

# The Nebraska Independent.

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## OUR ALLEN OBJECTS.

He Deems it Unwise to use his Name as a Presidential Candidate.

WILL FIGHT IN THE RANKS.

Take an Older Man with More Experience and Leave Him Where He is.

The Populists will Control the Government but he Wants to Stay in the Senate.

Senator Allen sent to Governor Holcomb the following letter which the governor very reluctantly gives out to the press. It will be read with unbounded regret by every populist in this state. It is true that Senator Allen has never wanted to be a candidate for the presidency, but the question arises is he at liberty to decline a nomination which seems to be the desire of the whole party, and which the interests of the common people of the whole nation demands that he shall accept. There are greater interests at stake now than there were in 1860. We drafted men then. We have a right to draft them now.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 24, 1896.  
HON. SILLAS A. HOLCOMB,  
Lincoln, Neb.

My Dear Governor:—I have just been reading the very pleasant things said of me in connection with the populist nomination for the presidency, in your recent interview published in the press dispatches, for which please accept my thanks. The favorable mention of my name with the high office of president of the United States by the chief executive of my own state, who is himself able and well qualified by education, temperament, and experience, to fill the exalted position possesses double value and is truly gratifying.

I have not been unconscious, for several months, that a strong sentiment existed in the populist party throughout the nation favorable to my nomination, and I will not disguise from you that it has given me much pleasure to know that my services in the United States senate have been instrumental in prompting the use of my name in that connection. I have also observed quite an extensive discussion of the matter in the public press, and I have been the recipient of hundreds of letters asking me if I would be a candidate for the nomination, or accept it if tendered me.

Fully realizing that ordinarily it is to be considered indicative to either accept or decline a nomination that has not been tendered, still I feel that the time has come when in the interest of the party, I should speak openly and frankly, as I desire above all things to promote the interest of the populist party, and by that means the interest of my country. Deeply conscious that it would be a distinguished honor to be the standard bearer of a great political party, founded on the principles of eternal justice and right, a party that must, in my judgment, soon succeed to the administration of our national government, I never-the-less deem it unwise to permit my name to be used as a candidate.

I think every true citizen should, at this time, consult the interests of the country and not his own personal desire. I do not feel that my experience has been such as to warrant me in being a candidate for the nomination, or in accepting it if it should be tendered me. There are many older and abler men in the party than I am, highly well qualified to make the race, and I feel confident that I can do the cause greater good by remaining where I am and fighting in the ranks for success, than by accepting the nomination if it should be tendered. The welfare of the party, and therefore the welfare of the country, is to be consulted at all times; principles count for everything, and men for nothing, in our struggle.

Permit me also to say in this connection that there are personal reasons why I should not be a candidate, among which is the important fact that I have a family of children whose education must be looked after at this time, and who need my personal supervision more now than they have ever needed it before, or will ever need it again, and I must not permit myself to imperil their interests for my own promotion.

Profoundly grateful to my fellow citizens of the state and nation for the flattering mention of my name in connection with the highest office on earth, I sincerely trust that hereafter attention will not be centered on me, but on some gentleman better qualified to discharge the duties of the position in the event of an election, and that wisdom will characterize the formation of our platform and the nomination we may make. I have the honor to be,

Very truly your friend,  
WM. V. ALLEN.

The World-Herald makes the following editorial comment on Senator Allen's letter:

"In another column will be found a letter from Senator Allen to Governor Holcomb, in which the former announces that he is not a candidate for the presidency. The letter is characteristic of Senator Allen and is just such a letter as would be expected by those best acquainted with him. He properly measures the importance of the high office and modestly distrusts his ability to fill it. He does not ask his state to instruct for him nor does he desire his friends throughout the union to enter into a contest in his behalf. He regards the principles involved of vastly more importance than the man who may for a brief time exercise authority.

The letter does not remove him from the list of presidential possibilities, because circumstances might arise which would make the acceptance of the nomination a paramount duty, but it does take him out of the list of avowed candidates. The letter does more than that; it sets an example which will be influential in deterring others from making an aggressive campaign for the nomination.

