

The Nebraska Independent.

The Wealth Makers and Lincoln Independent Consolidated.

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A NEW TRIAL WANTED.

The Honor of Jefferson Jackson and Lincoln Cannot Shield Today's Criminals.

SOME OF THE JURORS INSANE.

One Who Will Vote the Old Way if Rothschilds Writes the Platform and the Devil Heads the Ticket.

Notwithstanding Labor Organizations, wealth still goes to the Idle Rich.

The following is an extract from a recent speech of J. R. Sovereign, General Master Workman of the Knights of Labor:

The leaders and candidates of the two old parties are continually prating about the glorious record of their ancestors. The early history and accomplishments of the democratic and republican parties are held up before the voters as the shining trophies of political honor. Now my friends, if I should commit willful murder in this community tonight and escape the minions of the law and after twenty years a fugitive from justice I should return, every one of you would demand my arrest, conviction and punishment. You would not give me my liberty on the ground that a quarter of a century ago I was an honest man or on the claim that I had reformed. You would not accept a new platform or code of resolves or pledges for good character in the future in extenuation of the crime I had committed. I might prove by sworn evidence in court that I had a father by the name of Jefferson who was the most perfect embodiment of honor this country ever had, and that I had an uncle by the name of Jackson who was revered by every honorable citizen in the union for his good character and integrity, and that I had a brother by the name of Lincoln whose life was a star of the first magnitude in the galaxy of national honor and love of mankind, and that Webster, Clay, Calhoun, Seward, Sumner, Chase and a long line of the nation's most honored sons were all my relatives. But the court would rule that such evidence was incompetent, immaterial and irrelevant, and all the people would declare that the honor and virtues of one man or of a thousand men could not condone the crime of another. The good name of a dead philanthropist cannot become the ransom of a live criminal.

The two old parties committed willful murder more than twenty years ago and have repeated the crime every day from that time to the present. I will not equivocate or excuse. The political parties that have given the homes of the people to the few, bankrupted industries, driven thousands to suicide and turned three million laborers and mechanics in the streets to starve for want of employment are guilty of cold blooded, premeditated murder and you know it.

But those same red-handed criminals come before the great bar of the public each year with adroitly written platforms claiming they have reformed and demand a new lease of life and power because of the honor and patriotism of statesmen who died many years ago, and the great publicity goes to the ballot box and votes for their liberty and acquittal. I speak to the shame of this great public jury. They have been influenced by the virtues of an almost forgotten past to mitigate and excuse the crimes of the present. But thank heaven, waiting justice does not always sleep, the day of retribution is at hand, the old parties have been called before the bar of judgment and the great public jury is hearing the merits of the case with less prejudice than ever before. The honor and justice of a Jefferson, a Jackson or a Lincoln will not be accepted in palliation for recent old party crimes. The evidence of guilt leaves no room for doubt and the better element of both old parties are turning states evidence to regain their standing and escape the wrath to come.

Not long ago I heard a leading republican declare he would support the republican party if it had only a yellow dog for a platform and a yellow dog for a candidate. A democratic candidate for the governorship of Arkansas said in a speech a few days ago that he would support the democratic party if Rothschilds wrote the platform and the devil headed the ticket. My friends I leave it to your candid judgment if that republican and that democrat did not express the only reason that can be given for supporting either of the two old parties. And my friends, if that kind of reason had prompted the acts of Washington, Jefferson and the other revolutionary patriots they would have died shouting for King George and there never would have been an American republic.

Every human being who ever lived had been guided by the same kind of reason every act of the human family would have been bad and there could have been no good in the world between the murder by Cain and the sale of bonds by Carlisle. That is the same kind of reasoning that beheaded the reformers, handed the cup of poison to the philosophers, and kindled the fagots at the feet of the martyrs.

Do you know, my brother, that the politicians would not dare use such argument or boast of his willingness to sacrifice the interests of the people and the life of the government on the altar of his political party, if it were not that mil-

lions of working men have been applauding such sentiments and voting for the men who utter them?

