

Nebraska Independent

Consolidation of THE WEALTH MAKERS and LINCOLN INDEPENDENT.

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State Committee Meeting.

The state central committee of the people's party is hereby called to meet at the Bostwick Hotel, Hastings, on Friday, April 17, at 2 p. m., for the purpose of making necessary arrangements for the election of delegates to the national convention, and for the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the committee.

The bankers are great producers of bankruptcy.

This time the old parties have got to shoot or give up the gun.

The meanest and most wicked platform that can be made is a straddle platform.

The record of a party is a better criterion to judge by than its platform.

THE INDEPENDENT proposes that we fight plutocracy this year and not each other.

The Missouri World, always a bright newsy paper, looks brighter than ever this week in its new dress.

McKinley for president means John Sherman for secretary of the treasury and nothing else.

The mutual insurance department will be found on page seven this week. It contains a very interesting article.

If the plutocrats were forced to live one year on honesty there would be an awful lot of skeletons in the country within twelve months.

Look at our advertisements and order goods and save money. These are reliable men. The swindlers don't advertise with us.

The populist cares no more for "the parity of the two metals" than he does for the parity of two dollars. What he wants is a parity of dollars.

The republicans say they are for silver and protection. Allen offered them both in the senate and they wouldn't have them at all. What is the use of lying when it deceives nobody.

About four hundred populist papers remarked last week that the fiasco in Kentucky proved the wisdom of the populist demand that United States senators should be elected by a vote of the people. THE INDEPENDENT was one of them.

The republican county convention of Jasper county, Missouri, has made the only honest political straddle ever perpetrated in this country. Its committee on platform reported two resolutions, one for and one against silver and the convention adopted both!

The well established fact that there is a greater percentage of farmers and farmers wives in the insane asylums than of any other class, is said to be accounted for by the want of sleep. Thousands of farmers and their wives rise at four or five o'clock a. m. and do not retire until between nine and ten at night.

THE INDEPENDENT force is a happy family—all working people—each one doing his or her best to get out a good paper each week and trusting the work will not only give us our daily bread, but also do something toward bringing to the homes of Nebraska happier days.

The next move on the part of the bankers will be to knock out the post-office money order system. The business in that department has enormously increased in the last few months. People prefer money orders to bank certificates of deposit, and the bankers have it in for them.

A few financial facts, by S. S. King, is a book full of tables, statistics, illustrations and hard common sense. Every man who wants to convince his neighbors of the fallacy of overproduction, intrinsic value and dispose of the thousand and one sophistries circulating in the daily press, will here find the authorities with which to do it. For sale at this office, price twenty-five cents.

The Red Cloud Nation asks: "Why can't the populists of Nebraska have a patent house of their own? It seems that the reform papers throughout the state would maintain such an enterprise easily." There are over 100 populist papers in Nebraska. If fifty of them will order a patent inside, THE INDEPENDENT will furnish them with one that will be of some use to the populist party and a credit to the paper using it.

THE RAID ON THE TREASURY

That the readers of the INDEPENDENT may understand just how the raid on the treasury was planned and who planned it, the following account of the matter is printed:

Of course every intelligent man knows that Charles Foster, of Ohio, was pro- and was made secretary of the treasury by John Sherman. He was a man of no ability, not enough to attend to his own private affairs, and Sherman let him go into bankruptcy as soon as he had no further use for him. This Charles Foster, secretary of the treasury, under date of Washington, D. C., October 10, 1891, wrote to the Republican Club of Massachusetts (Any one who knew Foster and his relations to Sherman and how every act of his was simply the act of John Sherman, can easily understand how the planning of the raid was wholly the work of the man who surreptitiously demonized silver. The letter was really Sherman's and not Foster's). The closing paragraph of this letter was as follows:

Treasury notes are redeemed in gold when presented for redemption at the treasury or any assistant treasury of the United States. Very Respectfully, CHARLES FOSTER, Secretary.