"The republican party would be in better shape if its leaders took the same view of the presidency as that presented by Senator Allen. But instead of trusting to their merits the republican leaders are engaged in a life and death struggle for supremacy. The republican convention will be a war between rival bands; the populist convention, thanks to Senator Allen's manly example, will be an assemblage of men intent first upon securing certain remedial legislation. "It will be easy for a body of earnest men to agree upon a standard bearer, and that standard bearer may yet be Nebraska's senior senator."

## FROM FRYING PAN TO FIRE.

ONE PARTY SO HOT THAT RELIEF IS SOUGHT FROM THE OTHER.

But at Every Jump The Fire Gets Hotter.

Jumping out of the frying pan into the fire and back again into the roaster has been the exercise of the people at each presidential election for the last twenty years. Each party has been able to make the misery of the people unendurable, and forced them to seek the other party for relief, with no exception, since the political manipulators of Ohio elected Rutherford B. Hayes by cunning and strategy, the dazzling splendor of which confounded the opposition. Since that memorable campaign the party in power has been sufficiently wicked to furnish the other party unanswerable campaign arguments for a change.

Cleveland was elected in 1884 because republican rule had become intolerable. Harrison was elected in 1888 because Cleveland democracy was intolerable. Cleveland was again elected in 1892 because of the glaring iniquities of Harrison's administration. McKinley is running in 1896 on the conspicuous rottenness of Cleveland's administration. The republican managers assume that the wickedness of Cleveland is so great that the people will return to the McKinley bill again as a dog returneth to his vomit. The McKinley bill was passed in 1890, and immediately thereafter a new House of Representatives was elected in which there were only eighty-seven republicans. The republicans lost Connecticut, Illinois, Indiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, Nebraska, Oregon, Rhode Island, Wisconsin, and Pennsylvania.

They carried Kansas, Minnesota, Iowa, and Ohio by a meagre majority. In New York they elected only seven republican representatives as against eighteen in the preceding election. In Ohio they elected only seven republican congressmen instead of sixteen. The McKinley bill was the issue in the campaign of 1892. It, and the administration of which it was a part, was so odious that the people returned to the man of Buffalo whom they had left in disgust four years before to get rid of Harrison and McKinley. Rothschild has full faith that he has made Cleveland's administration sufficiently odious to make the people accept the twice rejected McKinley bill, with the spectacular dancer thrown in. Rothschild's policy of making every one of his administrations so hot that the people will seek relief in the other is worthy of the great financier who rules on both sides of the Atlantic. The question of the American people is, will the infamy of Cleveland's administration force them to embrace Rothschild's tool from Ohio, from whom they have twice turned in loathing and disgust.—Silver Knight.

It was Charles F. Crisp. Who kept the free silver bill from coming to a vote, in 1892, when its friends were in the majority? Charles F. Crisp. Who ignored the petitions which the alliance poured in upon him, praying that he bring the bill to a vote, as he had promised Mr. Bland to do? Charles F. Crisp. Who was it that Mr. Bland accused through the newspapers of having tricked him off the floor, and of thus having defeated the free silver bill which only needed a final vote in order to become a law? Charles F. Crisp. Who was it that packed the finance committee with enemies to free silver in 1893? Charles F. Crisp. Who was it that rushed the repeal of the Sherman act through the house, under Reed's Closure Rule, in 1893, and thereby everlastingly closed the mints to silver? Charles F. Crisp.—People's Party Paper.

Free Silver and Reciprocity.

The Free Press moves that the Independent party declare for free silver and reciprocity. A reciprocity treaty is the only just and satisfactory method in dealing with foreign nations. It means an equal exchange, and an equal or even exchange is no robbery. It is better than free trade because it leaves a proviso of self protection. It is also better than protection because a duty on some foreign product only means in return an imposed duty on some home product, despite the fact that the consumer pays the freight.—Free Press.

## THE OREGON POPULISTS

A Harmonious Convention and a Full Ticket Nominated.

UNITING THE REFORM FORCES.

The Republicans Split and Fight Like Cats and Dogs.

Weaver Storming the State and Every Pop Enthusiastic.

