christian" allies can corner one metal, is the biggest and fattest goose left for Hebrew plucking, and it must make the Jew laugh to see how the President, political parties, newspapers and large communities, punctuated by chambers of commerce and boards of trade, are delivering the spoil of the Gentile to the children Israel and making fierce war on all men who would save their fellow-citizens and their government from the yoke.—James K. Randall in the Catholic Mirror, Baltimore.

## A Two Edged Sword.

The Nebraska Independent, editorially speaking, is a great improvement over anything the Populists have yet had to represent them at the state capital. Mr. Tibbles' editorial paragraphs are brilliant and pointed, and some of them cut like a two-edged sword. THE INDEPENDENT fills a broad field, strikes hard, and with proper management and support there is no reason why it should not soon become the leading populist paper of the west.—Weekly Tribune.

## Lincoln's Idea.

I hold that if the Almighty had ever made a set of men that should do all the eating and none of the work, He would have made them with mouths only, and no hands; and if He had ever made another class that He had intended should do all the work and none of the eating, He would have made them without mouths and with all hands.—Abraham Lincoln.

## FAKE INTERVIEWS.

POPULIST EDITORS INSIST ON BELIEVING THEM AND IT MAKES TROUBLE.

Chairman Taubeneck a Radical of the Radicals.

The proposed consolidation of reform forces at St. Louis in July has been causing some uneasiness among the reform editors. Some felt that leaders in the movement were negotiating with the silver men with the view of throwing all of the Omaha platform overboard except the financial plank. Others still more alarmed, feared everything was to go overboard except the silver plank. On the other hand there were those who believed the stalwarts in the party were inclined to be altogether too stalwart for the good of the movement.

The matter was very generally and most thoroughly discussed at the Dallas meeting and on the Galveston excursion of the populist editors, and when a full understanding was reached it was found there was very little difference of opinion between the so-called extremes. Fake interviews were in reality at the bottom of this misunderstanding and uneasiness. Chairman Taubeneck attended the meeting, and went with the editors on a little excursion to the salt water. They had a round up in a hotel one evening and a talk over matters in general.

Upon this occasion Chairman Taubeneck of the national committee was present, and he joined in with: "There is no cause for this contention going further, as it has been well talked over on this trip and should now be thoroughly understood. All admit we need a union of forces to win this fight, and the thing for us to do from this time out is to train our guns on the enemy, not on each other. The first thing to do is to select delegates for the St. Louis convention of well established integrity, thoroughly honest, conservative and well balanced men."

"What is your idea as to the platform?" was asked. "It is not just the proper thing, I think," he replied "for a member of the committee to influence the coming convention or to attempt to shape the platform, and what I say now is merely my private opinion as between us here. I think we should adopt the essential features of the Omaha platform. Some have thought, I believe, differently. You may have thought so. But if I had my own say in the matter I would first look out for the financial question, then the discontinuance of those bond issues, then the income tax, then for direct legislation and some other planks I do not now recall."

"This plank for direct legislation is an exceedingly important feature of reform work," he continued. "It is the only plan I know of whereby the government may be brought near the people. My own definition would be that 20 per cent of the legal voters of the nation on national matters, and the same per cent in the legal subdivisions of the government on local matters, by petition should have their measure submitted to a vote of all the people. This plan would in my opinion, abolish the third house—the pestiferous lobby, and it would destroy government by political parties."

"Do you object to my reporting your words?" asked the writer. "No, I think of no objections now," replied Mr. Taubeneck, "if you state that these are merely my personal opinions. The convention, not the committee should attend to the platform making. Further," he added, "as to the St. Louis convention—at our committee meeting January 17, we were confronted with this condition, a prospect of two conventions at different places and at different times for practically the same purpose. To avoid this scattering of strength, we sent a sub-committee to Washington to invite the silver people to hold their convention at the same time and place that we held ours. In this the committee had gone to its outside limit and cannot go further. I think we did our duty when we gave the two conventions an opportunity to meet each other face to face."