In pursuance of the conspiracy on October 13, the following telegram was sent to Secretary Foster:

Boston, Mass., Oct. 13, 1891. Noting in your letter of October 10 to Republican Club, published here this morning, statement that treasury notes are redeemed in gold at any assistant treasury, I sent a one-thousand-dollar note to sub-treasurer here this morning requesting such redemption in gold. This was refused. If your letter correctly states policy of the treasury, will you please send instructions to sub-treasurer here to redeem notes in gold. An early answer earnestly requested.

PHINEAS PIERCE, 32 Summer Street, Boston, Mass. Assistant Treasurer Kennard has been instructed to redeem treasury notes in gold. CHARLES FOSTER, Secretary. At the same time Foster also sent a telegram to the assistant treasurer at Boston as follows:

October 14, 1891. PHINEAS PIERCE, 32 Summer Street, Boston, Mass. Assistant Treasurer Kennard has been instructed to redeem treasury notes in gold. CHARLES FOSTER, Secretary. At the same time Foster also sent a telegram to the assistant treasurer at Boston as follows: Why didn't you apply to United States Treasurer for instructions when treasury notes are presented for redemption in gold? CHAS. FOSTER, Secretary.

The assistant treasurer replied: Office of Assistant Treasurer United States, Sir: I have respectfully to own to the receipt of telegram of Treasurer United States "Redeem Treasury notes in gold, if presented, and a demand made for such redemption," also to your dispatch of even date. "Why didn't you apply to United States Treasurer for instructions when treasury notes are presented for redemption in gold?" to which I wired the following reply: "As no general demand had been made for the exchange of treasury notes in gold, the occasion had not arisen for asking for specific instructions."

Very Respectfully, M. P. Kennard, Assistant Treasurer United States. Hon. Charles Foster, Secretary of the Treasury, Washington, D. C. It was in pursuance of this conspiracy that Foster sent his order to the bureau of engraving to engrave and print a series of bonds and that John Sherman introduced his bond bill in the senate before the close of the Harrison administration.

The result of this conspiracy has been the issue of nearly \$300,000,000 of thirty year four per cent. bonds. The whole thing was conceived and executed by the advice and under the direction of John Sherman. If the republicans elect the next president he will be secretary of the treasury. During all the time that treasury notes and greenbacks had been in existence up to the time that Foster under Sherman's directions invited this raid on the treasury, no such thing had ever been thought of by the bankers, save once. Dan Manning was then secretary. He went down to New York, called the bankers together and told them if any more notes were presented, they would be paid in silver. No more were presented. The raid was stopped instantly.

CITY POLITICS.

It would seem that the condition of the city of Lincoln was such that the respectable and intelligent elements, if there are any such elements left in it, should lay aside their private affairs for a few days at least, and try to save what little there is left of respectability and fortune to be found within its limits.

Do not any of the men who have invested all they had of this world's wealth here, and have put in a quarter of a century of hard work besides, ever stop to ask how it is, that now their hairs are grey and their faces wrinkled with care and toil they hardly know whether they are worth a dollar or not?

It is said by men who have good opportunities of knowing whereof they speak, that nearly the whole city has changed or will change owners in the near future. For a quarter of a century the republican party has governed this city. See the condition in which they are about to turn it over to their children.

Some may claim, and there are many grounds to do so, that the state of affairs we see is the result of thieves and rascals in office, but that is not the chief reason. The city has been governed upon wrong economic theories and the violation we are in, is the result of the violation of economic laws. The whole theory of municipal government as it has been evolved and put in practice by the republican party must be abandoned, or there will never be any prosperity for the inhabitants of this city.

The idea that the creating of enormous city debts, the giving away of valuable street and lighting franchises and the fostering of gambling will bring prosperity must be forever abandoned. The debts must be paid and interest stopped, the franchises must be reclaimed and administered for the benefit of the inhabitants, and the laws punishing crime and degrading vices must be enforced before prosperity will return.

In the very nature of men, it is impossible that that the republican party, which has bonded this city almost without limit, which has turned over to the leading managers in the party valuable franchise which ought to belong to the whole people of the city, cannot overturn the whole theory of government upon which they have run this city and inaugurate a new system.