The delegates of the people's party of Oregon met at Salem, Thursday, March 26, and adopted the following platform:

We reaffirm the fundamental principles at the Omaha platform and instruct our delegates to the national convention to readjust any details, if possible, in such form that all reform elements can unite on one platform and one national ticket.

We favor changing our national constitution so as to provide some form of direct legislation, and the early submission of important national questions to the people.

We recommend that our national convention devise some plan for the effective protection of American labor from the ruinous competition of Asiatic and European cheap labor, including rigid restrictions, and exclusion, if necessary, of foreign immigration.

We demand the free and unlimited coinage of gold and silver at the ratio of 16 to 1 without waiting for the consent of any other nation.

The ticket nominated was:

For supreme judge, Joseph Gaston; For congress—first congressional district—W. S. Vandenberg; For congress—second congressional district—Martin Quinn.

Gen. Weaver was present. The convention adjourned to hear him speak, and the largest crowd that ever assembled in Salem listened to him for two hours, except the time they spent in cheering. The campaign is on in Oregon. Weaver is speaking every night. Other men of national reputation will soon join him. The populists out there mean business. The party in Oregon is now harmonious and burning with enthusiasm.

The condition of the enemy is shown in the following dispatch:

Portland, Ore., April 4.—The republican city and county convention ended today in a split. In the primaries Thursday the faction known as the Simon faction, elected seventy-five out of the 124 delegates to the convention, but the minority, led by district Attorney Hume, endeavored to seat their delegates and obtain control of the convention. After a wrangle of three hours the Hume delegation left the hall, and will hold another convention Monday.

State senator Joseph Simon, chairman of the county committee, endeavored to call the convention to order. The opposition carried Judge C. H. Carey to the platform, and in an instant the convention was in an uproar. Judge Simon was nominated as temporary chairman, and in the yell that followed was declared elected. Then there was a rush and Simon was knocked off the stage. Judge Carey then attempted to preside, and was taken by the collar and whirled backward. A free fight followed. Cries were waved in the air and brought down on the heads of the struggling men. Blows were exchanged wherever elbow room could be obtained to deliver them. For over ten minutes the battling, perspiring crowd surged up and down and across the stage, shrieking and howling. They would listen to no words of compromise, and finally the attempt to organize was abandoned and a recess declared.

The opposing leaders held a conference, but it came to naught. At the conclusion of the conference the Hume delegates adjourned to meet Monday and left the hall. The Simon delegates then organized by electing Mr. Simon chairman and proceeded with the business of the convention. D. Solis Cohen was nominated for mayor. Nine candidates for representatives in the legislature were nominated. The legislative ticket is opposed to the election of Senator J. H. Mitchell who is a free silver man to succeed himself in the United States senate.

On Monday the populists will nominate ex-Governor Penney for mayor. He then will be the nominee of the democrats and Taxpayers league while there will undoubtedly be two republican candidates.

High School Lads and Lassies.

HASTINGS, Neb., April 7, 1896.

The 8th Central Nebraska High School declamatory contest took place at the Kerr opera house last Friday evening. There were thirteen contestants; three in the oratorical, nine in the dramatic and one in the humorous. Markings were as follows: Pronunciation, 10; articulation, 15; carriage and gesture, 25; expression, 50.

The opera house was crowded. The Hastings military band rendered very excellent music.

"Napoleon at St. Helena," by Robert Grey of Ord, was well rendered. Miss Mary Hammond of Minden won the admiration of all in the rendition of Hon. John M. Thurston's noted speech in the U. S. senate on the Monroe doctrine, and she was applauded to the echo. "Power of Free Ideas," was the subject by Elisha Jackson of York; "Sister and I" by Miss Mabel Dorsey of Kearney; Declaration entitled "Nell" by Miss Lena Gunner, Lexington, Nebraska; "My Little Newsboy," by Miss Blanche Hill, Central City. All showed careful study and good training.

Miss Cora Neff of Grand Island won admirers in her portrayal of "Swan and Gazelle," and at once became a strong opponent of Miss Mabel Dorsey of Kearney for first honors. "A Ride Against Time," was well delivered by Miss Waterman of Carleton. Willie Dixon of Aurora had no competition in the humorous class, and carried off highest honors in the rendition of "Mr. Brown gets his Hair cut."