Do you know, my brother, that the politicians who have uttered those despicable sentiments are the very fellows who are always admonishing the working people to stay out of politics? You cannot find an old party politician from Maine to California who under the guise of philanthropy, will not spend time and money trying to persuade the labor organizations that they ought to stay out of politics. They are willing that you shall devote all your efforts to shop rules, labels and insignificant trade questions, but when you resolve to vote to overthrow robbing combinations that are enslaving labor, they rush to your rescue with the apparent love of a mother rescuing her drowning child and beg of you for the sake of your great and good organization to stay out of politics. You have taken their advice and you have lost. With all the labor organizations that have operated in this country during the past twenty-five years the wealth of the country has gone to the idle rich, and there are more half paid, more homeless, more idle, and more hungry working people in this nation tonight than ever before. Fealty to party right or wrong is treason to humanity. The love of justice has been so weak and party prejudice so strong that labor organizations have peaceably submitted to the enslavement of their members for fear of division and disruption if they made a stand against the arch enemies of the common people. But the lines between the classes and the masses are now so closely drawn that there is not a single grain of natural ground on which to stand. The labor organizations must choose this year between the claims of humanity and the demands of gold bugs and plutocrats. The money power and the monopolies support only such parties and candidates as will protect their interests and the labor organizations must do the same or surrender to the despotism of arrogant capital.

UNEQUAL TAXATION.

NONRESIDENT LANDLORDS ARE ESPECIALLY FAVORED.

Merchants and Farmers Taxed Enormously and Mortgage Holders are Exempt

ODELL, NEB., March 13, 1896.

EDITOR INDEPENDENT:—Please allow me a little space in your valuable paper to consult with taxpayers of Nebraska.

Fellow farmers, do you realize how we are awfully under our present system of assessment? Let me show you.

Real estate is assessed at about one-sixth of its value or less, while personal property is assessed at about one-third of its value. On every six dollars invested in real estate the owner pays tax on one dollar, and on every six dollars invested in personal property the owner pays tax on two dollars.

Now consider the vast amount of real estate in our state owned by non-residents who have no personal property here. In many cases they rent it at a high cash rental and the tenant, who farms it, must pay twice the tax per valuation that the landlord pays. Also, how many living in our towns who own but little if any personal property, draw their sustenance from a tenant who pays twice as much tax according to value of his property as the owner of the farm. Again, all personal property taxed becomes due three months before real estate tax, so the tenant or farmer who has his money invested in personal property to work the farm must pay his tax three months before the land owner pays his or he must pay ten percent interest on it. Let me show you how the man in debt pays his own tax and the tax of his creditor too. Suppose a farmer gets a loan of \$1000 on his farm and invests the money in stock, implements, etc., to operate the farm. The assessor appraises and assesses his farm without making any allowance for the indebtedness, and assesses his \$1000 worth of personal property too. So the farmer pays not only his own tax but the tax of the mortgage holder who has an equity in the farm to the amount of \$1000. Even if the mortgage holder should be sufficiently honest to allow his notes and mortgage to be assessed that does not alter the fact that the farmer pays tax twice on the \$1000, once in the land and once in the personal property.

The mortgage holder has the best title to the farm, for he can dispose of the farm at any time that the farmer fails to comply with the terms of the mortgage. He gets his dividends annually, whether the farmer gets anything or not. The discriminations are as much against the merchant and manufacturer as the farmer. I have written with reference to the farmer, because farming is the chief industry of the state. What right have assessors to form, establish, or follow customs for the benefit of the wealthy contrary to law? What is the governor's duty but to execute the law and direct and advise such legislation as will secure to each all equal benefits of the law?

Fellow farmers let us deluge the executive with letters and petitions to enforce the assessment laws.

Friendly papers please copy.

J. D. CROPPER.

A Paper to Fight With.

NEBRASKA CITY, NEB., March 11, '96.

EDITOR INDEPENDENT:—Please find enclosed postoffice order for \$1 to pay my subscription to the best populist paper in the state. I am glad that we have one paper to fight the corrupt press with, such as the Journal, for it is the most bum sheet in the state and also U. P. Thurston, because he is a hired tool of the money power.