If this is ever done, it must be done by new men and a new party. It must be done by men whose theories of municipal government are the very opposite of the principles of the republican party. The republican principles have been on trial here for twenty-five years. The application of them has well nigh ruined the whole population. Now let us try the other theory of political economy advocated by the populists, that is: No going in debt and consequently no interest to pay. Public franchises to be administered for the benefit of the whole people, expenses always to be within the income.

BETTER THAN A GOLD MINE

An American traveler going to Japan twenty years ago took 100 American dollars to a bank. He got in return in the money of the country 100 yen. Going there now, he takes to the bank 100 American dollars and the banker gives him in return 200 yen. Then he goes to his hotel and finds the prices are just the same as they were twenty years ago. He goes out on the streets, he purchases goods, and finds prices of all goods are the same as they were twenty years ago. Under these circumstances he cannot avoid the conclusion that American money has doubled its purchasing power in twenty years. He can live twice as long at the hotel, he can buy twice as much goods with 100 American dollars as he could twenty years ago.

Being a Yankee it does not take him long to find out that there is "big money" in this situation if rightly manipulated. He says: "Look here! I can take 100 American dollars and get 200 Japanese yen, take the yen and buy goods and ship them to America. Here are watches, I can buy one for two yen, take it to America and sell it for three dollars, and get six yen for three dollars, then and buy three watches. Jewhilkers! This is better than a gold mine. I'll buy a car load of them."

Meantime the Waltham Watch Co., after a big strike closes down and John Sherman and Bill McKinley are for sound money and protection.

THE ARENA.

The March number of the Arena has never been excelled by any issue of any review or magazine in the United States in profound and scholarly writing. Every article is pertinent to the day and times. In the field of the best literature, it is the most potent champion now fighting for the perpetuation of free government and progress and prosperity of the American people. The ideas of modern progress seem to have taken possession of it, and to paraphrase Heine, they master it and force it into the present fierce conflict, where, like a trained gladiator it fights for them month by month.

There are rallying around the Arena, not only the most profound scholars, but practical men, who know how to apply the best thought to the every day affairs of common life.

In the very center of the camp of the plutocrats, it flashes its glittering sword and bidding defiance to greed, to power, to accumulated wealth, it wages battle upon them all.

As a sample of the matter published in the Arena, we call attention to two excerpts clipped from the March number which will be found elsewhere in this issue of the INDEPENDENT:

THE BEST MONEY.

If the "best" money is the dearest money let us make it 100 times dearer than it is now. It can very easily be done. Just pass a law that the gold dollar shall be the only legal tender and that it shall contain 2,580 grains of standard gold and the thing is done. In the happy days that would follow it would take 125,000 bushels of corn or 40,000 bushels of wheat to pay a hundred dollars of taxes or interest. Would we not have prosperity then? Who would own the world and all that is in it? It would take all the wheat or corn or cattle in a whole county to pay a debt of \$10,000. But that kind of money would be the "best" money according to Sherman McKinley logic.

Last year the senate was short three members because the legislatures of the states of Washington, Wyoming and Montana failed to elect. This year it is short one member, on account of the failure of the legislature of Delaware to elect. The next session it will be short one, because of the failure in Kentucky. The populist lunatics seem to have had "a method in their madness" when they demanded the election of senators by the people.

MAKING PRECEDENTS

How naturally and automatically lawyers "think in precedents," if one may use such an expression, was illustrated in a discussion in a Lincoln economic club a few days since. The question of righting wrongs by revolution was under discussion. Two lawyers of distinction were present. One favored the idea that it was only by revolution that great reforms could ever be brought about. How did he attempt to prove it? By citing precedents. He referred to the Puritan revolution under Cromwell and the French revolution.

The other lawyer was of the opposite opinion. How did he sustain his proposition? By citing precedents. He told us how the French revolution ended in the despotism of Napoleon and the Puritan revolution in the despotism of the kings who followed Cromwell.