In the oratorical class 1st place was awarded Elisha Jackson of York. 2d, Robert Grey of Ord. Dramatic, medal to Miss Cora Neff of Grand Island, 2d place to Miss Maggie Waterman of Carleton. As above stated, the Aurora boy had no opponent in humorous class but well merited first honors.

How the Goldbugs Lied.

DENVER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND BOARD OF TRADE, DENVER, COLORADO, MARCH 17, 1896.

To the people of the United States:—We must remind you that not a single promise or prediction of the gold standard advocate has been verified by the logic of time. In 1878 you were warned that government coinage of silver would debase our currency and drive out gold. While the practice continued, money was stable and plentiful, and gold flowed to our shores in abundance. In 1890 you heard the same things, but perceived no monetary disturbances until the treasury department was induced to define "coin" to mean gold and "parity" degradation. In 1893 you were told that the repeal of the purchasing clause alone stood between you and reviving business; in 1894 the greenback must be retired before you could hope for improvement, and then only if the country would abdicate its note-issuing powers to the bankers of the land. "Agitation" is now assigned as the cause of progress, and that, too, must cease or the cause of a self-styled honest money may be defeated.

M. C. JACKSON, Secretary. HENRY P. STEELE, President.

Prices in Mexico.

Judge Clark of North Carolina who has recently returned from Mexico, says in the Bimetallist that cotton brings 14 to 19 cents per pound, and corn and wheat \$1 to \$1.40 per bushel, as formerly, according to locality. I saw many cotton mill owners and they told that Mexico not producing a sufficiency of cotton the deficiency was supplied by purchasing in New Orleans at an average of 13 cents for a series of years, the price (to them) being about the same, one year with another, the difference being that formerly their 13 cents was equal to our 13 cents, but with the constant enhancement of the value of our standard their 13 cents was now only equal to 7 cents in our money. Thus our farmers, but for the legislation arbitrarily increasing the value of the dollar, would be paying their debts with 13 cent cotton and \$1 wheat and corn, as is the case in the countries south of us.

How Republicans Steal.

Ever since congress met there has been exhibited a passion for the creation of new offices in which to install the "old stagers," who have come to look upon public employment as a vested right. One of the latest appointments to "special" places is a good illustration of the recklessness with which public money is expended. The committee decided that it could not afford to rely upon the figures of democratic officials, and that it must appoint an "expert" of its own to compile reliable figures. W. E. Curtis, a protégé of Blaine, was appointed and paid \$1,500 to do the work. The figures wanted were all at the Bureau of American Republics, and Curtis walked down there where he was informed that they would be printed in a few days. He'll get the printed slips, take them up to the committee and draw his \$1,500. It will only take 3,750 bushels of wheat to pay him for that little job.

Barton County Populists.

The meeting of the Barton county peoples central committee at Grand Army hall in Lamar last Saturday was well attended, nearly all of the townships being represented and quite a large crowd of enthusiastic workers were present. Sickness compelled the absence of Chairman Wm. Burnett, P. Q. Gray being chosen to act in his place. Barton county has a host of good, willing workers who are rapidly advancing the cause of populism.—Industrial Leader.

You are Right.

After a careful view of the conditions of our industrial classes, we are led to believe that the question of tariff is not an issue in the politics of our country to any great extent. An honest and conservative canvass of the situation leads us to this opinion. We already begin to see in republican papers the cry of "protection to American labor" and "lighting the fires in American furnaces." Presumably a political warwhoop for McKinley. The democratic papers are prescribing tariff in smaller doses for the malady, which all confess our body politic has somehow contracted. The editor of The Sentinel has decided and positive views on this question—views which he thinks he can maintain in public speech or private argument. But believing it to be but a secondary question, this paper will contain but little editorial matter concerning it.—People's Sentinel.

Maine Looming Up.

The populists swept the town of Norway by an overwhelming majority in their special election. Two years ago we had twenty-six votes in that town. We are still looking for a report of the matter in the columns of our esteemed neighbor, the Lewiston Journal.—Maine Populist.