"So far as the two conventions getting together is concerned, that is a question for the delegates who are selected by the people. The committee has nothing to do with that, whatever. We discharged our duty when we gave the two conventions the opportunity to meet each other in the same city and on the same date. The balance must be done by the delegates representing the two parties. The committee is not responsible for what either of the conventions may do."

"The committee, furthermore, has no plans for the two conventions to pursue in effecting a consolidation. That has never been discussed in the remotest degree by the national committee or any member of the committee so far as I know. The question of coming together devolves entirely upon the two conventions and not upon our committee."—News, Joliet, Ill.

## Unsubsidized Editors.

The corruption of the commercial press has not entirely deprived the people of the blessings which a free press bestows. The annual meeting of the National Reform Press Association held in Dallas, Texas, on February 22, brings to light the glorious news that there are in the United States editors who have not been subsidized; they have not the backing of the combined wealth of two continents, they have not the patronage of the banks and their dependent boards of

trade; they are excluded from all participation in the patronage of the government; they are ostracized by the cuckoo and magpie politicians; in short, the entire power of the Rothschild organization is arrayed against them. But they have more than all these. They have manhood, they have courage, they have patriotism. They love the American people and are devoted to their country and when such men speak the power of the truths they utter sends terror to the ranks of monopoly no matter how thoroughly entrenched. The unsubsidized independent press association in the salt of American journalism, and from it will spring in the near future a press more powerful and influential than all the money of two continents can buy.—Senator Stewart in Silver Knight.

## OWNED IN ENGLAND.

Eight Thousand Millions of American Property Pays Interest to Foreigners.

All the Armies of the World Could Not Harm Us so Much.

Sixty per cent of the stocks and bonds of the vast Pennsylvania railroad system is said to be owned in Europe. Nearly all the Illinois Central railroad, extending from Chicago to New Orleans, with great city properties and branches and laterals, is owned in Holland.

Great ownership in the immense properties of the New York Central Railroad Co., and all its vast railroad connections, is held in Europe.

A controlling interest in the Great Northern railroad, running from Lake Superior to the Pacific Ocean, is owned in England.

A controlling interest in the Northern Pacific railroad, lying south of, and as extensive as the last named railroad, is owned in Germany.

Large, if not controlling, interests in every other important railroad in the United States, are owned by European investors.

The immense Carnegie iron works at Homestead, Pa., are owned principally in Scotland.

The controlling interest in the famous Pillsbury flouring mills at Minneapolis, the largest in the world, is owned in England.

The great iron mills of the Lake Superior region, said to produce 10,000,000 tons of iron a year, are largely held by English investors.

A controlling interest in the Grant smelters in Denver and Omaha, the largest in the world, is owned by Englishmen.

Foreigners own immense interests in the breweries of the country, largely if not controllingly.

The largest bankers of New York are foreigners, or representatives of foreign banking houses. These are the great gold shippers.

A large percentage of our fire and marine insurance is in foreign insurance companies.

Five-sixths of all our freightage of our foreign commerce is carried in foreign vessels.

Foreigners own millions of acres of our farming lands.

They own many millions of dollars in value of our city properties.

Their mortgage loans overspread the face of the country.

Foreign capitalists own hundreds of millions of United States bonds, and state bonds; and they own untold millions of city bonds, and other municipal obligations in the United States, and vast amounts of other properties not here specially stated.

So great has become the aggregate of all these ownerships in United States properties, by foreigners living in foreign countries, that the aggregate cannot be less than \$7,000,000,000 or \$8,000,000,000, with an average of earnings of not less than five per cent per annum.

Besides, there are great numbers of wealthy people who are annual tourists to foreign countries; tourists who live expensively, and invest large sums of American money in European luxuries and costly productions. The sums so expended have been estimated at \$100,000,000 yearly. This is probably excessive, but the amounts are known to be very great.

The aggregate of all these European dues on investments in this country, and expenditures by our tourist classes, may with fairness and moderation be placed at \$400,000,000 each year. This is Europe's annual money demand upon the United States, to be responded to, in gold, or gold values, in new railroads or other investments, or trade balances.

## Keep Cool.

Keep your heads cool. Be true to principle; but determined that all men who hate plutocracy shall vote together at the ballot box; and that the monstrous despoilers and bloodsuckers of humanity shall be dragged away from their bleeding prey.