The different conclusions reached were a fair sample of the method. It is not scientific. If lawyers are to maintain their prominent positions in the coming renaissance, they must stop thinking in precedents. They must search for the truth and when they find it, hold to it, whether there is any precedent for so doing or not. If they must have a precedent let them make a few new ones.

ABSOLUTELY FALSE.

It is claimed by Mr. Taubeneck's friends that he is trying to coax the silver men into our party. Since he asks us to surrender nearly everything but the name, and the silver men to surrender nothing, it would seem more like he was trying to coax us into the silver party—Arkansas Kicker.

A paper that will print such an untruthful paragraph as the above cannot consistently claim to be a populist paper, and it must not be surprised if it is denounced as an agent of the enemy. When and where did "Taubeneck ask us to surrender nearly everything but the names." Give the time and place. Who are the men who heard him say it? Every authentic report of what he has said is directly contrary and the Kicker's statement, is absolutely false.

THE INDEPENDENT does not endorse everything in every speech or book it advertises for sale. It could not do that in any case, unless it might be some of the standard economic works—works in which every sentence has been gone over many times with the greatest critical care before publication. There are grave economic errors in some of Harvey's writings. They were prepared hurriedly and for popular reading, but he presents many fundamental principles so clearly and pointedly that the minor errors he makes, by no means destroy their usefulness. They have done an immense amount of good and will continue to do good where ever they are circulated.

The following is the celebrated Ohio plank, concocted by Sherman and McKinley and adopted by the Ohio republican convention, of which so much has been said. There is no necessity for any comments on it in a populist paper:

We contend for honest money, for a currency of gold, silver and paper with which to measure our exchange, and that shall be as sound as the government and as unchangeable and to that end we favor bimetallic and demand the use of both gold and silver as standard money, either in accordance with a ratio to be fixed by an international agreement, if that can be obtained, or under such restrictions and such provisions to be determined by legislation as will secure the maintenance of the parties of the value of the two metals, so that the purchasing and debt paying power of the dollar, whether of silver, gold or paper shall be at all times equal.

Some of the would be all-wise fellows, who think it is wisdom to never print an issue in which there is not an attack on some populist leader, get behind the blind and say: "point out the isms in the Omaha platform." It is not the isms in the Omaha platform that we object to but the isms that come from the crazy brains of men who think they know more and are far more honest than those we have chosen to lead the fight.

The Pioneer Press says: "that while the prices of 220 articles taken together, fell nearly 33 per cent. from 1873 to 1861, wages rose about 10 per cent." A man who can assert that wages are higher now than in 1873 stands on the same pedestal of infamy as Satan himself, and the man who can believe it, can believe the moon is made of green cheese.

J. Y. M. Swigart says that ninety per cent of the remittances on his insurance business are sent by postoffice order. The people know that the government is saving banks were established, the people would do nearly all of their business through them.

We are going to write a private note to two or three editors in this state one of these days and say: "please send us the patent inside of your paper only and save expense, for the press work on the home side is so bad we cannot read it and it is of no use."

There is just one way and one set of men who can defeat the populist candidates in the next presidential election. The men are the free silver democrats, and the way—but we will not tell for fear they will adopt it.

If there is one kind of property above another which the courts hold most sacred, it is railroad property, which is for the most part made up of watered stocks and inflated bond issues.

The market value of no commodity on earth is so susceptible of manipulation by interested parties as than of gold—Horace Boise.

ABOUT LAWYERS.

Some time since a kindly letter was received criticising some remarks in the INDEPENDENT concerning lawyers. The other night a bright young lawyer spoke to the editor on the same subject, and said he thought that the few lawyers who had joined the populist party, deserved some consideration, for to do it they must abandon the most lucrative part of the business of the profession—that in which corporations were litigants, all of which leads the editor to make the following remarks:

The great lawyers have been in a large measure the great men of the world. All of these men were original investigators and thinkers, but the modern lawyer has been trained in a school where originality and investigation is wholly abandoned if not forbidden. He is not trained to take the basic principles of justice and ethics as his premises, but to wholly rely upon precedent.