## HE'S THE WRONG MAN.

But a Very Difficult Problem to Meet in the Near future.

OLD PARTIES BREAKING UP.

Upon What Principles Will the new Alignment be Made.

The Independent Will never go Democratic

VERDURETTE, Neb., March 31, 1896.

EDITOR INDEPENDENT:—I was somewhat surprised to find your comments on my short article in March 26, issue of your paper. Surprised because I had never thought of danger that I would be misunderstood, and provoke criticism. But I am not displeased at all at your comments. Nay I am glad you said it, and I hope you will be extensively copied both in the state and beyond it. You hit the right thing, but incidentally punched the wrong man. Long before any people's party existed I learned that "a house divided against itself cannot stand." There is neither good sense, nor good honor in hastily and suspiciously criticizing our fellow laborers in this holy cause.

You would never have found any "implication" in my article if you had given more heed to the words "We are to meet in St. Louis July 22." The whole thing depends upon the two letters (we). Who then are we? I had supposed that all the world expected a large amount of "we" to be there beside the populist. I still adhere to that application of the little word of two letters. Nothing was farther from my thoughts than unkind suspicion and innuendo.

But your comments force me to submit to the conclusion that I did not write so sensible men could understand me, and so I must state the case more fully. Before the 22d of July two national conventions are to be held. The democrats may divide on the silver question just as they divided at Baltimore in 1860. In that case the free silver democrats will be the bolters, just as Breckenridge and slavery were in 1860. Of course the free silver men will then nominate their men just as Douglas was nominated at Baltimore. Being kindly disposed toward all other free silver men they will appoint a fraternal delegation to come to St. Louis on the 22d and extend the right hand of fellowship to the populist. Meanwhile Carter, Teller et. al. will have their arrangements with the manufacturers consummated and protection and free silver or a bolt will be the terms to the republican convention. A bolt will be the result, and the bolters will meet us with the right hand of fellowship. The populist will be one of three. All see, and all agree, that nothing short of getting the offices and possession of the government will do the country any good. So for the most exalted reason there will be an effort to arrange matters so as to get the offices.

The situation will then be a democratic party with free silver and tariff reform—a republican bolt with free silver and protection—the populist with the Omaha platform, with fractions of prohibition, socialism etc. A committee of conference is now in order. A report is made. The democrats drop tariff reform, but hold to free silver and the name and ticket made at Chicago. Carter, Teller et. al. drop protection and accept free silver. The populist will be expected to drop all except free silver. Not to do it will, probably, carry the solid south and more or less of the west, and may elect a president, but there is no certainty of it. Many free silver republicans will refuse to be known as democrats. Some populist will mourn for the Omaha platform and refuse to vote. The populist at St. Louis will be confronted with the necessity of adjourning without nominating a ticket, or else assuming the responsibility of defeat and failure. It will be a most embarrassing situation for every one of them. The result, I think, is likely to be no peoples ticket in the field—all democrat and free silver. All this is now in sight as possible, if indeed, it is not probable. But suppose the democrat part of it is only a bolt, and not a national party and ticket. Then the elements of difference remain, and are just the same as before. A new platform and new name will then be needed. In the light of these facts are my words "trim and compromise" offensive? I think not. The circumstances are a controlling power in such a case. The lines broke, the team ran away, the carriage upset and hurt some of the passengers, and killed a few. That is about the situation. I do not really fancy being known as a democrat, but to save my country I think I could stand it. The democrat party swallowed Horace Greely wholly boots and all. So I have a highly respectable precedent at least. But here is your dose gentlemen. Everything trimmed off only free silver, silent on all other things. In Nebraska the World Herald our oracle, and Bryan for generalissimo. Holcomb, Allen, Tibbles et. al. gone democrat. Well a great savior once came out of Nazareth, and Nazareth had a very bad reputation too. Possibly a great savior might come out of South Carolina, and that would be a parallel case to some extent. Well be it so—"The Lord reigns" and let the wicked be damned and the righteous saved" even if gravitation turns the other way." Amen and amen.