GEO. D. BELL.

A POPULIST VICTORY.

Allen Goes for Southern Gold Bug Election Frauds.

THE POPS CARRIED ALABAMA.

A Committee of the U. S. Senate Decides That They Did,

And That Reuben Kolb is the Lawful Governor of That State.

Shortly after the election in Alabama in 1894, Col. Kolb, the populist candidate for governor came to Washington. He met a number of senators, representatives and economists at the rooms of the Bimetallic League. He was introduced by Gen. Warner as Governor Kolb of Alabama. Col. Kolb remarked that Gen. Warner had made a mistake "I am" he said, "not governor, but ex-governor. I was elected by several thousand majority, but the gold bugs ex-cused me from serving, so I am ex-governor."

During that session of congress Senator Allen occupied nearly half a day in the senate reading affidavits from prominent citizens residing in every part of Alabama, who, under oath, testified to the frauds that had been perpetrated in counting out the populists after they had fairly carried the state.

Early in the session, he introduced a resolution directing the senate committee on Privileges and Elections to make an inquiry into the matter, and see whether the state of Alabama had a republican form of government. That committee has made a report. The following is the Associated Press account of what the committee says:

WASHINGTON, March 11.—Senator Chandler, from the committee on privileges and elections, presented to the senate the views of the majority of the committee, consisting of the republican members, recommending the adoption of Senator Allen's resolution providing for an investigation of the Alabama state and legislative election of 1894. The report makes reference to the election of 1892, in which Thomas G. Jones, regular democrat, and Reuben F. Kolb were rival candidates for governor. While in this election Jones was declared governor, the committee asserts that this was "done by the wholesale falsification of the returns by dishonest election officers in pursuance of a great conspiracy, deliberately organized, long before the election, for the purpose of changing the political complexion of the state in case it should appear that Kolb and his supporters had carried the state."

In 1894 Kolb was again a candidate for governor with Hon. W. C. Oates as his opponent on the regular democratic ticket. The report asserts that Kolb was elected at this time, as were a majority of the candidates for the legislature on the same ticket, but that they were not given the offices on account of the fact that a fictitious vote was returned. Fifteen counties are mentioned as giving a return of 50,000, whereas, only 16,000 votes were cast. Therefore, Mr. Oates, instead of being elected by 27,682 votes, was defeated by about 7,000 majority.

The committee says the Kolb legislature was counted out in the same way and that in both elections the fraudulent returns came from the "black" counties; that Kolb and his ticket carried a majority of the "white" counties and that the negroes failing to register, false poll lists were made and false returns made and certified favorable to Kolb's antagonists.

"The case," it is asserted, "is not merely one of local frauds which happened here and there over the state, but the case made is that of willfully planned and deliberately manufactured masses of fraudulent returns, based upon no votes whatever, but made to apparently defeat a state government that was actually chosen, and to give apparent title to a state government defeated by the voters."

The report gives in detail the particulars concerning the organization of the Kolb legislature and the election by it of Mr. W. S. Rees as United States senator to hold the seat occupied by Senator Morgan. The committee says that the investigation should be made and the facts made known. If the charges are well founded, the report says, it may be the duty of the senate to oust Mr. Morgan from his seat. The committee takes the position that there can be no doubt of the right of the senate to make the investigation.

They Never Investigate.

Prices are cut in every direction, goods are sacrificed for less than cost to appease the demands of landlords and lenders. These struggling tradesmen who often do not take in enough cash to pay the rent and help, never think of investigating the causes that have led up to this awful state of affairs, and the bankers and trust manipulators sit in their palatial offices, rub their hands in glee as the blood money comes in, and watch the squirming of their victims with great satisfaction. And so the world wages, bankruptcy multiplies, wealth concentrates and the end nears.—Appeal to Reason.

Donnelly's Idea of Hell

Let the theologians depict a new hell, where everybody is hopelessly in debt, and wheat worth but 50 cents a bushel; while the combine has got possession of the fuel and poor devils are freezing, and a lot of villainous imps, calling them-

selves G. O. P. and the D. O. P., are going around, making stump speeches, and assuring the poor wretches that they are in heaven! But hold on! Or someone will swear we are describing Minnesota!