This relying upon precedent has become second nature and automatic with him. If a proposition is presented to his mind, instead of looking for some ethical principle upon which to leave his argument, he looks for a precedent. Of course he can find precedents on both sides and he naturally applies those that accord with his prejudices or interest. The lawyer is not to blame for that. He has been trained to that course from his youth up, and he knows no other way to arrive at a conclusion.

This habit prevents all growth. If we shall do nothing except we have a precedent for it, then there can be no advancement for the human race. Yet this is the cast iron mould within which a lawyer, with very rare exceptions, always thinks. Very rarely indeed a lawyer or a judge gets out of it. If he does, it makes a great sensation.

What would happen in a case before one of our learned judges, if a lawyer should attempt to submit a list of precedents and the judge should say: "Go to your precedents. I care nothing for them. Submit to me evidence or argument that you are right. I am concerned only in arriving at justice." Would there not be a sensation in that court?

The writer of this saw a scene like that once. It was the case of Standing Bear, the Indian chief. The lawyers were reading precedents to prove that an Indian could not come into court, could not sue or be sued, that he was a ward of the government, and like any other ward, he could not appear except by his guardian. If it depended on "precedent" the lawyers were right, but Judge Dundy said: "If there is no precedent I will make one. There is no human being that God ever made, however humble and poor he may be, who may not come into my court and have his rights tried there."

There is one decision of Judge Dundy's that will live. Traveling in Europe a few years after the writer found that Judge Dundy's name was familiar to the common people everywhere on account of those words. But it was contrary to all precedents.

In economics, precedents cannot be applied. For this reason, no lawyer has ever been a great economist, with the exception of Stanley Matthews. After Mr. Matthews went to the senate he threw aside the old habit of the lawyer, and not looking for precedents, went to work to find the truth. In three or four years he became a fair economist and is so regarded by the standard writers of the day.

Taking all these things into consideration, the conclusion is, that lawyers must first learn to base their conclusions on truth and not on precedent, before it will be safe to allow them to make all the laws of this republic.

Many of the populists in this locality believe that Mr. George W. Berge is the most available man that could be selected to make the campaign for congress from the first district. Mr. Berge is a young attorney of high standing at the Lincoln bar, a splendid speaker, and thoroughly posted on all the political issues of the day. He would receive the support of all those who believe that only honest and moral men should be elected to public office. His campaign would be vigorous and when elected, he would faithfully and honestly perform his duties. The people who help to send him there would never regret it.

Gov. Holcomb has appointed Judge Wm. Neville as vice president for Nebraska of the Trans-Mississippi exposition to be held at Omaha in 1898. There could not have been a better selection made, for Judge Neville is in every way qualified to fill that important position. His efforts will not be wholly given to promote the interests of corporations. The interests of those who made Nebraska and who stand up for it sixteen hours a day between the plow handles or elsewhere will also be looked after.

In checking up the accounts of Maxey Cobb, the republican county treasurer, of Lancaster county, state examiner Fodrae finds that there is an apparent shortage of \$36,688.61. Mr. Cobb has always been considered as one of the honest county officials, and it is believed by many that he will repay the entire amount. The commissioners have made a demand for the money, but Mr. Cobb frankly admits that if they did he could not produce the cash. We wait to condemn him until the particulars are better known.

Delinquent subscribers must pay up, at east in part.

UTAH'S WICKED PLAINS.

Vest has had whack at Grover's sermon. He said:

"Our President stood with Dr. Talmage on one side and the Rev. Sheldon Jackson on the other, and gave us a new version of that blessed old missionary hymn which we have heard so often in our childhood:

From Montana's sinful mountains, From Utah's wicked plains, They call us to deliver Their land from error's chains.

We are told by high ecclesiastical authority that his excellency has lately laid down his honors at the feet of Jesus. I am glad to know it. It has been the general impression of the Democratic party that the mugwumps and incense burners had got all those honors and intended to keep them."