J. M. SNYDER.

[There will be a straight populist ticket nominated at St. Louis, and Holcomb, Allen, Tibbles et. al. will not go

democratic, not by a—well not by a good deal, and we will fight like Bengal tigers to elect it. If we don't succeed we will keep on fighting as long as the tip of the Kilkenny cat's tail has three hairs left on it. Don't you fear Brother Snyder. The government lives, the Lord reigns and the populists will right the wrongs of the great common people or die fighting on the field of battle, and when that day comes, they won't be the only corpses on that field either. The populist national convention will not adjourn without nominating a ticket. There is no party and no set of men demanding "free silver only." If any set of men ever had an organization authorized to speak for them, the free silver men have such in the Bimetallic League. More than two years ago the League refused to make a fight for "free silver only" with only one dissenting vote. Gen. Warner, its president, declared that if such a resolution was passed he would walk out, lock the door and never come back. The situation is not at all as you view it, Brother Snyder. Honest men of all parties and all sections are going to get together at St. Louis, a populist convention will formulate a platform and nominate a ticket. When that event takes place a shout of joy will break forth from a hundred thousand throats that will rend the very skies and be echoed back from every hamlet and village in this land of ours, and we expect to see Brother Snyder standing there with the tears rolling down his face and saying, "Amen and amen"—EDITOR INDEPENDENT.]

TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION.

An Enthusiastic Meeting Addressed by Chancellor McLean and Others.

HASTINGS, Neb., April 7, 1896.

The opening session of the Central Nebraska Teachers' association took place on Thursday in the court house at 1 p. m. The court house presented a very attractive appearance, having previously been decorated and ornamented for the occasion. Quite a large number of visiting teachers were present at the opening. Several interesting papers were read and discussed at some length. The association adjourned for one hour to give the teachers an opportunity to visit the high school and examine the school work on exhibition there. At 4 o'clock the association was called to order and proceeded to carry out the afternoon program, then adjourned for supper.

In the evening a large audience of teachers and citizens gathered in the Presbyterian church to greet Chancellor McLean of the State University, who was speaker of the evening. President Stabton introduced the speaker who, after a few preliminary remarks announced his subject "Americanism vs Jingoism," which proved to be both novel and interesting as well as instructive and patriotic. A vote of thanks was extended to the chancellor after which the visiting teachers were tendered a reception in the parlors of the Bostwick hotel by the Hastings teachers, assisted by Mr. and Mrs. Dillon. It was a delightful evening and everything blended in harmony with the occasion—refreshments daintily served, and all went home to their little beds to dream of the good things they had enjoyed.

Friday morning the association convened at 9 o'clock in the court house. After the usual preliminaries Professor F. M. Fling of Lincoln, gave a short address on history and teaching the same. The remainder of the forenoon was occupied in the interest of history and civics. At 11:45 the association adjourned for dinner.

The afternoon meeting opened with a business meeting at which the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, G. I. Kelly, Ord; Vice-President, A. O. Thomas, St. Paul; Secretary, E. S. Randall, Aurora.

During the morning a telegram was received from Wm. Hawley Smith, announcing his illness and inability to be here to address the association. About 2:30 p. m. Chancellor McLean was introduced and spoke for about two hours to a large and appreciative audience. He explained his views in clear and forcible manner upon the school system of our state from the primary grades to the final culmination in the State University. I am sorry space will not permit me to give this address in full. At the close of the chancellors address, the report of the convention on resolutions was presented and adopted. Among other resolutions I noticed one in particular which I think is a good one, and it was adopted, favoring the establishment of a court of arbitration for the settlement of international disputes.

A vote of thanks was extended to the teachers and people of Hastings for their generous hospitality. The association adjourned to meet next year, time and place to be determined by the executive committee.

Crops and Weather.

The week opened with a windstorm on the 31st, accompanied in the northern part of the state with rain, turning to snow, which developed into the worst storm of the winter, delaying farm work generally. During the latter part of the week the weather has been favorable for the rapid progress of plowing and seeding. The soil is generally mellow and moist and in excellent condition for putting in the seed.