You can't scare anybody in this state with a threat of a hot fire. But debt! Ah, that is hell indeed!—The Representative.

Strange but True.

Senator Allen has made it plain to the country that the republicans have deliberately lied for the past three years in order to silence. Tom Carter has proven the same, and shown that the republican trail—on the silver question—leads directly into the Cleveland camp; and that when Cleveland throws a stone into the silver waters all the republicans, except a few from the silver states, including Senator Cameron, bob their anti-silver heads like corks. And yet there are republicans in Montana who still cling to that party.—Helena News.

ALLEN AND THE SUGAR TRUST.

FORCING THE TRUTH FROM UNWILLING WITNESSES IN THE SENATE.

Republicans Call the Denunciation of Robbery a Sign of Lunacy.

WILCOX, NEB., March 13, 1896.

EDITOR INDEPENDENT:—Find enclosed \$2 for which give me credit on subscription.

Should space permit, allow me to express my appreciation and approval, through your paper, of our noble and untiring Senator Wm. V. Allen, may his zeal and enthusiasm for the people of the United States never wane nor grow less. He of whom it is said, twisted statements and acknowledgements from Sears, superintendent of the sugar trust, that no other man could have got him to make and admit. He who forced the leading republican senators in the senate the other day to acknowledge they were opposed to the free coinage of silver under any condition.

After their tariff bill was defeated, and they were reading Carter, Teller and others out of the republican party, Mr. Allen had read from the desk a speech said to have been delivered by Governor McKinley the "chief apostle of protection," showing Mr. McKinley's severe criticism of the demotion of silver, and holding up a bill, Mr. Allen said to the republicans "now to test your integrity and your good faith, I offer this bill. It is your tariff bill without a "no" crossed or an "if" undotted, except in the title and I say to you, that if you are ready to show the good faith of your assertions for silver and link it with the tariff bill we pledge you six populist votes." But it will never pass.

Now if he will get after the democrats and make them acknowledge that portion of their platform of 1892, which reads, "We hold to the use of both gold and silver as the standard money of the country and to the coinage of both gold and silver without discriminating against either metal or charge for mintage," was placed there for the express purpose of deceiving and pulling the wool over the people's eyes, as it undoubtedly was, he will have accomplished a great and glorious work for the cause of silver.

I hope the day is not far distant when we will have a Wm. V. Allen or his equal in the executive chair at Washington. Had he been there for the last three years, the people of the United States, in a time of peace, would not have saddled on to them \$262,000,000 of bonds. Neither would he have entered into a secret agreement in 1894, with J. P. Morgan & Co., (Wallstreet and Lombard street combined) to sell \$62,000,000 of our bonds for 104 when they were worth in the open market 115, a steal of more than \$8,000,000. Nor again on the 19th of last month when they sold \$4,700,000 of bonds to J. P. Morgan for 110 1/4 when they were worth and selling in the open market for 117, another steal of \$370,000.

Think you there is a business house in the world, except the one at Washington, D. C., having men in their employment, would allow them to sell property to the amount of \$66,700,000 (the bonds sold clandestinely to J. P. Morgan & Co.) whereby that house was literally and surreptitiously robbed by its agents of more than eight and a half millions of dollars? I say, do you think such a house would hug their misfortune in silence and go on doing business with those men as their agents?

Not but on the other hand every member of that firm would, and you, yourself would rise in indignation and drive those agents from your company.

Now friends, you, the people of the United States, are that house. Cleveland, Carlisle & Co., are your agents who sold \$66,700,000 of your property and turned into the house eight and a half millions less than it was worth in the open market, and yet when we discuss these and other transactions of our agents, we are called cranks and calamity howlers. Is it any wonder that we cry as others have cried before. Oh! Gou, how long will the people sleep?

J. J. FALLON.

One Year of the G. O. P.