What is the use of picking flaws in each other while the common enemy is picking your pockets? United we win—divided we fall.—The Representative.

## THE BESOTTED TYRANT

Who Evolves his So-called Policy in the Dizzy Maze of a Duck Shoot,

OR IN A BANKERS YACHT,

As he Goes Floating to Buzzards Bay.

What the Massachusetts People's Party Have to Say.

The action of the Massachusetts state convention of the people's party Saturday merits a few words relative to the "irrepressible" conflict and impending crisis.

The Cincinnati conference of 1891 was the greatest political uprising of the common people in this country. All shades of reform were there. It adopted what was substantially the Ocala platform; and as every reformer knows what that is, it is not necessary to outline it. A national committee, representing this Cincinnati conference, was instructed to attend the national labor conference, which had previously been called to meet at St. Louis, February 22, 1892, and if the St. Louis conference did not call a national nominating convention the Cincinnati committee was to do so. At St. Louis the farmers' alliance, which, by its representation according to its roll of membership, was a practical majority in that conference, demanded the sub-treasury and the \$50 per capita and government CONTROL of railroads, which was the Cincinnati-Ocala plank.

The Knights of Labor and others demanded government OWNERSHIP and a more radical land plank, but did not favor the sub-treasury. The compromise—and the history of all great movements is a temporary compromise until the end desired can be obtained—was that each accepted the extremes of the other, and that made the St. Louis platform which was adopted at Omaha without change, because it was the political demand of the farmers' alliance and others in the conference. This is the history of the Omaha platform, and has a bearing at this time because the farmers' alliance, which was and is a controlling factor in the people's party organization in a number of strong states, has, at its February (1896) national session dropped the sub-treasury plank, the \$50 per capita, and placed itself upon the Cincinnati-Ocala planks of government CONTROL of railroads and against alien ownership of land. It is significant, because the great force that made the platform of Omaha, as representing its political demands, now changes and rewrites them. Will the people's party continue to voice the political demands of this great organization? We have come to the point where, instead of looking backward to the Omaha platform, we must look forward to St. Louis in July. It is a waste of space to discuss what Mr. Taubeneck is saying or is accused of saying, or to set up the man of straw that the silver men are to swallow it, or to be at cross-purposes over that indefinite syllable "isms" which nobody has defined. The real issue of the hour presents itself in this recent action of this great national body of the farmers' alliance, and can be concentrated in this question—"Will the people's party accept what is substantially the Ocala-Cincinnati platform as a common ground of union of all forces for 1896? No principle is sacrificed. Death to monopoly is our war cry, and government ownership can be attained more speedily with government control in the platform, because it ensures the victory to the friends of that measure."

The "man of the hour," with his pitchfork at Washington, has both feet on the Ocala platform, and he represents many in the old parties, and it made the very substantial ground from which he pitchforked the Wall street tools that control both the old parties, and the democratic renegades, the "Judas from Kentucky," and the "besotted tyrant" who evolves his so-called American policy in the dizzy maze of a duck shoot or in a banker's yacht floating in a champagne breeze to Buzzards Bay. The writer has attended every conference and convention, and all the meetings of the national committee down to and including the recent Washington conference. Although but an editor of the reform paper in the dismal swamp of Massachusetts, we appeal to brother editors in the common cause to so shape the discussions as to take them out of personalities regarding men or movements. No one at St. Louis in July would be heard in a request for a platform with but a single plank. There will be planks on finance, transportation, land, Munroe doctrine, American national policy, the supreme court, graduated income tax, etc., but the real contest will come on a question to this—"Will you take the shibboleth of the people's party government ownership?" which some coming out of the old parties cannot pronounce, or will you modify it to "government control," which the whole army can proclaim in one glad voice, and thus united march to victory? This is the question—will you ignore it? The cause of humanity is involved in the decision. Which side are you on?—Brockton, (Mass.) Diamond.

## Brightest and best

THE NEBRASKA INDEPENDENT is one of the brightest weekly papers published in the United States and is deserving of a large circulation.

## THAT GREAT WAVE.

Failures Continue to Increase in the United States and Canada.