A NEBRASKA POPLIST HONORED.

J. A. Edgerton, the populist chairman, and writer, has been honored in being elected a member of the "Shakespeare Society of New York." This is the most noted Shakespearean club in the world. There are only 129 members of it all told and Mr. Edgerton is the only one west of the Missouri river, the only one west of the Mississippi river being U. S. Senator Cushman, K. Davis of Minnesota. On the roll of membership are such well known names as Sir Henry Irving, Thomas W. Keen, Algernon Charles Swinburne, Wilson Barrett, David D. A. Chapman, Augustin Daly, Maurice Francis Egan, Harrison Grey Fiske, George Frederick Holmes, Lionel Booth, Wallace Bruce, LeGrand Burton, Appleton Morgan, William J. McClure, Charles Wells Moulton, William J. Rolfe, Thaddeus B. Wakeman, D. W. Wilder, etc., including the most distinguished actors, poets, and publishers of the day. The office of the society is at 21 Park Row in New York City, and its assembly rooms are Hamilton Hall, Columbia College, and Forty-ninth street and Madison Avenue, N. Y. City. The Society publishes a Shakespearean magazine and has gotten out a fine Bankside edition of Shakespeare, and various other works. It is now engaged in buying a preserving the old home of Edgar A. Poe in New York. Mr. Edgerton was also, about a year ago elected a member of the "American Academy of Political and Social Science." Recently his matter has been published in the liberal and reform press all over the United States, one of his poems lately being accepted by the "Arena." He has long written for such papers as the "Twentieth Century," of N. Y., the "Open Court" and "Philosophical Journal," of Chicago, the "Non-conformist," the "Rocky Mountain News," etc., etc. Last fall he was given a fine write-up in the "Magazine of Poetry," Buffalo, N. Y. He is only twenty-seven years of age, but already his reputation as a writer is becoming national.

THE INDEPENDENT is glad to note these things, for Mr. Edgerton is one of our own people.

Mr. Lambertson asserts that a redundant currency causes low prices? If twenty billion of gold were discovered and coined into money, then each dollar of it would exchange for more commodities than it does now! Some men are born idiots and some achieve idiocy.

A gold bug would admit that if it should rain for a week all over Nebraska farmers would know it without having to be told through newspapers, but they think that if the farmers had prosperity for a week they would not know it unless Dunn or Bradstreet told them.

Deaver on Candidates.

OMAHA, March 16, 1896. EDITOR INDEPENDENT: When naming presidential electors we should aim to nominate the most popular men of the party. The personnel of the electors is an important matter in getting votes and should be considered in every state. Then I wish to say another thing to the readers of the INDEPENDENT.

When you go to town Saturday evenings take a copy of the INDEPENDENT in your pocket and get your neighbors to subscribe for it. This is your duty and if you get a man to take the paper it will do the rest. Every man who is with us must work some for the cause.

D. CLEM DEAVER.

Another Worker

COLUMBUS, Neb., March 13, 1896. EDITOR INDEPENDENT:—Enclosed find postoffice order for \$1.50 for which send the INDEPENDENT to the enclosed names. When you are in the capitol building and have a few minutes time step into the library and ask for the report of the secretary of the treasury of 1871 and 1872. Turn to page 309. I wish you would publish the amount of money destroyed as reported in said report. There are thousands who think the government never destroyed any money. As soon as this weather moderates I will drive out in the country about twenty miles and get some more subscribers for your excellent paper.

J. S. FREEMAN.

Will Stand by the Guns.

CLARKS, Neb., March 16, 1896. EDITOR INDEPENDENT:—Enclosed find order for a renewal of my subscription together with the Silver Knight and Farm Field and Fireside, also a year's subscription for J. B. Philbrook, Clarks, Nebraska. I will try and send you a few more subscribers in a few days if you will send me some sample copies of your paper. Don't get discouraged. Stand by your guns. I hear of nothing but words of praise for the INDEPENDENT.

W. F. PORTER.