Twenty-seven republican officials of South Dakota—"redeemers"—defaulted during the past two years, four state officials got into serapes; the governor was caught smothering hay, and selling U. S. property, state treasurer Taylor stole \$364,000, the chief justice of the supreme court is, within a month, permitted to fly the state instead of hanging, for unmentionable crimes against girls of tender age, the party stood right up for public and private thieves, and endorsed a perjurer for speaker of the lower house and now they have taken to burning printing offices. East and West.

POPULISM WINS AGAIN

Senator Morgan Introduces and Defends a Bill That is Wholly Populistic.

FORECLOSE ON PACIFIC ROADS.

Squeeze the Water out and Make Rates on the Actual Value.

A Constant Advance in Populist Principles.

The populists have made astonishing progress in engraving their principles upon legislation and securing the adherence of some of the most scholarly men and profoundest thinkers in the United States. Among these can be mentioned Prof. Ridpath and many others. Now comes Senator Morgan of Alabama, who is credited with being the greatest constitutional lawyer in the United States, with a resolution which he introduced Monday in the senate, directing the committee on the Pacific railroads to bring in a bill that, if enacted into law, will dispose of these roads in just the way that populists have demanded.

The bill is very long but two sections of it, the eighth and sixteenth contain the gist of the matter—government ownership and rates based on the actual value of the road with all the water squeezed out of it.

The following are the two sections of the bill referred to:

Eighth. And to provide further, directing that the secretary of the treasury, in accordance with section 5 of the act approved July 1, 1862, entitled "An act to aid in the construction of a railroad and telegraph line from the Missouri River to the Pacific Ocean, and secure to the government the use of the same for postal, military, and other purposes," shall take possession of the whole line the railroad and telegraph, together with the rolling stock, fixtures, and property of every kind and description in possession of the Union Pacific railroad company and also of the Central Pacific railroad company, belonging to or being a part of each of the railroads, and equipments of every sort, that were built under the provisions of said act of congress, or any amendment thereof, together with all the rights, functions, immunities, and appurtenances thereunto belonging, and also all lands granted to and belonging to either of said railroad companies that have not been conveyed to bona fide purchasers, which possession, so taken by the secretary of the treasury, shall be for the use and benefit of the United States. And until congress shall otherwise direct, the said property of every kind and description, whether in action or possession, shall be held and controlled as the property of the United States, to be administered, as is provided in this act, in conformity with the general uses and purposes for which said railroad companies were instituted, and under the laws regulating and controlling said companies, respectively, as the same are amended in this act, or may be hereafter amended.

Sixteenth. No dividends shall be paid to the holder or owner of any stock in either of said companies until such stockholder shall register such stock in books kept for that purpose and shall sign an agreement, to be set forth in such book, that the excess of said stock above the percentage that it bears to the value of the property belonging to the company, and to the whole sum of the stock issued by such company, is surrendered. The entire property less the unsecured indebtedness of each of such railroad companies shall be valued by the board of directors, by the 1st day of December 1896, and shall be compared with the amount of stock issued and outstanding by said companies, respectively. And the whole amount of stock in each of said railroad companies shall be reduced to correspond with the whole value of its property, of every kind and condition, so ascertained and determined. When certificates of stock heretofore issued are surrendered, new stock shall be issued for the amount to which the holder is entitled under this act, and no other stock shall be recognized as being valid for any purpose.

The Right Sort of Pop.

BELGRADE, NEB., March 12, 1896.

EDITOR INDEPENDENT:—I received your supplement and think that I can get a few subscribers for your paper. I am very much pleased with the INDEPENDENT and will do all I can to increase its circulation. Can you send me some sample copies and your terms to agents?

WM. STORMS.

After the Shysters.

CHENEY, NEB., March 13, 1896.

EDITOR INDEPENDENT:—We, the members of the "Cheney Protective Association," met in regular session, and after due consideration, and in view of the several cases where justice has been perverted, adopted the following resolutions which we believe would have a tendency to lead some, at least, of our attorneys in the paths of honesty.