Gold Bonds Afford No Relief.

The report covering the failure for one week will be found below: R. G. Dun & Co., in their weekly review of trade say:

Failures for the week have been 285 in the United States against 234 last year, and 68 in Canada against 58 last year.

This showing makes an increase of 51 more failures for last week than for the same week last year in this country and 10 more in Canada. When, oh, when, will that boom in business commence that Senator Thurston predicted would go rolling over this country as a result of the \$100,000,000 bond sale. This prediction is the worst one of the four bad breaks he has made since he took his seat in the senate. A man living west of the Mississippi river would not make any such a prediction who had any regard for the truth.

I presume Mr. Thurston thinks that his bill to pension the ex-slaves would boom the business of the country. It will take something more than \$100,000,000 bond sale or a bill to pension all the ex-slaves to bring back prosperity to our country. There will have to be a large increase in the money volume west of the Mississippi river. The State Journal would have criticized and ridiculed Senator Allen for days if he had introduced a bill to pension all the colored people that had been slaves. The Journal will never mention Thurston in connection with that pension bill.

## The Booding State Journal.

THE INDEPENDENT has been calling the State Journal company boodlers and the paper a booding sheet. We do not like to apply such terms to individuals or corporations without proving beyond a doubt that such person or corporation has been connected with schemers to put dishonest men in office, or to defraud the public by conspiring to rob them of their public money. We do not have to go far to prove that the State Journal company is guilty and for years has been charging exorbitant bills to the city, county and state for supplies and using all their influence to elect men to office that would help on their steals. One of the most bare-faced conspiracies that was ever attempted on the state treasury was attempted in 1893, by the State Journal company. The object of the conspiracy was to rob the state of about \$16,000. In order to show that we have evidence enough to back up our statement, we print below the comparative charges for 1891 when the state printing was done at a reasonable price, and the prices that the State Journal bid in 1893 and was accepted by the board. The comparisons are as follows:

	1891	1893
1,500 assessment books.....	\$ 900	\$4,800
225 tax books.....	250	2,350
400,000 schedules of assessments.....	424	1,000
20,000 treasurer's tax receipts.....	86	514
250 school land receipt books.....	50	500
300 teachers' second grade certificates.....	30	1,500
150 teachers' third grade certificates.....	15	750
10,000 copies school laws.....	375	937
5,000 courses of study.....	32	225
6,000 institute manuals.....	503	1,308
1,000 educational directories.....	37	128
500 institute directories.....	15	58
Blanks for superintendent.....	1,308	5,798
Blanks for land commissioner.....	170	720
	\$4,328	\$21,117

The board that accepted this bill was composed of the following state officers: secretary of state, auditor and treasurer.

After the contract had been practically awarded to the State Journal company, the typographical union of Lincoln, No. 209 got onto the facts in the case and the matter was so thoroughly exposed that the board was forced to advertise for new bids. Every line in the bid showed conclusively that there was collusion between the State Journal company and the board.

Cut this list out and show it to your neighbors. The people have been, and are yet being robbed by the republican gang of politicians. During the last twenty years the state house ring and penitentiary boodlers have robbed the people of this state of more than \$1,000,000 in connection with the penitentiary alone. Does the State Journal ever expose any of the steals that are being perpetrated by any of the republican gang?

## Allen Can be Elected.

The assertion at the head of this article doubtless strikes as a startling announcement, yet after careful thought we believe it is as true as gospel. Senator Allen today stands as the leading man in American politics. His tenacity, his clear, bright, able mind and his honesty of purpose has commanded for him, his party and his state the respect and admiration of the world. The populist party of the United States, comprising nearly two million votes will support him to a man. The so-called free silver party—money reform democrats and republicans—will be found in line for him, the old soldier boys, of whom he is one and for whom he has made such a gallant fight, will give him their work and their votes, and the laboring element—that portion of it that cannot be purchased with whiskey and boodle—will vote for him. Allen is the Lincoln of this new emancipation crusade. He has the ability and integrity to lift the people from the mire and deliver them from the hands of our British oppressors.—The New Era

Delinquent subscribers must pay up, at least in part.