WHEREAS, It is a notorious fact, known to every citizen of this county, that most of our reputable, as well as all of our disreputable practitioners of Blackstone, make it an invariable practice, to resort to any and every technicality known to the law, and a great many unknown, to shield their criminal clients from a just verdict, found by a competent jury, thereby defeating the object of the law, encouraging criminalities, and endanger-

ing the life and property of law-abiding citizens. Therefore be it

Resolved, That we as individuals, and as an association, resolve and declare it to be our unalterable intention and the duty of every law-abiding citizen to boycott any and every such lawyer, by refusing to employ or support them as candidates for any office, also to condemn any public officer giving support to any such lawyer.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the State Journal, Call, INDEPENDENT, News, Herald, New Republic, Bennet Union and Hickman Enterprise, with a request to publish, in the interest of justice and protection.

CHAS. M. RING
J. M. BINFORD
T. G. HAWKINS
Committee.

THE FOREIGN BORN VOTER.

He is Honest and Makes the Best of Populists When He Comprehends our Principles.

RUSHVILLE, Neb., March 10, 1896.

EDITOR INDEPENDENT:—As suggested by one of your Wisconsin subscribers, I think we should make more of an effort to capture the foreign voters. We must get literature in their own native language, so that they will thoroughly understand the subject.

As a class they are honest and always make strong independents when they once understand the subject. Here is where a great mistake is made, that is, they understand enough English to do their trading. But they cannot read and understand a political speech.

Any person may find this out by seeing foreigners in court where they cannot make themselves understood nor can they understand others. And most, if not all the papers in their own language are "Gold Bug" papers, so how can you expect them to be anything but "Gold Bug" voters? I know this to be a fact as to the German voters, and I expect the same holds good as to other nationalities.

As I am a German myself, I can speak more especially for them. Three years ago I was chairman of the Independent County Central Committee. I tried to get Bohemian literature and did get some papers in that language, but was told by those who read them that they contained nothing of which to make independent voters, and in fact they could not be known as independent papers. The same has been my experience with several so-called German Independent papers of this state. There was nothing in them to make independent voters cling to principles, because the papers did not teach them. I say beware of papers that claim to be Independent and non-partisan. They do more harm to our cause than old party papers. They are the ones that betray with a kiss. They quite often sell themselves for "Gold" to the highest bidder. What we need in these hard times is literature in the different languages, to the point and that can be spread broadcast all over the land. Let them be only leaflets at a cheap price and each leaflet treat of one subject, and that to the point, say "money" or "transportation."

Have all the reform papers advertise them, scatter them among the foreigners that they may do good to all. We must save our country from ruin, and our people from debt and slavery. Our reform papers are doing noble work, and the NEBRASKA INDEPENDENT is in the front ranks fighting for "a union of the people for the people, and by the people."

Having that some arrangements will be made to reach all foreigners in their own language so we can enlist more of them in the reform cause. I remain Yours,
H. F. WARMUND.

A Working Pop.

HAMPTON, Neb., March 16, 1896.

EDITOR INDEPENDENT:—I have spent a day or more driving around to get this list of nine subscribers gathered up. I have given each one of them the advantage of the club rate.

I have taken the paper ever since it was started by J. Burrows, and to say I am well pleased with the INDEPENDENT is putting it very mildly. Every one I have talked to is pleased and think it the best state paper we have ever had. I will get up another list soon. Long live the INDEPENDENT.
J. T. VOHRES.

Bigger Than His Party.

Senator W. V. Allen of Nebraska, though a member of a party largely in the minority in the senate, is acknowledged on all hands to be a man of superior ability, wielding an influence far beyond the limit of his party lines. His mastery course in dealing with great political questions agitating the country, is turning the tide of public esteem towards him.

Free Coinage or Fight.

Free coinage or fight is the motto now of many of the men who will be delegates in the democratic and republican national conventions. In the meantime they are well aware of the fact that there is one party that will give them free coinage without a fight.—New Era-Standard.

Presidential Predictions.

East of the Mississippi river the republicans can only count on 107 votes, and in the south and west a party majority cannot be obtained. Therefore the election of a republican candidate is impossible. What then? The populist states will deprive the democrats of a majority of the electoral votes. This will throw the election in a house where the silver states will dictate the name of the president.—Liberator (Kan.)